



Lou and Elvie Renshaw

Elvie Renshaw's 1955 Diary

Cast of Characters in Elvie's 1955 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 daughters **Marilyn** and **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 sons **Steven** and **Jim** 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, Saturday

Again, I neglected to buy my 1955 diary, in time, so will have to record this first day of 1955 in the back of the 1954 diary. The Rose Bowl ball game is in the second period, at 3 p.m. and it is 14 to 7 in favor of Ohio State. They are playing Southern California. It is raining; the players and the crowd are soaked. I'm happy to be home, looking at the television. I watched the beautiful Rose parade over our television, in my big easy chair, with my chenille turquoise robe and slippers on, comforts of home, eh? Our street was parked with cars of people walking from here to Colorado Boulevard, to see the parade, as early as 7 a.m. Lou and Mr. Edgecomb put out parking signs this morning, but didn't have many cars stop in our drive ways; only three cars at \$1.00 a piece. Lou was chilled to the bone standing out in the light rain. Mr. Edgecomb parked his truck yesterday, up at the parade line of march, they had company come this morning, and they all walked up to his truck. I'm dreadfully sorry it had to rain today. I'm afraid there'll be a lot of illness from the cold, wet, soaking of this New Year's Day. It is the first New Year's Day since living in Pasadena, that we have not had company here to enjoy lunch with us after the parade. Otto and Violet stayed with Andersens last night and watched the game over their television. Donna and her family watched the parade over their new TV set. Our 1955 Rose Queen was very lovely, with her six beautiful princesses. Queen Marilyn Smuin is an LDS girl; I believe she is in the Rosemead Ward. I'm sorry it had to rain on her big day, but she looked sweet and lovely. Lou and I enjoyed a nice baked ham dinner this evening; we bought a small canned ham. It was delicious.

We went to Dolores and Bevan Joneses' home tonight where the family had assembled to celebrate the New Year and enjoy a party with Violet and Otto, who are visiting in California from Beryl, Utah. They are leaving for home on Monday morning. Otto says he has to get back to the store and take inventory. We had a very nice time. Beth and Dick Johnston brought their lovely daughter Diana. Janet and Joan came with Rex and Donna, Ann and her boyfriend, Dick Webster, and Carol Sue, came with Elaine and Ernie V. Sue and Bette, and Ray H. and Mary and Vernon J. and Shirley and Kenny B., Yvonne Fife's boyfriend, Gordon came here from Utah. Bevan showed us some colored slides, taken in Zion's Canyon up through the narrows. They were very pretty and awe inspiring to see. Otto narrated the pictures and the trip. It was very interesting. We all enjoyed pine nuts from the Cedar Mountains. We missed Ray and Miriam and her parents this year. Her sister Marcia and husband and two children were visiting them. Br. and Sr. Jensen also, the ten of them went to visit relatives of Marcia's husband. Beverly



Queen Marilyn Smuin was Rose Queen in 1955. She was an LDS girl from Rosemead Ward.

and Dale came with Bill and Annie. Glen and Irene couldn't come this time; it is getting near the time for their "blessed event." Jenny and Jack Jones came over for a while, we always enjoy having them visit with us. Our luncheon was enjoyed by all. We had buns with a delicious spread on, heated in the oven, good cider drink, pickles, chips, and Jello salad. Annie and Donna made the salads. Beth, Shirley, and Bette made the cakes. We always have fun together. I love to be with my family. Aunt Sue gave Janet \$2.00 and I gave her \$1.00. She leaves for Provo at 5:30 in the morning with Elaine O., Sandra R., and Drew Day in his car. Ann V. leaves for Provo with her friends for BYU College, also. God bless all of them.

January 2, Sunday

I haven't got my 1955 diary yet, so will record in 1954 until I run out of pages, or buy a new book, eh? We surely did enjoy the Christmas holidays, but must get back to normal now. If I'm not careful, I will not be able to get into my clothes. All the chocolates and rich foods of the past days are beginning to show on this Grama! We didn't hear from Mary Hill this morning so I guess she is visiting with her daughter. We took Hilda Botting to Sunday School. We had a lot of out of town visitors in Sunday School this morning. I was happy to see that Warnie got home for New Years; he was leaving for Camp Ord after Sunday School. He looked so much better today. His cold is all cleared up, and his hair is growing back. I hope they'll not shave it off again. Lou enjoyed his Sunday afternoon naps as usual. I wrote in my diary and enjoyed Christmas cards from friends, bless 'em. I took down the card tree and wrapped it up for another year. Lou took the Christmas lights down, from our front porch. I untrimmed

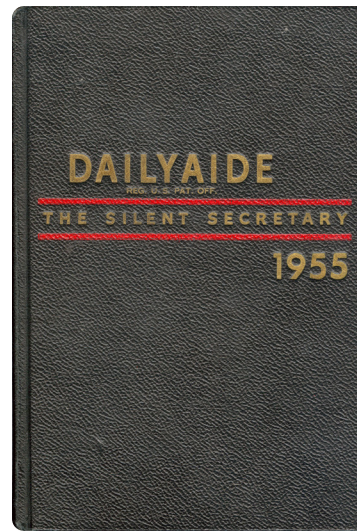
the little tree and put lights and decorations away for the next yuletide. I also got the little "Chapel in the Pines" put away. Lou cleaned up the snow and pine needles from the carpet. We didn't have time to take care of the piano and mantel over the fireplace, as we wanted to go to church this evening. We had a very nice meeting. Br. Alvin Duncome was in charge of the program. There were excellent talks by Madge Fowler and Jeannie Brinton. We had a very lovely ladies trio, Virginia Peak gave a nice talk too, and Br. Herman Jorgensen gave a fine talk. I enjoyed the meeting so very much. I've had my little granddaughter Janet in mind all day; hope they arrived safe and sound in Provo this evening.

January 3, Monday

It rained a few drops this morning. I hope to get uptown for my new diary soon, but will record in this one until I get the new one. I phoned Donna this morning at nine o'clock to find out if she had heard from Janet; she hadn't, so I phoned Florence Oates. She said Sandra Robinson phoned her

parents to let them know they arrived in Provo last night at 9:30 p.m. They couldn't make it as fast as usual, because of ice and snow on the road. I phoned Donna again to let her know the kids were in Provo okay; she was relieved. She said she was going to type some more of my 1930 diary. Sr. Vera Jean Jones phoned Donna to ask if she would come to the Las Flores Ward Relief Society in the morning and give the Teacher's Topic for her. Donna gives it to the ladies at leadership meeting. She is on the Relief Society stake board now. Vera is the wife of President Jones, in our stake. She was Vera Noyse before marriage. I hope Ann V. and her friends arrived in Provo safe and sound. Elaine O., Sandra R., and Janet went with Drew Day in his car. Ann V. went with some friends, and her boyfriend, Dick Webster, was with her. Vera Jones lost a tooth in front so couldn't give her lesson tomorrow. Annie phoned Lou this morning before he left for work. Beverly couldn't come to work, her back is bothering her; she had an adjustment from the doctor at 2 p.m. today. I do hope it will not get bad like it was last time when the sacroiliac slipped out of place. I did a small hand washing, my personal belongings. I'm not in the mood for the regular washing. It's more fun to do scrapbook work. I made a carbon copy of the little doll characters I drew on the heads that Joan sent me, when she was a little girl. She sent some heads, just rings, in a row, and asked me to put faces and bodies on them for her. I did and made up a poem about each character. Joan has kept the picture, poem, and my letter to her, back in 1948. The doll picture was about worn out, from folds and years of play. She got it out of her box of souvenirs the other day. I brought it home to make a carbon copy and to try to restore the original for her. I put the copy in my scrapbook, with a copy of the poem which

explains the picture. I pasted Joan's original drawing on some construction paper. She can keep it in a scrapbook now. I'd like to buy her a scrapbook. I know she has a lot of snapshots and paper clippings to put in one.



January 4, Tuesday

I have got to get my new diary for sure; this is the last page in my 1954 book. If only town wasn't so far, or the walk to the bus, he? Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:15 a.m., bless her faithful heart. She never forgets me. We had a wonderful turnout of sisters to our visiting teachers 9:30 meeting. Beth Sundstrom gave a lovely lesson. The objective was to point out that whatever spirit possesses

our bodies in this life will be with us after death. I surely hope my spirit will be filled with love, because I do want to live in peace and love in the eternal world. President Clarice Tanner sent each visiting teacher a nice little New Year's greeting card and an invitation to attend this meeting. Our Theology lesson in Relief Society meeting later was beautifully given by Jeannie Brinton. "Characters and Teachings of the Book of Mormon, Alma and Amulek." The objective was to show the great influence of prayer and repentance in changing lives of people. An excellent lesson, which I enjoyed. Our



testimony meeting later was wonderful. We had several out of town visitors. Lydia Stephens had two sweet sisters visiting in California with her. They each said a few words. Miriam Summerhays's mother was there. She bore her testimony. Many of us got to our feet. It is always easier for me to get up in Relief Society than in the fast meeting, when the brethren are there. (I'm not alone in this either, eh?) Ethel Burk gave each sister a little 1955 calendar; it has precious little quotations on every page of the year. That was thoughtful of her; she is a dear. Felicia Washburn brought one of her pretty arrangements of lovely flowers for our president's table, as usual; she is another thoughtful soul! It is good indeed to be with these dear sisters in East Pasadena Ward, or in any ward for that matter. They are precious the world over. We have been promised more rain for tomorrow; it's okay by me. I love to do scrapbook work while it is raining. Work has been slack at the Venetian blind shop this week. Beverly wasn't needed. I'm glad she has her night work at Cannon Electric Company. Donna went to the Las Flores Ward this morning to give the visiting teacher's topic for Vera Jean Jones. January 5 will be recorded in the new book. Gordon gave Lou two of Morrison's meat pies, that their nephew Claude Renshaw sent them from Salt Lake City. He sent them one dozen of them. We ate them tonight and recalled the old days in childhood when a Morrison's meat pie was a real special treat. It was Tuesday that Gordon gave Lou the Morrison's meat pies, (two little pies.) We ate them Tuesday night for dinner. About the best treat I can remember when I

A few quotes Elvie wrote in the front of her 1955 diary:

Helen Keller said, "I find life an exciting business, and most exciting when it is lived for others."

He, who seeks happiness for others, finds joy for himself.
—Unknown

For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind, and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
—Frederick William Faber

Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible. But man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.
—Reinhold Riebucker

Accord to others the right to their own viewpoints and ideas.

You may have success if you do not demand victory.
—John Buchan

Where love is, there riches be. Keep us all from poverty.
—Old Medieval Prayer

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
—Matthew 5:8

Dear God, Give me clean hands, clean words and clean thoughts. Help me to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong. Save me from habits that harm. Teach me to work as hard and play as fair in thy sight alone, as if the whole world saw. Forgive me when I am unkind, and help me to forgive those who are unkind to me. Keep me ready to help others at some cost to myself. Send me chances to do a little good everyday and so grow more like Christ. Amen
—William De Witt Hyde

Death cannot kill what never dies.
—William Penn

was a young girl, was to go in Morrison's meat pie place in Salt Lake City and eat one or two of their little pies. Boy, they were good. They are still good eating but not like they were in my girlhood days. How come things never taste as wonderful now, eh?



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January 5, Wednesday

We have a wintry looking sky this morning, some dark clouds in the east, with the red sun clouds in the south east and frost on the housetops and grass. We have lots of snow in the mountains and foothills. It isn't hard to imagine that our town is covered with pretty, deep white snow, the air surely feels nippy enough. We were promised rain, but it's too cold to rain today. I went uptown this afternoon and bought this record book. I'm disappointed I couldn't get the same kind of book I had last year, called the Year Book. I went several places, but no luck. I've used this Dailyaide book in the past and can do it again, eh? I bought a white scrapbook to put Joan's restored doll picture in; I was amazed she kept that little drawing and the poem and letter I sent her when she was 9 years old. It was about worn out from folding and reading. I'll give it back to her in the scrapbook. Lou met me at the Broadway Store at 4:40 p.m. We went to the Pasadena Jewelers to get my wrist watch, we had left there to be cleaned, for \$3.25. He didn't change the band rings like he promised to do. I wanted smaller rings on the extension band, he said "bring it in anytime," he'd do it for me. Why couldn't he do it in the two weeks he had it? After dinner this evening I worked on scrapbook work while Lou enjoyed his nap and the television. Our rain started this evening. It looks like it's in for the night. Gordon gave Lou two Morrison meat pies yesterday. Ruby's nephew Claude Renshaw sent a dozen of them from Salt Lake city. We ate them for dinner last night. They surely took us back in memory to the good old days, when we were kids in Salt Lake city. They were very good.

January 6, Thursday

It rained most of the night and all morning, and then off and on this afternoon, with intermittent sunshine and showers. We had a most beautiful rainbow in the east this afternoon. Lou phoned and said they were having some hail stones in Pasadena about 2 p.m. It was raining up here but we didn't have the pellets of hail; the sky was very dark and I heard some thunder claps. Lou gave me \$5.00 to go to town and buy some pillowslips on the big sale. I wouldn't go out in the wet weather. The White Sale is on all of January so I'll go when it is more pleasant to be out doors. I did enjoy my

day doing scrapbook work. I fixed a couple of pages in Joan's new book; put her mother's graduation class picture in it and some of Donna's girl friends pictures. I hope it's okay with Donna. It better be, they're pasted in now, but good. I also put one of Donna and Rex's wedding invitations in; I cut it down to the printing size. I put one in my own scrapbook, too. I had just the two of them. Clarice Tanner phoned this morning; she was going to the Singing Mother's rehearsal and luncheon after. She made the hot rolls for the party. Donna will be there. I surely do miss not seeing her often, or talking on the phone to her everyday. Our newspaper says some of our mountain roads are closed up because of heavy snows. The mountains look so pretty all white. I had to go out in the backyard to look at them this afternoon. Our insurance man, Mr. Houde, came tonight and tried to get Lou to take out more insurance.

January 7, Friday

Mr. Houde had no luck trying to get Lou to take out a larger insurance policy last night, from the Prudential Company. Lou has a small policy of \$500 with them, mine is only \$318. I couldn't get more now because of my heart condition. I was just making up my mind to phone Donna this morning when she called me, bless her heart. We haven't talked to each other since New Year's Day, I think? It seems longer than that to me, but I do not like to run our phone bill up any more than I have to do. Donna has had a busy week. Tuesday morning she gave the teachers topic in Las Flores Ward. Wednesday morning she played piano for her own ward Relief Society. Thursday morning she had Singing Mother's rehearsal and the luncheon at our stake center. I guess she was home today for a change. Rex didn't work Monday, but the union got him a job Tuesday plastering a home in San Marino. Joan made \$16.00 selling tickets in the box office of a picture show, where she is now working. This was her first paycheck. She worked every night but tonight. She is out with Chuck DeBias tonight. The girl that takes turns with Joan didn't work this week, because her grandmother died, so Joan got more money and work. Mary went to Mutual on Wednesday night, her first time to Mutual. She came home with a part in a play. The scouts and her class are having a stake dance on Saturday night; she wants to go. Now our little Mary starts on the busy merry go round of activities, eh? Well, that's life. She is giving one of the 2 ½ minutes talks in Sunday School a week from Sunday. Joan is going to work Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening also, and Sunday afternoon. (I'm sorry she has to work on Sundays.) She will be able to pay for having her watch fixed herself now, nice, eh? I went uptown this afternoon and bought three pair of pillowslips on the big White Sale at Sears Roebuck, for \$2.61. I also bought a pretty blue and red plaid umbrella for \$4.12, which I've been in need of. Lou met me at the Broadway Store at 4:40 p.m. We did our weeks grocery shopping at the Boy's Market, on our way home. I phoned Donna this evening to ask Rex if

he'd come down here tomorrow morning and help Lou tie up the boards in our kitchen floor, so they will not squeak when we walk on them. Lou can't get under the house like he once could. Rex is coming.

January 8, Saturday

Our neighbor Mr. Edgecomb told Lou he might be able to fix the squeak in our kitchen floor without getting under the house, by counter sinking some nails into the floor to the joist. He did it this morning and it worked out perfect, so I phoned to tell Rex he didn't need to come and help Daddy. Rex was pleased cause he was building a little pen for the four baby chicks he bought a few days ago. The two chicks Mary and Johnny won at a school carnival about two months ago are good-sized pullets now. Peter Brown wanted to take Joan out tonight, but she had to work at the theater. Lou



Pullets: a young hen, especially one less than one year old. Mary and Johnny won chicks at the carnival at school two months prior.

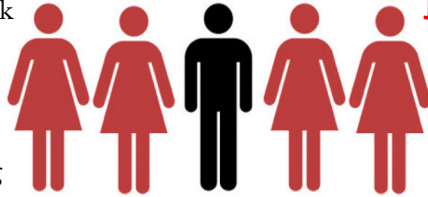
took Mr. Edgecomb to Monrovia to look at the lot in back of Donna's place. My daddy just can't get over the idea of buying and building a house on it. The ambitious desires of my man keep me in anxious concern, oh me! Donna received a nice letter from Janet. She is enjoying college in Provo, but it is cold there now. Lou worked most of his energy today in our yard; he got on the roof and cut back the branches of the tree hanging over our back porch. He cut out all the dead wood he could get at; cut the rose bushes back and other

plants. He pulled weeds, and transplanted a camellia and three azaleas that Warnie gave the Marshes months before they moved from Sierra Madre. I helped a little, to drag branches to the backyard. We'll have to have someone haul all the debris away for us. We couldn't burn all that rubbish in our little incinerator. I vacuumed the rugs and dusted up the house. Donna came tonight, after taking Mary and two other Beehive Girls to the stake center for the Mutual Scout and Beehive dance. She invited me to go back and watch the cute younger group of Mutual people at their fun. I'd liked to have gone, but I didn't want her to have to come all the way back here to bring me home after. Daddy and I enjoyed a nice visit with Donna, while Mary was at the stake dance. Rex and Johnny were home watching T.V. Kathy was home asleep. Joan was working at the theater selling tickets. Donna told us about Janet getting a ticket for driving Chuck D's car 45 MPH in a 35 MPH zone. It cost Rex \$16.00 because Janet didn't have her license with her. Oh, oh! I sent Joan's scrapbook home with Donna tonight.

January 9, Sunday

We took Hilda Botting and Mary Hill to Sunday School as usual. Don Rowberry was out of town; Br. Cole gave the lesson. We had several out of town visitors there again today; folks like to get away from the ice and snow, me too! Our dinner was all ready to eat when we got home; I left roast, carrots, onions, and potatoes in a low oven. They were done to perfection. I had a little discussion on polygamy after Sunday School with Br. Doezie and Mary Hill. She brought

up the subject in class. I don't think Br. Cole cleared it up for her, in her mind. Br. Doezie has some strong feelings on the subject. I had to put in my 2¢ worth, ha ha! Mary's daughter Molly is staying with her twin, a married sister, Dolly now. Lou enjoyed his nap after dinner as usual.



*Discussion on polygamy after Sunday School.
Wonder what Elvie's 2¢ would have been?*

I wrote in my diary and read from the Book of Mormon, my Relief Society assignment for January (Alma, chapters 29 – 35). We took Mary Hill to church tonight. The elder's quorum had charge of the program. It was a nice meeting, interesting speakers, but it was rather a long session. Talks were given by Claron Oakley, president, Bert Sheffield, first counselor, Alvin Dumcombe, Harry Howard, Wilford Cole, Loren Stephens, Clifford Cummings, Wilford Gurr, Stan Koontz, and Robert L. Gordon. Robert's talk was short with a punch to it, ha ha! The elder's quartet sang two nice selections. Bob Hamson gave the invocation, Dick Summers, the benediction. We enjoyed our lunch and T.V. before retiring. Warnie phoned Marshes today. Rex talked to him. I guess he got home over the weekend, eh?

January 10, Monday

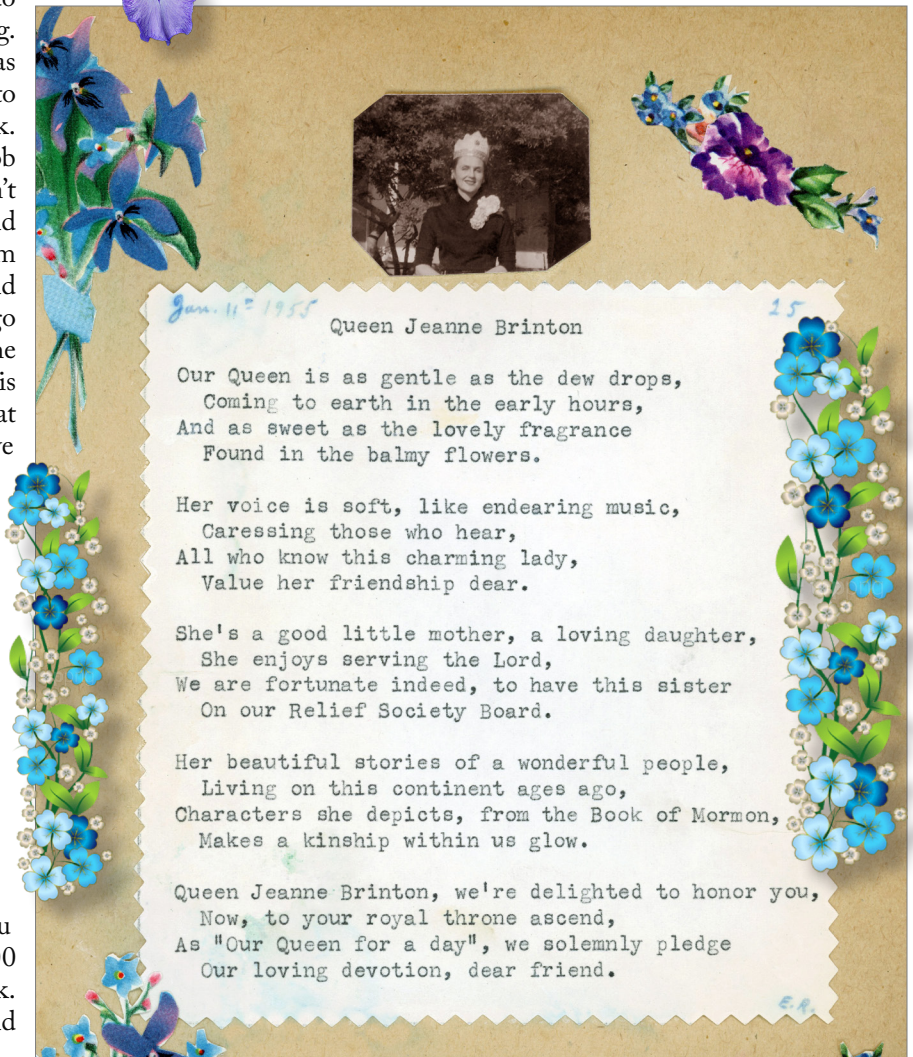
It looked so dark and damp so I didn't wash. I'll have a dilly when I do get at it. I didn't do any last week. I phoned Donna this morning. Rex was out looking for work. Joan was home in bed with the cramps. She came to the phone, to thank me for the scrapbook. Br. Frank Bennett phoned, he has a little job he'd like Rex to do for him, but Donna didn't know where to locate Rex. I hope he'll find work, because it is very necessary, eh? I'm sorry I didn't wash now, it didn't rain, and we had some sunshine off and on. I must go to Relief Society in the morning, to read the queen's tribute. Louise Anderson phoned this morning to invite us to the potluck dinner at their home on Thursday night. I told her we couldn't come this time. It is the first ward potluck dinner we've turned down. Lou felt he must go when it was for the building fund, but now it is just for the fun of getting together. He feels he isn't interested in going anymore. I feel the same way, I guess. We two old folks like to eat dinner together, in our own little home; in a rut, eh? (We like our little old rut.) I talked to Annie on the phone. Beverly had some trouble with her car Saturday or Sunday night, she had to put it in a garage this morning, here in the Ford place in Pasadena. She thought she could have it back this evening to go to work at Cannon Electric Company, but Lou said it isn't finished; it will cost about \$100 to fix it up. Poor Bev, she has the worst luck. She is going to work at the Venetian blind shop in the morning.

January 11, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon phoned to say that Susie G. was sick this morning. She said Melba Kunz would call for me. Melba's car is in the garage being repaired; they were in an accident on the freeway ten days ago, no one hurt, but the car was badly damaged.

Melba's neighbor Verena Crandall took us in her car; we called for Marie Doezie. Verena's little girl Kristine was in the car with us, too.

She let us out at church and then went to get her mother, Mrs. Oldham, who helped us quilt today. We didn't have as many out to our workday, as we have had the past few months. It was a very pretty clear day, the white snow on the mountains looked so beautiful. It was almost all gone when we came out of church at 3 p.m. Bonna came over later, long enough to take her roll. We were served a lovely luncheon by the ladies in two of our districts. I read our queen's tribute; we crowned Jeanne Brinton queen for a day. She was truly surprised. She is sweet. Nora Williamson couldn't go this morning, her car is in the garage for repairs. She came for me this afternoon at 3:15 p.m. in her husband's company car. We did our Relief Society visiting. We found five of our ten ladies at home. I always enjoy going with Nora and visiting the lovely ladies on our district. It is always pleasant to visit LaDorna Perine, Louise Anderson, Ethel Ashton, and Georgia Nibley. Two of our fine ladies work, so



we seldom see them. I was really tired this afternoon; it was an effort to get our dinner ready and the dishes washed, but I'm glad the visiting is done early, anyway.

January 12, Wednesday

I was thankful for the beautiful sunny day. My large washing dried completely. Oh, I wish I could phone Donna without it costing a toll each time. I do so miss not hearing from her everyday, darn it! Lucille Gasper phoned me this afternoon; she lives in Altadena now. She is renting the Garfield home that they bought from us. Her little daughter has the asthma so bad; they moved up to Altadena and are buying a home there because the little girl feels better there. That d--- asthma is a dreadful curse. Beverly worked at the Venetian bind shop again this morning. She was feeling depressed because her car is going to cost so much more than she expected, almost \$300. It has to have a rebuilt engine, I believe. Poor Bev has the darnest luck. I phoned Elton's to talk with Ethel N. but she had gone to Inglewood. I wanted to invite her to go to a show and dinner with Lou and me on Saturday afternoon. Margie said she'd have Ethel phone us. Lorene

phoned me this afternoon and said Mary phoned to tell her that Aunt Sue had a heart attack this morning. Bette got Dr. Lewis and he said if Sue doesn't stay in bed, until her heart is stronger, she may go anytime. He had a time trying to convince Sue that she must stay in bed. Oh, I feel so dreadful about it. I know it is almost impossible for Sue to stay in bed. She was so wonderful to me when I was down with my heart trouble, and I'm helpless to do anything for her now that she needs help. Poor little Bette, I don't see how she'll manage with her babies and all.

The Deseret Industries truck came for our papers and old clothing. Lou and I both got rid of some clothes we've had hanging in closets for a long time. Ethel N. phoned later this afternoon; we made plans to meet her Sunday afternoon in Los Angeles and have a nice drive and visit with her. Annie phoned to say she had talked to Bette Haddock on the phone. Sue is feeling better.

January 13, Thursday

I had a huge ironing, which I am glad to have done with. I shampooed my hair this morning and then spent my time today ironing and resting. It would have been small for my daughter, but seven shirts seem a lot to me. I didn't wash last week, that's why more to iron. I phoned Bette Haddock to ask

about Sue; she said, "Mother feels better, she has the phone by her bedside." I would have called her number, but wasn't sure she had the phone handy. Bette says the doctor says it is okay for Sue to get up and around a little, but she must get more rest than she has been getting. Ethel N. phoned again this afternoon; we will meet her at 7th and Broadway in Los Angeles on Sunday at 2 p.m. She said she'd eat lunch before coming and for us to do the same, so we didn't have to take that time from our drive and visit. We wanted to take her to dinner, but she wants it this way. She says we'll have ice cream and cake at Harold's when we take her home in the evening. That is like her, ha ha! She always wants to do the treating, well, we'll see! I phoned Miriam C., she was out. I talked to her mother Elizabeth Jensen; she is visiting from Salt Lake City, Utah. Br. Jensen is here also, but she says he is getting anxious to go back home. She may stay until February. I phoned Donna this evening. Rex has had only one day's work this week. I'm sorry about that. I surely hope he'll find steady work soon; he needs it. Donna got a nice letter from Janet; she had been to a lovely party. One of her girlfriends invited her to come and she went with Drew Day. She said John Hunter and his girlfriend were there and Marilyn Ashton and Jack Gealta were there. She also said she has had her hair cut real short again, the dovetail style. (Well, it's her hair, eh?) Little cutie, even if Grama doesn't like the boy hair cut for girls.



Sue, Elvie, and Annie in 1954. In January of 1955 Sue has a heart attack. The doctor warns her to take care and rest.



Janet Marsh at BYU.



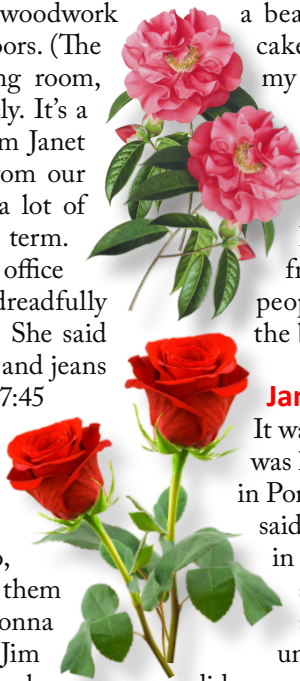
January 14, Friday

'Twas a beautiful sunny day again, no smog and we love it. My little neighbor Mr. Lowe washed the windows on the outside of Edgecomb's house again today. He did them all just before Christmas. Ours do well if we get them done outside, twice a year. I keep the inside smudge off the best I can, but Lou does them outside. Rex brought his truck this afternoon; Donna and Kathy came with him. He had almost a load of junk on the truck from his yard and when he got our tree cuttings on, it was piled high. We were surely happy to get rid of that mess. I couldn't make Rex take the \$5.00 Lou told me to give him for hauling the load away. I did make him take \$3.00. We didn't know just what they'd charge at the dumping place in Monrovia. Donna brought Shirley's [Lillian Shirley Keller] letter over to read to me, Shirley is very happy with her new husband [Frederick Herman Behrmann]. Donna phoned later and said it cost \$2.00 to dump the stuff. I was

so happy to see them [*when they came to get the tree cuttings*], Kathy wanted to stay, but had to go with them. I gave her a lollypop and one for Johnny and Mary. We played jump rope while Daddy loaded the truck. Donna jumped and turned the rope. Mary has her first date tonight, she is going to a party with Dennis Steele; he is Howard's neighbor boy. His mother is bringing him to call for Mary. Kathy told me about Daddy taking them up in the mountains to see the "cold snow." Joan is enjoying her new job at the show house; she bought two pair of shoes for herself and paid \$10.00 to have her watch fixed. Both boyfriends, Peter Brown and Chuck DeBias, called on Joan the other night. Peter out stayed Chuck, but he didn't get the date he wanted. Chuck is the favorite, me thinks! Mary is paying for her own piano lessons by taking care of the piano teacher's children. Donna brought a few more typed pages of my 1930 diary. I put them in the three loose-leaf folders; two carbon copies of diary.

January 15, Saturday

Lou went to the paint store this morning; he brought home a quart of paint that he thought was the same as we were using, but it was a shade darker. He took it back and got the right one. He painted the hall; there is a lot of woodwork in the hall with the linen cabinet and five big doors. (The two bedroom doors, the bathroom, the living room, and the kitchen doors.) It is going to look lovely. It's a pretty pale rose color. We received a letter from Janet this morning. I'm always delighted to hear from our sweet little granddaughter, she said she had a lot of trouble getting the classes she wanted for this term. She is taking English, religion, bacteriology, office machines, gym, and shorthand. She says it is dreadfully cold; was four degrees below when she wrote. She said she and Sandy Robinson wore big heavy shirts and jeans under their winter coats to school. Gym starts at 7:45 a.m. Burrrrr. I'm glad I'm here in California. She says she'll be glad when it is spring there. It is like spring time here today. Lou picked two beautiful red rose buds from our rose trees yesterday. I had a lovely bouquet a week ago, but he has trimmed them back now to give them a fresh start for summer blooms. Rex and Donna went to their club dinner party tonight, at Jim and Nell Ellsworth's home. It was their shipwreck party; guests were to arrive, as they were dressed; (or undressed) when the supposed ship was wrecked. I learned later, that the Ellsworths were in long red underwear, ha ha! Lou and I went out to see Sue. She had been in bed most of the day, but she sat up while we visited. Mary and Lorene came from Van Nuys. Andersens had been to see Sue earlier. Beverly's car broke down in Van Nuys, and she just got it out of the garage, a \$300 job! Irene brought Andersens home. The crankshaft in her car broke in half; more grief for that dear girl! I was happy to find Sue feeling better, and happy to learn that Dr. Lewis thinks he can help Bill's condition. Bill went to see the doctor today for the first time. Aunt Ida Strong is in the hospital for another operation, I'm so sorry. It started to rain just before we arrived home from Burbank tonight. Our ward had a bowtie and hair bow dance tonight. Skipper Steimle was in charge.



January 16, Sunday

It rained all night. Ethel phoned to say the water was too deep for her to go uptown, and then she phoned just before we left for Sunday School and said the sun was shining and she could meet us. We ate a sandwich after Sunday School and then went to meet Ethel at 7th and Broadway in Los Angeles at 2 p.m. The sun was shining in Los Angeles, but the clouds were black in Pasadena. We had a heavy downpour on our way back with Ethel, even hailstones. We enjoyed a nice visit in our home, I fixed dinner about 5 p.m.; chicken I baked this morning and a set Jello salad. We enjoyed Florence Marsh's carrot pudding and a caramel sauce I made, for our dessert. We all went to our ward this evening. Ethel was delighted to see Harold Kratzer in our bishopric; he used to live in their neighborhood and played with her son, Harold Elton. Franklin Richards is another boy from their ward; I was sorry he wasn't there tonight so she could see him, too. We enjoyed the drive to Los Angeles; a cold wind got rid of the clouds. The stars were bright, air clear, the car nice and warm with the heater on. Ethel insisted on us going in the house and seeing Harold, Margie, and children. They surely have a beautiful home. We had some delicious chocolate cake, which I shouldn't have eaten. It is amazing how my dresses are shrinking since Christmas, ha ha! We got home at 11 p.m. We enjoyed Ethel's visit. Margie gave me two lovely big rose camellias from her plants; they are so pretty. Today was Mary's first 2-½ minute talk in Sunday School. Br. Francis Gealta was our speaker in church from the high council. He called on three young people, two boys and Ephra Doezie. Sorry I haven't the boy's names. They all gave good talks.

January 17, Monday

It was a beautiful sunny morning. I phoned Donna and was happy to learn that Rex is working for Br. Kunz out in Pomona. I hope he'll have plenty of work now. Donna said that Br. Sorenson of our stake high council spoke in Monrovia Ward last night. He called on her to speak before his talk and asked her to say something about Relief Society welfare work. She said she felt uneasy when she saw him on the stand. I'm sure she did a good job anyway. Mary is home from school today, not feeling well. She was working on Beehive work in bed. Beverly's car is back in the Pasadena garage again; they said they'd fix it free because it was a fault somewhere in their work. She just had a new engine put in it. Well, I hope it'll be right for a long, long time when they get through this time. They had to go to Van Nuys this morning for Bev's car. Lou and I both phoned Andersens this morning to ask about the car. Lou disrupted Annie's washing, and I got Bev up from her rest. Pesky relatives, eh? I sent the newspaper of our 1955 Rose Queen and the parade floats to Will and Flora in Liberty, Missouri, and a letter with a dollar bill in to my little Janet. It looked like it would rain today at times, but it didn't really get started until tonight. I'm glad to be in a nice warm little home with my darling husband. I wish all people could feel as comfortable this night. Mary gave her 2 ½ minute talk in Sunday School yesterday. I'd like to have heard her.

January 18, Tuesday

It rained all night and most of today, it really came down hard at times with lighting and thunder thrown in for good measure. Bonna Gordon came for me as usual; we went to get Bessie the babysitter. Some of the streets were like forging into a small river. Bonna was very careful driving in the heavy downpour. Marie Doezie was with us, also. I was amazed at the nice group out in such weather. We held our Relief Society meeting today in one of the larger classrooms off the recreation hall, because Br. Larson came to show us some colored slides he had taken while in England and Holland last summer. He is LaDorna Perine's father. Her parents took some wonderful pictures while over in Europe. Our literature teacher, Faye Timothy, invited Br. Larsen to come and entertain us with the beautiful views of England and some of Holland, because we are studying the literature of England. Our lesson today was on Emily Brontë. It was lovely indeed. I've been thinking of Donna and family; I wonder if Rex had work inside today? I hope so. This rainy afternoon I enjoyed doing some scrapbook work. I put all of my old snapshots that I've had since I was a teenage girl, in the book. Believe me, they are dillies to look at; are good for a laugh anytime. Gee, did we look like that? I guess I'd better stop being amused at the pony tails, the duck tails, and pig tails, and buns that our teenage girls show up with, eh? Donna says Joan has decided to have her long hair cut and have a permanent wave; it will be her first permanent. A letter from Will and Flora Taylor came today, he has been sick with the flu. They are in Liberty, Missouri on a mission.

January 19, Wednesday

It was nice to see the sunshine and blue sky this morning. I should have washed, but wasn't in the mood. I had letters to answer and a queen's tribute to compose. I wrote to Warnie Mueller, I phoned Betty Ramish. She has been in bed eight weeks with heart trouble. I phoned Donna, too, I get so lonesome to hear her or see them, I just have to phone every once in a while. I was happy to learn that Rex got five hours of work in yesterday with all that rain. He is working today, too. Donna says there is plenty of plastering work ahead, so that sounds good. She says she took Kathy to Monrovia Ward yesterday morning to the Arcadia Relief Society conference; she is a member of the stake board now and must attend the ward conferences. She went to her own Relief Society this morning. I told her I wrote to Warnie Mueller; she said there was a letter there from him to Joan. Peter Brown wanted to take Joan out tonight, but she told him she must go to Mutual. She has had her work nights changed at the



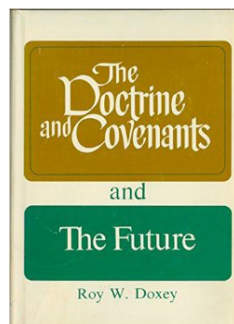
Emily Jane Brontë was an English novelist and poet who is best known for her only novel, *Wuthering Heights*, now considered a classic of English literature.

Born: July 30, 1818, Thornton, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom

Died: December 19, 1848, Haworth, United Kingdom

Siblings: Charlotte Brontë, Anne Brontë, Branwell Brontë, Elizabeth Brontë, Maria Brontë
Parents: Maria Branwell, Patrick Brontë

www.bookgorilla.com/author/B000APRKSA/emily-bronte



theater, so she'll have Wednesdays off, to go to Mutual. I wrote to my sister Violet, then took a walk to our corner mailbox with my letters. I composed a queen tribute to Marva DeHaan; she is Clarice Tanner's first counselor in Relief Society. Edgcombs had to have their T.V. taken out today for repairs. The old folks will surely miss it if they keep it away long. Maybe he left them one in its place, like he did with us, eh? Gee, I hope ours will not need fixing for a long time. (I'll keep my fingers crossed, ha ha!) I ran across an old picture of three of Owen's boyfriends, Bill and Ed Vincent, and I couldn't recall the other boy's name. I knew him and where he lived, (Oh, that makes me mad!) I phoned Annie and told her where he lived and she was no help, it was Loyal somebody? Lou came up with the name when he looked at the picture tonight and heard where they lived, he said "Oh that's old Joe Harris's boy, why sure, Loyal Harris," now I feel better, he he!

January 20, Thursday

Don't laugh my little typist, every line helps. [*She wrote this on the bottom of the preceeding page.*] Today sister Annie enjoyed a nice luncheon in Beth Bywater's home. It was her club day. Beth's mother, Margaret Reese, entertained the club. I hope they had a lovely time. I'd like to look in on my many old friends there. My recreation comes from writing and reading and scrapbook

work. I enjoy it so much, too! Lou took the new book Ethel Newbold sent me, "Doctrine and Covenants and the Future." It is written by one of our church college professors. Lou is going to read it on his lunch hour at work. My ink is getting down to the settlings, will not flow as well in the pen. Annie phoned to tell me she phoned to Sue; she is feeling a little better, but she was tired because she made the effort to go to the doctor's office today. He said her blood pressure is down a little, which is good. She

hasn't lost any weight, which isn't good. The doctor says she must lose weight; she has been on a strict diet, he says she can get up and around more now, to help take off the pounds. Oh dear, these sluggish glands cause folks a lot of grief. Bill Andersen stayed home from work doctoring a cold. Ethel Newbold phoned from her son's home. She is leaving for her home in Salt Lake City on January 30. Lou received a cute birthday card from her today.

January 21, Friday

Dale took his dad to work this morning, but Bill coughed so much going, Dale brought him back home after Bill opened up his shop and got the men going. Dale didn't have to attend school today; some had to take exams, but he was excused today, nice eh? Beverly has a slight cold;

I hope she'll get it checked quickly. Annie asked me to help her and Sr. Burnett with a queen's tribute for Elise Treu, if I felt able. I worked on it a little this morning. Sr. Treu has been working at the bakery with her son John for many years, but she has had to give it up because of her failing eyesight. It's not as clear now; she is well along in her eighties, and a most remarkable little lady. She raised her own family and two of her daughter's children. Ruby Hodges is having a dinner party this evening, Gordon stayed home this afternoon to help her prepare for it. Lorene phoned and we had a nice visit. She keeps busy working in homes for other ladies, bless her heart. I phoned Donna and invited them to come to dinner on Sunday. She said she'd make Daddy's birthday cake. Mary is out of school with a headache; she's had several lately, wonder what is causing them? Donna went to Singing Mothers this morning and Relief Society visiting teaching this afternoon. She left Kathy with Mary. Rex worked three days for Br.

January 22, Saturday

Kunz this week. He found another small job Thursday and today, until Br. Kunz has more work. It's a worry for the poor man, when work isn't steady. Joan took the car after school today to go to Sierra Madre to have her hair cut and curled, (not a permanent wave). She is going out to dinner and to a show this evening with Chuck DeBias. I did my ironing. I finished Sr. Treu's tribute and one for Lovinia Allen. I made a few changes on Marva DeHaan's tribute.



Mary, Kathy, Joan, and John Marsh at Monrovia home.



Elvie and Lou Renshaw in 1954. On Grampa Lou's birthday in 1955 John tells Grampa Lou, "Grampa Elvie looks a lot older than you do Grampa."

my house was in order for any shopping. We did go to the market for our week's supply of food. Lou brought a nice big leg of lamb home last night; our little Marsh family is coming to dinner to celebrate Grampa's birthday.

January 23, Sunday

It's our Daddy Lou's birthday today, 65 years young. I didn't go to Sunday School this morning. Lou went to his priesthood meeting at nine o'clock. I phoned Hilda Botting to give her time to make arrangements to go to Sunday School with Miriam Summerhays. I also phoned Mary Hill, but she wasn't going this morning. We always take them to Sunday School. I told Mary Hill we'd take her to sacrament meeting tonight. If Lou is to attend his priesthood meetings, we'll have to make some different arrangements. He can't pick us up and be back in time for his Sunday School prayer meeting at 10:20 a.m. I do so want him to go to his priesthood meetings, even if it means I'll miss Sunday School. He says

he will not have me miss Sunday School. If only a bus went to our new chapel. I had dinner all ready for the folks at 1 p.m. Donna brought a beautiful white lemon filled cake for her daddy's birthday. She also brought some shaving cream and three pair of nylon socks. I missed Joan; she had to work in the box office of the theater. She went to Sunday School. Our little Janet is in Provo, Utah attending BYU College. Mary and Kathy both have colds; so many folks are suffering with colds now. Donna and I did the dishes. Mary and Kathy played in the sunshine on the patio. Rex studied for the talk he has to give in their ward tonight. Johnny was at the television, and Grampa enjoyed his nap. Donna took the queen tributes I'd composed, home to type for me. She brought two more months of my 1930 diary all typed. Three more months will finish that year. That will be two years typed, only 23 more years to do, Donna. Oh... I gave Lou a white dress shirt with French cuffs, and some cuff links and a tie clasp and a tie. We sang Happy Birthday to him, at the table after eating. He let the little ones open the gifts for him after blowing out his candles. That cake was delicious, his favorite! Donna talked to Aunt Annie on the phone; they were all upset because the doctor said yesterday that Bill has sugar diabetes. He has to take

shots of insulin. Lou and I drove over to see Bill after Donna and family went home. Ruth Kitchens, a nurse, came to give Bill another shot of insulin. Beverly tried to give Bill a shot this morning but she was so nervous she jabbed her own hand with the needle. Annie says the family will take lessons from Ruth, so they can all learn how to give the injections. They are relieved to learn what is causing Bill's illness anyway. Donna phoned to say she had my typing done and that Mary left her red purse here. We took Mary Hill to our ward. We had a lovely meeting; the choir sang two numbers. Bishop James Ellsworth and wife Nellie gave excellent talks. Rex was the speaker in Monrovia Ward. Mary had a nose bleed tonight. Mary, Johnny, and Kathy stayed home tonight. Joan went to church. She looks so pretty with her hair cut and curled. We took Mary's purse out to Monrovia and the cake tin, after church, and waited for Rex and Donna to get out of church. I brought the typing home.

January 24, Monday

I phoned Annie this morning to see how Bill was feeling. I am happy to learn he is much better. The last two urine tests show negative, (no sugar). Dale and Br. Harry Christensen administered to Bill last night. He slept well all night. Bev took him to his work at 10 a.m. and waited until he got the men busy, then she brought him home. I phoned to see how Sue was, she isn't much better, has a cold in her lungs, throat, and sinuses. She has got me concerned for her. It was a beautiful day. I put Donna's typed diary pages in the loose leaf folders today and fixed the queen tributes in their colored folders, ready for the coronation day at Relief Society. I mailed Annie the tribute I composed to Elise Treu, also the ones I'd done for our ladies, Marva DeHaan and Lovinia Allen. They change the verses and names to suit their queens for a day in Garvanza Ward. My Johnny boy gave me a jolt yesterday. He knew I had a birthday last month, and I was 62 years old. He asked yesterday how old Grampa was; upon learning that he was 65 years old, he said, "Grampa looks a lot older than you do Grampa." He was amazed that I was three years younger, ha ha! What a blow my ego took, ha ha! Oh, the perplexing honesty of youth! I got as big a kick out of it as anyone, but you know what? It has its psychological effect just the same, today I feel like Grampa's mother, ha ha!



A photo of young Bill Andersen. In 1955 he is diagnosed with "sugar diabetes."

A Small Segment of the Time-line of the History of Diabetes

Late 1940's – Helen Free develops the "dip-and-read" urine test (Clinistix), allowing instant monitoring of blood glucose levels.

1950s – Specialists still recommend against marriage for people "with hereditary diabetes."

1951 – Lawrence and Bornstein measure the amount of insulin in the blood. They find that older and obese patients with diabetes do have insulin, but those who are young have none.

1955 – Oral drugs that help lower blood glucose levels are introduced.

1959 – Two major types of diabetes are recognized: Type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetes and Type 2 (non-insulin-dependent) diabetes.

1960's – Home testing for glucose levels in the urine increases the level of control for people with diabetes.

1964 – The first strips for testing blood glucose are used. A drop of blood is placed on the paper strip for 1 minute, and then washed off. Comparing the color to a color chart provides a rough indication of blood glucose levels.

www.defeatdiabetes.org/diabetes-history/

Testing sugar level was not done with blood until 1964!

January 25, Tuesday

That precious Bonna Gordon came for me this morning as usual; she had Marie Doezie with her. We picked up Bessie, the babysitter. It was a lovely day. I enjoyed the fine lesson given by Phyllis McDonnell in Social Science, on "The Constitution of the United States." She is a good teacher. I came home from Relief Society with Nora Williamson. We stayed to plan with June Johnson and Mable Dunne for the next luncheon on workday. I was surprised and happy to see Donna's station wagon in our driveway. She was in the house with Mary, Johnny, and Kathy. She had to take Mary and Johnny to the doctor. Mary has an infection in her ear; she has had a lot of headaches and nose bleeds lately, plus earache. Johnny has a cold. The doctor gave Mary a penicillin shot. Donna had left a prescription at the drug store for penicillin tablets and some nose drops. She brought several more pages of my 1930 diary typed. I put them in the folders. I let her have \$7.00 to help out; I wish I could give her a lot more. I know this typing job is tedious and she is so sweet to do it. She insists she doesn't want pay. I fixed lunch for us; we had bacon and eggs. John is delighted because the doctor told Donna to keep him out of school for a few days. I phoned Annie and was happy to learn that Bill is a lot better. He worked part of today, until Beverly went for him at 2 p.m. Dale took him to work this morning. The past three urine tests show no sugar. Sr. Burnett phoned to thank me for Elise Treu's queen for a day tribute; she said it was just beautiful. Nice, eh? I'm glad she and Annie liked it. Glen phoned Aunt Sue, she is still feeling miserable. He can call her and his mother from work, without a toll charge. Annie lets me know how Sue is when she hears from Glen. I do hope Sue will feel better soon, also my grandchildren. I've heard of a lot of our people are sick with colds now.

January 26, Wednesday

I phoned Annie this morning before Lou left for work, to ask about Bill. He is doing all right; they are delighted he has improved such a lot. He went to work this morning. I did a small hand washing after my bath this morning. It was a beautiful day, but I wasn't up to washing a lot of clothes. I read from the Doctrine and Covenants and the Book of Mormon. Lou called Beverly in to work this morning for five hours. Gordon paid her for six hours. I phoned Donna's house and Joan answered at 3 p.m. She didn't go to school today, her gums are a little infected. Donna was going to take her to the dentist (Dr. Don Anderson), when she came home from Relief

Society visiting. I was happy to learn that Mary and Johnny feel much better today. The family received a letter from Janet this morning. She is well, and is getting a suntan from Elaine Oates's sunlamp. She says she looks like she's been to the beach for a week. My precious little old Lamanite, she is burning up the lovely fair skin she was blessed with. I received a nice letter from Violet; she is surely enjoying her little granddaughter Nadine. She says she plays so good and doesn't fuss for her folks at all. Today she was playing that she was Kathy Marsh and she talked about Aunt Elbie, she says her daddy's name is Rex, (she's a cutie) about 2 ½ years old I believe. I wonder how sister Sue is today? I'd like to phone and talk to her, but our phone bill is too high now. It worries Lou when the bills have to be paid, since Donna moved to Monrovia, it costs a toll every time I call her.

January 27, Thursday

Oh my, almost one month of our new year has gone into the past. It's almost alarming, eh? I tried to get Dr. Neal, the dentist, on the phone, but no answer after seven rings, so I guess it is his day away from the office. Just between you and me little diary, I was delightfully relieved. If having that lower plate installed and my poor old teeth extracted is truly a dreadful burden to my soul, it made me feel ill just phoning about it. It is amazing how quickly my strength returned when I learned I couldn't get in touch with the doctor today, ha ha! I decided to vacuum the rugs. Sr. Annie will vacuum tomorrow, I'd bet my last dollar on that, ha ha! My heart trouble has changed a lot of my good housekeeping habits; I do the job when I feel able now. I enjoyed reading from the Book of Mormon and my Relief Society magazine, until I got over the trembling legs this morning. Ruth Kitchens told Beverly today that in all her experience in nursing she has never seen anyone make such a remarkable comeback to normal as Bill has done with such a few insulin treatments, for diabetes, which was really bad. We know Bill's faith is strong; the priesthood is powerful. He was administered to by Dale and Harry Christenson. He improved from that minute on. My darling Lou and I enjoyed our cozy little home and television as usual this evening.

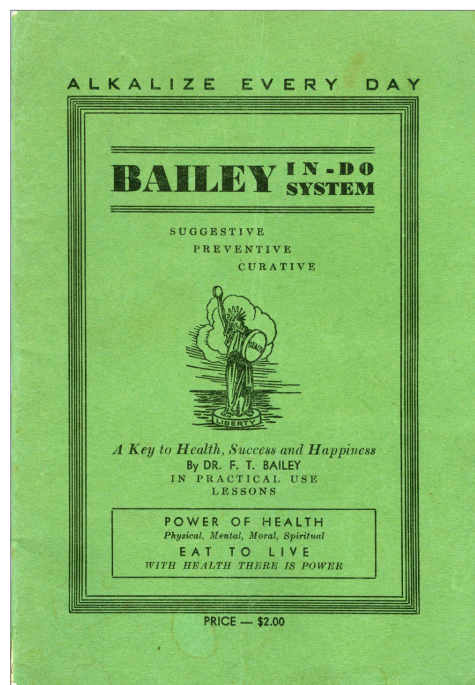
January 28, Friday

Lou didn't wake me this morning. I enjoyed an extra hour in my nice warm bed. I was grateful to him, as I'd had a rather restless night. I wondered if I should call to him once, but I didn't. I took my blood pressure down like Uncle Frank told me to do. God bless Uncle Frank, he has helped me and hundreds of other folks, with his marvelous knowledge of how to care for ourselves in time of distress. I phoned Dr. Neal and made an appointment to see him on Monday, at 4 p.m. I wish the entire miserable business was all in the past like 1954 is. We received a letter from Ethel Newbold, from Salt Lake City.

She went home a week ahead of her plans, I was going to phone her tomorrow to wish her "bon voyage," and she's been home a week. She received word that her tenant was going to move from her upstairs apartment so decided to go home to put the place in order to rent again. She said the back door of her little house was packed up with ice and snow. She had to change clothes and chop ice and shovel snow. She had to wade through 12 inches of snow to the shed, for the shovel, not for me! I'll take this lovely weather in Pasadena; it was like summer today. It was 76 degrees. I went uptown and left Mary's colored negatives in the drug store to be developed; I'll get them in two weeks. I bought a nice big bath towel on sale for 79¢ and bought a few things in Kress. I came home and watered the lawn and flowers. Lou was worried because I didn't answer the phone when he called home today. I'm sorry I didn't phone to let him know I was going out today. I wonder if Donna got started on making her dress today. A sister in Monrovia Ward is going to teach some of the sisters how to make their own dresses. She used to teach sewing herself. I'm glad that Donna can have this chance to learn to sew; I was no help to her, that's for sure. I went to town today without a coat or jacket.

January 29, Saturday

It was nice and warm today, but not as warm as yesterday. Lou went somewhere after breakfast, to do a little carpenter job for an elderly gentleman who comes in the shop and talks to him. I did my washing, it isn't often that I do it on a Saturday, but I have an appointment with the dentist on Monday. I'll need my strength to get me there and back. We received a nice little letter from Janet this morning. I was sorry to learn she was sick in bed with an upset stomach, intestinal flu she thinks it is. She said it was six below in Provo that morning. Burrrr, she hopes her father decides against moving to Utah. I surely hope so, too. I have a new bottle of ink as you can see. It's a pretty blue, but I didn't know it would be this much of an extreme change, (a peacock blue). After lunch we drove out to Monrovia to see the children. Donna was the only one home. Rex was helping Lewie Marsh build a garage at his home, Joan was working at the Lyric Theater selling tickets, and Mary, Johnny, and Kathy were in the show enjoying the pictures for free. Lou took a walk around the neighborhood while I helped Donna with her work. She vacuumed and I mopped the kitchen and bathroom floors. Chuck D. and Joan brought the children home after the matinée. Rex came home with more baby chicks and two baby turkeys. He has over twenty young chickens now. I believe they are all roosters. [Plenty of cock-a-doodle-do!] That is what he wanted to buy anyway. He is not interested in the eggs, just meat for the family, put in the frozen locker later. Rex brought a lot of things home in his truck; some things Aunt Em [Emma Claybaugh]

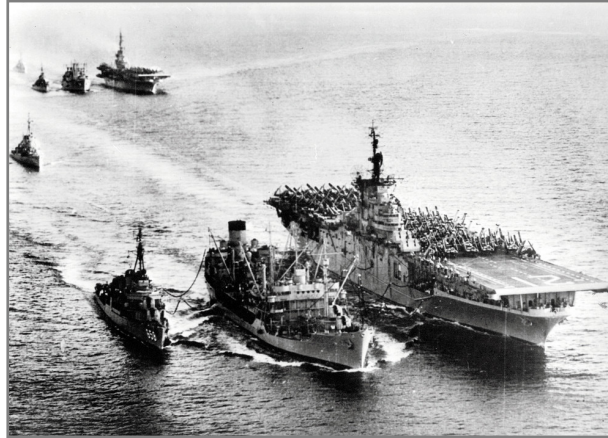


Uncle Frank's book, for the Power of Health.

had, before she went to live in a home for old people. He can use some of it for camping equipment he thinks. We did our week's shopping in Shopping Bag Market on the way home. Andersens went to Van Nuys to take Bill to the doctor today. They called to see Aunt Sue on the way home. I tried two or three times to phone Annie to find out about Sue, but got no answer this evening. Annie told me yesterday that Glen had another abscess form in his rectum. His doctor was amazed, cause he was so sure Glen would never suffer with another one, after he operated on him a short time ago. I'm so sorry. President Eisenhower signed Joint Resolution on the Defense of Formosa. Are we headed for war?

January 30, Sunday

Lou went to priesthood meeting this morning. It was a beautiful morning. I told him I'd start walking up to Blanche Street so he wouldn't have to come all the way home for me. I phoned Mary Hill to tell her we'd pick her up and she said she'd walk down Blanche Street if she got out early. She was almost to the bridge and I was at the bridge when Lou came. I was amazed that Mary got so far; it is about a mile from Rosemead Boulevard. It was about six blocks for me, but we both enjoyed walking this wonderful morning. I walked very slowly. I was happy to see Warnie Mueller at church. He has a two weeks furlough from Camp Ord. He looked so well, he is taller and heavier. He looks much better and happier. He is a typist clerk now and is enjoying the Army at last. We had a fine Sunday School as always. Lou and I enjoyed our chicken stew that I cooked last night. After dinner we went to look at a little house for sale in East Pasadena in the Chatwood District. It was a corner lot, the house is nice outside, but the inside, not so nice. Lou likes to look when the price is right for him. We went to Burbank to see Sue and was glad to find her feeling better. She was sitting up in her robe. She has lost 16 pounds in a week. The doctor was pleased about that. They had some excitement there yesterday, when Bette's little Rick got the aspirin tablets and ate some and gave baby brother some. Both babies were taken to the emergency hospital for treatment. Bradley and Ricky look happy and well so I guess no harm was one, but what a scare. Shirley and Kenny and their three darling children were visiting Sue



In 1955, House gave President Eisenhower the power to defend Taiwan 'as he deems necessary.'



Diane Oates rode the same bus with Elvie on January 31.

and Bette. It started to rain about 3:30 this afternoon. We drove home in the rain this evening at 5 p.m. I enjoyed the nice steady downpour while driving. We didn't go to church tonight. Mary Howard told me after Sunday School today that they were going out to Marshes' after dinner and take Mary and Johnny with them to visit some of their friends and relatives, nice eh?

January 31, Monday

Donna phoned this morning; they had a change made in their bishopric last night in church. Bishop William Sutton was given a new second counselor; Br. Lamar was taken from the high council and put in the Monrovia bishopric. President Hunter and all of the high counselors were in attendance. I believe the brother who was released was a Br. Davis, but not sure. He has poor health and had to be released. Joan's school was excused today. She and some friends went to visit the PCC Jr. College here in Pasadena. I believe a boy from Monrovia Ward, Neal? took Joan and a girlfriend to PCC and to lunch. He is home on a short furlough like Warnie is. I was delighted when Annie and Beverly called on me about 12:30 noon. Bev came to Pasadena to get her car license plates. They wouldn't take their coats off, as Bev wanted to go back and finish the painting job on the kitchen floor. She ran out of paint. They were going to call in the shop for more paint that Lou had for them. Annie's Relief Society board is coming to lunch next week I think (the stake board). We received our invitation to Irene Oates's wedding reception for February 18, this morning. I went to town on the bus. Diane Oates got on at the PCC School and she sat with me. She is a refreshing beauty, lovely friendly girl. We transferred to different buses on Lake Street. I went north on Lake to Orange Grove and walked a block east to Menter Street to Dr. Neal's office at 707 N. Menter. The doctor looked at my teeth. He thinks they should come out. He recommended a Dr. Clifford Hayes in the First Trust Building in Pasadena to do the extracting work. Dr. Neal will make the plate later. I walked to the Venetian blind shop and came home with Lou at 4:30 p.m. It was cold and cloudy, but didn't rain as expected. I talked to Gordon while Lou finished a little work he was doing. I wrote a letter to Janet this morning and sent \$2.00 in it.

February 1, Tuesday

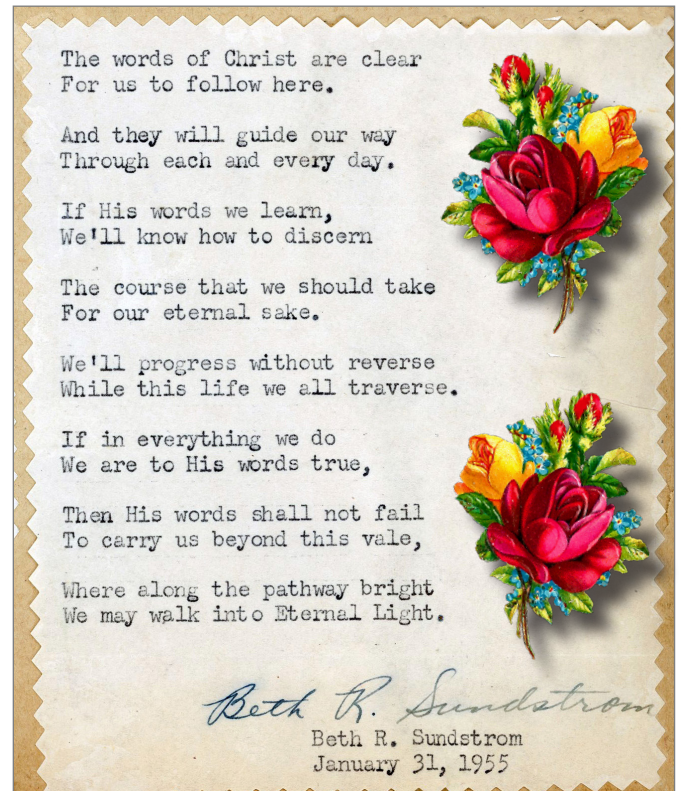
Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:10 this morning. Marie Doezie was with her as usual. We picked up Bessie, the babysitter. We had a splendid attendance at the visiting teachers meeting. Beth Sundstrom's lesson was very nice; she concluded with a lovely little poem she had composed. She gave me a copy of it and I mailed it to Donna to have her type a copy for our Relief Society scrapbook and for my own scrapbook. I sent some Black Jack Gum in the letter for the children, six sticks, pasted on a paper. President Tanner called on me to dismiss the first meeting. I did it a month ago in the same meeting, (block teachers). Beth S. smiled when she heard my name read in the minutes, for last month, she was sitting by me. I told her I guessed I'd been elected to dismiss the visiting teachers meetings this year, ha ha! Sr. Elma Frandsen did a beautiful job giving our Theology lesson, "Instructions of Alma to his sons, from the Book of Mormon, chapters 36-42. I came home with Nora Williamson; we stayed a while after the meeting to make plans for next week's luncheon. We planned to do our visiting teaching this afternoon at 2 p.m. Then Nora phoned to say her husband wanted her to go to Blythe with him so we couldn't go. I did my ironing instead. Joan answered the phone this afternoon; she was out of school with a cold. Donna had gone to get some help on the squaw dress she is making for herself. A sister in the ward is teaching some of the ladies to sew. Lou came home this evening feeling miserable. He was coming down with a cold; he took some Bromo Quinine tablets when he went to bed and hot lemonade. I surely hope he'll feel all right tomorrow. Warnie Mueller ate dinner with the Marshes tonight.

February 2, Wednesday

I was happy to see that Lou felt a lot better this morning, he phoned me at noon and said his cold was checked, he felt fine. I tried to phone Sue to see how she was feeling, but got no answer. Maybe she had gone to the doctor? I phoned Donna, she said she got her dress cut out yesterday. It is ready to start sewing on now. She said Rex had his hair cut butch last evening. It was a surprise to the family. I did some repair work on two of my dresses this morning. I should write letters but can't seem to get at it. Joan's cold has cleared up some, but she was home from school again today. Bill Andersen is feeling better than he has for a long time. We are all thrilled about the wonderful change in him. Donna and Rex are invited to Marie and John Kendrick's home on Friday evening. I think it is Friday? (Well, one of these nights soon anyway.) I mailed Sue a get well card from our Strong's Family Society and reminded her of our Strong's meeting at Clint Strong's home in Compton next Saturday. It has been bright and sunny, but cold, with a rather strong breeze. Mary Howard gave Johnny a suit her son David has outgrown. It is like new. Donna is delighted, nice, eh?

February 3, Thursday

Beth Sundstrom mailed me a copy of her little poem, all typed for the Relief Society scrapbook. I phoned to thank her. Lou felt better, but the cold is in his lungs slightly, causing him to cough a little. We must get it cleared up soon. Lorene phoned me this morning. She was taking care of a baby, 8 months old, for a Mrs. Cortland or some

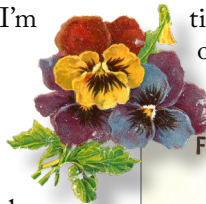


Beth mailed this poem to Elvie for the Relief Society book.



Kathy Marsh and Warnie Mueller. Warnie has dinner with the Marsh family February 1, 1955.

such name. They live in Pasadena, near the Oates family. Lorene was there when she phoned me. Florence Oates asked Lorene if she could stay a few days at her home, while they were in St. George at the temple, with Irene and Ray. Lorene would surely like to do it, if she could only manage without inconveniencing the other ladies that she works for. Lou phoned this morning and said he felt better. The work at the shop is very slack. I hope it'll pick up soon. It was a beautiful sunny day but with a cold breeze. I went uptown and enjoyed my pretty red coat; it is so nice and warm on a day like this. I bought a little black velvet Peter Pan collar and black velvet bow, to wear on my turquoise and black rayon print dress, in Mather's Department Store. It was marked down from \$2.00 to \$1.35. I bought a few small items in Kress Store and came home. I stopped in Shopping Bag for date nut loaf and bread at the Van de Kamp's Bakery. Annie phoned this evening; Sue had phoned her. Sue had been to the doctor for a check up, she had gained 10 pounds, which was a disappointment, because of her strict diet. She felt she'd lost some weight. A week ago she'd lost 16 pounds. The doctor was concerned because he said it is water that is causing her to gain like that. Oh dear, I do hope she'll get that condition cleared up soon. Warnie Mueller came this evening and had a nice long visit with us. He is a splendid young man, I'm sure he'll make something real fine of himself.



February 4, Friday

I wrote letters to Violet Fife and Ethel Newbold and a post card to Lillian Keller. Later in the day I wrote to Lydia Bailey. This has been an uneventful day. I sat answering letters and talked on the phone a time or two. I had a walk to our corner mailbox twice and February 4 was about over with. Mr. Edgecomb had a truckload of wool in bags come today; he is going to insulate his house with it, I guess. I think it is wool in the bags? They seemed lightweight to watch them handle them. Daddy and I enjoyed our T.V. and cozy little home as usual tonight.

February 5, Saturday

I underline the date with red, so you, my dear typist, will notice we are on another day. Some days I need more lines, so I take advantage of the days what I have some lines left over. Lou and I drove out to Monrovia this morning. We went by way of Sierra Madre. It is the first time I've been out past Donna's old home for a few months. The place looks well taken care of. We went to look at a house that we noticed for sale, but the address was a real estate place, so we knew it was the same five-bedroom house Rex and Donna thought they wanted to buy once, so we didn't stop. Donna and Kathy drove in their street (Alta Vista), the same time we did, just back of us. Donna had taken Mary to her piano lesson; she had to go up to Howard's in the Sierra Madre canyon to get Mary, she stayed at Howard's last night. Bonnie H. went with Mary to take her lesson, they walked

were home at Christmas, all very good. Lou and I were in one picture. They were taken with Elaine Oates's new flash [bulb] light camera. We marked the ones we wanted Janet to have developed for us. I will send her the money for them. I want most of them in my scrapbook. Johnny had a big kite he'd made and he was anxious to get it up in the air. I learned the reason for Rex and Donna going to the Kendrick's home last Thursday the 3rd. It was Barbara Kendrick's wedding reception. Rex and Donna went with the Ernie Oateses and the Bill Johnsons. We talked with Donna and Rex about going to the Strong's meeting at Clint Strong's home tonight in Compton. Donna wanted to go, but Rex wasn't interested. Joan went to work at noon at the box office of the Lyric Theater. Johnny had a little more trouble in his ear. He told me he couldn't hear in one ear. I was very much relieved when I whispered in the bad ear, when he was off guard, and I asked him who made the kite? He quickly answered, "I did!" The supposed deaf ear was working okay. However, he did have some infection in it last week before the doctor gave him treatment. We brought home some more good rhubarb from Donna's yard. We bought groceries at Shopping Bag Market on our way home. Tonight we took Lorene, Annie, and Bill to the Strong's meeting. We had a small group but had a nice time. Oscar wasn't well and Sue couldn't come because of illness. All we had out this time were Ellen Scott,

FEBRUARY

4

FRIDAY

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JANUARY 1955							FEBRUARY 1955							MARCH 1955						
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30	31																			

A light heart lives long—Shakespeare

continued
 Today is the Birthday of on the phone a time or two, a walk to our corner mail box twice and Feb. 4th was about over with.
 8:00 Mr. Edgecomb had a truck load of wool in bags, come today, he is going to insulate his house I guess, I think it is wool in the bags? they seemed light weight to watch them handle 'em - Daddy & I enjoyed our T.V. and cozy little home as usual tonight -
 10:30
 11:00
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 12:00 Saturday Feb. 5th 1955
 12:30 Underline the date with red, so you, my dear typist, will notice we are on another day, some days I need more lines, so I take advantage of the days I have some left over - Lou and I drove out to Monrovia this a.m. we went by way of Sierra Madre, it is the first time I've been out past Donna's old home for a few months - the place looks well taken care of - we went to look at a house that we noticed for sale, but the address was a real estate place, so we knew it was the same, 5 bedroom house Rex and Donna thought they wanted to buy once, so we didn't stop, Donna & Kathy drove in their street (Alta Vista) same time we did, just back of us. Donna had taken Mary to her piano lesson she had to go up to Howard's in the Sierra Madre canyon to get Mary, she stayed at Howard's last night. Bonnie H. went with Mary to take her lesson, they walked

Clint and Tottie, Blanche H., Helen and Van, our folks, and Glen Strong. Clint called on me to open with prayer. Helen sang a solo; I gave two poems. Lou didn't want to drive to Compton tonight, but he did take us anyway. It was nice of him, eh?" Oh hum! Joan bought herself a pretty new shorty jacket.

February 6, Sunday

I tried to phone Mary Hill this morning, no answer. I guess she is visiting her daughter Dolly. Lou went to priesthood meeting. I walked to the bridge, even a block past it, (eight short blocks) so Lou didn't have to come all the way home for me. We had a large attendance in Sunday School. Some out of town visitors were there. Mary Marsh came to Sunday School with the Howards, she stayed in the Junior Sunday School. I was delighted to see her sweet face after Sunday School. Howards were going to take her home this afternoon. I collected two dollars for our luncheon on Tuesday, \$1 each from Marie A. and Edith Fox. Connie Fox Koontz had her infant daughter blessed this morning by the baby's daddy, Stan Koontz. This afternoon Lou and I drove out to Burbank to see Sue. I took my typed diaries, 1929 and 1930 out to leave with Sue to read. Helen and Van O'Brinski (I don't know how they spell it), were ringing Bette's doorbell when we got there. No one was home at Bette's or Sue's. Winnie and Marilyn Wright came, and then Helen and Van left. The four of us waited in our car until Ray and Bette came home. They told us that Sue was at Elaine's for dinner. We drove over to Elaine's and Wright's followed our car. We had a nice visit with Sue and Elaine and Ernie. Carol Sue and Sharon went to church; they are such cute kids. Mike stayed home; he is a sweet lad, also. We stayed a short time after Wrights left. Sue is a little bit discouraged because she doesn't lose weight on her strict diet, in fact she is gaining some, the doctor says it is water.

February 7, Monday

Donna phoned this morning. She had planned on going with us to the Strong's meeting in Compton on Saturday night. We had left when she phoned at 6:40. I wish

we had known and we'd surely have waited for her. I missed seeing my little Mary last night, too. She was at church with the Howards. They took her home after. We didn't get home from Burbank in time without rushing a lot. We received an announcement from my sister, Bonnie Jean [Reynolds] about the arrival of her infant daughter. She hasn't given her a name yet, but she says she is a little doll. I'm anxious to see the precious little new niece. I did my washing this morning and went to market this afternoon to buy two pounds of ground beef to make the "Italian Delight" casserole to serve at our luncheon tomorrow. I was really glad to sit in my easy chair and watch T.V. tonight. I'm tired!



Mary Marsh and Bonny Howard circa 1953.

February 8, Tuesday

That dear Bonna Gordon came for me as always; me and my big "Italian Delight" mixture, in Donna's large stainless steel pan. Nora Williamson, June Johnson, and Mable Dunn were working in the kitchen this morning. I wasn't needed there like I was at the quilt, so I quilted until time to serve, then I helped the girls. Carolyn Thatcher and Louise Anderson helped in the kitchen; we got along very well. Alicebeth Ashby and Helen Snelgrove made whole wheat bread to serve; it was delicious. Clarice Warnick gave a lesson, after the luncheon, on wheat and homemade bread; the value of wheat. I missed her talk because we were cleaning up in the kitchen. We enjoyed our day but were glad we have our luncheon over with this year. I was surely happy to see Betty Ramish out to Relief Society. I hope it wasn't too much for her. She looked real tired after the lesson. Miriam Summerhays brought Betty Ramish. I read the "Queen for a Day" tribute; we crowned Sr. Lovinia Allen. She was surprised, I'm sure. I missed Jeannie Brinton; she wasn't well today. Annie phoned this afternoon and read me a nice long letter from Lydia Bailey; our little sister-in-law writes the nicest newsiest letters. I'd surely love to see her and Owen again. I wish they'd come to California and visit with us.



February 9, Wednesday

I should have ironed this morning, but I wrote letters and sent some valentine greeting cards to friends; Eloise B., Will and Flora Taylor,

Ethel Newbold and a congratulation card to Bonnie Jean and Darrell for their new infant daughter. I enclosed a letter saying I'd send a gift later. I mailed a birthday card to sister Annie with \$2.00 in it. She isn't going to be home tomorrow evening, so I can't take it to her in person. Donna phoned about 11:30 a.m. and asked if I'd like company for lunch. I was delighted to have Donna, Johnny, and little Kathy come to eat with me. I had it on the table when they arrived about noon. We went to town after lunch to Nash's Store. I bought a pretty yellow baking bowl, (a chaffing dish or casserole) with an iron stand and candle in holder to keep the food warm while serving at the table, it was \$5.00 with tax. We went from Nash's Store to the Oateses' ranch to take our gifts to Irene for wedding gifts. Donna took a place setting of sterling silver, a gift from her family. Irene and Janet are buying the same pattern in sterling. I believe it is \$30 a setting. We went upstairs to look at the lovely gifts Irene has received already. Ray's folks gave them a Simmons couch, which makes a lovely double bed. Florence looked tired; she is working hard to get the house cleaned all through. She said Aunt Lorene was coming tomorrow or Friday to give her a hand at the cleaning. Irene washed the woodwork and walls on Florence's bathroom today. We stopped at the Venetian blind shop, for a box of wood, for Donna's fireplace Grampa Lou put it in the station wagon for us. Donna and I did some shopping in the Boy's Market. I bought more turnips; Lou and I are eating a slice or two before each meal to see if it will reduce folks like Mr. Criswell predicts they will. They are eaten raw before meals. I did my ironing this afternoon. Daddy cooked his own dinner, so I could finish his shirts. He had seven of them in this week. He warmed over some left overs in the icebox. He is a dear.



Annie Andersen celebrated her 61st birthday on February 10, 1955.

February 10, Thursday

My sister Annie Elizabeth is 61 years old today and is still a beautiful gal. Violet phoned me this morning from Dody's home. I was surprised to hear her voice; I didn't know she was in California. She arrived by bus, with little Nadine Jones, last night at 10 p.m. She has had the baby five weeks, with her in Beryl, Utah, while Dolores did some extra work

at the bank. Violet said they were going over to wish Annie happy birthday and they invited me to go along. I was delighted. They came for me about 1 p.m. We had a nice visit with Annie, Beverly, and Dale. Yvonne was with us; they waited for her to come from her nursing school. Dale told us about the accident he had yesterday while driving Beverly's car in Pasadena. He stopped to let two ladies cross the street, in a cross walk. A lady driver in back of him ran into the rear of Bev's car. She had no brakes, so Dale got quite a jolt. It will cost \$83.00 to fix Bev's car. The front of the lady's car is a mess; her insurance will pay for the damage they say. Violet gave Annie material for a house dress; it is pretty. Annie had a lot of lovely cards and gifts. Sue and I gave her money. I think Lorene gave her money, too. Florence and Irene Oates came to Annie's to buy Irene some nylon LDS garments. Florence invited Violet to come to Irene's wedding reception.



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10. Anti-Cancer

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February 11, Friday

I phoned Nora Williamson to see if we were going Relief Society teaching this afternoon; she had an appointment to have her hair done, and it is her son Dale's birthday, so we decided to go next Monday afternoon. I phoned and invited Violet to eat dinner with Lou and me; we will take her to Andersen's this evening. She is going to stay over there until Sunday. Lou and Annie will go to Lon Timpson's home at 7:30 to have income taxes taken care of. I'll visit with Bill and Violet. I phoned Donna, she was going to Sr. Nebeker's home to a tea, for the stake board members, and I think she said the ward presidents and counselors. Sr. Nebeker is our stake Relief Society president. I was happy to learn that

Johnny's ear is all right; he is back in school. Donna had to make a trip to Johnny's school and to Joan's school; he forgot his lunch, but I don't know why she went to Joan's school? Dolores's street is all dug up. The sewer is going in, more money for them to dig up now. I'm glad our sewer is in and paid for. I did my vacuuming today. Dolores took Violet to Penney's Store to exchange a dress she gave her; they didn't have it in Violet's size, 16 1/2, so the store refunded her the money. It was a pretty cotton dress and Violet was disappointed, she couldn't get the same dress in her size. Dody brought her mother here from town. We ate at five o'clock. Lou took a short nap while Violet and I did the dishes. We went to Andersen's. Lou and Annie went to Timpson's to have their taxes done. Bill looks like his old self, he is so much better. We three watched television programs. Beverly was working at Cannon Electric Company; Dale was out somewhere. Lon Timpson took care of Lou's taxes, Annie and Bill's taxes and Beverly's and Dale's income taxes. Lorene phoned while we were at Andersen's. She has a bad cold. She was at Cortland's babysitting. I'm so sorry about her miserable cold.

February 12, Saturday

Lou found another house for sale in East Pasadena, at the price he thinks he can afford, so we went to look at it this morning. It is on Lola Street, (a lovely wide street) a block from the bus line. The house is framed, shingles, it is old style, but was lovely and clean, There is a porch across the front, two bedrooms and two toilets. It is R2 zoned, with room for another house, there is a lovely big garage. Lou was very interested. It could be made into a nice home. We drove to Monrovia. Rex was working; Mary was at her piano teacher's home helping her to pay for the lessons. Lou went to bring her home when she phoned she was through. We took Joan to the theater at noon, to her job. She sells tickets at the Lyric Theater. We brought Kathy home with us. Lou bought her an ice cream cone to eat while we did our shopping in the market. Donna took Mary and Johnny to the Lyric show where they met David and Bonny Howard at 1 p.m. Marshes treated the Howards to the show today. Donna came here just as we were eating lunch. We took her to look at the house on Lola Street. She liked it, also. The owners were still there, very nice people to talk to (Mr. and Mrs. Oldham). They live in Highland Park. I wonder if we'll be buying another house? Andersens took Violet out to Burbank to see Sue. Lorene was going with Andersens if she felt well enough. They were going to Van Nuys, also. I tried to phone Annie this evening to ask about Sue but no answer. I guess they went to a show. Grandma Marsh sent Janet \$5.00 to help her pay her way home to the wedding reception. Nice, eh?

February 13, Sunday

I got up first for a change this morning. I wrote in my diary while Lou slumbered on. I cooked him some breakfast at 8 a.m. He went to his priesthood meeting at 9 a.m. I didn't go to Sunday School. I wanted to have dinner all ready when Donna and her family came at 1:30 p.m. Johnny gave a talk in the Monrovia Ward Sunday School this morning, for the Primary Hospital fund; they said he did a good job of it. I should like to have heard him. He gave the talk to Grampa and me this afternoon. He'd memorized it well and it was rather long, too. I was happy that Joan could come with the family. She had to work the last time they were here. I'm sorry her work comes on Sundays, but thankful she has this job at the Lyric Theater, selling tickets. She had to work tonight, she likes her job and it surely helps a lot to buy the things she needs. Rex gave the lesson in the adult class this morning. He was perturbed because a brother took up most of the class period trying to talk the people into a temple excursion. Rex had worked so hard to prepare the lesson; I can't blame him. Lou went to priesthood meeting after dinner. Rex was tired, so he had a nap in the swing in the cabaña. Joan and Mary took a little ride in the family station wagon. The paper in this book is like writing on a blotter, it spreads all over. The folks left early because they had to take Joan to her work. Lou took me to church tonight. We had a nice meeting. Don Rowberry's choir sang two lovely numbers. His wife Helen has a young infant just home from the hospital now. I do not know when the baby was born.

February 14, Monday

Valentine's Day today! I wrote a letter to Janet and walked to the post office to send it airmail. I wanted her to get it before they left for Irene Oates's wedding reception. I put a dollar in the letter as usual. I sent one in her valentine last week. Nora Williamson came at 1:45 p.m. We did our Relief Society visiting this afternoon. I wrapped some valentine gifts to take out to my little Marsh family when I got back home. I gave them things to use in their home; toothpaste, shampoo, toilet soap, hand cream, and etcetera. I also got a jig saw puzzle of the United States for Johnny, Kathy a jump rope,

and all some little M&M chocolates and some gum. Grampa and I had fun sending a few at a time and listening to little Kathy get excited over finding them on the porch when she opened the door after our knocking each time. Donna made some delicious cupcakes; she had Johnny take some to the neighbors next door. She gave us some to bring home. Some were lemon filled, others chocolate frosted. Donna can surely make good cakes. I read a letter from Janet and looked at the pictures she sent of herself and friends she has dated at school. Also, some of a crazy



Elvie took a jig saw puzzle to Johnny, jump rope to Kathy, M&M chocolates and gum for all on Valentine's Day.

dress party. The boys had to provide the girls costume, and she his. There was some rather shocking apparel this Grama thinks! I know what my own grandmother would have thought of their garb! Oh my! Anyway, I was glad to see that Janet was decent in her dress. Rex sent a few valentine gifts for Kathy to find when she opened the door. Donna bought them today. She bought a little red corduroy skirt, with shoulder straps for Kathy, a red rider tee shirt for Johnny, a shower curtain and some shampoo and toothpaste for Joan and Mary for their valentines. Rex went out last night and sent them, one at a time for Kathy to find when she opened the door. She was so cute and excited. It has been fun through the years to watch them all on valentine night, when we'd send our little valentines to them and hide while they picked them up. It seems but a short time ago that Janet and Joan were little excited tots, running to answer the door at valentines then Mary and Johnny, and now it's Kathy.



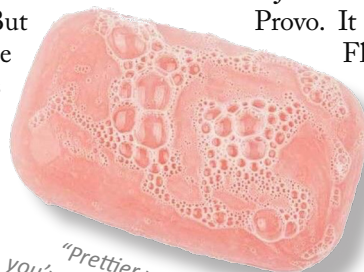
Janet and Sandra at BYU. Shocking apparel at the party but this is not the picture.

February 15, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me as usual. We had a very nice attendance, out to Relief Society today. Faye Timothy gave a beautiful lesson in Literature; it was a book review on Emily Bronte's "Wuthering Heights." She asked several of us to read parts describing different characters in her book. I wasn't happy over the way I read mine, but I couldn't see it too well because of the light typing. Anyway, Faye was sweet and said it was read very well. We both knew better, he he! Darn me, I should have these darn glasses changed again, I know. Lou hasn't felt very well the past few days. He has pains in his arms, neck and back. I rubbed BenGay on him last night and tonight. I phoned Claytons and was glad to find out that Lorene felt better. Ray called her to the phone. Miriam's mother has gone back to her home in Salt Lake City. Ray's new little apartments are ready for tenants. Lou and I are still eating raw turnips before each meal. We think we are reducing, isn't that silly? But we like the raw turnips anyway. Lou's valentine chocolates that I gave him and the delicious cupcakes Donna made are not helping the condition any, ha ha!

February 16, Wednesday

I had fun Monday, writing little verses on the valentines. On the toilet soap I had, "Prettier valentines you've seen, but this one will keep you clean." On the hand cream I wrote, "If your hands are rough from washing dishes, rub some of this cream on, with my best wishes." On Lou's box of chocolates I wrote, "If eating turnips will make you thin, you can eat this valentine and grin." I'm just a crazy Grama, eh? I phoned Dolores and



"Prettier valentines you've seen, but this one will keep you clean."

Violet this morning and invited them to come over and eat lunch with me. Yvonne had to come home from school to change clothes, (nature caused an inconvenient mess for her). I was glad that Yvonne could come and eat with us; she had to go back to school at 2 p.m. Dody drove her back to school. Yvonne, with some student nurses, watched two operations this morning in the Huntington Hospital operating room. She said it was very interesting. Donna phoned this afternoon. She read Janet's letter to me. They expect to leave Provo tomorrow at 5 p.m. I tried to phone Donna this morning; I wanted her to come to lunch, also. She was in Relief Society. I didn't call again, because I remembered that little Nadine had been exposed to the measles, her little aunt Cathy Jones, has measles now and she played with her the day before she broke out with them. I had fruit Jello salad and I cooked ground beef, tomatoes, onions, and corn, to serve over the tamales we ate for lunch. We ate the fruit salad

for dessert with ice cream on top. I had carrot, apple, and raisin salad to eat with the tamales. We all ate raw turnips before lunch yesterday, ha ha! I phoned Sue this evening; she is a little better but not very well. Dolores took Mildred's diary home to type it up for us to read. Janet told her mother she received my valentine with the \$1.00 bill in it. She says everyone said they wanted to send chocolates or cookies but the girls were on a diet so they didn't want to tempt them. Janet says they are sorry they mentioned the diet now. Ha ha! Lou came home twenty minutes earlier this evening. He doesn't feel well. It was raining hard when Violet, Dody, and Nadine left this afternoon.

February 17, Thursday

It rained all night, a nice steady downpour. It started in good yesterday afternoon. When we got up at 7 a.m. today, it was wet and very foggy. Oh, I do hope and pray the fog will lift before Janet and Elaine Oates and the others come here from Provo. It is dreadful to drive in dense fog. I phoned

Florence Marsh to see if they got back from St. George, from Irene and Ray's wedding. They got in at one o'clock this morning. John was up to Oateses' in bed. Florence didn't have a key, so had to wait on the front porch, of her house, until John came at 2 a.m. Florence O. didn't know her father was at her own home when she let her mother out at home. It was so

foggy last night, he didn't want to drive in the fog, and so he stayed up at Oateses'. Florence told me all about the beautiful day in the temple, there were three young couples married. Irene looked so lovely. Elder Snow married them. Florence and Ernie both were called on to speak in the morning meeting in the temple. Ernie was

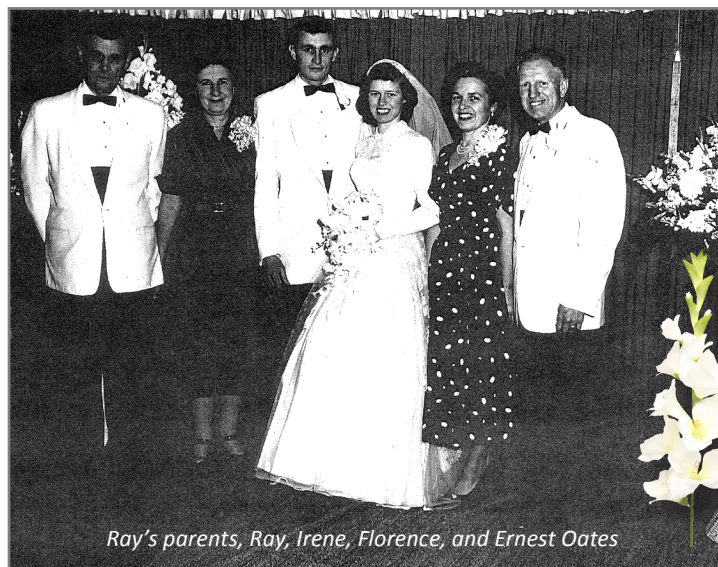
a witness in the temple sealing. It was all very lovely. I hope my darling girls can have that beautiful start in wedded life. The bride and groom stayed over in Las Vegas last night; they want to visit Boulder Dam today. It is Florence's club day at Ethel Snow's home in La Crescenta. She isn't going; she is too tired. Sister Annie is going, I believe. Ray's brother, Tom Cattani went to the temple with the Oateses and Florence Marsh. His father isn't a member of the church so the parents couldn't go through the temple with them. I vacuumed this morning and went uptown this afternoon. I bought a blue silk neck piece to wear with my black suit. It is the same shade as my blue hat. I bought two very pretty rhinestone buttons to sew on my black faille suit jacket. I wanted to pretty up the suit a little, and take the covered buttons off. I paid \$1.25 each for the buttons, but they are pretty. Lou went to a Sunday School local board meeting at church tonight. I enjoyed a good movie on the television. I wonder how far the kids are now at 10:30 p.m.?

February 18, Friday

It was a very pretty clear day, bright and sunny. Mary phoned about seven o'clock this morning to let us know that Janet had arrived home safely. I phoned Florence Marsh to tell her the girls arrived home okay. Lou ate his breakfast and lunch out for a change. I did the washing; the clothes dried in a very short time. A strong breeze and bright sunshine did it. I was happily surprised about ten o'clock this morning when Janet, Joan, and Jo called on me. Jo came from Provo with the girls. She lives with them in the apartment and attends the BYU College. It is Jo's first trip to California and she says it is very beautiful down here. Her home is in Montana. She is a sweet looking girl. My girls, Janet and Joan, were bubbling over with happiness and looked beautiful. They were showing Jo the town, going to see some old friends at the PCC College after leaving here. I phoned Violet and told her we'd take her to the wedding reception with us to Oateses tonight, also that Lou was going to take us out to dinner if Dolores could bring her early, so we could visit. She brought her at 4:45 p.m. Lou got here a few minutes before Violet. We went to Bob's eating place. They had the fried shrimp dinner. I had a ham and egg sandwich. It was very good. We watched television at home until 8:30 p.m. and then we left for Irene and Ray's reception. It was cold and clear. Lou had to park about a block away from the Oateses; he let us out at the gate. Oh, what a crowd! Every room was full of people. It was well planned, so it went along smoothly considering that many people. It was really fun seeing so many old friends again. Too bad it was so cold because the patio and grounds were just perfect for a reception if not so darn cold. They had big iron pots with red-hot logs burning in them outdoors, which people huddled



Irene Oates Cattani's bridal portrait, from in Grandma Marsh's scrapbook.



Ray's parents, Ray, Irene, Florence, and Ernest Oates

around to keep warm. Irene was a very lovely bride, with a gorgeous gown. Ray was handsome in his white coat and dark trousers. The bridesmaids were beautiful too, a very warm friendly welcome to all, from every member of the Oates and Marsh families (grand folks). Ruth Deal came alone by airplane today. She looked pretty. Ernie Jr. and Ernie Sr. and Ray's brother Tom were all handsome in white coats and bow ties, very formal. It was all very nice. Joan, Mary, Johnny and Donna helped with gifts and serving. I was sorry Sue wasn't well enough to come. But the crowd would not have been good for her condition, I'm sure. I was very tired from standing before I found a seat. Violet went home with Andersens to stay a day or two.

February 19, Saturday

Janet slept until noon today. She was tired out from her long drive yesterday, all night with no sleep, until after the reception. Violet and Annie went uptown in Los Angeles this morning. Lou went to see a lady this morning about fixing her screen porch. He is going to do the job next Saturday morning. We drove out to Monrovia this morning to talk to Rex about the house and lot for sale across the street from them. Lou and Rex went to look through the house. They are talking of buying the lot and of us moving in the house and Rex building a home on part of the lot. It is a long piece of property, and has a lot of chickens in the center part of the lot. Could build a court of houses on this piece of property if one had the money, eh? Donna, Joan, Mary, Johnny, and myself went over to look at the lot and the house. We decided there were too many of us to ask to look through the house again, so we just looked at the big coops with hundreds of chickens in them. Johnny boy got himself lost from us when we decided not to go through the house. Joan had to go to work at the theater at noon. Lou took Mary up to her music lesson. Donna, Kathy, and I went after her, 30 minutes later. Lou took Rex uptown to get his gage fixed for his station wagon. We bought our groceries on our way home. Lou took his nap after lunch. Mary had her long hair cut off, by hair stylist, Norman Campbell today. I phoned Sue this evening, she wasn't as well; I'm concerned about her.

February 20, Sunday

I talked to Janet on the phone this morning at nine o'clock. She said Mother was going to take the family to Sunday School, then take her over to Oateses, where she would meet the other BYU students. They were going to leave from there for Provo. Janet said they went to the beach yesterday afternoon in Oateses' Oldsmobile car. I was glad Jo got to see the ocean before she went back. It was nice also that our weather was clear and sunny for the girls while they were here. I fried a chicken before going to Sunday School. Lou and I really enjoyed it for our dinner. He went to Sunday School union meeting at 2:30 p.m. I enjoyed a

short nap, and reading from Doctrine and Covenants, (my Sunday School assignment for this week). I talked to Annie on the phone; Glen and family were there to dinner and Violet and Lorene. Bishop Bywater asked Dale if he could go on a full time mission. Dale would love to go if his folks could arrange it. (The cost is high.) Rex's neighbors, a man and his wife, came to look through our house. They talked with Rex and Lou yesterday about trading houses??? I was disappointed that I had to miss church this evening, but Lou had been over at church most of the day in three meetings, and he didn't want to go back again. We had a pleasant evening at home; nice lunch and the television programs. Darn it! I wish I could phone Donna without it costing a toll; there are so many things I'd like to ask her about. Lou said that Warnie was in priesthood and Sunday School. I looked for him, but missed seeing him after Sunday School.

February 21, Monday

It was a beautiful clear sunny morning. We had a little early frost on the grass and roofs. All Lou took for lunch was two small apples; he says he is going on a diet. I'm delighted with how much fat I've lost, since I started eating the raw turnips before each meal. Lou has lost some also, but he isn't as consistent as I am with this magic vegetable. I hope Beverly will give it a fair trial. I phoned Donna this morning. She said the kids didn't get away from Oateses' until noon yesterday. I hope they arrived in Provo without trouble. Donna says that Janet went for a ride with Warnie on Saturday night. He took her to Hollywood and bought a record for her to play. He had the weekend furlough from Camp Ord. I received a nice letter from Warnie this morning. He likes his new work at Camp Ord; it's like going to school. Mary went to school this morning, but had to come home because of an earache. She had her hair cut Saturday afternoon; they all say she looks "just darling." I haven't seen her, but I am sure I'll think she looks "darling," too. I received a nice letter from Lydia; she is worried about Sue's

condition. Lydia's sister, Tyhra, has a granddaughter, Janet, who is getting married in April. This afternoon I phoned Dr. Clifford Hayes's office and made an appointment to have my teeth extracted; nine lower teeth must come out. The nurse said to be sure not to eat or drink anything after ten o'clock Thursday morning, and to be sure to bring someone with me. (Just like that!) I dread the whole thing, but it is just another experience I cannot escape from, eh? "Faith makes us strong, fear makes us weak." I hope I'll be strong, eh? Irene and Glen's infant son was born this evening; Annie phoned the good news. The baby weighted 7 pounds 3 ounces. This makes four boys for them. Rex, Donna, Johnny, and Kathy came this evening. They are going to Provo, Utah on Thursday evening; I'll stay with the children.



Mary before her long hair was cut off in February 1955. Photo from Elvie's scrapbook.

February 22, Tuesday

I had a rugged night, but feel some better this morning. I was thinking of Rex and Donna going to Provo, Utah, to see Janet, and to satisfy themselves about a few things concerning her stay there. (It got me upset.) I phoned Dr. Hayes's office again this morning and canceled my appointment for Thursday. I'll be up to Donna's with the family, while she and Rex are in Utah over the weekend. I didn't dare have the teeth extracted and then take over that job, so it will have to be taken care of later. Bonna took me to Relief Society; Marva DeHaan, Marie Doezie, and Bessie the babysitter, were with us, too. Marva's car is in the garage; they were in an accident, some young man ran into the rear of their car. Phyllis McDonnell gave a lovely lesson in Social Science. The subject was "The Constitution of the United States." I shampooed my hair this afternoon. Bob Gordon left last night by airplane, for a three months business trip in the East. Bonna and Susie will be alone. Violet phoned about 4 p.m. and told me that Irene and Glen's new infant son died at two o'clock this morning. Beverly and Annie left at seven o'clock this morning for Glen's home in Van Nuys. Oh, I feel just dreadful about it. The little dear had that RH condition, the blood transfusion failed to save him. Dr. Lewis gave the baby a name and blessing before he passed away, Donald Andersen. He is an LDS doctor. I really feel low this day. Dale has quit the PCC College to find work and save for the mission that Bishop Bywater wants to send him on. Lou and Bill S. went to a mansion of a home in Pasadena to get some Venetian blinds for repair work. (Some twenty or more.) He brought home a few pieces of delicious hard candy made in England. The lady had a big jar of it.

February 23, Wednesday

I washed my big chenille robe and blankets off of Lou's bed and some loop rugs with my washing this morning. It was such a beautiful sunny day. I took advantage of it. Lou is bothered a lot with a pain up the back of his head and neck, oh; I wish I could make him go to a doctor about it. He is like his mother, "No doctor's for me!" Annie phoned to say the little infant, Donald Andersen, would be buried tomorrow morning after a graveside service at the Valhalla Cemetery in Babyland. Annie said that Glen feels better today. Irene is holding up beautifully, he said. I'm tired, so ends this day.

February 24, Thursday

I vacuumed and did a small ironing; glad it was small, too. I'm not feeling very peppy. I phoned Donna and she told me that Janet phoned from Provo to ask about why her folks are coming there. Donna told her they'd talk it over on Friday; it cost too much money to talk long distance. Andersens

took Violet out to Burbank this morning to the Valhalla Cemetery, where little infant Donald had a graveside service. Annie said it was very nice. Irene's brother sang, "Sweet and Low," their bishop gave a nice talk. Ray Haddock took Bette and Sue, and several ward folks were there. The baby lived only a few hours, but he was given a name and a blessing by the doctor, Dr. Lewis, an LDS Doctor. I'd like to have gone, for Glen and Irene's sake, but I had this other business on my mind of going out to Donna's to stay with the children. Violet went home with Sue and Bette to visit, until Dolores came for her later today. Lou and I arrived at Donna's this afternoon at 5 p.m. Joan was finishing the dinner Donna had started to cook. Rex and Donna took sandwiches with them; they left about 5:30 p.m. They had a bed in the back of the station wagon to take turns resting so they could drive through to Provo. We enjoyed the nice hot dinner, meat loaf and etcetera. Johnny was at Primary when the folks left. I

was concerned about Kathy's cough; I rubbed some BenGay on her tonight. Joan is really a darling girl, I'm proud of her. She is a big help. She wouldn't let me help with the dishes and I did try, "honestly." My sweet little Mary helped her. Joan's friend Chuck DeBias came this evening. They stayed home, except for a short drive to her locker room at Lyric Theater, to get some things she'd left there. She said she wasn't going anywhere this weekend in case I needed her at home. She is a dear girl. Mary gave Johnny a piano lesson this evening. Cute, eh?

February 25, Friday

I was up several times in the night with Kathy. At times it seemed as if she'd choke with the cough, almost like the whooping cough. I had to sit her up to get her to breathe. I couldn't rest well for my stupid worries. Kathy was cross today, but I believe she is better. She doesn't want to eat, which is not like our Kathy. I did manage to get her to eat a poached egg this morning. I had to stay with her to

get some lunch and dinner down. I made a macaroni and cheese casserole, with tuna fish, for our dinner. We had some carrots cooked, too. Joan and Mary went to the market, after school, in the truck, to get some ice cream for our dessert. They got one quart of chocolate and one quart of vanilla. We all enjoyed T.V. this evening; of course Grampa had his favorite orchestra on from 8 to 9 p.m. (Lawrence Welk), then the rest of the programs the children chose. Joan's friend Chuck came and they went out for a short drive to a girl's home and then to enjoy a sandwich somewhere. All three kids bought lunch at school, so I didn't have any lunches to put up. After dinner Lou and I went to the market. When little Kathy saw me with my coat on, going out with Grampa, she looked so pathetic and said to me, "Where's our mudder?" The little



Kathy Marsh 1955, in February she was sick and cranky for Elvie.

darlin' thought I was going home with Grampa and leaving them without a mother. Oh, she's cute. She was all smiles when I told her I was going to the store to buy her some food. She had a nice long nap this afternoon, from 2 until 4 p.m. She was a little feverish which had me worried some.

February 26, Saturday

Lou ate breakfast, and then went to Pasadena to fix a screen porch for some lady, a customer of the Venetian blind shop. Johnny got up as soon as he heard us up; he ate a few minutes after Grampa left. Kathy slept much better last night. Joan took Mary, in Rex's truck, to have her piano lesson. She visited with a girlfriend until Mary was through with her lesson. Mary gave Johnny his piano lesson when she got home. I wonder how long this will last, eh? Ha ha! Well, it is cute, anyway. Joan and Mary bought a few things at the market for me before coming home. Joan had to go to her work at noon in the truck. Chuck brought the truck back home later, then he brought Joan home, (also Mary and Johnny). The kids went to the show this afternoon; they went with Joan in the truck. They get in free while Joan works there, nice, eh? I went outside to look at Chuck's lovely new car, a 1955 model. I forgot to notice the make, wouldn't my little Janet be disgusted that I didn't know at a glance? I like Chuck; he is a nice young man. Joan and Chuck went out in the truck to put gasoline in it. Grampa took Joan to work at 6 p.m. Chuck brought her home after work. She has been so sweet and considerate of me; she stayed home this weekend, so she could help and not worry me if she was out late. Joan is a lovely girl, very much like her mother, I think. Pearl Redborg phoned and she was surprised to learn that Lou and I were there and Rex and Donna in Provo, Utah. She was interested to know all about it. She told me about Betty's [Renshaw] little boy, he fell a few days ago on a stick, got a piece of wood in his eye. He has had a painful experience and it's a dreadful worry for his parents. Also, I'm so sorry about it. Warnie Mueller phoned; he was surprised also that the Marshes were away. He said he would be out tomorrow. Kathy seems much better; she slept three hours this afternoon. She played like her little old self this evening, until she had a bad coughing spell. John and Mary went to bed before Kathy would give up tonight. Joan has slept with me, and Grampa has slept in her room. He thought she could sleep on through Kathy's restlessness and she could.

February 27, Sunday

Last night, I'll never forget. I sat up all night in the little bedroom rocker, by Kathy's bed. She had a coughing spell soon after going to bed and she fevered up and cried out, and vomited several times. She was hot and delirious all night. Oh, what a dreadful night of worry. I was so worn out this morning I couldn't think straight. Mary and Johnny wanted to go to conference. I helped John get ready, while Kathy was sleeping. She was quiet after 5 a.m. I decided to comb my hair, but couldn't finish the job. I had



Donna Marsh in 1947.
Elvie was happy that
Donna was back on the
job of raising her family!

*"Lou brought me home
at 2:30 p.m. with the
soothing calm, that
Donna was on the job
and all was well with
Janet. I went to bed as
soon as I got home."*

a slight heart attack, and almost a black out. I got to the couch the best I could and laid quiet until my heart action was better and pain not so severe, and then I went in and woke Joan up. That sweet girl got up and took over very well. When Kathy woke up she brought her out on the couch with me. Grampa took the children to conference. He came back without them. Mary Howard took them both up to her house for dinner and back to conference at night, and then brought them home. Joan phoned a girl, Thelma, I believe, and asked her to work this afternoon in her place. She would go in tonight. I was dreadfully sorry about that because Joan was going to take Chuck to conference tonight. I had a nice dinner planned, but couldn't do anything about it Lou and Joan got themselves some lunch, and gave me a bowl of vegetable soup. Baby Kathy slept most of the morning; the little dear was worn out. I was never more relieved in my life, than when Rex and Donna drove in the driveway about 1:30 p.m. They left Salt Lake City or Provo about 10 p.m. last night and drove all night. I was sorry they had to find a sick baby and mother, when they were so in need of rest themselves. Joan had phoned the doctor and she was just about to leave for the prescription he had phoned into the drugstore.

Lou brought me home at 2:30 p.m. with the soothing calm, that Donna was on the job and all was well with Janet. I went to bed as soon as I got home. I do not remember one thing until Lou came in my room about 8 p.m. I thought it was morning and he was on his way to work! My brain was really in a confused state. I got up and drank some warm milk and ate some graham crackers, watched T.V. for a short while and then back to bed. Donna phoned to say the baby's fever had broken and she felt better. I had the idea it was morning again. Donna and Rex brought two boxes of Utah Chocolates for us; Keeley's Milk Chocolates for Lou and chocolate mints for me.

February 28, Monday

I feel almost normal today, but weak. I phoned Donna, she said the baby rested quite well last night; she ate a little breakfast and was feeling a lot better, but was cross. Johnny stayed home from school, said his neck hurt. He stayed in bed, a rule Donna applies to help him decide if he is really sick. Ha ha! It is such a relief to know that Rex and Donna are back home. I'm so sorry that I'm not more of a help to my precious daughter, and her family, but this annoying heart condition of mine makes it impossible for me to do what I'd like to do and help them. I am glad they went to Provo and had a nice talk with Janet and the girls there. [About what?] I did not cook dinner this evening; Lou and I ate some vegetable soup and a salad. He is surely a dear about eating. Rex phoned this evening to say that his neighbor is interested in our home and would like to make a trade for his place. Lou talked to him. We'll see him later. Marie Doezie phoned tonight and said that Melba Kunz would take me to Relief Society tomorrow. Violet left tonight by bus for her home in Beryl. I talked to her on the phone.

March 1, Tuesday

Oh me! February is in the past now, how time flies by, eh? Melba Kunz took me to church this morning. Beth Sundstrom gave a very lovely lesson in the visiting Teacher's meeting (Book of Mormon, Gems of Truth). The Theology lesson was beautifully given by Sr. Louise Cotterell, from the Book of Mormon; Alma, Chapters 43-49. She is a wonderful teacher. I'm so glad I went; the testimonies were lovely, too. I felt too weak to stand up this time. In fact, I felt that old heart hurt with a slight feeling of nausea, all through both meetings, but I enjoyed the spiritual feast nevertheless. I phoned Donna when I got home, little Kathy is still cross and not well. The canker sores are in her mouth and face. I'm so sorry about her illness; the poor little darling. I hope Violet arrived home safe and sound this morning. She left for home last night by bus for Beryl, Utah, or Cedar City, where Otto will pick her up and take her to Beryl. I wrote a little note of condolence to Glen and Irene Andersen and sent a sympathy card from our Strong Family Society this afternoon to them. I rested this afternoon. This evening, while watching television, Lou and I enjoyed some of the delicious milk chocolates that Donna and Rex brought from Keeley's Candy Shop in Salt Lake City.

March 2, Wednesday

It was a lovely spring day, sunny and a March breeze. I have had some dye in the house for several days, to dye my bathroom rugs, a dark red or henna shade, to match the tile trim in there. I also had navy blue dye to do my chenille bathrobe. The light blue is pretty, but oh, it shows the soil so fast and is such a job to wash and get dry. I decided it was an excellent day for me to dye and proceeded to do just that. I did my washing first; it was a small one. The throw rugs and bath mats came out a very pretty red. I'm not satisfied with the robe, I'll have to have more than the two packages to get it a good navy blue color. The washer does the hard work, so I'll do the robe over soon. I was shaky when finished so I rested on the couch until time to bring the clothes in and get dinner. This evening Lou and I drove out to see how Kathy was feeling. She still has the canker sores in her mouth and on her face, but she feels better. Mary was in Mutual. Donna took Joan to the theater; she came back and went for her later. Rex and Lou went over to talk to Rex's neighbors about the house and property he wants to sell them. Time will tell. Things must be taken care of before we can negotiate. Lou came home for his lunch at noon, in the midst of my dyeing act. Ha ha!

March 3, Thursday

If my memory is correct, March 3 was Grama Strong's birthday, bless her dear heart. *[Elisabeth Strong was actually born on March 22, 1842]* She was a wonderful character. I'll have to take it a bit easy this day; guess I've over done it again with my work yesterday. I did my ironing this morning, and wrote letters this afternoon to Eloise B.,

Ethel N., and Warnie M. Florence Marsh phoned this afternoon to ask about Rex and family. I was very sorry to learn that she has been very ill with the flu for the past ten days. She didn't sound at all natural. Oh, I wish I could phone Donna without it costing a toll each time. We had a happy surprise this evening when Rex and Donna came with Mary, Johnny, and little Kathy. They had been to the Oateses' ranch to take Ernie's car chains back. No one was home, but the bride and groom. They are living in the little rear house until they leave for Provo, Utah, where they'll attend the BYU College after the 15th of March. Poor little Kathy's mouth and eye have the sores on. She said she was hungry, I fixed some chicken noodle soup and she ate two small helpings. Mary ate some, also. Johnny was glued to the television as always. Mary's ear hasn't healed yet, I put some earache drops in it and she took my old heating pad home to use. I hope it'll work okay. Bless my Donna; she looks weary. She has doctor bills and everything to worry her. Rex went to the city hall to find out about the property he and Lou are interested in. He found out he can't have more than one house on a lot, so that lets us out. Lou wanted it for investment income property. Rex wants to buy it anyway? Rex talked to his mother on the phone while he was here. She is feeling a little better tonight.

March 4, Friday

My sweet Lou let me sleep late this morning. He'll buy his lunch or come home for it. I got up at 8:30 a.m. I did the cleaning with the hand sweeper today; my little house didn't look as if it needed anything done, but a little dusting. Lou phoned at 1:30 p.m. He ate lunch in town, (he is a darling). It has been gloomy looking all day, cold and stormy looking. I think we'll have rain before many hours. I did a little scrapbook work in our Relief Society scrapbook. I pasted some of Mary Dawn Cuff's collection of fine thoughts and quotations, from her scrapbook. She gave each sister a typed copy last Tuesday in Relief Society. I put a copy in my own scrapbook, also. The Cuffs are selling their home and moving to Glendora, I think. We'll miss them in our ward; they are nice people. I wanted to write to Janet but didn't get around to it today. I phoned Donna this morning and was delighted to learn that baby Kathy is feeling better, and Mary's earache has gone; she went to school. I phoned Florence Marsh and she feels much better. She sounded like her own self this morning. I wonder how sister Sue is feeling? Andersens are going out to see her tomorrow, so I'll wait until I hear from them. Our phone bill has skyrocketed since Kathy was sick.

March 5, Saturday

Lou worked all morning in our yard; cut lawns, dug out weeds, and trimmed ivy. The place looks lovely; it's a big improvement. Oh what would I ever do without my darling Lou, eh? I started a letter to Janet last evening and finished



it this morning. I sent the dollar bill as usual. Bless her, she is always in my thoughts, I do truly love my grandchildren, all of the precious dears. I composed two Relief Society queen tributes while Lou was working in the yard this morning, one to Claire Smith and one to Beth Sundstrom. I wish I could type them so I wouldn't have to bother my Donna. Lou took me out to Monrovia this afternoon. Donna typed four copies for me, while I did her lunch dishes. Rex was busy washing his station wagon, which is a big job. Mary and Grampa went to the market; he bought some meat, bread, and sweet rolls for Donna and some meat for us. (He got us each a beef pot roast and some ground beef.) We got some nice fresh eggs from a neighbor nearby

for 45¢ a dozen. Kathy is feeling better, but sores in her mouth and eye look bad. Rex and the children were going to Marshes' tonight to wish Pa Marsh "Happy Birthday." I believe he is 74 years old. I phoned after we got home and wished him "Happy Birthday." Joan was working at the Lyric Theater in the ticket box office. We bought our groceries on our way home at the market nearby. It has changed hands recently, it is not the Shopping Bag now, and I've forgotten the new name. Andersens took Bill to the doctor in Van Nuys today. The report was excellent; he doesn't have to go again for a month. They called to see Sue in Burbank and she is feeling much better, I'm happy to record!

PROGRAM

Prelude Music

Greetings Clarice Tanner

Song . . . "There Is Beauty All Around". . . Page 169
Congregation

Invocation Alice Brandley

Chorus "The Lord's Prayer"
Singing Mothers

Talk The Place of the Family Unit in
the Eternal Plan of Salvation
Nell Ellsworth

Vocal Trio "O My Father"
Herta Peacock, Loraine Major, Betty Paulson
Narration by Alicebeth Ashby

Remarks Carl G. Warnick

Song. . . "The Spirit Of God Like A . . . Page 213
Fire Is Burning" Congregation

Benediction Dixie Kratzer

Postlude Music

Chorister . . . Ovena Mayo

Organist . . . Iona Cottam

EAST PASADENA WARD
RELIEF SOCIETY SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

Carl G. Warnick Presiding
Clarice Tanner Conducting

March 6, 1955

THEME

The Place Of The Family Unit
In The Eternal Plan Of Salvation.

March 6, Sunday

It has been a beautiful sunny clear day. Lou went to his priesthood meeting at 9 a.m. I cooked the pot roast, left it in a low oven with potatoes, carrots, and onions in the roaster. It was just perfect when we got home after fast meeting. I walked to Colorado and Kenniloe Street this morning before Lou picked me up. I'll not leave so early next time. That is too far to walk; I was shaky in the legs all morning in Sunday School. I enjoyed the Sunday School and the fast meeting as always. Mary Hill walked all the way to

church this morning. I felt so darn sorry I didn't phone to see if she had a way to church today. She used to phone and ask us, but she has missed several Sundays. I phoned her but she wasn't feeling well, then. We brought her home from Sunday School. I phoned this afternoon to see if she wanted to go to church tonight but she wasn't feeling well, she walked too far this morning, I'm sure. We had a lovely night meeting; it was our Relief Society's program tonight. I helped Faye Timothy greet folks at the door, with the pretty daffodil programs to give them. After the meeting we took Madge Fowler to her home, where the elders had a fireside chat. A forest ranger was to have come and showed us some moving pictures of forest life; he forgot to show up, but Br. Hartshorn and Br. Thatcher went for Don Rowberry's movie projector and film on "Wild Life in the Forest." Br. Claron Oakley entertained us while they were gone; by telling about a tour he and his wife took in some movie star's homes this afternoon. Madge served us delicious fudge and nuts and punch and cookies.

"Well, Donna dear,
the first 100 years
are the hardest
they say."

March 7, Monday

I received a nice letter from Janet this morning with the pictures in that I wanted her to have developed for me. I sent the money for them with Donna. I phoned Donna this morning to see how Kathy was feeling. Johnny answered; he is out of school with a stomachache and a slight cold. There is some doubt about the stomachache, ha ha, but he has to stay in bed with no television. What a boy! Joan is home this morning with a cold; Mary has a sore throat and earache. Kathy is much better; she is playing with the little neighbor friend, in the sunshine. (Well, Donna dear, the first 100 years are the hardest they say.) I was so happy to see Mary Jorgensen and her cute little boys yesterday and also Lorene. Lynn was up to his Grama Jorgensen's place. I'd like to have seen him. Mary's two little boys gave her a dreadful scare last week; they ate some pain pills at her friend Peggy's home. She had to rush them to the doctor for treatment. I received a letter from Violet, she surely misses baby Nadine. I'm glad to see she is enjoying a little reading club, or "study group;" they met at her home to study the book, "The First 2000 Years." She served ice cream and chocolate drop cookies. Next Wednesday

they meet in Gordon Moyles home, nice, eh? Her ward has been put in a new stake, the Uvada Stake. I pasted the pretty daffodil program in the Relief Society Scrapbook this morning. I put Janet's pictures in my scrapbook this afternoon. Lorene stayed with Dolores's children last Thursday or Friday while they went with Bevan's folks to the Mesa Temple to see Douglas Jones and his bride married. She is the daughter of the Joneses' bishop. I think her name is Donna McFarland. The bride and groom are living in the little upstairs apartment where Dolores and Bevan lived when they were first married. History repeats itself, eh? I wish them happiness.

March 8, Tuesday

Bonna came for me as usual this morning. She is such a dear sweet person. Marie Doezie went with Sr. Summers; it was their district's turn to serve the luncheon. We picked up Bessie the babysitter. I quilted for an hour and a half; I didn't feel very well. I went in the Relief Society room to relax. It was lovely and warm outside, but chilly in the church building. We had a lovely lunch; a fruit punch, fruit salad, and delicious hot rolls that Sr. Summers made. I read the queen's tribute before we ate; our "Queen for a Day" was Marva DeHaan. She was surprised, but a very lovely queen.

Queen Marva DeHaan

The royal court is now assembled,
Each loyal subject in the proper place.
Her majesty, the Queen, will enter soon
With a smile on her lovely face.

It's a supreme honor to crown her highness,
An extremely talented lady, in our opinion,
One who'll reign with charming dignity
Over our small dominion.

She is very faithful in all her labors here,
Serving the Lord in a pleasing way.
We are proud and happy to crown her,
Our beloved "Queen for a Day".

We're amazed at her versatile achievement
In the artistic fields of endeavor,
Excellent hand work, exquisite ceramics,
Our lovely lady is truly clever.

No longer can we conceal your identity,
"Queen Marva DeHaan", you're revealed to view,
So on with the coronation, we're all proud
To honor and pay tribute to you.

We had a small attendance today, only about 30 out. I phoned Dolores, she phoned Donna for me and then called me back to report that Joan and Mary are out of school with colds, but Johnny back in school. (Under protest, I guess, ha ha!) Baby Kathy feels much better. I'll be so happy when they all report in well, and back to school! Lou had an appointment to see Dr. McClure, a chiropractor. He is Madge Fowler's doctor. He went at 8 p.m. The doctor gave his spine a really good going over; I surely hope he can do something to help him. The pains in his arms and back of his neck and head have been bad lately. The doctor called it bursitis. (I wonder how that is spelled?) We enjoyed our T.V. programs as usual tonight.

March 9, Wednesday

I had a delightful surprise this morning at 11 a.m. Bette Haddock brought her two little boys, her mother Sue, and Aunt Annie to visit with me. We had a nice visit. The girls looked through my scrapbooks. Little Ricky and Bradley gave Mama Bette, a busy time. They are darlings, but oh so active! They kept Bette on the move. Bradley slept for a little while but Ricky didn't. Bette brought their baby food, she fed them and then I fixed a little lunch for us. It was so nice having them come to see me today. Sue is feeling a lot better; it made me very happy to see her so improved. This evening I received a disappointing shock when I read in our evening paper that Dr. Clifford R. Hayes, dentist, had been killed with twenty-five other people in an airplane crash in Mexico. He had gone there on a fishing trip with another dentist friend. I had an appointment with Dr. Hayes to have my teeth extracted last week on February 24. I couldn't go because of going out to Monrovia. I postponed it; I was going next Saturday. Well, I'm surely sorry; because Dr. Hayes is the specialist that Dr. Neal wanted me to go to. Now what will I do? It's really tragic that a fine young doctor like him should have to die. Oh, I wish this dreadful ordeal of having my teeth extracted and the new plate installed was all beautifully in the past and Grama Elvie was blissfully enjoying life. I'm glad that Lou feels better today. I hope that Dr. Stanley McClure can do a lot of good for him with the treatments. He is a chiropractor. Madge Fowler says he is very good. I mailed Flora Taylor a birthday card to Liberty, Missouri. I was sorry to learn from the folks today that Miriam Clayton is ill with a bad sore throat. Little Marilyn Clayton has scarlet fever. Carol was ill with the fever and sore throat last week, but she didn't break out in a rash like Marilyn has.

March 10, Thursday

I phoned Dr. Arthur Neal this morning; he is the dentist I want to make my lower dental plate. He feels badly about Dr. Hayes's tragic death. He gave me the name of another good dentist, Dr. Sundbye, (exodontia and oral surgery specialist). Now, to get the courage to contact him! I'm still fighting a head cold. I answered Janet's letter and thanked her for sending the snapshots and sent another dollar bill. Lou phoned Dr. Harold Kratzer and asked about my teeth. He doesn't extract teeth, but he recommended Dr. Sundbye, so we both feel better about him



Elvie is dreading her nine lower teeth being pulled and adjusting to a lower denture.

now. I phoned and made an appointment to have the teeth x-rayed on Monday at 2:45 p.m. and have a consultation and etcetera. Extractions will come later, maybe March 19, on Saturday at 11 a.m., so says the nurse. Nora Williamson came about 3 p.m. she had been working all day at the church decorating the banquet tables and hall for the Gold Plate Dinner tonight. The primary stake board did the decorating and she says the tables look beautiful in the St. Patrick's Day colors, green and white with large green hats filled with spring blossoms. It rained while we were out, but we took my umbrella. We are glad it is taken care of now. Sr. Verda Ord was home and invited us in the house. It is the first time in three years I've been going there that we have been invited in her home. She is away from home most of the time when we call. She is a very nice person to talk to, I'm glad we had a visit with her today. She took us through her lovely home. She is very active in women's clubs; she was once the MIA stake president in California, years ago, in Los Angeles. Lou went up to the market in the rain tonight after his nap. I think he likes to get out in the rain. He bought fruit for his lunch.

March 11, Friday

We had clouds and sunshine this morning and most of the day. I took a chance and washed anyway. I'm glad I did, as everything dried beautifully in spite of the dark looking periods. I phoned Donna, she was washing, also. Rex drove in their driveway while we were talking. It was raining where he had been working in Covina, so he had to come home. They'll have short pay again this week. It's a worry to make ends meet, eh? I phoned Miriam Clayton and was happy to learn that she and the little girls are feeling better. Marilyn's scarlet fever rash has almost cleared up. Little Carol is well now; she was first to have the fever and sore throat. Mary Marsh was home from school again, she went yesterday, but was miserable with her head cold last night. She is having a struggle to overcome this old cold.

March 12, Saturday

Lou worked in the yard this morning while I put the house in order. We drove out to Monrovia. Rex is still interested in the house for sale on the next street over from them, (Magnolia Street). I went with Rex, Donna, and Mary to look through the house. It isn't large enough but with another bedroom added, I think they could manage. It is a nice little house, but it needs a lot of work done to make it livable for Donna and family. Johnny went to the neighbors on the other street nearby to get some eggs for us. Lou gave him 25¢ for going. The eggs are 45¢ a dozen. Mary went to her piano lesson. Rex went after her. Rex brought home fifty baby chicks, one day old. The feed store gave them to him for buying his chicken feed today. The neighbor on Magnolia Street let Rex borrow his large brooder. Lou helped him bring it home and clean it up. I combed Kathy's hair; she is a cutie. Grampa helped Mary put her bunk beds down; she got tired of them up. He gave Mary 25¢, also. Rex and Donna are going out to Inis and Bob's Stanton's home in La Crescenta tonight to a potluck dinner. Donna is taking two apple pies. It is a get together of the old Garvanza friends. Lou took

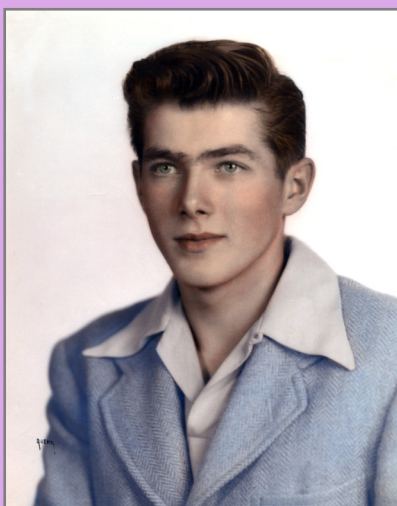
Joan to her work at the Lyric Theater in Monrovia at 12:00 noon, while we were looking through the house on Magnolia Street. Donna took Johnny to the Lyric Theater later, when she and Kathy went to the market for groceries. We came home but shopped in our market on our way home. Cal Fay is the new name; it was the Shopping Bag until they changed hands three weeks ago. I baked some fresh salmon for dinner this evening. We had a sandwich at Bob's eating-place on our way home from Monrovia; it was good. Lou enjoyed a nap this afternoon. I did some ironing. Warnie Mueller came and visited in the kitchen with me while I ironed. We had a nice talk. He has changed his position in the Army again, so has a new address at Fort Ord. He wrote the new one down for me. He likes the change even better than the change they gave him a short time ago. I'm surely glad he is feeling better about Army life, and life in general. I made a meatloaf; it is already to bake in the morning.

March 13, Sunday

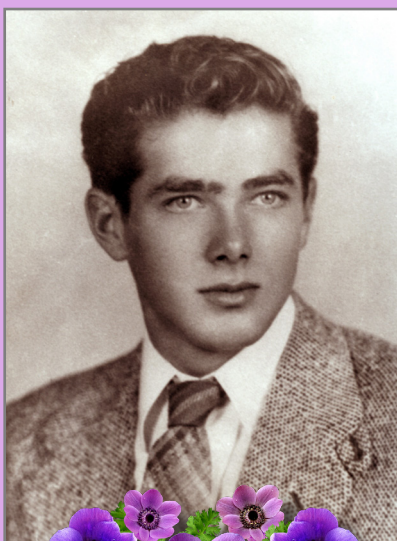
Lou went to an early eight o'clock meeting at church this morning. It was an elder's meeting. I baked the meat loaf before going to Sunday School. Hilda Botting phoned to see if we could meet her at the bus line on Colorado Street and Rosemead Boulevard and take her to church. I told her we'd be happy to pick her up. I phoned Mary Hill, but she says she isn't going to East Pasadena Ward anymore; she expects to move from our ward soon. I was sorry to learn that. I was happy to see Lutie Solem [*Lutie Violo Olorenshaw*] out to Sunday School this morning; I sat with her. We had a nice Sunday School as usual. It looked like it may rain today, but it didn't. We had a nice rest this afternoon. I made sandwiches for us at 5:30 p.m. We enjoyed eating them while watching T.V. We went to church this evening. Our bishop and wife are out of town for two or three



Meredith David Shattuck



David Shattuck steals Janet's heart!



weeks. Carl Warnick is out of town also, so Br. Harold Kratzer had to take care of ward affairs alone. He did an excellent job. We had a nice meeting tonight. The ward choir sang two lovely numbers. Dixie Wolfe gave a short inspirational talk. Br. Aril Hawkes gave a good talk on the Word of Wisdom. Lou phoned several people this afternoon to arrange for numbers on the Sunday morning Easter program on April 10.

March 14, Monday

Donna phoned me this morning before 9 a.m. She was excited because Janet had phoned her last night about 11 p.m. to tell her folks she was in love with a young man at the BYU. Donna said Janet sounded so happy and very much in love; she said he wanted her to marry him in the temple, in August. He is dark and good-looking, a good LDS boy. He is studying to be a dentist. She said she was mailing a letter telling all about him. He is going to bring her home in June to meet her folks. It made us rejoice to know she is in love with a good LDS boy. I'm excited myself over this wonderful news, but I do hope and pray for happiness for all concerned. I can't see how they can get married if the boy has six years of college to take care of? This is surely a startling bit of news, eh? My nice neighbor Mrs. Stacy drove me to the bus line this afternoon., which was a wonderful help. She was just driving out of her driveway when I walked by. I went to keep my appointment with Dr. Sundbye, dentist. The nurse took the xray pictures of my lower teeth. The doctor came in and talked with me later. He said he wouldn't consider extracting my teeth without me having an examination of my heart, lungs, and blood pressure. He said he couldn't take that chance with a heart disorder; he must know the proper medication to use, and etcetera. Dr. Sundbye recommended a Dr. Lincoln Wilson in the same building, across the lobby. I made an appointment to see Dr. Wilson tomorrow at 4 p.m. I came home on the bus; it was too long to wait for Lou to pick me up. I was home by 4 p.m. It's a lot of red tape just to have nine teeth out, eh? I had a nice evening home with my darling Lou and the T.V. Donna phoned and said she'd pick me up tomorrow noon, she is a guest of honor at our Relief Society anniversary luncheon.

March 15, Tuesday

I phoned Donna Gordon to tell her that Donna was calling for me today and she wouldn't have to bother about me. I knew she

had to go early today anyway. Donna went to her own Relief Society anniversary party in Monrovia Ward this morning. She was on the program with music, singing, and playing. Clarice Tanner invited the past presidents of East Pasadena Ward to be guests of honor and asked them to give a little talk. Donna had a very lovely letter from Janet that she let me read. She really wrote a nice letter, telling her folks how much she appreciates what they are doing for her. She also mentioned her new love, David Shattuck, a nice LDS boy going to BYU, studying to be a dentist. She said David took her to Salt Lake City on Wednesday, March 9, to see Les Elgart. I guess it was a show. She said it was really nice. We had a very delicious creamed chicken luncheon today. The tables were beautiful in our Relief Society colors, blue and gold. There were pretty blue fans with yellow daffodils as a centerpiece, for each table. I was happy to see that Lutie Solem came; I sat with her. Donna was at the guest table. I was also happy to see Mary Hill out; she said she wasn't going there anymore. We had a lovely program. Sr. Edna Neighbor sang two lovely solos, a young woman gave a cute reading (she was a guest), and Elvenia Summers gave a nice talk on Relief Society. Donna gave a nice talk on her term as president; she did it beautifully as always. Kathy was in the nursery with the other children and Bessie the babysitter. Donna brought me home, and then drove me to town for my appointment with Dr. Wilson. More red tape and examination of heart, lungs, blood pressure. After looking at my lungs and heart through a flora scope, and listening to my heart, he insisted on me having an electrocardiogram, which I didn't want, but had to have before he would give my dentist the report he wanted. Lou was waiting for me in the doctor's lobby when I came out at 5 p.m. Dr. Wilson says he'll phone me tomorrow. Tonight Lou went for his treatment from his doctor, the chiropractor. He had an electrical treatment tonight.

March 16, Wednesday

We had a nice steady rain last night; it woke me up. I thought it was wind until I looked out the bathroom window and saw it was raining. I put Beth Sundstrom's little poem in the Relief Society scrapbook this morning. She gave it to me yesterday. Dr. Wilson's nurse phoned and said the doctor would call me this afternoon, when he came from the hospital, to report on his findings in the electrocardiogram, taken of my heart last evening. He phoned later and said his findings were not any worse than his examinations of my heart, he said he would talk to the dentist, Dr. Sundbye, and then they would probably get

in touch with me for an appointment to have the darn disturbing nine teeth extracted. I'll be overjoyed when this experience is a thing of the past for sure. Florence Marsh phoned me this morning and said that she and John and Florence Oates are going to take some of Irene and Ray's furniture, trunk, and some of their wedding gifts, in John's truck on Friday morning to Provo. They're waiting for Irene to phone and let them know if they have found an unfurnished house to move into. She wanted me to find out if Donna had anything she wanted to send to Janet. Donna phoned me this morning. She read a very lovely letter she received from Jo Rush, the sweet girl that lives with Janet and the girls in Provo. Sandra Robinson had written a nice note at the bottom of Jo's letter, too. Both girls said how happy they were that Donna and Rex visited them, they both mentioned how happy Janet is with her boyfriend, David Shattuck, and both said he is a very fine young man. Annie phoned this afternoon, she'd been to a Relief Society conference in some ward. Lou feels better today; his electrical treatment did some good, eh? Our ward teachers came tonight, Br. C. Oakley and Br. Nickels. We had a nice visit. I phoned Annie this morning and got Beverly out of bed. I felt so sorry. I told her to get back in bed and forget she ever knew me. She works nights. Annie left before 9 a.m.



March 17, Thursday

It's St. Patrick's Day, "Top o' the Morning!" It was a beautiful sunny day; I did the washing. Dr. Sundbye's nurse phoned me this morning and made an appointment for me to come in tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. to have my teeth extracted. She said I'm not to eat or drink anything after midnight tonight. (Oh hum.) Florence Marsh phoned to tell me she and John and Florence Oates were going to leave for Provo in the morning at five o'clock, to take Irene and Ray's furniture and trunks in John's truck. I phoned Donna and learned that Janet had phoned her, to ask permission to go to San Jose with David Shattuck, over the weekend to meet his folks. He had phoned them to get permission to bring her home with him so they could get acquainted with the girl he wants to marry. Oh me! We know these things will come about, yet is a shock when it happens to our own children, eh? I remember so well, when we told my folks

I was going to be married, (Lou asked Dad). My father looked so surprised and he said to me, "You're just a baby." I was 18 then, I got my engagement ring then. We didn't get married until I was 21 years old. If Janet gets married in August like they want to do, she'll be 19 years old. I guess it's all right if they are in love, and it looks like they are. Annie phoned this afternoon; Florence Marsh saw her at their club luncheon today and she told the ladies about Janet and David's trip to San Jose, and my appointment with the dentist tomorrow morning. Annie said they'd all remember me in their prayers tonight. I do appreciate the faith of my lovely friends. Annie asked why I didn't phone her the news; I told her I didn't want to get Beverly out of bed again, this morning. Annie goes out so much all the time and I was afraid she wouldn't be home to answer the phone. Gordon was very thoughtful, he told Lou to take tomorrow off to be with me, he is nice.

March 18, Friday

It is a beautiful sunny morning for which I'm very thankful. I have a lovely calm, which the good Lord sent to me yesterday when I asked for it. It stayed with me all night and will continue I'm sure. It is 9:30 a.m. Lou went to work an hour earlier so he could get a few things taken care of at the shop. He is going to take me to the dentist for my "ordeal." It is really a comfort to know my loved ones are



Sandra Robinson, Jo Rush, and Janet Marsh ready for a Halloween party circa 1954. In March of 1955 Janet is in love with David Shattuck. After Rex and Donna visited Provo, Jo and Sandra sent a letter thanking them for the visit. See March 16.

return safely to Provo. I hope John and Florence Marsh and Florence Oates have a nice trip to Provo. They left early this morning.

March 19, Saturday

I rested well last night and feel fine this morning. My mouth is sore, but not bad. I'm so happy that the teeth are out. My mouth will heal up all right. Annie phoned, she was surprised to hear my voice so peppy. I told her I felt wonderful. Andersens were going out to Van Nuys and take Lorene with them; they were going to call and see Sue in Burbank. Lou borrowed our neighbor's electric cutters (from across the street, Mr. Christi) and trimmed the hedges and ivy. It was nice of the neighbors to loan us the cutters. It was Mary Jorgensen's birthday yesterday, Annie said, so Lorene is taking her a gift. We drove out to Monrovia after lunch. Mr. Warren, Donna's landlord was there, putting stain on the redwood on the house. He keeps the place looking nice. Mrs. Warren came for him later. Donna gave them a dish of Rex's delicious home made ice cream, we all enjoyed some. The bishop of Monrovia Ward brought Johnny home from a Sunday School party. He had his little daughter and they enjoyed ice cream, too. Donna typed the anniversary party article for me to put in the East Pasadena Relief Society scrapbook [on previous page]. She also typed my poem, "Spring in California," as I gave her the lines from memory. Mary wanted it for her school

theme of springtime. I went with Donna to pick up Joan at her work at the Lyric Theater. Joan went to a slumber party last night with some of the church and school girl friends, they entertained two or three girls from a visiting chorus at school. Lou brought Rex's loan papers home from the Taylors, who bought his home in Sierra Madre, also the last \$50.00 payment. Lou is planning on buying the loan from Rex, to help him buy the place he wants to buy on Magnolia Street. I got the snapshots of Warnie and Donna and children from the drug store and put them in my scrapbook this evening. I also put the typed article in the Relief Society scrapbook. Donna and Rex went to Ellsworth's to their club dinner tonight. I received a letter from Thella Bailey Hunter, giving me the addresses of all of her sisters, nice, eh? I got a panicky feeling this evening when I discovered the rough place in my poor jaw or gums is a piece of bone!



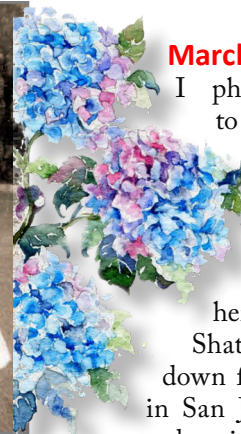
John, Donna, Warnie Mueller, and Mary, maybe Elvie says goodbye to Warnie by pasting the last photos of him in her scrapbook?

March 20, Sunday

I was happy yesterday to receive a nice letter from my cousin Thella Hunter [*Thella Dean Bailey*]. She sent me the addresses of all of her sisters. I asked her (or one of them) in a Christmas card to send the girl's addresses to me. She said they were all at Lucille's [*Lucille Bailey*] home to celebrate Lenora's [*Lenore Eliza Bailey*] birthday on March 16. Uncle Sam [*Samuel Charles Bailey*] was there also, he was feeling fairly well. It was a thrill to hear from them on this birthday celebration. She said Kenneth's [*Kenneth Charles Bailey*] second girl, Charlene, is going to be married on April 22. Nina [*Nina Bailey*] wasn't able to be with the family, she lives in Marion, Utah, but Thella said she was feeling fine the last time she heard from her. I really have a sore mouth today. I'll be relieved to learn what that little white piece of bone in my gum is. I hope it doesn't mean more trouble for me. I went to Sunday School in spite of my weakness this morning. My folks said no one would notice my lower teeth were out, unless I talked to them. So I gave each one a pleasant smile or a nod. I wasn't talking unless I had to this day. We picked up Hilda B. at the car line on Kenniloa Street. Mary Hill didn't go this morning. Lutie Solem was there; I sat with her again. We ate lunch at home. I'm having myself a time to eat with this sore mouth. Lou went to the Sunday School union meeting this afternoon. I rested. I'd liked to have gone to church tonight, but Lou had been to three meetings over there today so he didn't want to go tonight. Annie phoned before their church time; Lorene was over at Andersen's home. They expected a change in their bishopric in their ward conference tonight. They had heard that Bishop Bywater was going to be released tonight. I phoned at 9 p.m. to ask who the new bishop was and Annie said (nothing was said at all about a change in the bishopric.) Ken Bywater is still the bishop of Garvanza Ward. We had to laugh, ha ha!



John, Warnie, Joan, and Mary, two of the photos Elvie put in her scrapbook in March of 1955.



March 21, Monday

I phoned to talk to Donna this morning and was surprised to hear Janet's voice. She and her fiancé, David Shattuck, drove down from his home, in San Jose, last night and arrived at Donna's at three o'clock this morning. Donna had gone to the store. I was sorry I woke Janet up. Joan stayed home from school today. She came with Janet and David to see me about 11:30 a.m. Janet looked gloriously happy. I like David's looks; he seems like a very nice young man. He has dark brown hair and blue eyes. Janet received a very beautiful diamond ring from David yesterday before she left San Jose. David's father bought it for him to give to Janet. She likes David's folks a lot, they were very nice to her she said. There are just two children in the family. David has a sister [*Marilyn*] 20 years old. He is studying to be a dentist. I surely hope they will have a very beautiful life together; they plan to be married in August some time. They left here to go and call on Grampa at the Venetian blind shop. They plan to leave this evening for Provo, Utah, about 5 p.m. Janet phoned Grama Marsh from our house. She was sorry she couldn't go see her, but David had to have some adjustment made on his car in Pasadena, before he started on his trip this evening. I talked to Dale Andersen on the phone; he is going on a mission for the LDS church, in May, he thinks. Oh, he is a grand boy. I also talked to Florence Marsh, she told me about their trip



David Shattuck and Janet Marsh a photo taken at BYU. In March they visited both sets of parents and became engaged. No hesitation here!

to Provo, Utah. My Joanie girl looked sweet today, too, bless her heart. Oh, I do love my little Marsh family. I talked to Dolores on the phone; she was over to Monrovia Ward last night. Jack Jones had charge; he is on the high council. Doug and Donna Jones spoke on temple marriage. Jack spoke and Jenny sang a solo. Donna told Dody that Janet was coming down from San Jose on Sunday night. Annie phoned and said that Sue phoned to say Vera Vincent Donaldson is in California, visiting her sister Viola in Eagle Rock, and wants to see us all. I'd like to see Vera. Janet's diamond is very large, just gorgeous, lucky little girl.

March 22, Tuesday

Lou and I went out to Monrovia last night to talk to Donna and Rex. We learned more about the exciting news our little Janet has brought into her family, with her plans to get married in August. I was glad that Florence and John got out to meet David last night. The kids left Monrovia about 6 p.m. an hour later than they'd planned. Donna cooked a nice dinner for them. We got there about 7:30 p.m. I helped Donna do the dishes while we talked. Lou and I called to see Pearl Redborg on our way home. She isn't at all well, but just as cheerful as ever; bless her heart. Pawnee is away on his business trip in the East. Bonna Gordon came for me as usual this morning, (the darling). We had a treat in our Relief Society meeting; Faye Timothy always has something delightful for us. Our literature lesson was on three authors, (really four). We enjoyed Lewis Carroll's (real name Charles Dodgson) "Alice in Wonderland." Mary Howard played a record from the operetta and Harry Howard dressed as

a white rabbit and pantomimed the song, "I'm Late, I'm Late," he is really good; it was fun. The next author was Edward Lear, famous for children's rhymes. Betty Paulson sang one of his cute songs. Last were Gilbert and Sullivan and some of their humorous works. Betty P. sang "Poor Little Buttercup," from one of their operettas. Clarice Tanner mailed me the queen's pictures and I put them in our Relief Society scrapbook when I got home from Relief Society. No one has noticed that my lower teeth are out. They all seem surprised when I mention it. Joan talked to me last Saturday and didn't notice it. I went to the dentist at 4 p.m. and he said the gums are healing very well. He thinks that nature will take care of that exposed bone. He wants me to go back next Tuesday at 4 p.m. Lou brought me home. Lou went for a treatment from his Dr. McClure tonight.

March 23, Wednesday

I spent all morning in the yard, watering first and then spraying the plants to get rid of the little pests on them. It took me until noon. The aphids on the new growth of roses was awfully thick; Lou said he'd take care of it Saturday, but I couldn't let it go that long. After lunch I had my stationery out to answer letters. I had written one to Thella Bailey Hunter and then the phone rang. It was Elaine Renshaw Alexander. She and her husband and four-month-old baby were in Los Angeles on their way out to Pasadena to see us. I put the letters away and dusted up a bit. It didn't take them long to get here. I was very happy to see them. They have a darling baby boy. Marvin, Elaine's husband, is a very fine young man, they are a sweet



Elaine Renshaw before her wedding. In March of 1955 Elaine, Marvin, and baby boy come to visit Elvie.

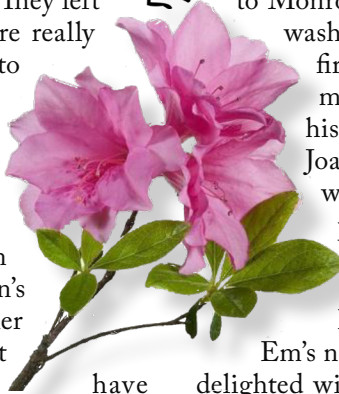
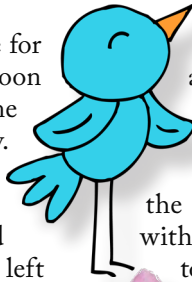
couple. I made a casserole-baked dinner. Lou brought some ice cream and we ate at 5:30 p.m. Lou and Marvin watched the Blue Ribbon bouts (boxing) from 7 to 8 p.m. and then we drove out to Monrovia to see Donna and family. Rex and Mary were in Mutual. Joan was working at the Lyric Theater. Rex has charge of a Boy Scout troop. The baby slept on Donna's bed while we visited and watched T.V. Rex and Mary came home; we visited a few minutes and then came home. Elaine and I made Lou's bed up with fresh sheets, and slips for them. The baby slept in his folding buggy. Marvin made some phone calls out of town and left the money for them.

March 24, Thursday

The baby slept very well last night. He didn't wake for his bottle until 3 a.m. He went back to sleep as soon as Elaine gave him his bottle. I gave Marvin some breakfast while Elaine was taking care of the baby. He took his car to have a little adjustment done on it. Lou left early; he wanted to have his haircut before work this morning. He ate first. Elaine and I ate after the baby had been bathed and fed. They left here for Los Angeles, about 10 a.m. They are really sweet young people; I was glad they came to see us. Marvin has some relatives he wants to visit, also. Shortly after Elaine left, Lillian Keller phoned from Jack's sister Mary's home. She and Jack rushed to Mary's when she phoned them that her husband Clyde was not expected to recover from his operation [*Clyde Rufus Burleson died in 1967*]. Lillian's letter telling about it came after I'd talked to her on the phone. We were both sorry she didn't get in touch with us yesterday, so she could have seen Elaine and Marvin and the baby. Here they are all in Los Angeles today, but can't get together, because Elaine doesn't know Aunt Lillian is here from Phoenix. It is too bad. I mailed a birthday card to my brother Owen. His birthday is March 29. I wrote letters to Eloise B., Violet F., and Ethel N. Lillian talked to Louis on the phone at the shop. After dinner this evening, we rode down to Lynwood to see Lillian and Jack. We had a nice visit with them. Jack's brother, Jim Keller, was there, also. I haven't seen him in about 25 or 30 years. Mary feels much better about Clyde's condition now; she wanted us to go in and see him for a minute. We did, and he smiled at us, too sick to talk. We came out after saying hello. Mary's married daughter and little girl were there, too. I wouldn't have known the daughter, her hair is real blonde now. One never knows what color she'll have it next, ha ha! Jack bought ice cream, which we all enjoyed. I enjoyed the ride to Lynwood. It was a lovely spring evening. No one noticed my teeth were out. It is amazing how no one notices my lower teeth have been extracted. Lou says I look better without them, oh me!

March 25, Friday

I spent this day vacuuming up in the rooms, I had to take two rest periods on the bed, before the job was finished, but finish it I did. Bonna Gordon came by at 10 a.m. to get the Relief Society scrapbook to take to the stake leadership meeting. They had them on display for the wards to look at. I guess each ward took one. I have put a lot of work on ours; pictures, flowers, and etcetera. Donna phoned this evening; she read a letter from David's mother. Mrs. Shattuck said the family was delighted with their son's choice for his wife. She said they thought Janet was a lovely little girl. It was a very nice letter. I was very disappointed when Donna said that Janet phoned from Provo; she wants to find work and buy some clothes and things she'll need to get married in August. Of course she'll not be able to finish up the last three months of her college year. I feel sorry about that, bless her heart. I do hope things will work out for her best good, anyway.



March 26, Saturday

Oh what a lovely spring morning, "birdies sing and everything." Our flowers are lovely; camellias, and azaleas, and lilies, and we have a few roses in bloom. Lots of buds are coming along. Lou put a fixture on the back garden hose so we can use it in the rear garden. Now we can take care of the watering without having to move the hose anywhere. We drove out to Monrovia this morning at 11 a.m. Lou had the car washed and bought our weeks supply of groceries first. Donna and Johnny worked in the yard all morning. Rex was up in the mountains with his Boy Scout troop. I went with Donna to take Joan to her work at the Lyric Theater. Kathy went with us. Mary went to the neighbors place to get two-dozen eggs for us. Grampa gave her 25¢ for going, as usual. He gave Johnny 25¢, too. Marshes gave Rex and Donna their lovely electric icebox; they have Em's new refrigerator in their kitchen now. Donna is delighted with Marshes'; it has so much more room than the one they had been using. Donna made sandwiches for Grampa and the children. I didn't eat; my mouth is too sore. Lou fixed Mary's dresser and a few other little things around the place, which needed attention. We brought Johnny and Kathy home with us; I cooked a lamb chop dinner for them tonight. Rex and Donna went to dinner at their ward house to a building fund, \$5.00 a plate dinner. Mary went to babysit for a ward lady so she could attend the dinner. Donna offered Mary's services for free to get them to buy the tickets for the dinner from her. Mary was disappointed that she couldn't come home with us and so was I. Rex didn't like the Hawaiian type dinner served at the ward, he bought a hamburger after dinner before coming for the children. Ha ha! He doesn't care for sweet pineapple and brown sugar on his pork chops. Kathy was asleep in my bed when they came at 10 p.m. Johnny was sleepily watching our television. Annie and Beverly bought a gift for us to send to Bonnie's infant daughter today at Ivers Department Store. Beverly's income tax return came today, nice eh?

March 27, Sunday

I stewed a chicken this morning. Lou went to an eight o'clock meeting with the elders this morning. I walked to the bridge on Blanche Street and Kenniloe Street where Lou picked me up to take me to Sunday School. Hilda B. was there waiting for him at the bus line as usual. We had a nice Sunday School and fast meeting. Sr. Hellings had a flat tire on her car when she came out. Lou took off his coat and started to change it for her. Another brother came up and they fixed it for her. After dinner we drove out to Burbank. Bette and Sue both looked miserable, they were suffering with intestinal flu. The little boys had just gotten over it; Jerry was in bed suffering with it, also. He had a talk to give in church tonight and was trying to get over the misery to give his talk. Bishop Ray was the only one to escape the sickness. He was at a meeting somewhere. Sue said her friend Vera V. Donaldson and sister Viola came to call on her that week. Sue gave me her \$1.40 to take to Beverly. We stopped in Andersen's on our way home.

I paid my \$1.40 also, for our share on the gift Beverly bought for Bonnie's new infant daughter, Leslie. Beverly and Annie sent a little two-piece, pink sun suit and some white shoes. The Garvanza Ward had a change in the bishopric today. Bishop Ken Bywater and his counselors were released. The new bishop is Dr. Calvin B. Jolly, dentist. His first counselor is Br. Bill Miller, and second counselor is Ivor Krantz. Annie wasn't home; she went with Ray and Miriam Clayton to Dave Taylor's wedding reception at Nephi Andersen's home. Dave married Gladys Livingston. Her husband died about two years ago. Dave's wife Sally died a year ago. I surely hope they will be happy.

March 28, Monday

I got a good early start with my washing this morning. I had it on the lines and a letter in the mail by noon to Janet with \$5.00 in for her to pay down on a dress for Easter. I told her I'd send \$5.00 next week. Donna says she'll send her \$5.00 so I'm sure she can buy a nice little dress for that. I sent \$5.00 to Donna to pay down on a dress for Mary. I love to help them get new Easter clothes. My sweet little Joan has work, and she says she'll buy herself something new. I talked to Dolores on the phone and asked what I should buy for her Mother's birthday. She wasn't much help; she is wondering what she'll buy for her too? She says she may come for me this evening and we'll go to town and buy Violet's gift. Bevan is out of town for a few days on business. My dentist's bill came this morning from Dr. Sundbye; it is \$50.00. I was relieved, I thought it would be a lot higher. He extracted nine teeth.

Dr. Neal is going to make my plate. The bill from my heart exam will come soon, I guess. Our income tax return check came today, for \$86.67. It will help pay off my doctor bills. The Andersens got theirs on Saturday. Bill and Annie are going to have a five-foot brick wall built in their backyard. The neighbors in back are paying half of the cost. Dale put his check in his mission fund. I was too tired to go with Dolores and Yvonne tonight. I'm sorry too, because I wanted to go. The girls came by for my money. I gave them \$3.00 and told them to buy whatever they thought their mother would like from me.

My heart was giving me a little trouble. I over worked today and had to pay the price as usual. Dolores and Bevan traded their old car in and bought a nice looking



1951 Chevrolet Station Wagon

Chevrolet station wagon. It's not brand new, but a later model than they had. It is a 1951 model.

March 29, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me as always this morning. Marie Doezie was with her. We called for Bessie the babysitter. We had a very nice Relief Society meeting. Phyllis McDonnell gave a very interesting lesson in social science.

She is an excellent teacher and so cute with her expressions. We studied the "Bill of Rights," and several of the ladies took part in reading and discussing one of the ten articles. Sr. Summers asked me to go to Mutual with her tonight to hear Lena Woodbury's talk in the special interest class. I said I'd be happy to go. I did my ironing after lunch. I finished in time to go to town for my four o'clock appointment at the dentist. The doctor said I do not need to come back as the gums are healing up all right. I'm glad about that, as I don't have to go all that way again. He says to wait at least another two weeks before going to Dr. Neal to have the plate made. Oh me! I had expected to have the new teeth in by Easter. I guess it doesn't make much difference anyway. No one seems to notice that the teeth are out. Lou had an appointment with Dr. McClure this evening for another electric treatment. He said he'd take me to Mutual. I called Elvenia Summers so she wouldn't have to go out of her way to get me. She'll bring me home. I enjoyed Lena's talk, she brought Blanche Johnson with her and it was nice to see them again. Lena graduated from college about the same time her two sons did. She is a very remarkable woman. She is now working as a counselor, in Pasadena; to families with problems they can't find the solution to without help from a so-called counselor. It was interesting, but I hope that our family will always manage to solve their own problems, eh? Phyllis McDonnell brought me home from Mutual. I paid Dr. Sundbye up in full today, \$59. Lou paid Dr. McClure tonight for the three or four treatments he has had, \$5.00 a treatment. He is through going for a while.

"...I hope that our family will always manage to solve their own problems, eh?" This was not a time to openly discuss family problems and certainly not with strangers, even if they were, so called, "counselors." Elvie would have a different view today if she could see the ways many of her descendants have benefited from counselors and therapy.

March 30, Wednesday

Lou decided he wanted to eat his breakfast and lunch out today for a change. It makes it nice for me too; I can rest in my cozy bed a while longer. My bed always feels better in the morning than at any other time, ha ha! I know Lou gets tired of sandwiches for lunch too, so we both enjoy it when he goes out to eat. He doesn't do it very often, though. I spent most of this morning reading in my old diaries. Oh the memories, some things I have long forgotten. I wrote to Warnie Mueller and to Mary Stead this afternoon. I'm not in debt to anyone now; it is a grand feeling. But oh, it is fun to receive letters. I wish Janet would write and let us know if she has found work in Provo. Donna phoned to check on Aunt Violet's address. She is mailing her a birthday gift; stationery, I believe. I phoned Dolores, she and Yvonne bought two pair of nylon hose for me to give Violet for her birthday. Dody couldn't find what she wanted at the Broadway Store on Monday night, so she went to Henshaw's Store this afternoon and she bought a pretty beige dress with a little color print pattern in it, to send her mother. She says if the dress doesn't fit, Yvonne can bring it back when she comes after Easter vacation. Yvonne plans to leave for Beryl tomorrow evening on the bus.

This little apron I send to you,
and this is what I hope you'll do
measure your waistline inch by inch,
Be sure the measure doesn't pinch.
For each little inch you measure around
Put a penny in the pocket - It will be found
God bless you - God bless your gift
You've given our Building fund a lift.
Just mail to

Mrs. Dorothy Keller
1118 - Jefferson
Ajo, Ariz -

My ans. to Dorothy -
Our waistlines we measured inch by inch
We measured ample, and didn't cinch -
We overlapped a little, as best we could.
Because we know your cause is good,
May the dear Lord bless all of you
May He bless your Building fund too -
Love, from Aunt Elvie and Uncle Lou.



March 31, Thursday

I got up in time to fix a lunch for Lou to take with him. I am enjoying eating once more; my mouth isn't as sore. I phoned Dr. Neal and he said to wait another two weeks and then come in and he'll see about making the lower plate for me. I dread getting used to that lower plate. Oh, it would be wonderful if it could only fit perfect like the upper plate does that Dr. Neal made for me a few years ago. I never had one minute's trouble with it. I got a letter from Violet and I read it to Beverly and to Yvonne over the phone. I spent the morning watering lawns and flowers; it's a job to keep the aphids from ruining the new tender shoots and buds on the rose trees. Beverly just phoned me some good news to write in the diary! Dale received a mission call to go to Brazil in South America. He has to be in Salt Lake City by May 11, he'll be ordained May 18 and he sails from New York City on June 3. He will be released from the mission on January 8, 1958 (2 ½ years). I'm thrilled about it, as I know he is, also. I talked to him on the phone. I phoned to tell Donna, she was pleased, also. She read Janet's letter to me. Janet hasn't found work yet. She has set

the wedding date for August 4 with a reception for August 6. Red-letter day, eh? I composed a "Queen for a Day" tribute to Sr. Laura Manlove this afternoon. Lou took me out to Donna's tonight and she typed it for me. Joan and Mary have both been home from school today. Mary had cramps in stomach and Joan has a bad cold. She has been home for three days with swollen glands and a sore throat. It seems there is always one of them home with a cold.



April 1, Friday

Today is the birthday of my sister Violet. It will not be much of a birthday, as Yvonne will not arrive in Beryl until tomorrow, with the gifts from us out here. They'll celebrate tomorrow. Yvonne leaves Pasadena on the bus this evening. Violet and Otto will meet her in Cedar city, I guess. Annie made some aprons to send, I bought two pair of nylon hose. Dolores is sending a dress and something else. Yvonne has a purse and something else. I forgot what they told me it was. Donna mailed some stationery and stamps. I do not know what Lorene and Sue sent, but I hope Violet will enjoy her day. Yvonne is spending her Easter vacation with her folks in Beryl. Florence Marsh phoned this morning. She said Florence Oates and family are going to Salt Lake City for conference and to visit with their girls, Elaine and Irene. Ernie Jr. is going, also. He has a 10-day furlough. They leave in the morning. I composed a queen tribute to Chris Lipscomb this morning and mailed it to Donna to type for me. We received a typed poem from Dorothy Keller with a cute hint for donation to their ward building fund; a little piece of material cut in apron shape with a pocket sewed on to hold the donation. The poem and my answer are below. [See image from her diary above.]



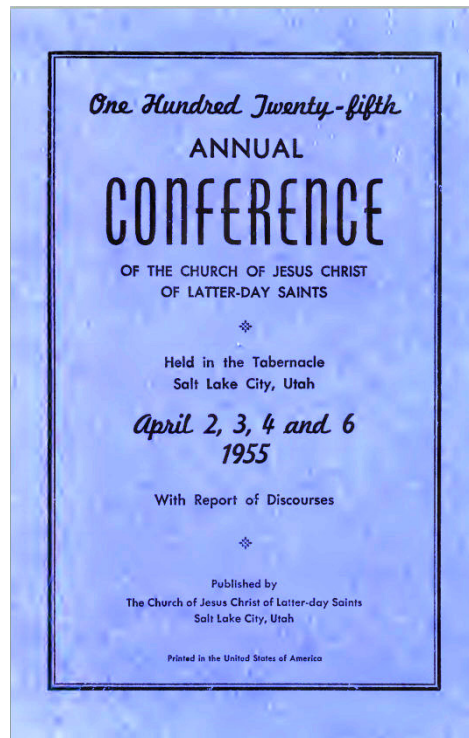
Mildred, Owen James, and Violet Bailey circa 1907.

April 2, Saturday

Andersens went to Van Nuys this morning and took Bill to see Dr. Lewis. I mailed a letter to Dorothy Keller (a poem), in answer to her building fund poem. I also wrote Janet a letter, and sent the \$5.00 I promised her. Lou worked in the yard all morning. He transplanted some rosebushes and some cannas. Donna had planned a picnic lunch for tomorrow, with the Howards, but the Howards decided to go to Salt Lake City for conference. So, Donna's kiddies are disappointed. I phoned to tell Donna we wouldn't be out today. Rex told me he had two chickens to give us to fry when we came. Donna was going to buy Kathy some play shoes and Joan was going to help Mary find an Easter dress this afternoon after her work at the theater. They were going shopping. It was a beautiful clear sunny day, but a strong cold breeze. Lou had to tie the camellias up to the fence to keep them from breaking off. They are so heavy with bloom and are beautiful this year. One is all white and three are rose and pink shades. This evening Rex brought Donna here. She went to Highland Park with us to the Strong's meeting at Bill and Annie's home. Rex took the three children to the Marshes' to visit his folks. Rex gave us one of his chickens cleaned and ready to cook. It was frozen so I left it out of the icebox all night, nice eh? We had a very nice meeting with our Strong family. I was happy to see Sue looking so well. She has lost a lot of weight, too. So has Bill, he feels much better, too. The doctor was well pleased today with his condition. Sue gave my poem, "Memories" on our program tonight. Annie served ice cream, Jello, and Tollhouse cookies. It was good. It only cost us 70¢ apiece for refreshments tonight. Annie made the Jello dessert. Beth made the cookies, Lorene bought some cookies and I did nothing but enjoy myself.

April 3, Sunday

We had a thrilling feast of good Latter-day Saint music and talks this morning, starting this morning at 6:30 a.m. with the church programs on the radio. Elder Hugh B. Brown, speaker, music by the LDS Choir of California, Fredric Davies, conductor, then the Church of the Air next, with Harold B. Lee speaker, and Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir music. Then we had our regular Tabernacle choir program at eight o'clock, and at 9 a.m. we had the general conference over television, from Salt Lake City, Utah. Oh wonderful, right here in my own living room, the spirit of God so mighty, almost takes one's breath away. President David O. McKay gave the opening welcome, Elder Condie lead the choir and congregation in singing "High on a



President David O. McKay:

I am not sure that when I was mentioning the presidents of missions who were doing the work in the South Seas, that I mentioned President Sidney J. Ottley, who presides over the New Zealand Mission. He, with the others named, is carrying on the work down in that particular area.

President Bryan L. Bunker, who presides over the California Mission, will now offer the benediction.

Elder Bryan L. Bunker, President of the California Mission, offered the closing prayer.

Conference adjourned until 2:00 p.m.

From the conference report above. Bryon L. Bunker gave the closing prayer and he is married to LaPriel Strong Bunker.

Mountain Top," a prayer by Elder Dyer. The Tabernacle Choir sang the Lord's Prayer, with Elder Cornwall leading. President David O. McKay spoke on "Influence of the Home," not so much what parents say to children but the way they act before them that has the best influence on them. It was a wonderful talk; wish I had a copy of it. Elder Christiansen gave a good talk; he says the LDS people are a blessed people because they make covenants with God. Elder Romney said we have a living prophet on earth now to see and hear. The congregation and choir sang "We Thank Thee Oh God for a Prophet." J. Reuben Clark, said, "we invite the spirit of God into our homes when we have children born there, and we have an obligation to God and his spirit children to live up to. President McKay thanked the people for flowers and telegrams. The choir sang "Worthy the Lamb." The benediction was by President Byron L. Bunker. President

McKay mentioned the stormy weather. I was sorry it wasn't nice there for the many visitors, it was a beautiful day here. John and Florence Marsh went out to Rex and Donna's to watch the conference on T.V. They stayed after and had dinner with them. I baked the chicken Rex gave us. It was delicious. We drove out to Donna's this afternoon, she said, Marshes didn't come until nine o'clock, just in time for the general conference. John had an earache last night; it broke in the night. He felt better today so they went to Rex's to hear the conference. We took a nice ride with Rex and family in his station wagon. Joan was working at the Lyric Theater. We

had a nice lunch at Donna's when we got back home. We had potato salad and fried chicken. Lou bought two quarts of chocolate ice cream. Donna had lemon pie and chocolate pie. A very happy day! P.S. The largest priesthood meeting ever held last night in our church, there were special lines to our stakes everywhere, so members of the priesthood could be in attendance over the air by television. About 5,000 men saw and heard. The wind blew so hard yesterday, Lou had a lot of twigs and branches to rake up today.

April 4, Monday

Lou phoned from the shop this morning to say that the Times Newspaper of Los Angeles said there was 18 inches of snow in the city of Salt Lake yesterday. Oh burr! Glad I was here in California and heard that wonderful session of conference over our television. Donna phoned and read two letters from Janet to me. She hasn't found work yet, but she got my letter with the \$5.00 in and she was going uptown to pay it down on a dress like I told her to do. Janet also said that Irene and Ray are expecting a baby on November 16, nine months

from their wedding day. They are all happy about it. Janet hopes she can have one as soon after she is married, cute, eh? God bless them all. I mailed Easter cards to Ethel N., Eloise B., Harriet S., and the Marshes. Florence Marsh said there was 18 inches of snow in Salt Lake City 33 years ago tomorrow, when her Ruth was born. Lou spent this evening calling people, and checking on his Easter program for next Sunday morning. There seemed to be a mix up on the Custer wires, Lou had to have the operator get one or two lines for him. *[Mary notes that the Renshaw's phone number was Custer 2-5383. This explains the mention of Custer wires.]*

April 5, Tuesday

I got up and cooked Lou some breakfast while he shaved. He usually takes care of the breakfast while I put up his lunch, but once in a while I do both, nice of me, eh? Ha ha! (In my own defense, he likes to cook.) We had a very nice lesson in our teacher's report meeting this morning. (Bonna Gordon took me to Relief Society as usual.) Beth Sundstrom is an excellent teacher, she gave another poem she had composed to go with the lesson; she is truly talented. The objective of the lesson was "To Lend Incentive to the Performance of Good Deeds." Sr. Louise Cotterell gave her theology lesson very lovely as she always does, with her visual aids and her wonderful store of knowledge. We had some fine testimonies; it was indeed a treat to be in attendance today. I wanted to get to my feet, but didn't because it isn't easy to talk without my lower teeth. We had the stake Relief Society presidency there today. Ann Hartshorne brought her mother-in-law and her sister-in-law today. They are investigating our gospel. I composed a little thank you poem to send Bonna Gordon when I can get uptown to buy a little gift for her. I think I'd like to buy her a box of pretty birthday cards so she'd have them handy when needed. Sr. Thelma Nebeker and her two counselors, Nell Ellsworth and Sr. (?) came to our ward this morning. They are our stake presidency. *[Below is the poem Elvie wrote for Bonna Gordon. This was an extra paper pasted in Elvie's diary.]*

April 6, Wednesday

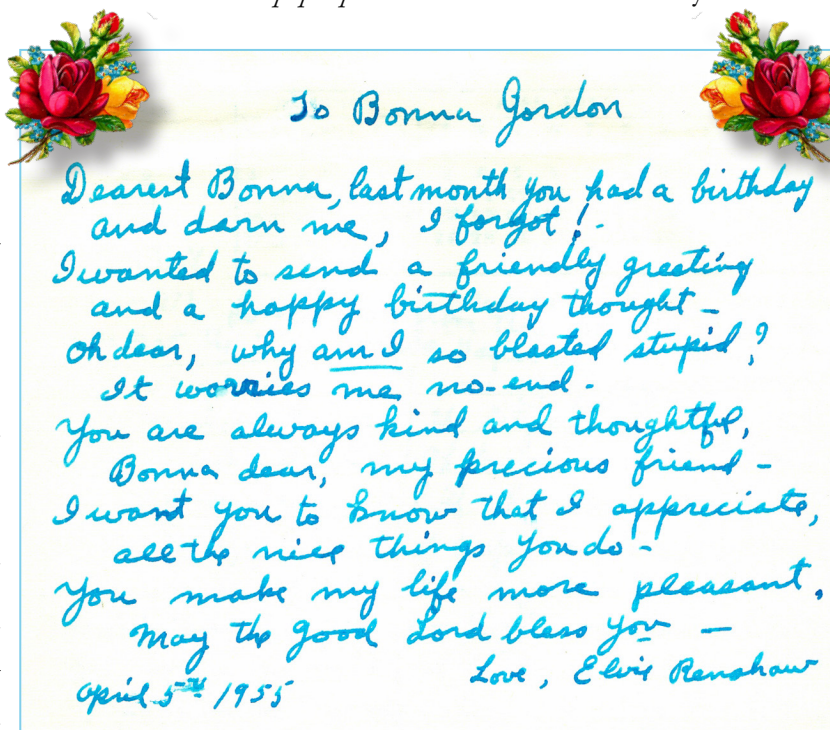
We are blessed indeed with beautiful springtime sunshine and lots of lovely flowers. Our roses are starting to bloom. The camellia plants are heavy with blossoms and the azaleas are full of blossoms, too. Our yard is very lovely. I truly love California's wonderful climate. I can see the pretty fruit trees in the neighbor's yards around about here, all in lovely pink and white blossoms. Then comes a letter

from my friend, Ethel Newbold, and one from Eloise Brooks, from the precious old home town, Salt Lake City, Utah, telling of 18 to 20 inches of snow there last Saturday and Sunday. I think I love dear old Utah very much, but I want to live here in Southern California for sure. I did my washing; the clothes were dry and in the house in two hours time. Work has picked up at the Venetian blind shop; Lou called Beverly in this morning to help them. I hope she will get some extra time again now. She works nights for Cannon Electric Company. I wonder how my Donna and her brood are? Darn it, I miss not calling her every day. It costs a toll to phone her in Monrovia. My phone bill is always over what Papa thinks it should be now.

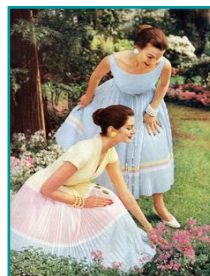
April 7, Thursday

Lou left earlier this morning because he wanted to have his hair cut before going to work. I shampooed my hair after breakfast. We must look our best on Easter morn, eh? We received a letter from Bill and Flora Taylor and a snapshot of each of them. They look well and happy. They have only got about four months left of their mission to Liberty, Missouri. They are enjoying it so much. They sent a pretty Easter greeting card, also. We received one from John and Florence Marsh, too, and yesterday, cards from Ethel N. and Eloise B. Friends are a wonderful blessing, eh? We received a very unique and cute announcement from Julie and Claron Oakley, informing us of the arrival of their infant daughter, Ellen Elizabeth, born March 26, 1955. She is a little adopted baby girl, and she became an official Oakley entity on March 31. She weighs 5 pounds and 9 ounces and has red hair. I'm delighted to know that Oakley's have this precious baby; they have wanted one for such a long time. I phoned Donna, she got a special delivery letter from Janet; she hasn't found work yet and she needs \$20.00. Donna needs some help from her daddy, too. I guess he'll loan her \$150 to get caught up on some bills. There are so many struggles in this life, when one has a family of five children to look after with the

cost of living so terrific. I was glad to know that Janet got the other \$5.00 I mailed her. She said she bought a dress for \$12.00. Donna mailed her \$5.00 yesterday, so she'll have a new Easter dress to wear on Sunday. Joan hasn't done anything about buying herself a dress. It makes me feel badly to think she will not have a new dress, but she has her own money, if she wants one, I guess. She is working part time. I'm surely thankful she has her work. Mary has a pretty blue nylon dress for Easter Sunday; it



was \$10.95. Grandma Marsh is making a pretty dress for Kathy. Johnny will have new shoes, a shirt, socks, and tie, I think. I gave Donna \$5.00 to help out with his things. His shoes will cost Donna \$8.00 or \$10.00 I guess. Ain't we got fun! We drove out to Monrovia tonight. Lou gave Donna a check for \$150. Mary is staying with her friend Carol Colvin in Sierra Madre. Chuck and Joan brought a dress home from his father's factory, for Donna. It is size 16 and is a little too big for her so Joan said I could have it. It fits me well. It was not perfect, but no one would ever notice the mistake. It is very nice, is white rayon with dark blue dots in, they said I did not have to pay for it, nice eh? When the dresses are not perfect, they can't sell them. Chuck's father owns the factory. Mary's new Easter dress is darling. I saw it tonight; it cost \$10.95. Donna typed a queen's poem for me. What would I do without her? Donna showed me the pretty squaw dress she made, the braid is almost all sewed on now. It is very pretty.



April 8, Friday

Here it is Friday again, oh where does the time go to so fast? Donna phoned this morning to tell me that Rex was having some material sent to our place this morning for a job he's going to do tomorrow near his mother's home. He bought it in Pasadena. He didn't want to send it to Monrovia. Beverly has had three days of work at the Venetian blind shop. Donna took Kathy to the doctor to have his help, for the sores that keep coming in her mouth. I wish they could get at the source of her trouble; it worries me. I received a thank you letter from Janet for the money I sent her, (\$10.00). She bought a deep rose dress for \$12.00, bless her heart. I wish my sweet Joan would buy herself a pretty new dress, she has the money; she works. I took an inch in the underarm seam of the nice dress Joan gave me last night. It was a little large in the top part, but it is just right now. I washed the plastic curtains in our kitchen, bathroom, and back porch today. I cleaned windows and hung them back up. I had several sharp heart pains this evening, I was really uncomfortable all evening. It makes me feel so provoked that I can't do a little extra work without suffering with the weakness and heart pains.

Easter without a new outfit?

Elvie worries that Joan might not have a new dress to wear. Joan doesn't seem concerned about getting a new Easter outfit. Janet is low on money and requests that \$20 be sent to her. About the same time Janet buys a new Easter dress for \$12. Have our ideas about Easter changed a little over the years? We hope so. Maybe a new outfit for church on Easter is not necessary?



April 9, Saturday

It was a warm sunny day. Lou and I had a busy day, we got rid of most of his paycheck this week, but it was fun. I benefited mostly I think! We went to Andersen's. Dale is still buying things to take to Brazil with him; the church gave him a big long list of all the things he'll have to take with him. They can't send anything to him. He takes six suits and enough of everything he'll need to wear, for two and a half years. We saw his new blue bathrobe, new big suitcase, and electric razor. He got the razor and suitcase wholesale through Br. Harry Christenson. Bill is going to have Br. C. get an electric razor for Lou, a Schick. Lou left \$20.00 for the razor. I bought two pair of panties and a

slip for Kathy and a pair of nylon panties for Joan; (Annie only had one pair in Joan's size. I paid for these and a box of stationery to give Joan. I got some greeting cards from Annie, I'll pay for them next payday. They are \$3.00. Lou bought two pair of LDS garments for me for \$4.16. The skill saw Lou went to look at wasn't working right, Bill and Lou took it apart. The bearings were worn out, so he didn't buy it as he'd expected to do. Lou and I ate a very good dinner at the Crown Cafeteria in Pasadena. I went in the little hat shop and Lou bought me a black purse and a white one, plastic, and good looking for \$2.00 each. He

bought me a white hat with a tiny navy blue piping and white flowers, it is cute and was only \$2.00. We took our Easter gifts out to our children in Monrovia. I had some chocolate eggs in the basket and some little chicks and bunnies. I bought a blue and white bunny for Kathy in our drug store this morning. Donna and children colored a lot of eggs this morning. They gave us some in an Easter basket, also gave us a chicken to fry the other night. Rex took one to his parents today. He had a job near their home and he worked there all day. Donna is going to sing in the Sunrise Service tomorrow morning in LaVer Mallard's chorus. I phoned Florence Marsh and made arrangements to meet her and John tomorrow at Van de Kamp's Restaurant after Sunday School.

April 10, Sunday

Donna and Mary were going to leave home at 4 a.m. for the Easter Sunrise Service on North Lake Street at a park there (Farnsworth Park). She said they were to be there at 4:30 a.m. They had to get up at 3:30 a.m. Donna was singing with LaVer's chorus. It is a P.T.A. chorus; LaVer asked a few of her church friends to help them out. (It's too early for this grandmother to get up.) We had a very lovely Easter program in our ward this morning. Lou arranged it all. Edna Neighbor sang solo, Lorene Alder a violin solo; Faye Timothy gave a beautiful Easter reading and poem. There was a vocal trio by Erma Lu Gordon, Herta and Ruby Peacock. There was an organ and piano duet by Helen Bennett and Lydia Smith. Remarks were by Harold Kratzer. Warnie Mueller brought his mother to Sunday School, she is a very nice looking person, has the same color of blue eyes and light brown hair as Warnie has. Lutie S. and Gordon and Ruby Hodges came. They said it was a lovely program. The chapel was full. They had to open the large doors into the big hall to take care of the overflow. We went to Van de Kamp's Restaurant in Los Angeles after Sunday School where we met John and Florence Marsh. We had a very nice dinner there, but oh, what a crowd! Marshes go there a lot, the girls all know them. Our waitress gave the check to Florence and we couldn't get it away from her, (so like them). We left John's car parked at Van de Kamp's and went in our car to North Hollywood and Burbank, where we visited with John's nephew Jim Marsh [James Warren Marsh] and wife Lillian. We found them at their son's home

in Burbank, (Albert). We went for a ride in Jim's new 1955 Desoto car to see the beautiful hilltop home they have built in North Hollywood they are going to move into it in a week. It has a wonderful view of towns below, from every window one looks out of. It cost \$40,000 to build (forty thousand). [Or \$358,443.45 in 2016 dollars.] We ate ice cream sodas in Van de Kamp's when we went back for the car, Lou's treat.



1955 Desoto



April 11, Monday

Donna phoned last night and said she didn't want to let Easter Day get by without talking to us. They had a nice buffet luncheon after Sunday School in her home. The Howards ate with them; they all went for a nice ride in the mountains after dinner. Kathy wore the pretty little white nylon dress to Sunday School that Grandma Marsh made for her; it has red dots in it. Mary wore her new blue nylon dress. I do not know what Joan wore, but I know she looked beautiful anyway. I do so miss my little Marsh family on Easter Sunday at church. I hope Janet had a happy day in Provo; she had a new deep pink dress to wear. I wore my new white dress, hat and purse. My dress has navy blue dots in and the hat has navy piping on

the brim. Grampa said Grama "looked pretty" too, nice eh? And so did Grampa in his light gray suit, a red rose bud in his lapel and new gray and red tie. Today was a lovely spring day. I wrapped the pretty stationery I bought from Annie and mailed it to Bonna Gordon, with a thank you note in rhyme. I broke the strap on my white shoe yesterday so I took it to the shoemaker to sew it on today. I left both white shoes to be fixed, the other one looked like it would come off with a little tug. I cooked the pot

roast this morning with potatoes and carrots in it. I watered the lawns and flowers this afternoon.

April 12, Tuesday

It was a warm summer like day; it seems impossible to think that some of our states are still fighting snow and ice. I went to Relief Society with Bonna Gordon, Marie Doezie, and Bessie the babysitter. I quilted all morning on Marva DeHaan's pretty appliqued quilt. We had a nice attendance and the luncheon was delicious, all the bread, rolls, pies, and cake were made with the whole-wheat flour. The meat loaves, made by Bonna Gordon, had whole wheat bread crumbs in. I surely enjoyed everything. My lower gums

are not sore now, so I can eat much better. Folks are always surprised when I tell them my lower teeth are out. I haven't missed a meeting since they were extracted. It would be different if it were the uppers, eh? Dr. Neal said for me to come in the middle of April, for a fitting or impression for a new plate. I surely hope I will

be able to have a good fit with the lower plate and not have to suffer like some poor people do. Jeanne Brinton read the queen's tribute today; we crowned Laura Manlove, she was very much surprised and happy, I believe. She is a lovely lady. Her gift was pretty stationery. I brought the Relief Society scrapbook home to put Queen Laura's tribute in. Marva D. took a picture of our queen. Our tables looked very lovely today with beautiful lace tablecloths and flower arrangements. Felicia Washburn made the flower arrangements as usual. Ovena Mayo's nephew, Keith Waldron, is leaving in a day or two for a mission in Brazil. I guess Dale Anderson will meet him, as he leaves on June 3 for his mission in Brazil. Annie took Keith's name to give Dale. I phoned Annie to give it to her. I also phoned Donna; she said that Chuck D. gave them a barbecue; a burner to use charcoal in, for their outdoor picnics. Lou took me up on the avenue to get my white shoes; it cost 35¢ to sew the straps on them. I fixed dinner for Lou, but I was too full to eat with him. I ate graham crackers and some milk about 8:30 p.m. I was sorry to learn today that LaDorna Perine is very ill in a hospital.



April 13, Wednesday

Today was another beautiful clear day, when the mountains look only a few blocks away. I did my washing. I phoned Leona Thompson to inquire about Jack, her husband. He is still in the hospital, but is a little better. He has high blood pressure and an enlarged heart, plus asthma troubles. It's the very same condition I'm having my troubles with, only he is in a serious condition now. They had to use the oxygen tank on him. The doctor says he can't work for a year at least. I feel so sorry for him. Leona goes twice a day to see him in a hospital in Glendale. I'm glad they have hospital insurance; I wish we did! I composed a queen tribute to Elma Frandsen after lunch while I rested. I had seven of the tribute poems ready yesterday, and there was only one of the sisters present. It scares me to think what I'll do if there is not one of them there! So I decided to get a few more on hand. We enjoyed our nice little home and T.V. programs tonight as usual. Lou used his new electric Schick razor for the first time this morning. I cooked hotcakes for him. I do not eat them.

April 14, Thursday

I cooked breakfast again this morning while Lou used his new razor. I put his lunch up while he ate. This is truly a beautiful month for flowers in California. Our yard is very colorful now. I vacuumed the bedrooms and did some ironing. Nora Williamson came for me at 1:30 p.m. We did our Relief Society visiting teaching. Nora had been over to the church with the stake primary board all morning decorating the tables for the gold-plate stake dinner tonight. The primary does a beautiful job of decorating the tables for these dinners, once a month. We found Mary Howard taking care of LaDorna Perine in LaDorna's home today. I'm so concerned about LaDorna; she is a very sick girl. She was asleep, under a sedative that Dr. Loren Stephens had left for her to take. She is in a lot of pain in her spine when she is awake. The spine is out of place by several inches. I'm so sorry about her illness. I phoned Beth Sundstrom to report our teaching is done. She was sick with the flu. I was sorry I got her out of bed. Louise Anderson is expecting to go the hospital any day now, for her fifth child. They have two boys and two girls. We got home early as most of our ladies were out. I finished my ironing this afternoon. Beverly Anderson has been working at the Venetian shop all week. I'm glad the work has picked up so she can have the extra work. She works nights for Cannon Electric Company. I wonder what my Marshes are doing? It is dreadful not talking to Donna every day. I phoned Florence Oates this afternoon; they got back from Utah on Monday. She said Janet has not found any work, so she will come home soon. It may be a good idea for her to spend a few weeks with her family in Monrovia, before she gets married and leaves home for good. We'll all be happy to have her home again. Maybe David can study better if she is away, eh? I'm sure she'll hate to leave him.

April 15, Friday

I got up an hour earlier and cooked some wheat cereal for Lou's breakfast; whole grain ground wheat from our church. I wrote a letter to Janet and sent a dollar bill. I phoned Donna this morning. She said Janet may come home next weekend. She hasn't been able to find work in Provo. Donna says Rex wants to take the family in the station wagon and go for Janet next Friday. It will be cheaper than her bus fare and shipping trunks and boxes. I guess he is right. I sent get-well cards to LaDorna Perine and to Jack Thompson. These two dear friends are very ill. I vacuumed the living room and dinette good today. I had to rest on Lou's bed for an hour before I could prepare dinner. We enjoyed our home this evening as usual.

April 16, Saturday

I enjoyed having all my work done up, so I could take it easy today. I worked most of yesterday. Lou worked in the yard; it looks so nice after he cuts lawns and cleans up around here. Lou went to the market while I got a little hand washing out, after my bath. We went out to Monrovia to visit with our children. Rex had taken his station wagon to have it oiled and greased; he left it and walked home. Bonny Howard was with Mary. Johnny was up to Howard's with David. Rex has added two baby ducks to the farm now. The ducks are Mary's property, she begged for them. They are cute when little. I recall when Janet and Joan had two baby ducks. I also recall what a darned nuisance they were when they grew up. Lou and Rex took Joan to her work at the Lyric Theater at noon, in our car. Later we took Bonny and Mary up to Howards. Mary took her nightclothes to stay all night. Rex and Donna said they'd go up later for Johnny. He stayed there last night. The kids and neighbors have a wonderful time in Howard's lovely big swimming pool. Lou bought three quarts of milk from the dairy in Monrovia, before we left there. Warnie Mueller phoned; he said he is being shipped overseas next Wednesday. The Army is sending him to Hawaii, then on to Korea. I felt sorry for him, nice fellow. I hope it will not be too dreadful for him. I do hope we keep out of war, and the sweet kid returns okay. We suggested that Lou go with Rex and Joan to Provo,

Utah to get Janet next weekend to help pay for gasoline and etcetera. I'll stay out with Donna and children if it works out that way. Donna thought it was a good idea or said so, she showed me the pretty turquoise blue squaw dress that she made. It is beautiful. She wore it last night to a party in their ward. Warnie M. came to the house this evening to say goodbye. He asked about David Shattuck and said he hoped he would make Janet very happy. He surprised me by saying "Grama, I'll be back in a year and a half, and if things do not work out right for Janet and David, I'll be standing by. I'll always be standing by, if she ever needs or wants my help, I don't believe I'll ever fall in love again." I'm sure he will find a sweetheart to take Janet's place some day, bless his heart.



Janet and Warnie in 1953. In 1955 Warnie doesn't think he'll ever fall in love again.

Lou and I went to the Rose Prom Ball at our stake center tonight. The Miamids looked very sweet. We do not enjoy the dance music of this age, so we only danced once and came home early.

April 17, Sunday

Lou picked Hilda Botting up after priesthood meeting at her bus line and then they came for me. I was a few blocks from home, on Blanche Street. I didn't get as far as the bridge where they usually pick me up. I was happy to see Mary Hill out to Sunday School; Bonna Gordon brought her. She is going to move her trailer to a court in Inglewood, where she can be near her daughters. We'll miss her. I took her "Queen for a Day" tribute to church tonight so President Clarice Tanner could give it to Mary. Sorry we didn't have a chance to crown her in Relief Society as planned. Lou went to his Sunday School union meeting this afternoon; four meetings today for Papa. I enjoyed a nice nap. I also took Chrys Lipscomb's [*Chrystabel Alyous Hughes*] queen tribute to church. She has married and moved to Glendora with new husband in a new home. I've forgotten his name. I hope they'll be very happy. We took Mary Hill to church tonight; she plans to move next weekend. She was pleased with her queen tribute; Clarice Tanner gave it to her, she also gave Chrys's to her. The bride and groom were out to church tonight. I have his name now; it is Lewis Odom [*Lewis Lee Odom*]. They look very happy. They sat next to Lou and me and held hands all evening. I believe Chrys has three little children. Her husband [*Willis Lester Lipscomb*] fell in love with another woman overseas and asked Chrys for a divorce. We had a nice meeting, Marjorie Eccles sang twice. Kay Frandsen and Ben Taylor gave short talks, both good; they are cute children. Our speaker was Orville Willard, a fine talk on the "Sermon on the Mount." I was delighted to see my beautiful Mary Marsh this morning and again tonight. She wore her lovely blue Easter dress and white jacket. She came with the Howard family. Donna was going to Howard's for Mary tonight. Our bishop and wife and the Kunzes were out of town. I think they went up to Chico, California to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Bob and Iris Peterson. We heard that eight couples went up there.

April 18, Monday

We were surprised yesterday when Br. Franklin D. Richards was released from the Sunday School. He felt he had to have more time for his studies to pass his bar exams to become an attorney. He was a good superintendent, but I'm sure that Br. Clifford Cummings will be as good. He kept the same two counselors, Br. Guard Brown and Br. Norman Campbell. I composed a queen's tribute to Nell Ellsworth this morning. I phoned Annie this morning; she was as busy



as a bee, preparing luncheon for her Daughters of the Utah Pioneers group today. Louise Goodsell was helping her with the luncheon. We didn't talk long. I was sorry to learn that my old friend

Elise Treu is ill. Annie says that Dale's missionary farewell program will be held May 8. That will be Mother's Day. We received a postcard from Lillian Keller. She said Shirley and her family visited with them in Phoenix over the Easter week; they've gone back to San Francisco now. Shirley's new husband was with them. I was very sorry to learn that Ralph Keller has paralysis in his face, he came to his parents home in Phoenix, while he is taking treatments from a doctor in Phoenix. He's been with them for ten days and he is improving, I'm happy to learn. It was a sort of nervous breakdown.

I went to see Dr. Neal this afternoon at 1:30 p.m. He said that my gums are not healed enough for the lower plate yet. I must wait for another two weeks. I was disappointed but he of course knows best. I walked over to the Venetian blind shop to see Lou and Beverly. It was time for Beverly to go home. She took me to town on her way. I bought some house shoes for me, some garters for Lou. I came home on the bus.

April 19, Tuesday

It was clear and sunny, but with a cold breeze. I enjoyed my coat this morning in Relief Society. We had a nice attendance and a very good lesson in literature. Faye Timothy made George Eliot (*pen name for Mary Ann Evans*), come to life with her very interesting life and works. Faye reviewed part of Eliot's "Adam Bede" book. Bonna Gordon had to stay after the meeting for a special meeting with Sr. Thelma Nebeker, our stake president and her counselors and our Relief Society board. Bonna asked Elvenia Summers to bring me home. I promised to go with Elvenia to Mutual tonight at 7 p.m. She has charge of the special interest class. Br. F. Kunz is going to give a report on the April conference in Salt Lake City. The flowers looked so dry I had to water them this afternoon, in spite of the cold breeze. We've had a lot of wind this month. I phoned Donna; she said they changed their bedrooms around. They gave the three girls the big front bedroom and put Kathy's crib in Johnny's room. Rex and Donna took Joan's little rear bedroom. They like it a lot better this way. I composed a queen tribute to Sr. Mable Dunn. I'm trying to have a few more on hand, so we'll be sure to have one ready each coronation day. I had seven tributes last time and only one of the seven was in attendance. We have crowned twenty-eight queens now. Sr. Summers came for me at 7 p.m. I enjoyed our class and the Mutual. Br. Kunz's talk was very interesting. He is a very fine spiritual man. I was weary of waiting so long after Mutual for the young boys, Elmayah Doezie and Roger Summers to get ready to go home. Marie Doezie was with us, also.

April 20, Wednesday

It was such a lovely day. My washing was dry in a short time. I had it in and dampened before 1 p.m. I was very fatigued by 2 p.m. so I rested on Lou's bed for two hours, then I had strength to get dinner ready. My sweet Joan came in this evening, she had been to Norman Campbell's Beauty Shop and had her hair cut real short, like a boy's hair cut, only she had short bangs. It was really a shock for me to see her pretty hair gone. But she was happy with it and it's her head. Yes, I'm old fashioned. A woman's hair is here "crowning glory" to me, and I'm sure it will always be. I can't get used to the boy's haircuts either, they cut it off like the convicts have to wear theirs. I'm glad Norman couldn't change my Joanie's pretty face anyway. Joan said she dropped by to "scare me" and she almost accomplished just that, ha ha! She's a cutie.

April 21, Thursday

Lou left so quietly I didn't hear him this morning. He ate his breakfast and lunch out. I got up at 8 a.m. I composed a queen tribute to June Johnson and did a few verses to my nephew Dale Andersen. I received a nice letter from Janet, she is anxious to come home and find work to buy some clothes for her wedding trousseau. Of course she hates to leave David behind in Provo, but it will not be long until June when he'll be here to see her before going to his home in San Jose until the wedding in August. I ironed, it was a small one this week. I phoned Donna tonight, but she was not home. Mary answered and said Mother was out on some church project, Relief Society, I guess? Rex and



Elvie Joan Marsh before the haircut with her, "crowning glory!" So said Grama Elvie in her diary, anyway.



Joan Marsh with her new short haircut. This photo taken in Utah in April of 1955 when some of the family went to bring Janet home from school.

his neighbor Gene were in Marshes' garage cooking a chicken on the barbecue that Chuck D. gave them. Rex talked to me, he said the barbecued chicken was about ready to eat and it had a very wonderful aroma, ha ha! It is raining hard now at 10:30 p.m.

April 22, Friday

I finished the letter in rhyme to Dale Andersen; it took me all morning, time I didn't have to spare today, but I couldn't stop working on it. It was fun. I put Lou's overcoat out to air in the sunshine. We had a lovely rain all night and we needed it, too. I thought it was going to rain a few times today, but not so. I talked to Annie on the phone; she said Dale and Lee Christensen had gone to town to buy a hat for Dale to take on his mission. Lee bought his hat a few days ago. Lee is going to Denmark. His farewell was last Sunday. Dale is going to

Brazil and his farewell

will be May 8. They

are wonderful pals

and grand fellows.

There used to

be nine of the

Garvanza boys all

buddies a few years ago.

Some of them are away

to college, some in the

service of our country and

there will be four of them

on missions, when Dale

and Lee have gone to

their missions. These boys

devotion to one another

is outstanding. Lou got

off thirty minutes earlier

this evening. He didn't

have much packing to do;

a clean shirt and socks, a

toothbrush and hairbrush,

and his electric razor. I

took twice as much with

me to go out to Donna's

place, ha ha! I took

my clothes for Sunday

School, my nightdress,

slippers and robe and face

makeup. Oh me. Lou had a bowl of bread and milk and tried to rest a while. Donna fried chicken, made potato salad, and put up a lovely lunch for them to take on the trip. She has worked hard all day, bless her heart, while I sat and composed poetry. However, I did some vacuuming, not much though. I addressed a birthday card to Dolores Jones. I hope I don't forget to mail it tomorrow. We left for Monrovia at 5:15 p.m. Rex drove in his drive way just ahead of us. He got ready for the trip. They left at 6:30 p.m. in Rex's new station wagon. They were going to eat while riding. Joan made some delicious Tollhouse cookies to take along. We enjoyed our fried chicken and salad and cookies after they left. This evening Donna typed Dale's letter in rhyme for me. She's a darling. I slept in Janet's bed and John slept in Joan's bed. Kathy insisted on sleeping with Donna. We had a family prayer before the folks left, Rex asked me to give the prayer.



Front of the Ford Station Wagon after hitting the deer.

April 23, Saturday

Johnny and Kathy both got in bed with me this morning when they woke up. We were plenty snug in the twin bed, ha ha!! Rex phoned from Nephi, Utah, at 10 a.m. and told us that just before daylight this morning, they hit a deer, which did a lot of damage to the front end of the car. They had to leave the station wagon in Nephi, at a Ford garage to have the repair work done. We are all thankful that no one was hurt, (except the car and deer.) *[Mary vividly remembers this accident. She said Dad had a few tears when he looked at the mess his car was in.]* It killed the poor deer outright. The garage man let them borrow a car to get into Provo, as they'll have to keep Rex's car until next Tuesday, which means our folks will not get back here until Wednesday morning. I phoned Gordon Hodges and Donna phoned Br. Kunz to let them know Lou and Rex couldn't be at work on Monday as planned. Johnny cut the front and back lawns with time out for play. Donna did a small washing and the vacuuming. I helped with the dishes and dusting. We took John up to the Lyric Theater about noon. He said he'd walk home after the show. We shopped at the market and the dairy. Donna spent \$6.00 and I spent \$2.00. Donna had food cooked up in the house, chicken stew and chili. We didn't need much today. Donna took her white chenille bedspread and Mary's pink spread to the Laundromat and had these dyed a pretty brown. I told her I'd pay the \$3.00 to have them done. The girl's room looks a lot better with all three twin beds with brown bedspreads. Donna's room looks better too, with the brown spread to match her yellow and brown drapes. After the children were in bed tonight, Donna typed some queen tributes for me. She did four copies of four tributes, bless her heart. She also did a lot of typing for her own Relief Society stake work. I watched T.V. I mailed a birthday card to Dolores Jones and a letter in rhyme to Dale Andersen.

April 24, Sunday

We lost an hour in the wee hours this morning. We are back on Daylight Savings Time again. Donna turned the clocks ahead an hour before going to bed. We all went to Sunday School; it was cloudy and cold all day. I enjoyed the Monrovia Ward Sunday School. I went in the genealogy class with Donna. We went to Bob's eating-place in East Pasadena for lunch. I treated. We had hamburger sandwiches, French fries, and chocolate malts. We came home to my place. There was a nice letter in the box from Lydia Bailey. We took Lorene's birthday gift to Highland Park. Lorene was out to Mary's house in Van Nuys. We had a little visit with Miriam and the girls, and then went to Andersen's home. Glen and his family were there to dinner. It was nice to see them all.



Mary with a flare for drama and Grampa Lou joining in the fun. This was taken in Nephi at the garage where the car was left to be repaired.

I left Lorene's gift with Annie to take with hers on Tuesday. They read Lydia's letter; it was written on her's and Owen's wedding anniversary, April 21. They were going to Bountiful to Betty's brother's wedding on April 22, the next day. They were going to Draper to the wedding reception of Kenneth Bailey's daughter. We saw Dale's new suits and hat, and things he has to take on his mission. Uncle Bill has a nice new blue suit, also. Andersens told us that Louise Goodsell has a baby girl, her first child. They've been married for 13 years. She does have two sweet little adopted girls. We called to see Florence and Ernie Oates, Ernie Jr. and Diane and Eddie Wells. We went to church in Monrovia tonight. It was their ward conference, (ours also). John thought two hours was too long, but he got by okay with the help of a nail and a little horseshoe magnet that David Andersen gave him. Chuck DeBias came by and visited with Donna and me tonight.

April 25, Monday

We didn't get to bed last night until after midnight; we had a nice religious discussion with Chuck D. He says our faith is strange, and weird to him, he is a very nice young man to talk to, but his ideas of religion are surely weird to me. I'm surely enjoying having my daughter all to myself again; it is wonderful. We ran out of chicken feed yesterday, so Donna went to the feed store as soon as she got John off to school. Kathy went with her. I took a bath and washed out my underwear. I mended an old quilt for Donna. She spent most of the day typing for her stake Relief Society class, for visiting teachers. The leadership meeting is next Friday. Pearl Redborg phoned and we had a visit over the phone. She says Pawnee is going away tomorrow, another business trip. She will be alone



Dave and Janet in the middle with Joan on the far right. In the Provo Canyon. Since they had extra time waiting for the car to be repaired in Nephi they had time for some fun in Provo.



Mary in Nephi posing with a sucker in her mouth, in April of 1955.



Fifty-seven years later, Mary in Nephi posing with a sucker in her mouth, in May of 2012.

again. She isn't well, I feel sorry for her but she is cheerful in spite of everything. Donna made some delicious chicken noodle soup for our dinner. She bought some mint and chocolate ice cream. We are having a happy time together. I hope our folks in Utah are doing as well. I phoned Bonna

Gordon to let her know I wouldn't be going to Relief Society tomorrow morning. She always picks me up on Tuesday mornings. Donna did my typing tonight after the children were in bed. Chuck got a letter from Joan; we haven't had a line from anyone there.



to her parents, and Ada's grave. They also went to our baby's graves and my parents and Mildred's graves. Owen [Elvie's brother] took Lou to the Deseret Industries where he works and Lou enjoyed that a lot. Rex and Mary stayed at Wayne and Marty's home in Murray. I believe Joan stayed in Provo with Janet. David and Janet took her up to see Aunt Marty and family.

April 26, Tuesday

Donna decided to fix John and Kathy's room up a little. She had the white loop rug dyed a pretty green, also their bedspreads green. She made curtains out of a piece of green material she had used for the girls twin beds once. It really looked pretty when it was finished. She had her friend do the dying at the Laundromat. It cost her a little over \$4.00. I cut the curtains out and she sewed them up on her electric machine. We went to Monrovia to shop again today. Donna bought a curtain rod and a few small items. I bought a leg of lamb and cooked it when we got home. We had a real nice dinner this evening. We expect our family back tomorrow morning. I wanted something in the house for Donna to feed them, (the hungry travelers). Donna tried to put up the new curtain rod in John's bedroom, but somehow it didn't work out right, so she asked her nice neighbor Gene to put it up for her and he did. Donna had to buy another 25-pound bag of chicken feed. Her cash on hand is running low and mine, too. I phoned Pearl this evening; she is feeling better. Pawnee left today. I had a smarting in my nose and throat this evening. Donna went to the store to get some Bromo Quinine for me. She feels a slight head cold coming, also. We both took some of the tablets before going to bed. Donna washed and ironed today. We put clean sheets on Janet's and Joan's beds. I slept with Donna, John got in his own bed. Br. Curtis Post, the ward teacher called on us tonight. It was after 10 p.m. when he left and he said we were his first home, oh me!



David Shattuck and Janet Marsh at Marty and Wayne Strong's home in Murray April 1955.

April 27, Wednesday

Donna and I couldn't get to sleep very well last night, we both had head colds and we were thinking of our folks driving home from Utah. We talked until 2 a.m. and just got to sleep when the folks arrived at 3 a.m. I gathered up my belongings and came home with Lou. Our house was really cold after being without heat on for several days. The folks were all tired; I guess they got into bed as soon as possible. We are thankful to have them back safe and sound. The car repair job is not complete yet; the painting will have to be done in California as they couldn't wait for it to be done in Nephi, Utah. I took the heating pad to bed with me to stop the chills. Lou left the gas burning all night, not much night left, eh? He got three hours of sleep, and then got up and went to work, bless him. I was so darn sick I stayed in bed all day. I was glad to hear about the folks in Utah, Lou stayed with Owen and Lydia. He went to church with them on Sunday night and saw some old friends, Art Taylor, Norman Martin, and Br. and Sr. Jensen. I was also glad he called to see Ethel Newbold; they went to the cemetery, across from her home on Sunday morning and went to Pa Renshaw's grave and



April 28, Thursday

I got up a while last night to look at some television programs, but I really felt miserable. I was glad to get back into bed. I have a lot that I'm anxious to do, but too sick to get at it. I was very disappointed that we drove home with one of Johnny's shoes in our car yesterday. Donna left one of the shoes at the repair shop to be fixed and we forgot to take the other one out of the car when we got home. Now he must wear his best shoes to school. My nice neighbor Mr. Lowe brought over a beautiful bouquet of sweet peas; he says his wife has a cold, too. They are such a dear little old couple in their eighties, I think. I phoned Donna this afternoon, she feels better. The children are all back in school. Janet went out to apply for work. I hope she'll find something she likes to do soon. I sat up for awhile this evening, but felt weak and miserable so back to the bed. My darling Lou got his own dinner again. (I'm sorry.)



Bill to the doctor in Van Nuys today. The doctor wanted to check and see if he was losing weight too fast, but he decided Bill is doing all right. He is very well pleased with how well Bill is doing. I had good news from Donna when she phoned, too. They have their car back from the garage and it is like new. The paint job was okay. Their tax return check came today. Janet has two jobs to choose from; a dentist in Duarte wants her to come to work for him Tuesday morning. She worked Friday for a ceramics company; she is going to work there again on Monday and then she will tell them she is going to go to work for the dentist on Tuesday. They make cuff links and earrings where Janet worked. I don't know why they call it a ceramics factory? The doctor pays \$50.00 a week. The ceramics company pays \$35.00 per week. I surely hope the job at the dentist will work out okay for our little Janet, bless her heart. Our Johnny boy has a crush on the bishop's little daughter; they went to Primary this morning as usual. He phoned his mother to ask permission to bring Diane home to have lunch with him and to have her go to the Lyric Show with him. (John's first date) oh me! He is 10 years old. I received a nice little thank you letter from my sister Lorene. I'm glad she liked my gift to her (a towel set) for her birthday. I'm glad she had a nice birthday. She is 65 years old. Bette Haddock took Sue and Annie to Lorene's; Bette took a lovely cake, and they enjoyed fried stew for lunch. I was in Monrovia, with Donna, John, and Kathy. Lorene says she has filed for her Social Security. Ray and Miriam invited her to go with them Sunday to see the play "Ramona." I hope it will be a nice day tomorrow; it has rained all day today. I talked to Dody on the phone, she is typing Mildred's diary for all of us to enjoy. Nice, eh?

April 29, Friday

I rested a little better last night; the cold has almost gone from my head but is in my throat and lungs. I'll have to keep battling it I guess. I got up at 10 a.m. not well enough to work, so I wrote letters. I was in debt to all my corresponding friends and family. I wrote to Ethel N., to Will and Flora T., to Lydia B., to Lillian K., Eloise B., and Violet Fife. Lou had two tickets for the California LDS Mormon Choir program, \$1.50 each, but I was not well enough to go. He invited his cousin Lutie Solem to go with him. I was glad she decided to go, I'm sure she'll enjoy it. I watched television while he was at the stake center enjoying the program. I was happy to learn that Lutie brought her sister Ruby to the program. Lou said it was a lovely affair. Rex and Donna were there, also. I was happy that the huge stake auditorium was full. H. Frederick Davis was the conductor, William Gould assistant conductor, with Cicely Adams Brown the organist. Proceeds go to pay for the piece of property our stake is buying south of the stake center, to be used for parking and athletics. Lou stopped for a piece of apple pie at Bob's on his way home. Lutie drove her own car to the program.

April 30, Saturday

I felt discouraged last night and this morning. I have doctored this darn cold the best I knew how, since Wednesday, staying in bed most of the time, when not taking tablets and hot drinks. It hurt in my lungs so severely this morning that I made a mustard plaster and kept it on for thirty minutes. It burned so much on the outside, I couldn't feel the pain on the inside, but it did a wonderful lot of good for me. Lou has been such a dear to do for me; he has fixed my meals, he stewed the chicken that Rex gave us three weeks ago (it was frozen), he went to the market, and did the house work. It has rained hard most of this day. We've had a strong breeze at times. A big limb from our lovely tree in the front parking broke off because it was so heavy with rain and leaves. Our neighbors across the street had a big limb break off from their tree, too. Annie phoned to ask about me. Beverly took

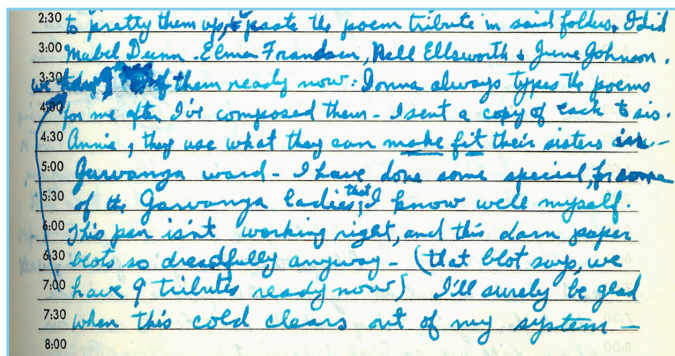
May 1, Sunday

Today is May Day. Well, the sun was shining when Lou left for his priesthood meeting this morning, but it clouded up and rained by 10:30 a.m. We had rain off and on last night. At three o'clock this morning we had two terrific claps of lightening and thunder, like we used to have in Utah. Then came the deluge of rain and hail. It sounded like the hailstones would surely break my window. I felt sorry for the beautiful flowers taking such a beating. I was glad it didn't last long anyway, but it was almost frightening while it lasted. I got up and dressed this morning for the first time since last Tuesday. I'm so glad to feel better. I am weak, but was happy to fix some dinner for us today. Lou has had to do everything for both of us since Wednesday. I baked some scalloped potatoes and broiled some fresh salmon. Lou picked Hilda Botting up at the bus line this morning after priesthood. And as usual took her to Sunday School. It was nice of him to go for her, when I wasn't going this morning. He is a nice man, eh? Donna, Rex, and Janet came by this afternoon about 4:30 p.m. They'd been to Marshes', they only stayed here a minute. Johnny had phoned to say, "tell the folks to hurry home, Mary has an awful earache." His folks hadn't arrived here yet. They picked up Johnny's school shoe,

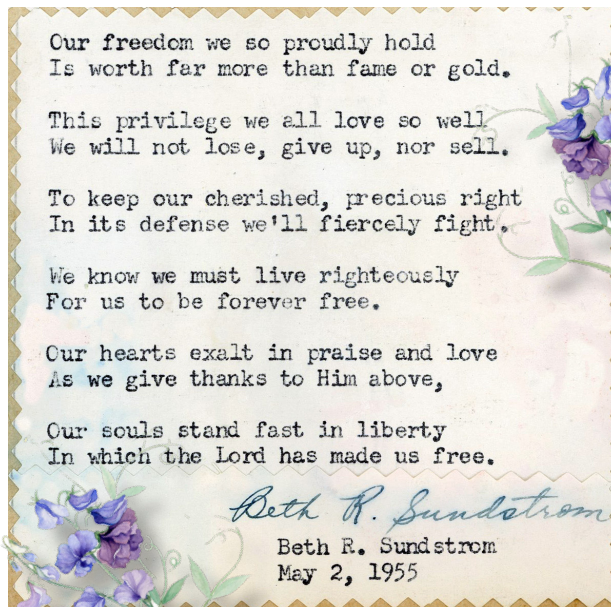
which was left in our car. I expected the whole family here until John phoned. Joan was working at the Lyric Theater, Mary, John, and Kathy were home. Mary has a bad cold. I was sorry that Mary is ill. Tonight the Marsh family were all going to be on the program, in a pantomime or pageant in church, "The LDS Family or something like it." Mary is sick and Joan has to work at the theater, so Janet, John, and Kathy will be the children in the program. I'd like to be in Monrovia Ward to see them. Janet told us about her anticipated work for the dentist next Tuesday. She will work Monday at the ceramics place and then tell them about the offer she has to work for the dentist. I hope it will work out all right for her.

May 2, Monday

I felt concerned about Mary, so I phoned to see how she was this morning. She answered the phone, says she feels better; she had a bad earache last night, but feels better today. She is taking care of Kathy today. Donna has gone to a Relief Society convention, would be gone until 4 p.m. I'm glad Mary's cold is clearing up. Janet is working today, where they make cuff links and earrings and etcetera. Tomorrow she goes to work for a dentist in Duarte. Dr. Neal phoned Lou at the shop, he had to go see a doctor himself today, he didn't want to be away if I should go there today, but my gums are not healed enough yet for a new plate. I will wait a little longer. I wasn't well enough to wash, but I put in a day working in my scrapbook and putting queen tributes in the folders, ready for the Relief Society coronation days. I did four of them today. It takes time to cut out the colored folders and the flowers to pretty them up and to paste the poem tribute in the folders. I did Mabel Dunn, Elma Frandsen, Nell Ellsworth, and June Johnson. I have nine of them ready now. Donna always types the poems for me after I've composed them. I sent a copy of each to my sister Annie; they use what they can make fit for their sisters in Garvanza Ward. I have done some special ones for some of the Garvanza ladies that I know well myself. This pen isn't working right, and this darn paper blots so dreadfully anyway. I'll surely be glad when this cold clears out of my system.



Whether it was the pen or the paper, it blotted and made a mess.



May 3, Tuesday

I've been thinking about Janet today, her first day to work for the dentist in Duarte. I surely hope everything went along smoothly. Bonna Gordon and Bessie the babysitter came for me at 9:10 this morning. We picked Marie D. up at her home. We had a nice group out to our teacher's report meeting. Beth Sundstrom gave the teacher's message, lesson 32, from the Book of Mormon, Alma 61:9. She always gives an interesting

lesson. She ended with one of her lovely little poems. I put a copy of it in our Relief Society scrapbook when I got home. Louise Cotterell gave her theology lesson from the Book of Mormon, Alma 59-63. Oh, it was beautifully given; we feel like we know the characters of the Book of Mormon after listening to her lessons. Many very fine testimonies were borne. It was a wonderful spiritual feast. I was surprised and disappointed to learn that Sr. Lydia Smith and family are moving out of our ward into the South Pasadena Ward. They are going to live in the mortuary home there, where Br. Smith works. Clarice Tanner is leaving tomorrow, for a visit in Arizona, where her children will be visiting from Argentina. She will be gone all summer I think. They have two or three months vacation from work in South America. Arizona is the old home town, so Clarice is going there to be with her son and his family, until they go back to Argentina for another two or three years. I hope that Mary is feeling well and back in school again. I'd phone and ask about her again today, but I don't like to run our phoned bill up so high, darn it! Eloise Brooks sent me a darling Mother's Day card and note. She is a dear. I wasn't well enough to go and buy any cards this time.

May 4, Wednesday

It was a lovely sunny warm day. I did my washing; it was larger than usual because of my illness. I had to rest all afternoon to have the strength to get dinner. I phoned Donna this afternoon; she was going to take Mary and Kathy to the doctor. Mary's head cold caused her more earache and nosebleed. Kathy had a fever when she brought her home from church at noon; she'd been to Relief Society. Joan had a cold, but she went to school anyway. Donna had a touch of laryngitis. Oh dear, I wish my precious Marshes would keep well. Annie read her talk, for the Mother's Day program, over the phone to me. I think it is very good. I'd love to be there to hear her give it on Sunday morning. She said Miriam Clayton helped her organize the talk. Ray Clayton, who is superintendent of their Sunday School, asked Aunt Annie to give the talk so she invited his wife to help her with it, fair enough, eh? Miriam is a talented young woman. Annie will have a big day on Sunday, eh? She'll be called on in the evening

services, at Dale's missionary farewell program for a few remarks, also. I will be there then, I hope. Janet phoned this evening to report on what the doctor said about the children. They both have infection from their colds; he gave them sulfa, or sulpha medication. Oh, I do hope they'll be all right soon. Donna was going to Mutual. Janet was going with one of her girlfriends, to their club, to see the old friends at the Phenix school club. She was happy because she had two nice letters from David. Three of her letters to him were returned to her, she'd written the address wrong. She'll have fun showing off her beautiful engagement ring tonight. I received a nice letter from my friend Mary Hill. She has moved to Inglewood. I also received a beautiful Mother's Day card from my friend, Ethel Newbold, with a lovely red rose. Aren't friends grand?

May 5, Thursday

Lou left a little early this morning. He wanted to get his hair cut before going to work. They haven't had much work to do this past few days; I hope it'll pick up soon. I phoned Dolores and asked her to give Donna a ring, (she can phone her without paying a toll.) Dolores said that she and Yvonne were going out to Monrovia this afternoon, to practice their duet over with Donna, so she'd phone me when she got home and let me know how the children and Donna are feeling. Donna is going to accompany the girls when they sing next Sunday evening at Dale Andersen's farewell program in Garvanza Ward. I did my ironing and vacuumed the bedrooms. I talked to Yvonne on the phone this evening; she said Donna's children were feeling fine today; Mary was back in school. All is right with my world again. Mr. Edgecomb has been busy all day building a cement mixer for himself out of an old one. It looks like new, and is painted orange. He is a smart cookie!

May 6, Friday

I shampooed my hair this morning. It's a job with my long hair; I'm always tempted to have the darn stuff cut short, when I have to wash it. Then I remember how I hated to put up all the pin curls in back, so I decide to leave it long. I'd have to have permanent waves if it was short again. I do not like to bother with them either, so, it's long! Donna phoned this morning, she wanted me to phone Aunt Annie for her and ask about garments for Rex; if she has his size on hand in cotton and etcetera. She also wanted to know what time their church starts on Sunday evening. Donna has been asked to

give a talk on Mother's Day in the Monrovia Ward Sunday School. Someone that was going to give it has failed to do it somehow. Donna was asked at the last minute to prepare the talk. It is the same subject Aunt Annie is talking about in Garvanza Ward; "The Joy of Being a Mother in a Latter-day Saint home," or something like that. She is so busy I do not see how she can find time. She has a rehearsal with Dody and Yvonne in the morning, and is going to Nash's Department Store at 1 p.m. for a permanent wave. Br. Ramish is going to do her permanent wave; he works in the beauty shop there. It's her Mother's Day gift. Donna says she received a pretty Mother's Day card from Janet's fiancé, David Shattuck. Nice, eh? I had Dolores phone Donna to let her know what



The precious boxed pineapple pie fell on the floor, while taking it from the store! Elvie bought a boysenberry pie the same day.



Aunt Annie said, "yes, she has his size 44, they are \$2.50 a pair. Dody is a darling to help us out, via the grapevine phone. What a mood Papa came home in this evening! At Boy's Market he bought a few groceries, and a luscious pineapple pie with fancy strips of piecrust across the top. He had an accident; the precious pie fell to the floor, while taking it from the store. Oh, what a mess! But it was in the box and kept clean anyway. I had spent 60¢ for a pie at Helm's wagon (boysenberry), so I should know he would bring one home! It didn't help matters when I laughed at his sad pie. Our inflated telephone bill was the last straw, "the d--- thing will have to go!" We were eating dinner later, in silence, ha ha! I felt his eyes upon me and I casually said, "Did you make this pie dear?" Well, I got a laugh from him and then the air was clear. My man no make the pie, my man he break the pie, eh? Marva DeHaan phoned and asked me if I could compose a tribute to Lydia Smith for next Tuesday. I did it tonight, finished at midnight. Lydia Smith is moving out of our ward, our Relief Society wants to crown her Queen for a Day, next Tuesday.

May 7, Saturday

It rained in the night, the sun was shining beautifully this early morning, but it was cloudy by 10 a.m. I got ready to go to town in spite of the dark clouds. Lou cleaned his car up this morning, inside and out. We drove out to Monrovia about noon. It rained hard in spots but wasn't raining at Donna's place. Rex has a lot more baby chicks; he is buying a large freezer, for \$300, from a neighbor who is moving away. It is a very large one; he expects to store the chickens when ready for marketing. Mary has a pretty little parakeet bird and



1955 Goldspot Freezer

Price: **\$409.50**

The largest Goldspot freezer, twenty cubic feet with a seven-hundred pound food capacity.

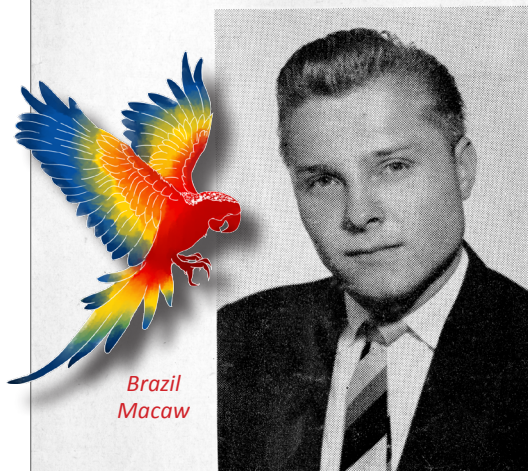
Freezes and stores up to 350 meals and has eleven convenient food storage sections. Costs only \$20.48 per cubic foot. This freezer is especially recommended for large families or for farm or suburban use. Quick-freeze compartment, three food elevator baskets, two storage baskets and adjustable basket. Ready rack stores juices, ice cream and small items.

\$300 doesn't sound that bad when you compare to a new one in 1955. But the inflation calculator for that freezer 2022 would be \$3,348.45.

SACRAMENT MEETING AND FAREWELL TESTIMONIAL

SUNDAY, MAY 8th, 1955

Seven P. M.



HONORING

Elder Dale O. Andersen

Prior to his departure for the Brazilian Mission

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Garvanza Ward

Lincoln and Avenue 53

Los Angeles, California

cage. She has wanted one for a long time. Dolores and Yvonne went to Donna's house this morning to practice their duet. I left the queen tribute for Lydia Smith, so Donna could type it for me. She sat up last night until midnight writing her talk for the Mother's Day program. Janet worked today. Donna took Joan to her work at the Lyric Theater at noontime. Johnny went along to see the show. Mary went to take her piano lesson. She stayed last night at a "sleep out" party with her Beehive group. They had to go inside because of the rain. Rex stayed home with Kathy this afternoon while Donna went to Nash's Department Store to have her permanent wave at 1 p.m. Br. Ramish gave her the wave, (he did the work, she paid for it). Lou took me to town, and I bought a pretty lavender blouse in Broadway Store for \$4.00. They had a big sale on blouses today. I bought a pretty lavender hat at the Normandy Hat Shop for \$3.00. I think it is cute; no hat in the store is over \$2.99, with the tax it is \$3.04. They are darling hats, too. We stopped in the new manor Market on our way home, bought butter, milk, and cheese. I grilled cheese sandwiches for lunch. I cooked the pot roast that Lou bought yesterday this afternoon.

May 8, Sunday—Mother's Day and Dale Andersen's Farewell

I wanted to have Donna and family to dinner today, but Daddy said I wasn't well enough after my illness last week. He said he would take me out to dinner. I wish Donna and family could enjoy a nice dinner out, too. She invited us to eat with them, but she's got a lot to take care of without us. Donna gave a talk in her ward this morning on the Mother's Day program and Annie gave a talk in Garvanza Ward. I should like to have heard them both. We had a lovely program in our ward this morning. The Junior Sunday School took charge. We had two nice talks by mothers, Lorraine Major and Lydia Stephens, and remarks by Bishop Summerhays. It was cold and cloudy, but everyone looked cheerful and bright. Lou and I ate dinner at Fisher's restaurant. We had their special breakfast order; eggs, ham and hot cakes. It was real good. It was different for noon, they were serving breakfast and it looked so darn good we decided to have it, too. We went to the Dodge

Program

WELCOME Bishop Calvin B. Jolley

ALL SING — "Dear to the Heart of the Shepherd"

INVOCATION Harry Christensen

SACRAMENT SONG — "Jesus Once of Humble Birth"

Administering of Sacrament to Members of Church

WARD BUSINESS Elder Ivor Krantz, Ward Clerk

REMARKS Bishop Ernest Oates
Kenneth R. Bywater

VOCAL DUET Yvonne Fife and Donna Marsh
Accompanist Delores Jones

REMARKS Elder Edwin S. Dibble
President, Glendale Stake

EXPRESSIONS FROM THE PARENTS Elder Willard Andersen
Annie Andersen

MUSICAL NUMBER Ray and Ron Johnson

INTRODUCTION OF MISSIONARY Bishop Calvin B. Jolley

RESPONSE Elder Dale O. Andersen

CLOSING SONG — "The Spirit of God like a Fire"

BENEDICTION Elder Glen Andersen

Refreshments will be served in the Recreation Hall immediately following the program.

The program for Dale Andersen's Farewell. Elvie stated that Donna was going to accompany Yvonne and Dolores. So just a typo like Dolores's name. Years ago a missionary farewell was a big production with the family of the missionary on the program speaking and singing. Also refreshments served after church.

Plymouth display store in town, just to look at their new cars, (Papa's idea). We saw Ann Hartshorne sitting on the bus bench and we stopped and asked her to get in our car and we'd take her where she wanted to go. She wasn't feeling well, said she wanted to take a bus ride. I was sorry she wouldn't let us take her for a ride. We were surprised to see Waretta Rossiter working in Fisher's as a waitress. She looked cute in the pretty uniform. I wore my pretty new lavender blouse and hat to church today. We went to Andersen's at 6 p.m. Glen and his family were there. Irene's mother and father came, and then Janet, Joan, and Mary came over in their station wagon. They left Donna, Rex, John, and Kathy at the church. Donna wanted to go over the duet once with Dolores and Yvonne. Dale took pictures of us at his home before we left for church. Little Kathy and Johnny came to meet us when we drove up at Garvanza Ward chapel. There was a large group of old friends outside of the church. It was wonderful to see them all again, and receive such a wonderful welcome. There was a huge attendance out to honor Dale at his farewell program. All of the family that could be there were there. We missed Mary and Vernon and Shirley and Kenny and Violet and Otto. They couldn't come but all sent cards and money to Dale. Ray and Bette, with Jerry and Ricky were there. They left Bradley with a neighbor. All of Elaine's family, except Ann, was there along with Beth and Dick Johnston and family, Ray and Miriam and girls, all of Donna's children, and Rex, Lorene and Sue, Yvonne and Dolores. Bill, Annie, Dale, and Glen sat on the stand. The program was lovely. I put it in my scrapbook. Dolores and Yvonne sang their duet beautifully. The program had Donna and Yvonne singing and Dody accompanying them, but Donna corrected it in a cute way; she said she'd love to sing with Yvonne, but thought it would sound better if they did it the way they had rehearsed it. She said they were all three proud to be Dale's cousins. Bill, Annie, and Dale gave fine talks. Glen gave the benediction. Dale wanted Beverly to sit on the stand with the family, but she wanted to sit with the audience. It was the largest missionary farewell I've seen.

May 9, Monday

I'm sorry I haven't room to write all the interesting things of yesterday, but it was really a thrill to see the old friends and beloved family out to Dale's farewell program. There was a beautiful spirit. He is a very fine lad; we all love him and his wonderful family, too. (All of them!) I fixed a queen tribute in a folder for Lydia Smith. Marva D. wants to crown her tomorrow, if she comes out to Relief Society. Nora W. and I did our visiting teaching this afternoon. It was a lovely warm sunny day. Why wasn't it nice like this yesterday, eh, for Mother's Day and Dale's farewell? Oh well, it

was a really wonderful day anyway. Donna and Rex gave me a darling blue wool shrug jacket for a Mother's Day gift, last night in Garvanza. They gave Florence Marsh one like it in pink, bless their hearts. Lou gave me a beautiful card with \$5 in it. (My darling man!) Mary told me yesterday that Janet earned \$5 by having her stomach pumped for bile, sometime last week. The doctors use the bile for medicinal use. Our Janet will try most anything okay? ha ha. I wrote to Violet this morning and sent her Dale's program and told her all about the affair. I phoned Annie at 4 p.m. She was so broken up she could hardly talk to me. Dale left on the train at three o'clock this afternoon. Annie, Bill, and Beverly took him to the station. They came home heart sick and unhappy. I've been thinking of them all day. God bless all of them. Yes, they'll miss that boy a lot, but time will pass and he'll be back soon. They had an upset about Dale's money, which made his going away almost tragic, but it turned out okay, and we'll forget that part, eh?

May 10, Tuesday

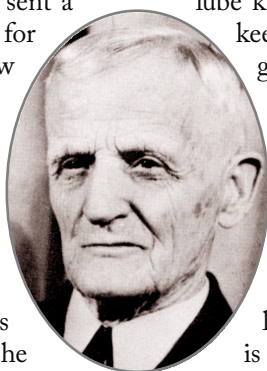
It was damp and foggy this morning, but warmed up this afternoon. Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie came for me at 9:40 this morning. We picked up Bessie the babysitter at



her home. I worked on Marva DeHaan's lovely quilt, from ten o'clock until 2 p.m. Of course we had time out for lunch. Clarice W. gave her lesson on selection, care, and use of household equipment, before we ate. We had a delicious luncheon. Faye Timothy read the queen's tribute today, I composed it. We crowned Claire Smith; she was a charming queen and a surprised one. Melba Kunz brought me home. I stayed to quilt a while after Bonna left with Bessie. Jeanne Brinton gave us notes on what to do in case of an atomic attack, advise from the Civil Defense Committee. I hope it never comes to that! Annie phoned this afternoon. She is feeling a lot better today about Dale's going away. I put Queen Claire's tribute poem in the Relief Society scrapbook this afternoon. We had a pleasant evening at home as usual.

May 11, Wednesday

I did my washing this morning, a small one. I sent a congratulation card to Betty and Tom Hansen for the new infant son, Paul. (This is Betty Renshaw Hansen, in case you are in doubt.) The baby boy was born May first, weighed 6 pounds and 8 ounces. I received a letter from Blanche Hoglund, with Harriet's letter to her enclosed. Blanche was on her way to Salt Lake City to visit Harriet who has been very ill in the hospital. I was glad to learn that Hattie is home from the hospital and feeling better. She had a very serious attack of asthma, has been ill a long time. Blanche sent me a clipping from the Salt Lake paper, a picture of Dad's old friend, Reuben Cheshire; he was celebrating his 100th birthday in Salt Lake City. We knew the family well; I went to school with his pretty daughters, Vera, and Stella Cheshire. They lived in our ward, too (10th Ward). I wrote a letter to Blanche and Harriet in Salt Lake. I wrote a note to Annie and sent her \$3.00 for greeting cards I bought from her. I sent another queen tribute, also. I phoned Donna and was happy to find them all well. Donna and Janet had received letters from Warnie Mueller. He is in Hawaii, with the U.S. Army. He was homesick Donna said. I talked to Beverly on the phone this afternoon. She said that Annie is going to Salt Lake City next week, to be with Dale a few days before he leaves for New York. He'll be through with his studying at the mission home next Wednesday, I think. After dinner this evening I answered Mary Hill's letter, while Lou was enjoying the fights on T.V. Mary moved from our ward in Pasadena to the Lennox Ward in Englewood, California.



Reuben Cheshire image from Family Search.



Young Annie Bailey above and Lydia Bailey to the right are Both members of the "Mutual Admiration Committee."



May 12, Thursday

I heard Lou this morning so I got up too, and put up his lunch and helped him with breakfast. I didn't even hear him yesterday morning; he was so quiet. Mrs. Lowe's sister came in this morning all the way from Bell, California. [Bell is about 14 miles away from Pasadena.

If she came on public transportation it could have taken an hour.] I was sorry no one was at home. I think the old folks are visiting with their son and family, Harold Lowe, in Duarte. Mr. Edgecomb is remodeling a home up at Lake Arrowhead. Mrs. Edgecomb works at Woolworth's Store. The dear lady wouldn't come in my house and rest. She said she would try to find her daughter's church, where her daughter was today, somewhere in Pasadena? I think she must be along in her seventies, maybe eighties. I wanted her to come in. She wrote to her sister telling that she was coming today, but the letter was not opened because Mrs. Lowe was away. I made arrangements to meet Lou at the Broadway Store at 4:30 p.m. this evening. I had time to take it easy and enjoy myself; only I was too tired to keep going. I had to sit on the bench in front of Broadway Store about 40 minutes, but it was a lovely warm day and I like to watch people. I bought an electric shaver lube kit for Lou's new Schick razor for 75¢. Now he can keep it in good condition. I was really fatigued tonight, guess I walked a bit too far, for my own good, darn it. I sent a cute little two piece knit suit to Betty Renshaw Hansen's little infant son, Paul, from the Broadway Store. I got the year old size in white.

May 13, Friday

Lou went to work at Gordon Hodgeses' home today. He painted the screen doors and did several little jobs that needed doing around the place. There is not enough to do at the Venetian blind shop now, for two men. Bill S. did what there was to do at the shop today. Of course Gordon was in the office. I surely hope that they'll get some work in soon. I had a busy day; I vacuumed the rooms this morning and did scrapbook work this afternoon. I talked to Beverly and Annie this morning on the phone. Annie has made reservations to go to Salt Lake City on the bus next Tuesday at 1 p.m. She'll have a few days with Dale before he leaves for New York. He will be out of the mission home on Wednesday. I think they'll both stay at Owen and Lydia's home. Janet's fiancé, David Shattuck, and a boy from the B.Y.U. College, will leave Provo after school today for a weekend trip to California. Joan has a date with David's friend tomorrow night. Later this evening Annie phoned and said she had talked to Lydia on the telephone in Salt Lake City. Lydia is happy to have her stay with them. Of course we knew she would be, everybody loves Annie Andersen. Everyone loves Lydia too, bless her heart. (Mutual Admiration Committee, eh? That's us!)

May 14, Saturday

It is the middle of May already! Gee, it's later than you think eh? Breakfast was a cinch this morning. I made some wheat mush last night and left it in the

double boiler, on the little pilot heat, in stainless steel. It only took a few minutes to get it nice and hot this morning. Wheat cereal and raisin toast, and we were well fed, eh? Lou went over to our stake center to help the elders clean up the new addition to our parking lot so that it will be ready for stake conference tomorrow. The black top was poured last week. We should have enough room for all of the cars now and keep them off the street. My dear neighbor Mrs. Lowe came home from her son's place last night. It seems so good to see her in the garden with her beloved flowers again. She brought me a beautiful bouquet of her sweet peas. I always miss Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, when they go away. The Edgecombs both work. I was glad when her parents came here from Maine to live with Helen and Stan Edgecomb. The Lowes are a darling little couple. We drove out to Monrovia about 2:30 this afternoon. David S. arrived yesterday morning and surprised Janet; he got there before she was up. He took her to work at nine o'clock then rested at Donna's. He brought a girl down to California. The boy who was coming took sick and couldn't go. Janet went with David yesterday morning to take the girl to her parent's home. Joan didn't work today; she got the other girl to work in her place. She thought David's friend was coming this morning. Joan and a girlfriend went to the show this afternoon. Rex and David were both asleep this afternoon when we were out there. I took Donna some pretty red rose buds, for her little table. I helped Mary wrap up a pretty brown pottery horse. She is giving it to Bonny Howard for her birthday. It was her birthday when Mary was in Salt Lake last month. Lou brought home some rhubarb from Donna's garden. We did our shopping at the market near us on our way home. It is not called Shopping Bag now. I forgot the new name, Cal something? Lou gave John and Mary each 25¢; he does it each Saturday. David and Janet went to see the movie Cinerama last night.

May 15, Sunday

We picked Hilda B. up at the bus line and took her to conference. We had a very nice session this morning. Elders Hunter and Childs were our visitors from Salt Lake City. They were both very interesting speakers. Elder Childs spoke on the welfare plan and Elder Hunter on celestial marriage. There was a huge crowd out. Donna, Rex, and family all sat together in the rear of the large auditorium. Lou and I were up in front in the auditorium. I'd like to have gone back to the afternoon session but Papa didn't want to go. I can't walk that far, so we stayed home and rested. We took a little walk about two blocks from our home to look at a house that is for sale. It is empty, but was locked up. It is on Virginia Street. I like our home better. I was disappointed that I didn't get to say hello to David Shattuck; Janet and David were in a

hurry to get away. I guess I'd have been the same at their age, not interested in talking to grandparents, eh? I can't blame them, ha ha! Lou and I went to the evening service at 7:30. It was the seminary graduation award program. It was nice, but we both got weary, it took so long to give out the awards, certificates, and diplomas. I enjoyed the music and President William E. Barrett's address, also the Book of Mormon talks by the seminary students. None of our Marsh family were in attendance tonight, but I believe they were in the afternoon session, cause Donna said she wanted to go. We enjoyed our lovely rump roast today; I cooked it last evening. If I had only felt stronger, I'd have invited the children to come to dinner, and I'd have loved that. But I'm still weak from the flu attack. The dentist that Janet works for found out that Janet plans to get married on August 4. Oh, I hope he'll let her stay working in June and July. He wasn't happy that she didn't tell him at first that she could only work until August.

May 16, Monday

Lou is worried over the lack of work in Gordon's shop. He went to Monrovia this morning to investigate a carpenter job he read about in the newspaper yesterday. He had some painting to do at Gordon's home today. I phoned Donna, she said they drove by our house last evening, after picking up Mary at Howard's, we were in conference so our house



David Shattuck drives from Provo to Monrovia for a quick weekend trip to see Janet in May. Sadly it was too quick to visit the Renshaws.

was dark. She said David Shattuck and the girl, Kathy, the one he brought down here from BYU, left for Utah about 7 p.m. Janet drove with David to Kathy's home in La Crescenta to get her. Donna is happy over how well Janet and David get along together, so much in love. She thinks David is a real nice boy. It makes us all happy. Janet circled August 4 in her appointment book at the dentist's office. He got wise, after looking at her little marks and asked her if August 4 was her wedding date. It is Janet's day off today and she went to town to do

some shopping for herself. She will go back to the dentist's office tomorrow. He didn't say not to come, so we hope he'll let her stay on. We received a nice letter from Will and Flora Taylor; they will be released from their mission at the Liberty Jail, about June 22; it is a one-year mission. Our church sends a married couple to this mission in Liberty, Missouri every year. They take care of the hundreds of visitors that go to see the old jail, where the Prophet Joseph Smith and other wonderful early-day church brethren were held for many months, by the enemies of the church. I wrote to Flora and Will today. Annie phoned Sue; she was feeling very blue. The doctor told her she'd have to go to the hospital as soon as he could get a room, she has a lump or growth under her arm, He x-rayed it a few days ago. He phoned Sue today to tell her the bad news. Bette was out to

Shirley's. Her little girl Karen fell and struck her head. They are afraid she has a concussion. No wonder Sue feels low. (I do too now.) Blanche H. phoned Annie; she didn't go to Salt Lake City after all. Oscar took sick and she couldn't leave him. Blanche got a letter from Hannah Helman; a reverend friend of hers is coming to California. She wants him to meet all of us. Blanche and Clint want us to put our family meeting up ahead so we can meet the reverend. The meeting will be at Helen's home next Saturday night.

May 17, Tuesday

I went to Relief Society this morning with Bonna Gordon and Marie Doezie. We picked up the babysitter, Bessie, at her home. We had a very lovely meeting. Faye Timothy gave the literature lesson on Matthew Arnold. She always gives a lovely lesson. She had two nice musical numbers, also. N. Stephens sang, "Love is so Sweet in the Spring Time," and Dorothy Mortensen played a pretty piano solo. I took the negatives of the queen's pictures to the sisters, in case some of them want to have some printed for their families or self. I put their pictures in the Relief Society scrapbook. The Relief Society pays for the ones we have in the book. I phoned Dolores and asked her to phone Donna about the Strong's meeting next Saturday night at Helen O's home. I also told her about Aunt Sue. Clarice Tanner

is expected home from Arizona today. She is bringing her son and his family with her. They'll go back to Arizona in June. I talked to Lorene on the phone this evening. She is staying at Andersen's with Bill and Beverly while Annie is in Salt Lake City with Dale. He'll be out of the mission home today or tomorrow. Annie left on the one o'clock bus today for Salt Lake City. She'll have ten days with Dale before he leaves for New York, to sail for Brazil and his mission. I

invited Lorene to go out to Sue's with us this evening. She wanted to go, but she'd promised to attend her missionary meeting. Lorene told me about her lovely weekend trip with Ray and Miriam and the little girls. They went to Stockton, California. Lorene and the girls stayed in a motel nights, but spent the days with Charlie's sister, Luella and family. Ray and Miriam went on to San Francisco. They all enjoyed the trip. The girls didn't want to come home; they had so much fun with Luella's grandchildren. It was Clarence's [Clarence Hansen, Luella's husband] birthday, on Sunday. Nineteen of them ate dinner at Luella's. Clarence and Luella have a daughter with five children and their son and his wife have three. I talked to Dolores on the phone yesterday afternoon and she said Donna visited their Relief

Society, President Thelma Nebeker, also. They were the stake visitors. Sr. Nebeker gave Donna a nice compliment, "so glad to have her on the stake board, she is doing a wonderful work there." Nice, eh? We found Sue preparing to go to the Valley Hospital Wednesday by 5 p.m. She was pressing her robe. Bette had a class to teach in Mutual last night, so we visited with Sue until Bette came home. I was glad to see Sue was in good control of her feelings; she was interested in hearing all about our folks. She didn't seem to want to talk about her troubles.

May 18, Wednesday

I phoned Lorene when I got home from Sue's on Tuesday night. Lorene phoned today from Andersen's and she had talked to Sue on the phone. She said Sue was going into the hospital as planned, today at 5 p.m. Dr. Lewis will operate on the growth under her left arm, in the morning at 9:30 a.m. Sue's children will all be at the hospital. Sue doesn't think it necessary for them to be there, but they insist, bless their hearts. She has a lovely family, I'm very proud of all of them. Blanche H. talked to the Reverend Smith, the friend of our relatives in Pennsylvania. He is anxious to meet the family out here. He is here for a convention. Friday evening is the only time he has free, so we are trying to get our folks together Friday evening. Ray Haddock phoned Bill A. tonight and



Clayton Family, standing left to right Lillian, Merlin, Alveretta, Charles, Louisa, Luella. Sitting left to right Joseph, Elizabeth, John, son John. Luella and Charlie circled in red.

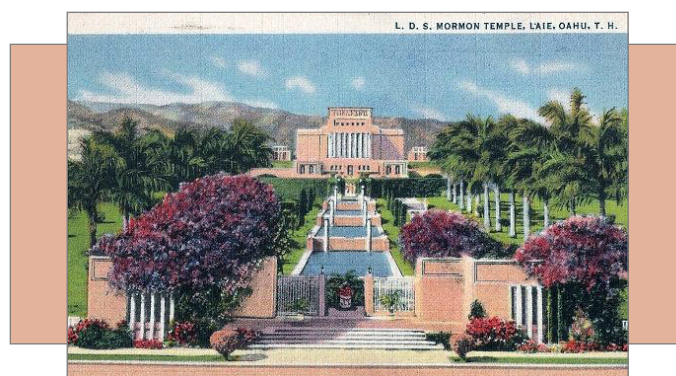
told him that Dr. Lewis had called in a specialist to operate on Sue in the morning. He feared the growth was malignant, if it is; there is the possibility they may have to amputate her arm. It was a dreadful shock to all of us. We phoned the families of our relatives out here, so all would have a special prayer for Sue. We are all relieved to learn that Shirley's little girl, Karen, wasn't seriously hurt in her fall.

May 19, Thursday

Lorene phoned from Cortland's home, where

she was working today. We'd both had a restless night thinking about sister Sue. Today reminded me of the day little Janet was born, the dreadful anxiety of waiting to hear the report from the hospital. I fasted and prayed again this morning. It just had to be good news. Annie is in Salt Lake City, with Dale at Owen and Lydia's. I had to keep busy so I did my washing. Donna phoned to ask if Kathy could stay with me while she went to the Las Flores Ward to a luncheon honoring their Relief Society visiting teachers. Donna was a guest of honor from the stake board. I was happy to have my precious little Kathy here. She ate her lunch from the little T.V. tray, while watching her T.V. program, "Captain John." I had washed the two little doll dresses and panties for the doll we keep here for her. It was Joan's doll; she left it here

when she was a little girl. She said, "Grama, will you take care of my doll? I'm afraid Mary will break it." (Mary was a baby then.) Joan has outgrown it and it's okay for little sister Kathy to play with it now. I had to iron the doll clothes so Kathy could dress her doll. Beverly phoned about 1:20 and said Bette Haddock had phoned her to say the operation was successful. The doctors do not think the growth is malignant. They think they have it all out. Of course they'll make a test of the tumor to be sure it isn't cancerous. It was a blessed relief for all of us. I phoned the good news to Lou at the shop. I took time out to thank God, too. Donna looked pretty in a new flowered summer print dress. I gave her my white envelope purse; Lou bought me a new white purse for Easter. I also gave Donna my white wool shrug jacket; it is too snug for me after washing. Grace Hill phoned tonight to ask about Sue. I received a pretty post card from Warnie Mueller with a picture of LDS church in Hawaii, also a nice letter from Harriet Spears and one from sister Violet.



Warnie sent a picture of an LDS church to Elvie, maybe it was the temple instead of a church?

May 20, Friday

Grace Hill phoned me the second time, last night, after she had talked to Carol Sue. (Elaine wasn't home.) It was 10 p.m. when Grace phoned the second time. She said Carol thought Grama was feeling better. We are all anxious to hear the report on the tumor. I do not think it will be malignant. Glen talked to Bette H. this noon. He then phoned Beverly and she phoned me to let us know that the doctor said Sue is "doing nicely," if she improves as well today, he may let her leave the hospital tomorrow. We are all so happy that she got through the operation as well as she did. The doctor is waiting for the lab report on the tumor. He feels almost positive it will not be malignant. I had Dolores phone Donna to tell her we'd go out to Monrovia for her this evening if she wants to go with us to the Strong's meeting at Blanche's. Rex will be up in the mountains with his scout troop. He is taking Johnny with him. Blanche's daughter Darlene took her to the Statler Hotel in Los Angeles this evening to get the Reverend Smith and take him to Hoglund's home, where we held our Strong's meeting tonight. The reverend is here for a convention for the Presbyterian

ministers. He is from Pennsylvania; his wife is a relative, she was a Strong. He is a very pleasant young man. We enjoyed his talk in our meeting. He told us about his parish and his family. He showed us a picture of his lovely wife and four children. We had two LDS missionaries with us Elder Child, from Clinton, Utah, and Elder Peterson, from Preston, Idaho. Both gave nice talks and answered a few questions for Reverend Smith. Lorene gave a short reading in the life of William Strong, Blanche's grandfather. Lou and Donna sang a duet, (Whispering Hope). It was very nice. Nora McKay took minutes because Annie is in Salt Lake City. The strawberry shortcake was delicious. Bill A. prayed for Sue in the opening prayer. Reverend Smith gave the closing prayer. Darlene gave up her chance to go to the police show at the coliseum tonight, so she could go for Reverend Smith. Sweet girl, eh? We took Reverend Smith to the Statler Hotel after the meeting. We had Mary, Donna, Lorene, and me in the back seat; and Lou, Bill, and the reverend in the front. We had a dreadful time getting through the awful traffic coming from the coliseum after the police show. Something went wrong with our car; we had no lights and it jerked along for a long ways. We got the reverend within two blocks of his hotel. We didn't get lights until we were in Pasadena and stopped at a garage there. The attendant turned them on, so we took Donna and Mary home with lights, and the car seemed okay. Lorene is staying at the Andersen's while Annie is away. Lou and I got home at 1:15 a.m. It took so long to get through that awful traffic in Los Angeles. We had a good laugh when Blanche kept putting whipped cream on the strawberries that Ellen S. had set aside for Uncle Billie, cause he can't eat it. Blanche didn't know. It was funny.

A garage open in the middle of the night?

This was the time of full service gas stations with garages open as long as the station was open. The attendants not only pumped gas but had knowledge to help with mechanical problems. This was the time when car troubles were as common as the common cold.

May 21, Saturday

Today is Monrovia Day; we watched the big parade over the television this morning. Beverly Andersen, bless her heart, came for me this morning at 11 a.m. Bill and Lorene were with her. We went out to Burbank, called at Bette's home and were delighted and surprised to find Sue was home from the hospital. She had just been home for thirty minutes.

She was in bed; she looked pretty in a pink bed-jacket and blue nightgown. Bev took some beautiful flowers from their garden, and some from neighbor Elizabeth's garden. We stopped at the Van de Kamp's Bakery on our way to Burbank. We told them, Sue and Bette, about our meeting last night. Sue told us about her three fine sons-in-laws giving her a wonderful blessing before her operation. They all laid off work to be at the hospital



The Statler Hotel in Los Angeles.

with the girls. (A sweet family.) We then drove to Van Nuys, left Lorene at Mary's house. Mary's little boy, Kenny, was sick today; she took him to the doctor. He has intestinal flu. I went with Bill and Beverly to Irene's; she served us a very lovely lunch, sweet girl! Glen was working; we saw him as we were leaving, he was on his way home. We picked Lorene up at Mary's when it was time to come home. David A. and Lynn J. were at the Cub Scout Fair. Glen was going to take Gilbert this afternoon. Irene gave Bill A. a haircut. Bill took two pair of shoes from the Deseret Industries to the little boys. Bev took Irene a cute green apron. Beverly made me some toast from the salt raised bread; it was good. We had some delicious cheesecake at Andersen's later. Lou came for me at Andersen's.

Salt Rising Bread

There's little or no salt in the recipe. No yeast, either. The bread rises because of bacteria in the potatoes or cornmeal and the flour that goes into the starter.

The taste is as distinctive as the recipe. Salt rising bread is dense and white, with a fine crumb and cheese-like flavor.



May 22, Sunday

Beverly forgot to leave the doughnuts she bought yesterday for the Glen Andersen family, so I bought them and a half of coconut cake from her, to bring home for Lou to enjoy. Hilda Botting missed her bus this morning. She phoned Lou. He said to stay where she was, on Meredith Street and Colorado Boulevard. We drove there and got her. It was cold and damp this day with a light mist. Lou worked in our yard yesterday, while I was out in the valley. He bought three sacks of fertilizer and put it around our flowers and plants. The aroma from it outside, and aroma from that salt raising bread, I bought yesterday, inside, is surely something not to brag about, believe you me! Lou slept all afternoon today, as usual. I read and wrote. It seems I do not need as much sleep as Papa does, I wonder why? I only go to bed when I have to, ha ha! Lutie Solem brought her pretty little granddaughter, Nancy, to Sunday School. I sat with them. I was happy to have our class teacher back from New York; Don Rowberry is an excellent teacher. Today in Salt Lake City, our relatives are honoring Dale Andersen. Bonnie and Darrell Reynolds are having an open house for the folks to come and greet Dale before he leaves for his mission to Brazil. I wish I could join in with them, too. The family out here, were all made delightfully happy, when the doctor reported that the tumor, taken from under Sue's arm, is not cancerous or malignant. That was wonderful news, which Bette phoned to Beverly, and Bev phoned to the rest of us out our way. Dolores phoned it to Donna. We save as many toll calls as we can. Louis and I went to church tonight; our choir sang two nice numbers. Don Rowberry, choir conductor, was also our speaker. It was a busy day for him, eh? The two short talks were given by Carol and Joanne Scott. Three

sweet little girls graduated from Primary, the Wride girl, the Jensen girl, and the Smith girl. Little David Howard had a talk prepared but they forgot to put his name on the program, so forgot him, too. He was happy about it.

May 23, Monday

We had a light mist again this morning, enough to dampen the sidewalks. Edgecombs had company from their hometown in Maine, yesterday. They are the young Mrs. Lowe's parents. They brought moving pictures to show folks out here, of friends and family back in Maine. Dear little old Mrs. Lowe told me about it, she was so thrilled. She is Mrs. Edgecomb's mother. The elderly Lowes live with the Edgecombs, our next-door neighbors. I phoned Donna this morning. It is Janet's day off; she is going to see her girlfriend Carol; a girl that lived in Sierra Madre. She is married now and has a six-month-old baby. They live in Whittier. Carol and her husband are interested in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are thinking of becoming Mormons. Nice, eh? Donna said that Bob Hamson came by to talk to Rex about a beef for the deep freezer. It was dinnertime so Donna invited him to eat with them. Joan was working at the Lyric Theater. After dinner, Bob went to the theater and asked Joan if he could go to church with her tonight. She was going to church with Chuck DeBias. It seems that Bob can't win, with our Joan. He is a fine fellow, too. Donna has seen Clarice Tanner's son and grandchildren from Argentina. The little girl is about Kathy's age. The baby boy is nine months old. He is using Kathy's high chair while they are here. The wife was asleep so Donna didn't meet her. She will, I guess. I mailed Sue get-well cards from us, and from our Strong's Family Society. I wrote to Violet Fife and Ethel Newbold. I composed a queen tribute to LaVella Scott this afternoon and almost finished it.

May 24, Tuesday

It was a gloomy day, started to rain at 2:30 p.m. It was a very light rain. This was our last lesson day in Relief Society for this year. We didn't have as many out as usual. The Social Science lesson was given by Phyllis McDonnell. It was on "The Constitution of the United States." It was interesting. Phyllis is a very fine teacher. I patched one of my aprons. I phoned Marva DeHaan, to give her Donna's telephone number; she asked me for it in church, but I wasn't sure of it. Andersen's phone number has been changed, after these many years, from Albany 3830 to Clinton 5-3830. Lillian Neal brought her little granddaughter Sally Ann to Relief Society. She is Kathy's age. Clarice Tanner is back home for a while, but she didn't come out today because of a cold. Lillian N. is going to take care of Clarice's two little grandchildren tomorrow, while Clarice goes somewhere with her son and his wife. Little Sally Ann is staying with Grama Neal a few days. She'll have fun with the other little girl about her age (3½ or 4). The baby boy is nine months old. I read several chapters from the Book of Mormon, my Relief Society assignment for May. I got so sleepy I had to take a nap. Oh darn it; I feel a smarting in my nose and throat tonight. I just cannot have another cold!

May 25, Wednesday

I didn't rest very well last night. I got up in the wee hours and swabbed my throat with Merthiolate. I took the electric heating pad to bed, to stop the silly little chills. I felt better this morning. I got up to help Lou with breakfast and lunch. I made his toast and put up his lunch. He cooks the bacon and eggs (or sausage) for himself. I eat wheat cereal later. It rained a little bit in the night, but not much. It was cold and gloomy all morning. The heat felt good on in the house. Such cold weather and it's almost June! That's how it is, when we have a change. I guess it'll come in so hot we'll wish we had this chilly weather back again, eh? I never saw the roses any prettier than now. Our bushes look like lovely bouquets. There is very little work on hand at the shop now. Lou gets upset and restless when he can't keep busy all the time. I surely hope it'll pick up soon. Florence Marsh phoned, she wanted to know what Donna needed, so she could get something useful for her birthday. She wants Rex and family to come to dinner next Sunday. I told her I'd phone Donna and let her know. (Later) Yes, Donna and family will be delighted to go to Marshes for dinner on Sunday. (Who wouldn't, they are wonderful cooks!) Donna needs LDS garments so I guess Florence will get her some. Donna played for the bishop's wife to sing in Monrovia Ward Relief Society today. She has been asked to give an inspirational talk in Sunday School, next Sunday. They surely keep Donna busy in that ward; they always do, wherever she is. In Mutual tonight, Mary is taking part in the Beehive Achievement night. Janet asked the dentist if she could have a week next Tuesday off. He said yes; she plans to go up to San Jose, with David Shattuck, when he comes here, after school is out at BYU in Provo. She'll have Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday with him and his family in San Jose. I talked to Lorene on the phone this evening. I read Annie's postcard to her, she read the letter she and Beverly and Bill got from Annie. The open house reception in honor of Dale, at Bonnie and Darrell's home was lovely. Fifty-nine relatives came out to wish Dale bon voyage, he didn't know half of them I guess. Bonnie served cake, punch, and mints. The cake was beautifully decorated and said "Happy Voyage" on it. It was a very nice thing to do. The folks gave Dale \$16.00. Annie said Dale spent \$60.00 in Salt Lake for things he needed to take with him; books and covers for them, brief case and etcetera. Four young elders are going to Brazil with Dale. They leave next Sunday for New York at 8:20 a.m. They have stopovers in Chicago, Buffalo and other large cities enroute. Annie, Dale, and Lydia, I think, enjoyed a visit to the Governor's Mansion. (The old Thomas Kearns Mansion.) The housekeeper there, has a son in Brazil, she is sending something to him with Dale. They saw through the place by invitation. Annie leaves for California on Sunday at 3 p.m.



Thomas Kearns Mansion, or the Governor's Mansion as it appears today.

May 26, Thursday

I'm fighting a cold; this changeable weather is tough on us; it is hot one day and cold the next. Annie says she is enjoying the lovely lilacs in Salt Lake City. It's the first time she's seen them in bloom, since she and Lorene left there 32 years ago, the very day she wrote my card, May 23. It brought fond memories back to me, too. I love the lilacs, also. I composed a queen tribute to Elva Clawson this morning. I have twelve ready now; we have crowned twenty-nine ladies, "Queen for a Day," on our workday in Relief Society. It is really taxing my poor brain to make them different, all in rhyme, too. This afternoon I got some exercise vacuuming the two bedrooms. Lou had to pick Bill S. up at a garage in town this morning. He is having some work done on his car. Bill phoned just after Lou drove away; he was afraid Lou had forgotten him. My Lou doesn't forget a promise. I spent the evening alone with the T.V. for company. Lou went to our Sunday School superintendent's home (Cliff Cummings), for a faculty meeting. I wonder how Sue is? I do hope she is doing well. I wish I could have a visit from my Marsh children.

May 27, Friday

Hilda Botting phoned early, before Lou left for work. She wants me to pass the Sunday School programs out next Sunday. She was going to San Diego for a few days. I hope she enjoys her visit. I received a pretty invitation yesterday to our closing social in Relief Society next Tuesday. Donna is going to help with a skit on the program; it is one they put on in the stake I believe. I'm delighted she'll be at our party. Ruby Hodges was doing some cleaning yesterday and she fell from the stool and broke her instep. Gordon says they were up most of the night with Ruby; she was in severe pain. The doctor was there some of the time. Her heart was giving her some distress, too. I phoned Grace Hill; she had talked to Sue yesterday. Sue is feeling better; she was going to the doctor today to have a fresh dressing put on her incision. Grace is expecting her daughter Arma Hill this afternoon. She is driving here from Salt Lake City alone. She stayed over in St. George last night with relatives.

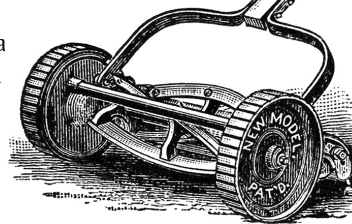
May 28, Saturday

Lou and I had a busy day; he cut the lawns and dug up around the flowers. I cleaned out the cabaña and watered the hanging baskets, and flowers and lawns. Donna phoned to see if we were okay. She hadn't heard from us for several days. Daddy told her we were just about to leave for her place. I cut the pretty rose buds to take to her. John and Kathy were waiting

for us on the front lawn. John was making an effort to cut the lawn and I mean it was an effort. Our Johnny boy doesn't care to work too hard, ha ha! Grampa gave John 50¢ and left 50¢ for Mary; she was visiting at the Warnick's home. She went home with Judy last night from the Beehive stake program. I missed not seeing my little Mary today. Janet was working at Dr. Naylor's office. Joan was at her job selling tickets at the Lyric Theater, in Monrovia. I do not see my sweet teenagers very often. Rex worked until about 2:30 p.m. He came before we left. Donna promised to take John up to Howard's to swim in their pool with David when his work was finished. I wonder if he made it? Ha ha! Donna and family are invited to Grama Marsh's for dinner tomorrow, nice eh? We brought one of Rex's chickens home; he wanted to give it to us, but Lou made Donna take \$1.00 for it. We had John go to the neighbors a block away, for two-dozen eggs, for us. We bought our groceries at Cal Fair Market on the way home. We rested and then Lou washed and polished his car in the cool of the evening. I helped a little with windows and dusting inside. I phoned Beverly to ask if they went to see Aunt Sue today, they did, and she is feeling much better. Bev took Bill to his doctor in Van Nuys. Dale phoned Bill and Beverly this morning at seven o'clock to say good-bye; he leaves for New York in the morning. Annie leaves for California at 3 p.m. tomorrow. They are going in different directions, eh? Florence and John Marsh were at Beverly's buying LDS garments for Donna's birthday. They're buying some for Rex also, nice, eh? I know he needs some new ones and so does she. Lou bought us a large leg of lamb, so I can have Donna and family over for dinner on her birthday, next Wednesday, June 1. Bless her heart. Donna had a large pan full of chickens they had sent out to be feathered and dressed today. We got one of them. The second little family of birds are almost ready to leave the nest and fly away, from the rafters over Donna's front porch. Joan brought a black baby kitten and a baby duck home from her work. A child won them and couldn't keep them.



John Marsh
1955-56
School
picture.



"John was making an effort to cut the lawn and I mean it was an effort. Our Johnny boy doesn't care to work too hard, ha ha!"

visiting in San Diego and she asked me to do this pleasant little job for her. I've done it several times when she is away. I enjoy greeting the saints with the programs. I was delighted to see my sweet granddaughter Mary walk in Sunday School. She came with the Warnicks. She stayed all night with Judy Warnick. Julie and Claron Oakley had their tiny baby daughter out to Sunday School. She is a darling little red head. Br. William Maughan had a young woman in Sunday School. She looked like Mary Hill's daughter Molly, I wonder if it was her? I didn't get to see her after Sunday School, but I feel sure it was Molly. We took Betty and Wilma Ramish and Hazel and Nancy Morgan home from Sunday School. Rex and Donna took the family down to Marshes' today after Sunday School, to eat dinner there. They called at Warnick's for Mary on their way. Lou and I enjoyed our roast chicken; it was delicious. I baked it this morning. This evening we went to the Monrovia Ward to hear a convert, Br. James Sarver, speak. He didn't show up for some reason, but President Berry gave an excellent talk, also a Sr. Ash gave a good talk. Rex and Donna brought their neighbors, Jean and family to hear Br. James Server. They felt disappointed, too. This man is a convert from the Catholic Church and is a very fine speaker. I surely enjoyed President Berry and Sr. Ash anyway. Joan brought Chuck D. and a young man from the Lyric Theater, a manager. Janet came to church with them. They took a little ride after church and had something to eat. David S. phoned Janet from Provo, Utah. He wants Donna to go up to his house next weekend, with him and Janet to meet his family. He is bringing Jo Rush, Sandra Robinson, and a young man that lives up near his home, back to California from BYU. Rex and Donna, the three youngsters, and neighbors Jean and family went in the mountains nearby to sleep overnight and eat breakfast in the morning up there. Janet and Joan came here to sleep in my bed. Chuck brought them to our house after they'd eaten at an Italian restaurant.

May 29, Sunday

Dale phoned Glen and Irene from Salt Lake City yesterday morning, also. He leaves for New York this morning at 8 a.m. Annie leaves Salt Lake today at 3 p.m. on the bus. I know she'll hate to see Dale leave for New York, but of course she is happy he is going on this wonderful mission to Brazil. Bill and Beverly laid the new rug down in the front bedroom yesterday. I believe Bev bought it for Annie for Mother's Day. She is such a darling generous girl. Mrs. Edgecomb and parents went to Knott's Berry Farm on a picnic with her brother Harold Lowe, and his family and Mrs. Lowe's parents, visiting them from Maine. Mr. Edgecomb is on a camping trip somewhere, with his friend. Helen doesn't like camping out, nor do I. I gave out the programs at the chapel door this morning for Sunday School. Hilda Botting is

May 30, Monday—Memorial Day

I surely enjoyed having my sweet teenagers, Janet and Joan, this morning for breakfast. Chuck came for the girls about 10:30 a.m. Joan had to work at the theater. This afternoon, Donna phoned to let me know they were home from the mountains. It didn't rain on them, as we feared it would. We had a light rain in the night here. Lou and I went out to Burbank; Sue looks better; her arm was aching because of the cold damp weather she thought. The doctor says it is coming along very well. Grace Hill took Arma, her daughter, over to see Sue and Bette last week. Shirley, Kenny, and family had just left Sue's when we got there. Shirley is going back to work for a while at Lockheed as a typist. Elaine was at Bette's. Sharon and Mike, Jerry and Mike's friend, and Bradley went swimming in Ray's pool, in spite of the cold day; burr! Lou left \$10.00 on Sue's dresser, said nothing cause he didn't want a fuss with that independent

sister. We wish we could have left a lot more. Sue and Al were so wonderful to us when I was sick with heart trouble; she took care of me for two months. We called in Andersen's on our way home. Annie entertained us by telling all about her visit in Salt Lake City. It was grand hearing all about our relatives and friends back home. She arrived this morning on the bus. I was sorry to learn that my cousin Clive Strong had passed away last week. Annie didn't know until after the funeral. Uncle Ed Best died in Springville, Utah last week. Annie and Lydia read about it in the Salt Lake newspaper. The family did not notify the folks in Salt Lake about it. Lou took a nap on Annie's couch while Annie, Bev, and I talked. I think Bill enjoyed a nap in the big chair. Glen and Irene and family met Annie at the bus this morning. They brought Lorene back from Mary's home, to meet Annie. Irene brought a roast and some food. We're all happy to have our black-eyed Annie home again. Dale is in Chicago today. I enjoyed this holiday.



Clive James Strong, image from Family Search. Clive was 70 years old when he died.

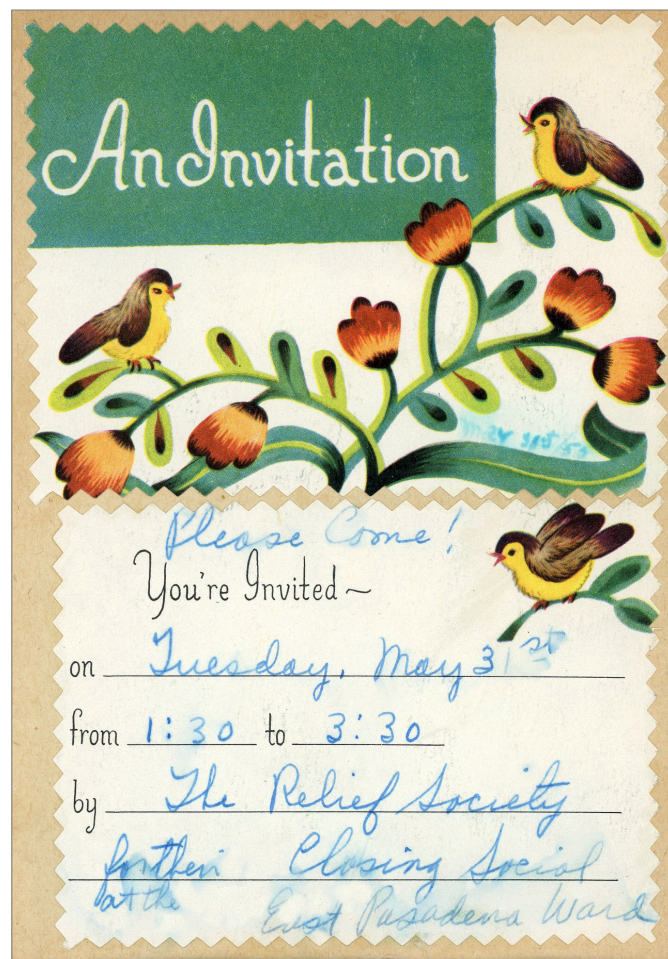


Edgar Oakley Best, Aunt Ettie Strong's husband. Image found on Family Search. Edgar was 88 years old when he died.

May 31, Tuesday

Our weather is still cold and damp. I expected Donna about 9 a.m. but she phoned to say she'd been delayed, but that she'd be here about 11 a.m. Joan didn't go to school this morning, so Kathy stayed home with her. I'm glad we didn't have to have the precious little one along on our shopping tour this morning. Violet sent Donna a pretty yellow bath towel and guest towel. I think she did the lovely handwork on the guest towel. I saw them on Saturday when we were out to Donna's. Violet gets her gifts out ahead of time, eh? Bless her heart, she has always remembered Donna's birthday and Donna never forgets Aunt Violet's birthday either. Both are 1st dates; April 1, and June 1. We parked Donna's station wagon in the Broadway parking lot. I bought a pretty cotton dress, with black background with a pretty colored flower pattern in it. It was on sale for \$7.23 with tax. I bought a red purse and a white hat with red trim at Normandy Hat shop. My budget card entitled me to one hat without charge, so I let Donna have another cute all white lace hat. We went to the Elgin's Children's Shop and I bought two cute sun dresses for Kathy's birthday for \$2.98 each on sale. Mr. Greeley gave me a little discount because I was Glen Strong's cousin. Glen Strong is half owner in the Elgin shop. He was married to Thelma Greeley; they have a daughter, Pamela. Thelma and Glen divorced several years ago. Mr. Greeley

is a very nice person to talk to. Thelma is at home, not very well since she was in an automobile accident. Donna and I had a nice little lunch at home; chicken sandwich and cottage cheese and pineapple salad. We went to the closing Relief Society program. Donna, Nell E., and Jean B. were on the program in a little skit for the visiting teachers. It was very cute and well done. Bishop was an informal speaker. There were four nice musical numbers. Delicious cookies and punch were served after the program. We took Clarice Tanner home to Sierra Madre. I went to Mutual tonight with Sr. Summers. Jeanne Brinton gave a very lovely book review in our Mutual class on LeGrand Richards's book, about the Jew's gathering to Jerusalem. I've forgotten the title; it was interesting. We each received a booklet of Beth Sundstrom's Relief Society poems, nice! Janet, Joan, and Mary came here tonight while I was in Mutual. They'd been to Nash's Store to buy some things with the S&H Stamps. Donna had several books full. They got an ironing board, carving set, and a card table for their mother.



June 1, Wednesday

Today is the birthday of our precious daughter, Donna, born 40 years ago this day. God blessed our lives with a baby girl and a baby boy. Our tiny son lived but three short days, but the blessing of our Father in Heaven we've enjoyed, through the sweet little daughter he left to brighten our home. Lou phoned this afternoon to tell me he had been to the Mutual Savings and Loan Company and cleared our home. It took our savings in the Mutual, but it is a

wonderful feeling to know that we do not owe a dime on the home now. This makes the third home Lou has bought and paid for in full. The little house on La Riba Way he sold, and bought the Garfield Avenue home and then paid for it in a few years. He sold that and bought our Vinedo home and now it is paid for. Oh, I hope he doesn't get ideas about selling this one and buying another, which will put us in debt again. Kathy stayed with me this morning while Donna worked on a building fund project for her ward. Kathy ate lunch with me and Donna ate when she got here. A nice note from Sue came today thanking Lou and me for the \$10.00. I cooked a leg of lamb dinner for my precious family. They couldn't get here before 7 p.m. but we ate as soon as they arrived. Johnny helped me serve the company. We two ate in the kitchen so as not to crowd any of us. He loves to eat out there with me and I love it, too. Donna made a delicious lemon cake. Johnny put little candles on it for his mother's birthday cake. After the dishes were cleared up we had Mama open her gifts. She had lovely gifts; Janet and Joan went all out and bought her a blue bag and shoes and a white linen dress with blue flowers in. They got the dress at Chuck's father's factory. Chuck came this evening, had cake and ice cream. Rex gave Donna some money. Johnny gave her hand lotion, Kathy a bra, Mary the carving set. She got a new ironing board and a card table with green stamps at Nash's. (Also the carving set). Lou and I gave her a flowered print dress, a purse, and hat. It was a red purse to go with her new shoes. David S. is on his way to California from Provo, Utah.

June 2, Thursday

I did a large wash this morning, two weeks worth. It was a lovely sunny day, a treat from the cold cloudy days we've had lately. Marva DeHaan phoned this morning and invited me to a stork shower next Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Relief Society room, in honor of Jeanne Brinton. The officers are planning the shower and are buying some larger gifts and asking \$2.00 each from the sisters. I'm glad I do not have to go out and look for a gift. Florence Oates phoned this morning and invited Lou and me to a picnic lunch at their ranch next Sunday in honor of Florence Marsh, on her birthday. She wants me to bring a bowl of potato salad. I'm looking forward to a nice time with the Marsh family. I phoned Donna's about 2 p.m. David Shattuck answered. Donna wasn't home. David had to take someone all the way to Culver City after he arrived at 8 a.m. so he was dead tired when he got to the Marshes' home later; then my phone call got him out of bed! Jo Rush didn't come with David, she is leaving Provo today, he thinks. I phoned Sue to tell her we got her nice thank you note. Lou says he'll never be out of her debt; she was so good to us when I was ill at her home for two months, in 1945, with heart troubles. This evening Lou and I drove out to visit with Ruby and Gordon Hodges. We watched the T.V.

program, Groucho Marx, with them. We later went in the living room to see their new lamps and new paint. They've changed the walls and woodwork to a lovely green, it has a blue cast. It is a very pretty room. We came home at 9:15 as we were expecting Janet and David to come at 9:30 p.m.



David Shattuck & Janet Marsh circa 1955

We had a nice visit with these two sweethearts; he is taking Janet and Donna up to his home in San Jose Saturday evening, after Janet gets off work. Donna hasn't met his folks yet. David and Janet enjoyed the chocolate mints Donna left here; I forgot to serve them last night. The girls working for Monrovia Ward building fund project yesterday bought a little box of chocolate mints for Donna's birthday gift. Janet took the keys Joan left here, home to her; it was her school locker key and etcetera.

June 3, Friday

I was delighted to see another lovely sunny day. I had my large ironing finished before lunchtime. Our roses are really beautiful this time of year. I have a lovely bouquet in the house and they smell so fragrant. I had planned on going to town this afternoon, to buy a birthday gift for Florence Marsh and a little gift for Robin Marsh, but I just couldn't make it. I had to lie down instead. Isn't it disgusting that one little old ironing can cause so much fatigue? There was I, with a beautiful afternoon ahead, and had to go to bed! I phoned Br. Major for Lou last night and told him we would not be at the elder's swim party tomorrow afternoon at the Major's home. Papa and I do not care for swimming anymore. Most of the couples are young. Of course I didn't tell Br. Major that! No, just that we've made other plans, which we have.

June 4, Saturday

Lou went uptown this morning to Pep Boys store and bought a hedge cutter to use in his electric drill. He got a ticket from a very observant cop. Lou was going the wrong way on a one way street (Union Street). Then it did not help his feelings any later, when he bumped his head, a dilly, on one of our hanging baskets, while he was measuring the cabaña for screen and material needed to fix up the little patio. It amazed me how good natured he stayed in spite of his misfortunes today. Papa is mellowing for sure. The hedge cutter worked beautifully after he went to the shop for the electric drill. The yard looks real nice now, with a haircut. I rode to town with Lou and second time, when he went for the drill. I bought a pretty bottle of Hudnut's Hand Lotion, with a dispenser, to give to Florence Marsh tomorrow, for her birthday; I bought it in Hertel's Store. Erma Jaco, from Pasadena Ward



David Shattuck answered the phone when Elvie called Marshes on June 2, 1955.

waited on me. She gift-wrapped it so lovely in a silver and white paper, with turquoise blue ribbon. She is a dear, and is so good looking. I bought a box of rose stationery to give Robin Marsh. Her birthday is the day after Florence's so we are having a picnic party tomorrow at Oateses', in honor of the two birthdays, after Sunday School. Mr. Edgecomb gave Lou a pair of double screen doors he got from a home he remodeled. With some work on them, and new paint and screen, they'll be just right to use on our cabaña. We want to screen it in, so we can enjoy the naps in the swing without being pestered by the dreadful flies. We'll enjoy our food better, too, if the flies can't get to it first, eh? I came home from town on the bus when I was through shopping. Lou was so busy he didn't want to bother with any lunch. We drove out to Monrovia about 3 p.m. Donna was very busy. She and Janet are leaving with David Shattuck and a school friend, from BYU, to go up north to San Jose to David's home this evening about 7 p.m. Janet worked today for Dr. Naylor. Monday is her day off, but he is letting her have Tuesday off as well as Monday next week. Janet is driving David's car back next Tuesday afternoon. He'll fly down later to get it and see his sweetheart again before the wedding in August. Donna is taking two frozen chickens up to Mrs. Shattuck. Rex had twenty chickens killed and dressed for his deep freezer today. Johnny and Kathy were with him when we were out to Monrovia. We saw them as we were leaving there. Joan was home this afternoon; she had been to work at the theater. Mary was visiting with her friend Carol Colvin in Sierra Madre.

June 5, Sunday

Today is the birthday of our good friend Florence Marsh. I think she is 71 years old. We picked Hilda Botting up at the bus line and took her to Sunday School. It was a lovely sunny morning. I wore my white nylon dress; it has little blue-grey flowers in it. I wore the pretty powder blue shrug jacket Donna gave me for Mother's Day. It has a silver thread woven in it. I received several nice compliments today; the pretty jacket flattered my gray hair and blue eyes, I'm sure. A pretty color can do wonders for even a Grama, eh? I made the potato salad, before going to Sunday School and then put the egg slices and parsley on when we got home. Lou took me up to the market last evening to get an egg cutter. Now I can cut the hard-boiled eggs in style. We had a delicious picnic lunch at Oateses'. Rex and family brought three fried chickens and a chocolate cake. Donna fried the chickens and made the cake on Saturday before she left for San Jose, with Janet and David. Joan frosted the cake this morning. Florence Oates made a banana nut cake that had birthday candles on. Our lunch was very good; we all enjoyed it. The younger



Florence Marsh



Now Elvie can
"cut hard-boiled eggs in style"

children wanted to eat in the little rear house; they washed their own silverware after dinner. We had paper plates and cups and napkins. Joan washed the silver and pans or bowls for us. She had to be to work at 5 p.m. at the theater, so we all left soon after 4 p.m. Elaine, Irene, and Ray phoned from Provo and sang Happy Birthday to Grama Marsh. Lou found Florence Marsh's pen in the back seat of our car. She lost it when she and John were with us on Easter Sunday on April 10. It had gone down the back of the seat. She was delighted to find it again; it made us all happy. It was a gift from John. Dolores and Yvonne sang a duet in our ward tonight. It was lovely. Doug Jones played for them. Bevan and Doug's wife came, too. The girls sang, "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked." It was so lovely. Our Sunday School had the program in church tonight.

June 6, Monday

We had such a nice time yesterday with the Marsh family, at the Oateses' Ranch. Today is Robin Marsh's birthday; I believe she is 19 years old. We took gifts to her yesterday. I took rose stationery. I took Florence Marsh hand lotion. Jo Rush is staying at the Oateses' this summer. Elaine and Irene are in Provo going to summer school at BYU. Irene's husband, Ray, is, too. I wrote a letter to Violet this morning. I phoned Dody to ask how little Nadine was, she has the mumps. Jennie was there rocking her, she was feverish and unhappy, her little face shaped like a triangle. Bevan hasn't had the mumps. Dr. Lamoyne Hickman is going to give Bevan a shot to prevent them if possible. I guess Ronnie will get them from little sister? I phoned Annie, she went to Burbank last Saturday to see Sue. I was glad to learn that Sue feels better. Annie read me two letters from Dale. He is on the ocean now, on his way to Brazil. He had some very interesting stopovers on his way to New York, Chicago, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and I think she said New Jersey. He has taken many pictures, which he sends home. He'll not see them until he returns from his mission.

We received a nice letter from Ethel Newbold. She put flowers on Pa Renshaw's grave on Decoration Day, snowballs, sweet gal, eh? She does it every year. It's grand to have wonderful friends, eh? I wonder how Janet and Donna are enjoying their visit with David Shattuck's family in San Jose? I'm also thinking about the family in Monrovia. I hope they are getting along fine without Donna. I've been thinking of little Kathy, but I know the neighbor is taking very good care of her. Pearl and Pawnee Redborg came to see us this evening; they'd been to the Crown Cafeteria for dinner. We had a nice visit; so glad they came. Bishop Summerhays and wife are in Utah; they went to Joyce's graduation from BYU.

June 7, Tuesday

I took a bath before breakfast; of course I helped Lou get off to work. I put up his lunch. Ethel Burk came for me at 11:15 a.m. Pat Rowbotham was with Ethel; we picked up Laura Manlove and Felicia Washburn. We played a game at card tables; it was like Bunco, only played with baby articles of clothing. We'd call out "Baby" when we got five beans in a row. It was fun. Faye Timothy won the prize for the most wins. I didn't win once, ha ha! Bonna Gordon, Marva DeHaan, and Elvenia S. served a delicious luncheon. They had a beautifully decorated ice cream cake for dessert. We all paid \$2.00 toward the gift. It was a lovely baby crib, white wool blanket and crib pad. We had a very nice time. Ethel, Pat, and I helped dry dishes after the party. We got home at 3 p.m. I didn't feel well this afternoon; I had pains in my head. I guess the delicious shrimp salad didn't agree with me? Donna and Janet will leave San Jose this afternoon in David's car, if they do as planned. I'll be glad to learn they are back home safe and sound. They are expected home sometime tonight. Lou worked on our screen doors that Mr. Edgecomb gave him, getting them ready to paint and hang up in our cabaña. He scraped off some of the old dried up paint last evening, too. I phoned Rex this afternoon to see how they were getting along. He said fine. Donna phoned us about 9 p.m. to let us know she and Janet had arrived home from up north. She said they brought some lovely cherries home that David's father gave them. [*The Shattuck's owned Bing Cherry orchards. The cherries were delicious!*] I was glad to hear her voice and know they were home. I phoned Florence Marsh to let her know they had arrived home. She said she was just about to phone me to ask about them.

June 8, Wednesday

I phoned Dolores this afternoon to find out how little Nadine was feeling and happy to learn she is a lot better. Dody can't keep her in bed now; she is having a time to keep her in the house. The mumps are still in sight, but the fever has gone. Nora Williamson phoned to tell me that Venna Cannon isn't coming to her house for lunch as planned. Venna wasn't feeling well enough to go out today. She has a weak heart, she has been very ill in the hospital recently, so Nora said she would come for me at 2 p.m. and we could do our visiting for Relief Society. I watered the back lawns and flowers good and did



Lou was a man of action! When he saw a job that needed to be done, he got to work.

some of the beautiful big cherries. We brought a bag full home. They look so pretty the way they pack them to ship east. We enjoyed hearing all about the nice time Donna and Janet had with the Shattuck's in San Jose. Donna says they are lovely people, she is very happy Janet will belong to such a fine family. Johnny and Kathy were home enjoying T.V. and gum from me. Rex was in Mutual with his scout troop when we got there this evening. Janet was visiting a girl friend, she has David's car now. Joan was at the Mutual dance and Mary was doing schoolwork.

June 9, Thursday

Today is my mother's birthday. [*Mary Elizabeth Strong Bailey would have been 89 years old.*] It was cool and misty this morning, but clear and sunny by noon; I did my washing. I enjoyed going with Nora Williamson yesterday to do our Relief Society visiting teaching. We found Sr. Ord at home for the second time in many months and she invited us in. Her beautiful blue and gray parakeet was flying all about the room with swift speed; he'd light on our heads or shoulders every once in a while. I do not believe I like 'em so friendly, or wild about their friendship anyway. Ha ha! Nora took me to her home when we'd finished our visiting to see the new playroom they built on back of their lovely home. Oh, it is a beautiful home, all of it. She gave me a glass of cold root beer. We received an announcement of John Ellsworth and Diana Joyce Riolo's marriage in the St. George Temple on May 19. Nell E. is having an open house for them on June 18. Beverly phoned to ask if Donna and Janet returned okay. We had a nice visit. Bev said that Dale would be in Trinidad yesterday for one day, but is back

Mother

Mother! the word that means so much,
Our very heart strings it seems to touch.
It calls the sweetest face to mind,
That ever graced our human kind.
She may be dark, or she may be fair,
It matters not what shade her hair,
Streaked with silver or shining with gold,
Our love for Mother will never grow cold.
She's the dearest friend we have on earth;
There are few who equal a Mother's worth.
And when from Mother we are called to part
We know real aching of the heart.

—Elvie Renshaw.



on the boat today. It takes 15 days to get to his destination, (Brazil). Our welfare banquet was delicious. Br. Summers cooked the beef. We sat with Ethel and Hyrum Burk; she collected \$1.00 from me. Our ward members are going to buy a lace tablecloth for Sr. Felicia Washburn in appreciation of the lovely flower arrangements she brings to our church. We were surprised and delighted to see Justin Keller and his wife at the banquet; they live in Covina Ward. They are old Garvanza friends. Donna looked pretty; she wore the black flowered cotton print dress we gave her for her birthday. She served with her stake board members. All wore cute little green aprons. A barbershop quartet entertained us after dinner. They were excellent.

June 10, Friday

We had a light mist through the night, so our morning was cool and damp; in fact I had to turn on the heat in the house for a while. I defrosted the icebox and answered letters this morning. I wrote to my sister Bonnie; I was happy to learn from her letter, that Darrell is now an elder, he blessed their little daughter last month, gave her the name of Leslie. If I remember correct, Leslie was one of the names that Dad wanted to name Bonnie. He suggested a few names he liked, but Elsie wanted her named Bonnie Jean. I think it is pretty and it fits our little sister very well. I wonder what my Marshes are doing? I wish I could phone without a toll. Lou dug up the little front garden, and took out some old plants and transplanted one or two we wanted to keep in there. Lou put another bag of fertilizer in the little front garden this evening, before he dug up the ground.

June 11, Saturday

Lou got busy after breakfast on the cabaña, he is screening it in, so the flies can't bother him when he rests in the garden swing. He built the framework and hung the double screen doors that Mr. Edgecomb gave him. It will be a treat to get rid of the pesky flies. I surely hope the little evergreen shrub in the front garden will come back to looking alive. I hate to have to take it out. It's twin on the other side of the porch looks beautiful. I trimmed the plants in our hanging baskets; they look better now. Violet sent me the newspaper clipping of the passing of Uncle Edgar Best. He died in a Provo hospital on Wednesday May 24, 1955. Aunt Ettie Best died November 24, 1951. Four sons and five daughters survive him. The clipping said they were married in the Salt Lake Temple on June 14, 1900. I was eight years old. I remember their wedding. I was allowed to look at the lovely bride and handsome groom before the

guests arrived. Grama Strong gave me some wedding cake and then I was sent home with Annie and the other kids up Strong's court, where we lived then. Oh hum! What a lot has taken place since that day, eh? Here we are planning a wedding day for our little granddaughter Janet. This evening we drove out to see Donna and family. Janet took Joan to her work at the theater; the girls ate first. Donna had a large bowl of potato salad made, and she invited us to help them eat it. Mary had been to a party, and to the roller skating rink with her friends. She phoned and wanted to stay longer at the girl's home, so we didn't see her, but Lou left 25¢ for her. He gave John 25¢ as usual. Poor Johnny was not well; he had a cold. His lungs were congested. He went to a birthday party next door but had to have a mustard plaster on this

afternoon and go to bed. Kathy went to the party next door, too. Rex worked today for a plaster friend, doing plastering. We surely enjoyed the potato salad and cold meat dinner, also the beautiful strawberries, large and sweet. We did our marketing before coming home this evening.

June 12, Sunday

It was cold and damp again today until about 2 p.m., when the sun managed to show up. We picked Hilda Botting up at the bus line. Lou took Br. Manlove to priesthood meeting and we took him home from Sunday School. We also took Hilda to her son's home. We had a nice Sunday School as usual. We watched the T.V. telethon program for the "City of Hope" this afternoon, until we left for Burbank about 3:30 p.m. We were delighted to find Sue looking so much better, like her old self. Bishop Ray was on crutches; he was injured in a ball game the other night. He and Bette went to church this evening; he went on crutches. We

stayed home with Sue and the two little boys. Bradley was in bed, Rickey stayed up. They are surely darling kiddies. Sue insisted on us eating a bite with her; we had a delicious fried chicken lunch, cold, she fried it yesterday. Bette made some good cherry ice cream in her new electric freezer. We enjoyed some of it, too. Shirley brought her three little children over for a short visit. They are sweet kiddies, too. Elaine was there earlier. Sharon, Mike, and Dick, (Ann's friend) went in swimming. Ann was working. Jerry and two of his boyfriends were in the pool, too. Even little Ricky was swimming, the cutie. Lou and I got a big kick out of watching little Ricky swim; he had his inflated life wings on, of course. We missed church tonight. I always feel sorry to miss sacrament meeting, but we did enjoy our visit with Sue and family.



Bonnie Jean and Darrell in 1946.

June 13, Monday

It was cold and damp again today. "Oh what is so rare as a day in June", eh? I wrote a letter to Violet, she said it was 95 degrees in Beryl when she wrote to me three days ago. It was so sticky hot her hand kept sticking to the table and to the stationery she was writing on. We have the gas Yule log on to take the chill off the rooms here. I phoned Dody; Ronnie has the mumps now and Bevan wasn't feeling well, oh oh! Donna and Janet came here about 12:30 noon; they left Kathy and John with me while they went to look at wedding gowns and bridesmaids gowns. They looked in Bullock's Pasadena Store first. They bought a wedding gift for us, (Rex, Donna, Lou, and me) to give to John Ellsworth and his bride. Bullock's Store is sending it out to Nell Ellsworth's home, where the open house reception is going to be next Saturday. They bought table mats and napkins for them. They went to a bridal shop on Colorado Street; I believe Janet said it was Young's Bridal Shop. She found a wedding gown she liked and paid \$10.00 down on it. They are going to line the top and sleeves with white satin, under the lace. It will cost \$10.00 to do the job. The dress is \$69.00. She chose the bridesmaids gowns also, \$25.00 each. Donna says they are all very lovely. Janet isn't sure of the shades yet. John isn't in school because he has a cold. I enjoyed entertaining Kathy. John had the television on for his pleasure. We did play one guessing game for a while when he tired of T.V. Tonight after dinner, Louis and I went to the Lyric Theater in Monrovia, to see two excellent movies. Joan wouldn't take our money; she sells the tickets. We saw "A Man called Peter" and "East of Eden." Rex and Donna came also; we took them home. Joan took Rex's station wagon home after she'd finished her job of ticket selling. We took Rex and Donna home after the show.



Kathy turns 4 years old on June 14, 1955. Her big sister Janet will marry and move away in two months.

Kathy has no memories of either Janet or Joan living at home. They were just always married!



Snapshots of Kathy labeled 1955 in Monrovia.



June 14, Tuesday

Today is the birthday of our little Donna Kathleen Marsh; she is four years old. When she went to bed last night, she said to Donna, "When I wake up in the morning, you must say happy birthday Kathy." The cutie. [Note from Kathy: Not quite four yet and Kathy is already giving commands.] Bless her little heart, I hope she has a happy day and a long life full of happy days. Bonna and Marie D. came for me at 9:40 a.m. It was workday and luncheon. We picked up Bessie the babysitter at her home as usual. I quilted all the time while there, except for lunchtime. I took the Relief Society scrapbook and left it with Marva D. cause some of the sisters were looking at it when Bonna was ready to bring me home at 2:20. We crowned sweet little Beth Sundstrom, our "Queen for a Day." She was surprised indeed. Fay read the queen tribute I composed; she reads poems so lovely, she makes even my poems sound good. Beth S. and family are moving back to Salt Lake City. We will surely miss that dear little lady, but I'm happy for her, she is overjoyed to go back where her family all live. Sr. Blonda Yunt of our Relief Society stake board told me that Donna had taken on a job teaching a boy's class in Primary. I couldn't understand that startling news, with all she has on her mind now? We went out to Monrovia this evening to see Kathy open her birthday gifts. She had the little neighborhood friends in for cake and ice cream. It was fun watching them. The two little sun dresses we gave her fit well. Jerry the neighbor next door made her a cute play suit. Kathy received a lot of nice gifts. The neighbor lady across the street gave Kathy a cute basket purse. Janet and Joan are having her make them one, also. Joan gave Kathy an ironing board to go with the little iron I

Queen Beth Sundstrom

Our Queen today is someone who
Is held in high esteem.
A gentle person, with a helping hand
To serve on Friendship's team.

You'll never see her disappear
When there's work involved,
But, rather, gives out with support
Till the problem is dissolved.

Her friendship is a priceless gem,
She's one who won't pretend,
We're all happy to honor her today,
Our Relief Society Friend.

The visiting Teacher's message she gives,
In a sweet and understanding way,
Oft, concluding with an original poem,
Her lovely thoughts for the day.

And now, the ceremony of crowning our Queen
With gratitude, "Queen Beth, we say,
Come ascend your royal throne,
And be crowned our, "Queen for a Day".

gave her. Janet gave her a large sand pail and shovel. Mary gave her cute twin dolls. Rex and Donna gave her a scooter. Johnny gave her a jump rope. Grama Marsh phoned to wish Kathy happy birthday, she has a gift for her.

June 15, Wednesday

Our little Kathy was so delighted with her birthday gifts and party as she called it. (The neighborhood kiddies and us.) I didn't eat any of the delicious looking cake or homemade ice cream last night; this is the asthma time of year for me. I must be careful or else! My teenage gals are having a wonderful time for a few days, each driving their boyfriend's cars. Chuck is home in bed with the measles; he let Joan take his lovely new car, so she could get his exam papers and books from the school. Janet has had David's new car since she and Donna drove home from San Jose in it last Tuesday, June 7. David is flying down this weekend to get his car. His sister, Marilyn, is coming with him, to choose her bridesmaid dress, the color and to fit it. Janet has already chosen the gowns. Our Marshes have all been exposed to Chuck's measles! I hope they are immune. With Janet's wedding coming she needs her work pay. Janet said they think they'll be married in the Manti Temple. I'm happy about that, wish I felt well enough to make the trip to Utah to see her married, but afraid not, the hot desert in August? Donna went to a luncheon in Covina Ward today. She left Kathy home in her crib. Jerry, her sweet neighbor, was looking after her until someone came from school to take over while Mama is away. About all I accomplished this day was shampooing my hair. I had a difficult time breathing if I'd move around much. I read from the Doctrine and Covenants. Lou is enjoying the Blue Ribbon bouts boxing 7 to 8 p.m. I can't endure them, so I read. Rex made homemade ice cream last night and put it in the deep freezer to serve his Boy Scout troop tonight. Beverly has been helping out at the Venetian blind shop for a few days. Lou says they're caught up again now.

June 16, Thursday

I felt very weak and miserable this morning after a restless night with asthma. I had to do my washing, so I asked for help from my Father in heaven and he gave it as he always does when we ask in faith. I not only did the washing and cleaned up after it, but I watered the flowers, they are so lovely now. I also patched two suits of underwear for Lou. I rested for an hour before dinnertime this evening; we ate later because Lou wanted to cut the lawns first. Bill S. brought a 4x4 redwood post today for our cabaña door frames, but it is not straight enough for Lou to hang a door on, so he is going to take it back in the morning to

the lumber yard and get a better post. He was disappointed, said he should have gone for it himself. Annie is having her ladies to luncheon today, old friends from Garvanza Ward.

Jeanne Brinton mailed me a cute little thank you card for the shower gift I helped pay for, the baby crib, pad, and blanket. We all love Jeanne. We were both tired tonight so went to bed after the T.V. program, "This is Your Life." I always enjoy that program.

June 17, Friday

We were blessed with bright sunshine this morning, a treat from the gray mornings we've had lately. I rested better last night so feel better today. Lou took the 4x4 redwood post back to the lumberyard on his car this morning. He'll bring home a straight one this evening, we hope. I vacuumed the bedrooms and did the ironing. An annoying hurt in my heart region told me it was time for me to lie down and rest for a couple of hours. I see things around here

that need doing, but I can go just so far! Lou phoned, said he'd be half hour later tonight as Gordon was taking Ruby to the doctor for a check up on her broken instep at 4 p.m. He'll not get back to the shop this afternoon as usual. Lou will close up the shop at 5 p.m., if he doesn't have a customer. Lou brought the redwood post home and put it up ready to hang the screen door on. The one door he hung yesterday evening. We're going to enjoy the little screen in cabaña, free from flies, moths, insects and neighborhood cats. Our swing is always covered with cat fur. Sorry Mr. Tom Cat, but you'll have to find another bed. Annie phoned this evening to say Blanche had phoned her to tell her that Elsie's brother, Joe Garratt [*Joseph Henry Garratt*], passed away in Salt Lake City. He had cancer. I was sorry to learn of his passing and illness. Joe was a very nice person. He had a lovely wife [*Frederika Christine Sorensen*] and family. Stine was his wife's name. [*Stine was a nickname for Christine.*]

Blanche wanted me to mail her a sympathy card from our Strong Family Society. Annie also told me of the passing of an old friend from the Tenth Ward, Martha Herzog. She was 85 years old. I'll never make that age, he he! I wouldn't want to, if I have to feel the way I do today, for another 23 years, ugh! [*No such luck, Elvie, you have 25 years to go!*]

June 18, Saturday

Lou got a good start on the cabaña this morning. He got the double doors hung, the screen all on and cleaned. The little patio house is up, it is all finished but the painting and staining redwood. I'm surely happy with it. I mailed a sympathy card to Mrs. Joe Garrett, and a note to Elsie Bailey. Old sol has made it warm for us this day. Papa has



Marilyn Shattuck, David's sister.



Young David & Marilyn Shattuck



been drinking cold water from the icebox all day long. Now his carpenter overalls are wet with “honest sweat.” Donna phoned about 4 p.m. and sounded miserable with a head cold or hay fever. She said Joan and Mary had gone to the Biltmore Hotel to go get David and Marilyn Shattuck. They flew down from San Jose. I feel so sorry that Donna isn’t feeling well. Oh, how I wish I were able to have all of them here to dinner tomorrow. I want to help my sweet daughter, but just walking to the mailbox, one block away, put me down and out for the count. We rode out to Donna’s this evening and met David’s sweet sister Marilyn. Joan and Mary took David’s car to Los Angeles to meet them. David drove his car back. Janet was working so she couldn’t go for them, but she insisted that Joan stop by the dentist’s office so she could see David and Marilyn before they went home to Monrovia to wait for her. David went after Janet when she was through work. David brought his projector machine and we all enjoyed looking at movies; some Glen Andersen took of Donna’s children on Janet’s third birthday and some later, taken in Utah at Wayne and Marty’s and some pictures David took in Provo of Janet and girl friends and his boy friends, some taken in Korea. We brought Mary and John home to sleep at our house while the company is at Marshes. Tonight was the open house at the Ellsworth’s home for John Ellsworth and his bride. We sent a gift, not well enough to go.

June 19, Sunday—Father’s Day

John left early with Lou this morning to go to priesthood, he played around outside while Lou was in meeting. Harry Howard took John with him after the meeting to get his family for Sunday School. Lou came for Mary and me; we had walked as far as Colorado and San Gabriel where we pick up Hilda Botting. She was overjoyed today because Bishop Summerhays and a few ward members are paying her way to Canada, where she can see one of her sisters from England, who is visiting another sister in Canada. Hilda hasn’t seen her in 40 years, (the one from England). Wonderful, eh? We had a nice program in Sunday School honoring the fathers. The Junior Sunday School sang a song to daddies. The BYU students put on a nice skit honoring fathers, and letters to “Dad.” Eleanor Ramish Jorgensen sang a very beautiful solo; she dedicated it to her own father, (her parents were there.) Her mother, Betty R. wept silently throughout the song. I was back of Betty and could see the tears drop on her dress. Donna gave Lou a nice box of chocolates and a very

pretty card and verse. Lou took us, Johnny, Mary, and me, to Bob’s eating-place on East Colorado Street in Pasadena. We had the Big Boy with salad and French fries, and a chocolate malt. Johnny watched television all afternoon. Mary and I sat out in the cabaña while Grampa painted the cabaña screen doors green. I recited from memory some poems to Mary and Grampa. We all went to church tonight. Mary brushed and combed my hair tonight; she put it in two braids. Johnny asked, “Why don’t you wear it that way?” Oh me! Ha Ha!

June 20, Monday

I let the children sleep as long as they wanted to this morning as they stayed up rather late listening to T.V. last night. I got up to help Lou get off to work. John came out about 10 a.m. and helped me burn up some papers and cuttings. The phone woke Mary; it was Donna. She was coming to get the children and wanted us to ride to Alhambra with her to get some material to put into envelopes, to go in the gift boxes for Mothers with new infants, an advertising project our wards work on, to help get funds they need. Donna’s Relief Society stake board is working to get money to pay the board’s fair to the October conference in Salt Lake City. Mary and Kathy stayed here; John and I went with Donna. We brought the material here and did the job up in an hour or so. We all worked, and it didn’t take long to fix 444 envelopes. Mary counted and boxed them; little Kathy carried the filled envelopes to Mary. It was fun. Donna left the filled boxes here in my bedroom, until she goes again on Wednesday evening. We had a bite

of lunch and then Donna took the children home. Mary had a school picnic party at 4 p.m.; she was taking potato salad. The kids were going to swim first. This party was postponed a week ago, until school was out. Joan went hunting this morning with her boyfriend Chuck, and Judy? and Vick? I’ll be glad to know she got home safely. Janet, David S. and his sister Marilyn went to the bridal shop for Marilyn to try on her bridesmaid gown, then they went to see the new Los Angeles Temple. We all wish it would be open in time for Janet and David’s wedding in August, but it isn’t ready yet. They will not postpone the date. Donna told Janet to call on LaPriol Bunker at the mission home. I hope she does.

June 21, Tuesday

Two of Donna’s Relief Society friends want to give Janet a bridal shower on the 28th of June. It is surely nice of them. Our little Janet hasn’t had a shower. I’m told it isn’t good taste for mothers or grandmothers to give their own children showers, so I can’t do anything about it, eh? Well, I’ll do what I can to help her get some of the things she’ll need



*Elvie and Donna with husband and father,
Louis T. Renshaw.*

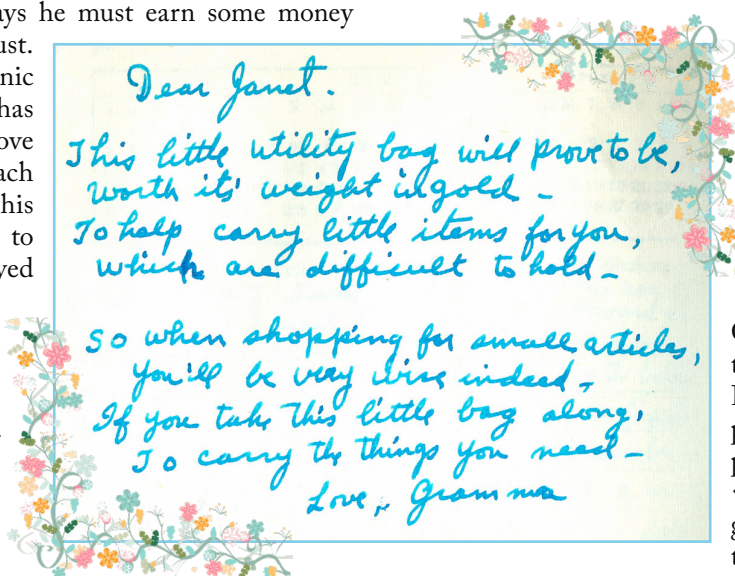
anyway. I phoned Donna this morning to find out if Joan got back from her hunting trip, and if David and Marilyn were on their way back home. Yes, Joan and Chuck arrived in time to eat dinner with the family last evening. Donna had potato salad and fried chicken. They brought no game home, ha ha! Janet, David, and Marilyn had a very lovely day yesterday. They went to the bridal shop first; Janet tried on her wedding gown and Marilyn her bridesmaid gown, a lovely green. They came out to let David see them, nothing superstitious about our little Janet, eh? (Good thing, too.) Marilyn is happy with her gown; she paid for it. They are going to mail it to her so she can match her shoes to the green dress. They went to see the Los Angeles Temple, and the mission home. Two missionaries took them through the mission home. President Bunker and LaPriel were not home. I'm sorry they didn't meet the Bunkers, they're such sweet folks. David took the girls to the beach. They brought Kathy home a doll from the beach. David and Marilyn left for San Jose, last night at 8 p.m. It is hard for the sweethearts to say "goodbye," but he says he must earn some money before his wedding in August. Mary went to her school picnic swim party last night. She has a cold this morning to prove it, ha ha! Donna had to teach a class of boys in Primary this morning, they are going to make muffins. Lou enjoyed some of his Father's Day chocolates tonight. I ate one, mmm good. There is a little extra work at the shop so Beverly is helping out a few days again. Lou stained the redwood in the cabaña tonight.

June 22, Wednesday

Today is Grama Renshaw's birthday, I hope she has a beautiful day in the spirit world; we love her sweet memory. I talked to Annie on the phone yesterday. She asked for Donna's phone number; she says she is going to give Janet a shower. Miriam Clayton is helping, nice, eh? I feel concerned about Violet; in her letter yesterday, she said the eye doctor says she is only getting vision in one eye, most of the time. Her reading and sewing and crocheting have been cut to 1 hour per day, ½ hour at a time. Oh, I hope she'll be careful to follow his instructions; eyesight is so

precious. Violet sent me a newspaper clipping of Martha Herzog's passing away, it was a good likeness of our old 10th Ward friend. This clipping says she was 81 years old. I thought she was as old as my parents, or so? Lou bought some redwood color stain, and went over the redwood in our patio cabaña last evening. It looks so pretty now. We're surely enjoying it screened in, too. Papa has finished that project; I wonder what he'll start next? Annie phoned to say they have chosen July 2 for Janet's shower, at Miriam's home. Annie, Beverly, Miriam, and Dolores are giving it, bless their hearts. It is on Saturday, so Beverly can be there. She works other nights at Cannon Electric Company. I phoned Dr. Neal this morning and made an appointment with him for next Monday at 11 a.m. We received a postcard from Dale Andersen with a pretty colored picture of the beautiful big ship he is sailing on to Brazil. He said they'd be crossing the equator at 3 p.m. that day. He didn't date the card. Of course he was in Brazil when the card arrived here. (God bless our missionary lad.) I went uptown this afternoon to

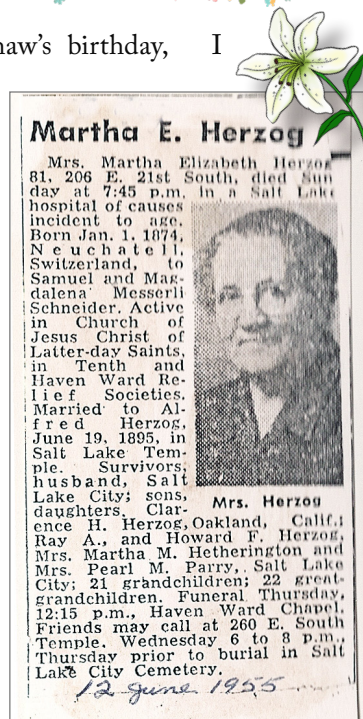
buy a shower gift for Janet. It still startles me to think our little Janet is getting married! I bought her an apron in Nash's Store, a blue plastic utility bag in Hertel's Store and a utility apron in Hertel's, also. I bought six nice dishtowels and three dishcloths in Grants Store. I'm going to put them all in the bag with one of Fuller's stainless steel scouring pads and two crocheted potholders. I composed this little verse to go with my gift. Br. Manlove phoned this evening; he and his wife



had been visiting a friend and his new bride of two weeks. The bride knew us; she is our old friend from Garvanza Ward, Wilda LaNere. She is now Mrs. Ed Hopper. He is a good LDS man. I'm happy for Wilda. Her husband died several years ago, as did Mr. Hopper's wife. Donna, Johnny, Mary and Bonnie Howard went to Alhambra to work on the church project. Little Kathy stayed with us tonight until Donna came for her at 10 p.m. Donna took the 444 envelopes we filled on Monday. Bevan has the mumps now, so sorry for him. Lou had trouble starting his car this evening after work. Harry Howard came down this evening and put a new battery in it.

June 23, Thursday

I was glad Lou got his car to start this morning. Harry Howard put a new battery in it last evening, but they were not sure it was the battery causing the trouble. I got up to fix Lou's lunch. I felt so miserable I went back to bed after, until 9 a.m. My jaunt to town yesterday was a little too much for me. I had a restless night, asthma and other complications. Lou phoned about 1 p.m. and said he was having some work done on our car, about \$35.00 worth; just things that need attention. He had no more trouble



starting the car after Harry Howard put the new battery in it last night. I wrapped Janet's shower gift, ready for next Tuesday night. I phoned to ask about Bevan. He has a phone by his bedside; he has the mumps. He was very sick yesterday, but feels some better this afternoon. He says he had stomach pains all day yesterday and a high fever. His two children have just gotten over the mumps. I answered Violet's letter. Donna took John up to Howard's this afternoon. Mary has been up there a few days. They both stayed at Howard's last night. They love to be up at the Howard's in Sierra Madre.

June 24, Friday

Lou ate his breakfast and lunch out today. He enjoys eating out once in a while. I did my washing; it was a pretty day, not too hot. Florence Marsh phoned; she says John wants to buy Donna a new dress to wear at Janet's wedding, isn't that nice, eh? Florence asked me to phone Donna to find out if Rex had told her that they wanted to meet Donna in Highland Park at Ivers Department Store tonight. Donna had been trying to phone Florence while she was talking to me. She talked to Florence after I'd called her (Donna), and made arrangements to meet the Marshes at 7 p.m. at Ivers. Donna wants Janet to go with her to help decide what Mother wears at her wedding reception. Mary and John are enjoying their visit up at the Howards, in the Sierra Madre canyon; they have a lovely swimming pool to entertain the kids, also. Donna was going for them this afternoon. Chuck brought a pretty blue dress, from his dad's factory, for Donna. It had a little spot on the back, but her cleaner man took it off. She wore it to the reception at Pulsifer's last night. One of their daughters got married, (Norma). I talked to Annie on the phone this afternoon; she says Irene A. is going to be operated on next week for a hernia. I'm sorry to learn of her trouble, but glad they have the Blue Cross to pay for it. I wish my Donna and family had Blue Cross Insurance, and me, too. Today's mail brought two invitations to showers, both for my granddaughter Janet. One is next Tuesday, June 28. Donna's friends in Monrovia are giving it, Pearl Turner, Erma G., Maude Kunz, LaVon Rowbotham, and Bernice Olson. On July 2, Saturday, Annie Andersen, Miriam Clayton, and Dolores Jones are giving Janet a shower. It surely is nice of these dear ones; bless them all. Donna and Janet came here tonight to show us the lovely dress John and Florence bought for Donna and some silver slippers and white girdle. Janet bought a pretty dress for herself.

June 25, Saturday

Donna and Janet both tried on their new dresses here last night so we could see how pretty they looked. Donna's is a steel blue, it is very pretty and it fits lovely, with the new girdle and bra attached. The new girdle gives her a very nice form. The dress is size 12. She has kept to her diet okay. The Marshes spent about \$40.00 on Donna. They're grand folks. Janet's dress is darling too, size 10, navy blue, with tiny white dots in. It is a fitted dress, has a white chain like a long strand or rope of beads. They both look lovely in their new dresses. Janet paid \$25.00 for hers. Marshes bought the dress, silver shoes and girdle for Donna to wear to Janet's wedding reception. This morning we drove to Barr's Store in San Gabriel, and Lou bought a lightweight summer suit, light tan color, for \$28.00. He also bought a pretty light green tie and canvas shoes. The shoes are to wear to work. We stopped at a nursery and bought some plant food to see if we can get our little fur plant to come back to green health again. I put some of the blood meal around all of our plants. Lou worked in the yard all day, after we got home. He painted our green shutters, put down a brick platform step, into the cabaña, cut lawns and watered them. I dusted up in the house and did a little ironing. Kathy and Johnny stayed with us a short while this afternoon, while Janet drove her mother and Mary to the bridal shop for Mary to fit her bridesmaid gown. Joan and Chuck went to a wedding of one of Joan's girlfriends this afternoon. Joan worked at the theater again this evening. Chuck's mother gave Joan a lovely gift last week, because she sat with Chuck when he was sick in bed, getting over the measles. Mrs. DeBias brought a lovely play suit, shorts, and dress from Haggerty's Store. It was size 16, too large for Joan. She changed it for a pretty dress. Mrs. D. told her to change it. We did our marketing this evening and went back to get Papa's suit.



Janet Marsh and David Shattuck in love!

June 26, Sunday

It was raining lightly this morning, so Lou didn't wear his new summer nylon suit as he'd planned. We picked up Hilda Botting at the bus line as usual and took her to Sunday School. I was glad to see Lutie Solem there again. She comes out quite often now to Sunday School. Hilda B. is leaving for Canada next Sunday. She is flying there to see her sister from England who she hasn't seen in 40 years. Bishop Summerhays is making it possible for her to go there to meet her sister, who is visiting another sister who lives in Canada. Beverly drove her parents over to visit with us this afternoon. She brought the little colored pictures

Dale took before he left for his mission and some taken in Salt Lake City and Provo. She had Ray Clayton's little viewer, projector for us to look at them. There were some very fine pictures of all of us. Beverly left soon after 4 p.m., she wanted to go to the Highland Park Ward meeting at 5 p.m. Annie and Bill stayed here to eat a bite of lunch with us. We all went to the Garvanza Ward meeting at 7 p.m. It was grand seeing many of our old friends again. I missed the Marshes; they were in the early meeting. We had a very lovely meeting, nice music and talks by young people.

President Dibble took care of some business, released the ward clerk, I believe. The main speaker was a young man, in his late thirties, I guess. The doctor said he won't live much longer than two weeks. He is dying of cancer. He gave a wonderful talk from his wheelchair. Oh, he has a beautiful spirit. His name is Leno Martin. [*Leno Baird Martin died September 11, 1955.*] He has a sweet looking family; he is surely a man of God. Beverly gave us a loaf of bread she got from the new Safeway Market near their home.

June 27, Monday

I had to be at the dentist office at 11 a.m. Helen Edgecomb took me to the bus line; she went to the post office in our little town, La Manda Park branch. I was lucky, the bus came as soon as I got out of her car, in front of the post office. Dr. Neal took the impression of my lower jaw to make my lower plate. It's a messy job, I'm glad it is over. He wants me back tomorrow morning to try the wax form out, to see how to set up the teeth. I rode to Nash's Department Store to look at their stainless steel flatware (knives, forks, and spoons, service for eight). I want to give Janet a set of stainless steel if I can find what I like at a price we can pay. I also looked for a cute housecoat for Janet's shower next Saturday. I found one I liked in the Broadway Store, but I didn't have enough money, within a few cents, to get it; so I had the clerk put it aside for me until tomorrow. It cost \$9.23 with the tax. It is a flowered seersucker, large roses, big pockets and black tie. It is dress length. I hope Janet will like it. It is size 10. Her new dress and wedding gown are size 10. Donna, Janet and Joan came this afternoon; Donna made several phone calls from here, about wedding cake, paper plates, napkins, mints, and etcetera. Oh, believe me, it takes the money to give a reception for 250 people. Annie phoned this evening and said Bill brought home four nice pads for our patio chairs and one for their own chair. Cost to us only

50¢! I couldn't believe my ears. Bless his heart. I mailed Wilda LaNere Hopper a wedding congratulation card. I put the loaf of 4-grain bread that Bev gave us yesterday, in our icebox, until we use up what we have on hand. She was a dear to get it for us.

June 28, Tuesday

I went to Dr. Neal's again this morning to try out the wax form, so he could see how to set up the teeth. If the new plate doesn't fit any better than the wax one did, "Balls of Fire" I'll never eat or talk again, with that in my mouth, ha

ha! The doctor informs me it will not be like that. I went to the Broadway Store to get the little housecoat I had put aside. I wanted to look about a bit, for stainless steel flatware, but I wasn't well enough for any extra walking, so I came on home. I talked to Lou on the phone. He said maybe we could get a nice set through Gordon's business, at a good discount. It would be wonderful if we could, eh?

Mary left this morning for her vacation week, at the stake Beehive camp. I hope she has a wonderful time, bless her heart. Donna took some fried chicken to the beach party for the Relief Society stake party. She is on the stake board. Joan stayed home to take care of Kathy. Ovena Mayo phoned to tell me she'd take me to Janet's shower in Monrovia tonight. I'm glad Lou will not have to take me all the way to



Janet Marsh circa 1953

Monrovia now. I made some hash from what was left of our little rump roast this afternoon. We enjoyed it for dinner. We picked Melba Kunz up at 7:25 this evening and went to Ovena Mayo's. Chet showed us around the new home outside; he was working in the yard, putting out fertilizer. Oh the aroma, ugh! Ovena took us around inside the home; they have a lovely big home. Ovena's mother, Mrs. Richens, is visiting her. We went to Monrovia in Ovena's car. The shower was in Maude Kunz's lovely home. She is Melba's sister-in-law. Janet looked very pretty in her new dress. Joan was beautiful, too. It was a very lovely shower. Janet received many very nice gifts. The ladies in Monrovia are surely nice. Donna was sweet in her pretty tan fitted dress. The whipped cream cake was delicious. Joan wrote down the gifts for Janet as she opened them. A cute little gal put the ribbon bows in the center of a paper plate; it made a beautiful bridal bouquet, which she handed to Janet after the gifts were all opened. Sr. Hall was about the only lady I knew from Monrovia Ward. Oh yes, Edith Fox's married daughter, I've forgotten

her name, helped with the games. She is a nice person, sweet and friendly. Janet was pleased with the beautiful pink night gown Donna gave her and the cute shorty nightie from Grama Marsh. She liked my utility bag and contents. Janet phoned David, he wants her to come to San Jose next Sunday morning; fly there. He is going to wire her the plane fare, nice, eh?

June 29, Wednesday

I phoned Florence Marsh this morning to tell her Janet was very happy with the pretty blue nightgown she gave her at the shower last night. She could not be there. Her brother Ross, his wife, and a couple from Utah stayed all night at Marshes'. They left for home today. Annie has Glen and Irene's three boys with her for a few days. Irene is going to be operated on in the morning for a hernia. I received a nice letter from sister Violet. She has her new eyeglasses. She sent me Joe Garrett's death clipping from the Salt Lake newspaper. I put it in my scrapbook with other friend's pictures that have made the newspaper, by having their obituary notice published. Violet said in her letter, "here is another man just dying to get in your scrapbook," ha ha! Well, he made it. I didn't know Joe very well, but my stepmother loved his sister, Elsie Daisy, better than anyone else in the world. Oh oh! Grama Elvie, watch it! Joan went to a slumber party tonight with girls from church, at one of their homes.

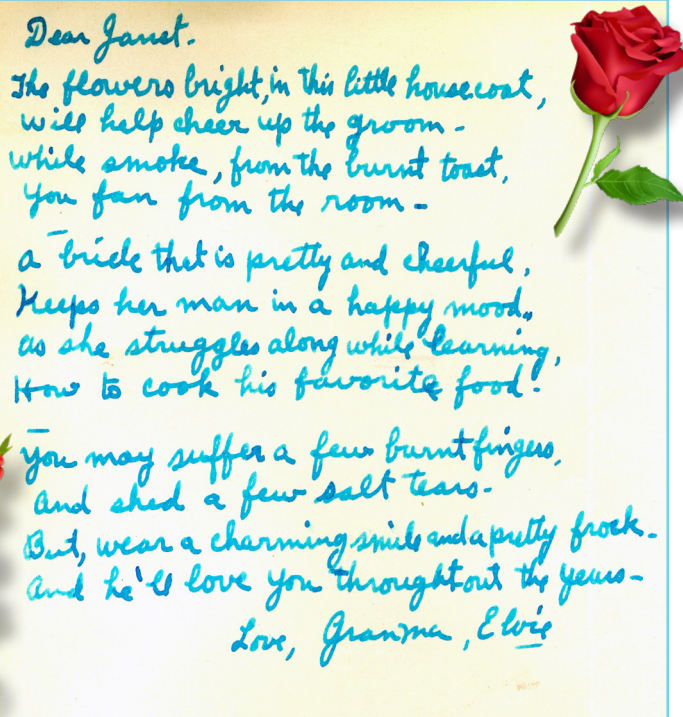
June 30, Thursday

Donna brought Kathy and John here this morning at 8:45 a.m. We had her house deed, or second loan papers here. She came to get them. She is trying to negotiate a loan to help them take care of the wedding expenses and etcetera. Kathy and John stayed here, until after Donna's Singing Mother's rehearsal. Donna had to hurry back to take Janet to her work at Dr. Naylor's dental office. The kiddies ate breakfast and lunch with me. Donna had a little lunch when she came at 12:30 noon. She made a few phone calls here, making arrangements for Janet and David's reception for August 6. The lovebirds have decided to be married in the Salt Lake Temple on August 4. I surely wish I felt well enough to go through the temple with them, but the long trip over

hot desert has me licked. [August heat in a car without air conditioning would be difficult.] Joan phoned 15 minutes after Donna and the children left. She was at Vick's home; she told me of the nice time she had at the slumber party last night. She and her girlfriend Judy went with Vick to his home to help him cut or trim the hedge. I wonder how much help they'll be. (Some cutting up, anyway!) Bless my sweet Joanie. I hope our dear little Mary is enjoying her outing with the stake Beehive girls this week. Donna said it was sure cute to see Joan's boyfriend last night with his mouth full of pins and a yardstick, while he pinned up the hem of the white dress he made for Joan at his Dad's dress factory. He runs a power sewing machine in his vacation time. He is a cute fellow. Lou doesn't like to think of Rex and Donna having to pay \$100 and 10 percent for a \$900 loan. [In 2016 dollars \$900 is equal to \$8,034.88. Considering Rex couldn't always find steady work that was a large sum of money.] He is going to see if he can help them find a better deal. I surely hope he can. I composed a little poem to go with Janet's shower gift for Saturday night.



Elsie Daisy Garrett Strong Bailey, sister to Joe Garrett, stepmother to Elvie, and "my stepmother loved his sister, Elsie Daisy, better than anyone else in the world. Oh oh! Grama Elvie, watch it!"



This is a copy of the poem in Elvie's handwriting that Janet received at her shower. Janet saved it with her keepsakes over the years. It is now in Donna Belnap's home. Janet had a note on it that said Grama Elvie gave me a house coat with this poem.

July 1, Friday

The calendar says it is summer time, but it feels more like winter. It was cold and gloomy until the sun managed to get through this afternoon. I went to Dr. Neal's office and got my new choppers in, (my lower plate). Oh me, I've got my doubts if I'll ever eat or talk with them in. I do look better, if I can only get used to the darned things. But I can do it if I make the effort. Lou phoned this afternoon, he had been to the bank and out to talk to Donna. He thinks he and Rex can have a joint loan at Bank of America, at 6 percent, so Rex will not have to pay that 10 percent at the other loan company. Br. Sidlow works at the bank; he took care of Lou in the

Personal Loan Department. Lou will talk to Rex about it. I was very much surprised to hear Ethel Newbold's voice on the phone this afternoon, she is in Los Angeles taking care of her grandchildren while Harold and Margie have a vacation trip to New York and points of interest in the East. In Elsie's note yesterday, she said that she and Harriet S. were going on a vacation trip to Canada next week. Maybe Elsie's sister Beat is going. She was at Elsie's home when she wrote to me. I think this will be Elsie's third trip to Canada if I remember correctly, and Harriet's, too. I'm glad they can have these nice trips. My sweet daddy left her, Elsie, well fixed. She has taken so many lovely trips since he has passed away and I'm happy for her. Lou brought papers home from the bank for Rex and Donna and myself to fill out or sign. Lou will take out the note; Rex will be a co-signer. I hope they can get it okay. I have a very tired and sore mouth tonight, but I'll battle it out with these d--- new teeth. I hope they don't end up in a cup on the high shelf, like my mother's lower plate did, ha ha!

July 2, Saturday

Believe me, I understand now why so many lower plates rest on the top shelf in the pantry, instead of in the owner's mouth. I've already had more pain and distress with the new lower teeth than I did to have all of them extracted in March. I'm just not eating until the sore mouth heals up. I'm drinking milk and soups. I'll learn to talk with the d--- things first, then maybe will master eating food, eh? Lou and I took my bedsprings and mattress off; he worked on the box springs to see if he could find out what makes them squeak and groan so much. I do hope the tightening of corners and centerboards will take care of it. Lou worked in the yard while I cleaned up in the house. We are surely enjoying the nice patio chair pads and swing pillows Uncle Bill got for us, "bless his heart." I received a nice little thank you note from Janet for the shower gift I gave her last Tuesday night. The little sweetheart didn't have to send Grama one, I know it takes time to write all of the little notes, but it did make me happy, nevertheless. We drove out to Monrovia this afternoon at 5 p.m. to have Rex and Donna sign the loan papers. Their front lawn is a mess from the digging up to put in a new cesspool, but they're happy they can flush the toilet without troubles now. Lou ate some dinner with the family, Spanish rice and salad. My mouth is too sore. Rex answered a letter to Dick and Ruth in regards to children's insurance. The Deals want Rex and Donna to take care of their family in case they were both killed in an accident. Janet, Joan, Mary, and Donna brought Jo Rush to the shower tonight at Miriam Clayton's. Lou took me over and then he stayed at Andersen's with Bill, David, and Jimmy Andersen. We had a very nice time tonight at Janet's shower. Annie, Beverly, Miriam C., and Dolores Jones gave it. They went to a lot of work to make it real lovely. Janet got a lot of beautiful gifts. Dody and Bev took care of the games. We had a lot of fun. The refreshments were delicious looking. My mouth was too sore to eat any.

July 3, Sunday

It was so wonderful to see the family all together again at Janet's shower last night. Florence Marsh and Aunt Alice Marsh and daughter, Bonnie, were there, also. Florence Oates and family are up at Camp Baldy, in their own cabin

over the weekend for the holiday. Miriam Marsh and family are in San Diego with her parents. Beverly made a cute wishing well for the gifts to go in. The girls surely worked hard, and it was indeed a lovely shower. Janet got so many lovely gifts. We all embroidered our names in the corner of the dishtowels for Janet. My mouth was so sore I just couldn't get the new teeth in this morning. I made myself almost ill trying to do it. I went to Sunday School without the lower plate, as I've done for the past three months. I enjoyed eating, too, after we came home from fast meeting. I'll have to leave them out until the dreadful sores heal up. My dentist is out of town, at the beach, until next Tuesday. I phoned Donna this afternoon. She said the family, all but Joan, went to the airport in Inglewood, to see Janet off on the plane this morning at 9 a.m., at the International Airport (Southwest Airways). She'll be with David by 11 a.m. Grama Elvie was praying for her safety as I'm sure her parents were, also. Br. Sidlow took Lou's bank loan papers after Sunday School. He is going to take care of the loan Lou is taking out for Rex and Donna. Janet had made reservations for a round-trip ticket, but somehow they gave her a one-way trip ticket, so she is going to see if there is a cancellation she can have Monday evening. She is expected to be at work on Tuesday morning. We had a very nice meeting in church tonight. The stake missionaries of our ward were the speakers. Ann and Jiggs Hartshorne gave the prayers, and Lydia Stephens, Harry Howard, Phil Snelgrove, and Bob Austin gave the talks. There were two piano solos by Abe Neighbor. Our nice neighbor Mrs. Stacey gave us some plums from her trees, delicious!



July 4, Monday—Today is Independence Day!

Lou hung our two flags out on the front porch. Grampa Lowe, next door, had his large flag out. They are the only flags I could see in our neighborhood. The Edgecombs are up in the mountains in a friend's cabin over the holidays. The Lowes went on a picnic today with their son Harold and his family. Lou and I had a happy, busy holiday working in our pretty little backyard. He washed his car first, and then he reset the stepping-stones to our cabaña and put four more across to the can-box so I will not have to walk on the wet grass. He washed the slats of the Venetian blinds in the cabaña and put new green cord and tape on them. He cleaned up the inside of the cabaña; he put little green wood bars on the screen doors to protect the screens. He painted them this morning. He painted my iron clothes polls and tightened the lines. He cut the lawn and watered. I helped him here and there wherever he needed me. I

wonder what my Marshes are doing? Janet is up in San Jose visiting David and his family. I guess she'll fly back this evening. I helped Lou put the clean slats back in the tape ladders. I guess I reached too high for my good, I had heart pains after and they came on and off all evening until they forced me to retire to bed. We both rested for an hour after the work was done and before we ate dinner. Lou helped me prepare dinner. I couldn't eat any lamb chops. I hope I'll conquer the new teeth soon.

July 5, Tuesday

I mailed Irene Andersen a get-well card from our Strong Family Society. I wrote a little note to her on my own personal stationery. I phoned Donna to see if Janet arrived home last night. Janet had phoned Donna from San Jose. She couldn't get a cancellation ticket on the plane; she had reserved a round trip fare, but they made the mistake of giving her one way. She'll fly in this evening. Donna had to call Dr. Naylor and explain why Janet couldn't be at work this day. She will leave San Jose at 6 p.m. Donna was in a rush to go to Primary this morning. The Singing Mothers are singing at Sr. Ella Carpenter's funeral service at the stake center at 1 p.m. Sr. Carpenter was a member of their group and she dropped dead of a heart attack. [*Ella Selina Hogan Carpenter was 71 years old. Her husband had been dead for 19 years.*] She had been well as far as anyone knew. I phoned Dr. Neal to make an appointment to see him at 4 p.m. Donna said she and Rex worked at home all day yesterday. They and the neighbors across the street had their own fireworks display for the kiddies at night. Joan went to Chuck's home for a barbecue dinner yesterday afternoon. She worked at the theater in the evening. She took care of Kathy today, while Donna went to the funeral to sing with the Singing Mothers. Donna came here after the funeral; she left her car in a garage on Walnut to have some adjustments made. They sent the car here at 3:45 p.m. Donna took me to the doctors after we left the man off at the garage and she paid the \$12.02. Dr. Neal ground my plate to fit better. I wore it home and it didn't hurt. Lou called at the dentist for me. We drove to Bank of America; where Lou met Br. Sidlow. Lou had to sign his name on another paper before he could get the so he took care of it after work.



Bill Andersen and Al Hoglund in 1916.
Bill's birthday is July 7.

July 6, Wednesday

I finished Violet's letter this morning before doing my washing. Lou wrote a check for Donna this morning for the loan amount, \$900. He took the loan out for Rex and Donna with Rex as the co-signer. Donna came for it about noon; she had Mary, John, and a neighbor friend of John's, and little Kathy. They had been to the doctor at

the emergency hospital to have her little foot dressed. She had an accident yesterday, while Joan was soaking Kathy's foot to ease a sore bite or sting. Kathy somehow jerked her foot into the steaming hot water Joan was pouring into the pan for Kathy's foot bath. It was a bad steam water burn. Jerry, their next door neighbor, took Joan with Kathy to the emergency hospital where they took care of the nasty burn. The doctor gave Kathy a shot, which put her to sleep, to relax her. She slept all afternoon. Poor Joan was dreadfully upset. Joan did most of Donna's ironing while Donna was away and Kathy was asleep. Janet brought a large bag of cherries home with her yesterday, which the family are enjoying today. The kiddies had a peanut butter sandwich here, and then Donna took them to the Lyric Theater in Monrovia to see a Walt Disney cartoon, which Joan thought little Kathy would like. Joan is selling tickets this afternoon there at the Lyric. Annie phoned me and read three nice letters from Dale. He is in Brazil. He and his partner have been assigned to work in Rio de Janeiro. May God bless our boy missionary, way off in South America. I believe he feels a wee bit homesick about now. Well, we are all praying for his success, bless his heart. I talked to Dr. Neal's wife and she said to keep the new teeth out of my mouth until the sores heal up. Oh, what a time I'm having. Donna transferred the \$900 check to their bank account.

July 7, Thursday

Today is the birthday of our beloved Uncle Billy Andersen; I believe he is 65 years old today. It is also Florence Oates's birthday, two grand people! I hope they both have a happy birthday and many more of them, too. It has been a pretty and sunny day; one of those days which happen every once in awhile for me, when I'm able to accomplish something. I did my ironing, patched Lou's underwear, made a new cover for a pillow in the patio swing and cooked a nice browned beef stew for dinner. I took a nap in the swing, on the new pillow cover. Our cabaña is pretty now, with the bright chair pads and pillows that Bill Andersen got for us. I talked to Joan on the phone; Kathy is feeling fine today. John had her out for a ride in the little red wagon. Donna and Mary were out somewhere shopping. I guess Donna had been to Singing Mother's rehearsal this morning. Oh yes, I sent a card to Ethel Newbold and a short note, she is in Los Angeles taking care of her son's children while they are on vacation in the East. After dinner I cut some red rose buds, Lou took me to Highland Park to wish Uncle Bill a happy birthday. I had a pretty card with a dollar bill in it and the rose buds. Bill had to leave with someone to administer to Alice Schulthess, and then he had to go to a special meeting in the ward, called by the bishopric. Annie

didn't go because of Glen and Irene's baby Jimmy and David staying with them. Little Gilbert is with his Grama in North Hollywood. Irene is home from the hospital now. Annie is taking the children home on Saturday. Lou enjoyed some apple pie and ice cream at Andersen's. I did not eat anything.



July 8, Friday

I did my vacuuming. I've been thinking of Kathy and I wanted to phone but made myself wait, cause we'll ride out to see her and the family tomorrow as usual, I think. Joan said Kathy was feeling fine yesterday; she couldn't walk on her foot but was enjoying a ride in the little red wagon. Mrs. Lowe brought the Post Magazine over for me to read an article about a new chemical the doctors are using, with

Discovery of Antidepressants

Researchers discovered the first antidepressants purely by chance in the 1950s. Seeking a treatment for schizophrenia, scientists at the Munsterlingen asylum in Switzerland found that a drug that tweaked the balance of the brain's neurotransmitters — the chemicals that control mood, pain and other sensations — sent patients into bouts of euphoria. For schizophrenics, of course, that only made their condition worse. But researchers soon realized it made their pill perfect for patients with depression. On first trying it in 1955, some patients found themselves newly sociable and energetic and called the drug a "miracle cure." The drug, called imipramine and marketed as Tofranil in 1958, was quickly followed by dozens of rivals — known as tricyclics for their three-ring chemical structure — as drug companies rushed to take advantage of a burgeoning market.

<http://content.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1952143,00.html>

wonderful success, for mental distress, like Mrs. Lowe suffers with at times. She is such a dear little soul, so happy and alert when she is well, but very depressed and melancholy when the spell is on. Her doctor is trying the new medication on her. I hope she will be well always now. She came

Mrs. Lowe may have been on the new medication. over again this evening and we had a nice visit. She told me about her folks and friends back in Maine. Lou dug up the little dead evergreen plant, from the south side of our front porch. I hope we can find one to replace it. The twin plant on the north side of the porch is growing so lovely. We did our shopping at the market this evening after dinner. John and Florence Marsh bought a lovely dark blue suit for Rex tonight at Ivers Store in Highland Park.

July 9, Saturday

We went over to Simpson's nursery this morning to see if we could find a little evergreen plant like the one we have on the north side of the porch. They had several of them; I do not know the strange name the plants are called, but they did not have one large enough for us. The man said he'd look around and see if he can locate one that will match the one we have here. We stopped at the little rug store, across the street from the nursery and bought two little throw rugs, one for the kitchen and one for the back porch. They are braided oval rugs, very pretty. We took one of them back for the

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rex Marsh
request the pleasure of your company
at the wedding reception of their daughter*

Janet Eileen

and

*Mr. Meredith David Shattuck
Saturday evening, the sixth of August
from eight until ten o'clock
Four hundred seven Laguna Road
Pasadena, California*

*Married in the
Salt Lake Temple
August 4, 1955*



Elvie and Lou picked up 25 extra wedding announcements for Janet's wedding on July 9.

larger size, for \$4.00, the smaller size was \$3.50. We have the green and gold in the kitchen and the brown and gold on the back porch. Lou went to town and bought two new retread tires for our car. After lunch we drove to Monrovia. We looked in a nursery there, but didn't find the right size fur tree plant we want. We went to the printing shop first, across the street from PCC College, to get the last 25 wedding invitations for Janet's wedding. They got 200, and then decided they needed 25 more. They were paid for; we just picked them up for Donna. Kathy's little foot is much better. The doctor dressed it again this morning. She won't try to walk on it yet. Donna took Kathy and Mary to Dr. Nebeker. He washed Kathy's ears out, got some wax out of them. He says her tonsils and adenoids must come out before she'll be as well as she should be. (After the wedding is over, they'll see about it.) He gave Mary an ointment to put on her cracked sore heels. John and his boyfriend Howard, sold lemonade that Mary made for them with Donna's lemons and sugar. The boys made a few pennies, which they bought popsicles with, when the ice cream man came by their stand, ha ha! Mary felt cheated after all the work of making the drinks to sell and then she didn't get a Popsicle. Rex worked part of the day. He was asleep when we were there. Janet worked at the dentist's office. Joan worked at Lyric Theater. Florence Marsh phoned to tell Donna and Rex that their retirement check came; they are happy. Janet made a cast of her own teeth for fun. Donna showed it to us today. Donna

bought a darling blue dress for Kathy to wear at the wedding reception. She has a pretty new dress that Chuck brought her from his dad's factory; it is rayon.

July 10, Sunday

I was delightfully surprised to see Donna, Janet, Joan, Mary, and John in our Sunday School this morning. It is so good to see them at Sunday School in our ward again. Rex stayed home with little Kathy; she can't get her shoe on the sore foot yet. The happy occasion for their visit to our ward was that Janet wanted to purchase a temple bride's book from the stake center bookstore. Oh, they all looked so beautiful to me. Another surprise, they had Shirley Pierce Wenrich with them. She used to live as neighbors to us in Highland Park on La Riba Way. She was a child, a little older than Janet. I remember her as Shirley Pierce, as she lived at Grama Pierce's home because her mother, Grace Wenrich, worked all the time. Shirley phoned Donna this morning and asked if she could go to Sunday School with them. She lives with her parents in Arcadia now. She is interested in our church, is not a member. She is a very sweet young lady. I got one quick look at my lovely Mary; she went home with the Howard family to spend the day. John was happy because he took his friend, Richard Major home with him for dinner. Joan had to go to work at the theater this afternoon. Lou and I enjoyed a nice drive this afternoon. We saw some beautiful old homes, lovely estates, with lots of trees, flowers, plants, and lawn, in the old Pasadena district. We went to church tonight. I got the envelope with printed numbers in, for Janet's bride book, from Br. Dixon in the church library. Shirley Wenrich came to church again tonight. We took her home and said "hello" to her mother, Grace Wenrich. We had a very nice meeting tonight. Eleanor Jorgensen sang two lovely numbers. Br. and Sr. Grant Robinson gave fine talks.

July 11, Monday

I did my washing including four white loop rugs. Nora Williamson phoned and said she'd come to take me Relief Society visiting this afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Mary Marsh phoned from Howard's, she stayed there all night. She said Mother and Janet were going shopping for things needed for



Joan Marsh and Sandy Pierce circa 1941. Perhaps Elvie remembered her name wrong in 1955? In the years on La Riba Way only one Pierce girl was mentioned and that was Sandy. Her last name was not Pierce, but her Grandmother's last name was Pierce. It is confusing and probably will not be solved without help from beyond.



the reception and could they leave Kathy and Johnny here? Mary Howard said she'd look after them so I could do my visiting teaching as planned. Mary Marsh was going to a birthday party for her friend Carol Colvin in Sierra Madre this afternoon. They were going swimming and to a show. The Watkins man brought the liniment for Lou's aching arms, \$1.85. I bought it for him; wonder if he'll use it? Janet and Donna called in; they made a few phone calls about pictures of bride and party. I gave them the envelope that goes with Janet's bride book. It should have been in the book yesterday when she got it at our stake center library. It was \$4.50. Nora W. came for me while they were here phoning. Nora and I found 7 of our 10 ladies at home. Of course she and I are counted in the 7. We have our own district. LaDorna Perine sold their home last night, they'll be moving to the beach in 30 days. We'll surely miss them. It's always a pleasure to visit her. Carolyn Thatcher treated us to a lovely drink with sherbet in, her daughters, Joan and Joyce, fixed it for us, sweet girls. Joan is home from BYU in Provo. We love to visit the Thatcher home, too. Joan Marsh stayed overnight with a girlfriend. They've gone to the beach today.

July 12, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:40 this morning. Marie and Pauline Doezie were with her. We picked Bessie, the babysitter up at her home. I sat down to

quilt on Marva DeHaan's beautiful rose appliquéd quilt as soon as I got to church. We've been working on it for several months. It's a tough one to work on but will be a very pretty quilt when finished. She is giving it to her married daughter. Our Queen for a Day was Phyllis McDonnell. She was a very surprised and pretty queen. Marva D. and Bonna are alone, but doing a good job of running the Relief Society

while President Clarice Tanner is on her three months leave of absence. Jeanne Brinton is awaiting the stork's visit; her doctor has put her to bed until the infant arrives. She has had some trouble in the past two weeks and the baby isn't due for a few more weeks. Marva asked one of the new sisters to read my queen's tribute poem and she did a very nice job of it. Sorry I do not know her name yet. Our luncheon was very delicious. Sr. Romig is going to knit some house slippers for me; she had a pretty rose pair there, today. Melba Kunz bought them for \$2.50. She is making mine rose, also. A lady from the gas company gave a talk, after the lunch, on how to can foods properly. Our stake president, Sr. Thelma Nebeker, visited us today. I had to lie down for an hour. I was surely fatigued from quilting so long. Lou brought Janet's wedding gift home this evening. It is stainless steel flatware. I'm very happy with the set; it is service for eight. It has sixteen teaspoons, eight of knives, forks, soup spoons, and two large spoons. It is very pretty, I think.

July 13, Wednesday

I put my new lower teeth in to try 'em again, after leaving them out a week, to heal up the dreadfully sore spot where the jawbone showed through. Oh, I hope they will not damage that place again. The dentist ground a lot away last week. His assistant told me not to wear them until that place healed up. I wrote a birthday greeting to Bonnie Jean R. and to Lydia Bailey. I hope I do not forget to mail them on time. I've got to get some more stamps. Bonnie's is on the 16th and Lydia's is July 19. I had a nice visit with Lorene over the phone; it is always a comfort to talk to that precious sister. She was working at Mrs. Cortland's. She called me while the children were taking their naps. Mrs. C. was shopping or out to a luncheon. The City of Pasadena sent us a book on Civil Defense. It is surely frightening to read what is in store for us if we are trapped when an atomic or hydrogen bomb hits our city. The procedure for family protection is impossible in my case. I must trust in God as I always have. I phoned Donna after dinner this evening. Kathy's foot is much better; she is walking on it now. The doctor dressed it again today. Mary and John were up to Howard's. Mary Howard is going to bring them home later. Joan is eating a spaghetti dinner with Chuck and his folks at the DeBias home. David Shattuck phoned Janet, he wants her to fly up to San Jose again this weekend. He is too busy to come down here now. I guess she'll leave Saturday evening. Our lovebird will fly again.

July 14, Thursday

Our weather has warmed up and I'm happy, if it will not get too hot. It's just about right as is. I wrote a letter to Dale Andersen and was just about to seal it up when the mailman brought us a nice letter from him. He is enjoying his mission in Brazil and doesn't sound as homesick as he did in the last letter Annie read to me. I phoned Annie and read his letter to her. She read two letters they received from him. Oh, bless the telephone system; it surely is a blessing to me, as I can't gad about much. I answered Violet's letter,

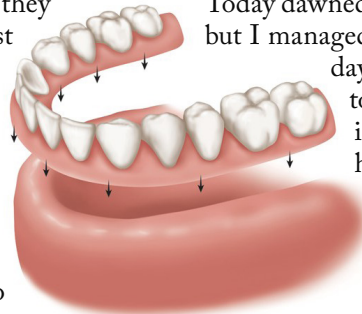
then walked to the post office to buy a 10¢ airmail stamp for Dale's letter. I mailed them both. I took the cut through a man's lot on Vinedo Avenue. It's the first time I've gone through his lot in the four years we've lived here. I knocked at his door to ask permission to pass through, but he didn't answer. It saves me one big long block to take that cut. Mrs. Lowe says he told her he didn't mind anyone walking through, if they'll be sure to shut the back gate to keep dogs out. I was very careful to latch said gate. Beverly and Annie went to the shop today to get some tape and ribbon. Annie is going to sew the ribbon on the Venetian blind tape, for a lady who wants that certain color on her blinds. She phoned Lou this evening to say the ribbon had to be pieced. He wanted to join at the top, so Annie unpicked what she had sewed. Lou and Annie thought the bolt of ribbon would surely be in one piece as it should have been. P.S. I just learned that the bolt was in one piece, but she ran out of it near the finish and had to use an extra piece to finish up the job. Gordon Hodges stayed home today. He is not well. Lou and Bill S. took care of his work.

July 15, Friday

Today dawned bright and sunny; it was hot outside by noon, but I managed to keep the house nice and cool most of the day. I phoned to see if Dr. Neal could see me today, but he can't until Monday at 11 a.m. He is lucky he doesn't have to wear this lower plate he made for me. I don't think his weekend beach trip would be a very pleasant one if he had to conquer this contemptible picket fence that I'm battling with. (I'll control 'em if it is possible!) My mouth isn't so sore as it was anyway. I shall never look down my nose again at poor folks who pay a small fortune for a lower dental plate then let it rest in peace in a dresser drawer or on the pantry shelf. This is truly an endurance test but I'm determined to conquer! I must have some Scotch in me, eh? Ha ha! The cost was \$75.00 to make this plate. I had to pay another doctor to extract them and a doctor to give me a heart exam, so the cost was enormous; \$59 to Dr. Sundbye, for extractions, \$25.00 to Dr. Wilson for heart exam, and \$159 for lower teeth. We enjoyed our home and television as usual tonight. We are surely enjoying the lovely evenings in the cabaña since it was screened in. Annie and Beverly went to the shop again today to take the tape with the ribbon sewed on. Gordon came in the shop to give Lou and Bill their paychecks. He is still feeling weak and miserable. He thinks it is high blood pressure causing him to have this trouble. Lou cut the lawns and cleaned up in the yard this evening while it was cool. He is taking me to town tomorrow.

July 16, Saturday

Lou went to the market this morning while I was getting ready to go uptown. We went to Bullock's Pasadena Store on South Lake. They are having a big July clearance sale. I couldn't find a dress in my size with my price, so we went to the Broadway. Lou bought me a very pretty nylon sheer dress, in lavender, with little white figures in, the clerk called it lilac shade. It is very pretty, has a lilac taffeta slip. The cost was



Adjusting to wearing and eating with lower dentures is a major trial!

\$17.95 on sale. I tried on a 16 1/2 and it was just a bit full. The clerk brought me a 14 1/2 in the same make. I was so sure it would be too small but she was certain it would fit, and it did, just perfect. I was amazed. I wore size 14 for many years, but not since I put on the weight about six years ago. I have lost a few pounds since I got my new teeth. I just can't eat with 'em. We had a nice lunch at the Crown City Cafeteria. I talked Lou into buying a pretty pink sport shirt for himself in the Broadway Store. He also bought a new belt. We came home as Mr. Edgecomb was just about to leave with his truckload of cuttings for the dump. He took what Lou had cut, also. He is a nice neighbor, eh? He used Lou's new electric cutter while we were away. Lou told him to use it anytime. We went to Monrovia to see our children. Mary took me around the chicken farm, (ducks, turkeys, and chickens). The neighbors next door are on vacation. Johnny is taking care of the yard. I think Mary is looking after the chickens. We brought some plums from their tree home and some squash from Donna's garden. Kathy showed me her new white shoes and socks for the wedding. Joan was working at the theater and Janet at the dentist office. If Joan can get someone to work in her place, she is going to fly up to San Jose with Janet this evening. We stopped in our little 15¢ Store on the way home and I bought two water bottles and a pair of salt and pepper shakers.

July 17, Sunday

I phoned Donna this morning; she said that Joan went up to San Jose with Janet on the airplane. Chuck took them to the airport in Inglewood last night. They left at 9 p.m. and would arrive there at 11 p.m. David would meet them. It is Joan's first airplane trip and Janet's third. She went up and back over the 4th of July. I have never traveled by air, only in dreams. Shirley Wenrich came to Sunday School again this morning. It seems she is interested in our gospel. It is strange how things come about, eh? She came again this evening. I introduced her to Ella Wride and Ella invited her out next Tuesday evening to a special Gleaner party. Shirley's mother brought her and called for her both times. We had a lovely big Sunday School we had lots of out of town visitors. Shirley went to a class with young people her age in it, not the investigators class. It was hot all day. I'd like to have gone out to see Sue but just couldn't take the heat to ride that far. I rested all day until church time this evening. Mary Howard said Donna came up to her house this afternoon and took Bonny Howard and Linda Ballard, who was visiting with Bonny, back to stay all night with her. With Janet and Joan both away, Mary had two extra beds in their large room. I guess the three young ladies had a wonderful time, eh? I'm glad Mary could have them while big sisters were away. Linda Ballard's mother gave birth to a baby boy on Saturday. Not sure it was Saturday, but a few days ago. The Emron Jones family furnished a lovely program for us in church tonight. Jennie sang two lovely solos. Douglas played a piano solo. Elder Scott Maughan spoke and Emron gave a nice talk. Scott is a returned missionary. Dolores, Bevan, and the children came to church tonight and Doug's wife. Also Dody said that Yvonne was coming to church but she didn't get back from the beach in time. Scott Maughan is one of Yvonne's boyfriends; she was out with his sister today.

July 18, Monday

I phoned Donna this morning; she was getting ready to leave for a Primary convention. She said Mr. Ballard was coming to get Linda and Bonny Howard. Betty Ballard would be coming home from the hospital with the new infant son and she would need Linda home to help her. They have a little girl Kathy's age, too. Donna said she would pick me up this evening and take me to Inglewood to see Janet and Joan arrive by airplane. I went to see Dr. Neal this morning at 11 a.m. I believe he has fixed my lower plate so I can wear and enjoy it now. He worked on it a long time. He relined and then ground it where it was causing sore spots. Oh, they are so much better; I even forgot I had them in my mouth today. I bought a few small items in town and came home. It was too hot to walk around. I saw Bishop Summerhays in the stationery store when I was buying construction paper and paste for the Relief Society tribute folders. He was buying something, also. Rex and Donna came for me this evening at 6:45 p.m. We went to Inglewood to Southwest Airways to see Janet and Joan arrive from San Jose. Mary, John, Kathy, and her doll and Bonny Howard went with us. It is truly an exciting experience to see that little speck up in the sky get larger by the second, and watch it circle the landing airport, and make a perfect landing. It is especially thrilling when some of your own loved ones are aboard the plane. Your prayers are surely with that big bird in the sky every mile of it's flight. The folks came in our house tonight to see my new dress and Janet's stainless steel flatware. I'm glad



Janet likes the set "very much." I think it is lovely, too. Lydia Bailey was operated on this morning for hemorrhoids. I do hope and pray that she got along all right. Joan stayed all night with us. Bonnie Howard stayed at Marshes' and slept in Joan's bed.



Mary, John, Kathy, and Bonny Howard went with Elvie, Donna, and Rex to see Joan and Janet land.

July 19, Tuesday

I let Joan sleep as long as she liked. I got up early to help Lou get off to his work. Joan and I looked through my scrapbooks until it was time for me to get ready to go with the Relief Society to the gas company in Pasadena, where we had a demonstration on "summer time dishes," using crushed ice to keep them crisp and pretty. Of course the idea was to sell the Servel Refrigerator, and their gas stoves. It was interesting. Bonna Gordon came for me as usual; she had Marie Doezie and Lydia Stephens with her. We

had 37 of our ladies out. Our Relief Society received 50¢ for each lady in attendance. We'll hear from the gas company representative as we all signed our names and addresses and phone numbers. Kathy was here playing on the lawn when I got home. Donna had taken John and Mary to town to buy them new shoes. I gave her \$6.00 to buy John a birthday gift from us. She got him shoes to wear with his new suit at the wedding reception for \$6.25. Mary's shoes are white; John's are black. She bought a net ruffled half-slip for Mary to wear with her new bridesmaid dress. Richard Berger was here visiting with Joan when I got home. He lives near us; he used to go steady with Joan, now it's Chuck DeBias. Annie phoned this evening to tell me that she is expecting Lewis [Lewis Garrett Strong] and Elaine Strong [Julia Elaine Coles] and their three children [Bud, Judy, and Jill] from Salt Lake City, in the morning. Lewis phoned this evening from Darlene's home in Los Angeles. She is Blanche Hoglund's daughter; they are staying there tonight. They have been to San Diego visiting relatives there. Miriam Clayton said that the two little girls, Jill and Judy, can sleep at her house. They'll only be here a couple of days. Lydia Stephens told me that President Bunker has been released from the California Mission Presidency. A Br. Taylor is taking his place. I've been thinking of my sweet sister-in-law Lydia Bailey all day again. She was operated on yesterday in a Salt Lake City hospital.

July 20, Wednesday

It was a bright sunny day and hot! I didn't feel like doing a big washing, but there it was. So I got it washed up and then I was "washed out" for a few hours. I had to lie down; my heart was hurting and acting up. Lewis Strong phoned Annie this morning to say they were going to take the family to the beach while they were down in that part of Los Angeles near to the ocean. He said he'd be at Andersen's this afternoon. Beverly met Esther B. Graham yesterday, she told her she had put Uncle Will [Bailey] in a home in Highland Park, the same home that Uncle Charlie Clayton died in. She says her father doesn't remember anyone now, but is well taken care of there. I believe it is a nice place, Esther works and can't take care of him. She has been very good to Uncle Will, (her father). I received a letter from Violet Fife, my lonesome little desert flower. She is just as out of place in that old desert as any little flower would be. Otto loves it, but of course, "Autos" can get around better than flowers can,



Lydia Hoglund circa 1920. In 1955 she is married to Owen James Bailey and she had surgery on July 18.



Elsie Bailey went to Canada with Harriet.

eh? The Lewis Strong family arrived at Andersen's about 2 p.m. Beverly led in her car to Forest Lawn. After the folks enjoyed the famous painting and other lovely sights in the cemetery, Beverly directed them to Elaine Vandergrift's home in Burbank. They were invited to Elaine's for dinner. Beverly had to come back home to go to work at Cannon Electric Company. The Strongs stayed all night with the Vandergrifts. My darling Lou gave me a scare tonight when he showed me some blood on his underwear. He hasn't felt at all ill, yet he has passed some blood either through his bladder or his rectum. I want him to see a doctor, but he says, "I should say not! Why ask for trouble." Elsie and Harriet arrived home from Canada a few days ago. Elsie's sister Beat didn't go. She stayed in Salt Lake City with her brother Wilford.

July 21, Thursday

I didn't rest very well last night; I was worrying over Lou passing that blood. He felt well this morning and laughed the whole thing off. I talked to Annie on the phone. It was her club day. She was going to walk over to Burnetts' house. Beverly had taken the Strongs out to see the new Los Angeles Temple this morning and some of the sights they wanted to see. The Strongs had a nice time in Burbank with the folks out there yesterday. They had a barbecue dinner at Elaine V.'s for the family, a nice swimming party at Haddocks' home. My lovely granddaughters Joan and Mary called in to say hello after they had been to try on their bridal gowns at the Young's Bridal Shop in Pasadena. Mary's dress has to have some alterations on it, her dress is green; Joan's is rose pink, both are very pretty they say. They are both light pastel. Mary is a bridesmaid, Joan the maid of honor. Lou phoned this afternoon, he was feeling fine. I hope and pray he'll keep feeling well. I did a large ironing today, so I had to take a rest for an hour. This evening Bill and Annie brought the Strongs over to see us in Lewie's new Oldsmobile. The children have grown so tall, the two girls, Judy, 15, and Jill, 13, are sweet looking young ladies now. Bud is about 7 or 8 and is a darling boy. They are a lovely family. Lewie and Elaine looked very well. They didn't stay long; we visited out in our patio cabaña. Elaine and Ernie Vandergrift were going to take Louie and Elaine Strong to a show tonight so they had to hurry back to Andersen's. They called to see Lorene and Claytons but no one was home there. They are leaving at 5 a.m. for Elaine's brother's cabin at Lake Tahoe. Lewie says his mother and Aunt Harriet plan a trip to England next summer, nice eh?

July 22, Friday

Annie and Beverly got Lewie Strong and the family started well on their way at five o'clock this morning. They led them out of Los Angeles to the Angeles Crest Highway on their way to Lake Tahoe, where Elaine's brother lives. I did some vacuuming and wrote a get-well note to Lydia. I sent a card from our Strong Family Society to her, also. I answered Violet's letter, and told them both that Janet and David would be married in the Logan Temple and not the Salt Lake Temple as the wedding announcement said, because the Salt Lake Temple will be closed August 4. I guess that Bryan and LaPriel Bunker will be moving back to their home in Nevada now that he has been released from the California Mission. A Br. Taylor and wife are coming to live in the mission home in Los Angeles. He will be the new mission president. Bryan and LaPriel have both been ill recently, maybe they asked for a release? They've surely done a good job, both faithful workers. I'm sorry that Lewie and family didn't find Aunt LaPriel home when they went to the temple yesterday. She'll feel unhappy about missing them, too. Lou and I sat up watching the Miss Universe program on television tonight until we found out which beautiful girl of the five, would win the honor. They were all charming and lovely. Hillevi Rombin from Sweden won. Miss Germany, Miss El Salvador, Miss Ceylon, and Miss Japan (all beauties), received a nice trophy to take back to their country. It was midnight before the contest ended in victory for Miss Universe.

July 23, Saturday

Lou gave his garage a good cleaning out today. He put up a new shelf. I gave the cabaña a good vacuuming, the swing and the walls. I got all of the spider webs out of the place, (poor Mr. Spider). I wanted to ride out to see Donna and family but we worked all day with time out for a nap for Papa and some lunch. Our neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Lowe came over for a while and visited with us in the cabaña. They've gone to spend a few days with their son and family out in Duarte now. Harold came for them. (They are nice people.) I phoned Donna and she said Chuck had been working there today, sanding the kitchen chairs and coffee table. Janet got a letter from the President of the Logan Temple; he'll be expecting them there on August 4, at 8 a.m. Florence Marsh said she'd be happy to cook the two big turkeys for Rex and Donna to serve their company after



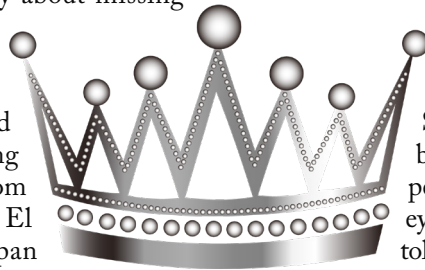
Logan Temple in 1947.



the wedding on Sunday afternoon. This evening we did ride to Monrovia to see the children. Joan was working at the theater. Janet was home from her work at Dr. Naylor's. We bought our weeks supply of groceries at Donna's market in Monrovia. Donna and Janet went in our car to do their marketing. Janet helped Lou and me find what we wanted, as she was familiar with where the store keeps things.

July 24, Sunday

We had several visitors from out of town in our Sunday School; vacationers. I sat with Lutie Solem; she was feeling depressed before she came, but felt better after Sunday School. Lutie is a fine person, she has a cross all of her own to carry. The eye specialist says her eyesight is failing. She hasn't told her sisters or children, she doesn't want them to know. No wonder she is feeling low, eh? Lou and I ate a very good dinner at the Pasadena Cafeteria, where we used to eat so often when we lived on Garfield Avenue. We drove to Highland Park to see the Andersens. They were just finishing dinner up with some red, red watermelon. It looked good, but I was just too full to eat any. I bought two pair of cotton LDS garments to give Rex for his birthday, and one pair of nylon to give to Janet for her birthday. They cost me \$11.42 for the three pairs. We invited Annie to go to Burbank with us, but she had to sing with a group in their ward tonight. The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers gave the program in their ward. We had thought of going to see Ethel Newbold, but couldn't get her on the phone today. No one was at home at Sue's



Hillevi Rombin

or Bette's or at Elaine's homes, so we drove back to Pasadena. We got home in time for church, but Lou didn't want to go tonight. He wanted to rest at home. I always feel badly to miss sacrament meeting, but I was tired and enjoyed resting at home. Sue phoned this evening when she found our note. They, the family, had all been to a nearby park for a fried chicken dinner in honor of little Karen Bird's birthday. She said she tried to get us on the phone before they left. She felt

like we'd be out to see her today. Sue said she wanted to invite us to join them in the family park picnic, but we didn't answer the phone. I guess we were at the Andersen's or the cafeteria.

July 25, Monday

I washed and ironed our bedroom curtains today. I had a dreadful time with Lou's, the darn things stretched every which way. I need a curtain stretcher for them. My curtains are very easy to do up and they look lovely when done, too. I'll never buy any more like the curtains in Lou's room. Donna and Janet came by about noontime and we ate lunch here. I was delighted. We had roast beef sandwiches, milk, and potato chips. Janet had some ice cream, Donna is on a diet, and so we didn't care for dessert. Janet had been to the bridal shop to have her picture taken in her wedding gown and veil. She has Irene Oates's lovely veil; she put it on to show me. She'll be a very beautiful bride, that's for sure. I'll have three beautiful granddaughters in that wedding receiving line. Janet bought a cute little brown hat, gloves, bag, and shoes to go with her pretty brown going away suit. She also bought pretty earrings to give her bridesmaids and maid of honor. Oh, she is giving Mary a bracelet, cause she doesn't wear earrings yet. She bought pretty dinner rings for her mother and Mrs. Shattuck to wear, blue stones for Donna and amber stones for Mrs. Shattuck, to match their dresses. Donna made a few phone calls while here. She talked to Miriam Marsh about taking charge of the gift room. Lou stopped at Sears Store after work; he bought four silent light switches to put them in place of the noisy clicking ones, in our bedrooms, the hall and kitchen. We have a silent switch in the bathroom; it was here when we moved in. We received a letter from Lillian Keller, she and Jack have been on a trip to Salt Lake City. She said that Margaret Renshaw is on her way to Europe to have a nice vacation. Shirley Little Behrman sent a beautiful

blanket to Janet, for a wedding gift. She sent it here. Janet was happy over the lovely gift, her first blanket so far.

July 26, Tuesday

I wrote a note to Ethel Newbold telling her we'd pick her up Saturday morning at eleven o'clock. I also answered Lillian's letter. We were truly surprised to learn that Margaret Renshaw is on her way to Europe for a nice vacation; that is thrilling. I hope she has a wonderful time. Margaret left Wales when she was a young lady; she came to America and worked to send money for her mother, sister, and brother to come here. I'm so glad she can go back to see relatives and friends again. I talked to Beverly Andersen; she said a group of Garvanza sisters had gone to call on Sr. Elise Treu, at John Treu's home this afternoon.



Janet's portrait was taken on July 25, 1955 at the Bridal Shop. The bodice hadn't been lined yet.

They crowned her “Queen for a Day” and read the tribute I composed for her. They are giving her house slippers for a gift. Sr. Treu has been ill, in bed, for several weeks, poor dear. Bev says that Glen is going up in the mountains for a week, with some of the scoutmasters. He is taking Andersen’s ‘41 car, leaving his car with Beverly. I walked to the drug store and 15¢ Store this morning. I was glad to get home out of the heat. I wrapped four birthday gifts, when I got home (Rex’s, Johnny’s, Janet’s, and Beverly’s). Ruby Hodges phoned and I had a nice visit with her via phone. Rex, Donna, Mary, John, and Kathy stopped in for a few minutes. Donna showed me the proofs of Janet’s wedding pictures. Every pose was just beautiful. How can she ever decide which ones to have finished? Rex didn’t work today, he had to meet the lawyer representing the meat company that makes the baloney that Rex ate and broke a tooth on. It had a rock in it. Little Nadine Jones is ill; I talked to Dolores on the phone. Rex brought Lou’s bumper guard that Rex’s neighbor welded for Lou.

July 27, Wednesday

Today is Beverly Andersen’s birthday. I did so want to go over to wish Beverly a happy birthday today, but it just couldn’t be. I talked to Dolores last evening on the phone; she said she’d take me with her to Andersen’s this morning if little Nadine was better. Dr. Lamoyne Hickman gave her a shot of penicillin last night. He said she has tonsillitis. I phoned Dody this morning. The baby is better, but not well enough to go out. We plan to go tomorrow. We phoned Beverly and told her we’d be over tomorrow. Bev invited us to come and eat lunch with her and Annie tomorrow. I’d have Lou take me, but Beverly has to go to work before Lou gets home from his work at 4 p.m. I’m so glad that little Nadine is feeling better and not as feverish today. Violet wrote Dody and said a poor little weather beater dog has adopted her and the front porch. She is not too happy about it because the friendly old hound drags dead animals to her front door; a peace offering, I guess? But somehow Violet doesn’t appreciate dead rabbits with a lot of maggots crawling on them, ha ha! I did a small washing and shampooed my hair today. Lou was tired when he came home; his feet ached from wearing the rubber soled canvas shoes all day. He rested for 1½ hours after dinner in the swing. My heart has given me some trouble today. I had to take time-out from 3 to 4:30. People who are well and strong are blessed indeed. Florence Marsh phoned this evening to ask about the wedding plans; we had a nice visit. She and John have been so very good to Rex and Donna.



Donna and Rex Marsh. “Happy Birthday Rex!”



July 28, Thursday

Dolores phoned this morning and said that she and Yvonne would pick me up at 11:30 a.m. I ironed until 11:15 and then got dressed and ready to go to Highland Park with the girls. I only had a few pieces left to iron, but I didn’t want to keep them waiting while I finished some piece so I put the ironing away. The little “so and so’s” didn’t come for me until 12:45 noon. I was worried for fear they’d had car troubles. They’d been to the bank and to buy a gift for Bev. It was a lovely travel logbook and pencil. Annie and Beverly had a lovely luncheon for us; cold cut meat, cheese, potato chips and a delicious fruit salad. We had a lovely visit. Little Ronnie and Nadine were with us. Beverly got \$18.00 last night from the group she works with. She brought some of the cake home from the party they gave her. Bev has lost 15 pounds; she isn’t eating anything with sugar or fat in it. I believe she will really stay on her diet this time. She is so determined to lose her unwelcome weight. I took Beverly a bottle of shampoo, wrapped up like a doll in a formal dress and gave her a dollar bill in the birthday card. She received lots of pretty cards and some nice gifts; money from most of the family. She is going to spend \$15.00 of it to join the automobile club. Donna and children came to my house and she saw the note I left, so phoned to wish Beverly happy birthday. Yvonne got the first verse of the birthday song, cause Donna thought it was Beverly’s voice that answered the phone, ha ha! Donna left a \$15.00 check for me to pay for the nuts tomorrow. Mary had tried on her bridesmaid dress this afternoon; they came here after. Lou called for my knit house slippers at Sr. Romig’s home, after work. They were \$2.50; they are pretty. A package came for Janet from Phoenix, Arizona. It was from Clarice Tanner. Donna took it home.

July 29, Friday

It is Rex’s birthday today. I wanted to vacuum but was afraid I would not be able to hear the door chimes if the L.A. Nut man came with the 15 pounds of nuts for Janet’s wedding reception. Donna left the \$15.00 check for them yesterday. She had them delivered to our place to save the cost of taking them out of town to Monrovia. The nuts arrived this afternoon. I used the hand sweeper today so I could hear the door chimes. This evening Lou and I drove out to Monrovia to wish Rex a happy birthday and give him his gift, (two pair of LDS garments). Donna had a birthday cake and lemon pie. Lou ate some pie; I didn’t eat anything, just enjoyed looking at the delicious looking goodies. They had ice cream, too. I also took Janet’s wedding gift out to her; the stainless steel flatware we’re giving them. Janet put on her wedding gown and the veil to show us. She looked like a very beautiful doll. Oh! What a lovely bride she’ll be. We saw the

darling maid of honor dress Joan will wear. It is a delicate rose pink, and Mary's adorable green bridesmaid gown. She'll be a picture in it, too. My lovely granddaughters will look stunning for sure next Saturday night on August 6. Chuck D. came to take Joan out to a show and dinner. He looked real handsome in a brown sport jacket and light tan trousers. Joan wore a brown blouse and a white skirt with brown leaves in and brown shoes. Chuck made the skirt for Joan at his Father's dress factory. He can run a power machine. He works there in the summer vacation time. They are a delightfully cute couple. Rex was bottling plums he and Donna bought from Pearl Redborg, \$2.50 worth. Rex used the pressure cooker.

July 30, Saturday

Janet showed us several more wedding gifts yesterday; some of them went to the other house in Monrovia. The lady calls Donna up on the phone when they come there. Donna goes after them. The telephone book has their address listed at the Norumbega place. Aunt Lillian and Uncle Jack sent a lovely electric, automatic deep fry cooker. Pearl Redborg sent Cannon guest towels in pretty colors. Bonna

and Bob Gordon sent a lovely silver tray. I can't write all of the nice gifts here. We picked Ethel Newbold up at her son's home in Los Angeles this morning at eleven o'clock. She looked pretty in a blue nylon dress. We drove out to the beach and enjoyed lunch at a seafood café. We had fish and chips. Ethel bought tickets to take us through a fish aquarium on the pier. It was interesting. We enjoyed looking through some of the souvenir shops, also. We got back to her son's home about 3 p.m. Harold and Margie are taking Ethel out to dinner this evening and to a concert at the Hollywood Bowl. Ethel leaves for home tomorrow afternoon in Salt Lake City. I had a letter from Bonnie when I got home. She said they all received Janet's wedding announcement but her mother Elsie. I phoned Donna; she was sure she sent Aunt Elsie's invitation. She checked and it was marked mailed? I wrote to Bonnie, airmail. Donna wrote to Aunt Elsie. The announcement got lost somewhere along the line. Sue phoned, she has been staying out at Vandergrift's a few days while Elaine and Ernie went up north for a vacation. They visited some friends up there and called to see Mildred and Von Olson and family.

July 31, Sunday

I didn't go to Sunday School this morning. I wanted to take it easy while preparing dinner for my precious children. I do surely love to have them all come home to Sunday dinner. It is the last time we'll have Janet Marsh to dinner with us. Next Sunday she'll be Janet Shattuck or Mrs. David Shattuck. My first grandchild married. I surely hope there is a world of happiness ahead for her and David. We had a

nice leg of lamb dinner that they all seemed to enjoy. John and I had the fun of eating in the kitchen; our dinette is a bit crowded for all nine of us. I love to have them home to eat. Joan had a nice visit on the phone with cousin Diane Oates. Janet, Mary, John, and Kathy visited in the cabaña with Grampa. Donna and I did dishes while Rex rested on the living room floor. They left about 3 p.m. Joan had to get ready for work at the theater ticket office in Monrovia. Donna wanted to go to Ovena Mayo's for Nell Ellsworth's white temple dress on the way home. Lou and I rested until church time this evening.

We had a very nice meeting. Dr. Harold Kratzer conducted the service. It was family night with the Major family. Loraine had composed the story of their lives in rhyme; it was very cute and interesting. She is a talented lady. Two of her

sons sang a duet. Cliff Major gave a fine talk on our America. Eldine Stephens sang two lovely solos. Bishop Summerhays gave special awards to a large group of M.I.A girls. Shirley Wenrich sat with us. I walked out to her mother's car to see Grama Pierce; she visited the Wenrichs today. She looks about the same. It will not be long to wait now, my little Janet, only four more days before your dreamed of

wedding day. God bless both of you. May your wedded life be blissfully happy.

August 1, Monday

I wanted to see Dr. Neal today, I need another slight adjustment on this lower plate, but he will be out of town until after the 18th, so I will have to make the best of my uncomfortable condition, eh? Well that is life for ye! Darn it, I forgot to have Lou leave the insurance money this morning. Now I'm broke, cause I had to shell out \$5.53 of the \$6.00 I had left. Maybe Papa will reimburse me, eh? I talked to Dolores on the phone. She and Yvonne plan to leave for Beryl, Utah tonight at midnight, in Bevan's station wagon. He'll use Yvonne's car while they're away. Dody was going to see her doctor this morning and if he said it was okay for her to take the trip, she'd be on her way with the children and Yvonne tonight. Dody is expecting a baby in about seven months. I took things out of the cooler and washed it good inside and out. I also did the spice cabinet. Oh, I'd surely like to have washed the china cupboard and the kitchen drawers and woodwork, but I went my limit and had to lie down. I surely do wish I had good health. I see so many things that need doing. Lou did a small carpenter job after work, for an elderly man. He fixed some doors in his house so they'll shut. Janet and David are happy to be together today. He arrived last night, but he didn't bring the trailer. It is being painted. He said he'd rent a trailer to take the wedding gifts up to San Jose. They'll go on their honeymoon after they leave the gifts at the little apartment he has rented. They'll take



the house trailer that will be ready for them by then. It is his aunt's trailer. Gordon and Ruby Hodges called on the Marshes tonight and took a wedding gift.

August 2, Tuesday

I had a very poor night's rest last night, but felt better this morning after a nice prayer. I could never make it some days without help from my Father in Heaven. I do thank my darling mother for teaching me to pray. I got the washing on the lines and the floors washed up, then went to bed for an hour before lunchtime. I went back to bed after folding down the laundry. Donna, Joan, and Mary came by on the way to Aunt Florence's. She came for the big white paper bells and pink candles she had left here. She borrowed four of my hand painted dishes to put mints and nuts in. They were my wedding gifts over forty years ago. I'm glad my little granddaughter will make use of them at her wedding reception. Nice, eh? Gordon and Ruby Hodges took a lovely flowered sheet and pillowslips to match and a bottom contour sheet to Janet and David last night. The gift is from Ruby, Lutie, and Pearl and their husbands. A lovely gift, I think. Pearl and Pawnee gave a little gift by themselves also, of guest towels. It has been real hot today. I hope it will be a nice warm day on the 6th of August, the night of the reception. We want it warm so we can be outside in the Oateses' patio. Donna had to go to Nash's Store for something, sounded like she said tabletop covers, then over to the Oateses. Janet and David were washing his car this afternoon. Later Mary Howard and children came for Mary and John tonight. We had a word of prayer before Janet and David left about 9 p.m. for Utah. Rex and Donna plan to leave at midnight. Joan stayed home tonight; she had to go to work tomorrow at the matinée and again in the evening selling tickets. She'll come over tomorrow night. Chuck will bring her here. We celebrated Johnny's birthday this evening, so the family could all be together with him.

August 3, Wednesday

I rested much better last night. Kathy slept very well too; we slept in my bed. John and Mary are up to Howard's having a wonderful time, I'm sure. He took his birthday gifts, games

and toys, and the new pajamas and swim trunks that Donna bought for him. We gave him a pair of shoes and a toy truck, with a trailer. Donna and family gave him a toy sailboat to take up to the swimming pool, and they all gave him gifts. He was very happy. The neighborhood kids came in to watch him open his gifts and ate some of his cake and ice cream last night. His birthday is Thursday, August 4, the day Janet and David are being married in the Logan Temple. Joan phoned from the theater this afternoon; she'll be here after the show tonight. Chuck is taking her to his house for dinner this evening at 4:30 p.m. Nice, eh? Joan said she will finish up the rest of the cleaning that Donna couldn't do before leaving; she wants to have the house nice and clean when her folks get back from Utah. I was happy to receive a nice letter from Dale Andersen. He loves his work in the Brazil Mission; he wrote a nice letter to Janet wishing her happiness in her marriage and thanking her for sending him an invitation. Kathy was delighted this afternoon because two little girls in our neighborhood came over to play with her. She misses her little friends in Monrovia. She has been very good and easy to take care of, for which I am

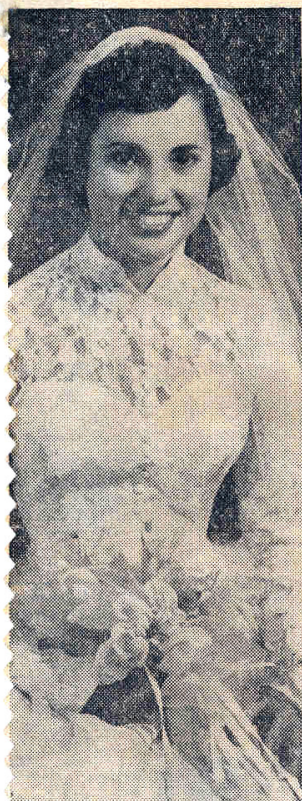
thankful, because I do not feel at all well. My heart has caused me more distress than usual, because of heavy smog and more attacks of asthma. I have to use the asthma spray more often, which is hard on my heart. Chuck DeBias brought Joan here after her work at the Lyric Theater tonight.

August 4, Thursday

Today is Janet and David's wedding day and also John Louis Marsh's birthday; he is 10 years old. I phoned Howard's; John was enjoying his second birthday celebration this week in the swimming pool and etcetera. We, Joan, Grampa, and I, have all been thinking of Janet and David and the others of the family in the Logan Temple this morning on this important day. I would love to have gone through the Logan Temple with them, and seen my precious little granddaughter married to that fine young man. I hope everything works out beautifully for all concerned. I hope his sister Marilyn arrived from San Jose to Logan in time. I'm sure David's dear parents are with him in thoughts as we are. We all wish God's blessing upon

David Shattucks to Be Feted at Reception Tomorrow

Miss Janet Eileen Marsh and David Shattuck were married at 8 a.m. yesterday in Logan Temple, Logan, Utah. Tomorrow they will be feted at a reception from 8 to 10 p.m. at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Oates, 407 Laguna.



—Maryland Photo.

MRS. DAVID SHATTUCK
(Janet Eileen Marsh)

Aug. 4th 1955

* * *
THE BRIDE is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rex Marsh, 1519 S. Alta Vista, Monrovia. Attending her at the reception will be her sister, Miss Joan Marsh, maid of honor, the Misses Marilyn Shattuck, sister of the bridegroom, Elaine Oates, cousin of the bride, and Mary Marsh, sister of the bride, bridesmaids. Kathleen Marsh will be her sister's flower girl.

William Marshall will stand with the bridegroom as best man. Thomas Johnson will usher.

* * *
THE BRIDEGROOM is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Shattuck of San Jose and the newlyweds will make their home in that city at 1015 E. Washington.

The bride's gown is of floor-length Chantilly lace and nylon tulle over satin. Her fingertip French illusion veil is held to a bonnet of lace trimmed with sequins and pearls. She will carry an orchid with carnations and stephanotis.

* * *
ATTENDANTS will wear Nile green and tulip pink taffeta gowns with matching headpieces. The honor attendant will carry rose carnations and bridesmaids, pink carnations.

The newlyweds are alumni of Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.



David and Janet were married August 4, 1955 in the Logan Temple.

the happy bride and groom. Joan's friend, a girl living not far from us, took her to Chuck's home to get his car. He asked Joan to have it washed today. She went uptown in it this afternoon, to buy some shoes and a hoop underskirt to wear at the wedding reception on Saturday. Joan took Kathy with her, she promised to buy her a toy. We received a wedding gift from Von and Mickey Olson; a pretty toilet set in honeydew shade, and a lovely tablecloth from Ethel Newbold. Joan opened them both. Several more gifts arrived, some at Monrovia and some here. One came from May Company in Los Angeles. Iona Cottam brought one here; we haven't opened them. It is fun to open them, but we'd better let Janet and David do them, eh? Elva Hellings phoned to say she was bringing her gift over. We, the family, celebrated John's birthday last Tuesday before Donna and Rex left for Utah. Mrs. DeBias invited Joan to eat dinner with them again tonight and she did. Kathy, Grampa, and I ate dinner here at home. Kathy has been a very good little girl. It's fun having her here. P.S. Mary Howard had ice cream and cake for Johnny and had a few neighbor kids in. They gave him some gifts. Mary H. took them to play miniature golf this afternoon. They went in swimming this morning.

August 5, Friday

My sweet Joanie girl really worked hard today. She vacuumed all through my house. I helped a little but she did the hard work. After lunch she insisted on washing the kitchen cupboards. She handed all the top shelf dishes down to me and I washed them; she dried them. She washed all the shelves and inside of the cupboards. I was surely happy to have the dishes all nice and clean as well as the shelves. Joan came home in Chuck's car last night. She left it out in the street in front of our place, locked up, of course. Chuck phoned when he got home from work with his dad. I invited him to have dinner with us. Mrs. Edgecomb went out on the highway and bought some fresh cob corn. I had her get

Wedding Gift Quilt

Burned in Mary's memories of this evening is a lovely handmade wedding gift. It was a beautiful quilt that was made by Grandma Florence Marsh. The quilt hung on the open door to the little house that was used for gifts. It is likely the quilt made a lasting impression on Mary because she would one day become an avid quilter. Even at twelve years old she appreciated and admired the beautiful quilt. Sadly over many years the wedding gift quilt was used for everyday purposes and with time it fell apart and was lost. If that quilt has a spirit, Mary will easily recognize it in the next life. ☺

a dozen ears for me. We surely enjoyed that lovely sweet tender corn tonight. Joan took Kathy with her to pick up Chuck at his house. They stopped by the house in Monrovia about 4 p.m. and were thrilled to find the folks were home from Utah. Donna had phoned to let me know they were home. Of course Kathy wouldn't come back after she found Mother and Daddy home. Marty and Patty Strong were with them, and Marilyn Shattuck came home with them, too. Joan and Chuck came back here to eat dinner with us and to get hers and Kathy's clothes. The bride and groom are expected home in the morning. Marilyn says she thinks that her parents and uncle and aunt are going to find a motel to stay in. We'd be happy to have them, if they'd come to our house. Donna has told them we'd have a place for them to stay on Saturday night. We rode out to Monrovia tonight. Rex was making ice cream. Donna told us about the trip. I did enjoy hearing about the folks at home and the temple marriage and all from Donna.

August 6, Saturday

I went to clean my white shoes and found that the strap had broken out of the shoe. Lou took me to town this afternoon. I bought a new pair of white shoes from the Roe Shoe Store. The summer sale of white shoes was on. I got a very pretty pair for \$5.14. Donna phoned soon after we got home and said the Shattucks, four of them, had arrived from San Jose. They wanted to find a motel but she said we were expecting them. Rex brought them over. Lou helped me change sheets and slips in a hurry, all ready for when they came. David's mother, Maxine, his father, Meredith, and his Uncle and Aunt came. Her name is Rita. David's uncle's name is Barnie. They are all nice friendly folks. They all had a bath and changed for the reception. Maxine pressed the dresses for herself and her sister-in-law. We had intended to put up Mr. Edgecomb's bed in our cabaña, but he very kindly offered us a bed he had in his garage house. We were delighted and took our bedding over to make up the bed. We all left for Oateses' ranch, at 6:30 p.m. I got there in time to help Grama Marsh get the bride's gown buttons all done up in the back. It was really

hot for our beautiful little bride, so formally dressed. Oh, she was lovely to look at, as were her attendants, every one of them are beauties. Joan Marsh was maid of honor in tulip pink. Marilyn Shattuck, Elaine Oates and Mary Marsh were in Nile green. David Shattuck looked handsome with his best man, William Marshall; and then Thomas Johnson as usher. Also, the bride and groom's fathers were all very handsome in their formal attire, white coats and dark trousers with bow ties. Mrs. Shattuck was in a lovely brown dress and hat and shoes. She is a very sweet looking lady. Donna was lovely in steel blue dress and hat with silver shoes. It was a very beautiful looking line, I say. Ruth Deal phoned from up north, to wish them happiness and talked to the family. Lou did a fine job of clearing the card tables at the reception. What would

we do without our daddy? Kathy Marsh was a beautiful little flower girl in pink and blue, adorable! The serving line at the table and in the kitchen were my lovely nieces, and they were just as pretty, all of them. Beverly Andersen and Mary Jorgensen had charge of the kitchen. Elaine V. cut wedding cake and Miriam C. helped. Bette H., Beth J., and Marty Strong were at the punch bowl. Jo Rush had the guest's book. Aunt Miriam and Robin were in the gift rooms in the little guest house. Ernie Oates Jr., Diane, and Aunt Florence with the Marshes (John and Florence), were all looking lovely and helping everywhere. I believe it was a lovely reception. It was wonderful seeing the many relatives and friends again. I did miss my sister Violet and her girls. I wish the dear Salt Lake relatives could have been there, too.



Janet's wedding colors were pink and green. These were colors she enjoyed all her life. For example her kitchen in the Pebblewood Court house, had pink and green floral wallpaper.



John, Rex, Kathy, & Donna Marsh, Janet, David, Maxine, & Meredith Shattuck in the Oateses' home the night of the reception August 6, 1955.



Marilyn Shattuck, Joan Marsh, Janet & David Shattuck, William Marshall, Elaine Oates, and Mary Marsh





David and Janet cut the wedding cake.

August 7, Sunday

We had a good bed in Edgecomb's garage house last night. Our guests slept well in our bedrooms. Lou cooked a very good breakfast for all of us, bless his heart. He went with the Shattucks to help David and Janet get the wedding gifts packed in the two cars. I was amazed that they could get all of Janet's belongings, her shower gifts, and the wedding gifts in the two cars. It took some doing, but they're on their way to San Jose now. Uncle Barnie Shattuck carved part of the turkey while Lou was busy helping the kids get packed. I took some potato salad, and a Jello fruit salad out to Donna's. She had a beautiful buffet luncheon prepared. Grama Marsh cooked Rex's two big turkeys on Friday. We only carved one; it was surely delicious. Everything was good. We ate at Rex's big picnic table out under the big pine tree on the front lawn. A nice breeze was blowing. They all picked the pine needles off of the food, as they fell, but it was fun. (That is a real picnic, eh?)

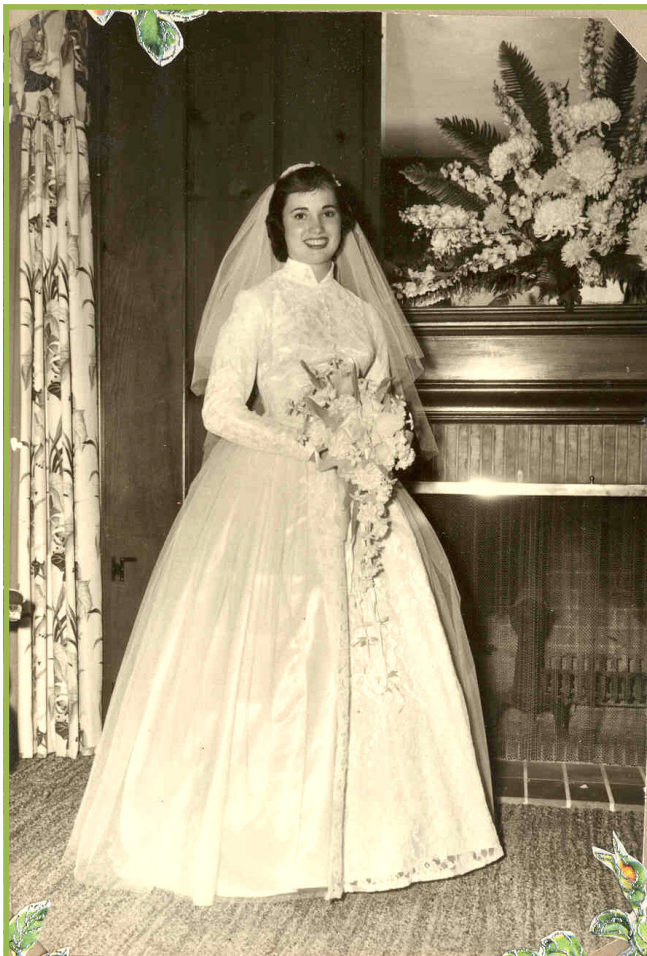


Patsy and Marty Strong
circa 1942.

Rex's homemade ice cream and Donna's beautiful chocolate cake plus some of the wedding cake, and so much beautiful, delicious food. Marty Strong and Mary Marsh made the delicious punch. Marty and Patsy are a big help to Donna. We came home after the folks left for San Jose. We brought some turkey and cake home. Donna had to go to church tonight to play for the Primary children to sing. Sorry that Florence and John couldn't be with us today. They went to see Em, (Jim Marsh's wife) [Emma Claybaugh] who is very ill in a hospital.

August 8, Monday

We did enjoy having David's people with us on Saturday night and Sunday. They are really lovely fine people. I'm so glad our little Janet has married into such a nice family. I hope they'll take her to their hearts. Little Kenneth Barnes brought me over another newspaper clipping of Janet's reception and her picture; nice neighbors, eh? There is so much I'd like to write about the wonderful people and gifts



Janet Shattuck
Aug. 6 - 1955



Mr. and Mrs. M.D. Shattuck

at Janet's reception, but no room for it. I was happy to see Bob and Inis Stanton from up north; a long way to come. Gordon Hodges brought Ruby and Lutie. The flowers were just beautiful. The corsages David bought for parents and grandparents and bridal party were oh, so lovely. Mine was all white to go with my lavender and white dress. Marilyn Shattuck caught the bridal bouquet, she is a pretty girl and so sweet. Janet gave the bridesmaids pretty rhinestone earrings, all but Mary, which she gave a rhinestone bracelet. Joan, the maid of honor, got earrings, like the girls. She gave Donna and Maxine dinner rings to match their gowns. My sweet Lou let me sleep in this morning. I rested much better last night with not so much on my mind. It is grand to relax. Lou was such a big help in every way, "God bless him." I'd better not have a lot to record this day, eh? Ha ha! Lucille and Lloyd Pack sent a wedding gift today. Kathy stayed with me this afternoon while Donna, Mary, John, Joan, Marty, and Patty Strong went to Clifton's to dinner. Kathy took a short nap. I wrote to Lydia Bailey, Violet Fife, Lillian Keller, and Ethel Newbold and sent all of them a picture of our bride, Janet Shattuck, from newspaper clippings. It was 8 p.m. when they came for Kathy. They had big straw hats, paper parasols, and paper fans and several things they bought in China Town and Little Mexico in Los Angeles.



Marilyn Shattuck caught the bride's bouquet.

August 10, Wednesday

It was a lovely warm night; our washing was almost dry this morning when Lou left for work. I brought it in and ironed most of it right from the lines. I only had to dampen two pieces, Lou's dress shirt and my apron. It was a large washing because of our extra bath towels, sheets, and slips from weekend company, but we did enjoy having them here. Donna phoned to see if I'd care to drive with them to the beach; she was going to leave Marty at her sister's home this afternoon, in Torrance. Marty took a nice blanket to her niece, she was married on Janet's reception night, I believe. Patsy wanted to come back to Monrovia with Donna and family. There is no one her age at her aunt's home. Beverly phoned this morning and said Jimmy Bailey is arriving next Saturday with Dolores, Yvonne, Violet, and Ronnie, and Nadine. Owen and Lydia are taking Jimmy to Beryl, to Violet's home so they can bring him to California with them. Nora Williams and I did our Relief Society visiting this afternoon. We were back here in one hour. Many of our ladies were not at home. We missed not seeing our dear little sister, LaDorna Perine. They have sold their home and moved to the beach. Carolyn Thatcher was preparing to go up to Riverside this evening to her niece's wedding reception. Joan Thatcher was a bridesmaid; she made her own lovely pink taffeta gown. It is beautiful. She is a clever young lady. I tied up the mums this evening and cut out a lot of weaker ones. Bev phoned Aunt Lydia after reading her

August 9, Tuesday

Kathy was delighted with the straw sombrero hat, paper parasol, and fan, the folks brought her last night from Little Mexico and China Town in Los Angeles. It has been another hot day. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:40 a.m. Ethel Burk was with her. We picked up Bessie, the babysitter at her home. I sat down at the quilt and worked on it all the while until we ate the very nice lunch. I had ten queen tributes all ready and not one of the sisters showed up. So Clarice Tanner gave a nice talk about a lovely lady who comes out to help us on workdays; she sews quilt blocks; she is Madge Fowler's neighbor. We honored her today. Clarice crowned her "Queen for the Day," Her name is Edyth Wright. She was surely surprised and delighted with the honor and nice gift of pretty stationery. We were all happy to have our beloved president back, after being away about three months (Clarice Tanner). Marva DeHaan is away on vacation now. I was happy to learn that Jeanne Brinton has her baby, a boy, from five days ago. I phoned Donna; she went to Primary this morning. Joan took all the kids and Patsy Strong up to Howard's this afternoon to swim in their pool. After dinner, Lou said "Let me help you do the washing this evening, while it's cool." I was all for it, bless him! In less than two hours it was all out on the lines. Lou did most of the work and he washed the floors up after, he is a dear, for sure. I just couldn't get along without my Lou!



letter, invited Jimmy to come to California. Lydia phoned Violet and made the arrangements to take Jim to Beryl, Utah. P.S. I'd like to have gone to the beach with Donna and the family, but I just did not feel well enough to ride so far.

August 11, Thursday

It's another hot day. Donna said that Chuck DeBias brought her another lovely dress from his father's factory. It is a size 12, a sample dress, in fall material. He is a darling boy, but Donna hates to feel so obligated to him. We all like Chuck, and wish he was an LDS lad. Beth Johnston brought Sue in to Highland Park today. Sue phoned me from Annie's house. Beth went to visit her old neighbor Inez, near Annie's home. Inez's mother passed away. Sue said that Mary's little boy Kenneth is having some kidney trouble. Vernon and Mary took him to Dr. Lewis. The doctor wants to take the little fellow into the Children's Hospital for x-rays and observation. I was so sorry to hear this upsetting news. I do hope and pray it will not be as serious as it sounds. It seems that there is always something to worry the parents of God's children. Lorene is out to Van Nuys now with Mary and family. I composed two queen tributes today. One to Edyth Wright; she isn't a member of our church, but she has helped out on workdays in Relief Society, making quilt blocks. She is Madge Fowler's neighbor, a charming lady. The other tribute is to LaRue Gurr, a young mother with five little children, a faithful LDS worker. Donna came by this afternoon. Kathy was asleep in the station wagon. Donna had the picture proofs of the wedding pictures. They are very good. Janet is just beautiful in every picture. Some of the group are not a good likeness. Most of the pictures turned out well. Donna will mail them to Janet. Hurricane "Connie" is still causing a lot of damage to our East Coast cities. 100 miles per hour winds!



A 1955 fashion. Chuck DeBias brought Donna another lovely dress on August 11.



1955 flooding in Connecticut.

August 12, Friday

I'm so thankful our weather in Southern California is peaceful and calm. Hurricane "Connie" and her baby sister, "Diane," are really doing a lot of damage to our East coast cities with winds of 100 miles an hour. There are fires and floods; it is dreadful. I put Janet's wedding announcement and her newspaper picture and clippings in my scrapbook last night; a picture in each book (three of them). I composed a queen tribute to Ann Hartshorne this morning. My dear little neighbor Mrs. Lowe brought

over a dish of plums she'd cooked, from their plum tree in the backyard. They were delicious. It doesn't seem possible that our little Janet has been married one week yesterday. It seems like just a few hours ago we were getting ready for her wedding reception and tomorrow it will be one week in the past. I wonder where she and her handsome husband are spending their honeymoon? God bless them both, and help them to have a beautiful life together, is the prayer of this grandmother. Mr. Edgecomb brought home a television for his little garage house; he says he can enjoy the fights and other sports he likes to watch and the folks in the big house can have what they like on the T.V. in there. Nice, eh? I came in this evening, after enjoying the patio swing a while. I turned our T.V. set on and found I had the picture all right, but the sound has gone. We could hear it very faintly. Oh dear, more money out of our pockets! I answered Dale Andersen's letter and sent him Janet's wedding picture from our Star News paper.

August 13, Saturday

Lou got up, cooked his breakfast, and left to go do a carpenter job for a lady. I think he said she is a schoolteacher; she lives near the Highland Park district, I think. Joan did such a good cleaning job for me last Friday; I just hit the high spots today. I didn't feel like working, it is too hot. I walked up to the post office to mail Dale Andersen's letter. I had to have a 10¢ airmail stamp for it.

I bought six airmail stamped envelopes, 10¢ each. I

can send them anywhere in the world the postal clerk said. You write on the inside, fold the thing into an envelope and mail. No enclosures are allowed. I had some rather severe heart pains when I was about a block from the post office. I felt a bit worried, but they passed and I felt okay coming back home. I rested until Lou came. We received a nice thank you card from Rita and Byron Shattuck, for their night's



Janet and Dave 1955.

lodging, breakfast, and etcetera. We enjoyed having them, they're nice people. She said that Janet and David are very happy fixing up their little apartment; she says it looks real cute. She says they are still up in the clouds, but she's sure they'll have a "safe landing" when they get back to Earth, ha ha! We drove out to Donna's this evening. No one was home. Chuck D. was next door helping Jean make ice cream. He told us the Marshes and Strong's (Marty



In 1955, Walt Disney and President Richard Nixon led the opening ceremonies in Anaheim, California. The park held just 18 attractions, and Sleeping Beauty's Castle wasn't even open to the public yet.



asleep in the chair. Then he anxiously waited for Glen to wake up and try to put his father's (too small) shoes on. We all enjoyed the joke, when Glen sat up and struggled to put on Bill's shoes. Little Gilbert was convulsed with delight when Glen worked to get Bill's shoes on. He said he thought his feet had swollen in the heat. Ha ha! Bevan, Dody, Yvonne, Ronnie, Nadine, and Violet came to Andersen's later. We all had a nice visit. Violet is staying a few days. Ronnie feels cheated that Grama and Jimmy both stayed at Andersen's. We enjoyed some good sweet watermelon at Andersen's. Glen and family had to leave before Aunt Violet arrived with her family. They couldn't wait any longer; had to go to church in Van Nuys. Our BYU students put on the program in church tonight. I'd like to have been there.

August 15, Monday

I phoned Donna this morning, Joan and Patsy's colds have cleared up a little; Joan has a cough. Donna and Rex took

and Patsy), had gone to Disneyland, they left this morning. He had taken Joan up to the Lyric Theater for work. He ate dinner next door; Joan had prepared meatballs and cooked spaghetti! Oh that spaghetti, it was a pot of glue, she didn't know how to cook it. Ha ha! The meatballs were okay. Donna cooked more spaghetti to go with the meatballs for the family this evening. Rex and family drove in soon after we got there. They'd had a big day. Disneyland is wonderful. Rex gave us some good, sweet watermelon. We brought home some nuts from the reception.

August 14, Sunday

Annie told me yesterday that Bevan Jones had gone to Beryl, Utah, to bring the folks back. Dolores wasn't feeling well enough to drive the station wagon home. Andersen expects Jimmy Bailey this morning sometime. He is coming with Bevan and Dody, Yvonne, Violet, and the two children, Ronnie and Nadine. Shirley Wenrich was out to Sunday School again. She does seem interested in learning about the gospel of Jesus Christ the LDS way. She bought a book from our church library this morning; a three in one, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants and Pearl of Great Price. We had several out of state visitors in Sunday School. We always do in the summer time. Don R.'s class is always interesting. I was happy to see Lutie Solem taking active part in the class discussion. She read from the Book of Doctrine and Covenants. Beverly Andersen phoned this afternoon. She put Jimmy Bailey on the line. His voice sounded like his brother Bob's voice. We drove over to see Jimmy this late afternoon. He is a fine good-looking young man, 18 years old. When I last saw him, he was a boy 14 or 15 years old. Glen and Irene and boys were at Andersen's, more good-looking lads a coming up in our family. They are cute kids all of them. Gilbert changed his dad's shoes for his Grampa's smaller ones, while Glen was



Patsy Strong went with her mother and the Marshes' to Disneyland on August 14, 1955.

Marty to see the beautiful new Los Angeles LDS Temple last evening. They phoned to ask if we'd like to go, but we were at Andersen's. Marty and Patsy are leaving for home in the morning, to Murray, Utah. Wayne phoned Marty yesterday; he is anxious for them to come home. I phoned Andersen's; Beverly had planned to take Jim Bailey and Violet to Farmer's Market in Los Angeles today. I did a small hand washing, not feeling up to a big washday. I spent most of my day composing Relief Society queen tributes. I got three of them started, with three verses each, but I did manage to finish one tribute, to our stake president, Thelma Nebeker. She has been to our workday gatherings a few times. I thought it would be nice to have a tribute ready in case she is there again. Lou had a man from the television repair shop come out this evening while he was home at 4:45

p.m. He came from Simpson's Shop. It cost \$8.04 to put in a new sound tube and a little aid to the picture tube in our set. The man said that our big picture tube is weak, but it may last for a while. After dinner we settled down, about 8 p.m. to enjoy the television. We had an excellent picture and sound, which lasted about an hour, and then we lost the picture. No picture on any channel. Oh dear, that picture tube is the baby that costs money. Mr. Edgecomb took his new T.V. set, that he bought second hand on Saturday, back to the shop this evening. It went out of action, also. Mr. and Mrs. Lowe are visiting with their son and his family for a few days.

August 16, Tuesday

I got up first for a change and cooked Lou's breakfast and put up his lunch. I had a nice talk with Clarice Tanner, via phone. I called her about the queen tributes. I talked to Beverly Andersen; she was just leaving to take Jimmy Bailey, Aunt Violet, and Annie to see the beautiful LDS Temple in Los Angeles. They were going to have lunch at

the big Farmer's Market in Los Angeles, also. I thought they went yesterday, but instead they went to Burbank to see the folks out there. Jim went for a swim in Haddock's pool. Lou phoned from the shop to tell me that the T.V. man from Simpsons would be out to get our television set. We have to have a new picture tube put in the thing, "bye bye \$\$\$". Donna, Mary, and Kathy came in about noon. They'd been to take Marty and Patsy to the bus. It's the bus that takes them to Los Angeles, where they will leave for home in Murray, Utah. (It was the train or bus, not sure which?) Mary fixed a little lunch for her and Kathy here, while Donna and I enjoyed talking. She fixed chicken noodle soup, toast, and ice cream. I was delighted they came as I had some things to ask and tell Donna. Joan and Mary are delighted to have their own bedrooms back again, like they had while Janet was in Provo to college. Joan is moving back into her room, Mary in her room, and Kathy in the front bedroom with Donna and Rex. Johnny will sleep in the garage bedroom. Now that Janet has left home, they can make the change. Our little Mrs. Shattuck has her own home now, in San Jose, California. The T.V. man came; he fixed the set here. He put in the big picture tube. He had to take the works out of the cabinet so I washed the glass screen and plastic frame. It cost \$40.40. Lou will take the check in tomorrow. The T.V. cost \$8.04 last night!

T.V. Troubles

For a long while before they bought a television the Renshaw's visits to others homes included television watching. On June 23, 1951 Elvie said she had no desire for a television. They must have changed their minds because they bought a television on September 21, 1951.

Not quite three years later the picture tube needs to be replaced. When folks say today that they don't make things like they used to, consider the television and the improvement in quality and value over the years.

August 17, Wednesday

We did have a beautiful clear picture on our television last night. I hope we'll have no more trouble with the thing now, for a long time. I phoned Miriam Clayton this morning to ask about little Kenneth Jorgensen. Lorene is out to Mary's now. Kenny is in the hospital. The tests show that one of his kidneys is completely gone; and the little fellow will have to have an operation on the other kidney in a few weeks to save it and his life. I was surely disturbed with this distressing news. I'm so sorry for Mary and Vernon, and Lorene, too. I do hope the Lord will bless them and that precious little boy. I mailed Donna three more tributes to type for my Relief Society queens, bless her heart. This time it is Thelma Nebeker, Ella Wride, and Ruth Meier. I have fifteen ready now. I walked up to the post office on the boulevard. I bought two partly used rolls of wallpaper to get the blue and yellow flowers I need for the queen's folders. I'm using our Society's colors now, blue and gold. It was 25¢ a roll. I was glad to get back home out of the heat. Annie phoned and read Lydia's letter to me. She and Owen are thankful to Beverly and her folks for making Jimmy so welcome and happy in their home. Everyone is welcome and happy in the Andersen household; bless their hearts. Bev took Jim and Aunt Violet to Forest Lawn Cemetery this morning to see the beautiful stained glass "Last Supper" window and the huge famous painting of the Crucifix, also some of the wonderful statues there. They enjoyed one of

Bob's hamburgers, also. Annie says Donna phoned and said she'd pick Jim up Friday morning and take him to her house for the day and overnight if he'll stay. I made several queen folders over today, using the blue and gold color idea. Our day was hot and smoggy.

August 18, Thursday

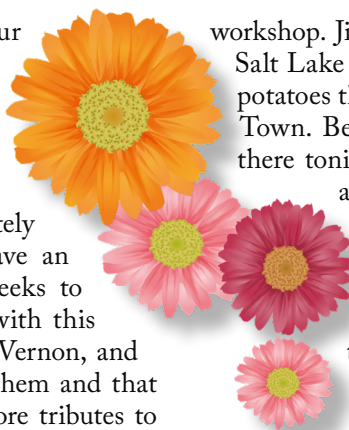
It has been another hot day. I stayed inside and tried to keep cool. I can hardly believe that this week is almost over with; oh how does the time get away so quickly? I see plenty of work I should be doing around here, but where will I find that needed strength to do it? I get tired forcing myself to do every little job, darn it. I phoned Annie this afternoon to check on their activities. Annie went to Long Beach to lunch at Jennie Bingham's house, with her club members.

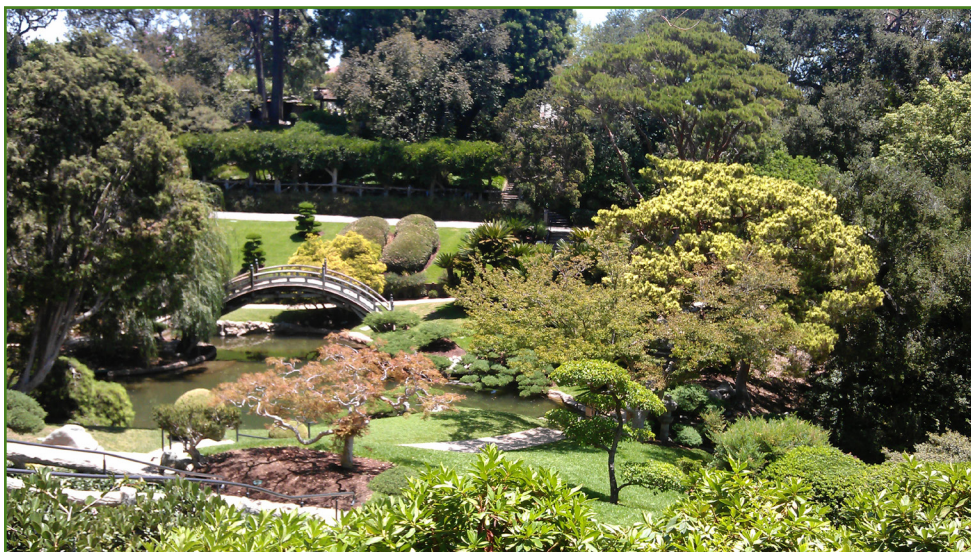
The club gave Viola Sorenson an electric Mixmaster; she is getting married to a Mr. Polk on September 9. Today Dale and his missionary companion will meet the boat from the USA with twenty-two LDS missionaries aboard. They will have the pleasure of showing them around Rio de Janeiro. Six of the boys will stay in Brazil; the others go on somewhere else. I think Dale and his companion sleep on the boat with the new missionaries tonight. Dale was anxiously waiting for this day of pleasure. This is the second or third time he has met the boat from the states with new missionaries on. Beverly took Jimmy Bailey and Aunt Violet to the Deseret Industries to visit Uncle Bill's

workshop. Jim's dad, my brother Owen, works for them in Salt Lake City. They went to Glen's office and left some potatoes that Bill sent to him. They stopped to see China Town. Beverly took Violet over to Dolores's, she'll stay there tonight and tomorrow night. Ronnie and Nadine are anxious for Grama Fife to come there! John and Florence Marsh are leaving tonight, with Ernie Oates, Diane Oates, and Ernie Jr. for Provo to see Elaine Oates graduate from the Brigham Young University. Florence Oates is there now. John and Florence are going to take the bus, in Utah, after the graduation and have a nice trip to Reno, Nevada and Tahoe and up to Ruth and Dick's in Oakland.

August 19, Friday

It is another hot day. I'm glad Lou took me to the market last night for the things I wanted this morning. I just am no good at walking in the hot sun. I made a fruit Jello salad first thing so it would be set for lunch. I baked a macaroni, cheese and tuna casserole. Donna, Joan, Kathy, and little neighbor boy, Bobby, went to pick Jimmy Bailey up at Andersen's at 10:30 a.m. Mary was up to Howard's overnight with Bonnie Howard. Johnny was in bed when they left for Highland Park; he was out to a show late last night, so wanted to sleep late. Donna brought the folks here as planned. We ate lunch early so we could take Jimmy to see the Huntington Library and Art Gallery. Donna stayed at my house with the two





Botanical Gardens at Huntington Library that Joan, Jim, and Elvie visited on August 19.

little children; she did all the lunch dishes too, bless her heart. Joan drove the station wagon and took Jim and me to the beautiful Botanical Gardens at Huntington Library. We had to wait around outside the gardens for forty minutes; the place doesn't open up until 1 p.m. I went through one large building with the kids, then I found a lovely spot in the grounds, where I rested on a bench, while Joan and Jim looked around in the Oriental Gardens, palm collections and desert plant collections. We got back here about 2:30 p.m. Johnny got worried about Donna being gone so long; he phoned her. They took Jim to Monrovia to visit with them. I think Joan and Chuck will entertain him tonight; a show or something. They were going to swim at Howard's this afternoon, but Joan has a head cold and cough. She wanted to take Jim up, but he didn't want to swim. Donna was so long getting home that Johnny wanted to know if they "came by way of Mars." Fresh kid, eh? Ha ha! We had some delicious cob corn, fresh from the garden. It was so sweet and good. Mrs. Edgecomb went to the cornfield on the highway for it. It was 60¢ a dozen. Nice neighbor, eh?

August 20, Saturday

My sweet Lou got up and helped me do the washing. He does all the heavy part; I just assist. We were through by 9 a.m. He cut the lawn in the front yard and trimmed the hedge with his electric cutter. Oh, what I'd give for such eager ambition. I had to lie down for a while after the washing was hung out. My heart seems to have more trouble percolating in this hot weather. I wonder if it'll make it at times? Yvonne invited me to go uptown with her and her mother, Violet. I'd love to have gone but I'm not up to it this day. Violet wanted to buy a new hat. We received a sweet letter from Janet thanking us for her birthday gift, nylons and LDS garments, and telling us how much they are enjoying the stainless steel flatware we gave them for their wedding. She sounds so delightfully happy, she invited us to come up and visit them. She is so anxious for her folks and us to see their cute little apartment. They spent two days of honeymoon at Lake Tahoe. David has an uncle and aunt there; they had them to a chicken dinner. The Shattucks gave Janet a clock radio for her birthday. They

are grand to her, have given them so many lovely things including canned foods and etcetera. Janet is waiting for the electric icebox Rex is sending (his old one). Shattucks have had them to dinner most every night because she hasn't an icebox to keep food in yet. We drove out to Monrovia this afternoon. Rex was plastering a room for his neighbor John who lives in back of them. Mary has been up to Howard's for a few days. Donna was going to take Kathy and John up for a swim and take Mary's Sunday clothes. Mary Howard wants her to stay and help her with the swim party the elders are giving at Howard's in honor of the Perines who have moved from the ward to the beach. The

Andersens took Jim to Knott's Berry Farm today. Beverly A., Norma H., and Jim B. went to a picture show tonight. Chuck and Joan took Jim Bailey to Mt. Baldy yesterday afternoon to ride the ski lift, but it was not operating. They had a good fried chicken dinner at home then took Jim to the Lyric Theater in Monrovia at night.



The Andersens took Jim Bailey to Knott's Berry Farm on August 20. This photo is from the 1940s. Knott's Berry Farms opened in 1920.

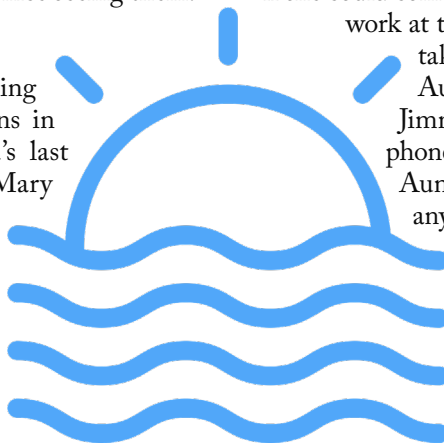
August 21, Sunday

Mary phoned me from Howard's this morning. She has been visiting with them for a few days. She came to our Sunday School with Howards this morning. I invited Mary and Bonny to eat dinner with us. I cooked a leg of lamb this morning. I left it in a low oven, with onions, potatoes and carrots. They were done to perfection when we got home after Sunday School. We enjoyed having these two sweet little girls this afternoon. They enjoyed my scrapbooks and diary; 1942, the year Mary was born. Joan received a nice letter from Warnie Mueller. He was in a hospital, in Hawaii, waiting to be operated on for a hernia. I surely hope that dear lad got along fine. Donna read his letter to me yesterday. Beverly A. took Aunt Violet, Yvonne, Jimmy Bailey, and

Norma Hardy to San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico today. They left early this morning. Norma slept with Bev so they could get started at 5 a.m. I gave Clarice Tanner two dollars for the purse the Relief Society sisters are making up to give Marie Doezie to help her enjoy her trip to Holland. She is going to see her mother and family that she hasn't seen for 29 years, I think. I'm so happy for Marie, she is such a generous good person. I'm delighted she can go see her family again. I made sandwiches for my girls and Lou this evening before church. They enjoyed them while watching T.V. We were delighted to see Joan come in church tonight. She sat with Grampa and me. She brought the queen tributes that Donna had typed for me; seven of them, four copies of each. Isn't my Donna precious? What would I do without her? We had a nice meeting; Don R. sang two lovely solos. President Hunter spoke after two young people gave short talks. Mary didn't want to go home tonight; she'd live up at Howard's if they'd keep her there and if her parents would let her stay. I'm wondering if Joan took her home? She didn't seem to mind her staying at Howard's longer, ha ha! David Taylor and his new wife visited our ward tonight; it was nice seeing them.

August 22, Monday

We received a Golden Wedding announcement from the Andrew Jensens in Salt Lake City. Joan went to Howard's last night and phoned her mother to ask if Mary could stay at Howard's another night. The result, Mary stayed and the Marshes are going to a barbecue dinner at the Howard's tonight and take Mary home after. Mary phoned me this morning and gave me the lowdown on things, ha ha! Donna asked her to phone me and tell me that Elsie Bailey and her children sent a beautiful yellow wool blanket to Janet and David. Harold and June Hayes came to Donna's the other night and brought a set of lovely bath towels. Donna's dear school friend, Janet Anderson, sent pretty pillow slips so Donna has several more gifts to send up to the bride and groom. It's Lou's vacation in three weeks; we may take a little trip up north and take the gifts to Janet. I did my small ironing and put the seven queen tributes in folders. Donna phoned from Howard's this evening at 8 p.m. They were just about to eat their barbecue chicken. Rex supplied the chicken. Donna said that several ward folks had phoned Howards this evening to ask if they could bring their families over to spend the "home night" with Howards and swim in their pool this lovely warm evening. If they all go, it'll be a party for sure. I talked to Sue and Violet, from Annie's home, over the phone this morning. Bette H. and Sue came to get Jim Bailey and



Jimmy Bailey circa 1946. In August of 1955 Jimmy is 18 years old and visiting family and the sites in Southern California.

Violet. They want them to visit in Burbank with them a few days. Elaine V. is going to take Jim out to see Uncle Oscar and Aunt Blanche this evening. I hope they all have a lot of fun together out there. I didn't watch television as long this evening. My eyes have little shooting pains.

August 23, Tuesday

I've had dear little Kenneth Jorgensen on my mind and in my prayers a lot since hearing about the little fellow's kidney trouble. Annie said Sr. Jorgensen phoned her last night; they are taking Kenny to the hospital this morning. Sr. Jorgensen is going to Mary's this morning at six o'clock. May God bless little Kenny and all concerned. Lorene was with Mary and the children the past week or two; she is staying with the Cortland's children now, while their parents are out of town somewhere. Miriam and Ray Clayton and family are in Salt Lake City. I think Miriam will stay until after the Golden Wedding celebration of her parents. The announcement is very pretty in gold embossed lettering and gold leaf design. I'll put it in my scrapbook. Lou had me phone Beverly to see if she could come in the morning and help get out some extra work at the Venetian blind shop. She had planned to take Aunt Lorene to Van Nuys and to bring Aunt Violet home from Burbank and maybe Jimmy Bailey if he is ready to come back now. Bev phoned Lou later and said that Dolores would take Aunt Lorene to Van Nuys, or as far as Burbank anyway. Maybe Mary or Vernon can pick her up at Aunt Sue's? Dody will bring her mother back with her, so Bev can go to work in the morning at the Venetian blind shop. Uncle Bill phoned this evening; he wanted to ask about a large Venetian blind for the office window at the Deseret Industries where he works. The cost is high for a new one that size; Lou is going to look over the old turn ins to see if there are any that size. I've had several sharp pains in my eyes the past few days. Maybe too much television, eh? Be careful Grama!

August 24, Wednesday

I had to force myself to stay on my feet to do the necessary housework this morning. Why do I feel so darned weak at times? The flowers in our yard are so pretty now; two beautiful red rose bushes in full bloom again and some yellow and some rose pink ones. The lovely coral shade canna lilies are in bloom along the south fence. I thank God for eyesight to see His wonderful creations here, for mankind to enjoy. The fuchsias in the hanging baskets are pretty, too. Yes, we are blessed indeed. My neighbor's lovely white daisies, and colorful asters I'm enjoying, too. The asters are way in the backyard. I didn't notice them until Monday when Mrs. Lowe was cutting some. I wrote a letter to Janet, my first

time to write Mrs. David Shattuck; it seems strange not to write Miss Janet Marsh. I walked to the post office and bought eighty 3¢ stamps for \$2.40. I sent sixty-four of them in Janet's letter to help her out in answering all the thank you notes for their wedding gifts. It is a big job, and takes a lot of stamps. I kept the sixteen stamps for my use. I'm glad I do not have to write all of those thank you notes, and how! I was surely happy to get home, not feeling too good lately. I phoned Donna; they're well, which is always good news for me. Donna was waiting for someone to pick her up to go canning for the church welfare of their ward. Donna said she typed a nice letter to Warnie M. Joan wrote to him, also. I had to dry our newspaper with the oven tonight. The front lawn sprinklers soaked it good before Lou found it in the driveway. Beverly worked at the shop this morning. Dolores took Aunt Lorene to Van Nuys and brought Aunt Violet back with her. Annie went with Dolores to Van Nuys and Burbank. Jimmy stayed at Vandergrift's.

August 25, Thursday

I composed a queen tribute to Charlotte Young this morning. I'd like to do one for all of the sweet Relief Society sisters, but it takes so long to get around to the coronation day, once a month. Our last queen was number 32. I had 15 in the folders ready. This one is not typed yet, but it makes 16 composed. My darling Donna types 'em for me. There was a black pigeon in front of our garage this morning; it couldn't fly. When Lou opened the garage, it walked to our back steps and stayed there until almost noon. I worried for fear the neighbor's cat would get it. Mr. Lowe told the neighbor boy who has a lot of pigeons. He came and took it away. He says it is a young one and hasn't learned to fly yet. I'm surely glad he put it in the pen with the others. I thought its wing was broken. I tried to pick it up, but it moved away too fast for me and by the time I got stooped over, it was out of reach for this old gal. It didn't take the lad long to catch that little pigeon. I talked to Annie on the phone; she read a nice letter from Dale to me, he is enjoying his mission a lot, and is doing well with the language. I talked to Violet at Dolores's house, via phone; she had a nice visit with Sue in Burbank. Bette and Sue took her to lunch at the Smoke House where Ray H. works. Sue made Violet a pretty seersucker house coat or duster as they call 'em. Violet bought the material. Vandergrifts are doing their best to show Jimmy a good time. Irene and Glen are taking him to their home tomorrow. Beverly will pick him up Saturday. Mike V., and Jim B. have gone to see Cinerama today. After dinner, I did a tribute to Katie Austin. Dody phoned this evening and invited me to go see Art Linkletter's program in the morning. Nice, eh? She has several tickets. She has some for the Bob Crosby show, also. Donna and one of her girls are going with us.



Bob Crosby

Art Linkletter
receiving Emmy for
best daytime show
in 1955. ➡



August 26, Friday

Dody came for me a few minutes after 9 a.m. She had Donna, Mary, and Violet with her. We picked Aunt Annie up at her house. The six of us went to the NBC Broadcasting Company in Los Angeles, near the big Farmer's Market. We saw the Art Linkletter T.V. program first. We had a lot of fun. I was disappointed that time ran out before they could do the cards that people wrote, cause I'm sure Donna would have been called on to talk about her "big beef" about dirty socks in hot weather, in the clothes hamper, ha ha! I gave her the idea. Johnny Jacobs was the M.C. there. We went to another studio in the same building after the Linkletter show, to see the Bob Crosby T.V. show. I believe I enjoyed it even better than the first. Jack Nars was the M.C. there. Bob's two small sons and his 17-year-old daughter, Kathy, were all on the program. They are good looking kids. We were sure Dolores would be on the program here; her name was called out from the cards folks wrote asking Bob questions. But time ran out just when she was next, to ask her question. We just can't win, eh? Well, it was fun. We would have eaten lunch at Farmer's Market across the street, but Beverly was waiting at home for Annie to take her to the bank before she had to go to her night work. Bev worked for Gordon this morning and yesterday morning. We left Annie off at 2:10 p.m. at home. Bev's car was already there. Annie was to be outside waiting for Bev at 2 p.m. or when she arrived. The rest of us came on to Chili Ville in Highland Park and ate lunch there. We had fun. We pooled our money to pay the bill. I could have worked here this afternoon, I had the time but no energy, so I rested until Lou came at 4:45 p.m. Lou went to the market before coming home from work today. He phoned to ask what we needed.

August 27, Saturday

Lou got up early and made hot cakes for himself. I stayed in bed until the aroma was out of the kitchen. It never fails to bring on asthma, so I played it smart today. I'd had a restless night with asthma anyway, but thank God for the spray relief. Lou polished his car, took a shower, and announced he was going uptown. Oh oh! He wants to look at new cars again, I'm sure. I wrote a note to Janet, telling her our vacation is a week sooner than I told her in the last letter. We wanted to know if she and David would be away next Saturday and Sunday the 3rd and 4th of September? We can go next Saturday if they haven't planned to be away. We went to see Donna and family this afternoon. Rex was at the neighbors in the rear of them, putting the finishing coat of plaster on the bedroom he plastered last Saturday. Kathy and Mary were over at the neighbors when we arrived. Lou walked over there. Mary and Kathy came to see me. Mary showed me her new scrapbook; she is doing an excellent job of filling in the pages. We looked at Joan's book, too. She has a few nice pages, also. We invited Mary to go to San Jose when we go next week. She was delighted. I'd love to have gone to the Huntington Beach tonight, with the folks, for the weenie bake. Beverly arranged for it, then she had to work, but Glen and Irene and family are bringing Jimmy Bailey in

from a visit with them. They'll pick up Bill and Annie. Dolores, Bevan, and kiddies, and Violet, and Yvonne are going. Ray and Bette are going, also. Dody phoned to invite Rex and Donna and family. Rex was too tired after working hard all day. Joan and Chuck were going to a program in the Hollywood Bowl. I brought some pictures home that Donna gave me from her scrapbook, which is about to fall apart. She wants me to put them in my scrapbook for safe keeping for her. Chuck brought Joan from work after the show. Johnny walked home.

August 28, Sunday

We went to Sunday School as usual, we had several visitors from out of town in our class. I met a nice couple from St. George, Utah, who are here on a short term (6 months) mission. They know some of the Fifes from Cedar City, but not Otto and Violet. They have only lived in St. George the three years. Their hometown was in Idaho. Shirley Wenrich was out to Sunday School again. I guess she is really interested in our gospel. We ate dinner at home; I cooked a small rolled roast with potatoes, onions and carrots. I finished the pages I worked on yesterday evening, in my scrapbook; the material I brought from Donna's Treasure's of Truth book. Mary thought I should have them in my book so people could see them once in a while. They are pictures of Lou and me when we were babies and youngsters. I made two cute pages of them. The book will be Donna's anyway someday, so she told me to bring them home for safekeeping. Her book is falling apart. It has pictures of us from babies up to age 21. I'd forgotten Donna had these precious old pictures. [Maybe the pictures on this page?] I enjoyed seeing them again. We went to church this evening and had a nice meeting, as usual. We sat with Gilbert and Eleanor Jorgensen. She is expecting a baby in a few months. (She is a lovely girl.) Sr. Edna Neighbor sang two lovely solos. There were short talks by Maurine Wride and Lynn Anderson. Our main speaker was President James J. Unopulos. He gave a very excellent talk; the time went by so fast. It was warm today. Florence Marsh phoned this evening, they had just returned from their nice trip. They visited with Ruth and family. Ruth took them to see Janet. Ruth gave Janet and David some lovely cooking utensils. Florence gave her a cookie sheet she needed.



Elvie Bailey 1900



Elvie Bailey 1910



Louis Timothy Renshaw 1891



Louis Timothy Renshaw 1893



August 29, Monday

I decided to wash, Lou has helped me do it for two weeks, but it was small, without the sheets, so I did it and rested all afternoon. I had a few heart pains but not bad. My eyes are still bothering me, but not as painful today. I wore dark glasses to the lines; the sun is so bright. I phoned Annie this morning. She said Beverly took them to Santa Barbara yesterday, so Jimmy Bailey could see that lovely city. She said Jim would leave California next Saturday. Diana Strong Selander is going back with her children then, and Aunt Sue is going with her. I guess Jim will go with them, if he can arrange it. I'm glad that Sue is going, I know she needs a change. Diana and husband went to see her sister Ramona a few weeks ago in the East. I think they drove their car then. Jim's Aunt Babe [*Belenda Orabelle Hoglund*] is going to take him out to see the Griffith Park Observatory tomorrow. Beverly is going to bring Jim over to visit with me on Thursday morning while she works at the Venetian blind shop from 9 a.m. until about 2 p.m. Nice, eh? Annie has a club meeting or church meeting. I'm so happy for Br. and Sr. Manlove. They are going through the temple next month. They joined our church about three years ago. Maybe it's longer? Sr. Manlove has charge of sending the birthday cards to all the Relief Society sisters in our ward. I'll take care of it for her this next month while they are in Salt Lake City for three weeks. Chuck DeBias took Joan and Mary out to Knott's Berry Farm today. They had a lot of fun. Lou brought home a real good watermelon; we're waiting for it to get cold.



Aunt Babe was Jimmy's mother's sister.



Joan and Mary Marsh at Knott's Berry Farms.

August 30, Tuesday

I had a poor night's rest, but felt better this morning. Lou got up and made hot cakes for his breakfast. Bill S. is on his vacation now, so Lou has to go out in the company truck and do the pick up and installation work. He doesn't like it one little bit, either. He came home for his lunch today, cause he had a job out this direction. I shampooed my hair this morning. I felt so ill before I'd finished the pin curl job, I had to lie down until the heart distress left. I felt better after lunch so I did my ironing, then rested again. (Oh, what a merry time I have, eh?) Beverly phoned and said Annie and Jim went uptown this morning. He wanted to do some shopping to take home. He was to meet his Uncle Frank [*Francis Heney Sullivan*] at 4:30 p.m. and go to eat dinner with him and Aunt Babe, then go to see the observatory. They will bring him back to Andersens' tonight. Bev says Aunt Sue has decided she can't get ready to leave with Diana on Saturday. She has bookwork to get caught up on. She may go later with the Andersens. One of Bev's friends at work is leaving for Utah Friday night. She said she'd be glad to take Violet and Jim with her. Bev tried to get Aunt Violet, but no one was home at Joneses' so she couldn't tell her about it. Donna phoned from Howards'; the kids have all had a nice swim in her pool. Howards ate a barbecue dinner at Marshes last night. Bonny stayed all night. Donna took her home today. Mary is staying up to Howards' tonight. I invited Donna and Joan to come here and eat lunch with Jim and me on Thursday. Mary may be up to Howards', but John and Kathy will come here. I think

Donna will drop Joan off here while she goes to Singing Mother's rehearsal. Kathy and Johnny will come with Donna after the rehearsal. They play in the nursery. I went to bed earlier than usual; not feeling well.

I received a nice letter from Ethel Newbold with a very pretty friendship handkerchief in; she is a darling.

August 31, Wednesday

I rested a lot better last night; I feel more like myself today. My sweet Lou told me to stay in bed and rest today. He ate breakfast out. I got up at 8 a.m. Mrs. Lowe brought some papers in for me to witness her sign and for me to sign as witness. It's insurance papers; she is having a change made in them. She brought me a lovely bouquet of her asters; she is a dear little neighbor. I wrote to Ethel Newbold and thanked her for the pretty yellow-rose friendship handkerchief. She is a dear. I also sent Bonnie R. a "Thinking of You" card and told her the blanket they sent to Janet and David was beautiful and it really is! It's a lovely yellow blanket.

I rested all afternoon trying to keep cool, but oh, it has been hot today. I had my little fan near by. Lou ate some ice-cold watermelon when he got home. He changed into his carpenter clothes and went to do a job for a lady customer at the shop. He had to fix a screen door for her. I have eaten very little the past few days, mostly warm milk, and graham crackers. The hot weather upsets me in every way. Lou bought some Argyrol for my eyes. I hope they'll feel better now. (Of course they will.) Johnny and Mary have been up to Howards' in their Sierra Madre Canyon home, swimming in their pool these past few days. Oh a swim in cool water sounds good to this "hot" Grama right now. Oh to be young again, eh? Ha ha! I had a wonderful youth and I've enjoyed growing old. I hope all of my precious children will have as happy



a life as I have had. If only I was well. Mary Howard took her children and Mary and Johnny and two or three other children today to the Bell Brand Potato Chip and Peanut Butter Company. It was very interesting to see them making the chips and butter. The kids all received small bags of potato chips and other

samples of the Bell Brand company products. They surely enjoyed the trip through the plant. Dolores took Jim to her home for dinner this evening and to a show at night.

September 1, Thursday

September ushered in hot as blazes. It was warm all night; I wish we'd have a break from this dreadful hot weather. Beverly brought Jim over this morning at 7:45 a.m. She went to work at the shop at 8 a.m. I surely enjoyed my visit with Jimmy; we looked through one of my scrapbooks. He enjoyed seeing pictures of his dad, in younger days, before he was married, and some snap shots of his mother, too. We read from my diary, the year he was born, May 1937. I believe it was the 17th. Sure enough I mentioned a baby boy arrived at Owen and Lydia's home; it was recorded a few days after his birth; when we got the word out here by "Uncle Sam." Joan and Chuck D. came to take Jim up to Howard's to swim in the pool at 10:15 a.m. I was glad he could cool off that way. Donna came after the Singing Mothers' rehearsal, with Johnny and Kathy at 12:30 noon. I had the potato salad and cold cuts, tomatoes, and etcetera ready for lunch. We gave John and Kathy their lunch and they were hungry! Joan, Chuck, Jim Bailey, and Mary came at 1 p.m., hungry, too. They seemed to enjoy the lunch. I had fun serving them; my stomach is still a bit out of order, so I didn't eat anything. Donna and Joan did the dishes. Beverly came for Jimmy about 2 p.m. I gave her a cold piece of watermelon. Oh, it has been a hot one this day. Chuck, Mary, and Joan went back to Howard's pool. Poor little Johnny was left out, and he wasn't happy about it either. Donna had to take Janet's wedding proofs down town and

order the ones they want. Bev and Jim saw the pictures before they left. All are very good of Janet and David, a cute couple. Some of the group pictures are good, also. I rested all afternoon. Donna ordered two wedding pictures for me, one of the bride and one of the bride and groom, at \$2.50 a piece. Sue got a letter from Bonnie R. She is worried because Darrell is having more troubles with his legs. He has to be operated on September 21, for the ulcers on his legs. I'm sorry to hear he is suffering again. Maxine Shattuck phoned from San Jose.



The two photos that Donna ordered for Elvie on September 1, 1955 for \$2.50 each.

September 2, Friday

Mrs. Maxine Shattuck phoned last night; she was very nice, and said they were anxious for us to come and hoped we'd stay with them part of the time. She said they all love little Janet, "she's a little doll." (Her words.) While she was talking to me, Janet and David came in her house, so Janet talked to me. She is delighted we're bringing Mary with us and wished all of her family could come to San Jose. She wants me to bring her white nylon uniform; she has got a job in a doctor's office. She also wants her dark blue pedal pushers. George Holden's Men and Boys Wear Store, in Burbank, has it's grand opening today from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. He sent us an invitation to attend; we'd love to go see his new store this evening but we are leaving early in the morning. We have too many things to attend to. Annie and Jim got his bus ticket for Salt Lake City today. He leaves tomorrow night at 10 p.m. Diana S. and her children leave for home on the bus tonight. They've been visiting with Beth and family. I talked to Violet on the phone. I surely hope she stays here until we get back. I'd like a nice visit with her. She would stay longer but she's promised to take care of some children in Beryl while their parents teach school. I'm glad she can do this because it'll keep her from getting so dreadfully lonesome. I was surprised to learn that Miriam C. came back with Ray. He just had one week in Salt Lake City. She will go back for her parent's Golden Wedding later for two days. Lorene phoned to tell them

about Kenny. The doctors feel encouraged, they think there is a chance that his kidneys will function now that they have removed the structures from his kidney. They did not remove the one kidney as expected. We are all happy over it. I wish George Holden the very best success with his store. He is a grand person. It was another hot day. I surely hope it isn't as hot up north. We went to Monrovia this evening to get Mary.

September 3, Saturday

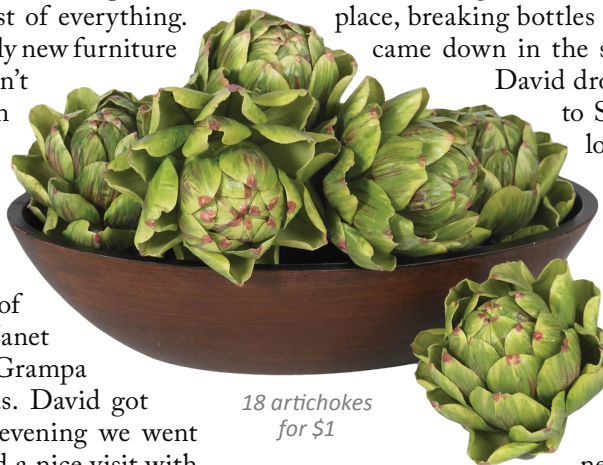
Mary, Lou, and I left Pasadena this morning at 4:50 a.m. We arrived in Santa Maria at 8:30 a.m. We ate a good breakfast at Leo's Drive-in. We got gasoline in Santa Maria, also. It has been a nice cool trip so far. We stopped later for cold drinks. Mary had a Popsicle. We arrived in San Jose at 2:15 p.m. Janet had gone to the store; she left notes on the front and back doors, telling us to go inside. The little apartment is just darling. The kids have surely fixed it up pretty. They insisted on Grampa and me staying in their bedroom, the best of everything. Embroidered sheets and slips, lovely new furniture and all, bless their hearts, I couldn't talk them into letting us sleep in the other bedroom, which is fixed up cute, too. The chicken Rex and Donna sent up was defrosted, so Grampa cut it up. He stewed the wings and neck and giblets. Janet and Mary fried the rest of the two chickens while I rested. Janet with some help from Mary and Grampa prepared a delicious dinner for us. David got home from work at 5 p.m. this evening we went to the Shattuck ranch and enjoyed a nice visit with David's parents, in their lovely home across the creek, under the beautiful old oak trees. We enjoyed some cold lemonade; Marilyn Shattuck was away vacationing at Carmel or somewhere along the Seventeen Mile Drive. Mary slept on the couch in the living room of the apartment.

September 4, Sunday

Janet and David have been married one month today, their anniversary, eh? We woke up this morning to the sweet music of Janet's clock radio at 7:30 a.m. It was her birthday gift from the Shattucks. No breakfast, as it was fast day. We all went to Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. It seemed strange to have the fast meeting first. I enjoyed the fine testimonies, also the Sunday School later. We had cold chicken sandwiches at home, thanks to Rex and Donna, and tomato salad and ice cream. Lou and David enjoyed some chicken soup. After lunch we went to Oakland in David's car. We had a nice visit with Ruth and Dick Deal and family. We enjoyed watching their tame little sparrow. It flies to anyone; lights on top of their heads. Barbara found the tiny baby sparrow and brought it home. They fed it and have a nice cage for it. They have a little hamster, which

entertained us, too. Ruth invited Mary to stay a few days with them. We had expected the girls would want Mary to stay, so we had a few things in the car she'd need. The Deals took Mary swimming on Sunday afternoon. It was something new for Mary to swim on Sunday. Lou talked to Winnie Renshaw from Deal's phone. She lives in Oakland and she wanted us to call by her place. We did and met her new husband, (the fourth). He is very nice, I hope this will work out all right. Winnie looks well; she served orange drinks. Sorry I did not remember Bob's [*Robert Adolph Buehlman*] last name, so I do not know Winnie's new name. We went to see Elaine and Marvin Alexander and baby boy. (She is Winnie's daughter.) She lives on the same street a few doors from Winnie; we walked there. We had hamburgers and hot dogs in Oakland before coming home. We were all relaxing when the earthquake gave San Jose a good jolt that woke us up. It was a dandy. No damage done in our little apartment, but surely did shake us up good. The canned goods in the markets came down all over the place, breaking bottles and making an awful mess. Plaster

came down in the stores and some homes. Janet and David drove out to look at the damage done to Safeway Store. Tonight we enjoyed looking at David's colored slides.

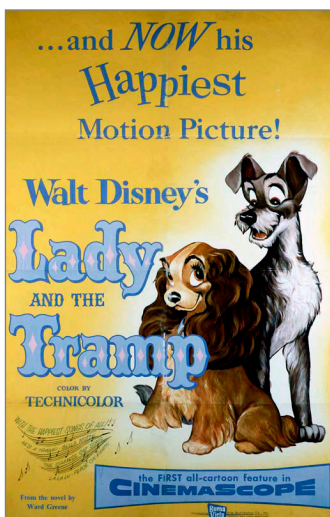


18 artichokes
for \$1

September 5, Monday— Labor Day

Lou and David cooked breakfast for all of us this morning; bacon, eggs, and toast. Janet and I put the house in order and did the dishes. David took Lou for a ride around San Jose to see the new houses going up. Mary is in

Oakland, having fun, I hope. We went in David's car for a lovely drive. Dave bought two bags of artichokes, \$1.00 a bag. They want us to take one bag to the folks in Monrovia. There are 18 in each bag. We stopped in Monterey for a barbeque sandwich and barbeque potato chips. They were delicious, the best I've ever eaten. David took pictures of us along the trip, at the most scenic spots. I've never seen a more beautiful landscape, natural views. It is wonderful; unique homes, famous cypress trees that the artists love to paint, and ocean and huge boulders. The N.J. Poux Castle is something to see. The 17 Mile Drive and Carmel by the Sea are all very lovely to see. We had ice cream bars and soda pop along the trip for Dave and Janet. Grampa and



Grampa didn't indulge always; can't take it like the young folks now, eh? We rested at home this afternoon. We ate bacon and tomato sandwiches in the evening and then went to a drive-in theater tonight to see "The Lady and The Tramp," a cute Walt Disney picture. We also saw a picture about the Lewis and Clark expedition. It was interesting. I was worried about keeping Janet and David out late when they have to get up early for work.



September 6, Tuesday

Janet took David to work at 6:45 this morning. She cooked him breakfast first, she came home and then left for her work at 8:15 a.m. Lou made hot cakes when he got up. Janet ate one of them but she had eaten with David earlier. I ate a piece of delicious melon the Shattucks gave them. It was a large yellow melon; it was surely good. Lou and I went to town this morning. We did some shopping in the Montgomery Ward

Store. Dave's Uncle Charlie [Charles Adolphus Shattuck] is the store manager there. We did not meet Uncle Charlie. Lou bought a cute sport shirt for Johnny. I bought blue corduroy pedal pushers and a white T-shirt for Kathy, stationery and handkerchiefs for Joan and Donna. We are taking fruit to Rex (and the family, pears). Lou bought a pretty green and gold plastic shower curtain for Janet and David, also a stainless steel carving knife, and some hooks he put up in the clothes

closet for them. They were things he saw they needed in the apartment. We got home in time to fix David some lunch. Lou took him back to work. Janet came home for lunch too; she went to the bank before going back to work. Janet's neighbor locked herself out by accidentally shutting the door with the lock on. Lou took her screen off the window,

so she could get inside. She is in the other side of the duplex the kids live in. It is a cute place, looks like a house, not a duplex. [See previous page.] Ruth Deal and Kay and Barbara brought Mary back this afternoon. They had been to San Francisco for lunch. They went on a big old boat, or ship [Balclutha], I should say. Yesterday Dick and Ruth took Mary and Kay swimming and boating somewhere out of Oakland. Barbara had to stay home because her foot was infected from a nail she'd stepped on Sunday. Dr. Deal dressed and took care of Barbara's foot yesterday morning. He also removed a wart from Mary's arm. Nice of Uncle Dick, eh? Ruth and girls didn't stay long. Mary helped me prepare the dinner this evening. We had lamb chops, creamed potatoes, artichokes and tomato salad. David and Lou went to priesthood meeting this evening. They did a little work on the new chapel after the meeting. Mary, Janet, and I played some little card games Mary had learned at Howard's. We used Mary's little miniature cards to play the games. It was fun (Snap, Old Maid, and others).

September 7, Wednesday

David went to work, to get the fellows started at the cannery; he then went to the college to take some tests. He didn't have to take them after all; because of the credits he already had, so he was happy. He came home and relaxed until after lunch. He had to go back to work at 1 p.m. Janet didn't come home for lunch today; the heavy traffic is too much for her, she says. Lou went over to work on the new ward chapel this morning. He came home while we were eating lunch. He put some locks in the doors at church this morning. Mary and I did a small hand washing and ironing. I dusted up in the house. I cooked meat patties for lunch. Lou went to Shattuck's ranch after lunch and helped Mr. Shattuck a little. Mary walked four or five blocks to the store. She bought butter, eggs, bread, and chocolate cake. I wanted to leave a few things for the kids in the icebox. Marilyn Shattuck phoned to say she was coming to take Mary swimming at Uncle Charlie's place in Campbell, a few miles out of San Jose. She'd been trying all day to get her Aunt Pearl [Pearl Ione Bohnett] to ask if they could



Golden Gate Bridge in 1955.



Balclutha

Balclutha, also known as Star of Alaska, Pacific Queen, or Sailing Ship Balclutha, is a steel-hulled full rigged ship that was built in 1886. She is the only square rigged ship left in the San Francisco Bay area and is representative of several different commercial ventures, including lumber, salmon, and grain. She is a U.S. National Historic Landmark and is currently preserved at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park in San Francisco, California. She was added to the National Register of Historic Places on 7 November 1976.

History

Balclutha was built in 1886 by Charles Connell and Company of Scotstoun in Glasgow, Scotland, for Robert McMillan, of Dumbarton, Scotland. Her namesake is said to be the eponymous town of Balclutha, New Zealand, but her name also refers to her first homeport, Glasgow, Scotland, which is a "City on the Clyde" the meaning of her name derived from the Gaelic Baile Chluaidh. Designed as a general trader, Balclutha rounded Cape Horn 17 times in thirteen years.

During this period she carried cargoes such as wine, case oil, and coal from Europe and the East Coast of the United States to various ports in the Pacific. These included Chile for nitrate, Australia and New Zealand for wool, Burma for rice, San Francisco for grain, and the Pacific Northwest for timber.

In 1899 Balclutha transferred to the registry of Hawaii, and traded timber from the Pacific Northwest to Australia, returning to San Francisco with Australian coal.

In 1902 Balclutha was chartered to the Alaska Packers' Association (APA). After having struck a reef off of Sitkinak Island near Kodiak Island on May 16, 1904, she was renamed the Star of Alaska when bought by APA for merely \$500. After extended repairs she joined the salmon fishing trade, sailing north from the San Francisco area to the Chignik Bay, Alaska, in April with supplies, fishermen, and cannery workers, and returned in September with a cargo of canned salmon.

For this trade she carried over 200 crew and passengers, as compared to the 26-man crew she carried as the Balclutha. In 1911 the poop deck was extended to the main mast to accommodate Italian and Scandinavian workers. This expansion is called the shelter deck. In the 'tween deck, bunks for Chinese workers were built. Her last voyage in this trade was in 1930, when she then was laid up after her return home.

In 1933, Star of Alaska was renamed Pacific Queen by her new owner Frank Kissinger. In this guise she appeared in the film Mutiny on the Bounty starring Clark Gable and Charles Laughton. She then eked out an existence as an exhibition ship, gradually deteriorating, and was for a while exhibited as a "pirate ship."

In 1954, Pacific Queen was acquired by the San Francisco Maritime Museum, which restored her and renamed her Balclutha and moored her at Pier 41 East. In 1985 she was designated a National Historic Landmark.

In 1988, she was moved to her present (2014) mooring at Hyde Street Pier of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. She is host to a monthly Chantey Sing in the shelter deck 8pm to midnight on the first Saturday of every month.

—Wikipedia

swim in the pool. Mrs. Shattuck came with Marilyn; they wanted me to go, also. We left the back door unlocked so David could get in. Aunt Pearl is very sweet; the girls had a good swim in the lovely pool. We were locked out when we got home. David had gone for Janet. Lou put Mary through the back porch window. He was on the lawn waiting when we drove up. We went to the Shattuck ranch tonight for a most delicious barbecue steak dinner. Oh, it was good! Everything was just grand. We had such a nice evening with David's lovely family. David took Lou and me for a drive before dinner, around the ranch and up the canyon to the lovely park. Mary and Janet helped Mrs. Shattuck and Marilyn get the table set and carry things across to the little patio house. Marilyn did the dishes while we visited in the little house we ate in. We even had a fire in the fireplace tonight. It is a lovely home. We found out tonight that Sam Mills's [*Harriet Bailey's son, Harriet is Owen A. Bailey's sister*] wife, Olive, [*Olive Irene Crittenden*] is Maxine Shattuck's aunt. Sam is my father's cousin. Isn't that strange!

September 8, Thursday

Lou took David to work at 6:40 a.m. so Janet could stay at home until time for her work. We put Janet's sweet little apartment back in order after getting our things packed in the car. Lou packed the box of pears that Mr. Shattuck gave Lou to bring to the Marshes and us, and the bag of artichokes Janet and David sent to the family. I can still see that sweet little Janet standing in her back doorway smiling out at us as we drove out of her driveway this morning. She is a beautiful little doll. She and David were surely grand to us; bless their hearts. It was indeed a wonderful visit with those darling kids. We left Janet's at 7:45 a.m. It was a beautiful morning. We stopped for breakfast in King City at 10 a.m. We wouldn't let Janet fix anything as we wanted to get an early start. We enjoyed hot cakes. Mary had a waffle. It all tasted so good after driving a few hours. We ate in Keefer's restaurant, a nice place. We stopped in Bakersfield at 1:50 p.m. for lunch in State Café. We had a nice sandwich and drinks. We got gasoline and cold drinks in Castaic. It was hot here. We couldn't come home the coast route because of brush fires that were out of control. We arrived in Monrovia at 5 p.m. We met Donna going to the store a few feet from home in her station wagon. Johnny and Kathy were pleased with the gifts Mary brought them; an electric iron that heats up for Kathy and a soap bubble maker. They'll enjoy the clothes we brought later, ha ha! We were surprised to learn that Irene and Ray Cattani have a baby boy. He was born 2-½ month too soon. He weighs only 2 pounds. Florence Oates and Elaine are in Provo with Irene now. We all hope the infant will live. Rex's Aunt Em [*Emma Claybaugh*] passed away; there is a graveside funeral tomorrow.



Luella and Paul White circa 1945. Paul was 48 years old when he died. Image from Family Search.

September 9, Friday

Today is Admission Day; Lowes and we had our flags out. I did a small hand washing; Lou took his wristwatch back to the jeweler. It didn't work after he'd fixed it last week. I was surprised to answer the door this morning and see Jack Keller's smiling face. He is always a welcome visitor here. We visited a short while, and then he left to see a friend in Baldwin Park. He said he would come back and see Lou. He invited us out to lunch. We took him to Gwinn's Restaurant. Lou wouldn't let Jack pay the bill. We had a nice lunch and he came back here after we'd taken him to see our new chapel. He had news for us, too. Louise and Dick and family are moving to San Diego and Ralph and Dorothy may move to San Diego, too. Dick and Ralph are both working there now. Louise and Dorothy will try to sell their homes in Phoenix before moving their families to San Diego. Jack says he may move to the coast next year. He doesn't think they want to live in the hot Phoenix another summer. Jack says his sister Mary's husband is very sick. I was sorry to hear that. I talked to Dody this morning. Violet left for home last Monday

night. I also phoned Annie to report we'd returned. Little Kenny Jorgensen is "holding his own" in the hospital, bless his little heart. The nurses told Mary he is a wonderful little patient. He has suffered a lot from the kidney operation, too. I phoned Florence Marsh this evening; she said Donna brought Mary and Johnny to the Forest Lawn Cemetery to Aunt Em's funeral (Jim Marsh's wife). Lewie Marsh dedicated the grave. Luella White's husband died of a heart attack the other day. His funeral is tomorrow in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Elizabeth Cannon Porter's husband died and the funeral was today. Viola Sorensen is being married tonight in her daughter's home. Annie says Lorene is coming home from Mary's to take care of Miriam's girls, while she goes to her

parent's Golden Wedding reception on September 11.

September 10, Saturday

Lou cooked his breakfast and cleaned up his dishes. Isn't he something eh? I ate two of the pears we brought from Shattuck's ranch for my breakfast. Lou worked in the garden all morning. I pressed his nylon suit and ironed some shirts. Florence Marsh phoned to tell us what time Paul White's funeral would be. I told her we'd pick her up at her house at 1 p.m. and take her to the funeral in Forest Lawn. Edgecombs are away on vacation. Grampa and Grama Lowe are home; they have one grandson with them today. They had both of the boys yesterday. Harold took the younger one home last night. They are cute kids and I enjoy hearing them play around, it is so darn quiet around here most of the time. There was a nice attendance at Paul's funeral. Luella had someone play several old Mormon hymns on the organ, in the dear little chapel, (Wee Kirk o' the Heather) in Forest

lawn. I surely enjoyed listening to the beautiful favorites of Paul White. He played organ music a lot when we knew him in Garvanza Ward. The services were nice. Luella is taking Paul's passing very sorrowful; I felt sorry for her. We all embraced Luella and expressed sympathy to her at the graveside. The Glendale Ward bishop took charge. Whites have lived in Glendale for several years. Lou treated Florence Marsh and me to a nice lunch in Van de Kamp's Restaurant on our way home. Lou and I called in Andersen's and had a nice visit with Annie, Bill, and Beverly. Bev showed us the colored pictures Dale sent. They are very lovely; we saw them through a little projector. Jack Keller is expecting his daughter Louise in Los Angeles today. I hope we get to see her before she goes back to Arizona. Norma Hardy came to take Beverly to her house over the weekend. Br. Hardy is away and Norma doesn't want to stay alone.

September 11, Sunday

Andrew and Elizabeth Jensen [*Miriam Clayton's parents*] are



celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary in Salt Lake City today, 3 to 7 p.m. in their home. They are having an "Open House." Their announcement is very pretty, in gold embossed lettering, bless their hearts, I'd love to call on them with congratulations. Lorene

is taking care of Miriam's two little girls while Miriam is in Salt Lake City to the reception. We had a very fine stake conference session this morning. It was a missionary conference. We had no visitor from Salt Lake City today. We did have an old friend visitor, our first stake president when there was one stake in Southern California, President George W. McCune. He gave a lovely talk. We went on the stand after conference to shake hands with him. Johnny and Donna were with me. He remembered me and said my face was "still as lovely." Sweet of him, eh? We both know it isn't, but it sounds so good, ha ha! Lou talked to President McCune before conference started. President McCune was delighted to see his old friend and secretary, Katherine Higgenbotham. We brought Johnny home to lunch with us, a cold lunch. Mary went to Howard's with Bonny. Rex stayed home this morning with Kathy. Joan was out to conference this morning but had to work at the Lyric box office this afternoon. The afternoon session was very nice, also. The Singing Mothers sang; Donna was with them. John sat with us. Grampa and John left me before it was over. Lou's back hurt he says. Johnny was dying for a drink? Lou stood up in back for the last part. I surely enjoyed both sessions and the lovely music in both meetings. We relaxed at home this evening.

Janet phoned last evening to ask her mother more about Irene and the little infant. She told Donna she is expecting a baby in May! Joy! [*Great Grandchild Mark Shattuck is on the way.*]

coming soon



Sarah Renshaw died in 1950. Ethel has a dream in 1955 about Sarah wanting her temple work done. Elvie knows this, also. But it was quite overwhelming for Elvie to figure out how to do it.

September 12, Monday

It is another hot day. I did the washing early. Nora Williamson phoned and said she'd come to take me out Relief Society visiting at 2 p.m. I received a nice letter from Ethel Newbold. She told of a dream she had about Mother Renshaw that has impressed me a lot. Ethel feels that Mother Renshaw wants her endowments done so she can be with us. I have the same feeling about it. Oh, I wish I could do this work in the temple for her. I'd surely love to do it, just how to get the proper information needed with Mother being adopted and all? She didn't seem to know her own parent's name for sure. Lillian's sweet girls, Shirley and Louise, tried to find out some information from Grama Renshaw when she was alive, but she didn't tell them very much. Either she herself didn't know or didn't want to talk about herself. It always hurt her to think her own mother gave her away. Mother Renshaw was a fine person; she did so many kind deeds in this life. She should have her chance for a better life in eternity. Lorene phoned, she has been taking care of Marilyn and Carol while Miriam is in Salt Lake City to her parent's Golden Wedding reception. Lorene is expecting her back home tomorrow. Ray is home; he works nights, at the newspaper in Los Angeles. My Marsh children are back in school again. Summer vacation is over. David Shattuck starts his new college in San Jose this morning. He quit his job at the canning company last Friday. Janet will work near the college at her dentist's office as long as she can, I'm sure. The blessed event is expected in May 1956. Annie got a letter from Lydia. She says Bill [*Lydia and Owen's son*] and Earlene Bailey have a baby girl, born on Labor Day.

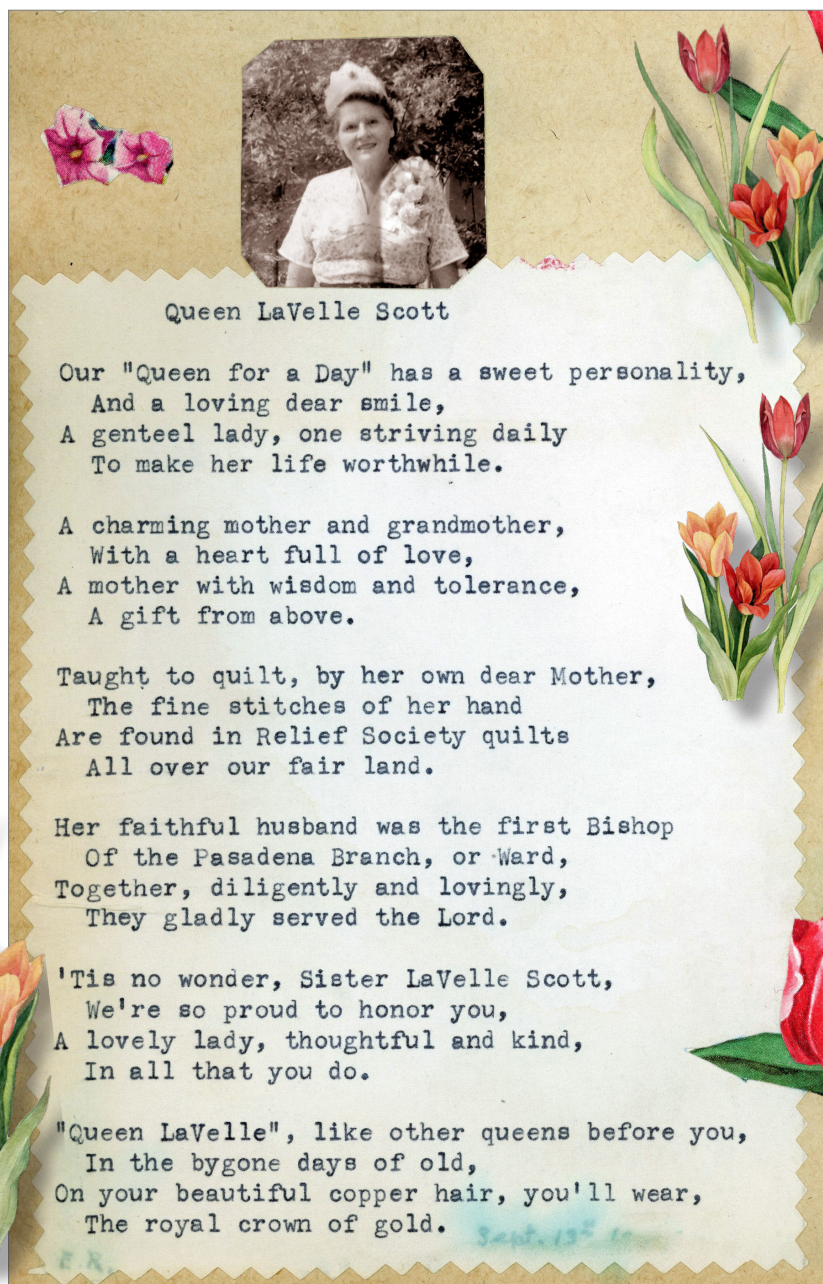
September 13, Tuesday

My dear friend, Bonna Gordon came for me this morning. I missed Marie Doezie; she is in Holland visiting her people. It has been 29 years since she's seen her folks. Her mother is still alive, in her eighties. We finished the patchwork quilt today and tied a baby quilt. I quilted all the time from 10 to 3 p.m. I was really tired. We had a very nice luncheon. Our lovely "Queen for a Day" was Lavelle Scott. I read her tribute, which I composed. She looked very pretty with a gold crown on her lovely copper hair. We gave Edyth Wright her tribute; she was so delighted. We crowned her last month, but didn't have a tribute in rhyme. Clarice Tanner gave her tribute last month and said some lovely things about our lovely friend Edyth. She's not a member of our church. Edyth asked me to sign my name to her poem. She is the first queen to request my signature. I was happy to sign her poem tribute; it was an honor. Ann H. gave us a lesson on dry milk, while we served. Two nice new sisters came out today; one was a Sr. Jones from Prescott, Arizona. She knows my dear friends, the Robinsons and Allens in Prescott. We had a nice visit while quilting together. I've forgotten the other nice sisters' name, but both are quilters, nice eh? Ethel Burk brought me, Melba K., and Hilda Romeg home. Bonna had to take Bessie, the babysitter, home at 2 p.m. Joan Sidlow made the queen's beautiful corsage, as usual. She couldn't stay for the luncheon. She had to go to a funeral. I was sorry she had to leave before eating some of that nice luncheon. My heart gave me trouble tonight; I quilted too long. Los Angeles suffered the worst smog ever recorded today. The danger alert was sounded. We didn't have it too bad in Pasadena.

September 14, Wednesday

It has been another hot day. I got the ironing done early. After lunch I wrote to Janet and David and to Ethel Newbold. I wrote a long letter to Ethel, answering her letter about the dream she had of Mother Renshaw. I asked her to see if Mother R. has any record of baptism in the 21st Ward, or church records. It would be really wonderful if we can get the needed information to have her temple work done. Miriam Clayton came home this morning from Salt Lake City, Utah, where she attended her parent's Golden Wedding reception on September 11. I talked to Florence Marsh on the phone. I called to see if she'd had any news about Irene and her infant son. She said that Florence Oates wrote that the baby has gained

a little; he weighed 1 pound 14 ounces when he was born and now weighs 2 pounds 12 ounces. The nurses and doctors feel optimistic about him now. Irene is feeling fine. Florence is coming home soon. The infant will stay in the hospital until he weighs five pounds, they say. Florence Marsh had been to see our old friend, Anna Peterson. She is feeling better, but is in a wheelchair, she can't walk since she had a stroke sometime ago. Her sister Julia Hansen is in a mental hospital somewhere? I was sorry to learn this; they are both lovely sisters, were good workers in the old Garvanza Ward days. Beverly Andersen phoned to tell me that Mary Jorgensen's little two-year-old Randy took a convulsion last night; they had to rush him to the emergency hospital. He has an ear infection, which caused a high fever. Vernon was going to get Lorene to take her out to help Mary again. I received a nice letter from Mary Stead today; she is going to Salt Lake City for conference. It has been dreadfully hot in Phoenix.



September 15, Thursday

It is more pleasant today, not so dreadfully hot. I'd like to know how little Randy Jorgensen is? Bless his little heart. Poor Mary (and Lorene) all this anxiety and worry with little Kenny in the Children's Hospital with kidney illness and Randy home with a high fever. He took a convulsion last night. I guess Vernon and Mary feel like everything is going against them, eh? I phoned Donna; she had good news. The Oscar Mayer Meat Company settled out of court for Rex's broken tooth. There was a sharp bone in the minced ham and it broke one of his large double teeth. He is having bridgework done now because of it. They gave him \$300. He had to pay the lawyer \$100 of it. Donna went to leadership meeting at our stake center this morning for Primary. She has Singing Mothers tomorrow morning. Joan got up early this morning and went to Seminary, for our church; a study of the gospel. Bless her heart. I know it is hard to get up so early and go before school, but I hope she'll keep it up. I composed a queen tribute to Hilda Romig today. She isn't a member of our church but she comes out faithfully on workdays and quilts for our Relief Society. Our sisters visit her, too. I know her late husband would be happy if she'd join the LDS Church. He was a good member. He died of a heart attack while working on our new stake center two years ago. I also did a tribute for queen Helen Snelgrove. I now have eighteen ready, when Donna types the last four for me. Lou cut up the branches of the avocado tree. They are dry enough to burn in our incinerator now. He'll do it in the morning. I'm so glad he brought them from Mrs. Stacy's yard. She is away.

September 16, Friday

Today is our 41st wedding anniversary. I've been married 41 years to one man and still love the guy. Yes, we've had a good life together. I wrote a letter to Dale Andersen in Brazil. Lou got up early and burned the cuttings, before 7 a.m. I cooked his breakfast and put up his lunch. I'm delighted our hot spell is broken. Ruby Hodges phoned to wish me a happy anniversary. It was nice of her; we had a fine time telling of our vacation up north. She and Gordon were in Oakland about the same time as we were. Donna and Kathy came after Singing Mother's rehearsal. I made bacon and tomato sandwiches for us. Kathy had a scrambled egg, too. We went to the Broadway Store, bought a graduation card and gift (earring case), to take to Elaine Oates. I bought some stationery for myself in Woolworth's Store. Donna looked at hats in Normandy Hat Store but didn't find what she wanted in navy blue. I let her have my little navy blue felt hat. I never wear it. Donna gave Daddy and me a beautiful anniversary card and a box of chocolates from See's Candy Store. Diane Oates was the only one home at Oateses, we left our gift and the one Janet sent for Elaine. Florence Oates and Elaine were uptown. Elaine gave her engagement ring back to the Wooley boy; She doesn't want to get married yet. She wants to work for a while. She has several offers of good jobs. Joan is leaving tonight, after work, to spend the weekend at Laguna Beach with Chuck DeBias and his parents. Mrs. DeBias phoned to



"Oscar Mayer settled out of court for Rex's broken tooth. There was a sharp bone in the minced ham and it broke one of his large teeth." Want a hot dog?



"They were pretty in color, too, but too frivolous or sexy to suit me. I want to see something worth my while and money."



September 17, Saturday

Our newspapers tell of the big hit our Mormon Choir is making in Zurich, Switzerland. Lou worked at Al Rowbotham's home today. He was hanging doors on the dressing rooms for the swimming pool that Al had installed this summer. I mailed a Golden Wedding card, and a note to the Andrew Jensens this morning. Lou worked at Rowbotham's until 6 p.m. He has a little finishing up to do

next Saturday. Pat R. fixed a nice lunch for Lou. He was tired this evening. After our dinner, we went to the market near us for some groceries, about \$18.00 worth. The \$20.00 Al paid Lou came in handy, eh? The drug store in the corner of the market building is going out of business tomorrow. Their lease is up and they can't renew it. I'll miss Whelan's Drug Store. It was handy there. I hope Joan is having a wonderful time with the DeBias family at Laguna Beach.

September 18, Sunday

Oh happy day, our hot spell has broken. We are back to the good old normal California days. We went to Sunday School and I had the pleasure of sitting with my husband; something we haven't done in Sunday School for years. He is enjoying a vacation from the music for a month. Sister Loraine Major is taking over for Lou and she is doing an excellent job, I think. I enjoyed Don Rowberry's class as I always do. Our dinner was ready to

eat when we got home. I left it in a low oven; a small beef roast, carrots, onions, and potatoes. We drove to Burbank after dinner. Bette, Ray, and the three darling boys are well. They are expecting another infant any day, to adopt. I hope it'll be a girl. We took Sue with us for a ride and went to Van Nuys to see Lorene at Mary's home. And to find out first hand how the little boys are. Kenny, of course, is in the Children's Hospital. We knew that Mary and Vernon would be with him. Little Randy is feeling fine now; he was asleep when we got there. He is a cutie, reminds me of his Grampa Charlie Clayton. Lynn is a sweet looking 10 year old. He gave me a drink of water with a trick ice cube in it; a glass cube, with a fly in the center. It surely tickled him when I pretended to be shocked at it. Kenny will be coming home soon if he continues to do as well. He had two operations on his kidney. Vernon is working night and day on the Christmas cards he and another artist are preparing for a lady. Mary helps them all she can, but she has her hands full with Kenny in the hospital. She goes twice a day to see him, bless her heart. Lou, Sue, and I ate a baked ham sandwich and drank a root beer float in a nice new little eating drive-in place in Van Nuys, on our way home. It was stake conference for our folks out there. We drove out past their brand new stake center. It is beautiful. It has two chapels for different wards. I guess Glen and family were at conference because they were not home. We left Sue at her home at 7 p.m. I enjoyed the lovely visit with my sisters, Sue and Lorene; bless 'em.

September 19, Monday

I guess something I've eaten gave me the hives; my body and hands and feet almost sent me wild with itching and swelling. I got out the good old Gypsy Cream lotion and

got blessed relief. I'll have to buy another bottle, as this one is almost gone. I've had it over a year. There are so many miserable things to irritate us in life, eh? But thank goodness, there is a relief for us. I phoned Donna; Mary had an earache yesterday, all day. She felt better and went to school this morning. Joan had a wonderful visit at Laguna Beach over the weekend, with Chuck DeBias and parents. She came home yesterday afternoon. I had a surprise this morning when Joe and Katy Hoglund came to my door. I was

still in my robe and slippers.

I'd been writing instead of dressing. We had a lovely visit. I let them look at old pictures in my scrapbooks, while I got dressed and hair combed. I fixed a lunch for us later. Lou phoned; Joe talked to him. He had a lot of fun making Lou guess who he was talking to. Joe and Kate both look well, she hasn't got any gray hair. Joe isn't as heavy as he was when he lived in California. They said they wanted to see Sue this evening after they'd



Donna, Elvie, Violet, Annie, Katy Hoglund, with Lou and Joe Hoglund in front 1927 in LA. This was likely one of the photos they looked at on September 19.

been to see a friend in San Gabriel. They visited with Annie, Bill, and Beverly last evening. I went to town this afternoon. I had to get some asthma inhalant from Owl Drug Store. I bought a few other little items and came home. Lou did a little carpenter job for Miss Small after work this evening, so our dinner was a little later than usual. Lou phoned Annie to have Beverly come in the shop tomorrow and help them. They had some extra work to get out.

September 20, Tuesday

It was another pleasant day; so very good after the hot weather we suffered through the last few weeks. I had a large washing because of the sheets and slips. I rested all afternoon. Annie phoned and read Dale's letter and one from Lydia. Beverly worked at Gordon's shop this morning. Lydia wants the Andersens to stay with them when they go to conference this fall. I felt so sorry when Annie told me that Mary's little Kenny had a relapse in the hospital last night. We were all so encouraged over the way he was recovering from his kidney operation. Lydia says that Bill and Earlene's baby girl is a darling. She took care of the infant and Earlene for a few days after they came from the hospital. I believe this makes five grandchildren for Lydia and Owen, Mickey's three, Bob's one girl, and Bill's one girl. I have a time remembering for sure. Sue phoned Annie this evening to tell her that little Kenny Jorgensen is worse. Mary phoned Lorene from the hospital. Mary and Lorene are all broken up over this serious change in dear little Kenny. I phoned Donna so that she and her family would pray for Kenny, too. Oh, I surely hope he will feel better soon. I have mailed most of the birthday cards for the month of September for our Relief Society. There are a few left for later in the month. I took care of it for Sr. Manlove

while she was in Salt Lake City for three weeks. She and Br. Manlove went through the temple. They are converts to our church.

September 21, Wednesday

Donna brought Kathy this morning at 9 a.m. She went to have a permanent wave. A sister in our ward gave her the wave in her home. Of course Donna paid for it, \$5.00 I believe? She also bought the Toni permanent. I do know the lady; she doesn't come to church. Kathy played with her toys while I did a small ironing. She was hungry, so I fixed her lunch at 11:30 a.m. She ate at the television tray and watched T.V., some cartoons and etcetera. I phoned Annie, she said that Kenny was better than yesterday. His temperature has gone down some, he isn't in pain and not vomiting like last night. I was happy to hear he is better. Annie phoned Mary in Van Nuys to find out. Beverly worked at the Venetian blind shop again today. Donna came about 12:30 noon, looking pretty with curls and hair cut. I fixed lunch for her. She is on her diet again, must keep slim for the trip to Salt Lake City. She had pears and cottage cheese and a hard-boiled egg. No buttered toast, not today, thanks. Annie gave me the phone number of the Highland Park Sanatorium, where Uncle Will Bailey is living. I talked to a man there; he said Uncle Will seems very happy. He eats well, but he has forgotten his family and friends. His legs are weak, he can't walk, but they take him out in the yard in his wheelchair on nice days. Isn't it a shame we sometimes get old and helpless? We never know what will be our lot in this life, eh? Esther has been very good to her father; bless her heart. Maybe it's a blessing for him that he can't remember family and friends now, eh? I mailed birthday cards to Aunt Ray Bailey and to my old friend and neighbor on Garfield Avenue, Agnes Scott. She is blind and is in a rest home, too. I believe they are all three well along in their eighties. Donna brought my queen tributes all typed; she is a dear. I put them in yellow folders; I'll pretty 'em up with flowers tomorrow. I had a nice letter from Ethel Newbold today, she is going to search the church records for data about Mother Renshaw for us.

September 22, Thursday

I spent all morning fixing the queen's folders with flowers; yellow folders and blue flowers. The last ones I made were blue folders and yellow flowers. Our Relief Society colors are blue and gold. I have 18 queen tributes ready now, which is enough for a year and a half. We crown one sister "Queen for a Day" once a month on our work and luncheon day, the second Tuesday of the month. We've done 33 so far. I compose them in rhyme. Donna types them for us. I wrote to Ethel Newbold, Mary Stead, Violet Fife, and Eloise Brooks. I wish I could phone my Donna every day, so I'd have something to write about my precious children, but I can't let the phone bill run so high, darn it! I did talk to my sweet niece Yvonne Fife; all is well at the Jones household,



Uncle Will Bailey and Owen James Bailey at the graveside of Owen A. Bailey in 1948. Seven years later Uncle Will is in a Sanatorium and has forgotten his family members. However he is still happy.

I'm happy to report. I wonder how dear little Kenny Jorgensen is today? I walked to the mailbox at the corner of Virginia Street to mail my letters. Lou was watching the fights on T.V.

September 23, Friday

It was cool and overcast this morning, but I like the cool mornings. I'll not forget the past hot weather in a hurry. I defrosted the electric icebox and wrote to Harriet Speirs. I composed some poetry for her. I did some composing in Eloise B.'s letter last night, too. I sent a congratulation card to George Holden, on the opening of his new store in Burbank, California. I wrote a note to Sue in her birthday card and put \$2.00 in it. I guess I'll mail it to Salt Lake City as she is leaving in the morning with Andersens for Salt Lake City. Sue will stay with Aunt Ida. I phoned Miriam Clayton to ask about little Kenny Jorgensen. She talked to Mary yesterday and she said Mary felt more encouraged as his temperature was about normal, and the doctor thinks both kidneys are functioning now. I'm so happy to hear this good news. I do hope the little fellow will get back to normal health soon; he has had a painful illness and operations. Bless his heart! I guess Lorene will not be going with the Andersens in the morning. I'm sorry about that, I think she needs a vacation from everything here. I know she is happy that Kenny is better anyway. Of course he is still in a serious condition in the Children's Hospital. My house didn't look even dusty today, so I just hit the high spots in cleaning today. With just the two of us we do not mess things up a lot, like folks with little children do. The hives annoyed me again this morning, on my hands and feet mostly, but that wonderful Gypsy Cream lotion surely gives pleasant relief. Annie said she'd phone me after she talked to Lorene in Van Nuys, but she got too involved in plans for the trip I guess. I hope they have a very lovely trip. I believe Bette Haddock was bringing Sue to Andersen's today.

September 24, Saturday

I assume that the Andersens and Aunt Sue got away at two o'clock this morning as planned. May God bless their vacation trip. I'd like to be with them. Lou got up and made hotcakes for his breakfast, then he went to finish up the carpenter job he is doing for Al Rowbotham, hanging doors on dressing rooms and putting on the trim. Al had a lovely big swimming pool built this summer. Pat Rowbotham told Lou last week that they'd be very happy to let us use their little summer cottage for a week, up at Lake Arrowhead, if we wanted to go up. Pat and Al are so generous. I surely would like to have been up there when the weather was so dreadfully hot here. But now that the gas Yule log feels good burning this morning, I'm not too anxious to find a cooler spot, ha ha! Mary went to town this morning with her girlfriend Cynthia Elliott. Cynthia slept with Mary last night and this morning they went on

the bus from Monrovia to Pasadena. Mary bought some white shoes and the girls went to a matinée. They came to our house. Grampa met them at our market and brought them here, where Donna met them. Donna bought herself some brown shoes, a brown bag, a white felt hat, and white gloves. She also got Janet and David's bridal pictures. They are surely lovely. I bought two smaller ones for my scrapbook. I put them in the book tonight. Lou gave Donna \$10.00 to take on her trip for her own pleasure, bless his heart. He gave Mary 25¢ and sent John 25¢. Donna read a nice letter from Shirley Keller Behrmann. They are expecting a baby and they've moved to their new home in Los Altos, California. Roland Renshaw and family live in Los Altos, too. Lou took me over to Rowbotham's tonight to see their beautiful swimming pool and dressing rooms. It is surely lovely. Everything in their place is lovely to look at. President Eisenhower had a heart attack today.

September 25, Sunday

Our country is praying for President Eisenhower. Donna invited us to eat turkey dinner with them today. They are having it in honor of Chuck and Joan's birthdays. Chuck's birthday is today and Joan's is next Thursday. Donna will be in Utah, to conference then, so she had Joan's birthday cake with Chuck's celebration today. I made a fruit Jello salad last night to take out today. I felt sorry to miss Sunday School, but my man is on his vacation. He worked in the yard all morning. Hilda Botting phoned. She has returned after three months in Canada. She had a wonderful visit with her sisters there. One of them from England she had not seen in many years. We went out to Monrovia at 1 p.m.; the dinner was delicious. The big turkey was cooked to perfection, as was everything. Chuck and Joan opened some gifts from the family. We gave Joan \$10.00 to buy something she wants. We gave Chuck some Old Spice Cologne for men. Joan gave him a sport shirt and tie. Marshes gave him monogrammed handkerchiefs and they gave Joan money, \$15.00, I believe, maybe more. She'll have a special celebration with Chuck on Thursday. We sang happy birthday to the kids. They blew out the pink candles on the chocolate cake. Rex washed all the dishes and Donna put the food away. Joan and Chuck went to his house. She had to work at the theater tonight.



Joan and Chuck DeBias at a dance in 1956. In September 1955 they celebrate their birthdays early together.

Rex, Donna, Lou, and I went to Monrovia Ward to church tonight. The MIA had charge. It was an excellent meeting with several speakers on the Book of Mormon. Johnny had a sore throat and a slight fever tonight. Donna doctored him up. Mary and Joan are both fighting colds. Oh, I hope they will be all right, all of them, so Donna can go to Salt Lake City to Relief Society conference as planned next Tuesday morning. Janet sent Donna a special delivery letter with some colored slides in. They couldn't see them on Gene's projector; he is away hunting.

September 26, Monday

Happy birthday Sue! It is Sue's birthday; she is in Salt Lake City at Aunt Ida's home. I hope she got my card and \$2.00. I phoned Donna; Johnny felt better, she took him to school. Mary and Joan went to school, too. Jerry, Donna's nice little neighbor, put Donna's hair up in pin curls after Donna shampooed it. She did a big washing

and some ironing, packing, and housecleaning. She'll

really be tired to start out on her trip in the morning, poor dear.

Wish I could help her out. I phoned Florence Marsh, Florence Oates answered. She was eating lunch with her mother.

Irene's baby is doing all right; he now weighs 2 pound 14 ounces and drinks from a bottle. It is wonderful. Irene was going to the hospital, in Provo, to give the baby his feeding for the first time from a bottle. Elaine's boyfriend phoned and told them this latest news about the infant. Florence Marsh is expecting little Kathy to

come to her house tonight for a few days. I spent a peaceful day working on my scrapbook. I've completed Janet and David's wedding pages and have added some pictures to the other pages. I always enjoy working on my scrapbooks. I have just

two more birthday cards to send for East Pasadena Relief Society in September. I took care of it for Sr. Manlove this month, while she was in Salt Lake City on vacation. Florence Marsh phoned at 8 p.m. wondering if Rex and Donna were bringing Kathy down to her tonight. I was sure they were, but I knew that Donna had an awful lot to take care of at home today before she was ready to leave for Utah in the morning. I had some very uncomfortable heart pains this evening, but I didn't say anything to Lou. I have had them a lot worse other times.

September 27, Tuesday

My sweetheart Lou got up and out so quietly this morning I didn't even hear him go. He ate his breakfast out somewhere. The telephone woke me this morning at 7:45 o'clock. It was my sweet Donna; she was just going to leave her house for Clarice Tanner's home, where some of the ladies are meeting to ride in Clarice's car to the Los Angeles train station. Clarice is leaving her car parked at the station in Los Angeles, until they return from Salt Lake City next Monday morning, after conference. Donna said Kathy stayed at Marshes' last night, real good, she's happy cause Grama Marsh is taking her on the bus Tuesday and Wednesday to Relief Society socials. Joan drove Donna to Tanner's this morning. She has a cold so she is staying home to doctor up today so she can attend her school in the morning. Mary and John went to school. I'm so very happy that Donna can go with her stake board members on this trip to conference. I hope they all will have a wonderful time. Donna wore my little white felt hat, she liked it better than the new one she bought. I was glad I didn't bring it home on Sunday. I liked mine better on her also, but she does look pretty in her own, too. I made an appointment to see Dr. Neal, my dentist, at 4 p.m. I went to town and did some shopping first. I got a birthday gift for Ethel Newbold, (stationery and a pretty nylon handkerchief). The doctor worked some on my plates, to try and get a better bite for me. I do hope they'll be okay now. I walked from the doctor's office on Menter Avenue a few short blocks to Villa Street. Lou was just going from the shop, to get his car in the parking lot, when I got there. He was coming to pick me up. I phoned Florence Marsh tonight. Kathy was very good today. I could hear her laughing and playing with Grampa Marsh. They were eating ice cream. I'm glad Grama Marsh has little Kathy with them.

September 28, Wednesday

Lou didn't wake me this morning he was very quiet. I got up at 8:15 a.m. I feel much better; glad the heart hurts have left me. They were sharp last night. I was surely thrilled to get a letter from Ethel Newbold this morning. She sent me Mother Renshaw's record of birth, when blessed, when baptized and confirmed. The record states, Mother R. was the adopted daughter of William and Sarah Moore. I'm so happy we have a record of all this; the record states she was born at Sherli, Switzerland County, Germany on June 23, 1872. We all thought her birthday was June 22. She was blessed September 1, 1873, and baptized July 6, 1880. Oh, I hope we can have her temple work done soon. We are all glad to hear the wonderful news this morning that the infant son of Dr. Sanford Marcus and wife Hanna has been found in Stockton, California. He was kidnapped from his crib, September 12, at three days old, in Mt. Zion Hospital in San Francisco. The woman gave herself up to her priest. The baby was in excellent condition. Twenty-seven year old Betty Benedicto is in custody in San Francisco now. I can't help feeling sorry for the poor soul; she wanted a baby so desperately she had to take it. Sears is having a sale tomorrow on bath towels; \$1.19 value for 78¢. My darling Lou gave me \$5.00 to go uptown and buy some for us and for Donna and Rex's 20th wedding anniversary on October 7. I hope our

family is enjoying a wonderful visit in Salt Lake City, (my Donna, Aunt Annie, Uncle bill, Beverly, and Aunt Sue, and Lillian Neal) who went to Utah on the train with Donna and others. Good news: President Eisenhower's condition has improved; he is in the U.S. Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver, Colorado.



Stolen Baby Returned

by Robert A. Waters

[NOTE: I obtained the information about this case from two sources: newspaperarchive.com and Kidnapped: Child Abduction in America by Paula S. Fass, Oxford Univeristy Press, 2006.]

September 19, 1955

Dr. Sanford Marcus sat alone inside a room police had commandeered in San Francisco's Mt. Zion Hospital. Twenty-four hours earlier, his three-day-old child, Robert, had been snatched from the hospital nursery and detectives were using several rooms as a base for their investigation.

A reporter approached. Hesitant at first, he asked a few timid questions, but then found the doctor eager to talk. "I am convinced it's not a kidnaping for ransom," Marcus said. "I believe the baby was taken by some unfortunate woman who either lost her own child, or wanted one, and had this desperate urge for a baby of her own. We have no vindictiveness [toward her]. If she will come forward, I will not demand any prosecution."

His wife, Hanna, was lying sedated in a nearby hospital room. A Jew, she'd lost her parents and brother to Hitler's gas ovens. At thirteen, she escaped from Germany and was placed in a youth hostel in England. She became a teacher, immigrated to America, and met Dr. Marcus at the nursery school where she worked. They had two other children and were ecstatic to add Robert to the family. But now tragedy had struck Hanna once again.

The San Francisco Police Department released a description of the child: "Robert Marcus is four days old, 19 inches in length, and weighs 6 pounds 6 1/2 ounces. He has a pink complexion and a small amount of brown fuzzy hair."

A reward of \$5,000 had been offered by the doctor for Robert's safe return. Newspapers published a formula recommended by Dr. Marcus so the kidnapper would know how to feed him.

Hundreds of cops fanned out across the area, working on the theory that a frustrated wannabe mother had pulled off the crime.

Tips poured in. One witness said a car stopped in front of her house and she saw a "heavy" woman holding a baby. The stranger spoke to her driver using a "Swedish" accent. The witness said that he replied, "I don't like this business." Dozens of other similar sightings kept officers busy chasing dead-end leads.

In the hospital, Dr. Marcus continued speaking with the reporter. "He's such a little baby," the doctor said. "The little guy didn't even have his eyes open until the day he was taken. I was at my office when the hospital called to break the news. At first, I thought it was a practical joke. I actually called back the hospital to verify it. When it was verified, I asked that I be the one to tell [my wife]. It was my duty as her husband. She took it hard, of course. Yet, in her grief she tried to comfort me."

Dr. Marcus and Hanna remained at the hospital for two more days. Finally, they left for home. Reporters said that the mother had a blank, drained look about her.

Continued on following page

The search continued for more than a week with little progress .

Then, nine days after the child was abducted, San Joaquin Sheriff's Deputy Osvaldo Vannucci attended a prize fight in Stockton. Two women were sitting nearby, taking turns holding a newborn baby. "I noticed her [*Betty Jean Benedicto*] right away," he said. "She seemed to be intoxicated. She had a woman friend who was playing with the baby too affectionately. I just couldn't watch the fights."

Vannucci questioned Benedicto, who stated that the baby was a month old. Her husband soon appeared, and confirmed her account. But the deputy's suspicions had been aroused, so he identified himself and demanded to see a birth certificate. After the boxing match, Vannucci followed the couple to a hotel where they were living. There they produced a certificate stating that the child had been born in St. Francis Hospital in Lynwood.

The document looked real, but Vannucci drove to the sheriff's department and called the hospital to make sure. Officials at St. Francis informed him that no babies had been born there on the date written on the certificate. By the time Vannucci and other investigators returned to the hotel, the group had fled.

By now, Benedicto knew the gig was up. She confessed to her husband, who had been unaware the baby was stolen. Then they drove to a nearby Catholic church where Benedicto handed the baby to a priest. Police were called and little Robert was taken back to the station house.

The overjoyed parents were finally reunited with their son. He'd been treated well and during the nine days had gained nearly a pound. A newspaper report said that Mrs. Marcus smiled for the first time in days. Sanford Marcus predicted the family would "live happily ever after."

The kidnapper was quickly tracked down and arrested by Stockton authorities. She confessed, describing the events that took place when she abducted little Robert Marcus.

Benedicto said she went to Mt. Zion hospital and asked a nurse for directions to the maternity ward. "I walked up to the nursery and there was a room just full of babies," she said. "Then I saw the name on the Marcus baby, both on the crib and on the leg beads. Marcus is my husband's name--Mark--and that gave me the impulse to take him. I took him when nobody was in the room. I wrapped him in his yellow blanket, I walked down the stairs. I was afraid somebody might see me [but] I saw only one person coming up the street. He smiled at me when he saw the baby."

Benedicto drove to her home in Stockton and told her husband she'd had a baby a month before but had to leave him in a Los Angeles hospital because he was too fragile to move. He finally improved enough so that she could bring him home, she said. Somehow, she convinced her husband to believe her.

"The next day I saw Dr. Marcus on TV," she continued. "He was a nice man. I changed to the formula he had advised. If Dr. Marcus had not said over and over that I loved the boy and that's why I took it--if he had said instead that I was a bad woman--I never would have given it up."

The aftermath for Betty Jean Benedicto wasn't pretty. The following brief article from the February 10, 1962 Oakland Tribune, describes her continued problems with the law: "Betty Jean Benedicto, who kidnapped the three-day old son of a physician from a San Francisco hospital in 1955, is back in San Francisco city jail for violation of probation.

"Mrs. Benedicto, 34, was returned to the Bay Area from Seattle where she served a jail sentence for stabbing her common-law husband, Amos Uganiza, 54, a commercial fisherman.

"Mrs. Benedicto had been living under the name of Francesca Mairo Uganiza. Her true identity was discovered after a routine fingerprint check which followed her sentence for the stabbing.

"The 200-pound woman kidnapped Robert Marcus, son of Dr. and Mrs. Sanford Marcus, from Mount Zion Hospital, Sept. 19, 1955. She turned the infant over to a Catholic priest unharmed in Stockton nine days later.

"Mrs. Benedicto was paroled after spending eight months in jail. She was placed on five years [of] probation, but broke probation when she left California."



September 29, Thursday

My darling Joan is 17 years old today. We celebrated her birthday last Sunday on her boyfriend's birthday. We had a turkey dinner at Donna's. I hope she bought something she likes with the \$10.00 we gave her. I mailed her another birthday card Tuesday night with a \$1.00 bill in, just to let her know we are thinking of her today. I wonder how they are getting along without Mother? I'm glad Kathy is having a lovely time at Grama Marsh's. I answered Ethel's letter this morning. I went uptown this morning. I wore the gray suit or two piece dress that Donna brought down, she has lost so much weight she can't wear it. I've lost a little weight so I can wear it. We gave it to Donna last year for her birthday, I believe. I met Elva Clawson and Mitsie Kawai and both told me I looked so nice. I had the little red silk scarf around my neck to match the little red dots in the suit and that made it look nice, I guess. I bought six big bath towels. They are nice and thick. We'll keep two and give Donna four. I bought the wash cloths to match, in rose, yellow and light pink. I do not need any; so will give them to Donna and Rex on October 7, their wedding anniversary. I bought a pretty little gray felt hat and gray gloves; they will go well with my red coat, and this gray outfit. I was back home by noon. After resting and lunch, I washed windows in the living room, dinette, kitchen, and back porch. Now they are all clean inside. I vacuumed drapes and Venetian blinds. I had the time to vacuum the two rooms, but Mother Nature warned me I'd gone my limit so I rested until time to prepare dinner. Lou went to a Sunday School board meeting tonight at Norman Campbell's. I phoned Florence Marsh to see how our little Kathy was doing, she is happy and enjoying her visit with Grama and Grampa Marsh. I received a nice letter from Janet today. Chuck D. gave Joan a beautiful brown cashmere sweater set for her birthday. I phoned Marshes in Monrovia tonight and talked to Mary. Joan has been out of school fighting a cold. She worked at the theater tonight, (her birthday).

September 30, Friday

We had a beautiful fall morning. I did the washing. Mr. Edgecomb and his partner, Mr. Merriam, have worked all day at Edgecomb's, cutting lumber on the power saw. The saw has been going a lot this past week. I do not mind hearing it, it sounds busy and cheerful like. I can also hear the big league ball game announcers over his radio or television. I was delighted to hear from my sweet little Janet. She had been to see the doctor and he told her May 11 was about the time her baby would arrive. [*Precisely when baby Mark Shattuck arrived!*] I'm glad he gave her something to relieve

that dreadful morning sickness. Oh, I'll surely be one proud great grandmother, eh? I received a postcard from Annie and two from Donna. Annie said it rained some, but it was lovely now. She said that Sue got my card and birthday money. It was Bob Bailey's 31st birthday on the 27th, I believe. It was the day she wrote, but she didn't date it. Donna met Adele Bird; she took Donna, Laver M., and Blanche C. to lunch at her little place, between meetings. Marty is taking her to her house for dinner on Thursday evening. Donna says that Marty is going to have a baby. They were having a reception on Wednesday night. She talked to Senator Watkins and Aunt Andrea. Andrea sent her love to me; she asked Donna to come to Aunt Ida's home while she is visiting here. Elsie Bailey came up to speak to Andrea, she didn't know Donna and asked Andrea if she was one of her daughters. Then Donna laughed and Elsie said, "Oh, Donna!" I believe it was in the Hotel Utah. Elsie had been there to dinner. I phoned Florence Marsh. She said that Kathy is very contented. Rex is coming for her tonight. She is anxious to see her daddy. Lou stopped at Ralph's Market after work and brought home a lovely leg of lamb and some ground round steak. The meat at Ralph's is much better than at our market, (Cal Fair). Joan phoned me this evening to thank me for the extra birthday card and \$1.00. We gave her her gift last Sunday on Chuck's birthday. The Marsh family is invited to eat dinner with the Summerville's next door, nice eh? I think Mary is up at Howard's. Rex was going for Kathy after the dinner. Br. Claron Oakley came block teaching tonight. He was feeling depressed. His father [Louis Terry Oakley] dropped over dead two weeks ago in Provo, Utah, while he and Julia and baby were visiting them in Provo. I told Florence to have Rex phone me tonight, so I can ask him if he'll bring the family over to dinner Sunday. I'd like to know so we can buy a leg of lamb or some kind of roast.



Claron Louis Oakley the Renshaw's block teacher. He later was a bishop in East Pasadena Ward for 9 years and then stake president for 13 years. Information and image found on Find a Grave.

October 1, Saturday

Lou got up on our front porch roof and washed out the gutters. We are ready for the rains now. He also fixed the place that leaked last rainy season. (Let it rain, eh?) I mailed Yvonne Fife a birthday card with \$2.00 in it. I wrote this little note it:



Buying a gift with two measly dollars makes me fairly groan.

But, with two dollars added, my dear, you may find something you like, Yvonne.

Oh me, and my rhyming brain, eh? I wrote a letter to Janet while Lou enjoyed his nap this afternoon. I received

a postcard from Beverly this morning. It had a picture of the Governor of Utah's official residence. It is the old Tom Kearns mansion. This darn paper is like a blotter to write on. I'm glad my folks are enjoying their vacation in beautiful Salt Lake City. Lou and I drove out to Monrovia this afternoon. Joan was the only one home and she was doing a washing and trying to clean up the house, bless her heart. I would so much like to have helped her, but Lou did not let me do anything, because I had a little heart distress last evening and headache this morning. Rex, Johnny, and Kathy were with the neighbors, the Summervilles, up at Bagdad Caverns to get a boat for Mr. Summerville's friend. They went in Rex's car. Mrs. Summerville took lunch for them. Joan had to work the matinée and evening box office job. Mary was up at the Howard's. Rex is going to pick Mary up tomorrow on their way to our house for dinner. I went with Lou to look at Plymouth and Dodge cars. We go the rounds every once in a while. He enjoys it such a lot; I go to please him. We can't afford a new car, says me. The ink blots so much in this soft paper, I wonder if anyone will be able to read my words. It turned out real hot this afternoon. I was glad to get back home in a cool house.

October 2, Sunday

Lou was a wonderful help this morning. He prepared the potatoes and carrots for cooking and set the table. The big league baseball game made it impossible for us to watch the conference this morning over T.V. They told us "no Sunday



School," as folks could see the morning session of conference from Salt Lake City.

But they did not think of the ball game being broadcast then, too. We had some lovely yellow roses in buds, just beautiful.

I had some on our dinner table, until the food took over. I had a rugged time with

sharp pains in my stomach and chest this morning, but didn't mention

it to Lou, just to God, and He relieved me of them after praying. (I

think it was gas.) The folks came at 1 p.m. I

was disappointed that Joan had to work and couldn't come and we missed Donna, Janet, and Joan. Lou washed all the dishes after dinner,

isn't he a darlin'? Mary dried the dishes and I put food away and helped dry dishes. Donna and her stake board members leave for home this evening. The family is

anxious to have Mother back home. Kathy and Johnny and I looked at my scrapbooks this afternoon. I talked with Rex about Mother Renshaw's temple work; he thinks we should have her work done. I wish I could talk to Lillian about it.

It is hard to say everything one wants to in letters. Rex and family left about 4 p.m. I gave him some leg of lamb meat and some rolls to take home for lunch this evening. Rex

told us the conference session this morning was broadcast over channel 2. Stupid me, why didn't I look in the T.V. log, like he did, instead of taking someone else's word for it. We could have listened, too. Lou and I went to church tonight.

It was a nice meeting. Harold Kratzer presided. Our bishop and Carl Warnick are in Salt Lake City to conference. Lou listened to the ball game over television.



Donna Marsh in the center with her Relief Society sisters from California. Donna is wearing the white hat that she borrowed from Elvie. Donna also has her new brown purse and is wearing her new brown shoes that were purchased for this conference trip.

October 3, Monday

Parts of our wonderful country have been sadly damaged by the many dreadful hurricanes. I don't see why they give the awful things girl's names, but they do. They start alphabetically; some of the names I remember are Connie, Diane, Hilda, and Janet. She was often called, "the killer Janet;" more than 200 lives lost in her big blow. More names; Kate, Louise, and this morning it is Mary. It seems to me that men like to blow their tops a lot more than women do? But of course, it is the men that are naming these big blows, eh? Ha ha! And it is okay by me. Donna phoned at 9:45 this morning from Nell Ellsworth's home. Clarice Tanner took them home from the train depot and she was going

to take Donna home to Monrovia next. We are all happy to have her back home safe and sound and so thankful she could have this wonderful trip. I've got that old pain or ache on top of my head again. I've had it the past several days. I wonder what is causing the darn miserable hurt? I can't blame it on the hot weather now; it has been so lovely lately. If only the smog would not come in. After dinner we rode out to Monrovia. Donna was ironing in the kitchen. Their dinner was over and dishes done. Joan was working at the theater. Lou and I sat in the kitchen and Donna told us all about her wonderful trip to conference, from the time she left here on the train, until she got back home. It was almost as good as going on the trip. I'm so happy she had this lovely

vacation. She saw the relatives and enjoyed the wonderful sessions of conference and the beautiful stay in Hotel Utah. She said, "If it hadn't been for that sweet Beverly, I would not have been able to get around to see Bonnie and babies, and Betty Renshaw and her baby and others." Today was Yvonne's and my dad's birthdays. Yvonne is 21 years old.

October 4, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon took me to Relief Society. Our new teacher, Sister Butler, gave the visiting teachers message in an excellent manner; she'll be very good. I was delighted to see Donna come in our meeting. She took Kathy to the nursery first. We really had a wonderful theology lesson on "The Book of Ether," and a review of the Book of Mormon. Sr. Louise Cotterell is one of the best teachers I've ever heard. Oh, it was interesting. It makes me want to read the Book of Mormon over again, from cover to cover. The Relief Society served us a light lunch, hot tomato juice, pretty open faced sandwiches and mints. It tasted so good. Donna brought me home. Kathy ate some fruit Jello salad here; she didn't like the sandwiches at Relief Society. We received an announcement from Bette and Ray Haddock; they have another infant son, Gregory Lewis Haddock, 9 pounds 3 ounces. He was born the day before Grama Sue's birthday. I sent them a congratulation baby card. I'll get the new comer a gift when I can go out shopping. We received another letter from Ethel Newbold; she is very anxious to have Mother Renshaw's temple work done and so am I. I answered Ethel's letter this afternoon. Lou took me up to the post office when he came from work at 4:40 p.m. I was out of stamps. Donna took the information about Grama Renshaw's genealogy home with her to type up. She is going to find out just what we need to send the record sheets into the Salt Lake Temple. Beverly took Donna, when they were in Salt Lake City, to see Uncle Sam Bailey at Lenore's home. She also took her to see Aunt Lydia and Uncle Owen and Jimmy. Lydia is working, Sue, Annie, Beverly, and Donna got dinner ready for Owen and Lydia and Jim the evening Donna was there. Beverly made fudge.

October 5, Wednesday

I keep thinking of the things Donna told me about the lovely time she had in Salt Lake City; the people she met and things she did. She said Lydia gave Beverly a permanent wave and Beverly gave Lydia one the evening Donna spent at Aunt Lydia's house. Uncle Owen took Aunt Sue and Donna back to their homes, Sue at Ida's and Donna to the Hotel Utah. I phoned Donna this afternoon; she had been to her ward Relief Society. Kathy went home to play with a little girl in the ward. The mother was going to bring her home later. The little girl came home to play with Kathy a few weeks ago. Rex didn't work yesterday; he went to look for work again

this morning. He wasn't home by 2 p.m. so she thought he'd found some work. Donna had a letter from Janet to Joan, but she didn't open it. Donna was expecting three little children this afternoon from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. while their mothers were canning for the church welfare. Donna took care of the little ones so their mothers could go. I did a small hand washing



Hotel Utah 1955

and ironing. October is surely a beautiful month; the skies look bluer, the sunshine brighter, and its not too hot. I love October. Mother Nature goes all out to make herself beautiful and pleasant before Mr. Winter takes over. I hope Yvonne had a nice birthday last Monday. I thought of her and my darling dad. October 3 was his birthday, too. Yvonne was 21 years old. She is a sweet gal and is training to be a nurse. I hope she got my card and money okay.

October 6, Thursday

It was another perfect day. I shampooed my hair and did some vacuuming. This is the month I'd love to be in good old Utah, driving up in the colorful canyons. The red and gold autumn leaves are beautiful now. I got a letter from Violet today, she is expecting the Andersens tomorrow, on their way home from Salt Lake City. They stopped on their way up to conference in Beryl also, to spend the night with Violet and Otto. It is wonderful for us to have that half way stopover, eh? A nice little lady from the "Homemakers Survey" left two boxes of cleaner for walls, woodwork, and linoleum floors. The boxes just have a number on each. She wants me to fill out the paper she left saying which cleaner I think is best. There are seven questions to answer about the products. Well, it looks as if I'll have to do some cleaning eh? One of the packages smells like White King Soap to me. I wrapped Donna and Rex's wedding anniversary gift tonight, four large bath towels and the matching washcloths. It doesn't seem possible they've been married for 20 years tomorrow. Lou and I have been married 41 years. What will another 20 years bring? I hope I'm peacefully happy somewhere with my loved ones, over there, beyond the sunset, eh? (Time alone will tell.) I've had that pain in the top of head again today, but not as severe as it has been. I wonder if it is caused from my eyes? Our Star Newspaper had headlines this evening of a dreadful airplane wreck in Wyoming. Sixty-six lives were lost in this crash. The plane plowed nose first into a rock cliff called Medicine Bow Peak. Some LDS members were aboard, returning from the Tabernacle Choir concert in Europe. Some were from California; there were two babies in the crash.

October 7, Friday

Today is Rex and Donna's wedding anniversary; they have been married 20 years. Yesterday's airliner crash was the most disastrous air crash of it's history. In 1950, 58 people

were killed in the Lake Michigan crash. The LDS Church reported six or maybe seven of its members were aboard, returning from the concert of the Tabernacle Choir. They boarded the plane in New York. The flight was from New York to California. It is so dreadful. The names have not yet been announced. There were 19 military personnel aboard. It's the United Airlines. This evening Lou and I ate dinner at Bob's place on East Colorado Boulevard. We then went out to Monrovia to take Donna and Rex a wedding anniversary gift. We also took some doughnuts from Bob's eating-place. They are so good. Rex, Johnny, and Gene Sommerville were at the Boy Scout meeting. Mary was at a football game with her school friend. The girl's parents took Mary. The football game was at Monrovia High School. Chuck and Joan ate dinner out somewhere and then went to a picture show at the Crown Theater in Pasadena. Donna and I went over the family group sheet that we have to fill out, to send to the Salt Lake Temple, so we can have Grama Renshaw's endowments taken care of. I have to have some information from Lillian, Melvin, and Winnie. I'll have to write to all of them. We visited with Donna and Kathy until 9:30 p.m. Donna served Daddy lemon pie with whipped cream. I did not indulge, but it looked grand.

October 8, Saturday

I tried out the two cleaners that the lady from the "Homemakers Survey" left here on Thursday. I washed the woodwork in the kitchen yesterday. Lou did the walls and ceiling in the kitchen, the walls, ceiling, and woodwork on the back porch, and the walls, ceiling, and woodwork in the bathroom today. He was tired; that was a big job! I handed him the clean, wet cloths, so he didn't have to get up and down. My hands were in and out of the cleaner all the while, which doesn't help their looks any, believe me. After resting this afternoon, we went to the market for our groceries. I cooked some delicious loin lamb chops for dinner this evening. Oh, we did enjoy them and the fresh peaches and cream. Gordon and Ruby Hodges brought their nephew, Claude Renshaw [Claude Henry Renshaw], over to see us this evening. We had a nice visit with the three of them. Claude is visiting them from Salt Lake City. The three of them had had a busy day, painting the wainscot paneling, in Hodges's dinette. Ruby has new drapes ordered for her living room and dinette. They're being made now. Our house was scented with tobacco tonight, as both men smoked. Not being used to having that aroma in our house, we notice it a lot. I could smell it a long time after I'd gone to bed.



Claude Renshaw
image from Family
Search

October 9, Sunday

Lou got up at six o'clock this morning, and washed the leaves off our front lawn and sidewalk. It was a mess; he didn't have any time for yard work yesterday. We'll have a lot of leaves fall in the next few days, but the trees will be beautiful again next spring and summer. They are very pretty trees, (Chinese elms). I cooked a pot roast in the oven, with potatoes, carrots and onions in low heat; our



dinner was just right when we got home from Sunday School. We picked Hilda Botting up at the bus line and took her to Sunday School. She has been visiting her three sisters in Canada the past three months. She brought me a very pretty china cup and saucer, from Canada. It is a flowered pattern and has a pretty shape. It was surely sweet of her, she said it was to say thank you because we take her to Sunday School, nice, eh? We rested this afternoon and then went to Monrovia Ward at 7 p.m. to hear our daughter give her report on the Relief Society conference in church. She did a beautiful job of it, the talks were all good, but little Diary, me thinks my Donna's talk was the best by far. (I would, eh?) I am thankful Donna went to conference; she got such a lot from it and enjoyed her visit so very much. I was sorry to learn that little Kathy is sick. She has a fever and her stomach hurts. Mary stayed home with her. Johnny was at church; the little fellow got tired of it all and fell asleep. I'm sorry Joan had to work at the theater box office. We came home from church. Johnny wanted us to go to their house, but Grampa wanted to get home and eat and enjoy his T.V.

October 10, Monday

I should like to have heard Ephra and Pauline Doezie and Bill and Dorothy Steimle and Carl Warnick give their reports on conference last night in our ward, but I couldn't miss Donna's talk in Monrovia Ward. I started a letter to Lillian Keller but didn't finish it. I went Relief Society visiting with Nora Williamson. We only had six calls to make today; Sr. Tanner has taken three off of our list. I always enjoy my day or afternoon out with Nora and the nice ladies in our district. We'll have Dixie Kratzer on our district when they move into the beautiful new home they're building. It'll be ready in a few weeks. I'm glad Louise Andersen will not move out of our district, they expect to move into their lovely new home in a few weeks, also. It isn't far from the Kratzer's new home. Both are grand, large homes. Beverly Andersen phoned this evening, she isn't working because the Cannon Electric Company has gone out on a strike. The last time she returned from Salt Lake City there was no job at Cannon's Company either, because of a lay-off of many of the workers. Bev thinks they'll go back to work soon, I hope so. I read the nice letter received from Dale today to Beverly. He is surely enjoying his mission in Brazil. He says he feels fine, but he has lost 19 pounds. I phoned Donna to find out how Kathy was feeling. She is better, the temperature is gone, but her stomach still hurts a little, bless her heart.

October 11, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me as usual. We picked up Bessie the babysitter at her home. I quilted on Marva DeHann's pretty rose appliqued quilt. Vera Smith taught

several of the sisters how to make cute crepe-paper dolls, for holiday seasons.

She had a very cute Halloween set of three; the witch, the ghost, and the pumpkin doll. They were set out where we had our luncheon table in the recreation hall. The napkins and table decorations were Halloween, also. It was a very delicious luncheon, pumpkin pie and whipped cream for dessert. I read the queen's tribute; we honored Nell Ellsworth, crowned her our Queen for a Day. After lunch Br. Harold Kratzer gave a talk on food storage in the home (the welfare plan). It always alarms me to think we are not doing it as the church suggests, food enough to last one year, oh dear! Clarice Warnick gave her lesson on proper manners in the home. Several of the ladies were making crepe paper snowmen for Christmas season decorations. It looked interesting, I'd like to have made one, but we have so few quilters come out.

I just can't bring myself to desert that sweet Madge Fowler, and the Relief Society quilts. She has charge of the quilts. I'm sure she'd like to make some of the many pretty things the other sisters are learning from our clever work directors, Vera Smith and Marva DeHaan. Phyllis McDonnell gave me a paper she wants me to read, about George Washington on her lesson day.

October 12, Wednesday

Oh, I wish I could phone Donna everyday, like I used to, before she moved away to Monrovia, but I have to watch the phone bills, I can't let them get too high, eh? Phyllis McDonnell wants me to give the reading about George Washington to the soft music of "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Oh, I've never done anything like that before. She knows I can do it. (I guess I can do, eh?) Lou called Beverly in to help them at the shop today. I'm glad



Queen Nell Ellsworth

We have a very special queen today,
She doesn't need an introduction,
The Pasadena Ward members will recall
Her activity in it's production.

She has a charming and a gentle grace,
A distinction all her own,
Her excellent talent in giving fine readings
In our South land is well known.

She's familiar with the many obligations
Imposed on a Bishop's wife,
With dignified loyalty, faith and love,
She weathered the tempest's strife.

When her family moved back to California
And located in our Ward,
We all rejoiced to have our beloved friends
Again with us, to serve the Lord.

Of course you knew, by the rhyming clue,
Our queen would be the lovely Nell,
It's a pleasure to honor you, "Queen Nell",
One known and loved so well.

Oct. 11th 1955

they have this extra work now, to help Bev out, while they are on strike at the Cannon Electric Company. Annie read Dale's last three letters to me over the phone. He is doing very well; he says the language doesn't sound foreign to him now. He is giving lessons and talks in the native tongue now. It is amazing how fast he has learned to speak the Brazilian language; he has only been in Brazil for three and a half months. He says the Lord has surely helped him to speak and understand this foreign tongue. It is really the Portuguese language. I finished Lillian's letter. I surely hope she'll be able to give me the dates and information that we need to fill out Mother Renshaw's temple sheets.

My eyes have hurt lately again, the little shooting pains. I guess it's too much television, eh? I never look at it in the daytime, but we do watch it every evening.

October 13, Thursday

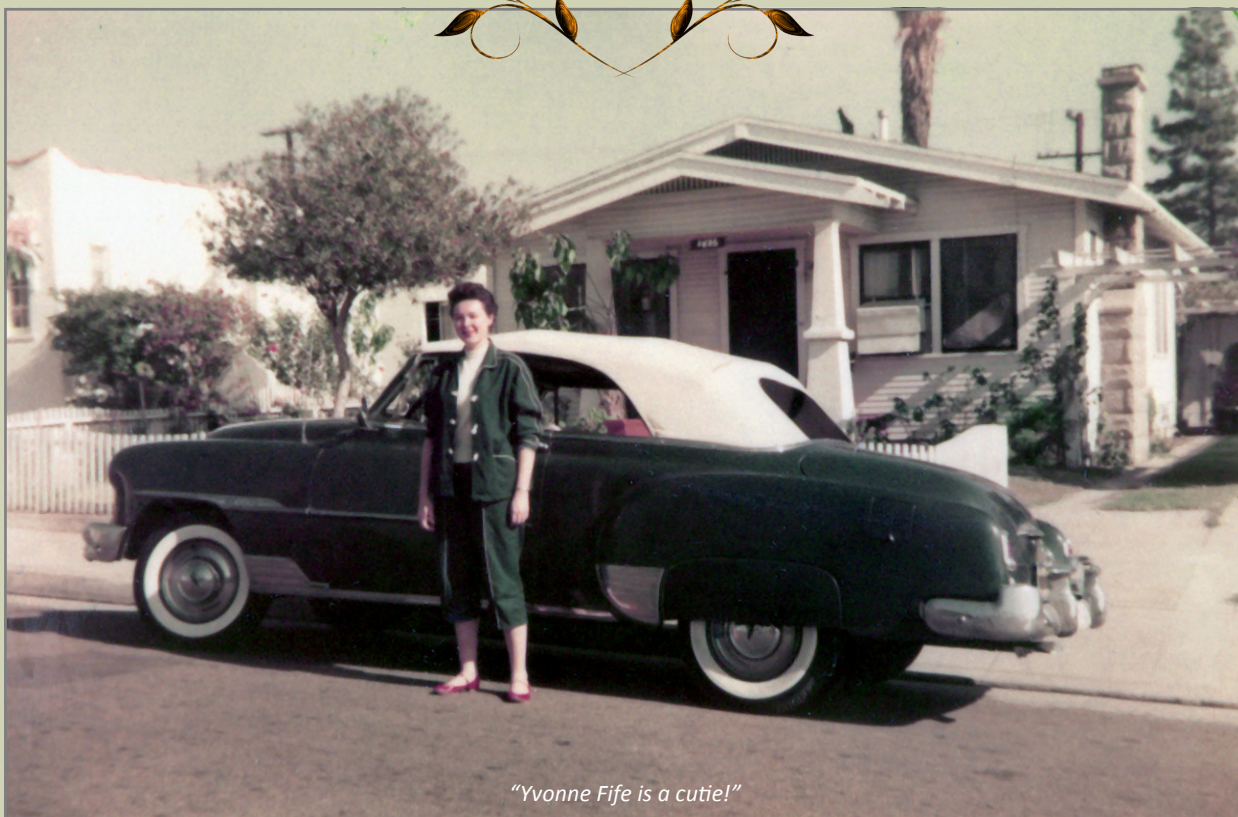
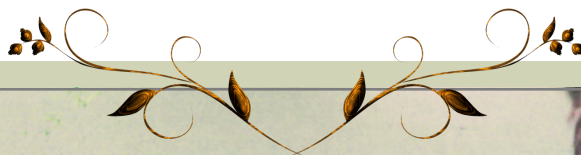
Donna phoned this morning. I was so happy to hear her voice; she said Kathy feels better. It must have been intestinal flu she had Sunday, because she had stomach pains, fever, and diarrhea. Rex has it now. The neighbor, Gene Somerville, had it last week and is having a relapse of it again today. It is surely a miserable sickness, but doesn't last too long. Donna received a letter from Janet, which has upset us. The doctor has put her to bed for a few days, because she has had two gushes of water. This is too early in her pregnancy; she is only two months along! Mrs. Shattuck took Janet to her house to keep her in bed. We are so very thankful for Maxine Shattuck's loving care of our little Janet. David and his folks are lovely to Janet; bless them! Rex is working even though he isn't feeling too

well, poor man. He feels like he can't miss a day with his huge obligations. But of course we are all blessed in so many

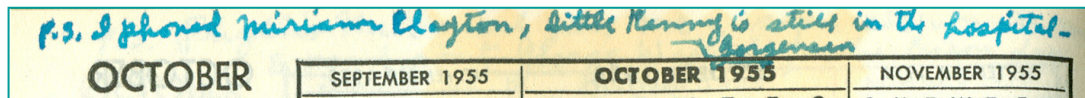
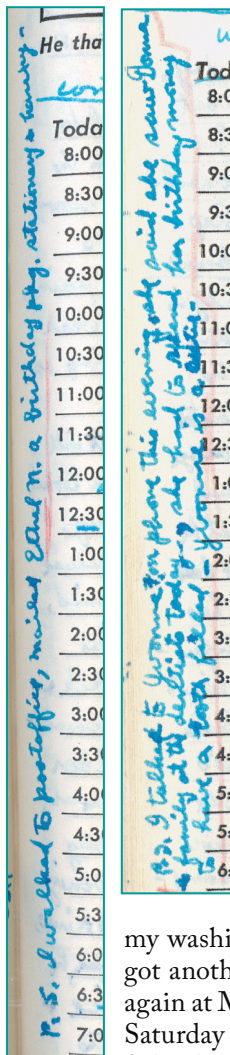
ways. Janet says that Marilyn Shattuck wrote from Provo and told them about meeting Donna in Salt Lake City, at Conference. She said that Donna looked just beautiful. Janet asked, "Mother, what did you wear that day?" Ha ha! I spent the day writing letters; I wrote to Margaret R., Ethel Newbold, and Violet Fife. I mailed Lillian's letter this morning. I hope we can get the needed information for Mother Renshaw's temple endowment sheet, that is what I was writing about to all but Violet. I felt really tired this evening; we had bacon and eggs and salad for our dinner. My precious Lou helped me cook the food. Donna took the family to Dr. Don Andersen's this afternoon. I phoned Miriam Clayton, little Kenny Jorgensen is still in the hospital. I talked to Yvonne on the phone this evening. She said she saw Donna and family at the dentist today. She had to spend her birthday money to have a tooth filled. Yvonne is a cutie.



Marilyn Shattuck saw Donna Marsh in Salt Lake at conference and told Janet, "Donna looked just beautiful."



"Yvonne Fife is a cutie!"

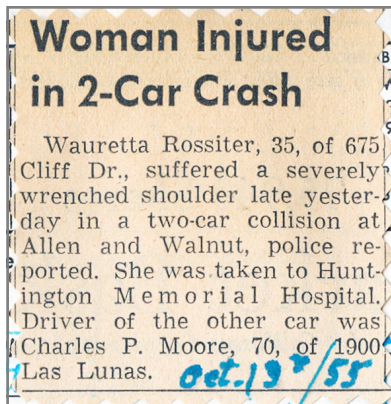


The three images of writing on this page are examples of the "P.S." notes that Elvie adds to her diary. She doesn't want Donna to miss them when she types the diaries. Little did Elvie know that Mary would be the one typing the diaries. In October of 1955 Mary was just 12 years old.

October 14, Friday

Donna, the little P.S.'s are important, read 'em. I got in a hurry to close off yesterday's record, and then remembered the little additions. I had to put them along the side and top when they should have been here on this page. I phoned Miriam Clayton to ask about Kenny, and Miriam said that Lorene is staying at the Cortland's this week, with their children, while their parents are away. Poor little Kenny Jorgensen can't leave the hospital because when the doctors remove the tube, he fevers up cause the kidneys start to drain again. They've tried it three times. I hope and pray he'll be well soon. I did my washing this morning. I phoned Donna; she got another letter from Janet. She is back in bed again at Mrs. Shattuck's home. She felt better last Saturday and went home. They went to Sunday School and then Janet had a showing of blood so

the doctor put her back to bed. He says she may have a miscarriage. Mrs. Shattuck is just grand to our little Janet, I'm so glad she is there with her and not off in some town alone with David going to school. Beverly worked for Gordon Hodges this week in the evenings after 4:30 p.m. She did her turn of picketing at the Cannon Electric Company, where she is out on strike. She and Uncle Lou had planned to go to the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena and see the new 1956 Plymouth automobiles. Beverly didn't get home in time. Annie phoned to tell Lou, so he went along to feast his eyes on the beauty. Ah me! He was enthused when he came back. He must have one. Oh oh! Here we go again. I tuned in on channel 13 tonight to watch "Your Amateur Hour" and was surprised to see Diane Oates giving the prizes or awards out to the contestants. Harry Cooplin is the M.C. on the show. Television doesn't do our lovely Diane justice, she is much prettier in person, but most people are better looking than the T.V. makes them look. I was sorry to read of Wauretta Rossiter's dreadful accident tonight.



October 15, Saturday

The pretty china cup and saucer that Hilda Botting brought to me, from Canada, looks so nice in the little easel stand that I bought yesterday from a little gift shop. Now the beautiful pattern can be seen to advantage. I had a startling experience in the night with chest and stomach pains, but thank goodness they didn't last long. I felt rather weak and had some sharp heart pains today, but took it easy doing up the work. My sweet Daddy worked all morning fast and furious in the yard. It was chilly out, but he was wet with sweat. Oh, how fast he moves! When he was through, the place looked beautiful as always, but my man, he was in a bad way. His chest or lungs hurt and his arms, too. He couldn't relax because of it. It was still bothering him after his lunch. I got worried; why can't he slow down, like I've learned to do? After his shower, I rubbed some Watkins's Liniment on his chest, back, and arms. He fell asleep and got relief. We received an announcement from Lucille and Alfred Gasper; they have a new infant son, 8 pounds and 2 ounces, and length 20 inches. His name is George Selva Gaspar, nice eh? The Gaspar's bought our Garfield home in Pasadena. They are nice young people. We went to see our Marshes in Monrovia this evening. Donna insisted on Daddy eating some of the liver and onion rings she cooked for Rex. The temptation was too much for my papa; he loves liver and onions. I had a nice plate of Spanish rice and yellow squash and tomato salad. I helped Rex tie up the chickens he'd had prepared for the deep freeze. He puts them in plastic bags, airtight. Joan went to her job at the theater. Donna and Rex went to a show in Glendale with their club friends. Mary wiped the dishes; I washed them. Mary was the babysitter at home tonight for Johnny and Kathy. We did our shopping at our market when we came from Monrovia tonight.

October 16, Sunday

I roasted the chickens Rex gave us this morning with no dressing, just two small onions and the neck and giblets inside the bird. It was a beautiful big young chicken. I left it in the oven with the heat off. It was perfect when we arrived from Sunday School and didn't need heating again. Boy, was it ever delicious, yum! We took Hilda Botting to church as usual. There was a nice big audience in both Sunday School and sacrament meeting this evening. There were several out of town visitors. I gave the benediction in Sunday School. Lou went to Sunday School union meeting this afternoon. I wrote letters to Janet S. and Dale Andersen. Lou saw Yvonne Fife at the union meeting; he said he invited her over for a chicken sandwich but she had a date or something. She had to go home after Sunday School meeting and was sorry she couldn't come. I talked to Annie on the phone and was happy to learn that little Kenny Jorgensen is home from the Children's Hospital. They brought him in his wheelchair; he is only four years old. He said when they took him in his house, "Well, I made it home at last!" He is a cutie, bless his heart. He still has the tube in

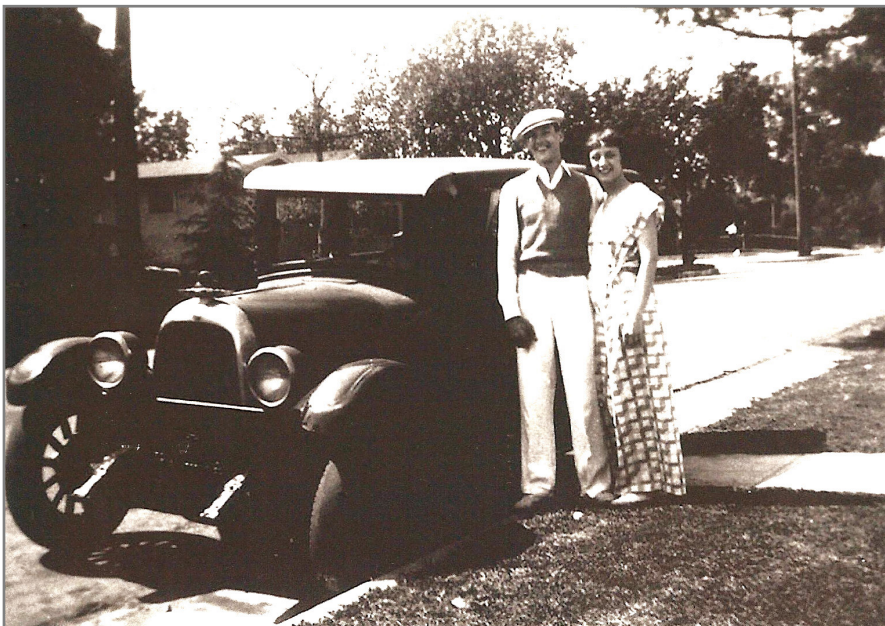
his body to the kidney tract. We enjoyed church tonight. Emerson Crawley and his sweet wife were on our program. He was the speaker from our stake high council; she sang two lovely solos. Madge Fowler accompanied Helene's solos. I don't know how to spell her name. John and Florence Marsh went to see Rex and family yesterday before we got there. They have planned a trip to San Jose with Rex, Donna, John, and Kathy in the station wagon next weekend. Marshes said they'd pay for the gasoline, aren't they wonderful folks? Bless 'em! I'm so glad Donna and Rex will go to see Janet, I know how anxious they are to see her, and she to see them.

October 17, Monday

I love these nice crisp mornings; the hot weather was tough on this Grama! I phoned Donna, she said Florence Marsh phoned to tell them that they have decided not to go with them to San Jose next Friday night, but, listen to this, she insists on mailing them the money for the gasoline for the trip. Oh, such generous sweet parents, bless 'em. Chuck DeBias's parents gave Joan two lovely new fall suits, from Mr. DeBias's factory. Donna says they both fit her perfectly, too. The DeBiaises have given Joan such a lot of nice clothes from their factory. It sometimes worries Donna and me. Chuck is a grand boy, but not an LDS boy. I'm afraid he will never be one either, because of his Catholic Italian background. Chuck is fair skinned, with large blue eyes; he surely doesn't look Italian, as I know them. The suits his parents gave Joan are samples. Isn't she lucky to wear size 12, eh? Mrs. DeBias says they won't fit her. Chuck is really a nice fellow; we all like him. Donna says that Joan and Mary can go with them to San Jose if Joan can arrange to have someone work at the Lyric box office in her place. Annie and I planned our refreshments for Saturday night at my home, for our Strong family meeting. It's so near Halloween, we thought pumpkin pie with whipped cream and popcorn and candy, like black and yellow jellybeans would be nice. Annie said that Sue is expected home this weekend, from Salt Lake City. Bette will bring her to the meeting if she isn't too tired after the trip. I phoned the gas company today; they are sending a man out on Wednesday to turn on our floor furnace. Our thermostat isn't working right.

October 18, Tuesday

Today is our friend Ethel Newbold's birthday. I hope she received my package okay and has a happy birthday. Ethel Burk came for me this morning at 9:40. Bonna Gordon had to leave earlier, to get babysitter Bessie, so she would be there to take care of the children of the Singing Mothers who go at 9 a.m. They are practicing for our Relief Society conference. We had a very lovely literature lesson, given by our new teacher, Sr. Alice Brandley. It was on Robert Louis Stevenson, personality and poet. It was very well given. I surely enjoyed it. Madge Fowler played some sweet Hawaiian music on the piano. Mary Howard, dressed as a



Emerson Crawley and Helene Ottinger circa 1931. In 1955 they were on the program in Elvie and Lou's ward. Image from Family Search.

little child, read Stevenson's "My Shadow." (So cute.) I was happy to see Lillian Neal back from her visit with son and family in Salt Lake City. Ethel Burk brought me home. I love the sweet sisters in Relief Society; they're so kind and thoughtful to take me to meetings. I was amazed to find that my nice neighbor Mrs. Stacey had taken out the big avocado tree in her backyard. The colored men were just driving out of her driveway with it, cut up, in a huge truck. I'm so happy that the old tree is out at last. It has made an awful lot of work for her, and for us, too. The leaves are over the yards most of the time and the fruit not worth bothering about either. Lou received a jury summons today, oh oh! He thinks that Gordon can get him out of it, because he needs him at the shop. Now that Lou is the only one taking care of the inside work, he has to be on the job there. It has been damp and cloudy the past few days; it feels like rain is in the air or near around somewhere. We need a good rainstorm, too. Lou brought the little desk lamp we've had stored in the garage, in the house for me to use when writing at the table in the evening. It works out just fine.

October 19, Wednesday

It is another cloudy day, but better than the hot weather. I swept the leaves from our sidewalk and it exhausted me for a while, what a pantywaist I am! It's delightful how much lighter the north side of our house is now that Mrs. Stacey's big avocado tree is out. I'm going to enjoy that extraction in many ways. For one thing, the old tree was full of moths, insects, and worms; the spoiled avocados made an awful noise, in the wee hours, when they'd fall on our cabaña roof and oh, the leaves to sweep up from that old tree. Mrs. Stacey's yard was always full of them and a lot fell in our yard. It's just one more thing to rejoice about, eh? We have many blessings. Two fellows from the gas company came out and got our floor furnace working. It was dust in the pilot that caused our trouble; it is okay now. I composed a queen tribute to Louise Cotterell today. I talked to Bonna

Gordon about the ladies we haven't crowned, the ones that do come out on our workdays. That is the only time we can have this little coronation tribute. Bonna is going over the list for me, of sisters that attend the workday program. We have already honored 43 sisters with a tribute in poetry, rhyme, and crowned them "Queen for a Day." I have the part that Phyllis McDonnell gave me to read for her lesson next Tuesday memorized now. I should be able to give it well, eh? Time will tell. Where, oh where is our "October's bright blue weather?" The past few days have been cloudy and damp until about noon, which is unusual for this lovely month. My chrysanthemums are not as far advanced as other years. Our seasons are changing, like the Bible said.

October 20, Thursday

It is another overcast morning, which is strange for this time of year in California. Shirley Wenrich phoned us last night and invited us to go to a wedding reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Rulon Cheney. The bride is Rose Sherinian. The reception will be at the Westwood Ward Chapel. Rose is a relative of Shirley's; she has talked so much about us, and Donna and family, they said they'd be happy to have us attend their reception. We do know the groom, Rulon Cheney. I told her Donna and Rex would be on their way to San Jose. I phoned Donna this morning to tell her my news and find out what they are up to. Joan answered the phone; she has a head cold so is out of school. Mary has been sick with a cold since Tuesday. Joan has a date with Peter Brown, to go to a dance at his college on Saturday night. It is her first date with him in a long time. (How about this "going steady" with Chuck, eh?) I'm glad to see her accept other dates; she is too young to get serious with one boy, even if he is a nice boy. We all hope she'll find the right man, in the LDS Church someday. Donna says she meant to tell me that Aunt Sue gave several of my poems in Salt Lake City, at a luncheon at Florence Smith's home. Sue told me later that the poems she gave, (from my pen) were not in Florence Smith's home, but driving to Salt Lake, from Ogden. She recited them to the ladies while driving in the car. Aunt Ida and Andrea were there. Bless Sue's heart, isn't she precious to memorize my amateur stuff? I composed a queen tribute to Ruth Jensen today. Donna came by our house tonight to pick up our suitcases. She, Rex, Johnny, and Kathy expect to leave tomorrow evening for a short visit with Janet and David. Donna had been to a Relief Society stake board meeting at the stake center before coming here. She took my two queen tributes home to type. She brought the three first months of my 1931 diary all typed nicely; (three copies) she is a darling.



Mildred Bailey died from heart problems when she was 21 years old.

October 21, Friday

I put the typed diary pages, that Donna brought last night, in my portfolio books today. She has done three months in 1931, and all of 1930 and 1929. Only 23 and $\frac{3}{4}$ books left to type, Donna. Ugh! Sounds dreadful, eh? Think we'll ever get all 26 books typed? [*Yes, but it will not be finished until well in the twenty-first century.*] Joan and Kathy came here this morning while Donna was in her Singing Mother's rehearsal at the stake center. Joan fixed some breakfast for herself; bacon and eggs and toast. Kathy wasn't hungry, she had eaten but she had some raisin toast and some canned pears. Joan had some pears, also. I was delighted to have my precious granddaughters visit me. They picked Donna up after the rehearsal. Joan had a letter written to cousin Dale Andersen, she got the address from me. Donna sent some potholders she'd promised to make up for her Relief Society. I told her I'd sew them up, because she does my typing. I got off easy, eh? Annie Andersen and Florence Oates went out block teaching this morning. Joan went to Oateses' before coming here. She got a dress from Diane to wear tomorrow night to the dance with Pete Brown. I believe it is sort of a carnival school dance. She needed a bright colored dress. It is nice she has a cousin with the dress she needs, eh? Mary is staying at Howard's while her folks are up north in San Jose. Joan is going to stay with a girlfriend from church, Judy, I think. In Janet's letter she said, "Please bring all of the family." But Joan has her job at the theater. Rex, Donna, Johnny, and Kathy left for San Jose this evening.

October 22, Saturday

Louis and I drove over to Andersen's last night, before going to the reception in Westwood, honoring the bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Rulon Cheney. Lou took Beverly's check for a day's work at the shop. The beautiful musical program last night was well worth the drive out to the Westwood Ward. It was a thrill to see the beautiful LDS Temple with the gold angel atop, to tell the world about the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. The lovely Westwood chapel is on the same property as the temple. Mamie Stark sang several powerful solos. (Grand!) J. Delos Jewkes sang several bass solos, he has a wonderful voice. Rosa's niece sang several lovely soprano solos. The bride, Rose, sang a beautiful duet with Marcie Stark and two solos. We met some old friends, but not many; Johnny Russin and wife, Br. Brown and wife. He used to be the stake clerk years ago. He was a young missionary when Mildred [*Elvie's sister*] lived with Sue and Al. He mentioned her last night, said she was such a beautiful young lady. He administered to her several times. He said he couldn't forget her, he thought it so dreadful that such a lovely young person should die. They had lovely refreshments, but we didn't stay for them. Br. Cheney

seemed happy to see us again. Shirley Wenrich and her mother helped with the guest books and serving. Eleanor Pierce was there; she is Shirley's aunt, a sweet girl. We had a very lovely meeting here in our home tonight, our Strong's family group. Clint Strong read Aunt Alice Strong's history and a cute essay on "Fall in Utah," written by his little daughter, Susie. I read Blanche and Oscar's Silver Wedding tribute. Sue told of the Strong's meeting in Salt Lake City. We served pumpkin pie and whipped cream, a fruit drink, popcorn, and candy tonight.

October 23, Sunday

We had a real nice time with the Strong group here last night. I was sorry Lorene couldn't come; she was staying with the Cortland children. We missed Miriam, Ray, and girls, too. Helen O'Brinski brought her two little nieces, Bill Hoglund's girls. They are cute girls. Glen Strong phoned last night to say he was sorry he couldn't be with us; he had a church meeting. Beth and Dick couldn't come. We took Hilda Botting to Sunday School as usual. I was happy to see my precious little Mary Marsh at our Sunday School. She came with the Howards; they were having a turkey dinner today. Mary Howard stayed home to cook said bird. Oh dear! The visit with Janet and David is about over, Rex, Donna, and children will be leaving soon for home. Oh, I do miss our sweet little Janet. We had a lovely Sunday School, we always do. Lou and I ate dinner at Fisher's Restaurant today. We went to sacrament service tonight and enjoyed the meeting. Our choir sang two numbers, which were lovely. The younger speakers, Linda Palmer, George Cannon, and Ronald Ballard gave fine talks. Joan Duncomb was graduated from Primary. She recited the tenth Article of Faith. The two main speakers were Ed Berry and Dick Ashby, young college men, attending one of our southland colleges here. They gave good talks. I was delighted when Donna phoned at 9:30 p.m. to report that they were back from the visit up north, with the Shattucks. I was happy to learn that Janet is feeling better. They had a nice visit with them. They went to see Ruth and Dick Deal in Oakland, and Shirley Keller Behrmann in Los Altos.

October 24, Monday

I did a rather large washing, for me, and rested for an hour. Then I made some



Uncle Art and Aunt Alice Strong's wedding portrait. We wish we had the history of Alice that was read at the October Strong meeting.

potholders for Donna to take to her Relief Society for their bazaar. They gave the material to her to make the seven potholders. She typed for me and I made the potholders for her. We took them out to Monrovia tonight. I took Donna my first cutting of mums, a very pale yellow mum, almost white. They're pretty, like a ball. I took Kathy a Halloween pumpkin Jack O' Lantern, which pleased her a lot. It had candy suckers inside. Joan didn't go to her job at the theater box office tonight, she is battling a head and chest cold. Donna took her to the doctor for a check up. She has so many colds. I helped Mary look up some words in the dictionary for homework; she had to study their meaning. They were big words I didn't know were even in the book. Johnny was happily engrossed in television until 8:30 p.m., when Mother turned the knob, which ended his fun. He went to bed vexed at the family rules and regulations. We enjoyed hearing all about their visit in San Jose. Shirley B. is expecting a baby next month. She is upset because her ex-husband, Franklin Little, is suing for the custody of their son John. I feel sure he'll never get him, but it is dreadful for Shirley to have this worry. Franklin has caused her a lot of heartaches. It's a shame. Annie says that little Kenny Jorgensen has had another relapse. He may have to go back to the hospital. I'm so sorry to hear this distressing news. Joan showed me her two new suits from the DeBias factory. They are real cute.

Chuck D. brought Joan a delicious box of chocolates, which we all enjoyed. Rex gave us a nice bag full of walnuts. They brought a large bag from the Shattuck groves.

October 25, Tuesday

Ethel Burk took me to Relief Society. We picked up Melba Kunz and her mother. We had a lovely lesson in our Social Science class on the Constitution of the USA, "The Great Importance of George Washington's Administration." Phyllis McDonnell is an excellent teacher; she has a cute sense of humor, too. She closed the lesson with the tribute to George Washington, which I read, while Iona Cottam played, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, very softly on the piano. It is a lovely tribute. I have it memorized. I took care of the get-well cards to members in the Strong Family from our society. Darrell Reynolds, Vera Paul, and Frank Upham. I understand Frank has been very ill in the



Janet (expecting Mark) and David Shattuck

hospital, but he is better now. I hope so. I just sent Frank and Thelma a friendship card, telling them we're thinking of them. The Society gave me \$2.00 last meeting, for cards and stamps. I wrote a letter to Lillian Keller. I'm too weary to answer Violet's letter now; sweet sister, I'll get around to you soon, I hope. I wish I knew how little Kenny Jorgensen is today, poor little fellow. A sweet little neighborhood lady came this afternoon collecting for the community chest. We had a nice visit. I gave her a dollar. I think Lou gives at the shop, also. I try to give them all a little. There are so many funds now days. I guess they all do good work with the money collected. I mailed David Shattuck a birthday card with \$2.00 in it.

October 26, Wednesday

It was a hazy day; I couldn't see the mountains. I did my ironing and cleaned the leaves off our sidewalks. I'd like to have raked them off the lawn, but didn't dare try it. I was about worn out from the sweeping job. My lungs hurt when I work like that. Our mums are coming out nicely now. Donna got the first bouquet Monday, I have a very lovely bouquet of dark red roses, and one of rose shade in the house today. I guess the roses will not bloom much longer this year, but we do have a lot of buds yet to come out. I do love the roses; they've been grand. I had two beautiful bouquets of roses in the house on Saturday, when the Strong's came. The only thing wrong is they don't last long enough. The mums are much better to have in the house. They'll look lovely for over a week. I talked to Dolores on the phone. Ronnie goes to school at 8:30 a.m. and is home at 2:15 p.m. He loves school; he is a cutie. I phoned Miriam to ask about Kenny Jorgensen. Lorene has gone back out to Mary's. Miriam hasn't heard how little Kenny is today. Glen Andersen phoned Annie and said Kenny was better today. I'm glad to hear that. Beverly worked at the Venetian blind shop today. The strike at Cannon Electric Company is settled now. She went back to work a week or so ago. She works nights there, so can put in a few hours a day when they have extra work at the shop.

October 27, Thursday

I composed a queen tribute to Nora Williamson this morning. I phoned Donna this afternoon; she said she sent recordings to David for his birthday and also a dictionary, which he needs in his school studies. Joan is feeling better; she may go to school tomorrow. She has been fighting a head and chest cold for two weeks. Dr. Nebeker gave her something to take for it, \$6.00 worth of pills. Kathy went to the Primary Halloween party on Wednesday afternoon, I think? She was dressed up in a cute black and yellow costume, with a tall black hat. Donna said she was a little shy at seeing all the other kids dressed like ghosts and goblins, and etcetera. She couldn't wait for that party. She dressed up last Monday night to show us how she'd look, the little darling. I guess it was all too awe inspiring for her to participate in the fun, but

she enjoyed watching the others. Donna went to her Singing Mother's practice this morning at the stake center. She'll be there again in the morning for Relief Society leadership meeting. She had the visiting teachers message to give as usual. I received a letter from Margaret Renshaw. I was so anxious to read it and get the information I had asked her for so we can take care of Mother Renshaw's endowments.

To my amazement, I found she'd sent me the letter she'd written to her son Kenny and family. I sent it back airmail. I read the first page before I found out the mistake. I didn't know that Kenny had moved away from Salt Lake City. I received a nice letter from Ethel Newbold thanking me for the birthday gift.

October 28, Friday

I spent the day cleaning house, vacuuming and resting in between. I've surely learned how to slow down. Joan is feeling fine again, which makes Grama Elvie happy. She went to school; they had a parade. Joan and her club friends decorated Chuck's Mercury car; Joan drove it around Monrovia with the girls riding in it in cute costumes. Two of them were in cat costumes they'd made by dying long underwear. Chuck's car won the first prize of \$5.00. Donna said it was really decorated beautifully, but off the record, it cost \$6.50 to buy material for the decorations, ha ha! The high school sponsors the show or parade once a year. The kids have a wonderful time decorating their cars for said parade. John's school had a carnival today. Mary took Kathy over when she got home from her school. She bought Kathy some cute toys; they had fun. Lorene phoned me from Cortland's where she was staying with the children. She said she would be going out to Mary's again tonight. Little Kenny is coming along slowly, he has to stay in bed or the wheelchair, and he is getting restless, the dear little soul.

I hope and pray he will be well and strong soon. I received a nice letter from Lydia. I was sorry to hear that she had sprained her ankle. She writes cute letters, always a treat to read them. Annie got one from Lydia, also. She read hers to me and I read mine to her. Andersens haven't heard from Dale for over three weeks, and they are getting anxious about him, He has been transferred to another part of the Brazil Mission.

October 29, Saturday

My darling Lou washed all the windows on the outside of our house this morning. I stood by to hand the wet and dry cloths to him. Now we can see through them again, nice, eh? Soon the rains will come and mess 'em all up again, that's life, eh? Donna and Mary came about noon. Grampa took Mary and me to town. Donna stayed here and typed the poems that Aunt Sue asked me to have her type, to send to Hazel Strong and Audrey Watkins, who is Aunt Ida's sister. When Sue was in Salt Lake City she recited some of my poems, by memory. [See one on following two pages.] They asked for copies of some of them, so my sweet sister promised her she would see that they received them. [October 29, 1955 is continued on page 123.]



"MY FAMILY TREE"

Elvie Bailey Renshaw

Of my family tree, I do love to boast,
To a few dear members I'll write a toast.
We all have our hobbies, this is my fad,
So here is the first one to dear old Dad.

"FATHER"

Way back, in my memory, a long time ago,
Nestled to a stiff plaited shirt, I rocked to and fro.
Then I grew older, while he worked at the bar,
And along with the others, patiently watched for the car
That was to bring home a father, so faithful and true.
Dad, I'm thankful, I have that dear memory of you.

"MOTHER"

Patient, loving Mother, faithful, kind and true,
Suffered in her life, more than we ever knew.
Kept her family together, to the day that she died,
Not one of them ever roamed from her side.
May we all live lives worthy, is my earnest prayer,
To dwell with our Mother, when we're called over there.

"LORENE"

Lorene, dear sister, so sweet and mild,
Your counsel to me, when but a child,
In my memory has stayed, always,
And my own little daughter, helped to raise.
Life's problems, you so sweetly told to me,
Have helped other dear girls, real truth to see.

"SUE"

Next in line comes Sister Sue,
Is there anything that she can't do?
If we're puzzled, over what we have to sew,
To sister Susie we always go.
The planning of everything we leave to Sue,
I guess there's nothing she can't do.

"ANNIE"

Sister Annie, with the blackest hair and eyes,
Loved by all, and Billy's prize.
There's one thing I'd surely like to know,
Why do we so often to your house go?
Is it because we're out for a drive in the car?
Or because your home isn't very far?
No, it must be your hospitable way,
Of making us welcome while we stay.

"OWEN"

Now, this family tree has one only boy,
Believe me, He's their pride and joy.
Should you meet his sisters sometime or other,
You're bound to hear all about this brother.
Yes, and you can bet your life,
You'll hear all about his kiddies and wife.

"MILDRED"

Beautiful sister, I wonder why,
A sweet girl like you had to die.
Taken in youth, with a beauty rare,
Heaven is more beautiful, now you're there.
They say up there, love and beauty reign,
Well, it's just our loss, and Heaven's gain.

(Paradise)



Owen A. Bailey



Lorene Bailey



Annie Bailey



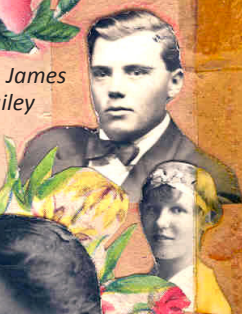
Mary Elizabeth
Strong Bailey



Susie Bailey



Owen James
Bailey

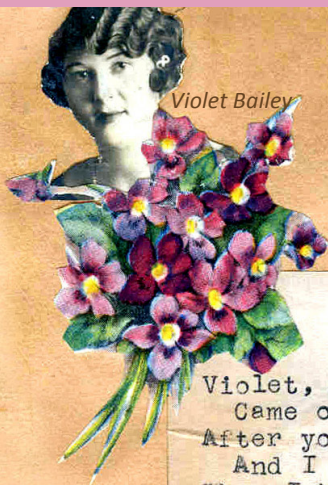


Lydia Hoglund
Bailey



Mildred Bailey

This is one of the poems Sue recited by memory while on her trip to Salt Lake City.
The second part of the poem is on the following page. These pages were in one of Elvie's scrapbooks.



Violet Bailey

"VIOLET"

Violet, a tenderness, I cannot explain,
 Came over me as I wrote your name.
 After your birth, our Mother fell ill,
 And I guess we all tried her place to fill.
 When I think of the Mothers you've tried to obey,
 I marvel you're the girl you are today.

"BONNIE JEAN"

Little sister Bonnie, I add to my tree
 This adorable child has grown dear to me
 A lovable nature, sweet and sunny the while,
 My Bonnie Jean brings joy with her smile.



Bonnie Jean Bailey

"ELSIE"

Dad's wife, Elsie, you'll find on my tree
 As charming a person as can be.
 Her home is arranged with tasteful care,
 It's always a pleasure to visit there.



"DORIS"

Doris, a beautiful child, to womanhood grown,
 She, since the day of her birth I have known.
 Fate made step-sisters of Doris and me,
 She's welded with love on my family tree.

"GARRY"

I'm proud of my step-brother Garry too,
 He's as fine a chap as I ever knew
 He'll tease you with that lovable grin,
 I'm glad to have him for my kin.



Doris Strong



Elsie Bailey

Many more have I, on my family tree.
 To mention all, just couldn't be.
 I've brother-in-laws, and relatives galore,
 Nephews and nieces, whom I adore.
 My own Donna, and her Daddy Lou,
 Baby Janet, and her Daddy too,
 I love each one, they have their place
 In making this a better race.

I've enjoyed composing my family tree,
 Tho' I'll admit a few tears it brought to me.
 There's a tender feeling that comes with might,
 When about your loved ones you try to write.



JACK
 ABBOTT-
 7-16-29

DESIGNED
 BY
 ELAINE
 HOLLAND,
 L.A.



October 29 continued: My sweet Donna came here with her typewriter this afternoon and did them for me. I'm blessed with the dearest relatives. I bought a pretty blue plaid skirt and white blouse for Mary for her birthday next month. I also bought a diary book for her. She thinks she'd like to keep a diary. I've enjoyed mine. I hope she'll keep it up. I bought a small one to finish out this year and one like this book for 1956. Mary didn't have quite enough money for the purse she wanted, so I helped her out on that. We had fun. I love to buy for my sweet grandchildren and they like it too, eh? Lou had his car washed while we shopped. He also bought our groceries, so he was busy. Mary was anxious to get home; she was going to Sierra Madre to her friend Carol Colvin's. She and Carol are going to the carnival at the school Mary used to attend in Sierra Madre. They were going to work in one of the booths there. Mary is going to stay all night with Carol. I got a sweet letter from my dear little Janet; she is feeling better. I'm so glad she is okay. Rex went to Bob Gordon's this morning to figure on a cement job. He took Kathy and Johnny with him.

October 30, Sunday

In Janet's letter yesterday, she said Marilyn Shattuck sent her a darling corduroy smock from Provo. And David's mother made her a lovely corduroy housecoat and a pair of peddle pushers. His folks are just grand to Janet, and I love them for it. A short time ago, Marilyn sent a darling little toy dog that rolls over on the floor when they wind it up; it also wags its tail. Cute, eh? She said the toy is for the baby Janet is expecting next May. Wow! The baby's first gift, seven months before its birth, ha ha! Hilda Botting was sick and couldn't go to Sunday School. We always take her. We left Sunday School after the sacrament; Andersens were waiting for us. We were ten minutes late because the two missionaries took over five minutes each on their 2 ½ minute talks in Sunday School. We made every red stop light on the way to Highland Park, too. Both of us were nervous, cause we hate to keep folks waiting. We went in Andersen's car to Van Nuys. Beverly drove. Irene Andersen made us some delicious sandwiches out of her hot leg of lamb roast. We all had fruit Jello, too. She is a darling. Glen wasn't home; he was away with the Boy Scouts somewhere. We all went to the beautiful new San Fernando Stake house in Van Nuys. It was dedicated today. President David O. McKay came down to dedicate it. It has two lovely chapels and a huge recreation hall with lots of classrooms; really lovely. Over five thousand people attended the

dedication today. The program was lovely. We had to sit in the overflow chapel, where Glen and Irene's ward will meet, but we could hear everything. Sue and Bette, and little infant, and Elaine, Carol Sue, and her boyfriend were with us in the same chapel. We talked to Charlie and Goldie Morris and Br. and Sr. Wilson, and Br. Rulon Cheney and bride after services. Beth Johnston accompanied one of the soloists, but we couldn't see her. There were too many people there to find anyone after the meeting. President McKay's wife and other members of his family were present today. We went back to Irene's; she left before the meeting was over. We had a piece of lemon pie that Andersens brought with them. Glen was home; he took a picture of little Jimmy in his "tramp" Halloween costume, (moving pictures). We went to Mary's to see them. Lorene was feeding little Kenny in his wheelchair. He looked much better than I expected. Annie took some of Vernon's Christmas cards back; she'd been working on them for him, cleaning them up. I left \$5.00 with Mary for some of the cards. I want to give my family one of Vernon's hand painted cards. I think Mary and Vernon were going to the opera; he showed us his fancy formal shirt with embroidered ruffles no less. Mary looked very pretty today. We went to Sue's house to take my poems that she wanted and Donna's Book of Mormon. Annie took her Book of Mormon, too. Sue is going to make them each a pretty felt cover for their books. Sue gave me a Book of Mormon with the lovely cover all ready on it. Oh, it is lovely; it has handles, looks like a pretty handbag. It has a lovely yellow felt flower on the front side. It is my birthday gift. It is a month early but she wanted me to take it now. Sue and her precious girls, Bette and Elaine, fixed a lovely toasted cheese sandwich for us with pickles, potato chips, lemonade, and pineapple sherbet. Carol Sue and boyfriend came over. She is a cutie. I gave Irene Andersen a small order for some Avon products, \$3.26 for bubble bath and animal soap for Kathy.



Felt Book of Mormon cover that Sue made for Elvie's birthday. Sue gave it to her a month early, and Elvie enjoyed using it for many years. Kathy Marsh Calkins has it now.

October 31, Monday

I surely enjoyed my day out with the Andersens. It was wonderful to visit with Irene, Glen and family, and Lorene and Mary and Vernon and sweet children, and Sue, Elaine, Bette, and Ray. He had to go to church soon after we arrived there. Carol Sue played some of the recordings she sang in with the MIA group in the Hollywood Bowl. I've forgotten her boyfriend's name, but he lives out at the beach, Santa Monica, I think. He is a nice young man. Well, I haven't much room for today's diary, eh? I fixed 29 bags of popcorn and some candy for the little trick or treat goblins we expect to call on us tonight. I wish my own little Marshes would come and trick or treat our house. I know it's a long way to bring them. I put three more queen tributes in folders ready for coronation day (Nora Williamson, Ruth Jensen, and Louise Cotterell). I have 20 folders ready now. I'll put the flowers on these last three tomorrow. I'm too tired now. It is a silly little job, but it takes hours of my time to compose the poems and put them in folders. Donna types all of the poems, bless her heart. I wonder if she'll ever read this small awful writing? I wonder if I'll be able to do it next time I try to read it?? We had 31 little Halloween trick or treat callers. I had to give the last three a stick of gum. I was out of the bags, all but one. I put it away for Kathy. We turned out the porch light when we ran out of treats. Br. Claron Oakley came block teaching.

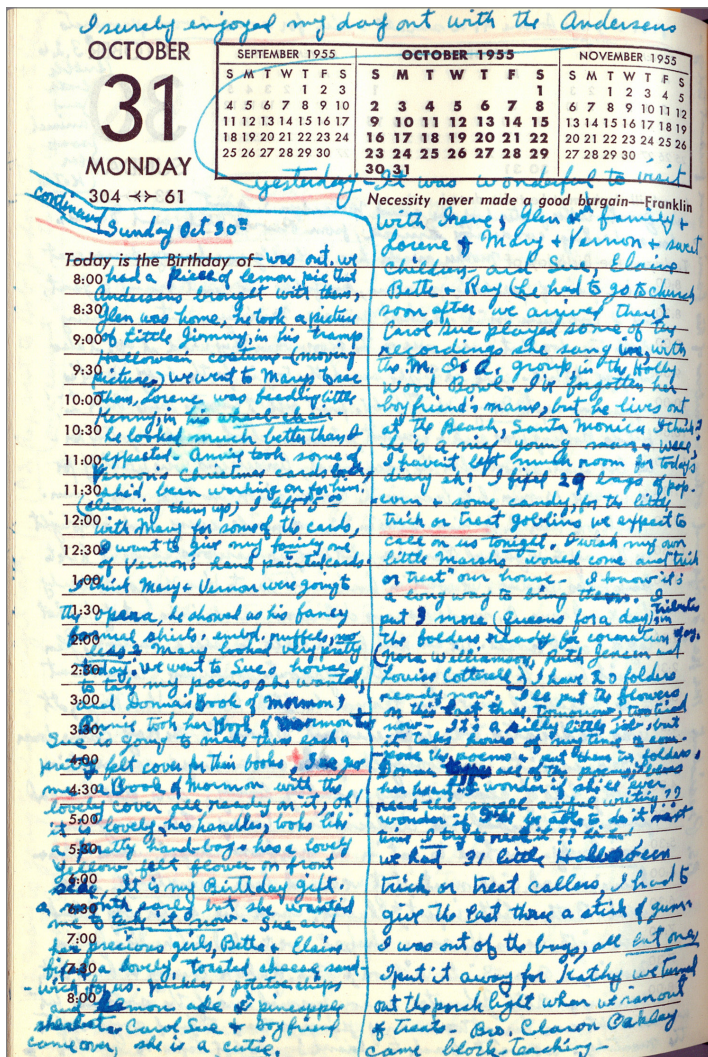
In November of 2009 a letter written by the Princess was found. The letter turns the story on its head, revealing that she was "uncertain" of her love for Townsend, despite their long-term affair. Far from being forced to act, the Princess's letter to Anthony Eden, the then prime minister, shows that she was determined to make the decision herself of whether to marry Townsend or not. Experts said the discovery of the letter "rewrites history."



November 1, Tuesday

I am sorry I didn't remember to send Otto a birthday card. It is his birthday today. I hope he had a nice birthday. Dale Carnegie, noted author of "How to Win Friends and Influence People," died today at the age of 66. The world's most interesting romance this year, that of Princess Margaret and Peter Townsend, came to it's unhappy conclusion yesterday, when the beautiful princess decided it must be "duty," before love. She will not marry the man she loves. Now the royal family of England, and the British Empire can rejoice, along with the Church of England. The two broken hearts will mend, eh? I'm glad I'm a commonplace soul, free to love and be loved. Bonna Gordon came for me, I was sure Ethel Burk would come, so Bonna went on without me. Ethel Burk came a few minutes later. We had a lovely lesson in the visiting teachers report meeting. Sr. Arvilla Butler is a good teacher. Louise Cotterell's lesson was beautifully given, as always. The testimonies after were lovely. Our stake president, Thelma Nebeker, and her counselor, Nell Ellsworth, were in attendance. I took my new Book of Mormon, in the pretty black felt case with yellow felt flowers on, to the meeting. Sister Sue made it and gave it to me for my birthday. The ladies all admired it, (all that saw it). They would like one like it. I was very proud of this lovely gift from Sue, bless her heart. I was delighted to find Donna and Kathy here when Bonna brought me home. I fixed lunch for us. Donna had been to Relief Society in the South Pasadena Ward, representing the Pasadena stake board. I gave her some money to pay my share, on a gift for Bette Haddock's new infant son. Kathy had fun last night with her Halloween costume and visiting neighborhood homes, with brother John and sister Mary. John was a tramp, Mary in a cat's costume.

⇐ Note the page that Elvie writes, "I wonder if she'll [Donna] ever read this small awful writing? I wonder if I'll be able to do it next time I try to read it??" Elvie writes this on October 31, 1955.



November 2, Wednesday

Lou told me to sleep in this morning. He wanted to eat his breakfast out for a change. I'm always happy to oblige that a way, ha ha! Bless him! My chrysanthemums are really lovely this year. It surely pays off to take time to thin them out and bud them. I spent the day answering letters. Well, I ran out of the turquoise-blue ink at last. I think it is pretty, but I believe it does blot in the paper more than this ink does. I was surprised when I brought this ink home and found it was such a blue green. This is more natural, eh? I bought it January 29; it lasts almost a year, eh? I used it everyday and Lou uses it, too. I wrote to Janet S., Ethel N., Lydia B., and Violet F. Now I can sit back and wait for them to answer me, eh? Nina (Honey Bear) Warren, 22 years old, youngest daughter of Chief Justice Warren eloped to Las Vegas, Nevada, yesterday with Dr. Stuart Brian, 33 years old. He is a Beverly Hills surgeon. The bride phoned her parents from Nevada last night, after the wedding. The parents are in Washington, D.C. The parents seem pleased about it. I wish them happiness, also. She could have had a real elaborate wedding but didn't want it. Forty-four more people were killed in an airplane wreck, flown by United Airlines. Some witnesses said it seemed to explode in the air, in Longmont, Colorado. It is United's second big crash in one month, in the Rocky Mountain region. There were 66 lives lost in the Medicine Bow Peak crash on October 6, the nations worst air tragedy.

November 3, Thursday



My sweet Daddy closed my door again this morning, which means he doesn't want me to get up early. He likes to eat breakfast out occasionally, and he knows I enjoy sleeping in occasionally, bless him. It is another bright sunny fall morning. The skies are such a lovely blue. It has been clear all day, no smog; Los Angeles had a bad day of smog, so our newspaper said, so let's enjoy this beautiful day while we can, because they are so few. It is a very shameful sin, the way that smog comes stealing in. I hit the high spots with the vacuum this morning and then went uptown to the Brown Shop (stationers), to buy my Mary a Webster's Dictionary for her birthday. It cost \$2.99. That huge one they have at her home is difficult to handle. I have a skirt and blouse for her; I took her with me last Saturday to choose it and try it on. It seems dreadful to make her wait until the 28th, but that is her birthday. I bought me an old style pen and some pen points, only 20¢. I'm trying it out. It takes me back to the old school days when we used this kind. I wanted this pen to use at Christmas time, when I use different colored inks to match the cards; it is too much trouble to change ink in my fountain pen. I can write smaller with this one without it running together, but it feels so scratchy. I don't like to keep dipping the pen either, "ain't we got fun?" I wrote this little verse in Mary's dictionary book. ➔

I brought a large bouquet of mums in the house this afternoon. They are just beautiful; a cream color, like fluffy balls, almost white. We have some extra large yellow gold mums, too. I budded them weeks ago. They are gorgeous. I want Donna to have a nice big bouquet of them. They'll be out in full bloom by Saturday, I think?

November 4, Friday

I got up to put up a lunch for Lou. He cooked breakfast. My washing was on the lines and the floors washed up by 11 a.m. I phoned Donna before lunch. I was happy to learn they are all well. She said Florence Marsh phoned last night and says she has made a blue maternity skirt for Janet. She is going to buy or make a smock to go with it for a Christmas gift, nice, eh? Maxine Shattuck is making Janet two smocks so our lucky little girl will do okay, eh? Donna bought the baby gifts for us to send to Bette Haddock's infant son and Irene Cattani's infant son. She got a pretty little robe and something else. She told me what, but I've forgotten. I gave her some money for my share last Tuesday. It's hard for me to get out and shop, so my darling Donna helps me out, bless her. I'm no good at walking around to shop for things. It is John and Florence Marsh's wedding anniversary tomorrow. They have been married 48 years. Only two more years to go to the Golden Wedding! David wrote to thank Donna for the birthday gift. She sent him some recordings to play on their new Hi-Fi machine. She also sent Rex's dictionary, one I gave him years ago. David needed it in his schoolwork. Rex has a huge dictionary at home. (Too big to handle, says me!) That's why I'm giving Mary the new one on her birthday. I told Donna to mail David, Rex's book, it is in good condition and he needs it. David is such a fine fellow. We are all very fond of him. I phoned Florence Marsh to wish them happy anniversary. I asked them if they'd like to go out to eat with us. She said they were going to the Relief Society bazaar dinner in the Garvanza Ward and invited us to go over there to eat. I talked Lou into taking me there. I cut seven of my largest yellow gold mums to take to Florence. Oh, they are really lovely this year. They measure five inches across the flower and seven of them make a nice big bouquet. They served a very nice dinner at the bazaar, only \$1.00 a piece; baked potato, brown gravy and beef, carrots, and a tomato and cottage cheese salad, pie or cake. We enjoyed it a lot. It was nice visiting with old


friends again. I bought a cute red apron or sun dress for Kathy, \$1.75 and a little hand puppet toy for 51¢. Florence bought a small box of homemade candy and then she insisted on me having it. I passed it around to folks and it went fast, and was good, too. Lorene was selling in the pie and cake booth. Annie and Bill ate at the table with us, and Marsh family. We took Bill and Annie home; they had walked over to church. It was another lovely day. I think my fountain pen needs a new point; this gold one I've had on for 10 years or more. It is a Parker's, a good one.



**To Mary on her birthday
November 28, 1955**

*This book, with words alphabetically written
Is not what they call "a best seller."
But dear Mary, if you study the words in this book,
You'll be what they call, "a good speller."
I know you'll find it's not interesting dear,
You'll never read it through to the end.
But consult it's pages and you'll find
It will prove to be your friend.*

Happy Birthday! Love, Grama Elvie



November 5, Saturday

Lou cleaned the yard up as usual. There were a lot more leaves to rake up. I think they'll all be down in another week. I cleaned up the cabana and vacuumed it good. Rex came by with some Christmas things that Santa has for Kathy, a doll and buggy, a set of dishes, and a toy lion. She is going to be a happy little girl on Christmas morning. We put them up in Lou's clothes closet. I cut some lovely big mums for Rex to take home to Donna. We drove out to Monrovia later. I gave Kathy the little puppet toy and she was very pleased. She had to take it with her to the picture show. Lou gave John and Mary each 50¢ to save for Christmas. John is banking at his school. He takes his savings every Wednesday. Donna showed me the nice skirt and blouse she bought for Mary. She also bought a pretty nylon sweater for me to give Mary for Christmas. I asked her to buy it. I paid for it, \$5.99. She is giving Mary one like it in pink, mine is blue. They were on sale and are very lovely cardigan sweaters. I'm surely happy to have Donna shop for me, as I just can't walk around very well to shop. We took Mary, John, his friend Howard, and Kathy to the Lyric Show about noon. Joan was selling tickets to a line of kids almost a block long. We called to see Pearl and Pawnee after we left the children off at the show. Pearl isn't well, poor dear, but she was cheerful as she always is. I'm sure she is in a serious condition. Donna had charge of the string beans at the ward dinner tonight. She took Mary with her at 3 p.m. to help in the kitchen. Mary is a good little worker. She was a big help. It was the Relief Society Bazaar and dinner in Monrovia Ward tonight.

November 6, Sunday

I wish that Pearl Redborg felt better, she didn't look at all well yesterday. The doctors do not want to operate because of her doubtful condition. She's had so many operations. We took Hilda Botting to Sunday School as usual. Clarice Tanner phoned me last night and asked me to be one of the greeters at the door this morning. It was Relief Society month for greeters at church. I enjoyed meeting the people and making them feel welcome. Madge Fowler and I greeted at one door, two other sisters at the other door. I was delighted and surprised to see Warnie Mueller come in. We hugged and kissed in front of everyone. He looks fine; he is here on a three-week furlough, from Hawaii. He flew in last Tuesday. He'd been out to see Marshes, but Donna forgot to tell me. She has invited him to eat dinner with them next Tuesday night. Warnie didn't stay for the fast meeting. I surely enjoyed the Sunday School and fast meeting. My sweet Lou took me to the Crown Cafeteria for dinner. We had a delicious meal. I forgot to mention that

he treated me to lunch in Monrovia yesterday, before we went to see Pearl. It is fun to eat out, no dishes or cooking to do. Nice, eh? We came home and rested until time to go to church tonight. No coats were needed this day; it was a real summer day. We had such a beautiful program in our Relief Society conference tonight. The Singing Mothers, directed by Ovena Mayo, did a beautiful job on their two lovely songs. "Oh Lord Most Merciful" and "Peace I Leave With You." Clarice Tanner gave greeting and report, and Louise Anderson gave a talk on, "Peace begins in the home." Jeanne Brinton gave a talk, "Peace in the World;" it was all lovely. I've never attended a nicer conference. Donna went to the South Pasadena Ward, I believe, one of the wards anyway. She went to represent the stake board.

November 7, Monday

I phoned Donna this morning; she said their Relief Society dinner on Saturday night was delicious. It was a turkey dinner, \$1.50 a plate. Mary worked in the kitchen with the ladies, mashing potatoes, I believe. I gave my neighbor Mrs. Edgecomb a bouquet of our big yellow mums this morning. My house is very festive looking with the beautiful mums in it. I have one bouquet of yellow and one of white.

Some of them are in Florence Marsh's home and some in Donna's home, too. I do love these pretty mums; I couldn't see Mrs. Stacy this morning, but I'll give her some later. Donna says that Warnie Mueller has a nice girl friend in Hawaii. I'm glad to know he has someone he likes there. Donna is bringing Kathy here on Wednesday morning to stay with me while she goes to a stake Relief Society luncheon and stork shower. Gordon Hodges gave Lou and Bill S. a 5¢ raise, nice, eh? [*Inflation calculator: 5¢ equals 45¢ in 2016.*]

November 8, Tuesday

Bonna Gordon came for me as usual; she is a darling. I quilted on Marva DeHaan's lovely rose appliqued quilt. I had hoped we'd finish it today, but we couldn't. It is beautiful, has white background, with large roses and buds and green leaves, (a lot of work). Madge Fowler put on a baby crib quilt, too. Some of the sisters worked on it. I'd like to have quilted on it for a change, it was so darn cute, but I got started on the large quilt while they were getting the crib quilt on the frames. We were served a nice lunch at 12:30. It was sponsored by the Dri-Lite Foods Company, from 8716 Santa Fe Street, in South Gate, California. They use concentrated foods. A lady talked to us about their wonderful new foods, how they can be kept indefinitely, if properly stored away. It fits in perfectly with our church welfare plan to store food.

HIKE FOOD

Enjoy
"going light"
with

DriLite Foods

Sixty different dehydrated foods including
Orange Juice Crystals, Eggs, Sierra Salad,
Whole Pitted Prunes, Potato Dices, Spin-
ach, Fruit Cocktail, Dehydrated Beef.
Main dishes, vegetables, fruits, drinks,
desserts. . . .

Four- and eight-serving sizes sealed in
tough plastic bags.

Designed especially for youngsters on the
trail— not overseasoned.

Write for food list and complete menu
suggestions for five-day trip.

DriLite Foods
SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA

"May your heart be as light as DriLite"

*Advertisements for DriLite Foods from
Scouting magazines in 1958 and 1959.*

Enjoy
"going light"
with

DriLite Foods

Fifty different dehydrated foods including
Orange Juice Crystals, Eggs, Sierra Salad,
Whole Pitted Prunes, Potato Dices, Spin-
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Main dishes, vegetables, fruits, drinks,
desserts. . . .

Four- and eight-serving sizes sealed in
tough plastic bags.

Designed especially for youngsters on the
trail — not overseasoned.

Write for food list:

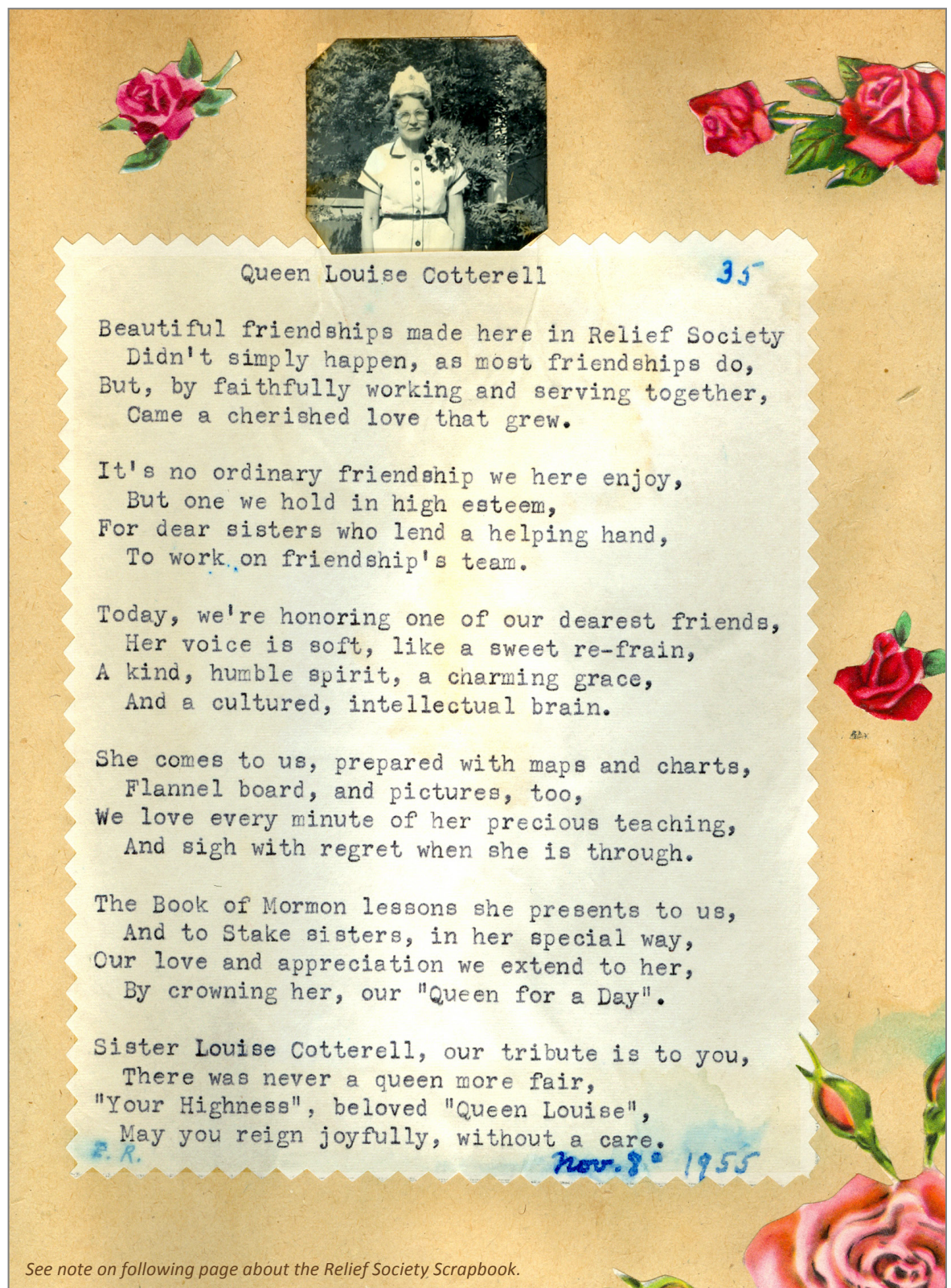
DriLite Foods
SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA

"May your heart be as light as DriLite"

The food tastes real good. Our "Queen for a Day" was Louise Cotterell. She wasn't feeling very well this morning. I was doubtful as to whether we should crown her today lest the surprise may upset her. But President Clarice Tanner felt we should, as Louise so seldom gets out to our workdays. Well, she was a lovely queen and seemed real pleased at the honor. She thanked me for the tribute I read and composed for her. Nora Williamson and I left at 2:15 p.m. to do our Relief Society visiting. None of the ladies in our district were out to Relief Society workday. We found five of the six sisters at home. Sr. Ord was getting ready to move; she sold her lovely home. Lou and I arrived at almost the same time this evening. I was really tired. Lillian Keller had phoned Louis at the shop. She was on her way out to our house from

Lynwood. Lou said we would eat at Fisher's Restaurant. He went to Blanche Street and Sierra Madre Boulevard where he waited for 45 minutes for the bus to come. Lillian wasn't on it. He came home, took a shower, intending to go back and meet the next Sierra Madre bus. Lillian came while he was in the shower, it seems they sent out an extra bus following the first and she was on that one. A nice gentleman that was on the bus took her to his house, and then brought her here in his car. (All's well that ends

well, eh?) We enjoyed a delicious dinner at Fisher's, and then we drove to Hodges and spent a nice evening with Gordon and Ruby. We saw their beautiful new drapes in their living room and dinette. Their home is so lovely. I let Lillian sleep in my bed. I went in Lou's bedroom. It is nice having Lillian here. She has been to San Diego to visit Louise and family and her son Ralph. He hasn't found a house to move his family into yet. Warnie Mueller is eating dinner with Donna and family this evening.



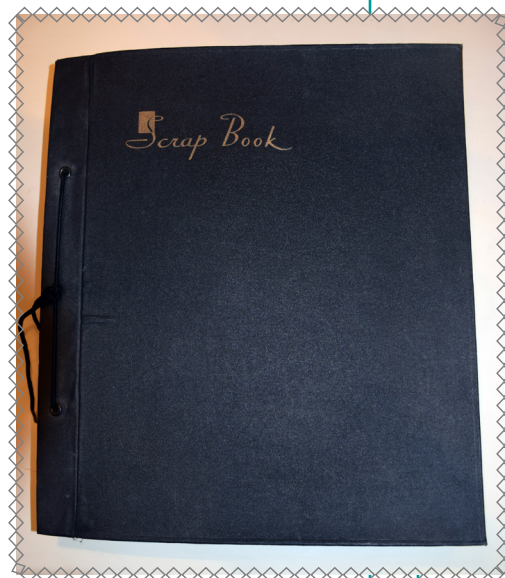
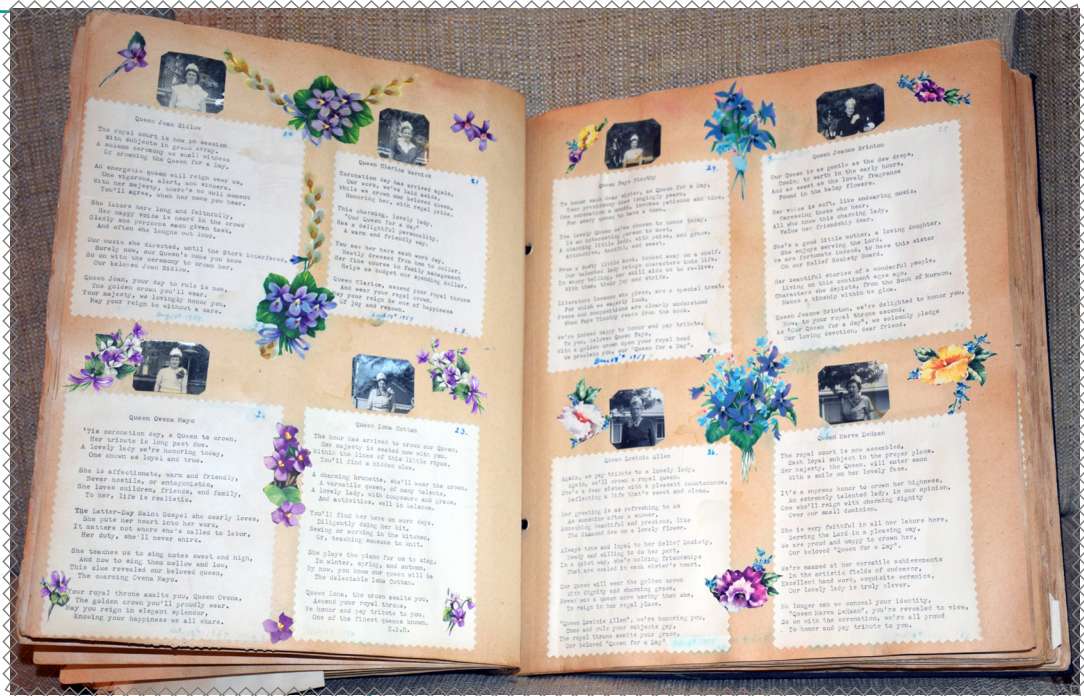
The Old Relief Society Scrapbook in 2016

Mark and Kathy Calkins visited Southern California June 4 through 9, 2016. Sunday June 5 was our 40th anniversary. That day I wanted to attend the first ward building that I attended after I was born, East Pasadena Ward. Here is an excerpt from her journal:

"During the fast and testimony meeting I thought about the Relief Society scrapbook that Grama Elvie worked so hard on. I have wondered if it still existed or was tossed out by some later R.S. president. I decided during the meeting that I was going to try and make contact with sisters in East Pasadena Ward. We went to the Pasadena Ward because they meet at 11 a.m. Nine in the morning sounded too early for vacation time. The sacrament meeting was very nice and I enjoyed all the testimonies. I am happy we were able to attend. I wrote a note to Mark during the meeting to tell him I wanted to get names and phone numbers for the East Pasadena Relief Society Presidency. It took a few minutes and conversations to get a hold of the Pasadena Ward president but she gave a name and phone number for the other ward for me to try. We had decided ahead of time to just stay for sacrament meeting.

"I called the East Pasadena Ward RS president. She wasn't aware of any book but said that she hadn't been in very long and suggested I call the old president and gave me her number. I left a message on the past president's phone. Meanwhile the new president called me back and said to try the secretary because she had been the secretary for a long time. I called Lael Litke. She was kind and said she wasn't sure she knew where it was but to let her check and she would call me back. Lael said she remembered seeing something that might have been the book.

"Mark and I had seen a couple of open house signs on the way to church and thought it would be fun to go look at a few. We went in three homes, ranging from \$728,000 to \$1,098,000. The were all small homes ranging from 1,300 square feet to 1,600 square feet. They had been fixed up and were nice but comparing them to what we have in Utah was astonishing. We knew that already but it is often more startling in person compared to on line. And that was the case today.



"We were just getting on the freeway to head to Los Angeles when Lael called me back. She had the scrapbook and offered it to me. She said she felt like I should have it and that I would appreciate it more than having it fall apart in a box of stuff that had been saved for years. The scrapbook was worked on in the 1950s by my Grama Elvie. I am thrilled to have found it and thrilled to own it. We got right off the freeway and headed to Lael's house. She lives in a pretty area of Pasadena in the same kind of homes we had been touring. She and her husband bought the home in 1969 and paid \$27,000 for it. Homes in her neighborhood are selling for \$800,000 now. She is an author and has written books for teenagers, women, and just finished one that is due to be published in a few weeks by Deseret Book about Brigham Young. Lael said it is written on a 5th grade level. She said she worked with a church historian on the project and really enjoyed it. I told her that my mom and grama were in the scrapbook and my mother was RS president during some of the book. I found a picture of mom when we were glancing through it at her house. I took Lael's email and said I would send her a link to Grama Elvie's website. I also told her I would put all I could on Family Search that I find in the book; photos, poems, and obituaries. It truly felt like a miracle to both Mark and I. Grama Elvie was certainly given permission to help me with this miracle."

Now Kathy has another wonderful project waiting for her to do. She will scan most all of the scrapbook to use in the diaries AND to put on Family Search. —Kathy Calkins June 13, 2016

Update from Kathy in April of 2021. I have finished all of the diaries but I am now on my second time through them. I am adding the pictures and things I didn't have before when I didn't have the Relief Society Scrapbook. I still need to post more of the items on Family Search, although I have been able to add some photos and poems. I have decided to give the scrapbook to the church history department along with all of Elvie's diaries when I finish this project. So far from 2012 to now I have logged in nine years on this special project. I think it will take a couple more years to completely redo each and every year that Elvie kept a diary. It has been and is a joyful experience!

November 9, Wednesday

I was awake long before daylight; I'm not used to sleeping with someone, so I can't rest well. I got up at 6 a.m., dressed and combed my hair. I put up Lou's lunch. I cooked his breakfast while he shaved. Lillian got up before Lou left. Lillian and I had a nice visit over our breakfast table. I read Ethel's letters about her dream of Mother Renshaw. Annie phoned; Lillian talked to her. Annie read three of Dale's letters to me. He is still enjoying his mission, but it isn't as pleasant in the new location. He is in the interior, more remote part of Brazil with dirt roads and etcetera. But he seems happy, a wee bit homesick, I think. (I know I'd be.) He says everyone there speaks Portuguese, but he understands the language and can speak it much better now. He is president of the Mutual in the district. I believe that is like our stake president here? Donna and Kathy came about 11 a.m. Aunt Lillian was ready to leave, so Donna took her to the bus at Huntington Boulevard and Sierra Madre Boulevard where her bus was already there; no waiting, which was nice. Shirley Keller Behrmann is expecting a baby any day; that is why Lillian is going to Los Altos, to take care of the other children while Shirley is in the hospital. Donna left her station wagon at Louise Cotterell's home and went with Louise to their stake board luncheon, at Blonda Yount's palatial home. They had a board meeting after the luncheon and a stork shower honoring Helen Bartes. Helen has been released. She was the stake magazine representative. Kathy and I took a walk to the 15¢ Store and the grocery market. I bought two small Walt Disney books for her, "Lady and the Tramp" and "Donald Duck." She had me read them each to her about three times; once before lunch; twice after. She loves stories with colored pictures. These Walt Disney characters are so darn cute anyway. Donna came for Kathy about 4:30 p.m. Mary phoned just after Donna left. "Where is Mother?" "She is on her way." Ray Clayton is ward clerk of Garvanza Ward. Annie told me today; She forgot to tell me before. He was put in October 30.

November 10, Thursday

I was surprised yesterday when Annie told me that Ray Clayton was put in as ward clerk of Garvanza Ward on Sunday, October 30. That is the day the new San Fernando stake center was dedicated. Ray's father was Garvanza Ward's ward clerk years ago. Ruth Kitchens phoned Lou this morning before he left for work. She wants him to help her remodel an old home she has bought in Alhambra. He is going there, after his work this evening. I received an invitation to a Relief Society apron shower at Pat Rowbotham's home on Friday November 18. They asked for an old hat wrapped. They're going to auction the hats to us, oh me! I sure got a dilly last time, paid \$1.50 for a pillbox, ha ha! It is fun for a good cause, eh? I vacuumed and cleaned the two bedrooms today. Beverly has been working at the Venetian blind shop this week. I'm surely glad the work is coming in better now. Extra money at Christmas time

comes in handy, eh? I took a nice bouquet of my large yellow mums to my neighbor, Mrs. Stacey this afternoon. She was delighted. I wish I could see the neighbor back of us; I'd give her some, also. I don't feel like walking around the corner to her front door. I'm not even sure what the name is, but I think it is Moss? I'd love to put some of these pretty mums on Al's and Charlie's graves, but can't seem to get to Forest Lawn. Lou will be working for Ruth Kitchens next Saturday. The cemetery is closed in the evenings and he didn't get home from her house until 6:45 p.m. tonight. Ruth has bought this older home in Alhambra and she is fixing it up before they move into it. Rex's cousin ArLena [*Madge ArLena Marsh*] had a daughter, Janelle, who was married in Long Beach tonight. Rex and Donna took John and Florence to Long Beach up to the wedding. Bishop Bob Barker married the couple; he used to live in Garvanza Ward.

November 11, Friday

President Eisenhower left the Fitzsimons's Army Hospital in Denver this morning, after 48 days mending his damaged heart. Then he went to the White House in Washington, where a "joyous welcome" greeted him. Our weatherman said we'd have five more sunny days. This day dawned damp and cloudy, felt like rain any minute. I vacuumed and cleaned the two front rooms and defrosted the icebox. I talked to Annie on the phone. Blanche called her and said our Strong's meeting will be at Helen O's home on December 10. It will be our Christmas party. We will take a 50¢ gift for a man and one for a lady, just for a little fun. I phoned Donna, they were going up to eat lunch in Aunt Florence's cabin, at Mt. Baldy. Rex went for the key this morning. John Ellsworth was at the Oateses'. Florence Oates is leaving soon for Provo to see Irene, Ray, and infant son. She'll be home for Thanksgiving. She is taking one of Rex's turkeys to Irene. She is giving Rex a large beef roast for the bird. Joan got a letter from Janet; Shattucks bought a new television set for Janet and David as a Christmas gift. David's boss bought a new television set and sold this one to the Shattucks. Aren't they the lucky kids? Florence Marsh mailed Janet the smock and skirt that she made for her. She was going to send it at Christmas, but decided Janet may need it now. Sweet Grama, eh? Joan and Chuck DeBias went for a nice drive this morning. They went to see the new Los Angeles LDS Temple. I think they'll wind up at the beach, eh? I killed a large black widow spider in my kitchen today. It was in the waste paper container and it had the little red hourglass mark under the body. Gee! I wonder where it came from? I empty that box everyday. I almost put my hand on the thing before noticing it. Ugh! It looked like a black shoe button with legs! I forgot it was a holiday until I talked to Annie and Donna on the phone. Lou went to work and I wondered why our mailman didn't come, ha ha. (It is Armistice Day.) I sent a nice bouquet of mums to my neighbor in the back, Mrs. Moss. Her little girl



Blonda Yount, image found on Family Search.

took them to Mama for me. She came to my door to sell an old letter, for two pennies; I gave her the two pennies, but didn't take the letter. Ha ha!

November 12, Saturday

Well, my pretty mums are in all of my neighbor's homes now, at least my near neighbors. I'd love to take some to Lorene, Sue, and Violet. Annie has a lot of beautiful mums of her own. Florence Marsh phoned for Janet's address. She said the mums we took to her a week ago are still beautiful. She is mailing the maternity skirt and smock she made for Janet, bless her heart. Rex is working with his father and Lewie today. If this rock and gravel strike isn't settled soon, Rex and the Marshes will all be out of work, as well as thousands of other builders. Lou left early to do some remodeling work in the home that Ruth Kitchens bought in Alhambra. I put his lunch up last night and left it in the icebox. I told him not to forget it, but he did just that. I got up at 7:30 a.m. and had the washing on the lines and the floors washed up by 9:30 a.m. I wanted to go uptown but decided I better not. I wrapped a few Christmas gifts and shortened the hem of a little skirt I'm giving Kathy. I made some shoulder straps out of material taken from the bottom of the skirt. I bought the skirt and white blouse from the Monrovia Relief Society Bazaar. Donna got it for me. The sky got really black looking. I went out and cut the largest mums, cause I knew the rain would spoil them. I guess it rained in the mountains, but we didn't get any. Louis was very tired tonight; he worked over 10 hours. He suffered from dreadful leg cramps tonight. I hate him to get so overtired!

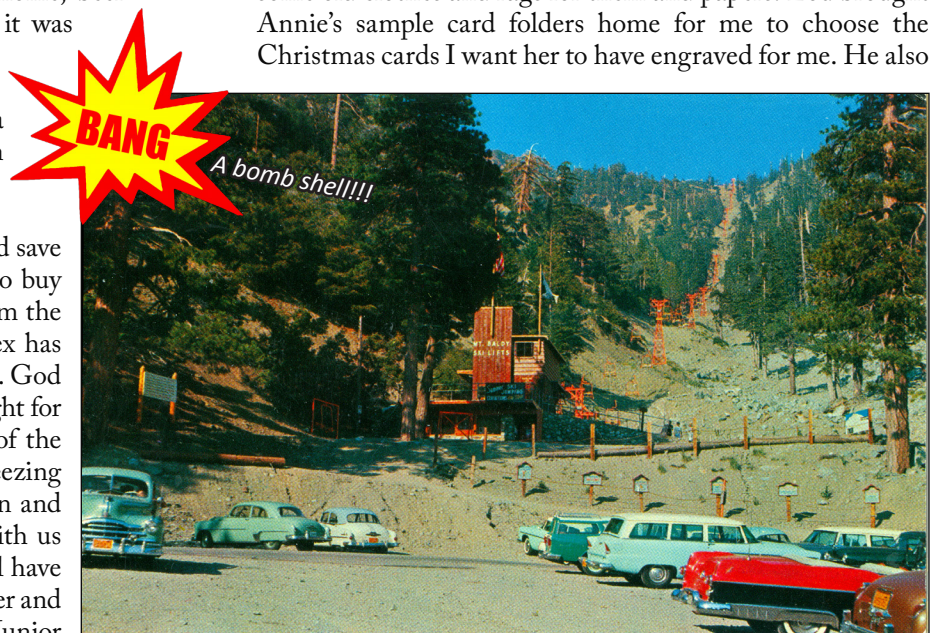
November 13, Sunday

We took Hilda Botting to Sunday School as usual. Lou went to priesthood meeting first. They had a large attendance, 48 elders, I believe he said. The president sent a special invitation to every elder, and the reminder brought them out. Hilda had us stop by her son's house to get her little grandson. We had a nice Sunday School as always. Our dinner was in the oven ready to eat, when we arrived home; beef roast, carrots, potatoes, and onions and it was delicious. We drove out to Monrovia this afternoon. Joan was working at the Lyric Theater box office. Rex and Donna exploded a bomb shell inside of me when they told us their plans to move up to the Oateses' cabin house at Mt. Baldy for a few months, while they get out of debt and save for a payment on the home they expect to buy up north next summer. I'm still numb from the shock. Lou seems to think it is okay? Rex has sold Mary, Johnny, and Donna on the idea. God bless them that things will work out all right for these precious children of mine. I think of the ice and snow, steep mountain roads, freezing cold??? Rex plans to sell his station wagon and keep the truck. Joan will come to live with us (the only happy thought in the deal) she'll have to give up her job in Monrovia at the theater and she'll have to change back to the PCC Junior College and high school in Pasadena. Donna

has had a miserable cold, she felt better today. Mary, Joan, and Donna came to our ward tonight to Robert Baddley's missionary testimonial farewell program. There was a large attendance and a very nice program. Bob is leaving in the morning for Salt Lake City. His mission is to the New England states. Donna brought her station wagon tonight. Rex stayed home with Johnny and Kathy. We invited Donna and girls to come over here for a bite of supper after church tonight. It was fun having them. We all enjoyed it. Donna phoned Rex from here. Mary had on the pretty blue dress she made in school yesterday. She looked so sweet. Joan was lovely in the brown suit the DeBias's gave her.

November 14, Monday

I can't get Mt. Baldy and my children off my mind. Oh! What will the future bring? How much can I take, eh? I mailed a get-well card from our Strong Family Society to Diana Selander. I enclosed a little note from myself, too. I surely hope Diana will soon be well and strong again. I also mailed a get-well card to Sr. Gladys Wells, of our ward; she is ill from a heart attack. She has been sick for several weeks. I miss not seeing her friendly face at church. Louise Cotterell telephoned me to thank me again for the poem queen tribute I read last Tuesday at her coronation. She said it was beautiful and she'd keep it always, isn't that nice? It makes me happy when someone is so appreciative of my poetic efforts, bless her heart, she is a dear. I know I am very amateur. I did a small ironing and washed two blouses and ironed them. I read Dale's letter to Annie over the phone. He is enjoying his mission. He is in the interior of Brazil now, in a little town with cable lines, houses built next to sidewalks, with no lawns. The houses are light cream color with red tile roofs. The weather is hot, he says, it is summer there. They have two seasons, "hot and hotter." The soil or dirt is red. Dale says it's a far cry from the last place he worked in the beautiful city of Rio de Janeiro, but he is happy to have this new experience, bless him. Dale says he enjoyed Joan's letter. The Deseret Industries came for a pickup today. I had some old clothes and rags for them and papers. Lou brought Annie's sample card folders home for me to choose the Christmas cards I want her to have engraved for me. He also



Mt. Baldy Ski Resort, it was about one and a half mile uphill from Oateses cabin.

brought 27 lovely jeweled Christmas cards from Vernon and Mary Jorgensen. These cards were designed by Vernon and will sell in the stores for 50¢ a piece. I left \$5.00 with Mary, and I expected 8 or 10 cards. They sent me 27 of them, bless those sweet kids. Lou brought the pretty felt book cover Sue made for Donna's Book of Mormon. Andersens went out to Burbank and Van Nuys on Sunday and brought them back. Beverly brought the things to the shop when she came to work. She'll pick up the folders and my money, \$4.17 tomorrow. I ordered 80 cards for us, and 40 cards for Donna. The 40 cost \$1.39, not bad eh? Donna phoned good news tonight, see the next page.

November 15, Tuesday

I rested much better last night, after Donna phoned to tell me they are not going to move up to the Oates' cabin at Mt. Baldy. She had a nice talk with Florence Oates on the phone yesterday, and there are too many obstacles to overcome to risk such a drastic move. They'll find a way to relieve the situation. Donna may have to be released from her stake work, she should spend more time at home with her children, I'm sure. A willing worker is kept on the go every day and it takes a lot of work, time, money, and gasoline to be a stake board worker, but Donna has enjoyed it such a lot. When the children are grown up, maybe then she can put her many talents to work again in the church. They think they'll turn the station wagon in for an older car. High rent and big car payments are too much of a drain. They want to save for a down payment on a home. That makes sense, eh? Sweet Bonna Gordon took me to Relief Society and brought me home, as usual. Bonna is going to dinner in Los Angeles tonight with some of Bob's friends. It's a big shoe company manufacturer. (Six couples are going.) I enjoyed our literature lesson in Relief Society this morning. It was on Robert Louis Stevenson's prose. Sr. Alyce Brandley is an excellent teacher. She reviewed Stevenson's Treasure Island. Alyce brought her sister, Mrs. Teague, visiting from Las Vegas. I asked her if she knew LaPriel Bunker. Her daughter married LaPriel's son, Allen. She had a picture of her daughter and her children, a lovely family. She says LaPriel is her best friend in Las Vegas. She seemed very happy to meet me. She has a son living in Glendale, or is it a daughter? She is a nice person to talk to anyway. She is going back home in a few days. Loraine Major played her ukulele and sang a medley of sweet Hawaiian songs. Robert L. Stevenson wrote some of his best works while living in the islands. I wrote to Mary and Vernon J. thanking them for the exquisite Christmas cards. I'm thrilled with them. I sent one of Vernon's lovely cards to Dale Anderson in Brazil. I put a dollar bill in it. I surely hope it reaches him all right. I wrote to Sue thanking her for the pretty Book of Mormon felt cover.

November 16, Wednesday

I mailed one of Vernon Jorgensen's lovely Christmas cards to Dale Andersen. I put a dollar bill in it. I'm taking chances on it ever arriving in Dale's hands way off in the interior of Brazil. It is large and if they think any money is inside, "bye bye card and money." One of our \$1.00 bills is worth a lot

more over there. I went uptown this morning and bought an apron to take to the Relief Society apron shower on Friday night. I bought a lunch box with a thermos bottle in for Johnny's Christmas. It was \$3.00. I have pajamas for him too. I bought \$4.00 worth of stamps for Christmas cards and etcetera. It was cold and clear today, a coat felt good. I guess I walked a little too much today. I had a rather

severe attack of chest and heart pains this evening.

I was talking to Annie on the phone when they started. I didn't mention it to her, but I had to lie down after and Lou had to eat dinner alone. It was all ready. I was glad he didn't have to cook it. Oh,

I was tired when I got home from town today. I cut Diane Oates's picture out of our Star News paper tonight, she was with about 25 other pretty girls in the Rose Queen Court of finalists. I put her in my scrapbook. She'd make a beautiful Rose Queen; I hope she wins the honor.

Florence Oates phoned this evening and invited us to the Thanksgiving dinner. We've eaten

Thanksgiving dinner with the Marsh family for almost thirty

years. I surely hope Janet and David will be able to come from San Jose. Florence Oates is going to take one of Rex's turkeys to Irene and Ray in Provo. She gave Rex a large beef roast for it. Florence will be back for Thanksgiving Day. I'm taking candied yams and cranberry sauce.

November 17, Thursday

It rained in the night, we need the rain but it makes a mess of my beautiful mums. I wanted to save some of the large white mums to take to Florence Oates on Thanksgiving Day. I hope they'll be okay. I wrote to Margaret Renshaw, urging her to answer my other letter, so I can get this information needed to fill out Mother Renshaw's temple sheets. I also wrote to Violet Fife and Ethel Newbold. I sent a \$1.00 bill to the T.B. Christmas Seal fund. Dale Andersen's Christmas card was returned to me for more postage due. It was too large for the 10¢ stamp. I walked to the post office and paid another 10¢. It cost 20¢ airmail, for postage on a large envelope and card to Brazil, live and learn, eh? I phoned Clarice Tanner to ask her about some Relief Society business and we had a nice chat. She is such a lovely person. Lou suggested we drive out to Monrovia this evening to see Donna and family. He didn't have to ask me twice. I'm always ready to go see them. Lou will be working for Ruth Kitchens on Saturday, so we'll not be able to go out there then. Rex and Donna were just leaving to go to church to a



building fund or welfare dinner; she had made a pie to take. They said they'd go and eat and come back and not stay for the moving picture. Mary went to babysit for someone. They have a four-week-old baby. I hope she got along all right. The people used to live up in Sierra Madre Canyon near the Howard's. We all enjoyed some of Rex's nice fresh dates, and some walnuts they brought from San Jose, when they got home. I read little Kathy a story before she went to sleep. She was very good about going to bed. Florence Marsh phoned, she read Janet's letter to me. Janet was happy with the skirt and smock that Grama Marsh sent her.

November 18, Friday

Eloise Brooks asked me to compose an "Ode to a Turkey." She said she'd do one also, and we'd exchange them for fun. I did mine this morning and mailed a copy of it to Donna, asking her to type it for me to send Eloise. I enclosed a \$1.00 bill; wish it could have been \$100. Donna does such a lot of typing for me, bless her heart. I phoned Annie; the man was there installing their new deep freeze. It is a Christmas gift from Beverly. I think they received about \$50.00 worth of food with it. Annie says she had a nice time yesterday at Ethel Snow's home, with her club ladies, at the luncheon. Ethel lives in La Cresenta now. Her son Robert lives with her. Annie received a pretty hanky from her Secret Pal, for no special occasion. How differently we live, my sister Annie and me, eh? She is out to clubs, church meetings, Daughters of Utah Pioneers, and what have you, while I'm home most every day. I go to Relief Society once a week, church on Sunday, uptown once in a while but not often. 'Tis no wonder I resort to poetry and diary, eh? Ha ha!

Ah me! Even scrapbooks I work on to leave behind for someone to dispose of, eh? Asthma and heart trouble keeps me well in tow, eh? I received a pretty little thank you note from Bette and Ray Haddock for the gift to baby Gregory Lewis. It was a cute blue corduroy outfit. Donna bought and mailed it for us, also a baby gift to Irene and Ray Cattani's infant son. Lou and I went to town this evening early. We ate at Bob's place. We went to Vorman's to look at a lampshade Christmas tree style, but it was too small. We bought some soft pink glow light bulbs in Sears Roebuck for our stand lamps and table lamp in the living room. It gives a lovely soft glow to our room. I rested before going to the Relief Society apron shower. We had a lot of fun tonight at Pat Rowbotham's house for the Relief Society apron shower.

November 19, Saturday

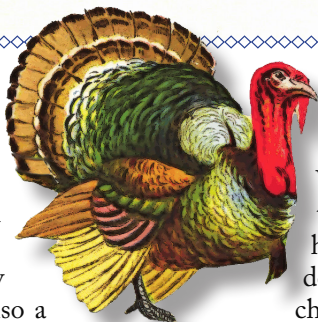
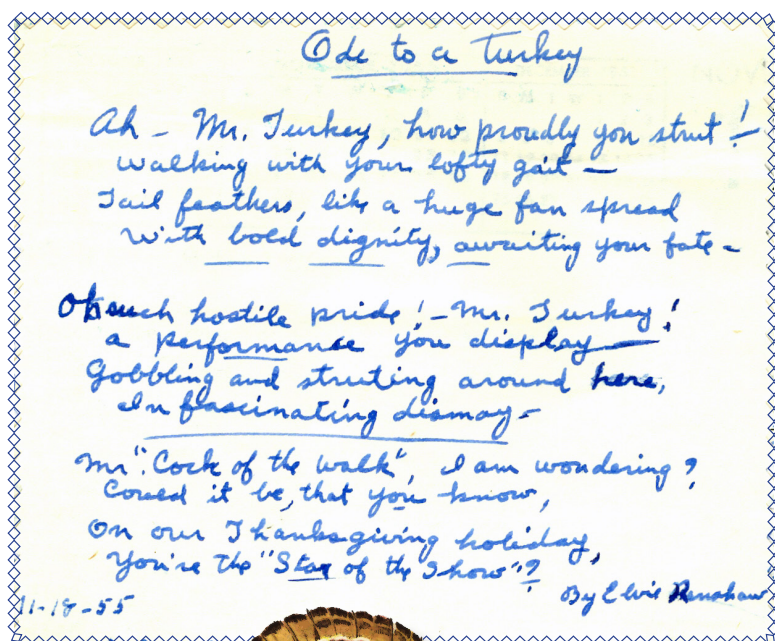
Melba Kunz auctioned off the old hats we took to the shower at Pat Rowbotham's home last night. We all had to wear the hats we bought; it caused some hilarious fun. There were some dillies there. I paid \$1.50 for a huge light straw picture hat with net on. Ethel paid \$4.50 for an old straw garden hat trimmed by Louise Cotterell's husband. It had a small toy turkey on it and some Christmas candles. It was cute. We played a cute drawing game, I was a winner, imagine that! The refreshments were delicious. Pat's cookies are delicious; the sherbet was extra good. Lou left early this morning. He came in my bedroom with the big picture hat I bought, on his head, to say goodbye to me. He went to work at Ruth Kitchens's home in Alhambra. He worked all day. He was tired when he got home this evening. I did the washing and loop rugs in the bedrooms and bathroom too. It was a perfect day, clear and sunny not too hot, with a nice breeze, which dried everything by 2 p.m. I talked to Donna on the phone. She got my letter, and said she'd type Eloise's request, an "Ode to a Turkey," verse which Eloise asked me to compose for her. Eloise is sending me her verse. Ain't we got fun? We usually drive out to see Donna and family on Saturdays but Daddy was too

tired this Saturday and last Saturday. We were both glad to relax in easy chairs this evening and enjoy our television programs. I received a nice little thank you note, (to Donna and me) from Irene and Ray Cattani, thanking us for the little gift we sent their infant son. (A bathrobe, shirt, and creepers.) Florence Oates is visiting with Irene and Ray and baby Keith, for a few days in Provo, Utah.

November 20, Sunday

It hasn't been nearly as pretty today as it was yesterday. The smog got in our lovely town.

We couldn't see the mountains. We went to Sunday School as usual, took Hilda Botting. We all enjoyed the service as always. I was happy to see Lutie Solem out again. She's been ill; she had an eye infection. She looked nice, (always does). I sat with her. This is the season when the chrysanthemums are so lovely. We had two huge bouquets of beautiful mums in Sunday School. I'll bet they came from Fowler's home. Russell and Madge Fowler raise the most gorgeous mums. You'd never guess what Daddy and I fixed for our lunch? He has been wanting some sauerkraut and weenies, a dish we haven't had in many years. We had a nice bowl of chicken and rice soup first. I ate some of the sauerkraut but I do not care much for it. Papa enjoyed it a lot. Lou rested on the couch all afternoon. I read and did some writing. I wanted to go out to Donna's for the typing she did



for me, but we didn't go. We went to church tonight. Dr. and Mrs. Hall from Donna's ward visited our ward tonight. Our ward choir sang two nice numbers. Br. Don Anderson from the stake high council gave a good talk. We had two young speakers from El Monte Ward, a boy and girl. They each gave a fine talk. I expected to see our own Dr. Don Anderson on the stand to speak this evening, but the young man of the same name I did not know. Diane Oates's picture was in our Star News again today. She is in a contest for A.M.S. Homecoming Queen. The PCC men students cast their ballots for queen, and she and four other pretty girls are in the picture. She is a popular little beauty, eh?

November 21, Monday

It was raining lightly when we got up. It came down in earnest later, after Lou had gone to work. I put on my raincoat, bonnet, and shoes and went out and cut all the lovely big mums off. I knew this down pour would spoil them. I was leaving the large white ones for Thanksgiving Day. I wanted to take Florence Oates a bouquet. I also wanted Donna to have some. They'll keep fresh out on the back porch by the open window. I've kept some in the house with the gas burning part time for two weeks. I phoned Donna and asked her if she'd mail the poem she typed for me to Eloise Brooks, in Salt Lake City. She said she would. I wrote a letter to Eloise telling her that Donna would mail the "Ode to a Turkey" that she asked me to compose. I mailed the nice little thank you note from Irene Cattani, to Donna. She sent it here to Donna and me. I was so sorry to learn that Joan is sick in bed again with another bad cold. She hardly gets over one when she is down with a fresh one. Donna put a mustard plaster on Joan's chest. Janet phoned yesterday to say the doctor said she is doing very well. He is pleased with her and says it will be okay for her to drive home for Thanksgiving. We're all happy over this good news. I put on my rain togs and walked to the post office to mail Eloise Brook's letter. I love to go out in the rain, if it isn't too heavy. I did my ironing this afternoon.

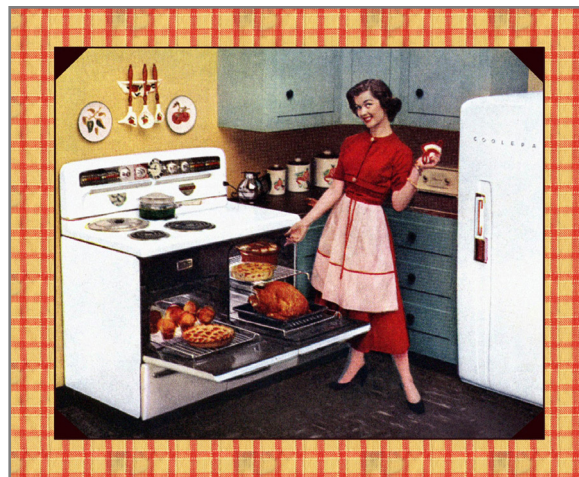
November 22, Tuesday

The room seemed to go around this morning when I got out of bed. I was very thankful it got steady so I could get to the kitchen and put up Lou's lunch. My blood pressure is too high. It was clear and cold this morning. Some light frost was on the rooftops. Bonna Gordon took Bessie and me to Relief Society this morning as usual. We had a nice lesson in Social Science on The Living Constitution. Phyllis McDonnell is a splendid teacher. Marva DeHaan called on me to give the benediction. I guess the coming holiday of Thanksgiving kept some of our membership at home. Our group was much smaller today. I patched two of Lou's underwear (garments) after lunch. I phoned Dolores, she phoned Donna to ask how Joan was feeling for me.

Donna phoned back, she wanted to talk to me. She said Joan went to school this morning and also to seminary. She is still coughing a lot, but had to go. She has been working at the theater every night because the other girl quit. Joan is breaking in another girl, so she can have some relief herself. She sells tickets in the box office. Donna needed a little extra bedding to make up the bed in the garage room for her and Rex to sleep in when Janet and David arrive. Aunt Annie told me over the phone she'd be happy to let Donna use some of her extra blankets. I do not have extra quilts or blankets in the wintertime. Of course Donna doesn't need them in the hot weather either, ha ha! I do have two brown army blankets she can use. Eloise Brooks's "Ode to Turkey" came this morning in the mail. It was cute. I read it to Annie via phone. I made a meat loaf this afternoon. I haven't felt just right today. That blood pressure spell this morning left it's mark, my head feels heavy, like a band is around it.

November 23, Wednesday

It is a beautiful sunny morning, but the radio news says it will rain tomorrow. I surely hope he is wrong. We are anxiously waiting for Janet and David to come. They are leaving San Jose tonight, after David's school and work. We invited them to sleep here, but Donna says they want them to stay home. The family is eager to have them and I can't blame them. Many of our BYU students will be home for Thanksgiving, too. I think Ann Vandergrift is coming this year. I walked up to the market this morning to buy some yams to candy for our dinner tomorrow. Oh, such a busy market, folks are eating well tomorrow. I baked the yams, will candy them in the morning. I talked to Annie; she was baking yams to candy, also. She'd made some mince pies. They are eating with Glen and Irene in Van Nuys. Irene is cooking the turkey. Annie is taking pumpkin pies, too. I composed a Queen tribute to Alyce Brandley this afternoon. Beverly brought the bedding Annie is loaning Donna to the shop this morning. Lou brought it home this evening. Bless the Andersen's generous hearts, Aunt Annie sent ten sheet blankets; she said that Donna could keep them. She has been buying new ones from Deseret Industries, for the past few weeks, the ones she sent Donna are white and in good condition. She said that Irene doesn't like the lint from sheet blankets, so they use sheets all winter. Donna can surely make good



use of them. Annie loaned Donna two lovely wool blankets, and two pillows, also. I gave her our two army blankets. I think they'll manage okay. Donna, Johnny, and Kathy came by tonight from the Oateses' ranch. She took the bedding and some lovely mums I had cut for her. Donna took my queen tribute home to type. Rex raised the turkeys we will eat tomorrow. Donna took the two turkeys to Florence Oates this evening. They stuffed both birds. Florence is cooking one and Donna the other one.

November 24, Thursday—Thanksgiving Day

Our morning dawned sunny and lovely. I'm glad the weatherman was wrong. Mr. Edgecomb helped Lou lift his electric saw in the back of our car. Lou took it over to Ruth Kitchens's place in Alhambra. He needs the power saw for his work there next Saturday. I phoned Monrovia at 10:45 this morning. Janet answered; they arrived at 1 a.m. David didn't have to work after school, so they got an early start. It was good to hear my little Janet's voice again. Bob Gordon phoned; he wants Lou to do some carpenter work. He is doing a little remodeling in his home. Bonna Gordon is having her family there to Thanksgiving dinner. Glad I do not have to cook a turkey. I candied the yams, easy, eh? We arrived at the Oateses' ranch at 2 p.m. and dinner was almost ready. We had to wait for Lewie and Miriam for thirty minutes. We had some new ones with us today. Elaine's boyfriend from BYU, Tink Woolley, our new member, David Shattuck and Ernie Oates's brother Avery, his mother, and Sister Oates. We all missed Irene, Robin, and Joan. Robin ate turkey dinner with Irene and Ray in Provo. Joan had to work at the Lyric Theater, box office. She came in the evening at six o'clock. She brought her girlfriend Judy. Chuck DeBias let Joan use his car today; he spent the day with his folks. Ruth Deal phoned from Oakland; she and family were going to eat with Dick's sister. Ruth hasn't been with us since she married, some 15 years ago. I don't think she has, anyway, on Thanksgiving. The dinner was wonderful as always. Rex's turkeys were tender and delicious. He raised about 11 or 12 of them. The young folks have a grand time at Aunt Florence's home. Johnny, Mary, Judy, and little Miriam went horseback riding with cousin Ernie supervising. He is a wonderful young man, so helpful in every way. Cousin Ernie turned the heat on in the little guest house, and the youngsters of the family enjoyed playing house in there. They'll never forget the fun at the Oateses' ranch on these holiday visits, nor will I. Our young men and women took walks and short drives and played a word game. The Grandpas took naps. We have a brand new Grandpa and Grandma this year; Ernest and Florence Oates, and brand new great grandparents, John and Florence Marsh and Mrs. Oates. If all goes well, we'll have another set next Thanksgiving Day. Our little Janet looked so very pretty today. May God bless her and her sweet husband David. She has lost some weight, she looked even smaller to me, but her doctor says the baby is growing and she is in good condition now. Ray and Irene phoned from Provo this morning. They are a sweet loving family; I'm proud to be counted



with them. We brought Mary home with us tonight at 9 p.m. The Oateses went to the stake dance. Joan and Judy went to a show. The Rex Marshes and David Shattucks went home to Monrovia. This is the end of a perfectly happy Thanksgiving Day. God has surely blessed us these many years. Ernest Oates read a very fine thought for our Thanksgiving; appreciation of blessings. We all knelt in family prayer before dinner.

November 25, Friday

The Andersens ate dinner with Glen and family in Van Nuys yesterday. Dolores and family and Yvonne went home to Beryl, Utah to spend Thanksgiving with their folks, Violet and Otto. Lorene spent the day with Mary and Vernon. I'm sure that Sue was with her family. I thought about all of them and hoped that they were all enjoying themselves as I was. I hope Owen and Lydia had a wonderful day with their sweet children and grandchildren, too. Lou went to work this morning without waking me. I got up at 8 a.m. and I was very quiet so Mary could sleep late. She was surely surprised when she came out at 11 a.m. She thought it was about 9 a.m. We ate brunch at 11:30. We had a lazy half-day. We walked to the little 15¢ Store near us and looked at scrapbooks. I put the pictures that David took of us when we were up there in September in my scrapbook. [See page 99.] He gave them to me yesterday. I bought a lead pencil a foot long, for Mary, it's like a small cane. She thought it was cute, it cost 10¢. Donna phoned. I told her we'd keep Mary here another night. I put Mary's hair up in pin curls tonight. Janet and David stayed around home today. Warnie Mueller is on his way back to Hawaii. He came this morning to say goodbye.

November 26, Saturday

I talked to Annie on the phone. She said they had a nice day with Glen and family on Thursday, only she suffered with a severe headache until Irene gave her two pills and she took a nap. She felt okay after. It was nice of Warnie Mueller to come yesterday morning to say goodbye to me. I was glad Mary was here. He phoned the Marshes, Janet, David, and Joan were not home at that time. Warnie will be out of the service in late summer, next year. He has about nine months more to go. I put up Lou's lunch, packed a turkey sandwich. He went to work for Ruth Kitchens in her home in Alhambra. He is doing some remodeling. Mary got up about 7:45. I told her to go back to bed because she stayed up so late last night watching T.V. The bishops and wives and stake presidents and wives went through our beautiful new Los Angeles LDS Temple last night. It must have



been thrilling. Janet and David Shattuck and Elaine Oates and Tink Woolley planned to go to see Walt Disneyland today. Donna phoned at 11:30 a.m. and said Janet and Joan were on their way here. Janet has a slight cold and wanted to use my asthma spray. She had trouble breathing last night. Donna said Mary was to come home with the girls. I woke her up; she was disappointed cause we'd planned to go up to the store again today. Mary wanted to make a cream tapioca pudding for our dinner tomorrow. I told her I'd make the pudding and put the chocolate bits in it like she was going to do. Joan and Chuck went with Janet, David, Elaine, and Tink to Disneyland this afternoon. I think Mary, Johnny, and Kathy went to the Lyric matinee. Grama vacuumed the house and made pudding and Jello fruit salad. Janet and David came here to sleep tonight. When they got out of the car, Joan's black cat, Safrenia, came out with them. They were surely surprised to see her. We put her in the cabaña to sleep on the swing. She seemed very contented, ha ha! Mary Stead phoned from son Albert's home where she is visiting. She wants me to come over to Highland Park Ward while she is there so she can see me. I would like to see her, too.

November 27, Sunday

It was so much fun having Janet and David stay overnight with us. I baked some Pillsbury cinnamon rolls for breakfast; Lou cooked sausage and eggs for them. David, Janet, and Lou went to stake conference this morning. I stayed home and cooked a leg of lamb dinner; had it ready for my family. Rex, Johnny, and Kathy came first. They came in the truck. They didn't go to conference. Donna, Joan, and Mary went to conference. Br. Manlove phoned this morning to tell me he was going to bring my old friend Wildia (LaNear) Topper to conference this afternoon; she wanted to see me. Donna insisted that I go to the afternoon session and she would clear up the dishes, (she and Joan). We all enjoyed the dinner and Mary's beautiful birthday cake. We sang Happy Birthday to her. She opened her gifts before Janet and David left; a pretty black Orlon, slip-on sweater, and lovely green wool cardigan sweater from her folks. She got green wool socks from Joan, and two nice bras from David and Janet. She also got some other little gifts, panties, etcetera, from the kiddies. She got a pleated plain skirt and a white blouse, and dictionary from us. She read the little verse I'd written in her book. Grama Marsh sent her a pretty card and dollar bill. We had a nice family prayer; (Rex gave it before Janet and David got started on their trip back home to San Jose.) Rex took Mary and me to conference. It was a very lovely session. Our visitors from Salt Lake City were Br. Walter Dansie, and Elder John Longdon. They both gave excellent talks. Our two stake Mutual presidents were called on to speak, also (Alicebeth Ashby for the young woman and I'm not sure of the name of the brother). Wildia LaNear Topper seemed delighted to see me after the meeting this afternoon. I was very happy to see her again and meet her



Louie Elizabeth Strong, daughter of James William Strong and Harriet Poll. Louis lost her husband in November. Image found on Family Search.

new husband. They've bought a trailer and are going to travel around and see the country. Joan had to work this evening, she wore Mary's new blouse. Janet and David bought two pretty aprons to take to his mother for her birthday gift. They bought them at church from our Relief Society. They left for San Jose at 2 p.m.

November 28, Monday

It is my darling Mary's birthday, 13 years old today, a teenager now. We celebrated her birthday yesterday, while Janet was home. We waited with such happy anticipation for Janet and David to come for the Thanksgiving holiday and here it is all over and they are back in San Jose again. That's life, eh? Well, it was grand having them with us anyway. Clarice Tanner sold Janet two very pretty aprons yesterday to take to David's mother for a birthday gift. Lou helped me change the bed linen last night for both beds. I had an extra large wash this morning cause I didn't wash last week. It was a bright sunny morning, but the darned smog was in by 10:30 a.m. I'm so thankful that the weather was good while the kids were visiting home. Annie phoned, said Sue phoned her; she has a cold and isn't feeling well. Her blood pressure has gone way too high again. You better get back on the diet Sue. I ate too much rich food myself yesterday. I can feel my pressure is up today. Hazel Strong wrote to Sue and told her that Louie Strong Stimpson's husband, Claude Stimpson, [Robert Claude Stimpson] died and was buried Monday November 21, in Heyburn, Idaho. Hazel asked us all to write to Louie. I'll be happy to write to her, I'm sorry this sadness came to her. When we got home from conference yesterday afternoon, Joan had Mary's new blouse on, (that's my Joan) but she does let Mary borrow her clothes, too. They help each other and get along quite well. My sweet Donna brought a lot of typing to me yesterday. She had some more of my 1931 diary typed and several of my poems too; bless her. I'll have the pleasant job of pasting the poems in queen folders, and the diary I'll put in the loose-leaf folders. I wonder if Ann Vandergrift got home for Thanksgiving? I hope she did and had a wonderful time.

November 29, Tuesday

Donna phoned this morning about 8:20 and said she could go uptown this morning if I could go. I phoned Bonna Gordon and told her I wouldn't be going to Relief Society. Bonna always picks me up. It was an extra workday because there are five Tuesdays. I told Bonna I had a chance to go elsewhere; she laughed and said, "Well, you go elsewhere and have fun." She is a dear. Donna took me to the cleaners, which is in the same building where Lou works, to see if they had the button that was missing from my gray suit. It was missing when Lou brought it back from there. They didn't have it, but are going to try to locate it, or have one made. Our precious Daddy Lou, gave Donna \$25.00 for Christmas spending, and he gave me \$20.00 for my birthday

gift, to buy something from him. Well, that made our day a lot happier. Gordon came in the shop; he feels a little better. The new doctor is taking some x-rays of his body to try to find the cause of his pain, poor man. We went to the Bank of America first, to deposit \$100 for Lou, then to Hertel's Department Store. We spent most of our money and time at that stop. I bought Joan and Mary each a cute outing flannel housecoat. Joan's is pink plaid; Mary's is a turquoise blue, with colored figures in it. I bought a white blouse for Joan. I already have an Orlon cardigan sweater for Mary. I bought a pair of gray slacks for Rex, a flannel shirt for David S., socks for Rex. They were having a sale on dresses. Donna found a navy blue she looked lovely in for only \$12.95. I paid \$3.00 on it for her Christmas gift. It is very nice, was marked half price today. Donna bought a skirt for Joan and one for Mary, a blouse for Joan, a lovely charcoal gray cardigan sweater for my birthday. (Mary's skirt is green and Joan's is charcoal gray.) She bought a nice maroon corduroy shirt for Rex. We ate lunch in Hertel's. We had to pay 25¢ to the parking lot for overtime. We went to Nash's Store where we got rid of the rest of our money, most of it, anyway. I bought a pretty white wool shrug and a white silk scarf to send to Janet. Donna bought a very pretty cape shaped white wool stole with long wool fringe on for my Christmas gift. She bought a lovely powder music box for Mary. We drove in our yard right in back of Lou at 4:35 p.m. It was a big day, but happy to have accomplished so much. I'll buy the birthday gift later, before my birthday. I was tired. It was a dreadful effort to get dinner over but 'twas a happy day. Mary took care of Kathy today. She didn't go to school because of a headache this morning earlier.

November 30, Wednesday

Beverly phoned for some addresses for Christmas cards; she read Dale's last letter to me. He is doing very well in his mission work. He loves it, but of course he misses his folks and home a lot, too. I phoned Dolores Jones to ask about Violet. She is a little better, but still has the pus in her kidneys. Dody said they had a wonderful visit with Violet and Otto on Thanksgiving Day, and Friday and Saturday. They came home Sunday evening. I was surprised to learn that Kenny Bird is a counselor in the new bishopric. The San Fernando Ward was divided. They took some people from the Reseda Ward to make up the new ward, The Granada Hills Ward. Kenny is a counselor in the new ward. I dampened the clothes down but didn't feel like ironing. I shortened the sleeves on Lou's new outing flannel shirt. I sent Will Taylor a birthday card and sent a sympathy card to Louie Strong Stimpson. Her husband, Claude, passed away last week. My Relief Society visiting teachers came this morning, just made it, eh? It's the last day of the month. I surely enjoy having these sweet sisters call on me; both are expecting to move into their beautiful brand new homes next month. Both are married to dentists (Louise Anderson

and Dixie Kratzer). They'll both be in my district, when Dixie moves into her new home. So I'll visit them, nice, eh? Lou phoned Mr. Simpson, the television man; he is sending out a man to adjust our T.V. so we can get a lighter picture and get the picture centered better. It has not been right since they put the new picture tube in. The man is coming tomorrow.

December 1, Thursday

1955, this is your last month; better make the best of it. The T.V. repairman had to take the set to the shop to do the job, oh me! I hope it doesn't mean another big bill! They put in a picture tube not long ago. Donna phoned and invited me to drive with her and Kathy to Highland Park about noon, after her Singing Mother's rehearsal at the stake center. I was delighted to do so. I made a tuna sandwich and fixed some celery for them to eat en-route. Florence Marsh wanted Donna to meet her at 1 p.m. She and John want to buy a coat for Kathy and wanted her to try it on. Donna had a sweet young woman and her darling blue eyed 2-year-old daughter with her. She is Sr. Mark's daughter. The Marks live in Glendale now; they used to live in Garvanza Ward. Sr. Marks met her daughter in Highland Park on York Boulevard. It was raining and kept it up most of the day. Donna took me to Andersen's. She also took Aunt Annie's blankets and pillows back that she'd



December 1, 1955 Donna, Kathy, and Elvie went Christmas shopping. Not sure how much help Kathy was during the shopping?

borrowed to make up the extra bed, when David and Janet came. Donna took the Andersens two chickens, (frozen fryers). We saw the beautiful deep freeze that Beverly gave her folks for a Christmas gift. Annie was away in La Crescenta, to her stake Relief Society board meeting and luncheon. She came before we left for home. Her luncheon and meeting was at Marie Bigler's home in La Crescenta. I visited with Beverly while Donna and Kathy went to meet Florence Marsh at Ivers Store in Highland Park. I read to Beverly from my 1929 diary, guess I bored the dear girl, but she was sweet about it as always. I took the folder with 1929, 1930, and 1931 to Annie. She said she wanted to read the part Donna typed last. She has read the others. Florence Marsh came to Andersen's with Donna and Kathy. They had the coat gift wrapped, but said it is a pretty beige shade. The material looks like camel hair cloth. Florence treated them to ice cream; she had intended to buy them lunch, but they'd eaten the sandwiches I made. Donna is a lucky girl with her darling mother-in-law and father-in-law, eh? Florence bought several pair of LDS garments for her children's Christmas gifts. Beverly made some delicious salt raised buttered toast for us, she also gave us some tiny Van de Kamp's pies that she had in the freezer, some pumpkin and some pecan pies. I brought a pumpkin pie to Lou, (two bites for him). Florence Marsh took one to John. Donna and I ate ours. I left a pecan pie with the tiny pumpkin pie at Marshes for Florence and John. Florence bought Donna and Kathy each a cute plastic head cover to wear

in the rain today. They fold into a little plastic case to fit in a handbag. We went into Marshes when we took Florence home. I saw the darling dress she made for Kathy. It is nylon, sort of rose brown shade, white dots and white trim. The slip to go with it is beautiful. She's made cute dresses for Ruth's girls, also. She had boxes of lovely clothes for all of the grandchildren. They are wonderful generous people. Donna received a letter from Elaine Vandergrift asking all about the things Donna bought for Janet's wedding reception. We wondered if Ann was going to get married before school was out next summer. Annie phoned Sue and Sue said "no." Elaine just wanted to get things lined up, so she'll have an idea of the cost and etcetera. Elaine plans to make Ann's wedding dress and the bridesmaid's, too. Isn't that fine? She is very talented and can do it okay. Today was a big day, eh? I enjoyed it anyway.

December 2, Friday

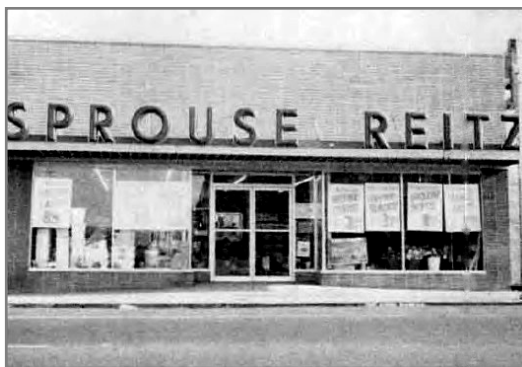
Gee! We miss the television, darn it. He said he'd have it back today. I'm afraid they'll tell us there is a lot more wrong with it than he said was wrong. Joan gets home from school at noon now. Chuck brings her on his lunch hour from school. He goes to the same school, Monrovia High. Joan got a work-permit from school. She can rest at home a while before going to her job at the Lyric Theater. Donna is singing at the San Gabriel Women's Club at 2 p.m. today, with the Singing Mothers of our stake. It is a Christmas program. Two of the ladies are members of the club. Joan is taking care of Kathy and the little two-year-old girl who went with us to Highland Park yesterday (the Marks girl's child). Sorry I didn't remember their names. Her brother, the Marks boy, married the Callaway girl. We knew both families in Garvanza Ward years ago. Beverly phoned and read three letters to me; she is dear. One was a letter from Aunt Jo, one from Aunt Violet, and one from Dale. I was delighted to learn that Dale received the large Christmas card with the dollar bill in it that I sent him. Bill's sister Jo, in Butte, Montana, was so happy because Dale wrote to her. She said she'd read his letter three times and she'd keep it always. I received a letter from Violet; I was happy to learn that she is feeling better. The pus in her kidneys is cleaning up a little. She sent me a clipping from the Salt Lake paper, with a picture of our old friends and neighbors, Athalia Barker Ash and her husband Joe Ash. They are celebrating their Golden Wedding. I mailed them a congratulation card and wrote a note inside telling how I, and the other neighborhood kids, stood on Barker's front lawn and watched them get married. Dear Mrs. Barker put up the window shade so we could watch. She told

us to be very quiet and we were. It was thrilling. Lou and I ate a very delicious Swiss steak dinner at the Relief Society bazaar tonight. I bought a pretty apron to send to Janet. It is a glazed material with large roses in. It cost \$3.50. I also bought a pretty Christmas decoration for the front door. It's a huge white cane with red satin bow and white snowballs hanging on red ribbon, \$1.25. Lou bought the table decoration for 50¢ a tall white candle and red bow and Christmas tree greens. I was surprised and happy to see Marie Doezie at the bazaar tonight. She is back from her three-month trip to Holland.

December 3, Saturday

I was taking a shower last night about 9:30 p.m.; Lou was in bed. Our door chimes got him out, to find Rex and Donna there. They'd been to town shopping for Santa and wanted to leave a big red wagon here until Christmas. We have Kathy's other Christmas toys here, too. The wagon is boxed and it fits in Lou's closet nicely. They got it at Nash's Department Store, with Green Stamps; four books, I think. Donna bought a very pretty rose shade smock with little black figures in and a nice black skirt, from the maternity shop, to send Janet. It was \$12.00. Lou went to work in Ruth Kitchens's home again today. I put up his lunch. He wanted an extra sandwich for Ruth's cute little boy. He took a chocolate bar for him, too. The little fellow got a kick out of eating with Lou last Saturday before Ruth got home from work. He is a cute kid, Lou says. I went uptown this morning to Hertel's Store. I paid the \$9.94 balance on Donna's dress and \$4.16 on a shirt and socks that I had put away. I saw Pearl and Pawnee Redborg in Hertel's Store. I couldn't stop to talk long, because I had to be home by 1 p.m. to let the man in with our T.V. set. I bought ten tiny little Christmas socks in Broadway Store and

some tiny dolls and cars to put them in. I want to put one with a doll in for Janet, a car for David in his. I'll fill them with M&M candies and put them in their Christmas gifts. They are so cute. They have Merry Christmas on them and are about two inches long. Beverly had some of them and it gave me the idea. I had to spend some of my birthday money for that darned asthma inhalant, but that is a must! I bought a pretty flower arrangement in with plastic flowers for \$5.00 in the little Sprouse Store near home. It is so pretty. My darling Lou gave me \$20.00 last week and \$10.00 more last night to buy me a gift from him. I hope he'll not feel hurt cause I used it to buy Christmas gifts. It is so much easier to get waited on now than before the Christmas rush. Things are not picked over now like they'll be later. I love this sweet flower arrangement for his gift best anyway and it was so much fun spending the rest of it on gifts for my children.



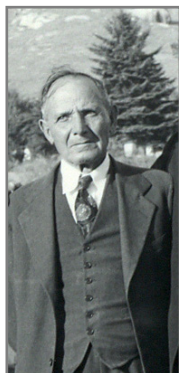
Elvie visits the Sprouse Store on December 3, 1955.



In the 1950s and beyond plastic flowers were used for home decorations. Silk flowers are a great improvement over plastic.

December 4, Sunday

It was raining when we left for Sunday School. We picked Hilda Botting up at the bus lines. We had lots of visitors in class today; here for the holidays, I guess. I enjoyed the fast meeting as always, many lovely testimonies from young and old folks. My darling Lou treated me to dinner in Fisher's lovely restaurant. We came home and rested. Beverly brought Annie and Lorene over; they brought birthday gifts to me. They can't come over tomorrow, so they came today. Dolores, Yvonne, and Ronnie came and brought a gift from Violet. I asked Ronnie to help me unwrap the gifts which tickled him. I received pretty tea towels from Violet. She's painted designs on them. Lorene and Annie gave me two lovely large white sheet blankets; Beverly gave me a bottle of real nice perfume, purse size. Dody and Yvonne gave me a very pretty card. Lucky me to have two birthday celebrations, eh? Esther B. Graham phoned while the folks were here,



Uncle Will Bailey, in 1948.

Will Bailey lost his wife Esther Josephina Faust in 1903, one year after Esther was born. Because Will lost his wife, his two children were raised by his brother Frank Bailey and his wife Aunt Ray. (Rachel wasn't able to have children of her own.) Will came to live near his daughter in later years. Esther is the one who went with the casket on the train to Salt Lake for the funeral and burial.

to tell us that her father, (Uncle Will Bailey) passed away at midnight last night. I'm glad the dear man has been released from his sick body. What a wonderful rejoicing must be his, to be with his beloved wife again, after these many years, (over 40 years). Esther is taking his body to Salt Lake City tomorrow on the 2 p.m. train. He'll be buried beside Aunt Esther; the funeral will be in Salt Lake City. His temple clothes are at son Frank's home. It was the Sunday School's night in church. We had a lovely program. It was a family night demonstration, given by a new family who just moved to our ward from Provo, Utah. The Elbert and Maureen Startup family and nine lovely children performed. They are very talented, they sang and played piano and accordion and gave fine talks. Our ward will benefit by this lovely family. Donna phoned and invited us to dinner tomorrow evening, nice, eh? I phoned Sue to tell her about Uncle will; she phoned Esther, and then called me back. Sue said that Rex, Donna, and children called on the Vandergrifts today. They were on their way to Palmdale.

December 5, Monday

Today is my 63rd birthday. I'm getting along, eh? Donna said they called in Lancaster last evening to see Bishop Overlade. He took them through his new church. He told Rex he could keep him busy plastering, if he'd move to Palmdale or Lancaster. What has Rex got in mind now? I received a nice letter and pretty birthday card from Janet. I wrote to her and a letter to Violet and one to Sue, thanking them for gifts. I mailed Janet my knit house slippers that Sr. Romig made for me. I seldom wear them and Janet needs them. I have my felt slippers. I received so many lovely birthday cards



Esther Josephina, William Esau, and Frank William Bailey circa 1904

this morning. Sue's had a pretty blue flowered hanky in it. Florence Marsh's had a white flowered hanky in. I received pretty cards from Lydia and Owen, Janet and David, Will and Flora Taylor with a letter. I received a card from Blanche H. with a little note. I got pretty cards from Annie, Lorene, Dolores, Yvonne, and Beverly. I walked to the post office and stood in line a half hour to get waited on. The Christmas rush is on already. Gordon is having more x-rays taken. I wish he felt better. I'm worried over a hurt that Lou has developed in his left side. It has given him a lot of trouble since he overworked that Saturday, October 15. We arrived at Donna's about 6 p.m. The dinner was ready, table looked very pretty, with the best china and glassware. The dinner was delicious; creamed chicken with mushrooms in, creamed potatoes, a lovely salad, with apple, dates and nuts, and green beans. I had an extra special cake, a beautiful pineapple upside down cake, served with whipped cream. The family sang "Happy Birthday" to me, I blew out the candles, forgot to make a wish. I always forget that, but the children were satisfied. Johnny assisted me in opening the gifts; he went to the pottery shop and picked out my gift from him by himself, bless his heart. It was two darling little lambs. Joan and Mary gave me two cute white cement ducks to go with the big duck in our little front garden. Donna and Rex gave me a beautiful sweater. Esther left for Salt Lake City at 2 p.m., taking Uncle Will's body there for the funeral and burial. Uncle Will's birthday is December 7. He didn't make it, eh?

December 6, Tuesday

I'm surely enjoying the lovely Orlon cardigan sweater that Rex and Donna gave me yesterday for my birthday; it is charcoal gray, and is soft and warm. I'm very happy with it. I surely had a lovely birthday. Bonna Gordon came for me at 9:15 a.m. It was nice having Marie Doezie with her again; she has been in Holland for three months, visiting her family; I wore my new sweater to Relief Society. We had a nice visiting teachers meeting this morning. Sr. Arvilla Butler gave a fine lesson on the Book of Mormon, Gems of Truth (3 Nephi 13: 3-4). She had me set the background for the period of time the scripture gem for this month was given. It was given to the Nephites, on this continent, after His crucifixion. We surely had a full attendance later, at our Theology lesson, given by our wonderful teacher, Louise Cotterell, on Nephi, son of Helaman. There was a beautiful spirit and lots of wonderful testimonies this morning after that beautiful lesson. I was the first one on my feet when the meeting was turned over to the sisters, so I was able to relax and enjoy the others. At long last, Margaret's letter came. She gave me some of the information needed for Mother's temple sheets and says she'll send the other next week after she's been to the church records. I answered Margaret's letter. I phoned Donna to see how Johnny was feeling. He had a cold last night; she kept him out of school today. Annie phoned to ask about our Strong's meeting. Blanche wants to know about the number coming from this end of town. She said Beth and Dick Johnston will pick up Aunt Sue in Burbank. I always enjoy going to our Strong's meetings, it's fun to see the relatives and visit with them. Our mailman saw "Happy Birthday" written on one of my cards outside. He asked when my birthday was; his is today, the sixth. Mine yesterday. So we wished each other happy birthday.

December 7, Wednesday

Today is Uncle Will Bailey's birthday. He died on December 4, at midnight, didn't quite make his birthday. Esther took his body to Salt Lake City for the funeral and burial. I wonder if he'll be buried today on his birthday? [Will Bailey was buried on his birthday, December 7, 1955.] I wrote to Ethel Newbold and to Dale Andersen. I walked to the post office to buy stamps. Lou gave me \$10.00 this morning. I got rid of \$12.21 in our little Sprouse Ritz Store. I bought another set of tree lights, \$1.89, and a set of outdoor lights for \$1.99. I have two now, my birthday gift

from Lou. I spent almost \$3.00 in 3¢ stamps. I wanted to put some stamps in the boxes of stationery I bought for Beverly and Yvonne. I bought two pretty hankies for Mary Marsh to take to the Strong's Christmas Party. Lillian Neal phoned me this morning and said she'd be delighted to phone any messages I wanted to get to Donna. I can dial Lillian without cost; she lives in Sierra Madre. She can dial Donna without toll, nice eh? She is sweet, is 70 years old, beautiful to look at and young in spirit. I had her phone and tell Donna we'd take Mary to the Strong's Christmas party at Helen O.'s on Friday night, if they'd get her down here. I said we'd keep her over the weekend; I know that Donna wanted to go also, but Rex had other plans. Mary was disappointed cause she wanted to go with us. I'm glad

we can take her. Lillian phoned again to tell me that Donna would see that Mary gets here okay. I had a delightful surprise come in the mail, a birthday gift from Ethel Newbold. I just mailed her a letter; should have waited, eh? She sent a lovely pair of nylon sheer hose. Our T.V. repairman came again and adjusted our picture. I paid him \$10.00. Our picture was perfect tonight, lovely clear pictures. The T.V. man has it centered okay now. We see the tops of their heads now. When they fixed it last week, they got it too high.

December 8, Thursday

I'm glad Lou felt better this morning. He felt like he was coming down with a cold last night; he took some cold tablets and nose drops. I wrote a thank you not to Ethel Newbold for the birthday gift, and did it in this little rhyme. Her card to me was in music, Stephen Foster's "Old Black Joe." It was very pretty; the nylon hose are just beautiful, too nice for my poor hands to handle. It took me all morning to shampoo and dry my hair. That is when I'm sorely tempted to cut the darn long wool off short, but I'd be sorry when I had to put all the pin curls up in the back again, I know. I vacuumed and cleaned this afternoon. Daddy and I enjoyed a comfortable evening at home. Gee, I've got to get started on the Christmas cards; it takes me so long to get them all addressed and I pen a little note in most of them. But I do love Christmas cards. I hope the comic Christmas cards do not sell well. It seems too dreadful to me to make light out of this most sacred season, honoring the birth of Christ. We saw several samples of cartoon greeting Christmas cards, and the young man artist who draws them, on one of our

Dearest Ethel,

*Could we but measure friendship's worth
Like so many feet to a yard
We'd be amazed at its precious value
And place over it a special guard.*

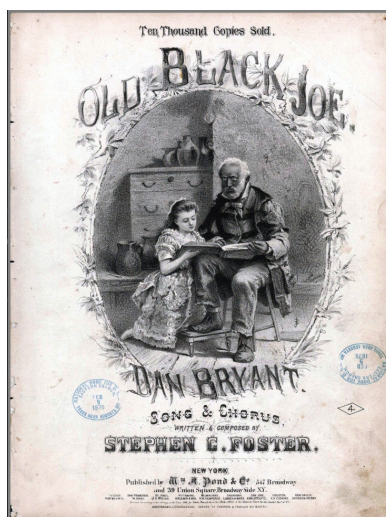
*Friends make the sunshine brighter,
And troubles seem lighter too,
Ethel dear, it's a real pleasure to know
A kind, thoughtful friend like you.*

*It's real fun to have a dear friend,
Who remembers your special day.
One who sends sweet greetings in music,
The good old-fashioned way.*

*We are poor indeed without a friend
To tell our troubles to.
Someone to rejoice in our blessings,
A dear friend, like you.*

*My day was made much brighter
By your card, and lovely gift.
Dear friend may this little rhyme,
Give your dear soul a lift.*

Thank you, my love, Elvie



T.V. programs. The news commentator was asking people in the store, what they thought of this type of Christmas card. Most of them, I'm happy to say, did not approve. I like cute cards, but not this funny paper stuff. We received a nice card from Mary Stead. She is visiting with Albert and family until after Christmas. She lives in Phoenix, Arizona. Dale Andersen sent us the first Christmas card, and Mary the second.

December 9, Friday

It was such a bright sunny warm day yesterday. I wish it was like that today; my washing didn't get nice and dry, so the heavy pieces are hanging on the shower rod in our bathroom. The two cute little white ducks that Mary and Joan gave me for my birthday adorn my mantel. I can't bring myself to put them out in the garden with the big old duck in this cold camp weather. The little satin bows looks so pretty on their necks, of course they can't wear them in the flower garden. Mary always thought that the big white duck should have some little ducks to tag along after her and she saw to it that Mama Duck has some little ducks. I'll have to take them out to her one of these nice days, eh? Johnny's two cute pottery woolly deers are on my little whatnot shelf. He went to the pottery place himself and got them for my birthday. Oh, but it's fun to be a Grama, eh? Rex and Donna brought Mary and Kathy this evening, they also brought Joan's Christmas gift, wrapped very pretty. It is a Samsonite suitcase, pearl gray. There is a lovely big satin bow on the box. Chuck D. has the mate, in a larger deluxe size for Joan's Christmas; he is her boyfriend. Rex had some trouble coming with his car; it was leaking gasoline. He fixed it in our backyard. He had it running anyway, when we left him. We asked him



Elizabeth Strong

to turn off the garage lights when he was finished. They were going to town. We took Mary with us to the Strong's meeting at Helen O.'s home. We had a very nice time tonight; we sang Christmas songs. Helen sang Silent Night; I gave my Christmas Spirit poem, Dick Johnston asked for a copy of it. Bette Haddock said she had typed some copies for her

THEY CAME IN 1855

47

ELIZABETH STRONG—DENMARK

In the little town of Hoskior, Denmark lived Jorgen and Julia Ann Swanner and their six children. Elizabeth, the eldest, was born March 3, 1842. When she was twelve years old, Elder Larsen, the first Mormon missionary ever heard in that locality, came to their home. In a short time the family were firmly convinced of the truth of his teachings and were baptized. The family started for America that same year, 1854. Leaving all they possessed and their relatives who had disowned them, they boarded a small vessel to cross the North Sea. This part of the journey should have taken twenty-four hours, but they were shipwrecked for eight days suffering untold miseries as they had no conveniences or supplies.

Stopping for a short time in England they made preparations to sail with other Saints for America. Later cholera broke out among the group and caused the death of many including Elizabeth's little sister, Julia, four years old. Her little body was buried at St. Louis. The family continued its journey to Omaha where another sister, Marian, age nine, died of the same disease. She was wrapped in a sheet and buried at night under a sunflower bed. Despite everything that could be done the settlement which the emigrants entered had been exposed to cholera. Sometimes as many as nine died in a single night.

The company with whom the Swanner family came were three months crossing the plains. They arrived in Salt Lake City in October, 1855, eleven months after leaving their home in Denmark. Elizabeth's parents bought a one-room adobe dirt-roofed house on 9th East and 5th South streets. Elizabeth helped to increase the family income by crocheting and making hair nets which her brother sold. As they could buy no material for clothing, Mrs. Swanner made all of it going through the entire process from shearing the wool from the sheep to the weaving and sewing. They lived on greens, sego bulbs and a little grain gleaned from the fields. It was one continuous battle to sustain life but through it all their faith never wavered.

In 1861 Elizabeth Swanner was married to James T. Strong and eleven children were born to them. James T. Strong died January 7, 1912 and Elizabeth passed away November 19, 1916.—*D. U. P. Files*

ANN BOTTING ATKINSON—ENGLAND

Ann Botting Atkinson was born in the city of East Grimstead, Sussex, England on the 28th of January 1827. The mother passed away when baby Ann was born and the child was taken in by relatives until the father married again. Ann spent an unhappy childhood with her stepmother. After her father's death in his 43rd year, Ann was put out to service although at the time she was scarcely eleven

Highlighted above is the story that Mary read at the Strong meeting December 9, 1955. It is from Treasures of Pioneer History, compiled by Kate B. Carter, published in early 1956. The article that Blanche Hoglund brought that Mary read was telling about the upcoming publication. Elvie had the title wrong (Heart Throbs) but the Treasures of Pioneer History is compiled by the same author and is a very similar collection of pioneer stories.

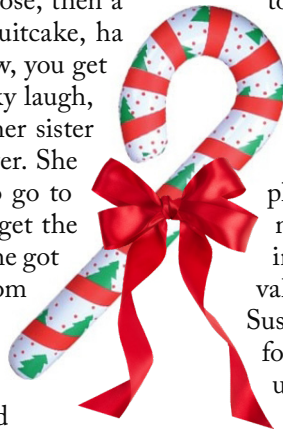
mother, and she would give him one. Glen Strong stayed for the meeting, but he left for a church meeting before the refreshments. He is a likable chap. We had fun receiving our Christmas gifts, after the meeting. Lou got Christmas fruitcake, Mary got a pretty Christmas hanky, and I got salt and pepper shakers. Blanche H. brought an article from the new book of Heart Throbs, a nice write up about Grama Strong, (Elizabeth Swaner Strong). Mary Marsh, her great great granddaughter, read the article in our meeting tonight. I was proud of them both.

December 10, Saturday

I gave Mary the little salt and pepper shakers that I got at the party last night. She wrapped them up to give her mother. They have cute faces on them. It surely is a strange coincidence, that for the past three family Christmas parties, Lou has drawn the number that was on the gift that Blanche Hoglund brought. The first year it was stretch hose, then a bottle of homemade pickles, and last night a fruitcake, ha ha! Blanche remembered and said "Lou Renshaw, you get the gift I bring every year!" Then came her husky laugh, ha ha! I was sorry to learn from Blanche that her sister Harriet is suffering from asthma again this winter. She was so dreadfully ill last winter that she had to go to the hospital. My Mary girl got me enthused to get the Christmas things out and decorate a bit; in fact she got up on the high stool and got the boxes down from the top shelf of the linen cabinet for me. We put the new decoration that I bought at our bazaar, on our front door. It looks pretty; it is a large white cane, with red satin stripes and bow and white balls with holly hanging down. We walked to our little 15¢ Stores, both of them, and bought some glue and silvery glitter and some large Christmas tree balls. We took all of my pine cones and glued and glittered them up pretty and then adorned the mantel and piano top with greens and pine cones, Christmas balls, candles, and red bows. We look real festive now. Johnny's little pottery deer and the little deer Ethel Newbold gave me help out in the picture. Mary took the little white ducks out in the garden to be with the mother duck; they look cute behind the tiny white picket fence of our flower garden. I bought lamb chops, which we enjoyed for dinner. We ate after Lou came home from working in Alhambra for Ruth Kitchens. His table saw didn't work well today. Our neighbor, Mr. Edgecomb, helped Lou get his saw to working tonight. Mary shampooed her hair, took a bath, and cleaned her shoes. She's all ready for Sunday now, eh? Rex and Donna came by tonight after the stake dance and left fresh clothes for Mary to wear tomorrow. They went to the dance with another couple from their ward in Monrovia. Joan went to a school dance tonight with Richard Hunter.

December 11, Sunday

We enjoyed Sunday School as usual. I love the song practice at this season; we sing the lovely Christmas songs. Grampa treated Mary and me to dinner at Bob's eating-place after Sunday School. We bought some groceries at our market. Lou was too tired last night to shop. After putting the groceries away, we drove over to Andersen's to get some LDS garments for Lou and some Christmas cards I bought from Annie. We were disappointed no one was home at Andersen's. We went to Albert Stead's to see Mary Stead. She was delighted to see us; she is visiting here from Phoenix, Arizona. She says she is 78 years old. She looks well. Albert has remodeled his home; it is lovely now. We stayed there two hours or more. Albert played several pieces on his accordion. He let Mary play on it. She and Al had fun both playing at the same time. Mary played the treble note keys and Al the tiny black keys, the base notes, I guess. Diane Stead is a pretty young lady now; I didn't know her at first. Martha S. is president of YWMIA.



She had a correlation meeting at 4 p.m. We left at 5 p.m. We called in at Andersen's; they were not home yet. We could see their beautiful Christmas tree through the front window. Sorry we didn't get the Christmas cards and see the tree from inside. I left a note on the front door. I fixed some sandwiches at home and then we went to Monrovia to take Mary home. Donna was ready to leave for a rehearsal at church. Someone came for her. Rex was going to take the family to church later. Joan worked this afternoon at Lyric Theater. She worked 12 noon through 9 p.m. Chuck took her to his home for dinner between shows. Annie phoned this evening and said she was sorry they missed us. They went to visit with Glen and family in Van Nuys. Glen took them for a drive out in the valley to see one of his friends. It was out in Santa Susana Pass. The friend had an airplane. He took Bill for a nice ride. Annie wouldn't go up. Glen went up, also. It was Bill's first airplane ride. I've never been up in a plane. Blanche phoned Annie and said that Harriet S. wrote her that Uncle Will had a nice funeral on December 7, in Salt Lake City. It was his birthday. She said Darrell Reynolds is feeling better; he is working half a day now. Joan gave a 2 ½ minutes talk in Monrovia Sunday School today. Donna said she did a good job of it. We went to Alhambra to get some of Lou's tools at Kitchens' home. I saw through her home and it's going to be nice. Owen took care of the flowers for our family at Uncle Will Bailey's funeral. I must mail my \$1.00 to him.

December 12, Monday

It was a lovely sunny day. I watered the lawns and flower gardens a little. Beverly brought mine and Donna's Christmas cards over and my two boxes of greeting cards, birthday and get well cards. Annie forgot to send Lou's garments and he needs them. He has several old pair that will take another wearing, I guess. I gave Beverly a large bouquet of red berries to take to Annie. Oh, we have an abundant crop this year. They look so pretty. I received a nice letter from Janet; she thanked me for the knitted house slippers. She said she loves them. They are so comfortable. I am glad she likes them. She has been working down at the church, helping to clean up. They expect to move into their new chapel next Sunday. She says it is lovely. Lou went to Bob Gordon's home after work, to cut off a door that is too tight over the new rug, or it will be when the rug is laid. They are putting a rug in the bathroom over the rubber tile. It seems strange to me to have carpeting in a bathroom? It'll feel good on the bare feet anyway, and the job took only a few minutes. Lou didn't need the tools he got from Ruth Kitchens's yesterday. He didn't know just how much of a job Gordon's would be. I mailed Owen and Lydia a Christmas card, and a dollar bill for flowers for Uncle Will's funeral.

December 13, Tuesday

I just mentioned to my sharp husband that it was strange that Uncle Will died on my birthday and was buried on his own birthday. My man said, "That isn't all, he was born on his birthday, too," Oh me! Uncle Will really died a little past midnight on the 4th of December, but Esther

phoned me on the 5th, my birthday. Bonna took me to Relief Society. Donna came to sing with the Singing Mothers in our program after the meeting. She and Kathy brought me home. Our literature lesson was beautifully given by Sr. Alyce Brandley. She gave a book report on John Millington Synge's book, "Riders to the Sea." I sent Janet and David's Christmas gifts home with Donna so Joan and Mary can take them to San Jose with them next Saturday morning. Joan's friend, Chuck DeBias is taking them in his car. Vera Smith brought the cute crepe paper Santa Claus she made for Donna, (\$3.50) to her today. It is really cute. It's about a foot and a half tall. He has his own bag over his shoulder. Johnny offered his home for a party tonight, for his Sunday School class, so Donna wanted to hurry home and put things in order. They've cleaned up the garage house for the barbecue

there. Donna took home some red berries to pretty up the house. I'm surely enjoying the pretty bouquet of berries we have in our house. We crowned Alyce Brandley our Queen for a Day. I read her tribute; she was a charming queen. The Singing Mothers sang four beautiful Yule Tide numbers. Oh, they sang so lovely. I bought two house aprons left over from our bazaar for \$2.50 each. I gave them my I.O.U. until after Christmas. The luncheon was delicious! I was happy to see Eleanor Jorgensen out with her mother, Betty Ramish. Ellie has quit her job at the bank. She is expecting a "blessed-event" next month. I addressed Christmas cards all afternoon. I put a short note in most of them. Annie says she didn't have the size garments Lou wants so she has sent for them. They'll be here the end of the week. Christmas cards are coming in now; I love to open them.



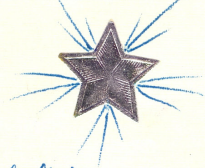
Poem composed by Elvie for Alyce Brandley. Alyce was presented on December 13, 1955.

December 14, Wednesday

Lou left a little early this morning. He took his car in to Oren Fox at Colorado Street and Sierra Madre Boulevard for a tune-up. Bill S. met him there and took him to the shop. Dick Johnston phoned me this morning to ask my permission to use my poem, "The Christmas Spirit." He wants to send a printed copy of it to the high priests in their stake. I feel it is indeed an honor to me; he thinks my little poem worth to use thusly, bless his heart. I spent most of the day addressing Christmas cards and putting a little note in each, it takes time. I received Beverly's card and I was delighted to find a snapshot of the Andersen family, Annie Bill, Bev, Glen, and Dale. It is good. It was taken just a few days before Dale left for his mission. I phoned Beverly to thank her. I read Violet's letter to her. We got a kick out of the cute "parting shots" she'd cut from their paper. Annie said they had a lovely Christmas party, luncheon, and program in Garvanza Relief Society today. She and Florence Oates went Relief Society visiting after the party. It was this morning until noon. I walked to the post office to mail the Christmas cards. There are too many for our already overloaded little corner box. I bought ten stamps, (10¢ airmail stamps). I put them in Beverly's Christmas card and told her to send them each with a nice letter to my favorite missionary in far away Brazil. I know they write often to Dale and the 10¢ stamps count up in money. When Lou came at 4:45 p.m. we took a little ride to look for a small Christmas tree, but we came home without one. We'll try again later. I want a small tree for my little table in front of the window in the living room. I addressed more Christmas cards after dinner while Lou listened to the fights on T.V. I hate them.

December 15, Thursday

We had a heavy fog until after 9 a.m. this morning. I do hope the weather will be clear when our kids leave to go to San Jose next Saturday morning. It is difficult to see the road in fog like this. I addressed Christmas cards all morning. After lunch I went out with Nora Williamson to do our Relief Society visiting. I let her take the Relief Society scrapbook to make a copy of my Thanksgiving poem and my Christmas Spirit poem. She asked for a copy



- The Christmas Spirit -

Have you felt it folks, It's in the air - a friendly feeling, It's everywhere -
It's found with people young or old - You can't buy it, It isn't sold -
It even creeps into the grouch somehow - and knocks gloom away with a Wow!
It makes folks want to "wish you well" - and linger just to talk a spell -
On coats you'll see a spray of holly - Eyes shinning bright, all feeling jolly -
It makes you feel you want to give - To be happy, and really live -
You'll shop until you've spent your all - Loaded down you shop for Baby's doll -
You'll come home weary and 'almost dead' - planning another shopping tour in your head -
Old Jack Frost will be busy nipping toes - and painting windows as he goes -
Even where Jack Frost is not allowed - This happy spirit is among the crowd -
It's in California where the berries are red - and the proud poinsettia lifts its head -
You'll find it in the land of ice and snow - It's on the Earth where ever you go -
The sleigh bells 'jingle, church bells chime - all the world seems in rhyme -
And carolers sing of that "Silent Night" - when shepherds watched the star so bright -
The night the Christchild came to Earth - a lowly manger His place of birth -
And wise-men brought their gifts around - humbly knelt and placed them on the ground -
When angels were singing from above - of peace on Earth, good will, and love -
So, each year as the Yule Tide is unfurled - The Christmas spirit comes to cheer the world -

By - Elvie B. Renshaw

November 10th 1948



of each. I put them in the Relief Society book, by request of President Clarice Tanner. I talked to Donna on the phone; she didn't go to Singing Mothers because of a cold in her throat. She told of the lovely Christmas luncheon the Relief Society stake board enjoyed at President Thelma Nebeker's home last night. They all received lovely gifts at the table; beautiful handkerchiefs wrapped very pretty. Donna's ward Relief Society gave her a nice gift, perfume, I believe. She was released from being organist and they give gifts when a member is released. Lou brought home a nice little Christmas tree, about 2½ feet tall; just the size we were looking for to put on our little lamp table. He helped me get the lights on the tree, and then I did the decorating, while he put up the lights on our front porch. I'm so thankful this

job is finished. We look very Christmassy now. We sat in our favorite chairs tonight and enjoyed our pretty Christmas tree. I can see two or three trees lighted in the homes across the street, but we are the first on this street to have the porch lights on. Lou got our tree at the Boy's Market on Lake Street. It only cost 98¢ and is much prettier than any of the \$2.00 trees we priced last night. Lou forgot to turn off his car lights this morning. They burned all day. He had to have help to get it going this evening.

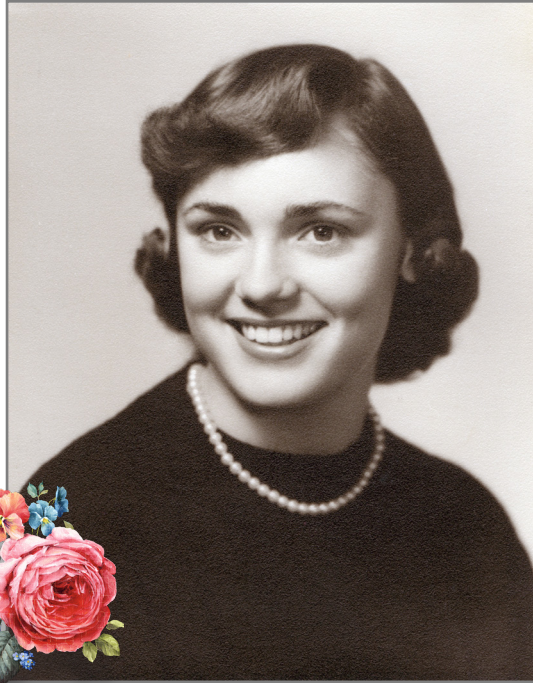
December 16, Friday

Our very nice neighbor Mr. Edgecomb brought his truck in our yard and helped Lou get the car running this morning. He pulled it out of our yard, then pushed it until Lou got it to running. Lou had Gene build up the battery today, so he came home without trouble. Lou wanted me to go uptown with him this evening and buy a Christmas gift from him, a new suit or something. I was too tired from addressing Christmas cards all day, to make the effort. I didn't dream I'd ever live to see that day, ha ha! I am getting old. I'm surely thankful to have the Christmas cards all addressed at long last, and mailed. Chuck DeBias brought Joan and Kathy over this morning to get my small overnight case for Mary to use. They are leaving for San Jose in the morning. Joan is using the beautiful big Samsonite pearl gray suitcase that Chuck is giving her for Christmas. He wants her to use it. Chuck is taking Joan and Mary to San Jose. Kathy was delighted with our tree; her eyes danced when she told me, "we are going to buy a big Christmas tree tonight, and Mary is going to trim it." (Cutie) They left here to go down to Grama Marsh's to get the gifts she is sending to Janet and David. Joan gave me a wallet size picture of herself; it is just beautiful. She looks a lot like Janet in this picture. Joan looked so darn pretty today, in red pedal pushers and bright colored blouse in patchwork colors. She is a darling. They all are, my Marsh girls. Florence Marsh phoned to tell me that Joan had left her purse there. She got all the way home without missing it. She was holding Kathy. They went back to Marshes' for it. Grama left the key out in the porch swing for Joan. Joan gave Grama Marsh a picture, too.

December 17, Saturday

Donna phoned this morning at seven o'clock and said the kids had just left for San Jose (Joan, Mary, and Chuck DeBias). They took Janet and David's Christmas gifts up to them. They are going to visit with them for a few days. I hope they have a wonderful time. Donna said Rex would go to Ruth Kitchens's home to do the little plastering job, after he got through with another little job he had to do this morning.

Lou worked all day at Ruth's fixing doors, locks and what have you. He had trouble with one lock. I talked to Ruth about 7 p.m. and Lou was still working on it. Donna brought Kathy here at noon. She went to town to get some things she had laid away for Christmas. She also got a box of See's Chocolates and had it mailed to Wayne and Marty. Kathy and I enjoyed our lunch here. I gave her the tiny stockings filled with candies, from our little tree. I had one hanging on it for each of Donna's children. I had little cars in some and little dolls in others. She had them in a little box, which she wouldn't let out of her hands. She said, "I'm going to hang them on our Christmas tree myself." They decorated their tree last night. Donna wasn't long uptown. I had some red-



Joan Marsh 1955, this is the photo she gave to her Grandmothers on December 16.

berries cut for her to take home. I put fresh berries in our house, also. I love the Christmas time, our little house looks so pretty with pine cones, red berries, candles, balls, and satin bows, and etcetera. The mailman is busy now. We are all getting Christmas greeting cards. I'm glad mine are all mailed. I received a nice letter from Margaret Renshaw in their card, a letter in Frances Helman's and one in Hannah Helman's. It is so much fun to get letters and notes in the cards. I wrote something in each one I sent; that is why it took so long to send 100 of them. Donna phoned at 3 p.m. to tell me the kids phoned from Janet's to let her know they'd arrived okay. Janet said they surely brought Christmas with them. They made it in eight hours. *[That trip today takes five hours and fifteen minutes.]* A Mrs. DePole was upset because the shop closed last night before she got her Venetian blind out. She got Ruby

Hodges out of bed this morning on the phone. Ruby phoned me. Lou met the poor dear tonight and gave her the blind. She is happy now. Maxine Shattuck had all of Janet's family out to her home for dinner tonight; she is such a dear.

December 18, Sunday

We took Hilda Botting to Sunday School as usual. She goes home with someone else. We had several visitors from Utah; always do have folks from Utah or Idaho come here for Christmas and New Years to visit their children. It's mostly elderly folks who like to get away from the snow and ice for a while. I don't blame 'em. I sat with Lutie Solem, she is a really nice person; I like her a lot. Lou and I ate at Fisher's Restaurant after Sunday School. We had the breakfast deal, it is so good; hash brown potatoes, buttered toast, scrambled eggs with chopped ham and a waffle. A lady backed into our car while we were in Fisher's and broke one of our stoplights *[taillights]* in the rear. Her husband came in the restaurant to find out whose car it was. He gave Lou a note to a friend at Fox's Repair Shop garage. Max Fox, I think? The couple's name is Haddock. Our mailbox was full of Christmas cards when we got home. Some had fallen on the floor in the living

room. We had twenty-three Christmas cards. Lou took a nap while I enjoyed reading them. Oh, I just love to read the cards and can't understand him showing no interest, what a man! I was thrilled with a picture of Shirley and Kenny Bird and their three sweet children; it is darling. Irene and Ray Cattani had their picture on the card with the new baby boy, little Keith. He is a lovely baby. I'm so anxious to see him in person. They're visiting here for the holidays, from Provo, Utah. We went out to Monrovia this evening. Their Christmas tree is really pretty, a nice big bushy tree. Mary trimmed it before she left for San Jose. No wonder Kathy said, "Oh Grama, my tree is a big one." (After she's seen ours.) Donna cooked us each a hamburger sandwich. Rex, John, Kathy, and I sat at the card table in front of the T.V. to watch the Ed Sullivan program. Lou and Donna stayed in the kitchen.



Ray and Irene with baby Keith, on their Christmas card in 1955.

December 19, Monday

I sent several more Christmas cards off this morning. I wrote a letter to Margaret Renshaw about Mother Renshaw's temple work, which we are trying to have done. I went uptown to look for a suit for me, Lou's Christmas gift to me. He said, "Now get something nice, and don't buy a cheap looking suit." I did just that! The price was \$49.95. It's a lovely wool crape, light gray. I had to have it taken in a little at the waistline, the cost for that was \$2.00. Total was \$51.70. Oh, poor Papa. I paid \$5.00 deposit; the suit will be ready on Thursday. I looked in several stores; I was amazed at the high cost of suits. The clerk would say \$150.00 without even batting an eye. I got the things I had on my list after buying the suit at Weber's at 449 East Colorado. I bought a necklace and earrings for Donna; they are silver with large black stones in them. I wanted a little surprise gift for her. We bought her a dress, but she tried that on. I fixed some canned chili for our dinner and a green salad. I cooked some ground round with onions to add to the chili and it was very good. We'll have to do it again sometime. It's just enough for us and saves hours of cooking beans, and etcetera. Lou got the stoplight fixed on our car today. Annie phoned to

say that Lou's LDS garments have arrived. She said that the travel log program on T.V., channel 13, would be at 7 p.m. and Brazil was the country seen tonight. I'd like to have seen the program, but we went up to Jim Clinton's to buy Lou some gray slacks. We ended up by buying him a \$40.00 suit, a charcoal gray. It has to be let out a little in the waistline. Both of our suits will be ready on Thursday. Oh yes, I bought a pretty green and gray plaid sport shirt for Lou this morning from Hertel's Store. Lou bought me a lovely pair of shoes from Innes in Pasadena, cost \$13.43. I'm a lucky so and so, eh? Bless his generous heart. Beverly phoned to thank me for the ten 10¢ airmail stamps I sent in her Christmas card. I told her, in the note, I wanted her to send each stamp on a letter to my favorite missionary in Brazil. My darling Lou gave me another \$20.00 for Christmas spending. I wrote Janet a note in her Christmas card; we got a pretty card from them. I also wrote a note to the Champ Cuffs, thanking them for the family picture and rhyme, summarizing the year, 1955 for their family.

December 19, Tuesday

Donna showed me on Sunday night, the nice folders, she is giving to Rex's sisters and brother, with the typed story of Florence Green Marsh, their mother's life of when she was a girl in England and of coming here to America. It is very interesting. I think it is a very lovely thing for Donna to do for them. It was many hours of typing for her, but isn't it like our Donna? I was delighted to see the sunshine this morning. My clothes dried nicely. My

Relief Society visiting teachers came this morning. I always enjoy their visit. They are both busy young mothers. They had several children in the station wagon outside. Louise Anderson just moved into her beautiful new home on Saturday. She is in a dreadful mess there, but she left it to do her visiting teaching. Dixie Kratzer is getting things ready to move into her lovely new home soon, too. They are both married to dentists, both lovely girls.

Sue phoned to read me part of Andrea Rich Watkins's letter. She read the part where Andrea said she thought my "Christmas Spirit" poem was lovely and the other poems Sue sent her of mine, too. She also said, she remembered Elvie as a very beautiful girl, and she'd love to see me now. Maybe it's better she remembers me the way she last saw me, eh? Ha ha! Andrea lives in Washington D.C. Senator Arthur Watkins is her husband; she is a lovely person, is Aunt Ida Strong's sister. Sue was on the program in their Relief Society today. She gave my "Christmas Spirit" poem. God bless her sweet heart. She said Bette has typed several copies of it and has given them out to her friends. I guess sister Sue is my one and only booster fan, eh? Ha ha! I love her for appreciating my amateur efforts; she has even memorized several of my poems. "Sweet Sue." Yvonne has gone to Beryl, Utah to spend Christmas with Violet and Otto. I hope they have a very happy holiday season. Otto and Violet are coming back to California with Yvonne on December 27. Florence and Ernest Oates are having an open house for their friends on December 30. They sent us an invitation in the Christmas card, nice eh?

Florrie Green Marsh

I Florrie Green Marsh, was born June 5, 1884 at Pinkston Derbyshire, England. My parents were Theophilus James Green and Annie Amanda Scrivens Green. They were good parents and always leaned toward God and religion. My mother belonged to the Church of England. Father was not affiliated with any certain one but was always looking for something. At one time he almost joined the Salvation Army, even bought himself a tambourine expecting to go out on the streets to help them in their meetings.



My parents were married February 12, 1881 at the little church in Pinkston Derbyshire. Father was a helper on the little farms, also in the hop fields. At the time they were married everything was going nicely until there were a couple of dry years. Crops failed and things were not so good. It was then that my father went into Wales to find work in the coal mines. This displeased my mother very much as she had always said that she would never marry a man who worked in the coal mines. It was such dirty work and the environment was not too good. However, there was nothing else to do. It did turn out to be a blessing in disguise as I shall explain later.

After Father had found work we moved to Garndiffith Wales near Pontypool. We were quite comfortable located on a little out of the way place where we could raise a nice garden, have a few chickens and a pig, which was a great boon in those days. The old gentleman that owned the place told my parents they could stay there just as long as they wished. But it wasn't to be, for in less than one year the old gentleman died and some of his children wanted the place. I shall never forget the beautiful garden and flowers that were growing on that little spot. They gave my father some money for the garden stuff and chickens and pig, but oh, how we hated to leave it. My brother Sam was born in this place.

My mother walked and walked for days trying to find a place. There was only one place vacant and she didn't want that as it seemed to be in the worst place around there. Finally our time was up to move so we had to take it. I can see my dear mother now, how she cried. She said she would only stay there until we could find something else, but I know the Lord had a hand in this for the very first Sunday we were there, some people began to gather right next door.

Of course we all wondered about it, but we enjoyed their singing. The next day my Mother asked the old gentleman what their beliefs were and he said it was the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or commonly called Mormons. Mother was quite shocked at first as all she had heard about them was polygamy. She said to father, "Well, I don't know what their religion is but I sure like their singing!" The Welsh people are noted for their good singers.

After a few Sundays, my parents started going in—being invited by the old gentleman who was a widower with two grown sons and a daughter. Well, Mother got busy and cleaned up the old place and sort of settled down and stopped looking for another place to live.

After about a year the old Brother whose name was Benjamin Jones and his two sons and daughter had emigrated to Zion. Then the elders asked permission to hold the meetings in our house. Just previous to this my mother, my oldest brother and

I had been baptized being thoroughly converted to this blessed gospel; that was restored by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Father was baptized a couple of months later as there were a few things he didn't quite understand. The meetings were held there in my mother's home for five years, and it was from her that we all immigrated to this glorious land of America which is really a Zion in comparison to where we were; as at that time the Saints were persecuted and jeered at on every turn.

When we were baptized, we had to slip away and let no one know. We walked five miles out in the country where there was a lovely canal, and one of our Latter-day Saint families lived near. We took our lunch and the elders came in another direction. It was a glorious day. We walked back the five miles arriving at dusk. The next Sunday we were confirmed. I was only eleven but I had a real testimony of the truthfulness of this wonderful gospel, and it has never wavered to this day. I hope and pray it never will.

It was from these lowly surroundings that I was the first one of the family to leave. Our family, at that time, consisted of four boys, myself, and my father's half-sister, Mary, whom my parents had kept since she was nine years old. She was now 18 and with her own free will and consent was also baptized when my father was.

Brother William Jones, of Almo, Idaho, was one of the elders assigned to our district and he was soon to be released. His mother in law, who lived in Willard, Utah, was crippled. She wrote to Brother Jones and asked him to get an orphan girl, or somebody, to bring back with him, to stay with her, and she would pay for the transportation. He asked Mary if she would like to go and she said, "Yes, she would." Brother Jones told my mother to get her ready, which she did, making quite a lot of sacrifice to get nice things for her.

But when the time for leaving, which was only about ten days away came, Mary went to visit her Aunt, who was also an Aunt of my father. The aunt told her the most terrible things about the Latter-day Saints and told her that Brother Jones was just taking her away to be a chattel and a servant to Brigham Young and his imps. So she came home and told my mother she had changed her mind and was not going to Utah. She said she wanted to go back and live with her own mother who was in England and had taken no interest in her at all. My mother looked at her with tears in her eyes and said, "Mary, I have been waiting nine long years for you to say that, but I hope you will never regret it. You can leave tomorrow morning as your clothes are all packed." She was a little surprised that my mother took her up so quickly, but she had been quite a trial for my parents to raise as she was so self-willed and determined to do things that weren't always for the best. But, never the less, the Lord moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform.

When Brother Jones came the next Sunday to meeting. Mother told him what had happened and he turned to me and said, "Well, what about Florrie here? Get her ready." I can see my dear Mother's face now. It seemed to turn a deathly white as she said, "Oh, Brother Jones, she is so young, and the only girl I've got." He said, "That's all right. Get her ready." He told her to send me to Cardiff by next Saturday, which was mission headquarters. He gave my mother enough money to pay my way there and he took care of everything from then on. It was our good fortune when I got to Cardiff that a young woman about twenty years old was emigrating, also, and she was my companion and body guard until we got to Utah.

When my mother hesitated to Brother Jones about letting me go, I stepped up to her and said, "Let me go, Mother, I know the Lord will open up the way for all of us some day and we will be together again." She hardly knew how to get me ready as she had made so much sacrifice for Mary, but Father made me a little trunk and somehow a few changes of clothes were

Continued on following page

gathered together and a lot of instructions written down for me to follow and on Saturday morning I was on my way. My little brother, Dan, who called me Arry, said, "You are going to Zion, aren't you?" He stood on the day bed looking out the window waving goodbye as I left, and that was the last time I saw him. I left in December and he died the following May with brain fever.

My mother had begun to feel perhaps she was being punished for sending me away as all the neighbors and her relatives turned against her for sending her only girl away with those "low down Mormons." While dear little Dan was so sick, the elders were called in. But he got so bad that finally she wrote to them and they had to walk several miles to get there. She asked them to dedicate him to the Lord as she couldn't stand to see him suffer any longer. As soon as they took their hands off his head, he looked up at Mother and said, "It's good to be a saint of Latter-days, my mother." She asked him where I was and he said, "She is in Zion, and she's all right." He gave her another smile and passed away while the elders were still there.

It was pretty hard to take as Mary had left, and I had left, and the next day after my leaving she had a miscarriage. Now her dear little boy, who seemed so much like an angel, had been taken from her. It seemed as though Satan was truly getting his turn, but Mother still stood faithful and knew the Lord would bless her.

In a prayer that I said the night before I left home, I asked God to bless me and take care of my parents so that I might see them again someday. I had a peaceful feeling come over me and a promise that if I would be a good girl, I should see my parents again. It was a hard blow when I learned of little Dan leaving us, but I always had the faith that I would see my parents again.

With the exception of the terrible storm at sea, the journey was long but pleasant. It was on our way that this terrific storm arose in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, and it seemed that any minute the boat would be taken down with the large waves that were tossing us around like we were a small piece of wood. One of the waves broke through the skylight that was over the large dining room and put in about a foot of water. Everyone who was able was called on to help get it out. All those poorer people that were coming steerage or third class were brought up on the second deck until the water was cleaned out. The rough waves had made nearly everyone so seasick that there were few who could help. The captain on the vessel said he had sailed the seas for 35 years and it was the worst storm that he had ever witnessed. But he said, "I have never yet heard of a ship sinking that had Mormon missionaries on it." He said he always liked to be in charge of a ship that was taking them across the ocean. That was a wonderful remark to be made at that time, over 50 years ago, as the missionaries and Saints were so terribly persecuted it took a person who was very strong in the gospel to stand up and say he was a Mormon.

The elders called the saints together when the storm was at its worst and offered up some wonderful prayers to our Heavenly Father, and in no time at all the storm ceased and we had wonderful sailing the rest of the way. We all sang songs

of rejoicing and were very thankful for the great blessing that came to us. It was during the month of December, 1895, when this happened and it took us two weeks to cross the ocean. I have always had faith in prayer and I know if we keep God's commandments He will bless us in time of need.

We arrived in Willard, UT but the dear lady, Grandma Nicholas, who had sent for me, was visiting Almo, Idaho. So Brother Jones said, "Well, Florrie, I guess you will be our girl this winter." I thought the trip over the ocean and the train ride from New York was something, but I was in for something different entirely. Brother Jones' oldest son was in Willard with a white top buggy and team to meet him. I had never seen such transportation before, and I wondered what was coming next as Elder Jones had told me it would take about four days to get to our journey's end.

We started out on Christmas morning and I ate my first Christmas dinner in America on a horse blanket over two inches of beautiful white snow. But I thought four days of traveling like this that Almo must be at the end of the earth. But there were

homes along the way that took us in for the night. It was a great surprise to me for people to live so far away from each other. I was beginning to wonder if I was really going to like Zion after all. I did not get an opportunity to see that notorious city of Salt Lake where according to our persecutors in Wales, I was supposed to be shut up behind a stone wall and never be heard from again.

However, when we finally arrived at Brother Joneses' home, which consisted of a six room log house with a dirt roof, but very comfortable, and a table loaded down with what seemed to me all the food in the world, I could not help but shed a few tears. When Sister Jones asked me why the tears, I said, "I wish that my folks could have some of that wonderful food."

It did not take me very long to get adjusted after I got over the mountain fever which struck me the day after we arrived and made me pretty sick for a couple of weeks. Of course being ill made me homesick for Mother, but

I was administered to several times and I got over it. Then to see them make their own butter, pounds of it at a time, and out in the granary all kinds of meat; pork, deer, sausages, besides all the bottled fruit in the cellar, it seemed beyond my comprehension. Sacks of sugar instead of just a pound, and a whole shelf of cheese they had made themselves which I later learned to do.

In the spring I learned to milk the cows, ride horse back, and when the hay and grain was ready for harvest we all had to help. Brother Jones had two girls just about my age and five boys. We all had plenty to do as there were such a lot of cattle and sheep and horses, chickens, pigs, and turkeys to be taken care of. I never regretted coming out on the ranch as it was a wonderful experience. When Grandma Nicholas wanted to take me away, Brother Jones said, "Well, she can go just for a few summer months, but she belongs to us and we want her back." So I only stayed one summer in Willard, Utah. The rest of the time I was on the ranch until Mother came.

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*Thomas James, Annie, and Chris in back.
Dan, Art, and Sam Green in front.*

After I had been on the ranch about eight months, Brother Jones sent for my oldest brother, which was a great surprise, as they had not told me he was coming. It was a real joy to have at least one of my family with me. After I had been here one year and eight months, the old saints in Almo gave me a basket dance and raised enough money, all but fourteen dollars, to send for my father. One of the good brethren said, "I will put in the other \$14.00," and he did. Brother Jones went the next morning on horseback to the post office and sent the money to my folks.

There had been a long coal mine strike when the money arrived and my father said to my mother, "Shall we spend it to get something to eat, or shall I go?" Immediately my mother said, "You take it and go to those two dear children and the Lord will take care of us here." So he got ready at once and came along with not enough money in his pocket to get by immigration officials, but with enough faith to know that everything would be taken care of. He was a fairly good singer and quite a comedian, so on the vessel, each one was asked to do something on the program in the evenings. First thing when Dad started, someone threw a little change, then another and another. By the time he was ready to land, there was his allotment. He could never tell it without tears in his eyes.

My mother, whom he had left behind on a Tuesday, was there with only a small portion of a loaf of bread but also with lots of faith. A missionary who had heard Father was leaving came to bid him goodbye, but Dad had just left about two hours before. The elder left a shilling with my mother and walked back to mission headquarters, so she was taken care of for a day.

On the Thursday following it was the day when the folks who were on strike were to get their food rations from the county. My mother told the boys that they would have father's portion to divide up this time. She presented her slip at the window for the county help, but the man there pushed it back to her and told her to go to old Brigham Young for hers. Someone had told them that my Father had left her and the children to come to Utah. She was ready to faint as there was another baby on the way and she was weak from lack of food, but she asked God to give her strength to get away from the window. What to do, she didn't know. The boys were waiting for something to eat. She went home and took the best blanket from her bed. She went to the pawn shop and found the owner a little tipsy from too much beer. He gave her a loan on it that exceeded what she would have gotten at the window. You never could tell my mother that the Lord isn't near to watch over those who put their trust in Him.

As soon as Father arrived, he told Brother Jones the circumstances of Mother and the boys. Brother Jones went straight to the Post Office and mailed her \$15.00 which amount was sent by my brother each month until Father was able to send for them, which was fifteen months later.

Father had quite a time adjusting himself to new work such as farming, herding sheep, and etcetera until an old mine, which had been closed for a long time, was finally opened up. He got a job there which helped him to save the money it would take to send for the family. So you see the experience Father had in the



Florrie Green Marsh known as Florence in 1952.

coal mines in Wales turned out to be a blessing after all.

The happy day of being reunited with my dear mother happened just two years and eleven months after I had left. The Lord surely has blessed me and protected me in many wonderful ways, and I give Him all the praise for my being here in this good land of America. I love it so much I have never had any desire, at any time, to leave it. I always say being born in England made a good American out of me.

May our Heavenly Father bless all my posterity and above all I want them to live the beautiful gospel that was the means of bringing me to this glorious land of America.

By Florrie Green Marsh

(This story was written at the request of my daughter-in-law, Donna Renshaw Marsh, somewhere around 1950.)



Ken and Shirley Bird and family Christmas 1955.

December 21, Wednesday

I get a sweet thrill every time I look at the picture of Shirley and Kenny Bird and their adorable children on their Christmas greeting card. It is lovely to look at, such sweet kids. I do love my darling nieces and nephews; all of them are good looking, too. Lou phoned about noon, he said they'd had excitement in front of the shop this morning at 8:30 o'clock. A little foreign car stopped abruptly, causing four other cars to ram into each other, wrecking two lovely big cars. One lady had to be taken to the hospital in an ambulance. The little car moved on without knowing the damage it had done. Donna phoned this afternoon and read Janet's letter to me. It seems they are having a lot of fun with Joan, Mary, and Chuck DeBias visiting them. The only bad part is that it has rained everyday they've been there. It was Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck's Silver wedding anniversary last Saturday. They took all the kids out to eat dinner. The kids thought they were going to eat at Shattuck's home so it was a surprise and they all enjoyed it a lot. David and Janet gave Maxine a lovely white orchid. Marilyn Shattuck arrived home from BYU in Provo, just two hours before our kids arrived in San Jose last

Saturday. Janet said they went to Sunday School in their new chapel. She left a roast on cooking slowly, her first roast. She said it was done just perfectly and they had a good dinner. She told Donna all the vegetables and everything they had for dinner. It sounded real good, cute kids! She said Joan and Chuck cooked breakfast that morning. I hope the weather has cleared up so they can enjoy going out. Aunt Ruth Deal had invited them all over to lunch, too. I wrapped up the last of my Christmas gifts and did my ironing. Lou got some different hinges to go on Ruth Kitchens's cabinet doors. He didn't like the ones he put on the doors last Saturday. I wrote a thank you note to Shirley Bird for the family picture on their lovely Christmas card.

December 22, Thursday

I phoned Donna this morning. Rex wasn't working; he'd finished up the job he was on yesterday. They took Johnny and Kathy down to Marshes' this afternoon to take their Christmas gifts. Donna stopped in here for the gift I had for Florence and John, a box of Yardley's soap. I left it on the kitchen table; Donna knows where we keep the key. John and Florence are leaving, by airplane, in the morning at 7 a.m. They are going up to Oakland to spend Christmas with Ruth and her family. I phoned Marshes this evening, at the Oateses' home, to wish them happy landing. She said if it's as foggy as it was this morning, the plane would be grounded until it clears enough for them to take off. Rex and Donna and kiddies were at Oateses', also. John and Florence took them to Van de Kamp's before going to the Oateses'. I went to town this morning and got my gray suit from Weber's Shop. It fits real nice. I tried it on to please Mrs. Weber. I bought a pretty pink silk crepe blouse in Hertel's Department Store. I went to Nash's Store and bought a gold colored necklace and earrings in large links, the chain effect. These are all for my Christmas from my darling husband. Aren't I the lucky one? I was fortunate coming home on the bus at 4 p.m. I got a seat all of the way, nice eh? The buses are so crowded at this busy season. Lou stopped in Jim Clinton's Men's Store, for his new suit after work this evening. I was all dolled up in my blouse and suit for him to see, when he arrived this evening. He gave the famous "wolf whistle" ha ha, and said I looked very lovely. He dressed in his suit and I admired him. I can't whistle with my new teeth, ha ha! Lou and I went over to Andersen's after dinner, to get his four new pair of garments. (We weren't dressed in our new togs.) We took some red berries over to Annie tonight. We saw the pictures Dale sent of himself, from Brazil. They are excellent; he is a good-looking fellow. We took Bev a check from Gordon H. I don't know how much it was? She was at work. Gordon gave Lou and Bill S. each \$5.00; they gave him seven pair of nylon socks. Annie gave us a piece of her delicious fruitcake tonight. Bill went out with Br. L. Jorgensen to make a missionary call on some bachelor fellow. He wasn't out long.

December 23, Friday

I guess we are ready for Christmas now. Lou worked half a day, and then went over to Ruth Kitchens's to do a small job. He put new hinges on the cabinets he made, in the bathroom, I believe. I had a busy day. I did a little mending,

some vacuuming and cooked a leg of lamb that Lou brought home. Donna phoned to tell me that Joan phoned from San Jose. No one was home but John. Joan said, "have Mother call me back," but meanwhile Mrs. DeBias phoned Donna to tell her that Chuck had phoned his father at the factory, to say the roads are not open, because of the dreadful floods up in that country. We've been listening to the awful account of the damage done up north, and have been worried about our children driving home in such weather. It has been raining off and on here today. Well, I hope it clears up, so the roads will be open tomorrow. It will be something if they have to spend Christmas in San Jose, eh? Bob Gordon phoned Lou this evening to tell him not to come in the morning as planned. Lou was going to help Bob with some carpenter work in his home, but Mrs. Gordon, Bob's mother, is not expected to live. She is in a coma. She was operated on a few weeks ago for a kidney ailment, hasn't been able to recover. She is in her eighties. Mrs. Gordon hasn't been well for a long time. I'm sure she'll welcome a release from this earth. Lou and I made some hash from what was left of our beef roast this evening. We used our electric grinder for the meat and vegetables. It was very good. I ate too much for my comfort. Donna says Marshes gave them some groceries and some money. They are so wonderful to Rex and Donna. It was Donna and Rex's club dinner tonight; a progressive dinner. Ovena and Donna had the main course; baked ham. Donna said she and Rex didn't stay long at the party tonight; they came home after the main course was served at Ovena Mayo's. They are worried about the children. John and Florence Marsh left for Oakland by airplane this morning.



Photo from the December 1955 flooding.

December 24, Saturday

Northern California's devastating floods have put hundreds of people out of their homes; many little towns up there are washed away. There are nine known dead, twelve injured, many missing. We have been dreadfully worried about Joan, Mary, and Chuck up there, trying to get home. San Jose isn't in any trouble, we're thankful for that, but the roads are closed because of the floods. There are bridges out and etcetera. Donna and Rex talked to the kids three times yesterday. The last time they said they had put Mary on the train; she was so worried because she wouldn't be home for Christmas.

Rex went to the depot this morning, but was told the train would be several hours late, not in until about 1 p.m. So he went back to Monrovia. Janet phoned a "person to person" call for Joan, and that was how they let Rex and Donna know that the roads were better and Chuck and Joan were on their way home in his car. (They planned this yesterday when talking to them.) I hope they will make it without trouble. Lou assembled the big red wagon to save Santa (Rex) some time. He also assembled the doll carriage. Rex came this afternoon; he brought the bicycle. Chuck was going to assemble it, but Rex did it in our garage. I guess Lou assisted where needed. Rex said they picked Mary up at one o'clock, so she is "Home for Christmas." Bob Gordon came by with a box of pears, beautifully wrapped. He said, "Will you see that the Marshes get this?" Bob's mother is still alive, in a coma. She has lived 24 hours longer than the doctor said it was possible for her to live. Poor little soul, I hope she'll be released soon. We ate a delicious turkey dinner this evening at 6:30 p.m. Both Janet and Joan were missing, I surely enjoyed that good dinner; Donna has worked all day at it. I made the fruit salad and fixed some yams was all. Chuck and Joan phoned from Bakersfield so we'd know they'd passed the flood area safely. They arrived home about 10:15 p.m., tired, hungry, and happy. Donna fixed them some dinner. We had opened our gifts before they came. Kathy and Johnny could hardly wait until the dishes were finished. Rex washed all of the dishes. Lou helped me dry them. Donna put food away. We all received lovely gifts, but no room to write each one down. Janet and David gave Donna and Rex a beautiful all wool blanket in yellow. They gave me a lovely leather scrapbook and Lou some cute novelty shakers. Rex and Donna gave Lou a nice leather wallet; the kids gave him shaving lotion and garden gloves. The Harry Howards came while we were opening our gifts. They had gifts for the Marsh children, John, Mary, and Kathy. Donna fixed them a plate of food. Joan opened her gifts after she'd eaten. It was a wonderful Christmas Eve. The little ones went to bed so Santa could get his job done for them to find in the morning. Mary has a cold in her throat. I rubbed BenGay on it. She took half a lemon to bed. This was our first Christmas Eve and Yule Tide without our precious little Janet, since she came to us 19 years ago. Janet said that Mr. Shattuck would lead Chuck and Joan out of San Jose, a short cut to the highway, when they left for home. They had to go to Oakland first.

December 25, Sunday

Johnny got up at 3 a.m.; he was out riding his new bicycle by daylight. We went to Monrovia before Sunday School to see our happy little family with new toys from Santa. We had a lovely program in Sunday School. It was only one hour long. Lou and I enjoyed a cold lunch; some of the leg of lamb and pumpkin pie and fruit salad. We went Christmas calling this afternoon, first on Dolores and family. Ronnie

Mary Loves Christmas!

Mary vividly remembers visiting Janet and David before Christmas of 1955. She had a wonderful time, but when it was looking like they wouldn't make it home in time for Christmas she was very concerned! She certainly got the message across because it wasn't long before they put her on a train for home.

is delighted with his electric train and radio and his little sister with her dolls and toys. They had a lot of lovely gifts as usual from the Fifes and Joneses. We then called at Andersen's. Glen and family and Aunt Lorene were there to a baked ham dinner. We were treated to candy and drinks everywhere. Sorry to find Beverly sick on the couch with a cold. Everyone was loaded down with nice Christmas gifts. Lou and I wore our new suits. Glen took some colored snapshots of all of us. Lorene went to Van Nuys with Glen and family to be with Mary tomorrow. Mary and family ate Christmas dinner today, with the Jorgensen's at Colleen and Cliff's home. Oh, Lou and I called in to see Ray

Clayton and family before going to Andersen's. They were just about to sit down to eat dinner. All are happy there; Miriam's parents are visiting them from Salt Lake City. We went to Burbank from Andersen's to the Vandergrift's first. Ann was home looking sweet as ever. She has a lovely new hope chest from her folks. Elaine and Ann were the only ones we saw, the others were out. Ann is expecting her fiancé, Dick Webster, in the morning; he is coming by airplane, from his home in Oregon. Sue, Bette, Ray, and the little Haddocks were eating their turkey. Oh, so many lovely gifts everywhere. It's grand to see all of our loved ones so happy and well blessed. We ate some delicious plum pudding at Sue's. Bette brought it in to Sue's apartment for us. We came home in time to go to our ward tonight, to sacrament meeting. Our choir put on the program, all music; it was just grand. We wanted Sue to come home with us and stay overnight so she could hear the nice musical, but she decided she'd better stay there. The Christmas is over now, but it has surely been wonderful. I wish all the world could have enjoyed it as we have. They held the sacrament meeting in Donna's ward after Sunday School this morning, so they had no meetings tonight.

December 26, Monday

Lou and I slept in this morning. It was 9:15 when I got up. I believe we were both awake a long time, but just wouldn't get up. It is so nice to relax in a cozy warm bed, no work to think about, eh? We were delighted to have callers this morning before noon. Bette Haddock brought Sue and Aunt Annie over. Bette had the baby, Greg, and little Ricky. Jerry was taking care of Brad at home. Both little ones were asleep in the car until just a few minutes before they left. We treated them to fruitcake, cider drink, and English candy. Lou cut some red berries for Sue to take to Al's grave. Their visit was too short, but it was fun to have them. The fruitcake I served was some that Blanche Hoglund made, it was Lou's gift at our Strong's Christmas party. We stayed home all day, but no more callers came. I phoned Donna; she said Mary was sick today. She had vomited twice and was feverish. Joan went to Chuck's home and came back with the lovely train case, to match her deluxe Samsonite suitcase that Chuck gave her. She has



the three pieces of beautiful Samsonite luggage now. Mr. and Mrs. DeBias gave her the train case. Donna and Rex gave her one suitcase and Chuck gave her the large one. She's all ready for college at BYU, as far as luggage, eh? I hope she'll start saving for her admission fee anyway. She'll graduate from high school in June.



1955 advertisement for Samsonite luggage.

December 27, Tuesday

The Christmas holiday is over for my man. He is back on the job at the Venetian blind shop. I was so sorry to hear the radio news state that new rains are lashing out at the already flooded areas of Northern California, 53 persons drowned, walls of floodwater covering up towns and villages. Yuba City residents had to flee their homes in cars, three abreast, to save their lives. It is all so dreadful, and disease follows these devastating tragedies, because of the water being contaminated. Oh, the poor dear people up north. I hope and pray that San Jose will be spared this dreadful experience. Our little Janet and David and his fine family, the Shattuck, and their homes up there. I phoned Donna this morning. She said Mary is feeling fine today. Joan and Chuck have gone uptown in Los Angeles with another young couple. The other boy is going to buy a new suit where Chuck gets his clothes. I talked to Annie on the phone and was happy to learn that Beverly feels much better. She is going to her night work tonight. Annie said that Louie Strong Stimpson is visiting in California. She called to see Lorene yesterday. Ray had her talk to Annie on the phone as Lorene was in Van Nuys with Mary. Louie also talked to Lorene at Mary's place. Louie is coming back to stay a few days with Lorene when she gets home from Mary's place. I'm so anxious to see Louie. This cousin I haven't seen in over 30 years, maybe 40. She lives in Idaho. We knew each other well in childhood days. I went up to Nash's Store this morning and bought me a pretty white nylon blouse, \$2.00 less than it sold for before Christmas. It was marked \$5.95, now \$3.95. There are big sales in all the stores now. Costume jewelry is half price. I bought a pretty Indian silver necklace and large earrings for \$2.00. I wasn't long uptown. I wrote to Janet this afternoon. Lou phoned and said work was slow at the shop. Gordon Hodges didn't come in the shop today; he isn't very well.



Young Louie Strong

December 28, Wednesday

The sunshine got through this morning, so I decided to do the washing. I was just getting the second run out when Otto Fife phoned. He said they were on their way over to see me. They arrived at Dolores's last night from Beryl, Utah. Yvonne went home for Christmas. Otto and Violet brought her back. They all look fine; it was fun visiting with them again. They didn't stay long as they were going to town to buy a new suit for Otto. Dolores and the children were with them. Violet brought me one of her delicious applesauce cakes, bless her heart. We are planning a family get together, while Otto and Violet are here. I wrote a little note to Mary Hill, on a friendship card, in answer to her nice Christmas card and note. I didn't have her address until the card came yesterday. Gordon Hodges isn't well enough to come in the shop. I'm sorry he feels so miserable. Lou and Bill S. have started to take inventory in the shop. I phoned Beverly this afternoon. Fifes, Dody, and children were over there. Bev said that Otto bought a nice brown suit; it is Violet's Christmas gift to him. We

enjoyed the evening in our pretty little home listening to the television.



Violet and Otto Fife

December 29, Thursday

Beverly Andersen phoned to tell me that Mary Jorgensen had to take little Kenny back to the hospital. The dear little sweetheart isn't getting along as well as we'd hoped and prayed he would do. One of his kidneys seems to have collapsed completely. I feel so very sorry about it. I know how worried Mary and Vernon and Lorene must be. Rex has been working the past three days up at his brother Lewie's home. They have been putting in the second cesspool; the first one is causing some trouble. Mary went to spend the day with her cousins, Miriam and Judy. She went with Rex this morning. Donna couldn't move the station wagon to take Rex's clothes up to him this afternoon, because Rex had both car keys in his pocket. She had to have another key made. It was cheaper than having Rex go all the way to Monrovia to take the key to her. Rex and Donna were going to the Los Angeles Temple to act as guides from 4 to 9 p.m. She stopped by here and ate lunch with me. Johnny and Kathy were with her. Little Kathy's hearing isn't as good again. I worry so much about her. I do hope she isn't going to be permanently hard of hearing. She has had a lot of earaches. Mary, Kathy, and Johnny stayed at Uncle Lewie's tonight while Rex and Donna were at the temple. They would have stayed



Maxine and Meredith Shattuck with their dog named Beau. Maxine and Meredith were very good to David and Janet.

here, but we had to go to Br. Frank Bennett's home tonight to a Sunday School party. Donna brought Janet's letter to read to me. She and David took their gifts to his parents home Christmas Eve. They stayed there all night and opened their gifts with the family on Christmas morning before going to Sunday School. They had a very lovely Christmas, so many nice gifts from the folks there. Mrs. Shattuck made a turquoise blue velvet suit for Janet, isn't she a darling? I understand that John and Florence Marsh have a television set for Christmas, nice eh? Florence Marsh was entertaining her club at a luncheon today, so I guess Annie Andersen was in the group, too. Donna phoned Florence, that's how we found out the ladies were at Marshes. They were just eating the dessert then. Gordon gave Ruby a lovely fur jacket for Christmas. It is too large for her, but fits me perfectly. They'll change it.



Janet Shattuck in 1955

December 30, Friday

1955, you are almost a thing of the past! I hope 1956 will be as kind to me and mine as 1955 was. I phoned Donna this morning. She was enjoying peaceful quiet; the three children all stayed at Aunt Miriam's last night. Rex went up there again this morning to finish up the cesspool work. He is bringing the two little Marsh girls back with his children to stay overnight with Donna's family (little Miriam and Judy). Rex and Donna will take them to Marshes on Sunday so that will be two nights, eh? I phoned Bonna Gordon to ask about Bob's mother, Sr. Gordon. She was in a coma last time I heard. Bonna said, "Mother Gordon passed away last Tuesday at 1:30 a.m." Everyone concerned was relieved to know she was released from her poor sick body. The funeral is tomorrow in the Hollywood Ward chapel at 1 p.m. She'll be buried beside her husband in the Inglewood Cemetery. Tonight we went to Oateses' ranch to the open house party. We received a delightful surprise when we arrived there, it was arranged to announce the engagement of daughter, Elaine, to Tink Woolley. It was a very lovely party. Elaine was radiantly beautiful in white. They are a handsome couple. The centerpiece on the table was a large engagement ring and a beautiful decorated cake. The table was full of delicious refreshments; tiny open-faced sandwiches, cakes, candies, nuts, and punch. It was wonderful seeing so many dear old friends, again. Elaine had a beautiful white orchid bracelet on her wrist of her engagement hand, where she wore the gorgeous diamond ring.

December 31, Saturday

This morning Lou went to Bob Gordon's to help him do a little carpenter job. He came home at 11:30 a.m. and we had a bite to eat, then we got dressed and went to the Hollywood Ward to Sr. Fannie Gordon's funeral, (Bob's mother). We saw some old friends there. It always amazes me how well Br. Charles Norberg remembers our names. I talked to Sr. Norberg, too. We talked to Newel Wanless and his wife and daughter, and to Josephine S. Howells, and Ramona Miller Wanless. She played a cello solo. The services were very lovely. (Fannie Gordon was born September 26, 1870, died December 27, 1955.) There were three fine speakers; music was lovely. We went to Burbank for Sue. She had a delightful surprise; she had a lovely dinner ready for us; fried steak, baked potatoes, yams and some delicious cake. We stayed at Sue's until after the Lawrence Welk television program this evening. We enjoyed Bette's sweet boys; Jerry is such a handsome lad, the baby is a beauty. Little Ricky was at the Smoke House with his Daddy Ray. Bradley, little cutie, came in and out of Sue's apartment to visit with us. Annie and Bill were ready when we arrived there. We picked Lorene and cousin Louie Strong Stimpson up at Lorene's home. Lorene, Louie, and Annie rode in the back seat, Sue, Lou, and I in the

front. Merlin Wright took Maude Craddock and Alice Schulthess, Bill Andersen, and the two Wright girls. Winnie came later, when Merlin and the girls went to the airplane depot to pick her up at 10 p.m. She came from Hawaii. Her son Joe's wife had a baby girl, and Winnie went to Hawaii to help her with the new arrival. We had a lovely time at Saxelby's. It seemed strange with only Kathy

left in their home. We all made a crepe paper hat to wear; it was fun. We played games, sang songs, and ate delicious food. Merlin Wright ushered in the New Year as usual. We drank a toast to 1956 and all of us. Wonderful people, wonderful time! Kathy had three couples from her ward there and her old friend, Mrs. Brown. Cousin Louie is staying with Lorene tonight; she was there last night, too.



Elvie Bailey

Why do I keep a diary? I guess it's because, like Edgar A. Guest said,

*"I want to leave some simple work behind,
To keep my having lived, in mind."*

This brings to a close another year, and another diary book (26 of them). My Father in Heaven has been kind to me and mine; I'm very thankful for all of my blessings.

*"Look with your dear eyes in mine
And give me a handshake true,
And whatever fate our souls await,
Let me be there with you."*

-Frederic E. Weatherly

Another Wonderful Year Comes
to a Close.



Lou and Elvie Renshaw