

Elvie Renshaw's 1944 Diary



Cast of Characters in Elvie's 1944 Diary

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

Rex Marsh married to **Donna Renshaw Marsh** and daughters, **Janet Eileen**, **Elvie Joan** and **Mary Elaine**.

Sarah Renshaw: Lou's mother.

Lorene: a sister living in Los Angeles, California; married to **Charles Clayton**; children, **Raymond** and **Mary**. **Mary** married to **Vernon Jorgensen** and **Raymond** married to **Miriam Jensen**.

Sue: a sister living in Burbank, California; married to **Al Hogle**. Their children are **Elaine**, **Bette**, and **Shirley**. **Ernie Vandergrift** married to **Elaine Hogle**, children **Ann**, **Carol Sue** and **Michael**. **Ray Haddock** married to **Bette Hogle** and a son **Jerry**.

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 Hogle** (**Al's** sister). Their children are **Mildred**, **Bobbie**, and **Billie**. **Mildred** married **Vernon Olson**.

Violet: a sister living in Cedar City, Utah; married to **Otto Fife**; daughters **Dolores** and **Yvonne**.

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** and daughter, **Robin** they are expecting **Miriam** this year. **Ruth Marsh** married **Richard Deal** and daughters **Kay** and **Barbara**.



January 1, 1944 cover of *The Post*. Willie Gillis pictures on the wall.

Willie Gillis, Jr. (more commonly simply Willie Gillis) is a fictional character created by Norman Rockwell for a series of World War II paintings that appeared on the covers of eleven issues of *The Saturday Evening Post* (*The Post*).

We welcome you "New Year 1944:
 With higher hopes than of yore,
 May you bring a glorious end to war,
 With "peace on Earth," added to your score.

January 1, Saturday—Happy New Year, 1944

It was a lovely sunny day. Lou worked all day on Donna's yard inside the fence and outside. On the outside he dug up the ground ready for grass seed. Wayne and family came over and ate dinner with Rex and family. Rex had intended going to work, but changed his mind after getting interested in a checker game with Wayne. Rex worked most of last night, anyway. The four of them went to the Arroyo Theater this afternoon to see "Lassie Comes Home." I took care of the six kiddies. They were good, but I was glad when the



mama's got home. I guess Aunt Elvie or Grama can't take it anymore. The three older ones played together nicely, but the three babies needed my

attention a lot. I gave them all their evening meal. Daddy and I enjoyed a nice little lunch in the quiet of our own little home this

evening. We all ate some of Mother Marsh's carrot pudding today. I made the caramel sauce for both homes. I am thankful to the Lord for his many blessings to me and mine during the year 1943.

January 2, Sunday

Lou drove me over to my missionary meeting. I was thankful I didn't have that long wait for the streetcar this cold morning. Sr. Marsh gave the last part of her lesson; we'll start on the New Testament study next Sunday. Donna cooked the dinner. It was almost ready when we got home. I set the table and put the salad that I made yesterday, on the table. Donna made a chocolate cake and some ice cream; it was good. Glen and Irene came to dinner, baby David was sick with a cold at home. Beverly took care of him. Rex had to leave for work after dinner. Donna and Irene did the dishes and then Glen took moving pictures of Donna and the children; it was the other half of the film he took on Mary's birthday, November 28. Lou and I left right after dinner. He went to North Hollywood to talk to Mr. Kilpatrick, the boss he had at Lockheed. Mrs. K. came out to the car and invited me in. They are both nice people. Lou would like to go back, he is sorry he quit for the county job. Mr. K. says he'd like to have him, he'll see what he can do about it. He has to go to his big boss to talk it over. We called in to see Sue, Al, and Elaine. Sue treated us to fruitcake and apple cider. We got back in time for church this evening. Leo Pierce played two violin numbers; he brought his own accompanist, good, too.

January 3, Monday

We had a big washing today. We had to hang some of the clothes on Allen's lines. Pollyanna and Sandy are both ill with the flu. Good thing she washed on Saturday. Rex had the day off. He took his sister Ruth and Donna to a show this afternoon. Donna had to go to the doctor for a heat treatment for her cough. This was her last treatment. The cough is almost cleared up, but Rex has one now. Little Mary has a head cold today; it came on her yesterday. She is still the same good little soul, bless her heart; she is such a darling baby. I cooked dinner for the children and Lou at Donna's house. They got home about 7 p.m., brought Ruth with them. Rex bought some sauerkraut and weenies for them. I went to the Park Theater tonight and saw James Cagney in "Johnny Come Lately." I enjoyed the show. Lou called for me after his elder's chorus practice at Don Henry's home.



January 4, Tuesday

Today is the birthday of Glen Andersen. I mailed Glen a birthday card yesterday; hope it arrives today okay. It was a cold clear day. I started out to the Relief Society luncheon

in my own coat and Donna said, "It's so cold, Mother, wear my fur coat." I was surely glad I did, it was so cold waiting for the streetcar. We had a nice luncheon. Sr. Marsh was there with Ruth and her two babies. Florence O. brought them in her car. Ruth is leaving for home tomorrow. I rode on the streetcar with dear old Sr. Christensen and carried her big glass fish bowl and rubbers. She got off at York Junction to transfer to bus. I went on to town and bought this diary and a wedding gift for Elise Elkins, who is getting married Friday. I bought a lovely crystal two piece cheese and cracker service. It is very daintily decorated with sterling silver flowers, \$3.32. I had it sent to Treu's home from us and Rex and Donna. Donna took Janet to Beth's for her piano lesson. I stayed with baby Mary and Joan. I made some hash out of the beef

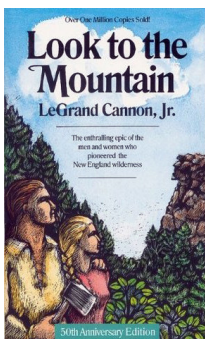
roast Donna had cooked Sunday. I used my meat grinder for the first time in years. I made enough for all of us. I brought a pan full home; we all enjoyed the hash. Tonight Florence O. and Ernie called for Donna and me. We had a fine Mutual class. The program after class was interesting, too. Jim Ellsworth (Diana



Diana and Ida Strong circa 1908.
[Diana Strong married Alma Selander] gave a talk on the duties of the F.B.I. of which he is a leading man.

January 5, Wednesday

Donna brought the baby over this morning. I played with her while Donna phoned Dr. Watkins (dentist) to see if he'd let her come in sooner than her appointment, because she has had a toothache for two days and her neck is sore this morning. He stepped it up to Friday. It was originally for Tuesday of next week. It is awful how long one must wait to have an appointment now days. So many dentists and doctors are in the war service. I did my ironing today and a few of Donna's pieces. Pollyanna is a little better, she got up a few times to take care of Sandra who is still in bed, the poor little girl had a set back with the flu. She got up too soon and has been very ill. I surely hope Donna's children can escape this awful flu, and all of us, too. Little Mary has a head cold, but she feels better today, I'm happy to say. Lou enjoyed his book tonight; he is nearly through it. Sr. Maude Swan gave it to him for Christmas. She says it is to show her appreciation for him taking her to choir practice each week. Louis seldom ever reads a book; it seems strange to see him doing so. The book is "Look to the Mountain" by Cannon. I'll have to read it when I can find the time, it must be good to hold my man. My reading time is spent in the Bible and church works. I must study to be a good missionary.



January 6, Thursday

It rained a lot in the night, but the sun came out this morning. Things look so pretty and green after a nice rain. I took Joan up to school at noon. Janet went up for her at 3 p.m. Janet gets out at 2 p.m. and then she walks back up for Joan most of the time. I expected to go out with Sr. Mary Spencer this afternoon doing missionary work, but she didn't give me a ring on phone until this evening. She had forgotten this was our day out. She's so busy getting ready to move. The landlord is moving back into the house they are in. They've looked for almost three months for a place but can't find one. Ashmore's, out of the kindness of their hearts, are giving them a big room in their big house. Mary and Don Henry and children, two babies, will go to Ashmore's and Sr. Spencer is moving in with LaVon Olson, her niece, for a month, until her mission is up, and then she is going to live with her daughter in another part of town. I walked to the post office, bought stamps, postcards for Donna, and mailed Violet a letter. I changed a slack suit in Ivers Store for Marty; it was too small. Lou went to choir tonight. I answered Uncle Art's letter with a poem of appreciation for the letter with its dear little snow scene. He had painted a pretty snow scene, in color, at the top of his letter. I was thrilled.

January 7, Friday

I met Florence Marsh at Avenue 50 and Figueroa; we did some tracting on South Avenue 50 and Echo Street. It was Florence's first experience of tracting. She will make a very fine missionary. I'm glad she is my companion; we'll get along swell. She can explain the gospel better than I can now. We met a nice young lady who lives on Echo Street. She was very interested in what we had to say about the gospel. We left her some tracts; she invited us to come back again. We'll be glad to do just that. We called in to see Mona Reese; she invited us in. We had a nice visit with her. She is just getting over the flu. Tonight Lou and John Marsh sat over in Donna's house while we went to Pasadena to see Bishop Gunn marry Elise Elkins and Howard Dennis. Rex drove our car. He took Florence M., Elaine V., Beth J., Donna, and me. Elise was a very lovely bride in white satin. Her bridesmaids looked pretty, too, in blue, all made alike. Beverly was the maid of honor; she looked so pretty. She was dressed in a fuchsia shade. Mary Jorgensen made her dress. She carried blue flowers; the maids carried fuchsia colored flowers. Annie and Bill took Sue, Bette, Lorene, and Mary over. Roy Olmstead took Sue and the girls home to Burbank. Lucille Snow and Jean Ross were bridesmaids. Dick Johnston, John True, and Willie Olmstead were ushers.



Howard Dennis and Elise Elkins

January 8, Saturday

I surely did enjoy sleeping in this morning. It is my morning off duty. Lou's day off. He finished up a little job for Mr. Lester, and then made some cupboards for Ruth Kitchens, which took him all afternoon. He made them here, and then took them over and nailed them up. She needed shelves, so she'll have a lot of them now. I cleaned through my house. Donna went to the market for both of us. I kept my baby here; Janet and Joan went with Donna. They played in the playgrounds while she did her marketing. Lou took Janet to Beth's this evening for her music lesson. He went to Ruth's to put up the cupboards; he brought Janet home too. We enjoyed our fireside and our books tonight. Lou was lost in his Christmas book. I read from a church book, studying to be a better missionary and I need it, too.

January 9, Sunday

We had frost all over the housetops this morning. It was truly cold last night, and early this morning. I was thankful to have my sweetie drive me over to church for my missionary meeting. I'd have been chilled through waiting for a streetcar. We picked Florence M., Marie K., and her two children up at York Junction, where they were waiting for a car. A tremor of excitement ran through our ward tonight, and all day. Everyone was speculating on who the new Bishop would be. We knew President Cannon was coming out to release Bishop Gunn. I think most of us guessed right and were happy about the choice; I was. Eldon Overlade will be a fine Bishop. He is loved by most of the people already. He was Bishop Gunn's ward clerk first, and then his first counselor. He was the contractor who built our new chapel; also I am well pleased with his choice of counselors. Kenneth Bywater and David Taylor. We'll hate to lose President Taylor from the stake mission though. We'll also hate to lose Bishop Gunn and family who are going to move to Utah in a few weeks. We have loved him and his good wife. They've done a good job. Shirley Hoglund and a girl friend came to church tonight. Al went to speak in Glendale Ward. We had such a large crowd out tonight; they had to bring in extra chairs. I took care of baby Mary out in the foyer mostly.

January 10, Monday

Well, we have a new bishopric in our ward now. I believe they are all good men, so no reason why we can't have the same fine ward as always. We'll miss the Bishop Gunn family when they move to Utah. I'm glad they'll be with us until spring, anyway. Donna and I did a big washing today. It was damp and cold all day; the clothes didn't dry very well. We must expect that now for a while. I took Joan up to her kindergarten class at Garvanza School at noon. Janet went back for her at 3 p.m. The cute little lady, looking after little sister, who is almost as big as her already. Rex bought his good railway watch today; he's so proud of it. I'm

glad he has it, too. He got it through the company he is working for, Pacific Electric Railway. Lou worked in the mill, near the county hospital again. He gets home a little earlier when he works in the mill. It only takes ten minutes if he takes the auto, but he rides the bus or streetcar most because of the shortage of gasoline.

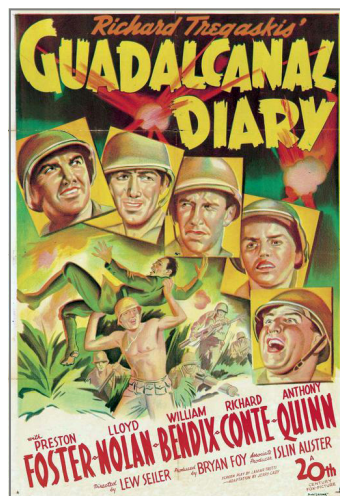
January 11, Tuesday

I spent the morning darning sox and mending. I was disappointed I couldn't get started at my ironing, but I had to leave after lunch to go to the bank and pay on the loan we took out to pay our little home up in full. It will soon be paid off, too. I met Florence Marsh, we took streetcar to Pepper Street, and then walked to Carlton Street where Martha Fowler lives. We had a nice visit with her explaining the temple work and garments. She called me on the phone last week and asked me to come and talk to her about these things, which she didn't understand. She is a new convert to our church, a very lovely woman and so sincere and genuine. I surely do enjoy doing missionary work with Florence. She understands the gospel and can explain it so well, besides I love her. Tonight Donna and I went to Mutual. The ladies and girls all met in the big hall and enjoyed a very interesting lecture given by a Red Cross nurse. She showed

pictures during her discourse. It was on "The birth of a baby." She answered questions after the talk. The young girls asked her a lot, and she was very nice in answering everyone. Bishop Gunn had a class for all men. I went to Mutual with Florence and Ernie; came home with them, also. Donna stayed after Mutual to play for Helen Stay's dancing class.

January 12, Wednesday

I did my ironing this morning. Then I met Florence M. and we did some tracting. The homes and streets are very pretty on Echo, also the South Avenue streets we were on today. There are lovely old trees, flowers and grass. The people we found were not so friendly, mostly Catholics who won't accept literature, even if free. We left tracts where people were out, and where they'd accept same. We had only five gospel conversations in all the 42 houses we called on. The sun got too warm for me, I had to carry my fur coat. There was a lot of frost this morning on the housetops; I thought it would be cold all day. Florence and I were both tired when we quit. I walked to Hall's Store and bought stork shower gift for Donna and me to give Katherine Ross at her shower tomorrow night. I got a blue diaper bag, pink clothes hangers, and a little pink jacket. Lou worked at Ruth Kitchens house after his work this evening until 7:50 p.m. Donna and I went to the Park Theater tonight. We met Rex going home on our way there. Lou was with the children. Both pictures were extra good. They were "Princess O'Rourke" and "Guadalcanal Diary."

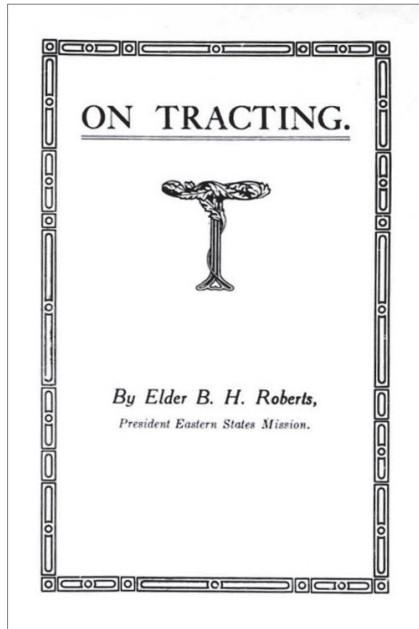


January 13, Thursday

I didn't rest too well last night. I really did over tire myself out doing missionary work yesterday. We called at 42 houses, most of the people were out, or refused tracts, which makes them out, too. There are lots of Catholics living there. They are taught to not read other religious literature, a sin to do so, too bad for them. The poor people just won't see the light of the true gospel. I spent the morning embroidering on a little pink outing flannel baby jacket to take to Katherine Ross's shower tonight. This afternoon Elder E. Jones and Mary Spencer and I did some missionary revisiting. We made arrangements for a cottage meeting at Misner's home to hear more records. We visited in Mrs. Lamb's home, also. They are members but not active. I would be happy to get them interested in the gospel, Mayson family, too. She was out again today. Little Joan isn't well today. She went to school, but complained of stomach ache this evening, fell asleep about 4:30 or 5, and then had an accident in her sleep which caused an awful clean up job for Mama. After her bath, Donna noticed a rash on her body. I wonder what it is? I went to the shower, had a nice time. It was a nice shower; I think the Sunday School gave it. Sr. Burkelson had charge. (Katherine Ross's stork shower) Lou waited, after choir, at Bishop Overlade's home across the street from the church, for me.

January 14, Friday

I walked to Sr. Spencer's home this morning. She is living with her niece, LaVon Olson. I forgot to ask her if she'd come and help quilt this morning in Relief Society. She said she'd come later; I went on. I missed a York car so I walked to the church. We quilted a recovered quilt for a lady. Boy, it was a big thick wool quilt, but we got through early because it was quilted far apart. It was very pretty



when finished. Lorene and Margaret Hardy fixed a nice lunch for us. Bishop Overlade ate with us. He was working around the place. Tonight Sr. Spencer and I went to the missionary testimony meeting at President Ashmore's. We met at the library, went on the streetcar. I waited for 20 minutes at the junction where I said I'd meet her; she waited at the library. At last I walked down and found her waiting. She thought I meant there at the top of my hill. She took the refreshments. It was her last testimony meeting. She is being released this month from her mission. She's been an extra good missionary. We are going to miss her. We had a grand meeting with ice cream, cookies and punch after.

January 15, Saturday

Janet vomited in the early morning and has been sick in bed all day, so I guess she has the chicken pox, too. Joan is broken out with them, but she feels fine today. It is a job to keep her in bed. Donna isn't feeling well today; she has that upset stomach and bowel trouble that's going around. She seems to get it oftener than most folks. Little Karen Paulson vomited last night. She has the chicken pox this morning. There is an epidemic of chicken pox in Highland Park and all over the city. I do hope our baby Mary won't get it. I took the shopping cart and went to Better Food Market this morning. I brought home a load of groceries and vegetables for Donna and me. It took almost two hours; the darn points take so long to count up, they hold everyone up in the line. We'll all be glad when this rationing of foods is over and the awful war, of course. I know we haven't begun to suffer like the poor folks of other countries; this is the promised land surely. I cooked a little lamb roast and a nice vegetable dinner this evening, so I won't

How to Enjoy Tracting. [An excerpt from B.H. Roberts pamphlet, "On Tracting."]

To enjoy tracting one must work at it, earnestly work at it. One may not sluff it and at the same time enjoy it. It is a kind of work one must acquire a taste for, and do it because it is recognized as a duty to be performed faithfully and well, and can only be enjoyed because it is a duty well and faithfully performed. Performance of a duty brings a sense of satisfaction, of peace of mind, and as one may not leave a duty that he is conscious of unperformed and be happy, so the missionary may not be dilatory in Tracting – which he must recognize as a duty – and be happy. There can be no question as to Tracting before a duty in missionary work. It is made so by direction of the Church Authorities. Experience has proved it to be an effective way of presenting the gospel, both by distributing the written word and affording a means of contact with the people to preach the gospel to them by direct word of mouth, by far the most important part of the Tracting. Also it affords the best means, in fact about the only means, of fulfilling the commandment of the Lord, to the effect that whatsoever place his servants cannot go into, they shall "send" the message, that the testimony may go from them into all the world unto every creature. (Doc. & Cov. Sec. 84). This "sending" where one cannot go, may be done only by distributing the written word, of which Tracting is the chiefest and most effective means. Tracting, and then, is made a duty to the missionary, and one that he may not neglect and be approved; let there be no doubt about that. It is something not to be questioned but to be done. Experience approves of it, and results obtained justify its adoption as an effective means of preaching the gospel.

Tracting to be enjoyed, moreover, must not be done in a perfunctory manner, that is to say, let no missionary think that since Tracting is made out to be a duty of missionary life, therefore it may be done merely for the sake of getting through with it, doing it without interest, or in a negligent or sullen manner. That will not discharge the missionary's duty of Tracting. Men learn that happiness in the performance of duty depends not upon what is done, merely but the way, the spirit, in which it is done; and mainly depends on that. As in so many things in which the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life, so it is in Tracting – it is the spirit in which the work is done that gives it its life, that makes it effective, and happyfying to the missionary. Let the Tracting be done, and then, cheerfully and in the true spirit of service for the Master, and for the benefit of our fellow men; because we love them, and desire to share our truth with them that they may be blessed by it, as we have been and are blessed by it. If the work be done in that spirit, Tracting will become one of the most joyous parts of missionary experience.

have to bother with cooking tomorrow. I have my 9 a.m. missionary meeting and my 2 p.m. cottage meeting at Misner's home. Lou put down a floor in Charlie's little rear house today.

January 16, Sunday

Rex is sick today with the same thing Donna and Janet had yesterday. Poor little Mary doesn't feel very good either. She has the diarrhea, too. Joan feels fine, too fine to keep in bed. Her rash is leaving and it isn't chicken pox, or doesn't look like them now. Little Karen Paulson hasn't broken out yet. I guess they've all had the same trouble; some call it intestinal flu. Lou took me to my missionary class and stayed in class. He didn't have to come back for Donna and children. Florence M. gave a short four minute talk; Maude C. gave the lesson. I enjoyed both and was happy to have Lou with us. Ray Ross asked me to teach the Junior Class in Sunday School this morning. They were short four teachers, so I helped out and surely did enjoy the young girls and boys. They were very good, 11 to 12 years old, such sweet kiddies. I was surprised how much they did know about our gospel. Little Carol Lee Nordgren thanked me after Sunday School for the nice lesson and said she wished I'd be their teacher always. It made me feel so happy; the sweet child. We had a cottage meeting in the Misner home. I conducted. We had ten investigators. We played two records for them "The Jaredites Coming to America" and "Joseph Smith's Vision." It was a nice meeting. We are invited to come again next Sunday at 2 p.m. We had a nice meeting tonight.

January 17, Monday

My little Marshes are better today. Rex stayed home; he is much better, but feels weak. Donna had the doctor come out from Ross Loos to look at Joan. He said it was a rash from the stomach upset and Janet can go back to school because Joan has not got chicken pox as we thought. The neighbors can walk on our sidewalk again, ha, ha! I had a grand time all by myself today over in Pasadena. I bought a lovely white jersey knit slip and some snuggies and a cute little felt hat on the dollar sale. It is a fuchsia shade. I had some peppermint sticks and hot nuts, wonderful time! I really do enjoy shopping in Pasadena. The stores are nice and streets are not crowded, lots of room. I can take my time; it's my idea of fun. It's like being in my own little hometown, Salt Lake City. Of course it's more fun if someone is with me, but everyone was busy. Donna washed Friday, so we didn't have



Ernest & Florence in back with Ernie, Elaine, Irene & Diane in front. In January 1944 Ernest and Florence went away to the Arrowhead Hotel.



Lake Arrowhead Hotel



January 19, Wednesday

I did the washing at Donna's this morning. Donna took my shopping cart to the market and brought things home for both of us. She had company coming to dinner, Elaine and Ernie, so she was busy preparing. She made coconut pies and Jello salad, cooked a roast and etcetera and cleaned house. Janet and Joan wanted company to dinner, too. Donna let them have the two Lefner girls, Alice and Blissie; they ate at the little table. Tonight Lou and I took Florence Marsh to the stake house to our correlation meeting of stake officers and missionaries. John brought her to the York junction from Florence's home. She has been up to their house since Monday taking care of the children. We had a nice meeting. Several of our missionaries were released tonight and they gave fine talks. Our own Sr. Spencer was one of them; I'm surely going to miss her. President David Taylor was released, too, because he has been called to the Garvanza Ward Bishopric. We surely hate to lose him from the stake mission. Things won't seem the same without him.

a washday today. Florence M. called me from the Oateses' home this morning. She is staying with Florence and Ernie's children three or four days while they are on a vacation at Lake Arrowhead Hotel. Tonight Lou went to the elder's chorus rehearsal at Dick Johnston's. Rex and Donna went to the Park Theater. I stayed with the children.

January 18, Tuesday

Janet went back to school today. I guess Joan will go tomorrow. Rex stayed home today; three days off, he feels okay now. Donna still has a touch of the illness, but she felt better about 10 a.m. so she and Rex went uptown about 11 a.m. They went to several music companies to find a baton for us to give Daddy for his birthday gift. They found an ebony baton with silver bands and a nice plush and leather case for it for \$10.00. Now we're wondering if he'll like it? It is shorter and heavier than the ones he's made. Oh well, we'll know later. Donna went to Beth's from town; she had a rehearsal with the trio. They are going to sing on Bishop Gunn's testimonial program next week. Rex went to see his company doctor to get a release to go back to work. I took care of baby Mary and little Joan. I gave Mary and little Sherrie Pierce a nice long ride in the big red wagon. They thought it was lots of fun. We have a nice long stretch with our new pavement added to our sidewalk. Daddy and I enjoyed books and radio tonight.

January 20, Thursday

I ironed this morning and went out doing missionary work this afternoon. Mary Spencer and I made a revisit to Mrs. Coupe's home. We had a nice long gospel conversation with her. She is interested in the gospel; she is such a dear little person. I do hope we can help her to see the true light of this wonderful gospel. Sr. Spencer will not be with me after January. I'm surely going to miss her; I've learned to love her and look to her for help. She is well informed on our church history and the gospel. I'm lucky to have Florence Marsh to take her place. The choir members gave Lou a surprise party tonight and he was surprised! They let him rehearse a few anthems, and then when he started to lead another, they all sang "Happy Birthday to you." Erma Carlson played it on the piano. I went over on the streetcar, met Annie at Avenue 54. We walked to the church together, got there just after the surprise song. We had a nice party, played games. Beverly and Nellie Imsen had charge of the party. They served hot apple pie and ice cream. The choir presented Lou with a very lovely leather music case, grand. I know the surprise party really pleased him and the gift was surely grand, black leather music case.

January 21, Friday

Louis was so thrilled with the lovely leather music case the choir gave him for a birthday gift; he talked about it again this morning and said he was going to buy a baton and a nice case. I had to tell him we already had one for him. Because he works in town I was afraid he'd buy it before we could give it to him. He was well pleased, said, "It's a beauty." I told him he could maybe change for one he liked better, but he said, "I wouldn't think of changing it." Donna will be relieved to know it's okay, too. The baton is ebony with sterling silver tip and end and bands. It has a nice black leather case, plush lined. I'm glad the music case is black leather, also. Donna went up to school to hear Janet read at her teacher's invitation. Janet is doing very well. I fed baby Mary her lunch and took her to Pollyanna's when Florence M. came. Pollyanna said she'd look after the baby until Donna got back. Florence and I did some missionary tracting this afternoon. We had a very nice afternoon; we were invited in two homes. We met a Mormon man who is living in a home for old men on Hayes Street and had a nice visit with him. He's from Utah. His name is J.H. Arnold. His landlady was very nice and we had a lovely visit with her. We also met four other elderly gentlemen. Lou and I went to the Park Theater tonight and saw "Lassie Comes Home," sweet story of a dog and boy. We also saw "The Lady Takes a Chance."

January 22, Saturday

Lou received a birthday package from his mother, a pretty tie and three pair of sox, nice. I had a busy day cleaning. Lou worked with Charlie on his little house in the rear, laying floor and other carpenter work. Glen, Irene, and baby David came to Donna's this afternoon to tell her the moving picture film she bought and Glen took of her family was back. He had to buy a new light for his projector machine before they could see the picture. They were waiting for payday. The light was \$3.35. Donna let them take the money, she was so anxious to see the pictures. Lou took us all over to Glen's tonight. He was working, but Irene ran the picture through for us. Rex was home and able to go with us. We were surely thrilled with how swell it turned out, so clear of all, and many good shots of the children and Rex and Donna and Lou. I wasn't in much, just as well, eh? Rex was tired out and had to be to work at 4 a.m., so we came home after seeing the one taken on Janet's third birthday and one of baby David. Both were darling pictures. I could see them over and over. Lou took me to Kress Store and the Better Food Market after we brought the folks home tonight.

January 23, Sunday — My darling Lou's birthday, 54 years old.

Louis took me to my missionary class; he came back for Donna and the children for Sunday School. We had a fine class. Br. Reese taught. I enjoyed the Relief Society lesson Mable O'Brian gave, also. Lou and I had a nice fried rabbit dinner. I prepared the salad yesterday and a whipped, creamed, fruit cocktail. It was a nice dinner for my husband's birthday. Donna and family were invited to Marty and Wayne's for dinner. Wayne came for them. Lou enjoyed his Sunday nap this afternoon while I went to my cottage meeting at the Misner home. I conducted the meeting; we had eleven investigators. It was a grand meeting. Elder Henry played the two records, which told of the visit of the angel Moroni and how Joseph got the records and the translating of them. Also, how Peter, James, and John appeared and conferred the Melchizedek priesthood after John the Baptist had conferred the Aaronic priesthood. I was glad Florence M. came. She gave a fine talk. Elder Jones and Sr. Spencer, too. The folks had a lot of questions to ask. We are invited back again. We've had two there already. Lou had a very happy birthday, he says, "best ever!" He used his beautiful leather music case the choir members gave him, also the baton Rex, Donna, and I gave him. He wore the new shirt and tie I gave. His mother sent three nice pair of sox and a pretty tie. Florence M. came home with me. We all went to church tonight. Sr. Spencer gave a talk; she is leaving for Utah soon. Br. Greenwald and Dave Taylor spoke. The meeting tonight was lovely, a grand spiritual day for me.



January 24, Monday

It was a bright sunny morning, but clouded by noon and was damp and cold all afternoon. It felt like it would rain any minute only too cold for rain, more like snow. The heavy pieces didn't get dry. Donna pulled a fast one today. She put the sox and dirty shirts in the washer before the children's little colored dresses had gone through. I emptied the washer and put in clean water and soap for the colored run, which made us longer getting through. Bob Stanton called for Donna, she and Inis went to Beth's for a trio rehearsal. Bob brought Donna back again. Donna and I enjoyed a rabbit sandwich over here at noon and some Jello salad. I received a letter from my dad and one from Mother R., and one from Roland Renshaw in the morning mail. We enjoyed them all. Our little Mary has a grand time now; running all over the house and getting into sisters play things. She played with the dishes in the little cupboard for over an hour today. Ray Ross, our block teacher, came this evening. Lou had gone to the elder's chorus practice. Ray was going there when he left here.

January 25, Tuesday

Donna and I spent most of this day fixing our pages for Bishop Gunn's scrapbook. It's a going away surprise present from the ward members, to be given to him at his party next Friday night. Ray Ross is taking charge of the book, he made all the pages out of lovely white art paper. The cover is leather, a real nice book, they say, cost \$11.00 for the cover alone. The ward members are giving Bishop Gunn and his counselors a nice gift, also, a set of church books, I think. I borrowed Mrs. Allen's typewriter, and Donna typed the poems we composed for our pages. We cut pretty birds and flowers, out of Christmas cards. Donna used the music staff and notes, in black on the white paper; each note had one of their pictures in. It was surely pretty when it was finished, darn clever, I say! Mine looked pretty, too, I think. I had our heads framed in little red hearts in the top right corner, and tiny blue birds, with pink breasts, on a limb in the other corner. A crossroad sign was in the center with friendly greetings printed on, and then my poem, a snow scene in the left bottom corner, and a California poinsettia in the right corner. We took our pages to Mutual to give to Ray. We had many nice compliments on them. Now I don't feel so badly about not being able to do my ironing, ha, ha! We enjoyed Mutual. Donna and Beth played two piano duets in the program; Inis gave a reading on the composer F. Schubert.



January 26, Wednesday

I worked all morning on my little mission record book, getting the record transferred into the new book that I bought. The other book was falling apart. I didn't buy a loose-leaf book this time; the leaves won't pull away from this book. Oh dear! I didn't get my ironing done before it was time to go out. My housework has to suffer these days of missionary work. I went to the post office, sent a post office check for Donna to Ross Loos, and one to the telephone company for our bill. I met Florence Marsh at Avenue 50 and we did some missionary tracting. We had a nice visit with Mrs. Kilson in her home. Florence wasn't feeling too well; her throat was bothering her. She almost lost her voice. Well, I guess Joan did have the chicken pox after all, because Janet and baby Mary are broken out today. Both feel fine. Janet went to school before Donna knew it. Mary's hair is full of the darn things, and she keeps scratching her poor little head. Dear old Sr. Christensen came to Donna's house

with Ernie Oates tonight, she wanted to know how to fix her page for the Bishop's scrapbook. She is dear, so didn't hear the instructions, sweet old dear. I tried to help her with ideas.

January 27, Thursday

I spent three hours studying this morning, for the lesson I have to give Sunday in our missionary class. My ironing was sitting right there under my nose, I didn't think I'd ever see the day I could let my housework go while I did church studying or anything else. I've been out three times doing missionary work this week and expect to go again tomorrow. Our stake is trying to make a 100% record to present President David Taylor on his last month as stake mission president. I surely hope all the wards are doing as well as Garvanza. We'll make it if they are. Sr. Spencer and I called on Irene LaMar, our little Catholic friend living on Bertha Street. We had a nice long visit in her home. Mrs. O'Brien, Irene's mother, was there. Nice people, not much hopes of converting them, I'm afraid, there is too much Catholic in the blood. We enjoyed the lamb stew I made; I gave Donna a bowl full, also. Donna went to choir with Lou tonight. I took care of the children. Little Mary is so spotted up with chicken pox. Janet isn't so bad. Joan had a real light case; she is back in school.

January 28, Friday

Lou let me sleep in this morning. He bought breakfast and lunch out. This is his idea to give me a good treat; which I enjoyed so much, bless his heart. I put my hair up in pin curls, and then went over and put Donna's hair up. Donna has her hands full with all the children in the house. They can't go out because of the chicken pox. Joan is over them; she goes to school in the afternoons. I met Florence at 2:30 we did two hours of tracting, met some nice people and enjoyed several fine gospel conversations. We were invited in to one house, have several invitations to return. Donna made a cake to take to the Bishop's party or testimonial tonight. We called by for Ruby Nelson, the blind girl. Loyce Danbecker took care of the children tonight while Donna was at the church. The program was very nice. The elder's chorus sang three numbers, Donna's trio sang three numbers, Jewel Udall played a violin solo, Marie Cowe sang three numbers, Cecil Moore gave a talk on the work of Bishop Gunn while in Garvanza. Bishop Gunn told of his accomplishments while in Garvanza. It was a nice program and they served ice cream and cake. I gave mine to Lou. The ward members gave six volumes of "Church History" to Bishop and the scrapbook. The counselors got two nice books each. Myron Greenwald was the counselor being released, too.

January 29, Saturday

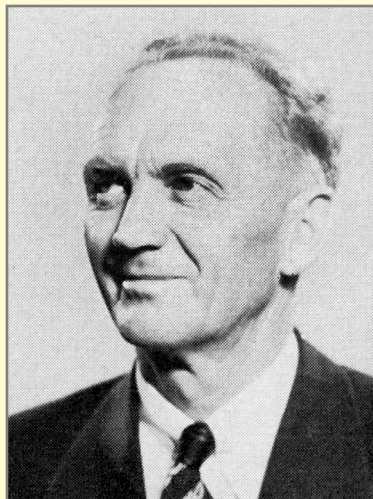
I went to the market this morning for Donna and myself, to get meat and other groceries before they had all gone. We were lucky to get soap and soap powder, and Best Foods Mayonnaise, something we don't often see now days. I could get only one pint bottle, so Donna went up and got a few things for herself that we were limited to one each. Lou did some building for Ernie Oates at his station today. I had to clean through my house this afternoon because of doing missionary work yesterday. I did something else unusual, too, my Relief Society visiting teaching which I've never done on a Saturday, but this was the last chance. I had to get it done in January. I've been out doing missionary work four days this past week. This evening Lou and I rode to Highland Park to do a little shopping. I bought a few things from the drug store and Kress Store. We walked around a little, and then went to Si's Market and home. I cooked a leg of lamb before going to bed. Lou helped me whip the ice cream for freezing. We put crushed peppermint stick candy in it.

January 30, Sunday

Lou was going to work at Ernie's station, but he didn't go because it was raining. He took me over to my missionary class. I gave the lesson. Florence M. wasn't there because she had five of John's brother's family come in from Montana last night; Rufus and family. They came to Sunday School. Donna and the children stayed home because of chicken pox. The Allen's have had some people out looking their houses over; maybe we'll have a new landlord?? Hope not, we surely do like the present ones we have. Louis and I enjoyed a nap after dinner. He stretched out on the couch and me in the sleepy hollow chair. I was reading from my Bible and fell asleep. The rain lasted only a short time this morning. It was cloudy most of the day, through. We had a nice meeting tonight. Elder's chorus sang two numbers, the choir sang twice. Ray Ross gave a fine talk and Bishop Gunn, also. It was the best I've heard the bishop give; it was his farewell speech. He will be leaving for Utah soon. We were surprised and pleased to see Lucille Brown in church. We brought her home to see Donna and family. She ate a bite of lunch with Lou and me. Donna had just eaten. Lucille is visiting from Springville, Utah. She left her baby with her folks, but showed us her picture. She is cute, same age as our baby Mary.



Bishop Harold Gunn was released in January 1944.



Bishop Eldon Overlade was sustained in January 1944.

January 31, Monday

We are getting along fine with our new bishopric. David Taylor conducted our meetings yesterday, Bishop Overlade last

Sunday. Kenn Bywater is out of town, in Salt Lake City. It was raining this morning early. We didn't wash because Donna had an appointment with Dr. Rollo Watkins to have her wisdom tooth extracted. I stayed with the baby while Donna took Joan up to school and went to the dentist. I went up to school to get Joan at 3 p.m. She was so thrilled with her \$2.00 worth of defense stamps. Donna gave her \$2.00 this morning to buy them. I went in the schoolroom with her; the teacher had only given her \$1.00 worth. The teacher was so sorry she'd made such a mistake. She remembered the amount was \$2.00. It would be an easy thing to do with so many buying stamps. Joan was so proud of the little flags by her name on the black board, she had the most flags, since her purchase this afternoon. Rex called Donna on the phone, wanted her to meet him in Pasadena this evening and take the bus trip with him to Long Beach. She left at 5 p.m. They had a nice trip, brought an empty bus back to Los Angeles, and got home about 12:15 midnight. Lou went to elder's chorus practice at John Treu's.

February 1, Tuesday

I was so tired this morning, being up so late last night waiting for Rex and Donna to get home. Lou said, "stay in bed," he didn't have to invite me twice, he bought his breakfast and lunch today, bless him. The bread man's whistle woke me at 9:30. I hurried through work and went to the Relief Society work meeting. We had a nice lunch, beef stew with biscuits and vegetables in, Jello and cream and cookies. Florence Marsh helped with the luncheon this time, so we didn't get out on missionary work today. She was too busy and had a house full of company, also. I did a little more sewing after lunch, and then brought the towel home to finish, with all I have to do, oh me! I was happy and surprised to see Sue at Relief Society today. She was there as a stake board representative. She says Al is feeling fine now, but Br. Haddock is quite ill again, sorry to learn that. Rex took the day off and he and Janet went to the park near here and she had a pony ride. Joan was in school. Janet will be back in school next week, I guess. Rex, Donna and I went to Mutual tonight; we rode in Oates' car. Rex and I took it over to pick Ruby Nelson up. Myrtle and Ed Robinson took Ruby home. I enjoyed the Mutual as usual.



Joan bought defense stamps at school.

February 2, Wednesday

Donna and I had a nice big washing and a lovely sunny day in which to do it. Baby Mary played in her playpen out in the backyard most of the day. The hills are so green and pretty this time of year. The air smells so fragrant with so many violets and narcissus blooming in our neighborhood; also other spring flowers. Yes, this is surely a favored land, and Grama Elvie is happy to be alive (in California). I received a nice letter from Violet the other day. She was telling me of the very beautiful snow scene she was looking at in Cedar city, 36 inches of snow, and still snowing, so white and fluffy. The trees and clotheslines piled high. I thrilled at the thought of it, too, for I always did love a beautiful snow scene. We have so many beautiful and wonderful things to bring joy. Why do men seek wars to destroy God's blessings to us?? The answer is selfishness.

Florence Marsh and I did some missionary tracting on South Avenue 54 and Glenn Ellen Street this afternoon. We had some nice gospel conversations, met two ladies who were Mormons, but haven't been to church in 19 or 20 years. Poor dears, what a lot of blessed happiness they've missed. I stayed with the children tonight while Donna went to church to correlation meeting. The Mutual officers gave Myrle Fowler a party and gift after the meeting tonight. He is leaving for service in the Navy. Donna baked a chocolate cake to take. The gift was a shaving belt or apron. Lou went over to talk to Mrs. Lefner about a remodeling job she wants done.

February 3, Thursday

Rex called to see his mother last evening after work. He ate dinner with them; they brought him home. John's brother, Rufus and wife Alice, bought a home today in Monterey Park in the outskirts of Los Angeles. They sold a ranch in Montana, came here last week and bought this place to see if California will improve Ruf's health. I was ironing at 2:10 when Sr. Spencer came. I didn't think we'd be going out because it was raining at one o'clock and looked like it would come down again any minute. I was glad, however, that she did come. We made a missionary call on Mrs. Heath, on Bertha Street; she had company. We saw three people, who accepted tracts, we also left two tracts under Mrs. Coupe's door, she was out. We made a revisit to Mrs. Lamb (Jack Mormon), and called on Mrs. Brown, the elderly lady who

lives at 219 North Avenue 60. She was sick in bed and so glad to see us. She is a Baptist, but always welcomes us. She thinks all who love Christ Jesus will dwell in His heaven hereafter, nice thought? I finished my ironing when I got home; it was raining when we came out of Mrs. Brown's house. Rex, Donna, and Lou went to choir practice tonight. I stayed with the children; Janet beat me at checkers.

February 4, Friday

The school children had to be at school this morning at eight o'clock. It seemed so early for little Joan to be going to school. They had to go early because of being promoted into a higher grade. Second term starts Monday. Janet will be back in school then, the chickenpox have almost disappeared from Janet and Mary. I guess Joan will go in the mornings next term, which will be better for Donna, as Janet can take her to school and Donna can call for her at noon. Janet will still go until 2 p.m. I spent most of this day mending and darning. All morning I worked on the talk I have to give in our missionary class on the "Holy Ghost." Donna took Janet to Beth's this afternoon for her piano lesson. Mary was in her playpen in my house, I was sewing. She was so good and darn cute; she talked and talked. I couldn't understand her and I guess she didn't understand all I said either, but we had a grand time, anyway. Lou went to work a couple of hours at Ernie's station, a remodeling job, after his own county work. We ate dinner at 6:30 p.m., hurried through dishes and went to the Park Theater to see Bette Davis in "Old Acquaintance," Miriam Hopkinson was excellent in the picture, too.



February 5, Saturday

I studied my talk this morning and did the cleaning this afternoon. Of course I played with baby Mary for an hour when Donna and children came over this morning. Oh, she is cute, but they all were just as cute at her age. In fact I love to see them grow up, they are so interesting to watch, the ideas they have and the different ways they have of expressing their own personalities. Both Janet and Joan have chest colds. Janet had to have a mustard plaster tonight, Joan has been coughing for several days, but Janet is the one who can't have a chest cold without having special attention, or else she is sick. Lou worked at Ernie's gas

station today, some carpenter work he is doing for Ernie, enlarging the machine shop and etcetera. Both Donna and I made up some chocolate ice cream from the Kraft package (Frizz). We helped each other do the whipping job, which is the only hard part about making it. Too bad we haven't an electric beater, eh? Lou took me to Si Perkin's Market tonight. We also took Rex's suit to the cleaners. We had no points for a roast so we'll go without. Bought 30¢ worth of lunch meat. Mr. Allen has traded his dog, "Susie" off for another hunting dog named, "Boots." We'll miss Susie; she was a swell neighborhood dog, so friendly. The children all loved her, but she wasn't a good hunter, so she had to go.



Charles Clayton suffers a stroke on February 6.

February 6, Sunday

Beverly came for Uncle Lou and me about three o'clock today. Charlie had just had a stroke caused by his bad heart, we think. He went to Sunday School this morning, seemed to be feeling as well as usual. He brought me home from Sunday School. He was out in his yard; I believe he was trying to get into the house when he slumped down against the house in the foliage near the back door. Lorene couldn't lift him, so she ran for Br. Onley who carried him into the house. His right side is paralyzed, he can't talk, but he knows what we say to him, and knows all of us. His eyes tell us that, and he lifts his left hand out to us. His face was not drawn at all; he smiled at Lorene. Sue and Al came in after Annie called them. Bill stayed with Lorene and Charles all night. We all feel so upset about this awful thing happening to Charlie. I do hope it won't be as bad as it now seems. Mary was at Jorgensen's, everyone understood she had gone with the family to see Harvey who is in the Naval Hospital, but she was there all day, as they didn't go. We could have called her; she had to find out when she went to church. Mary wrote to Ray and Vernon. Lou and I mailed letters on the way home tonight. Lou stayed with the children tonight while Donna and I went to church. Lou and I went to Clayton's after church. Today Dr. Watkins couldn't be located. But Dr. Johnson came; he left some medicine for Charlie.

February 7, Monday

I was kept busy answering phone calls this morning, folks asking about Charlie. Bill came over this morning for my bedpan. He says Charlie was quiet all night; he and Lorene didn't sleep any though. I feel so sorry for poor Lorene and Charles, a paralytic stroke is such an awful thing. Mary feels so badly too. Oh, it is a shame, this must come to them, and Ray so far away too. Bessie Hansen called to talk about our choir coming to her ward next Sunday night. Annie and Bill helped Lorene do her washing this afternoon. Annie did most of it. She did her own washing this morning, too. I brought the clothes home this evening to iron tomorrow. My heart aches when I look at Charlie lying there so helpless, with his eyes trying to say the things he wants us to know. Oh, I wish he could get his speech

back. Faith and prayers are the only things now, and we've got to exercise them, Charlie must get better. Dr. Watkins came this afternoon and gave him a good examination. He says the side isn't totally paralyzed, he has some reflex in his right leg and arm, but he said the brain injury is in the worst part of the brain. Charlie understands everything that is said to him. Bill stayed all night at Lorene's again.

February 8, Tuesday

It was raining when we got up this morning. Lou forgot to set the alarm clock, so he had to get dressed and out as quickly as he could. I was sorry he had to go without a nice warm breakfast, but nevertheless, I did enjoy the chance to sleep later, tucked in nice warm bed. It rained most of the day. Florence M. and I had planned to do missionary work this afternoon, but the rain changed our plans. I did Lorene's ironing. Annie and Beverly called in this morning on their way to Lorene's. I gave Annie money to get some vitamins like she gave Dale, to give to Janet and see if it'll do as much good to help build our little dear up as they did for Dale. Janet has been in bed since Sunday with a chest cold. She doesn't feel like eating. The chicken pox have all disappeared and this cold must go, too. Little Mary has a head cold today, neither of them were sick with the chicken pox, but all three of them got colds after the pox left. Bill and Annie took me to Lorene's this evening.

We are all so happy because there is a marked improvement in Charlie. He could swallow and hold the glass. He cleaned his own teeth, and smiled at us several times today. Sue came in from Burbank; she stayed all night with Lorene. Lou shaved Charlie tonight. I went to Mutual with Rex and Donna. We had a party after class. Donna made a chocolate cake for Rex to take to treat his Mutual class of boys. He bought two quarts of ice cream to take, also. All classes had parties. Garvanza folks are still calling Annie and me to ask about Charlie, nice of them.

February 9, Wednesday

It is a beautiful clear day, so lovely and fresh looking after our rains yesterday. The hills are so green and pretty. Donna and I had a large washing. I did two blankets. Sr. Jorgensen and Sue were with Lorene today. Charlie wasn't quite as alert today, maybe he has had too much excitement, or company. He must be kept very quiet the doctor says. Lou stayed with Lorene and Charlie tonight. Florence Oates called for Donna and me tonight; we went to Lavone Olsen's bridal shower. Venda Berkelson and Mary Henry, Lavone's cousins, gave the shower. We had it in the Gleaner room at the church, no, my mistake, it was the Relief Society room. It was a nice party; she got some lovely gifts. We met her mother [*Emily Luella Wells Olsen*] from Utah, who came for

the wedding. She is a very nice looking lady. Rex got home in time to stay with the children.

February 10, Thursday

I bought some pillowslips and a sister card for Annie, but couldn't get over to wish her a "Happy Birthday," only over the phone. I sent the gift with Donna to choir practice tonight; she gave it to Beverly. It is hard to find pillowslips nowadays. When you do, the hems are so little they look strange. Oh well, this is war! Lou slept at Clayton's last night. Charlie didn't have a very good nights rest, so of course, Lorene and Lou were awake a lot. I don't think Lorene slept at all, poor dear. I ironed this morning. Donna took Janet up to see the school nurse. She can go back to school again. I met Florence at Avenue 56 and we did some missionary tracting, we had several nice long gospel conversations, which made our afternoon very pleasant. Donna and Florence went to give their blood at the "blood bank," at 5 p.m., at the Methodist church in Highland Park. I objected, but was overruled. Bless her heart, I hope it'll be all right for her to do it, it will! I got the dinner ready at Donna's; she had a pot roast almost cooked. Mary feels better, still has miserable head cold. Rex got home too late to go to choir. I fixed him some dinner. Sr. Hardy stayed with Lorene today. Ruth Cartwright and Nora McKay called to ask about Charlie this morning.

February 11, Friday

I went to Lorene's this morning to help her with Charlie. He looks brighter today. I feel he'll overcome this illness and again be able to talk and walk. But it is surely a trial to him now while he can't tell what is on his mind, or can't use his right side. We feel so helpless when trying to understand the things he is trying so hard to say. I get so provoked with myself because I can't get all he tries to tell me, darn it, anyway. But Charlie just smiles and shakes his head as if to say, "Oh you are so dumb." I'm glad he can smile about it anyway. He has no trouble in understanding what we tell him, thank goodness. Annie and Bill came about 1:30 p.m., Mary got home at 2 p.m. from sewing school. I left to go to the bank and pay gas bills for Donna and me. I met Florence Marsh on Avenue 57,



Lorene Clayton

and we did missionary tracting on South Avenue 57. We met some very nice people and were invited in one lady's home. We had several nice gospel conversations at the doors. Florence and I called back in to see Lorene. I was tired tonight. Lou made the gate for the front fence at Donna's place. When it is hung and painted with two coats, it will be finished; it looks so nice. John, the man who is moving into Charlie's little rear house, was working on the inside and fence today. I bought some oranges at Lorene's door, and then left them there for them to eat.



Abraham Lincoln's birthday February 12, 1944.

February 12, Saturday

Today is Abraham Lincoln's birthday. I wish we had a lot more Lincoln's living in this day of war and strife and conflict. Lou worked at Ernie's station all day. Bill and Al worked on Charlie's little house in the rear. They put the ceiling up. I wish Lou could have been with them, but he had this job of Ernie's started and had to finish it up. I walked up to the Better Food Market twice this morning. I couldn't bring it all the first time. I took my little shopping cart both times, too. I made a vegetable beef loaf for tomorrow and a casserole dish to take to the missionaries and seventies party tonight. Donna put out a big washing because she is going to Laura Johnson's Monday to bathe the new baby boy, and help Laura through the day. She can't get help, so the girls of our wards are each taking turns in going a day until Laura is well enough to take over by herself. She was in the hospital one week. Her mother stayed home from her job to take care of the children but then she had to go back to her work. Lou and I had a lot of fun and good eats at the party tonight in honor of Dave Taylor, our mission president, who is being released. We danced to old fashioned music; Bob Seguire, Br. Trimble, and Bud, their friend, mouth organ, steel guitar and guitar.

February 13, Sunday

Lou took me to church, and then he went to work at Ernie's station. Florence O. brought Janet and Joan over to Sunday School. Br. Lewis brought us all home from Sunday School. Lou got through in time to eat dinner with me. We went down to see how Charlie was feeling. I think he looks brighter. Oh, I wish he could talk and tell us what he has on his mind. Loyce Stanbecker stayed with Donna's children this evening while we were at the Huntington Park Ward. The choir had a rehearsal at church at 5 p.m. I met them at 6:05, after feeding baby Mary and putting her to bed. Inis and I met them at South Avenue 60 and Benner Street.

Al and Sue went with us, he was asked to speak, but the program was too long, so he has promised to go back in two weeks. He only said a few words. They had two young boys, and a reading, which were lovely, but took time. We had fifty-four members from Garvanza. The musical was lovely and the folks treated us grand. Bessie Hansen, who arranged for this evening, seemed real pleased. Rex, Donna, and Ed Robinson had solo parts.

February 14, Monday

Donna went over to help Laura Johnson this morning. She just got home from the hospital with a new baby boy. The girls are taking turns in going over a day each, to help until Laura is strong enough to take over herself. Donna took a chocolate cake



and a Jello salad with her. Bill Johnson came for her at 10 a.m. I stayed with baby Mary. Janet and Joan went up to the playgrounds to a valentine party for the children, in the Community House. They went with Pollyanna and Sandra in their car. Each took a valentine and a nickel for refreshments. Rex got home before Donna, so I left things in his care. I went to Highland Park and bought a few gifts to give my little Marshes, across the street, for Valentines. I bought red sox for all three children and a pair of rayon hose for Donna. I also bought some candy and nuts to put in with the little valentines I had for them. I sent Rex two pair of the rayon sox that Mother R. sent Lou last month for his birthday. She sends 'em too large every time. He gave them to Rex last year; also, they were too big for Rex so Rex gave them to his brother-in-law, Dick. Ha ha! I had a lot of fun sending the valentines. Janet and Joan get so excited when the doorbell rings. I'd go to the front door, and then to the back door, more fun! Lou and I had a nice time tonight at the elder's chorus party. The chorus presented conductor, John Treu, with a lovely leather music case like the one Lou's choir gave him.

February 15, Tuesday

Rex took the day off. He and Donna wanted to take in a show this afternoon, but I had made arrangements to go out doing some missionary tracting with Florence Marsh. We met at Figueroa and Avenue 57 and worked the left side of the street. We had some very nice gospel conversations and were invited into two homes, one with a young woman who said she is a Mormon. She is a nice person, I wish she would come out to church and stop her smoking. She was born in the same town as Martha Seguire, Fillmore, Utah. She knows her well. We visited in the Saxelby home, Miss Bee was sick with a cold. Olive was up, but not feeling so well. Miss Bee got up to talk to us. We called in to see Charlie. Lorene was at the store; Mary was home. Charlie looks better. Oh, I wish his speech would come back. Lou and Bill worked this evening on Charlie's little house in the rear,

inside work. They are trying to get it finished so it can be rented. Rex, Donna, and I went to Mutual with Florence Oates. The Junior girls and Explorers gave a one-act play after classes; it was cute. They did well. The young Ashmore boy was very good in his part. It is really cold tonight. Annie went to Lorene's today, I'll go tomorrow.

February 16, Wednesday

We had a heavy frost last night. Well, heavy for California. We've had more frost and cold weather this winter than any since I've been in California. Not a lot of rain yet, but I guess we'll get it soon. I took the bus to Lorene's this morning. Charlie looks better, he can set up in bed without help and he is eating better. I surely do hope and pray he'll get his speaking back, and use of limbs soon. He wants so desperately to tell us what to do about the little unfinished house he was building in the rear. It was all done, but inside finishing work, when he had his stroke. Bill and Lou worked last evening on it. John, the fellow who is planning on moving in, works there every day. The gas man put in a new meter this morning; Charlie was so interested in it. Lorene got a letter from Ray, he didn't know about his Dad's illness when he wrote this one. I feel so sorry for him when he hears the awful news. I dusted the front rooms and helped Lorene change Charles's bedding, and did some ironing; Lorene did some washing. Florence Marsh came at 2 p.m., Mary was home then. I left to do some missionary tracting with Florence. We found a Mormon girl living next door to Lorene; she is about Mary's age. We invited her out to a dance Saturday night. We had a nice visit in a Methodist minister's home. He was in the hospital ill with heart trouble. Nice folks, wife, sister, and sister-in-law. We took Florence Marsh and Beth Johnston to the stake officers meeting. Florence was called on by President Taylor to give a talk in our missionary class; she did it very well.

February 17, Thursday

Pollyanna took the neighborhood kiddies to school this morning in her car. She got her back bumper caught in our picket fence. Mr. Allen had to take off two pickets to get her free. It is hard to get out without running into the fence on either side of the driveway. This is her first offense of "da fence." It was raining when Janet got out of school so Pollyanna went up to school for Sandra and Janet. It was surely nice of her; she went 20 minutes early, so as to catch Janet who gets out sooner than her girl, Sandra. Bob and Inis came for Donna about 1:35. The trio had a rehearsal at Beth's house. I stayed with the children again tonight while Donna went to choir practice. Rex got home early and went to the playgrounds to play basketball with the church elders and seventies. I shampooed my hair this evening and put it up in pin curls before they left for choir practice. Sue spent the day with Lorene.

February 18, Friday

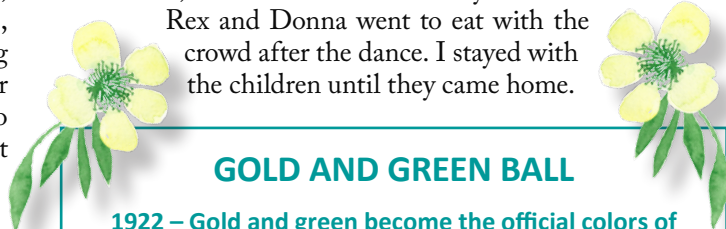
I enjoyed giving my house a good cleaning today. It's the first Friday's cleaning day I've been able to have in several weeks. Tonight we had a missionary testimony meeting in President David Taylor's home. Will Olmstead took his mother and Maude Craddock and me to the meeting. We

had a fine meeting. Sally served cake and hot chocolate after the meeting. Elder Ernie Jones brought Maude and me home. I guess this is the last meeting we'll have in the Taylor's home with him as the mission president. He is called to the bishopric now.

February 19, Saturday

Lou worked at our neighbor's today. He built some cupboards for Mrs. Stanbacker on her back porch. It rained most of the day. Donna took me to the market in our car. Florence Oates and Helen Stay went to Santa Ana to bring some Mormon boys who are in the service, to our Mutual Gold and Green Ball tonight. Too bad it had to rain so much. Donna has another cold, she has been doctoring so she could sing with the trio tonight. The girls sang three songs while four of the Gleaner Girls danced for us on the floor show. Poor Donna had a small painful boil on her face, also cramps and this cold when she wanted to feel so swell for the dance. Loyce Stanbacker stayed with the children tonight. We called for Ruby Nelson and her boyfriend, and his "seeing eye dog," Pang, and took them to the party. It was raining and kept it up most of the night. We had a very lovely Green and Gold Ball, nice big crowd out, nice music. Everyone had a nice time. Helen Stay was elected queen; she was very lovely in white satin, on a throne trimmed in yellow satin.

Rex and Donna went to eat with the crowd after the dance. I stayed with the children until they came home.



GOLD AND GREEN BALL

1922 – Gold and green become the official colors of the MIA. Also the first gold and green ball is held.

Occasionally, one still hears of a Gold and Green Ball being held in one of the units of the Church, the last vestige of what was once a pervasive custom in stakes and wards. The balls were best-dress dances put on yearly. Within the confines of limited budgets, the best band available was hired and the cultural hall decorated as lavishly as possible. Sponsored by the MIAs, the dances typically attracted young and old. In later years, most people had forgotten the significance of the colors gold and green, but the dances continued to be popular until changing tastes in music and dancing made it somewhat difficult to put on a dance that appealed to both adults and youth.

"Actually," wrote Harold Lundstrom in the Jan. 26, 1949, Church News, "Gold and Green Balls were first introduced to the MIAs of the Church through a recommendation of Pres. Oscar A. Kirkham, and then a member of the YMMIA general board. He proposed that each year the Mutuals sponsor a formal dance with the highest and most beautiful standards possible. Clarissa A. Beesley of the Young Women general board suggested using the names of the MIA colors, green and gold.

"These suggestions, adopted at the suggestion of Ellen Wallace Green, stands for youth and growth; gold stands for purity and perfection - combined, they symbolized the young men and women of the Church and their MIA program. Some years later, by official action of the general boards, the order of the words was changed from green and gold to gold and green so that they would be more euphonious."

<http://www.ldschurchnewsarchive.com/articles/22770/Some-things-uniquely-LDS.html>

February 20, Sunday

It rained most of the night and all day, a lot of water. Charlie worried because his front room was leaking, two damp spots he could look at. The poor man would have a bad heart attack if he could look out in his yard and see the big hole caved in under the little house. It made us all sick. There must have been a drain under there years ago. All this water has caused the earth to cave in. It is a hole about 10 or 12 feet long, and 5 or 6 feet wide. It'll take tons of dirt to fill in that cavity. Lorene is getting more than her share of trouble. If it had happened a few feet to the right it would have taken the little house with it. Lou took me to my missionary class and came for me after Sunday School. He was working in the little house at Lorene's when the "cave in" occurred. He took me down to see it. I waited until Lou gave Charlie a shave. We came home to eat dinner. We took Clifford Jorgensen to Clayton's; he took Mary to a wedding shower this afternoon in Ray's car. Rex got home early this evening; he took care of baby Mary while Donna and the girls went to church with us. Donna played for Ralph Shaffer and Ed Robinson to sing Ralph's beautiful composition of the 23rd Psalm. Oh, it is a lovely piece of music; they sang it so nice, too. We went to Lorene's after bringing Donna and the girls home. Oh, what a stormy day! The ground and house tops were white with hail and snow when we came out of church tonight.

February 21, Monday

More rains today. Oh dear! I do hope that awful cave-in, in Charlie's yard is no worse. I'm sure these storms won't help any, and the leak in his living room will be a lot worse; the poor man has to lie there helpless watching it get larger. He'd pass out if he could see the damage done out under the little house in the rear, it was almost ready for rental, too. The storm caused an old drain to cave in yesterday. Of course he never dreamt of any drain under his property. Ellen Scott called from Compton to ask about Charlie and to get Lorene's address. Janet is in bed today with a sore throat and headache. Donna should be in bed; she has a bad cold and painful boil. I put out Mary's baby washing and a few things. It rained as soon as I got them out. We needed rain, but too much at a time has caused a lot of damage. I wrote a letter to Roland Renshaw this afternoon. Lou didn't go out in the rain to the elder's chorus practice. He drew up some plans for the blueprint of the house he wants to build in Donna's backyard over the garages when he gets more money and etcetera.

February 22, Tuesday

We were awake off and on all night, the wind blew so hard and rains poured down. We also had heavy electrical storms, which blew out our electric lights. We both worried about Lorene alone with Charlie. Their living room was leaking Sunday so after this down pour, oh dear. Poor Lorene had that awful cave-in, out in the yard to think about, too. She doesn't dare tell Charlie. It has rained hard most of this day. I couldn't get out to Lorene's. I hope Mary stayed home with her. Lou went to work without breakfast, no lights. Rex rode

to town with Lou, they ate breakfast together. I wrote to Stanley Renshaw, Ralph Keller, and Harold Stead, all boys in Uncle Sam's service. I

wrote to Roland yesterday. I must answer Ray Clayton's letter, too. It has been dark and wet all day. Donna and Janet are better today. The Los Angeles Light Company men are out on strike, so not much chance to have our lights fixed very soon. I located some candles so we spent this evening by candlelight. Lou worked on Charlie's little rear house after work, so our dinner was late. I ate before he came; he ate at 8 p.m. by light of candle. The shadows on the walls shed by candle lights amused me. No school in Garvanza or Burbank because of storm and no electricity.

February 23, Wednesday

The skies cleared somewhat this morning, but we couldn't wash because of no electricity. I did Mary's washing and a few pieces out by hand. Donna and Janet feel better today. Janet has a

stiff neck and throat is still inflamed, but she is better. I'm glad the Army took over the Light Company's business today, so the men could go back to work and we could have our electricity again. There has been tons of food spoil because of no refrigeration. I went to the post office this afternoon and mailed letters to Roland and Stanley Renshaw, Ralph Keller, and Harold Stead. I did a little shopping in Kress Store and Si's Market. I took jackets and Rex's silk jacket back from cleaners. The wind blew out the huge plate glass window of the cleaners last night, breaking a \$700.00 neon sign. An awful lot of damage was done by this storm, which started last Thursday. We are happy it is over, or hope it is. We had no school again today. The lights were out for 38 hours, they came on today at 4 p.m.



Psalm 23

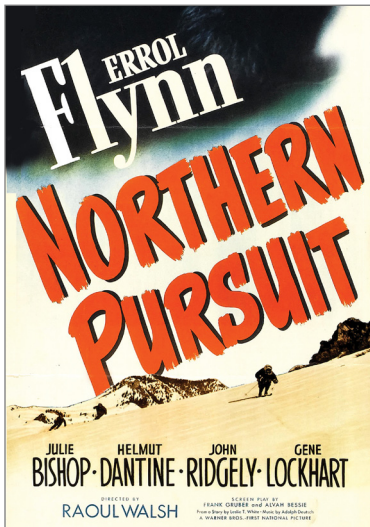
*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house
of the Lord for ever.*

February 24, Thursday

The sunshine is surely welcome after the stormy weather. Donna and I had a large washing. I talked to Florence Marsh on the phone; she has a bad cold in her throat. We haven't been able to do any missionary work this week. Donna went to Morgan's Beauty Shop this afternoon. Chrystal M. gave her a permanent wave. She got home at ten minutes to six, looking pretty. I stayed with the children again tonight while Rex, Donna, and Lou went to choir practice. Br. Barton, stake director, came to rehearse for the conference music. Conference is next Sunday. I'm so sorry I haven't been able to get down to Lorene's at all this week. Donna and Janet were sick Monday and Tuesday. We've had such awful storms, too. Lou has called in almost every evening after work, so I'm relieved to hear they are getting along okay. The doctor said Charlie's paralyzed leg and arm are improving; he can move his toes and fingers a tiny bit, but the doctor said his heart is in a very bad condition. He must be careful and rest a long time. I worked too hard today, had an asthma attack, first one in four months.

February 25, Friday

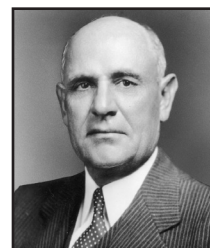
I was slowed down today because of asthma last night; I didn't get much rest. I worked too hard yesterday and had to pay as usual. I did get my ironing done today. I took my time,



with rests in between. I mended some underwear and darned sox while resting. Beth brought Diana down to her dancing lesson. Rex went up to the top of the hill to get baby David. After the dancing, Beth and Diana came to Donna's and Beth gave Janet her piano lesson. Dick called for Beth and children this evening. Donna had dinner ready and insisted they all stay and eat with them, which they did. Dick and Rex went to the playgrounds to play basketball with the elders of our ward. Lou and I enjoyed the picture show at the Park Theater tonight. We saw Errol Flynn and Julie Bishop in "Northern Pursuit" and Dorothy Lamoure and Dick Powell, in "Riding High." I feel much better this evening after my day of fasting, tomato juice, and conjoin tea. I bought a rabbit from Mr. Allen, \$1.25, for Sunday.

February 26, Saturday

It was nice and clear this morning. Donna took all sheets and bedspreads off beds and washed them, she got them all out when the clouds came; in a few minutes it was raining. I helped her bring them all back in. We had a real heavy downpour and black gloomy looking skies. Lou went down to work in Charlie's little house today. I helped Donna make her beds up this morning. I did my cleaning. Donna made a chocolate cake to take out to Elaine's to the potluck dinner; all the young friends went out there to have a nice get together. The boys went to priesthood first. Donna and Rex rode out with Johnny and Marie K. Loyce Danbacker stayed with Donna's children tonight. Sandra Moyer slept at Donna's so Loyce could take care of her, also. Pollyanna and Beecher went out to celebrate somewhere. Bill and Annie took me down to Lorene's about 3 p.m. I stayed with Charlie while Bill took Lorene and Annie to the market. Br. Reiche papered the bedroom in the little house and the ceiling in the living room. It's going to look very nice. Lou started to build the back or screen porch, the rain held him up some. He shaved Charlie, and then we went to Si's Market and home. I fried my rabbit tonight for tomorrow. Mary received a letter from a boy who thanked her for a letter she had not written to him. She is surely puzzled over it. Vernon sent her a \$200 money order.



J. Rueben Clark, (above) & Stephen L. Richards were the speakers for conference on February 27, 1944.

February 27, Sunday

Today was a lovely sunny day. We left home with Donna and the children and Tillie M o s l e y about 8:30,

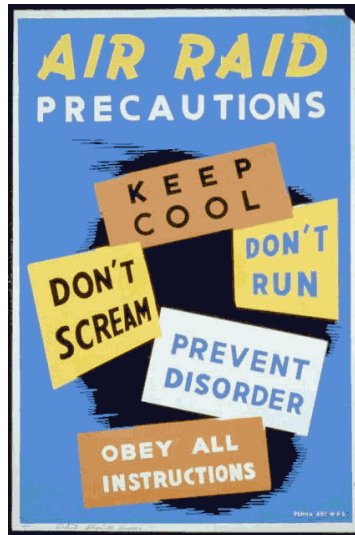
for the stake house in Burbank. We took Donna and Tillie to the stake house first, so they could rehearse with the choir before the ten o'clock session. We then took the children to Elaine's. She took care of nine kiddies while we all enjoyed conference (the sweet girl). She had her own four, Donna's three, Bette's one and Dale. I did enjoy both sessions, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. We didn't have an afternoon session, I wonder why? J. Rueben Clark and Stephen L. Richards came from Salt Lake City. We all ate dinner at Elaine's house. She had the table set and the children all fed when we got home. Sue had a lovely ham cooked. I brought a platter of fried rabbit. Elaine cooked a big pan of scalloped potatoes and corn and peas. We had a lovely dinner, even homemade rolls Bette made. It was lots of fun. I took care of Mary while Donna and the girls did the dishes. Donna washed them. Elaine took Donna and Tillie over to see Gwen's little twins. They live about two blocks from Elaine. Sue and Al went to Huntington Park Ward tonight, he was the speaker out there.

February 28, Monday

Donna did her washing and a few of my pieces. I wrote to Dad, Violet, Lydia, and Mother R., and then I went to the post office and the bank and then to Lorene's. I got to her house about noon. Charlie was just about to eat his lunch. He looked fine, was propped up in bed. Lorene had her washing out and the house cleaned, so I did nothing but help fold up the clean clothes and bring them in. Oscar and Blanche came this afternoon and left Lorene some eggs. Oscar is on his vacation. Lou came after his work and worked on the framework of the back screen porch in the rear house. Br. Reiche worked all day papering; he has the bedroom finished, and the bathroom, also a good start on the living room. The little place is going to look real nice. Lou worked until almost 7 p.m., Lorene insisted on us eating with them. Mary went to the store for us, bought a cake for me from the bakery on the Avenue. Lorene bought one, too. We enjoyed the dinner, and left Lorene and Mary to clean up the dishes for which I felt ashamed, but Lou was in a hurry. He and Br. Lewis were to serve refreshments for the elder's chorus tonight at Lewis's home, so he felt he must go. Sr. Lewis made lemon pies for them, nice lady. I enjoyed the Park Theater show while Lou was at his elder's chorus practice tonight. Br. Stead called to see Charlie this afternoon, also Olive Saxelby, both have been ill.

February 29, Tuesday

Mrs. Hansen brought Lou's new gas mask over this morning. The government called all the first ones in, this one is much smaller, not nearly so heavy. I wrote a letter to Ray Clayton and to Mother R. Lou went to work on the streetcar this morning, gas running low. He just hates to ride the streetcar or bus. Mary Stead called me on the phone, she has been ill for ten days. I was going to call on her today, but glad she is better and I had a visit over the wire, which saves me a trip to her house. Donna took Janet and Joan to Highland Park and bought each a pair of school shoes, \$3.95 each, lots of money for such little shoes. The girls were pleased as anything with their new shoes, cute darlings. I stayed with Mary, our baby got some pretty little white shoes out at Aunt Elaine's last Sunday. Vinna Cannon gave a lot of Helen's baby clothes to Elaine; the shoes were too small for little Sharon, so Mary



Leap Year 1944

The question comes around every four years: Why do we have Leap Year? Every Leap Year, we have one extra day in February.

We have 3 years with 365 days and then 1 year with 366 days, and then 3 years with 365 days and so on.

So every fourth year we have one extra day. Why do we need this extra day? Seems like a lot of hassle!

A year is how long it takes the earth to circle around (orbit) the sun. Where earth is in relation to the sun determines the climate and the seasons. Popular belief is that a year is exactly 365 days, which is incorrect. A year is actually about 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes 46 seconds.

If we did not adjust with a leap year, the seasons would slowly change at the rate of about 1 day per 4 years. Seasons would come later. For instance, in 100 years winter would begin about 25 days later.

Also, since we add a day every 4 years, but 5 hours 48 minutes 46 seconds times 4 is not quite one whole day, we occasionally have to adjust for that, or the seasons would slowly creep in the other direction (earlier). We solve that by not having Leap Year EVERY 4 years. Once in a long while, we skip one.

To find out what years are not Leap Years, you have to look at the rules for Leap Year: You probably know that the year must be divisible by 4 to be a leap year. However, there are exceptions to that rule. A century year (a year that ends in 00) is only a leap year if it is evenly divisible by 400. Which means: 1800, 1900, 2100, 2200, 2300, 2500, 2600, 2700, and so on are not leap years.

<http://researchmaniacs.com/QuestionsAnswers/WhyLeapYear.html>

was in luck. I did my block teaching after Donna got home. I have three families, four counting me. Estella McComas is the only one, besides Donna, who is home, so it doesn't take long. Sr. Gates works; I've found her home twice in eight years. Donna, Rex, and I went to Mutual in Florence and Ernie's car. Helen Stay brought us home; it was raining when we got out of Mutual.

March 1, Wednesday

The big incident scheduled for 8 p.m. last night in Los Angeles had to be postponed again because of rain. This is the second time they've had to postpone the big air raid incident, where an airplane would drop paper bombs on Los Angeles and a man was to make a parachute landing. It has been postponed each time because of rain. It rained off and on most of the day. Donna brought baby Mary wrapped in a blanket, over in the rain, while she went up to school to get Joan. She went to the market for me, also. Joan was almost home so Donna sent her on along while she went to the market. I talked to Florence Marsh on the phone this morning. She is quite ill with heavy chest cold and sore throat, so we couldn't do missionary work even if the weather would permit us. Florence had the flu last week and went out too soon. She should not have gone to conference on Sunday, I guess. Lou called in Lorene's after work, and gave Charlie a shave. We've had an awful lot of rain this season, more than in many years, the paper says. Lots of damage has been done to the coast towns. Our Arroyo drainage is taking care of the water very well. Donna went to the correlation meeting with Florence and Ernie tonight. Rex came at 8 p.m., so I didn't stay long over there. Daddy and I enjoyed the radio and fireside.

March 2, Thursday

It rained all night, it was raining when Lou went to work; he went on the bus again. Janet and Joan went to school in the rain. Sandra Moyer is sick with a cold. Sandra Pierce never goes in the rain to school. It's been raining all week. I went to Dr. Ziller for a vapator and chiropractor treatment this afternoon. I also bought some heart pills from her. I did some shopping in Boy's Market, and then came home on the streetcar. Mrs. Hansen called at 4:45. She wanted Lou to go down to the Arroyo River

bed and patrol with the other wardens and police. The police department called and asked Mr. Hansen to call the wardens out to help look for the bodies of two children who had been drowned in the riverbed at South Pasadena. The water is madly rushing down the Arroyo since our many rain storms. They had not found the bodies when Lou came home because he had to go to his choir. I stayed with the children tonight while Donna and Rex went to the Park Theater.

March 3, Friday

I did a little ironing this morning, and then went to Lorene's to stay with Charlie while Lorene went to Morgan's Beauty Shop to have Chris Meyers give her a permanent wave. Sue made the appointment for the wave, said she was going to pay for it. Lorene says she is not, since she is going to the benefit dinner at Marshes' for Charlie. A day's pay is the price of admission. John and Florence are giving the dinner in their home. Charlie's little house in the rear is all papered and looks real nice. Lou will do the finishing woodwork when Bill and Al get the casings there, he'll also build the cupboards and etcetera. He is building the back porch now on his spare time. Charlie looks fine, I do wish he could talk, I know he has a lot to say about the building of the little house, or finishing. He did the building before he took ill. The electrician wired the little house today. They've had an awful time to get the plumber, but he's been ill, so they've got another one coming next week. Olive Saxelby came to call on Charlie and stayed all afternoon. Charlie had a nap, I enjoyed hearing about Olive's life in England, she is so sweet. I did a little shopping on the Avenue before coming home. Lorene looks real nice with new hair dress, she brought ice cream to us.

March 4, Saturday

It was cloudy all morning and rained in the afternoon. Lou worked at Ernie's station, carpenter work. I did my cleaning. Donna went to Ivers Store this morning to get sheer hose, but they didn't have any her size. She shopped in Si's Market. I had all the children and Sandra M. here while she was gone. Annie and Bill left their car here, and rode to Marshes' with us this evening. Oh, what a dinner, turkey, chicken, pork

roast, hot rolls, fruit cocktail was green, too (St. Patrick's Day). The dinner was delicious, we each had a note in our nut cup telling us what to do to entertain the crowd. We had a lot of fun. After dinner, we gathered around the piano and sang songs. Donna played, and then Joan took her turn. We had 20 seated at the two tables. I sat between Bishop Overlade and Bill Andersen. John and Florence waited the tables. They all gave a day's pay or more for a benefit to help Charlie and Lorene get the little house in the rear fixed to rent. The dinner cost Marshes \$32.00. Florence's two girls

stayed all night with Janet and Joan. Marshes have \$127.00 and some cents to give Claytons from this dinner. Those present were Hoglunds, Andersens, Bywaters, Oateses, Lewie Marshes, Rex Marshes, Nordstroms, Lou and me, Wayne and Marty, Bishop Overlade and David Taylor. Sr. Overlade wasn't well and Sally Taylor was in San Francisco.

March 5, Sunday— John Marsh's Birthday

We sang Happy Birthday to him last night. Donna made a birthday cake for him today. They gave him a leather wallet and a box of chocolates. I got up at 7 a.m. and fried a rabbit. I must have gotten some flour dust, or else the frying smudge gave me an attack of asthma. I wasn't able to go to my 9 a.m. meeting. I felt okay by 9:30, so had

Donna bring baby Mary and her playpen over here. Donna and the girls went to Sunday School with Florence and her children. Elaine and Florence Irene stayed all night with Donna's children. Dear little Mary had a nap in her playpen. I patted the floor and told her to "go to sleep," the little darling did just that. Of course, Mary and Grama Elvie had played until she was sleepy. She had her orange juice first, so knew it was sleepy time. Bless her heart. Marshes invited Donna and the children down to eat dinner. She came for the baby, they all went in Florence's car. Lou worked at Ernie's station this morning. He gave Charlie a shave before going down. He came home to eat with me. He went to work on Charlie's little house this afternoon; came home at five, we hurried off to church. Donna and Ernie came up to church, left the children at Marshes with Florence. She brought them home after church. Ernie came home to Donna's with us. We brought



Florence and John Marsh with granddaughters Joan Marsh, Elaine Oates and Janet Marsh circa 1944. In March 1944 Florence and John host a benefit dinner for Charles and Lorene Clayton.

Lorene and Mary home from church, also. It was the first time Lorene had been out to church since Charlie's illness. Uncle Bill stayed with Charles. It was Relief Society's night to conduct our meeting. Donna gave the scripture reading, lovely. Stake President Williams and counselor spoke. Both Bishop Overlade and Gunn spoke tonight. The elder's chorus sang two numbers and the choir sang two numbers.

March 6, Monday

Florence Marsh gave \$127.00 and some cents to Mary in Sunday School, to take home to Lorene and Charlie from the benefit dinner at their home on Saturday night. The dinner cost the Marshes \$32.00. It was surely a very generous deed for them to do. They're kind and thoughtful to say the least. It was a lovely sunny day and a treat, after so many dark gloomy wash days. Baby Mary spent most of her day outside in her playpen. I took her for a walk around our side walks this afternoon. Lou went to Lorene's to work on the little house after his own job. He didn't take his car, so he had to walk home from Lorene's, which made him later than usual. He got here at 7 p.m., ate his dinner and cleaned up, and then Ed Robinson called to take him to the chorus practice at Dick Johnston's.



The Bell Telephone Hour was a radio program of music.

I enjoyed the nice fireside and radio programs, especially the "Telephone Hour" with its lovely music. I was pleased to hear Lou say that Charlie could move his paralyzed leg a little more today. Mary wrote thank you letters to all who were at the benefit dinner at

Marshes' last Saturday night. They gave the money to Lorene to help finish the little house up, so Lorene can get it rented. Friends are wonderful, aren't they?

March 7, Tuesday

I talked to Annie this morning on the phone. I told her I'd go to Lorene's and stay with Charlie so Lorene could go to Relief Society and take care of her work. I do wish Lorene had a phone so I could have called and let her know. When I got there, she was just giving Charles his breakfast. She said



Tillie Mosley in back center. Janet Marsh standing third from left. Robin Marsh standing second from right. Tillie was a favorite teacher and friend to all.

she had had a restless night and felt too tired to make the effort to go. She thanked me, but insisted I go to the meeting and the luncheon, which I did and enjoyed both. We had a wonderful testimony meeting; most of us bore our testimonies. Sr. Treu gave a very interesting lesson. She called on me to read a poem I'd never seen. It was a very lovely composition. I was shocked to hear that Lorin Hansen [*Lorin Christian Hansen*] was very ill with heart trouble, a blocked heart. They've sent for all of his children. The doctors give no hope for his recovery. I surely feel sorry for Bessie. I know nothing is impossible with our Lord when we have faith. The folks in his ward have had special group prayers for him. Marie Kendrick and I went to see Katherine Ross and new baby girl after the luncheon. Kay looked grand and the baby is surely a little doll baby, so pretty, lots of black hair. She smiled twice for me. She is 24 days old. Tonight Lou went to Carlson's to look over choir music with Erma. We went to Mutual. There was no class work. Skipper Steimle entertained us with movies and dancing. Kathy Saxelby helped Lorene with income tax papers last night. I think Charlie got a little upset thinking about it. So he didn't rest so well last night. John Marsh is ill, so Florence couldn't go out doing missionary work today.

March 8, Wednesday

Florence Oates's friend, Skipper Steimle, entertained our Mutual last night with moving pictures of his mountain camp, near Lake Arrowhead. It is a lovely mountain resort, a nice place to take the family. He is a dancing teacher. The last part of the program was spent in teaching us old and new community dances. Rex is all excited about going up there now, the snow is three feet deep. It would be fun if the children had snow clothes. I answered Violet's and Dad's cards this morning. I did my ironing this morning too. Baby Mary stayed with me while Donna went to school for Joan. She was going to take the baby, but Mary cried for Grama Elvie, so I kept her here. I met Florence Marsh and we did some missionary revisiting on Echo Street, and some tracting on Longfellow and South Avenue 53. John brought Florence up in the truck, he has been ill for two days. Lou went to

work on Charlie's little rear house after his own work this evening. He ate dinner with Lorene and Mary so he could work later. Donna took Janet and Joan to visit with Tillie Mosley tonight. Elaine brought Ann and Carol Sue. Tillie invited the children when she was out to Burbank to conference two weeks ago. They were thrilled over

the party. They all love Tillie. Donna drove me to Maude Craddock's first, we had a cottage meeting. Maude served cookies and hot chocolate. She gave the Book of Mormon lesson. We had four investigators. President Ashmore brought me home from the meeting.



Elvie loves the green hills this time of year. This photo is of Riverside County.

March 9, Thursday

'Twas a very lovely sunny day. Donna went up to get Joan at 11:30 a.m. I walked up our hill on the little footpath, with baby Mary. We waited there for Donna and Joan to come. Donna went to the drug store and market so it was a long wait, but very pleasant up in the shady pines and palms. It is surely a beautiful spot with the Chinese built house at the top of the hill, the little bridge, and oriental surroundings and all the tall pine trees. Mary had a lot of fun playing in the dried pine needles. Our hills are lovely this time of year, such a new green grass all over them. I took Lou's tire application to the ration board, and then went on the bus to Avenue 56 where I met Florence. We did some missionary revisiting on South Avenue 56 and some first time tracting on Roselawn Street. It was warm and we didn't have much success, only about two good gospel conversations. So we were both tired and glad to go home after two hours out. Better luck next time, eh? Rex got home early; he was tired so he went to bed early. Donna went to church to help the bishop make a stencil. Lou went to choir practice; I enjoyed a picture show at the Park Theater.

March 10, Friday

Oh, we are enjoying beautiful spring weather. My roses will be in bloom on the front porch soon. They're full of buds. I cleaned up in the house, and outside, also. This afternoon I met Florence at Figueroa Street and Roselawn. We tracted the one side of Roselawn Place yesterday and finished up the other side today. We had a long hot gospel conversation with a nice lady, over 30 minutes, standing in the hot sun. She was inside the door in the shade, but she was interested in what we had to say about the gospel, so we were glad to tell it. I left my bible on the bus and had to wait until it came back to get it. Oh, I was glad to get that precious book back, so thankful someone gave it to the driver. I'll be more careful now. I was tired and hot, must have sat it on the seat while I straightened my tracts out and put them in my purse. Donna and Rex gave me the bible on my birthday,

1942. Lou worked on Charlie's little rear house until almost 8 p.m., after his own work. He ate dinner with Mary and Lorene. Rex and Donna went to the stake Green and Gold Ball tonight with Johnny and Marie and Florence and Ernie. I stayed with the children. They got home at 2 a.m., went to eat after. I slept on the couch.

March 11, Saturday

Lou got his own breakfast, cause I was out so late with Donna's children last night. But I did sleep on the couch some. Lou worked for a man who runs the new county cafeteria today. This is extra work; he has Saturday off on his own county job. I went to Pasadena and bought me another white jersey knit slip. I surely do like this Beverly Vogue slip. I had to try a lot of stores before I found the one I wanted. I bought this style two months ago and like it so well I want to buy this kind always. The cords of my neck felt a little stiff and sore this morning, and by evening I was feeling miserable, aching all over and throat sore. I got busy and doctored up good. I asked the Lord to help me throw this sickness off. I went to bed feeling that my prayer would be answered.

March 12, Sunday

I rested quite well and decided I was feeling so much better I could go to my early missionary class. I cooked a leg of lamb this morning. Lou took me over to church and Ernie Oates brought me and the children home. We had a nice missionary class. Florence M. wasn't feeling very well; she was suffering with a rash called shingles. She had to leave before Sunday School was over. She had another cold coming on, too. Donna had dinner ready when we got home, she was half sick with the same thing I started out with yesterday. By evening she was really miserable. Louis and I went to church tonight. My throat hurt some, I didn't feel too good, but wanted to go. I do hate to miss sacrament meeting. Bishop Overlade has been ill for two or three days, he was excused today. We have an awful lot of illness in our city and ward. I haven't been able to get down to Lorene's since last Tuesday. I was happy to see Bessie Hansen's sweet daughter, Lucille [*Lucille Elizabeth Hansen*], and her handsome son, Howard [*Howard Yates Hansen*], in Sunday School, both red heads. The children were all called to their father's bedside when he was so ill last week. The doctor has some hopes now for his recovery.

March 13, Monday

Donna was really ill today. I stayed over there all day. Rex worked for his father; he is on his vacation from the Pacific Electric job. Too bad Donna is ill so their plans are spoiled. Rex wanted to take them up in the snow for two days; I was going to keep the baby. Rex worked until 12:30 tonight, he got home at that time, I should say. I was too tired to rest well and I worried over Donna's condition. She has chilled and fevered most of the day, and she has a bad sore throat, aches all over. Lou brought Uncle Bill over; they administered to Donna. I felt better after the lovely blessing Bill gave her. My own throat isn't well yet; it is sore on the outside cords. Oh, but I was tired when Rex came. Lou worked at Lorene's on the little house, he also shaved Charlie, and he went to

his chorus practice at John Treu's house. I cooked dinner for Lou and the children at Donna's tonight. Mary has a rash on her little thigh; it is spreading fast. Donna called the doctor Saturday to ask what to do for it.

March 14, Tuesday.

Rex is working for his dad this week, his vacation. He left at nine o'clock, so had time to get the children off to school before Lewie came for him. Donna is still very sick, but better today. She has a very bad sore throat. I'm so glad she has stopped chilling; her temperature has gone down, too. Now we must get that throat well. I put Epsom salts packs on her throat all day. I called the Ross Loos doctor, he told me to have her gargle with aspirin, two in a glass of warm water. He was an old grouch, darn him! The rash on little Mary's leg is getting lighter; Donna has some rash like it on her arm. Sr. Marsh has a rash, which is causing her a lot of trouble. The doctor told her she had shingles. Marty came over and took Janet and Joan to the dentist, Dr. Watkins. She was glad to take Donna's appointment, as her tooth has been aching, and she had to wait too long for an appointment. It is hard to get to see a doctor now days. So many are in the service.

Wayne brought the girls home in his car. We were glad the doctor said Janet and Joan's teeth are okay. Rex went to Mutual tonight; he took apple cider and doughnuts to treat his class of boys. I was really tired tonight, so busy today. I didn't get time to comb my hair. There is an awful lot to do when Donna is ill. Lou worked at Lorene's this evening and ate dinner with them. Orville Schupe [*Orville Parker Schupe*] passed away today; he is Ida Wood's [*Ida Ella Schupe*] brother. He had a blood clot in his lungs.

March 15, Wednesday

I got Daddy's breakfast this morning and put up his lunch. Rex got the girls their breakfast. He had to leave at eight; Lewie came for him. It is Rex's vacation; he is working with his dad and Lewie all week because Donna is ill, so the trip planned for them, up in the snow, had to be put off. Too bad they had the disappointment. Rex will make excellent wages with his week's work, which will help. Maybe he'll take a few days off from Pacific Electric Company next week? I'm so thankful Donna is better today. She got up to eat her lunch and dinner. I did more washing again today with the electric machine. Oh, it is a busy life where there are children. I wonder how Donna can do all she does? I'm tired out when the day is done, after trying to take her place. Rex got home about 5 p.m. He cooked a good dinner; fried

two chickens and cooked vegetables and made a salad. I had made a chocolate pudding so they had a very nice dinner. I came home and fixed my dear man his dinner, he is surely neglected, poor darling, when Donna is ill, and I'm over there all the time. Tonight Lou took Helen Stay, Beth Johnston, and Harry Lewis to the stake house to correlation meeting. I should have gone to my missionary class, but was too tired to go. My throat isn't well yet either. I helped Rex with the dishes tonight.



Janet, Mary and Joan Marsh, Patsy Strong in front of Joan. Patsy's birthday is March 17.

March 16, Thursday

Donna felt a lot better today, for which I'm so thankful. I helped her this morning. She got dressed and took care of baby Mary. I took Joan to the bank with me this afternoon. We rode down on the bus and walked home, doing a little shopping on our way back. We went to the post office and mailed a birthday card and hanky and two 25¢ pieces to Patsy Strong, from Janet and Joan. It's Patsy's birthday tomorrow. I bought two little American flags, which Joan wanted, also some candy in Kress Store and some things in the drug store for Donna. Rex got home early. He hurried into other clothes and went horseback riding with Lewie and Miriam this evening. Donna cooked a big pan of macaroni and cheese this evening and gave us enough for our dinner. Lou worked at Lorene's until almost seven. He had to rush to get cleaned up and to his choir practice by 7:45. I talked with my dear little neighbor; Mrs. Benton. She is overjoyed because her only grandson is home on furlough after being in action over a year and a half. Mrs. Benton has been very ill, last week, with a bad heart attack.

March 17, Friday

I did Donna's washing and a few pieces of mine. I did my washing Wednesday with the baby's washing. It was a lovely sunny day. Donna got dressed and came out in

the sunshine. She would help hang out the clothes; I had an awful time keeping her out of the washing. Her throat is still very sore, but the fever has gone. The soreness has changed to the other side of her throat. Mary's rash is getting lighter; I think we have it checked now. Lou went to work at Lorene's on the little rear house after his own work. He ate dinner with Lorene and Mary. I'll be happy when Donna's throat is well, and she feels okay again. Annie says Irene is sick with the flu or the like and Beverly has an awful cold and cough. Glen has received his induction papers; he has to appear before the board in two weeks, I think. Glen hasn't been well, has passed blood in his urine several times lately. He was sent home from work by the company doctor.

March 18, Saturday

Donna did her ironing this morning because I wasn't there to stop her. She isn't well enough to do a big ironing like that. I helped clean up her house, but I'm worried over her throat, it is so very sore that she can't eat, or hardly swallow. She looks so pale and thin. I do wish she'd get better. I had to clean my house this afternoon. It was so in need of it. I've been at Donna's all week and my place was neglected. Lou worked at Lorene's all day on the little rear house. We shopped at Si's Market this evening, and then he took me to the Park Theater and we saw "Jack London." Leonard Strong had a good part in this picture. I enjoyed it because of him. I couldn't help worrying about my Donna; she looked so bad tonight. Maybe I should have stayed home and doctored her throat. I suggested it, but she insisted I go to the show. I'm so uneasy over her. That throat should be better by now.



Leonard Strong played Captain Tanaka in Jack London.

March 19, Sunday

I called Maude Craddock and asked her to have me excused from the missionary class. I went to Donna's and found her up, having an awful time in the bathroom, trying to get up some phlegm. She says her throat feels like it has a hard lump, which she wants to bring up; that side of throat is so awfully sore. I got breakfast for the children, dressed and fed the baby, took over for Donna and sent her to bed. Florence O. called and said she'd come take the girls to Sunday School and up to her house for dinner and the afternoon. That was really sweet of her and such a help to have it nice

and quiet for Donna. I put out the baby's washing, fixed noodles, tuna and cheese, baked it in my oven, made chocolate ice cream over here. Florence brought the girls home about 4:30. They had all been to Grama Marsh's for dinner and the afternoon. Rex got home in time to take over this evening, so I could go to church after all. I went on the streetcar, as Lou had to leave early to rehearse with the priesthood chorus. They sang two numbers, and the choir sang two. We had a very fine meeting. We had good talks by Br. Frank Dewsnup and Br. LeGrand Chandler of the stake High Council. We took Sr. Christensen to her bus line. I bought sulfa drug nose drops for Donna to use for throat. The druggist recommended these in Owl Drug.

March 20, Monday

I went over to Donna's the first thing this morning. She was up getting the girls ready for school. I helped, and put out the garbage and cans, and dressed baby Mary. Donna looks bad, thin and pale, her throat is a little better, has shifted to the other side again. I wonder why we can't heal that throat up? I did a little hand washing home and then went back and put the baby's washing out. Rex got home from work about 3 p.m. He was tired; left at 2 a.m. for work. He went straight to bed, had been in bed about an hour when he started to take chills and by nighttime he had a fever. Little Joan came in crying with an earache, she went to bed with a fever. I found poor little Donna very unhappy this evening, miserable and ill herself with throat hurting and worrying over Rex and Joan. I did her dishes and rubbed her throat. I put out the lights and came home a very worried mother and Grama. I got on my knees and asked Father in Heaven to bless that little home across the street, with it's dear sick loved ones of mine. I'm trusting Him, what would I do without prayer, and my faith in God?

March 21, Tuesday

Donna came over in her bathrobe and slippers early this cold morning. She called Rex's Pacific Electric station and told them he was ill and couldn't come to work. She called the Ross Loos and asked to have a doctor sent out. Rex had chills and fever. Joan was in bed with fever and earache. I went over and helped get Janet off to school and the baby dressed. Donna's throat hurt so awfully. The doctor came about 11:30. He painted Donna's throat good with a powerful medicine, and in two hours she felt better and was able to eat. The doctor painted Rex's throat, he left tablets for them to use in gargling, and some tablets to take every four hours. He wrote a prescription for Joan's cough. The doctor was a very jolly old gent, who has been pressed back into service since this war left us so few doctors. Pollyanna went to the drug store and market for Donna. I was busy all day over there. Lou didn't stop in Clayton's to work tonight. He worked on Donna's lawn, watering and etc. Florence was called out of her Mutual meeting by Sr. Marsh. Little Florence Irene was down there, not well. She took a convulsion, had intestinal flu, and Elaine was coming down with the flu, too. Florence has been sewing Easter dresses at Marshes' the past few days for her little girls; that is why they were down there.

March 22, Wednesday

I was so happy to find Donna feeling much better this morning. Rex looked hot and miserable. We put ice packs on his throat, which seemed to relieve his suffering. He was a lot better this afternoon. I did the housework and baby's washing. Donna, Rex, Joan, and Mary all took naps after lunch. I came home and raked leaves, burned an awful lot up, but they are still falling. These pepper trees shed leaves in the spring. Poor little Joan has had an earache since Monday. She got relief from the heating pad, and warm earache medicine. The Marshes came up to see Rex. John took me to the post office and Better Food Market. Joan and baby Mary went with us. I forgot Mary's baby food so walked back for it later. Lou worked late at Clayton's on the little rear house. He ate dinner with Lorene and Mary. I walked to Maude Craddock's to a cottage meeting tonight. We had two investigators, Br. and Sr. Carrol. Maude gave a lesson on the Book of Mormon. It was a very nice meeting; President Ashmore brought me home. Donna wrote five chain letters for me, war stamp letters, 25¢.



March 23, Thursday

I'm so thankful this morning, cause my folks are all better. Donna was up and dressed and also little Joan when I went over at 8 a.m. Rex looks much better. He got up and dressed this afternoon and went out in the lovely sunshine. Joan's ear had an abscess which was causing her sickness, it broke in the night, has drained all day and she feels fine now. Janet is okay; she went to school. Baby Mary has been grand, bless her little heart. I don't know what I'd have done if she'd been cross or sick while they were all sick. Donna was ill ten days with a bad throat. I did a big washing today, had a hard time to keep Donna out of it. She took care of inside work. I cooked a lamb stew and a chocolate cream pudding. I took some to Donna's for them this evening. Janet ate dinner with Shirley, at Grama Pierce's this evening. Rex has been on juices for three days. Janet has been very busy collecting newspaper from the neighborhood, for their school paper drive. She has her little playhouse almost full. Lou called for Inis and the Steads this evening. They all went to choir practice. Nell Imsen called to say Br. Imsen's hours have changed. She can come to choir again. Lou was glad to have them back. I selected five names from the phone book, (all Bailey names) to send 25¢ war stamp chain letters to.

Buy a 25¢ war stamp and send it to the person whose name appears at the top of the list. Make 5 copies like this one, leaving off the 1st name and adding yours to the bottom of the list below. Mail to 5 friends you can depend upon to keep the chain going. This chain has been approved by the U.S. Postal Authorities and it is to promote the sale of bonds and stamps. Approximately \$781.00 will be mailed to you in war stamps, if the chain is not broken. If you do not want to keep this chain going please be patriotic enough to return to me within 5 days.

- Mrs. Louis Renshaw*
- Mrs. Albert Bailey*
- Mrs. Joe Bailey*
- Mrs. David Bailey*
- Mrs. Henry Bailey*

Let's Buy Stamps!

The above letter was found on line at:

http://www.silcom.com/~barnowl/chain-letter/archive/me1941u_warstamp_s25c'n4q5.htm

This letter was sent in 1942 and is more than likely a forerunner to the chain letter that Elvie received in 1944. Donna made the copies for Elvie to send out. Interesting to note that Elvie sent it to strangers in the phone book with her maiden name. She didn't bother her sisters with the chain letter. (The names above are not the same as the on line letter.)

March 24, Friday

I wrote cards to my dad, Violet, and Mother R., also sent Owen a birthday card, and five chain letters. I don't like chain letters, but this is a good idea, to buy war stamps. Mrs. Jackson, our young neighbor, came to get Donna's Red Cross kit; she is going to do the collecting for Donna, as she isn't strong enough after her illness to walk so much. Rex feels better; throat still hurts. Donna took over her own work today; she looks pale and thin. Glen and Irene called to see us, Glen is being inducted into the Army tomorrow morning. He is surely a heartsick lad at leaving his sweet little wife and baby boy. It really hurts me to see Glen go, he is definitely not the fighting type. He is a sweet, religious,



Irene and Glen Andersen

and artistic person, and the thought of killing appalls him. It will be extra tough on Glen. Oh, I hope he is never placed where he must kill or fight. I did my ironing and some mending. This evening Lou and I went to the church; we picked Br. and Sr. Nelson up and went to Burbank to the missionaries and seventies farewell party. It was a dinner and dance in honor of David Taylor. The seventies furnished chili and ice cream for all. Each ward took their own salads, pies, cakes and etcetera. We had a lot of fun, good dance music, too. (I ate too much.) The missionaries gave Dave and Br. Christensen lovely church books.

March 25, Saturday

Well, my Glen boy left for Fort MacArthur to be inducted into the Army this morning. Irene took him to the station. My heart aches for that darling couple. It's an awful shame to part such a happy little family. Irene and baby are going to move in with Glen's folks, until Daddy Glen comes back from this damnable war. Oh, how I hate wars. My heart hurts for Annie and Bill, too. They've raised this fine young man to love life and people and God, now he must be taught to hate people, so awful! Our country is full of sweet young men like him, who don't want to fight, but must. I have ten nephews in the

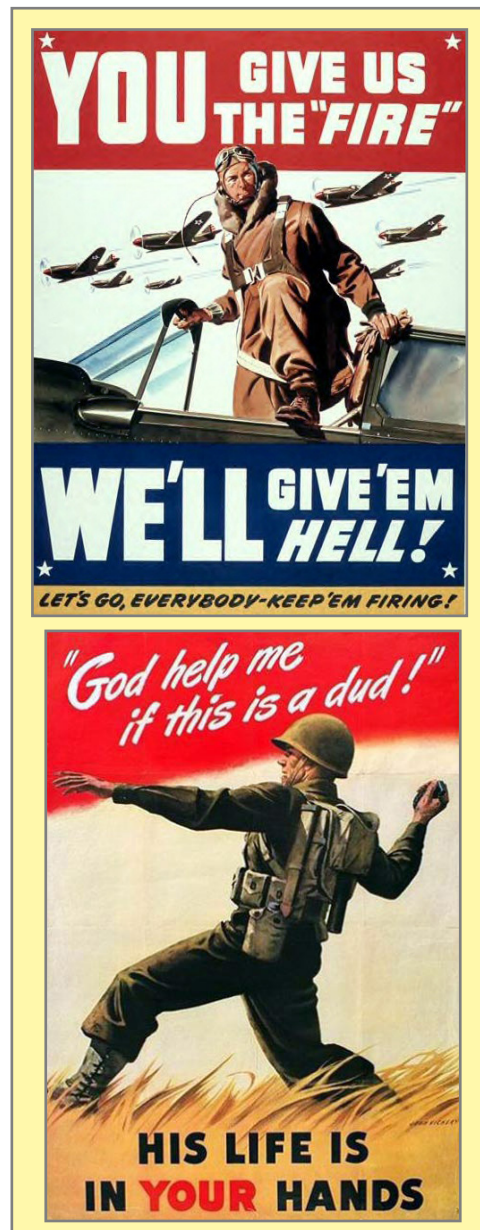
service now, all grand boys: Ralph Keller, Roland, Stanley Renshaw, Jack Renshaw, Franklin Little, Vernon Jorgensen, Vernon Olsen, Bob Bailey, Ray Clayton and Glen Andersen. I have many young church friends in, also. We must trust the Lord to look after these dear boys. I did my cleaning this afternoon. Rex took Janet to Beth's for her piano lesson this afternoon. I stayed with the children tonight while Donna and Rex went to eat out and to a show. They ate at Bette Lou's, went to Highland Theater. Lou took me to the market on way home from Clayton's. He worked on the little house today. I went down on the bus, came back with Lou. Charlie looks better, he can say several words, and can move the paralyzed leg a little.

March 26, Sunday

I brushed Janet's ringlets before going to my 9 a.m. missionary meeting. I put them up in rubber curlers last night. She looks so sweet with the long curls. I rode to church on the streetcar, but Rex walked. He was waiting for us at the car line when we got to our stop. We had a nice Sunday School and Relief Society. Br. Ross asked when I would be released from missionaries; he wants me back in the Sunday School as a teacher. Oh, I was in the Sunday School so long. I don't want teaching children again, I hope he'll forget it, and I told him so. I'd rather work with adults now. I'm too old and nervous for the little ones; I want to have a change in teaching. I did love it when I was younger, had sixteen or more years of teaching children. Al gave Marty's brother, Bud, a patriarchal blessing at my home today. Marty brought Sr. Catherine Higgenbotham over to take the blessing down. Bette Haddock's baby is sick, so she couldn't come to take the blessing. Al spoke in our ward tonight, we had a nice meeting. The choir was extra good, too. Rex, our good bass, was there, and Inis, the soprano. Sue, Al, and Shirley and her friend, Barbara, came over to eat a bit with us after church. They went to see Lorene and Charlie first. Charlie sat up in a chair in the dining room, first time out of bed in seven weeks. Donna brought salad, meat, and cake over this evening. She and Rex ate with us. She had fed the children first at home.

March 27, Monday

Donna and Rex went uptown together this morning. They met Elaine in town. Elaine helped Donna select a suit. Rex was going back to work if the doctor would give him a release to go back; he's been out a week. Rex went with



Two posters from the WWII ad campaign to encourage working hard and doing a good job for the men in the military.

the girls to buy the suit. He brought it home, left Donna uptown buying purse, shoes, blouse, and Easter dresses for the girls. I got Joan to take a nap while Mary was asleep. Joan's ear is still draining. Donna arrived about 6:20 p.m. We went up the hill and waited for her streetcar. Donna got pretty flowered dresses for Janet and Joan, yellow shades. She bought a dear little yellow dress for baby Mary. Her suit is a lovely brown; tailored, it fits beautifully. She dressed up in it to show us. The blouse is turquoise. She's going to buy a hat and gloves to match blouse, nice, eh? Donna spent \$80.00 today. Clothes are surely high, \$3.95 for little dresses for girls; one could buy them for \$1.95 two years ago. I wish we liked sewing or could do it without getting so nervous and upset. I was surely thrilled this evening when Lou came home from Lorene's and told me that Charlie had walked with Mary's help, to the back door. Lou carried him out to see inside the little house. He sat in the house and seemed pleased with what they had done to finish it. Br. Haddock called to say he'd come April 9 to speak in our night meeting. Lou has charge that night, he asked Sr. Haddock to ask him to come. I'm glad that he can. Lou went over to Donna's tonight to go over some Easter music with her.

March 28, Tuesday—Today is the birthday of my brother Owen.

I mailed him a card March 24. Donna called the Ross Loos Clinic and made an appointment for three o'clock this afternoon with the ear specialist to see

Joan's ear. It is still draining. I went to the Hall of Records this morning, paid taxes, and had the name changed on our deed to Renshaw. I walked to 7th and Broadway, looking in some of the stores as I went, to find the blouse and hat I want to wear with my suit. I wanted a pretty rose, but could not find it, so I paid the phone bill, and came home so Donna could leave for town with Joan. I was surely tired after such a long walk. Tonight Donna and I went to Mutual with Ernie Oates. Rex worked late. Loyce, the little neighbor girl, stayed with the children who were asleep. We had a nice program after class work. John Treu conducted, Inis, Ed Robinson, Donna, Br. Gibby, and Helen sang old time songs, and we joined in the chorus. Donna's song was "Bring Back my Bonnie;" it was fun.

March 29, Wednesday

Donna and I had a busy morning. We did a big washing. This afternoon Florence Marsh and I did some missionary

calling; revisits for me, but first time for Florence. We had a nice long visit with Lois Coupe in her home on Bertha Street. She is a sweet person who always makes us welcome. Her husband was baptized a Mormon, but he never goes to church. She is a Baptist. Oh, I'd love to help her to see the beautiful light of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, as I know it. I wish we could get him interested, too. We called in to see Mrs. Heath, next-door, a little old lady in a wheelchair. She wanted us to stay so we promised we'd call back tomorrow and talk to her. Florence had to hurry home. She had Florence's two girls waiting at Donna's. Their mother had left them there, for Grama to take to her house to try on Easter dresses. Ernie Oates called for them this evening. Donna went to the ward correlation meeting tonight. I stayed with the children. She was late, several stayed to address ward newspaper envelopes to ward members. Donna brought a copy home. It is a nice little paper of ward news. I received the sweetest letter from Ralph Keller who has been overseas in this awful war almost two years. Oh, he is a fine lad.

March 30, Thursday

I did my ironing this morning and went out missionarying with Florence this afternoon. We called on Mrs. Heath, and had a nice visit with her in her home. We went next door to Irene LaMar's, met Irene's mother-in-law and three nieces, all Mormons from Chicago, Ill. Irene is a Catholic girl, but has always invited us in. This evening we took the children in our car to Highland Park. Donna parked the car back of Ivers Store. We tried to find a bonnet Mary looked good in, but none in her size, they were too large or too small. We also looked in the Western Baby Shop and People's Store with no luck! I bought a green felt purse for Janet and Joan, \$1.00 each. Easter gift, but they couldn't wait that long to use them. It's okay with Grama, too. When Donna went for the car she found a flat tire, we all walked home. Donna called Uncle Bill, bless his heart and he came down and changed the tire for her. Rex got home in time to take Donna to choir practice. John Treu conducted the practice for Lou tonight. Mae Garisher called to be excused from choir. Muerline Nordstrom [*Muerline Anna Nordstrom*] had just received a telegram saying her husband [*Robert Maurice Johnson*] had been killed in French Africa. Mae is a neighbor to Nordstrom's, oh, how awful for that poor, little mother and baby. This d--- war, anyway! Lou went to work out of the city today. He is staying until Friday evening at the County Honor Farm [*county jail*]. We bought ice cream cones in Mary Lou's store today. Baby Mary ate one, her first.

March 31, Friday

Glen called from Fort MacArthur and talked to me on the phone last evening. I surely do hope they'll

let him come home this weekend. I received a very lovely letter from Ralph Keller Wednesday, he is such a dear boy, has been in this awful war overseas almost two years now. I do wish he could come home. I received a card from Violet yesterday. She's been up to Salt Lake to see Dad, says he looks good. I'd love to see him, too. Donna and I took baby Mary and Joan to Pasadena on the bus, this morning. Poor little Joan left her new purse on the bus. We didn't miss it for some time. She was broken hearted until we told her we thought we could get it back and if not, I said I'd buy another to stop the tears and heartache. I paid \$1.00 for hers and Janet's little bright green purses. Janet took hers to school, proud as a peacock, with lunch money and oh, me! I don't know what all in it. Joan's was full of her little treasures, too. We went to Tillie's baby store, but she didn't have a bonnet Mary looked good in. We found a cute one, white with pink trim. We'll change the ribbon to yellow so it will match her Easter dress. We bought Easter candy and baskets in Kress Store. I bought the bonnet for Mary's Easter gift from us. Florence M. and I did missionary visiting this afternoon. Dale has the measles, he broke out yesterday. Little David has a fever, guess he's getting them too. I bought a rose felt hat and rose blouse in Highland Park after my missionary work. Lou came home from two days work at Castaic, the County Honor farms.

April 1, Saturday— Today is the birthday of my sister Violet.

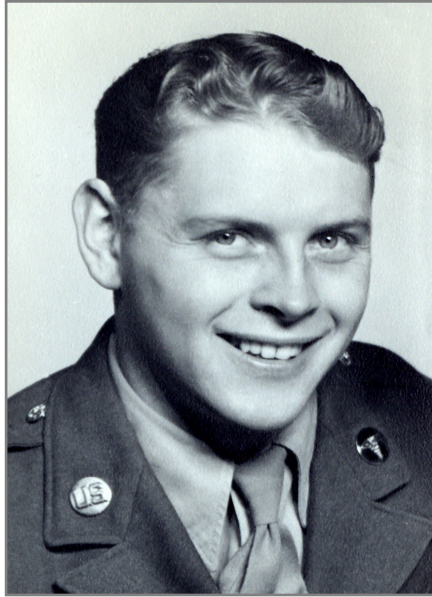
I'd love to see her this day, hope she received our gift okay. Annie and I sent a colorful tablecloth. We have Irene's electric washer here. Donna is taking care of her kitchen table. The poor dears have to break up their happy little home because of this darn war. I won't use the washer because I wash with Donna at her home. Lou worked around in Donna's yard and did some painting on the fence. He gave Charlie a shave and did a little carpenter work down there, too. I did some mending and cleaning. This evening Lou and I went to the Park Theater to see a picture show. We saw Deanna Durbin, Franchot Tone, and Pat O'Brien in "His Butler's Sister" and John Wayne, Dennie O'Keefe, and Susan Hayward in "Fighting Seabees." I enjoyed the Durbin picture, but am sick of war and fighting, such awful suffering, I do not like to see. I can't do anything about it and it is so depressing. Most of the pictures now are of war and killing. How I hate it. Loyce Danbecker stayed with Donna's children tonight while she and Rex went to the Mutual ward dance. Elaine and Ann came in this morning on the bus. Ann had Crystal cut and curl her hair, and dress Elaine's



hair, also. Well, Elaine had it done, of course. Glen came in from his camp, goes back Sunday evening. Lou helped Bill move Glen and Irene's furniture last night. They used Ernie Oates's truck. Irene and David are living with Andersens until Glen comes back from the war.

April 2, Sunday

Lou took me to my missionary meeting. We picked Maude Craddock up on the way over, nice class, and fine fast meeting later. Lou and I enjoyed our dinner at the Rite Spot, near home (chicken potpies, good). We called to see Charlie and Lorene. Charlie was resting, he was up too long on Friday, so wasn't feeling so well today. He was on his poor leg too long, I guess. We went to Annie's to see how Dale and David were. Dale is broken out good; he was hot with fever. Baby David wasn't so hot and just a little rash coming, but so restless, poor little dear. Annie looked worn out. Glen, Irene, and Bev went to Burbank to eat dinner with the Hoglunds. I waited until he got back, he had to leave for camp about 6 p.m. He surely makes a handsome soldier boy. Em and Art came to Annie's, also. Beverly drove me to church to see the children in the Primary conference. I surely did enjoy the program. It was short and snappy. Rex and Donna went with all three children. I held Mary part of the time. Florence O. and children, Myrtle R. and girls, and Florence and Alice Marsh came over to Donna's after church. Florence O. brought ice cream; Donna made sandwiches, and had chocolate cake. They had a nice evening. Daddy and I enjoyed our little home and radio.



Glen Andersen, "he surely makes a handsome soldier boy."

April 3, Monday

I did the machine-washing this morning. Donna had a rather large hand washing. She took her daddy to Avenue 28 to meet the boss, who was taking him and his carpenter tools, back up to the County Castaic Honor Farm, at six o'clock this morning. He will be up there until Friday evening. I surely don't like this living alone, especially at nights. Donna took Janet and Joan to the Garvanza Park to an Easter egg hunt and lunch. Pollyanna drove them up in her car. It was Janet's "Brownie Class." Donna came back in time for Florence Marsh and me to do some missionary visiting on Piedmont Street and North Avenue 60, this afternoon. Pollyanna brought the children home later. We had a long visit with the elderly lady, Mrs. Brown. She wants us to come often; poor old soul is so lonesome. Ernest Nordstrom came to see us today. He wanted the choir to sing next Sunday afternoon at the Memorial services of his son-in-law, Bob, who was killed in French Africa last Thursday in an airplane accident. They want the trio, Donna, Beth, and Inis, to sing, and oh! Goodness me, of all things, he wanted me to compose a



Beehive symbol for the Beehive girls.

poem to the boy who I don't know. I did thank him for the grand compliment, but I'm not that good. I'd love to do it for them, but oh dear!?? I was tired tonight, and went to bed early.

April 4, Tuesday

Donna got up early and did a big ironing. She had to be over at the church at 9:45 to help cook the luncheon. She had beds made and the house in order, but I did the dishes and vacuumed rugs and dusted. Beth J. came at 12:30 noon to use Donna's piano to give a few lessons. Her children are coming down with the measles, she thinks, so she couldn't let the other children in for their lessons. Janet stayed home to take her lesson from Beth. I took Joan and Mary over to the church. Florence O. called by for us. I fed Mary and Janet first. We enjoyed the luncheon. Donna had our car, so we, Florence M. and I, waited until she was through helping the ladies clear up the kitchen mess, and then we all came home in the car. Florence and I got out on Avenue 58. We did some tracting on both sides of South Avenue 58. We enjoyed two gospel conversations, but for the most part, people on that street were not interested in our gospel, or any other it seems. I should say in "The Gospel of Jesus Christ," which we had to offer them. Tonight Florence O. called by for Donna and me. We went to Mutual. Loyce D. stayed with the children. We brought Donna Finney home, the young girl from Chicago who lives near us. Rex went up in the mountains with Lewie and the scouts.

April 5, Wednesday

Marie K. and Johnny called for Donna at 9 a.m. He drove them and the Beehive girls to Griffith Park where they went to the city camp for two days. Donna went to help Marie K. with the San Fernando Stake Beehive girls outing. Florence Oates came at 11:45 for Janet and Joan. She took them on a picnic to a park. She took their pajamas and kept them at her house over night to sleep with her kiddies. I was so glad she did this nice thing for my girls and me. Aunt Florence is really a sweet little person, always doing something nice for someone, bless her heart. Mary and Grama Elvie had a nice quiet day. She was a dear little soul, so good. I was able to accomplish a lot today. Little Joan had earache last night. I gave Florence the earache medicine to take, "in case." Joan felt all right this morning and was so thrilled about the picnic with the Oates children. I couldn't keep her from it. Lou surprised me by coming home tonight; his boss came down, so he came along. I was surely glad to see him; we slept at Donna's because of baby Mary. Lorene sent three dozen eggs home with Lou tonight. He went down to shave

Charlie. Lorene has had several dozen eggs given her since Charles was ill. His sister, Luella [*Luella Nadine Clayton*], sent five dozen today.

April 6, Thursday

I got up at 5 a.m. to cook breakfast for Lou. He had a little head cold and I couldn't see him go out without a warm breakfast this early, cold, morning. He said he'd get it at the camp when he arrived, but I got up, anyway. I went back to bed; it was dark and too early for baby Mary to wake, so I kept quiet by going back to bed. I couldn't get to sleep, but stayed in until 7 a.m. Florence kept the girls until 2 p.m. I enjoyed baby Mary and was able to prepare a nice dinner; cooked lamb roast, vegetables and made chocolate cream pudding. Florence left her girls at Donna's while she went to the park to get Donna, Marie, and the Beehive girls. They got back about 4:30. Donna was glad to get back, she said they had a nice time, but the responsibility of taking care of the music for the whole stake program was wearing on her. I was happy to have her back, too. Rex got home in time to eat the nice dinner, which I cooked, at my house. They both went to choir; I helped Janet and Joan color their Easter eggs. I received a nice letter from Ray Clayton from Brazil. Glen was shipped to Texas this afternoon at 3 p.m. My heart aches for dear Irene and Glen and his folks. Oh d--- this awful war!

April 7, Friday

Lou received an alligator billfold from Ray Clayton, who is in the U.S. Army in Brazil. He wrote a lovely letter thanking Lou for all he has done to help get the little house finished, since Charlie's illness. He bought the purse for himself. I hope he can buy another to bring home, sweet kid. Oh, I wish these dear nephews of mine, who are in this war, could come back home. My Glen boy was shipped to Texas yesterday. He had to leave his sweet little wife and baby boy here. He, of course, is only one of the millions of sweet boys just like him, who has had to leave dear ones behind. I spent most of this day mending and putting a new waistband on my suit skirt. It has never fit just right. It was too large when we bought it, the tailor was supposed to have fixed it, but it was still too large around the waist. I paid a lady to fix it and she got it too tight, so I fixed it myself and it is the best yet. I should have done it in the first place, I guess. Lou came down from the County Honor Farm this evening. He doesn't like working there, as he has to stay away from home nights. Wayne and Marty were going to meet Lou, but he was late getting in, so Donna went down. She brought Marty's children back while Wayne and Marty did some Easter shopping.

April 8, Saturday

Lou went to Ruth Kitchens's this morning and did a carpenter job for them, building some steps. I cleaned through my house. Donna took my little shopping cart to the market and brought home a load of groceries. Joan's ear started to drain again. Donna called the doctor yesterday; he said to give her some more of the tablets and to wash it out with salt water. It has stopped draining today. Oh dear, I hope it'll be okay now. Poor little Sandra Pierce has

had the same trouble in both ears. The doctor had to lance her ears. She looks so pale and thin. I do wish she'd get to feeling better. I put Joan's hair up in curls today and Janet's yesterday. We have to take turns with the rubber curlers. Tonight Lou and I went to the Park Theater after doing some shopping in Si's Market. I didn't enjoy the picture too well; am so tired of wars, fighting, noise, and killing. I'd like to see a good picture once more, one without war. Yes, a good ole peacetime story. Pollyanna's mother arrived from the east this morning.



April 9, Sunday—Easter Sunday

Lou drove me to my missionary class. I brushed Janet and Joan's curls around the stick first. They looked sweet in their little yellow flowered dresses and hair bows and sox. Mary had curls and a yellow dress, also. She wore the little white bonnet with the yellow ribbons on, sweet, all of them. Lou and Donna came to Sunday School with the children later. We had a nice Easter program. Don Nordstrom and Jimmy Craddock were home, nice seeing them again. Don has been overseas almost two years. We went back to church to Bob's memorial services at 3 p.m. He was Muerline Nordstrom's husband who was killed in a plane crash in French Africa. They had a very nice program arranged. Bishop Al was the speaker, Ernest Nordstrom said a few things about the love his family felt for their son-in-law, Bob, and what a fine boy he was, very good. I read two poems. The choir sang two numbers, the trio sang, "Sometime, We'll Understand." Ken Bywater conducted, and did a splendid job of it. Bishop Overlade and Dave Taylor are in Salt Lake to conference. We went to see Charlie between Sunday School and the memorial. We had a lovely Easter program in church tonight sponsored by our choir. John Treu conducted the choir; Lou has been away two weeks. Br. Ray Haddock gave a wonderful talk; Jimmy Craddock spoke fine, also.

April 10, Monday

Donna took her daddy to Avenue 26 and Figueroa Street at six o'clock this morning. He met his boss and went back up to work at the Honor Farm. We got a good early start with our washing. Donna had two washer loads out when I got over there this morning. After lunch, I met Irene at Ivers Store; we looked in there, and then went up to People's Store where we bought our gifts to take to the wedding reception tonight. It is payday for both Donna and us, but

not until this evening, so Annie let me borrow enough to buy our gift, \$2.55. I got a pretty towel set, two big bath towels, two hand towels, and two wash cloths, in a lovely turquoise blue, with white border trim. Donna and I gave it. Irene bought a very pretty bathroom rug for them to give. Lou called from Ashmore's home, he had come in with the boss again tonight, he wanted Donna to bring the car for him. The children and I rode down with her to pick him up. Lou took me to Annie's tonight. I rode to Glendale with Annie, Beverly, and Irene to see Bishop Overlade marry Nadean Rhea [Nadeane Frances Rhea] and Sherman Olmstead [Sherman Fielding Olmstead]. She was a very lovely bride, pretty little lady; he was surely a very handsome groom in uniform. We went to the reception after, big crowd at 4972 N. Figueroa Street. It was the Idyllwild Hotel where Mother R. stayed while in Los Angeles in 1942. I had three faint spells at the reception. Beverly brought me home early.



Sherman Olmstead, photo from Family Tree.

April 11, Tuesday

I still feel a little weak today. I wonder what it is all about? My heart has had small pains in, on and off, last night and this morning. Donna and Joan went to Pasadena on the bus, after Joan got out of school at 11:40 this morning. They went to the lost and found station of the bus company and got the green felt purse Joan left on the bus two weeks ago. They ate lunch in Pasadena, and came home about 2:15. I gave Mary her lunch and put her to bed; she had a nice long nap. Donna drove me to the bank, in our car. I paid the loan payment and deposited money. Donna went to the gas company and paid my bill while I was in the bank. Florence M. and I did some missionary revisiting this afternoon. We called on Estella McComas, had a nice visit in her home. Mrs. Gates was out, but we left tracts; we called on a lady at 6316 Arroyo Glenn Street. Donna did her ironing this afternoon. Baby Mary feels better, Joan's ear started to discharge again. Little Sandra Pierce is having more ear trouble, too, had to have her ears lanced again, poor little dear. My darned ears ached a little today. What is causing this ear trouble? So many are suffering with ear troubles now. Lou called this evening to say the boss wasn't coming in Wednesday, so he won't be home until Friday. Donna was going to meet him on Wednesday. Donna and I drove to Mutual; she took a chocolate cake. It was social night; our class played games and enjoyed homemade ice cream after class. Edna O. made the ice cream. We also had cookies. It was a nice evening.

April 12, Wednesday

I went over and helped Donna get the girls off to school on time. I also dressed baby Mary. Donna overslept; Rex forgot to reset the alarm clock. I noticed the window shade down at 8 a.m. so I gave Donna a buzz, which got her out of bed. The children leave for school about 8:35 each morning, so we rushed. Donna put out a washing, a few of my pieces also. I did my ironing before going out to do missionary work. I met Florence at the top of our hill; we did some revisiting. Florence returned the book she'd borrowed from Miss Kelly. We called at Mrs. Mayson's; she was out, but I left a tract under the door. We called on elderly Mrs. Brown. She is always so pleased to see us. She would have us call every day if we could. She is so lonesome and shut in, not well enough to go out away from the house very far, so even Mormon missionaries are welcome. "Bless her old heart," she loves to hear us tell about the gospel as taught by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, anyway, but always reminds us that her church is the Baptist Church. Maude Craddock called this evening to say that our Book of Mormon class is postponed until tomorrow night as she is in the process of becoming a grandmother, cute.

April 13, Thursday

Maude Craddock is a grandmother now, as Colleen gave birth to a son today. She had twenty hours of labor, was a long time, but everyone is happy over the baby boy. Both are doing well. I'm glad Jimmy was here with his little wife; he has about a week left of furlough. Donna made cupcakes to take to the P.T.A. this afternoon. Martha Fowler came to visit with me today. She got here at 10 a.m.; we had a lovely visit. I had lunch prepared yesterday, mostly, Jello salad and ice cream; made creamed tuna and toast, no fuss, was fun. She helped and insisted on washing dishes. I dried, nice company, eh? Donna and Joan ate with us; we enjoyed some of the good cupcakes, also. Baby Mary stayed with us while Donna went to P.T.A. this afternoon. Ernie Oates and Florence took Rex and Donna to a swell dinner (\$2.50 a plate), and a show tonight. I stayed with the children. I surely don't like sleeping in the house alone. I'll be glad when my Daddy Lou is home at nights again. I do miss him; hate him to be away!

April 14, Friday

Donna did a washing this morning. I helped her put clean sheets on all three beds. We both tried to cut her grass; it was so tall. It was a job, a man's job. I darned a lot of sox this afternoon. Donna took Joan to the school clinic for a hearing test. She has had a gathered ear [tissue that has built up in the ear] and the school nurse told Donna to take her for this test. I had baby Mary again while Donna took Janet for her piano lesson at Beth's this afternoon. Donna called by for us and we all rode to Avenue 26 and Figueroa Street to meet Grampa Lou. I was glad to have him home again, and he was happy to be back. He is trying to get another job that won't take him away from home. His friend, Charlie Singelton, is trying to get Lou on at the shipyards where he is sub boss. Lou talked to him over the phone tonight; he is going in the morning with Charlie to Wilmington, to see the big boss. They treated

Lou swell on the job at the County Honor Farm, but he gets too lonesome at nights up there, so do I. I went to my missionary meeting at President Ashmore's tonight. Rex, Donna, and Lou went to choir practice. Sr. Ashmore served ice cream and pineapple sauce and delicious date nut cookies. Elder Jorgensen brought me home. I mailed a congratulation card to Colleen in the hospital.

April 15, Saturday

Lou went with his friend, Harry Singleton, this morning, at six o'clock, to see about getting work at the shipyards in Wilmington. They will be glad to give him work if the county will release him, with an availability slip. Lou isn't anxious to go so far to work; he will investigate two other jobs before deciding. Lou called to see Ruth and Clarence Cartwright. He says they have made some very fine improvements in their home and business. I'm so happy they are getting along so well. Wayne is buying a car from Clarence. It is a 1938 Buick. Lou drove it home to Wayne. Cartwright's have bought a new car. They have three cars, I believe now. Donna drove our car to Marshes' this morning. We left baby Mary with Grama Marsh, took the streetcar to town, and took Joan to see the doctor at Ross Loos. He says her ear has healed up okay. Janet, Joan, Donna, and I enjoyed lunch in the café at the Ross Loos building, and then we walked to the May Company, where Donna bought tickets for a stage show, "Black Out," which she and Rex and Marty and Wayne are going to see next Wednesday night. We went to the Orpheum Theater and enjoyed the show. We got back to Marshes' at 5 p.m. Sr. Marsh had dinner all ready, roast leg of lamb. She insisted we eat; she invited Lou, also. Lovely dinner, hot rolls, too, nice, eh?

April 16, Sunday

I brushed Janet's hair into twenty-one ringlets; she looked like a big doll with the curls, and a ribbon tied around her head with a bow on top. Donna waved Joan's hair last night after shampooing. She has enough natural curl to make it wave beautifully. Beautiful girls; their Grama Elvie thinks. Lou drove me to my missionary meeting. He went over to Bill's until time for Sunday School. Florence O. brought Janet and Joan to Sunday School. I enjoyed all three classes this morning, as always (Missionary, Relief Society, and Gospel Doctrine). I wanted to go see Charlie and Lorene today, but we had company. Br. and Sr. Lewis were out looking at a house to buy. We enjoyed their visit; they are very nice people. Lou called a rehearsal for his choir at 5 p.m. Donna, the

children, and I went at five to save on gas. I stayed out in the car with the baby. Donna sang with the choir. Janet and Joan walked over to Uncle Lewie's, but came back. No one was home. Mary wanted to talk too much in church, so I brought her out in the car again, after the sacrament. Dave Taylor gave a report on the General Conference in Salt Lake. After his talk, Donna came out and stayed with the baby while I heard Bishop Overlade give his report of the conference. It was fine. Rex was home when we got home. They went to a social at Wankiers. The seventies gave Weston Nordgren and family a farewell party after church; Donna took a chocolate cake. Lou and I took care of the children. Br. Nordgren is going to move to Utah.

April 17, Monday

Lou went to Sears and Roebuck's big Los Angeles store to answer an ad for a carpenter maintenance man. They were anxious to have him start now, but he still had another job to investigate. Ernie Oates called the manager of Peerless Pump Company and arranged for an interview with Lou this afternoon. They offered him work, too, so he had three jobs to choose from, besides the job he already has with the county. He must get a release from the county before he can work elsewhere. The Peerless Pump job sounds the best to Lou, and me too, because it is nearer to us and he can ride the bus to work. The pay is better, in some respects; all around I guess it is the best. They all pay about the same, but the hours make a difference. Lou drove Ernie's

mother, Sr. Oates, up to Florence's in one of Ernie's big cars. He measured for a carpenter job he is going to do for Ernie while up there. It is to build some steps and hang a door, I believe. He will do it tomorrow, I guess. Donna and I had a large washing today. Rex had an extra early show at work this morning; he left home about 2:30 a.m. He got home early this evening, tired. Donna and I went to the Park Theater to see "Madame Curie," with Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. I surely did enjoy the pictures. It was such a treat to see a good show without the awful war mixed into it.

April 18, Tuesday

Our baby can climb the front steps and open the gate; she did it twice this morning. She was on her way to Grama Elvie's by her own little self, but Mama caught up with her and placed the play pen in front of the steps so she couldn't get to them. Of course we can't have our darling little one crossing in the street alone. Rex went to work at 2:30 again this morning. He came back about 9 a.m., slept until noon and then went down to help John and Lewis with a cement job near Marshes'. He took Joan with him. She stayed with Grama Marsh. Rex and Joan ate lunch with Marshes. Donna



"I surely did enjoy the pictures. It was such a treat to see a good show without the awful war mixed into it."

went up to school at 2 p.m. to help Mrs. Lucket with the Brownie class. Janet is in Mrs. Lucket's class. Mrs. L. called Donna on the phone a few days ago and asked her to come help out this week. Baby Mary stayed with me. I brought her playpen over. She watched me do my ironing. Lou had a doctor's examination for his new job today. He also went to the county offices and got them to give him a release of availability, so he can start working at the Peerless Pump Company. He starts Thursday morning and he is very happy over this change. I do hope he'll like it. He is so glad to get away from the county job. I stayed with the children while Rex and Donna went to Mutual.



Rex Marsh circa 1945. On April 20, a dear old lady named Mrs. Heath fondly calls Rex "my boy."

April 19, Wednesday

Lou finished a little carpenter job at Ernie Oates's home this morning. He then went over to do a little carpenter work in the chapel of our church, in the choir loft. Donna shampooed her hair; I put it up in curls. The gas man came and adjusted all of our gas containers. Mr. Allen sent him out to see what was wrong with our heater; the pilot was too low. I'm glad to have them all given a good adjustment, they work swell now. Florence Marsh and I met at Avenue 58; we did some tracting on both sides of South Avenue 58, in the Arroyo. My legs were shaking when we got to the bottom of the wooden steps into the Arroyo. We met some nice people down there, had a few gospel conversations. A dear little old lady, 87 years old, invited us in. We had a nice visit with her. She was quite deaf so I had an awful time to make her hear me, but we left her some gospel tracts to read. She said she liked to read. The dear old folks are nearly always happy to have us call because they are lonesome, but it is almost too late for a change in gospel then, poor dears. Lou and I went to correlation at the stake house, we took Florence M., Harry Lewis, Beth, and Ed Robinson. Rex, Donna, Wayne, and Marty went to see "The Black Outs," in Hollywood. I went in Donna's after I got home so Loyce could go home. Donna and Rex came at 11:30. They said it was a good show. I called in Annie's to see how baby David is, he is very sick, with a temperature of 100.1, he has the measles.

April 20, Thursday

Well, my husband started his new job at the Peerless Pump Company. I surely hope he'll like this place better than the one he quit at the county. I called Annie to see how baby David was, and I was happy to learn he is better. He has a normal temperature this morning. He has had a high fever for three or four days. He has been a very sick little fellow. Rex was tired from his long hours and early morning, so

he took the day off. He moved furniture and vacuumed for Donna. She washed woodwork with her new Fuller brush cleaner. It surely brings the marks off, but was tough on her little hands. She should have worn rubber gloves but where to get 'em? Florence M. came at two; she and Rex and I went to call on dear little old Mrs. Heath. We had a nice long visit with this little shut in lady, who lives in her wheelchair. She was so happy to see Rex again; she calls him "my boy." I was glad he could go with us cause she has asked about him such a lot. He moved her couch to see if the rubber off her cane was under it, but it wasn't. Rex and his mother dusted up the back of the couch before putting it back in place. I took a bread pudding out of the oven for her, to save her the trip in her wheelchair. Pudding looked and smelled delicious. The folks went to choir; I stayed with the children. Lou was pleased with his first day at the new job.

April 21, Friday

This was Lou's second day at the Peerless Pump Company. He was very happy last evening, with the new job. I'm so glad to see him like his job again. I had a very restless night, pain in my head, and ache in back. I had to burn asthma powder before going to bed, and it always makes me feel bad, but I have to use it once in a while. This is the first time in several weeks. I should be more careful of my diet; I know that. I can keep asthma under control when I'm careful. I wrote a letter to Ray thanking him for the leather wallet he sent Uncle Lou from Brazil. I also wrote to Mother R. I rested this afternoon. Donna took Janet to her music lesson over to Beth's when Lou came. Joan went, also, in our car. I kept Mary here and fed her dinner. I didn't eat with Lou, I thought it would do me good to fast again. I rested on the couch all evening, enjoying the radio. I'm always weak after an asthma and gas attack. My heart seems to act up each time. Donna and Rex walked up to the library tonight after the children were asleep. Lou is still happy over the change in his work. Our little neighbor boy, Jackie, 2 years old, bit Mary on her cheek, and left all his teeth marks. He also put his finger in her eye. It watered and hurt all afternoon. It seems they all try biting some time; he is a cute little fellow. Donna asked him to come and play in the yard with Mary; she took things away from him, so he defended himself!

April 22, Saturday

It seems strange for Lou to have to go to his work on Saturday, to put up a lunch and get breakfast early, when we've slept later on Saturday for so long. Of course he

always had a job to do, anyway, even if not at his regular job. Donna and the children visited with me this morning. She was called to the phone by Beth; who can't take them out to Elaine's as planned. Dick has to work late. This late afternoon Donna and the children took a walk down on the Avenue and to Aunt Lorene's. Mary rode in Mrs. Pierce's baby cart. Lou took me to Si's Market when he came, and then we rode to Lorene's to pick up Donna and the children. They had already left. We found them three blocks from Lorene's and brought them home. Mary said she would come and stay with the children while Rex and Donna went out to Burbank tonight to visit with Ernie, Elaine, and Lloyd and Lucille Pack. Uncle Al and Aunt Sue took them out in their car; they came back on the bus. We left our car out so Rex could take Mary back home. Lou and I went down to Clayton's again after dinner. Lou shaved Charlie and stayed with him while Lorene and I went to the Park Theater. Lorene was too nervous to enjoy the picture, so we came out after the first picture. Poor Charlie can't bear to have Lorene away long, and she worries about him, too. Lloyd and Lucille Pack bought a home in Burbank today; they stayed overnight with Elaine and Ernie.

April 23, Sunday

Our good neighbor, Ruth Pierce, took care of baby Mary this morning while we went to ward conference at 9 a.m. That was the first meeting and then 10 to 12. We had a very grand spirit in both sessions. My Lou bore his testimony in the early meeting. I was very proud of him; it was lovely. We had some splendid testimonies and talks. Donna and her girls ate dinner with us. She helped me get it ready. I cooked a leg of lamb last night, just heated it over this noon. We were all hungry and enjoyed dinner; sorry Rex couldn't have been with us, he worked. Sue was in our morning sessions representing the stake Relief Society. I invited her home to dinner, but she was in a hurry, going to Blanche's for dinner. Al is speaking in their ward so Blanche invited them to eat with them. Sue went back to Burbank with Sr. Hinckley who brought her over to our ward. We took Bob and Martha Seguine to Lorene's after our meeting at noon. Bob gave Charlie \$10.00, nice eh? Charlie has a lot of good friends. We had another grand conference session again tonight. Lou's choir music was swell. Donna sang Rex's solo; he didn't get off work in time to make it. I surely enjoyed Donna's solo, her sweet voice sounds like an angel singing to me, her mother. Rex came in while Donna was singing; he enjoyed it, too. My Daddy's choir gave us a grand treat in both sessions. We went to Clayton's after church tonight, Lou clipped an ingrown toenail for Charlie.

April 24, Monday

Lou went to work on the streetcar this morning. Our gasoline was low. Annie gave me Glen's address in church yesterday, so I wrote him a letter this morning before going to Donna's to wash. Rex came home about 11 a.m., he had three hours off, is working a split shift. When Lou got home this evening, Donna and I left him with baby Mary and went to the market. We took two suits to the cleaners for Daddy Lou, also. After dinner this evening I dampened down clothes and enjoyed the radio. Lou was too tired to go to his priesthood chorus practice, we went to bed early for a change. Oh dear, the thing that is bothering me is how can Daddy and I find time together, in this busy life, to have a matter of business taken care of? I spoke to Mr. Staff of the Bank of America some time ago, about having a will or papers drawn up to the effect that if anything should happen to Lou and me (accident in a car or etcetera, one never can tell), would it be better for Donna's sake to have said will? He said, "Yes, by all means." We thought, with only one child, it wouldn't be necessary, but he said it would save her time and money if there was a will. We have very little to leave, the home and a few dollars in the bank, but we would want her to have it all, anyway. We must take care of it some way soon.

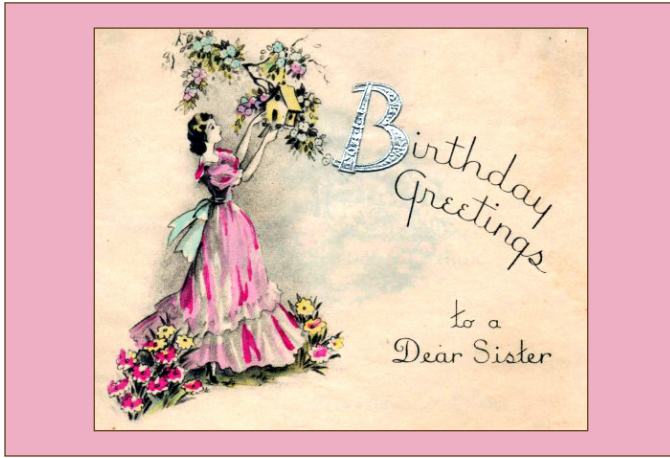


April 25, Tuesday—Today is the birthday of Dolores Fife, my sweet little niece.



Dolores Fife

I hope she got my card and dollar bill. Donna took baby Mary to the clinic this morning. She was vaccinated on her little arm and she didn't like it. Donna said she was good about it, only cried a minute or two. Joan stayed home from school this morning because of a head cold. She spent all day with Grama Elvie. We played a guessing game with my old Christmas cards, while I did my ironing. I would guess what was on the card after Joan would give me a hint or two. We both enjoyed the game, and the ironing didn't seem as long, and Joan was happy. Donna took advantage of the quiet to study for her story telling program next Tuesday in Mutual. Lou's county check came in the mail today. When he came home this evening we went to Better Food Market and bought a large grocery order. Joan went with us. We also went out on York Boulevard to a "Fix it" Shop, and picked up Donna's lawn mower, which they had sharpened. Lou cut the lawns when we got back. The mower worked swell. Rex drove us to Mutual in our car. Lou stayed with the children. We had an interesting quiz test in the program. Our side won by one point. Tillie Mosley gave Donna jelly glasses. I talked to Annie on the phone, she said baby David was better, but Irene had the measles now. More dark rooms! I do hope she'll not be as ill as her little son was.



April 26, Wednesday—Today is the birthday of my sister, Lorene.

I wrote a letter to Violet this morning and rode to the gas company on the bus, paid Donna's bill for her and back to the bank and deposited \$50.00. I bought a bright tablecloth for Annie and me to give Lorene. I bought it from Mrs. Hall in her little store; she asked about Violet, says to send her love when I write again. Violet worked for Mr. and Mrs. Hall in the big store before she was married. I did some shopping in Kress Store, came on up to the post office and sent money orders for Donna and me. I hurried home to eat lunch, and then went back to Avenue 59 where I met Florence Marsh. We did some tracting on Hayes Street. We had two interesting experiences, one with a man who Rex and I met about two years ago, who invited us in and he and his wife prayed for us. This time he didn't invite Florence and me in, but he talked a blue streak telling us how wrong our gospel is and said he would pray for us, ha ha! The next house we were invited in and had a very wonderful conversation with a man and his mother-in-law. The man was interested, he is home with a broken leg, and he wants us to bring him the Book of Mormon. Donna made a coconut cake for Aunt Lorene's birthday. Lou and I took it down tonight Al and Sue and Shirley picked Annie up and came down. They tried to buy some ice cream, but couldn't find any. We enjoyed the cake. Lorene had a handkerchief shower from the Relief Society ladies. Some of the sisters took lunch in to Lorene's.

April 27, Thursday

It rained all night and off and on today. I put Janet's hair up in curls last night. She came over this morning to have me brush them into ringlets. Donna went to school this morning with the girls. Joan's room had an open house from nine to ten. Donna, Rex, and Joan went back to school to Janet's room open house program at 1 p.m. Rex had the day off. Mary was in her little bed asleep this afternoon. I looked in on her. This morning she stayed at my house. I received two letters addressed to Roland Renshaw, from his mother in Salt Lake, so I'm expecting to see him any day. He has been overseas for several months in the Navy. We couldn't do our missionary work as planned, because of rain. I darned and mended instead. Beverly called to tell me she had bought some tissues for me, bless her ole heart. I told her to watch out for me and she did. We can't buy tissues;

the clerks get them before anyone else sees them. Roland Renshaw landed in Los Angeles tonight; he called me from town. He'll be out to stay on Saturday night with us and to go to Sunday School, he says. Folks went to choir practice; I stayed with the children.

April 28, Friday

It was another cloudy damp day. I wanted to do some missionary work this afternoon, but both Florence and I had company. She had her sister-in-law, Vivian, from Utah, and my nephew, Roland came to visit us. I was surely glad to see him again. I'm always so thankful when any of these sweet young men get leave from duty long enough to call on us. We are anxious about these dear lads of ours, in this awful war. Roland came to Los Angeles from San Francisco with some prisoners (deserters). Roland ate lunch with me; I washed a few things out for him. He left his bag and clothes here and went to see a few of his friends. He is a fine young man. He likes to tell about his little sweetheart, Donna Ricks, who he is engaged to marry. She lives in Salt Lake. He says he can't see his "old flame," Betty Y. anymore. She is



a sweet girl, too, but of course, Donna is best for him because she has the same faith. Janet was thrilled today because she brought her little school friend, Susan Lucket, home to stay overnight. The children kept after their mothers until they agreed to their plan. Donna took them all in our car to Beth's for Janet's piano lesson. Lou and I enjoyed the pictures at Park Theater tonight "In Our Time" and "The Iron Man."

April 29, Saturday

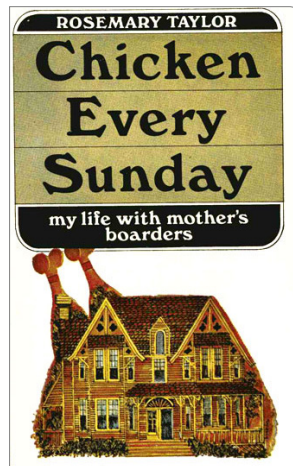
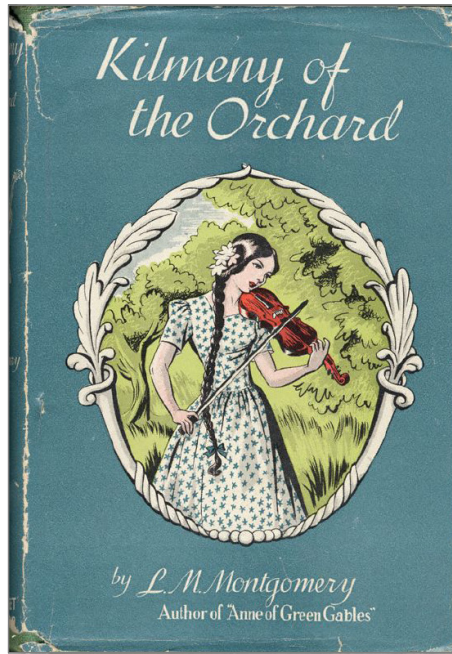
I had to use Donna's vacuum again this week. I must find a place to have my own repaired. It is surely hard to get things repaired in these war days, there is a shortage of parts and workers. I took my shopping cart to Si's Market and brought home a load of vegetables, groceries and lamb roasts, for Donna and me. I cooked both roasts this afternoon. Donna made Jello salad and gave me some for our dinner. She also gave me some chocolate cake. I made the apricot ice cream. Roland was here when I got home at 2:45. He played with the children, which delighted them, they are crazy about him, even baby Mary went to him and gave him a kiss and hug. Aunt Elvie likes him too. Lou went to shave Charlie before coming home, so he was a little late. We enjoyed our dinner and a nice visit with our boy. Lou went over to look at Mrs. Setwright's two homes; she is going to sell them for cash and wants to know if any termites had gotten under the houses. His report was good condition, which pleased her, of course. Roland went to visit friends in Montebello. He came back here to sleep. Janet's little friend, Susan, went home this evening. Her daddy came for her. They had a grand time together. She is a cute little girl; I braided her hair in pigtails and curled her bangs.

April 30, Sunday

I didn't even hear Roland come in last night. He surely was quiet. I'm a light sleeper, too. I caught a slight head cold yesterday, got to get rid of it. Lou went to work this morning. He hates to work at a regular job on Sunday, but the boss asked him to come in this morning. Donna drove our car to Sunday School and she took me to the missionary meeting, also. Roland came to Sunday School with Donna and the children. He met a girl he knew from Salt Lake, and had a nice visit with her and her husband. I guess it was her husband. Donna and the children ate dinner with Roland and me over here. She brought part of the dinner over; chocolate cake and Jello salad. Roland left this afternoon to visit friends in Alhambra, I think. We won't see him again until he comes to Los Angeles next time. He leaves for San Francisco in the morning. We are always happy to have him visit us, he is a fine young man, the children are all crazy about him. I felt so miserable this evening, I didn't go to church. Donna and Rex took Janet and Joan, baby Mary played in her playpen over here. I rested on the couch near the baby. We played her favorite games, passing toys back and forth, my Christmas cards and clothespins. Lou was hungry after church; he helped get his lunch ready.

May 1, Monday

We decided not to wash because I had this cold, and Ruby's shower was this afternoon. We'd be too tired. I did wash out a line full of hand things. Ruth took care of baby Mary this afternoon while we went to Ruby's shower. Joan and Janet played in Ruth's yard, also. Florence Oates came for us at 1:35; we went to Ivers Department Store and bought a pretty pink satin nightgown, with tiny roses in it, \$2.00 each. It was the most interesting shower I've been to, all of the ladies were blind, but the four of us; we three, and a neighbor lady. The hostess was blind; all are married to blind men. Oh, I surely did marvel at how well they managed everything. It is surely astonishing and most of them came up to Highland Park to this shower from the other side of Los Angeles on the streetcar. So wonderful and yet so pathetic. I've thanked God today many times for my eyesight. There were twelve of us at the shower, eight blind. The blind ladies gave nice smelling gifts, lovely soaps, bath salts, perfumes, face powder, and etcetera. They all enjoyed the fragrance, smelling each gift. I'm glad our gift was satin; it was nice to the touch. The other lady gave a dainty bed jacket. One of the blind girls had a very lovely voice. She sang several songs for us. Ruby accompanied her on the piano and whistled for us.



May 2, Tuesday

I mailed a birthday card to Elaine. Donna and I had a big washing today. It was not a very good drying day, cold and damp all day. Donna took our car to the market, bought things for a lamb stew for us, and she cooked it this morning. I went to Lorene's at noon to stay with Charlie while Lorene went to the Relief Society luncheon. I took baby Mary with me; Donna drove us down. Mary was such a good baby; she took a nice nap without one bit of fuss. Donna went up to the school this afternoon to help Mrs. Lucket with her Brownie class initiation program. She took some cupcakes. Janet was initiated into the Brownies. She looked real cute in her uniform and all the pretty ringlets I brushed around the stick this morning for her. Lorene left Charlie's lunch on the stove steaming. I sat it on the table for him. Br. Gibby took Lorene to church; he was visiting Charlie this morning. Donna came for me about 4:30. Lou stayed with the children tonight while we went to the Mutual "Story Festival." I dressed Donna's hair and grayed it with cornstarch, she really made a very lovely "Gramma," and she gave her story very beautifully. It was the love story, "Kilmeny of the Orchard." All five stories were good, we enjoyed going from room to room to hear them. The five stories were given by Bill Johnson, Mable O'Brien, Beth Johnston, Donna, and Helen Stay. I dressed Beth's hair in back, Gay 90s style, with little long curls. She told the story of "Chicken Every Sunday," cute.

May 3, Wednesday—Today is the birthday of my niece, Elaine Vandergrift.

I hope she'll have a very happy day. I sent her a card, so did Donna. I called Dr. Nelson, the blind chiropractor, this morning and made arrangements for Charlie to go to his office this evening for an exam and adjustment. I had Donna call Edna Olney and tell her to tell Lorene we'd be down to take Charlie to the doctor at 6:30. Florence Marsh and I went to visit a Mrs. Brown this afternoon. We had a very nice visit with her. I had talked to her on the phone this morning. She invited us to come this afternoon; her husband is a member of our church and she wants to know more about his gospel. She is a member of the Congregational Church. She is a very nice person, I hope we can help her to see the true light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which I know is the truth. We talked to her almost three hours. She seemed very interested, and invited us to come again, after they get back from a two weeks visit to his folks in Utah. She treated us to a tomato and celery juice cocktail. It was very good. I rode to Dr. Nelson's with Lorene, Charlie, and Lou. We talked to the doctor. He thinks he can help Charlie. He gave him an adjustment and Lorene paid for five treatments, at \$1.00 each.

May 4, Thursday

I do hope the chiropractor can help Charlie. The doctor he has been seeing isn't getting anywhere with him, so why not try the adjustments? We've heard of some wonderful results from treatments given by this chiropractor. It was nice of his mother to be at his home last night to introduce us. We had a little excitement this morning. The hill back of us caught on fire, the fire department came out and put out the blaze. I did my ironing this morning. I thought Florence and I would go out doing some missionary work, but John asked Florence to stay near the cement job that he and Lewie did this morning, near their home. He was afraid the school kids coming home would mark it all up before it had a chance to set. The high school kids are worse than the little ones for stunts like that. John has had trouble with these big kids before. I darned sox all afternoon. This evening little Mary and I walked to the top of the hill to wait for Grampa to come in his car. I sat baby on top of a big mailbox; she enjoyed seeing all the cars go by. Lou stopped to have his hair cut; we got tired of waiting and started back home. Grampa picked us up at the corner. Lou went to his choir practice tonight. I studied the Bible lesson for my missionary class.

May 5, Friday

Lou got half a day off because of the funeral of one of the bosses where he works. This man's son works at Ernie's machine shop; I think his name is Don. Lou didn't attend the services; he hasn't worked there long enough to know him very well. Lou went to the lumberyard and planned for lumber for a job he is going to do for his friend, Martha, who used to work at the hospital when he did. She wants a cupboard built. I did my cleaning this morning. I had to borrow Donna's vacuum again. Lou took mine to the "Fix it up Like New" Shop this afternoon. It's going to cost \$4.00 to fix it. I had to hurry through my bath to meet Florence. Lou came home in time to take me to Avenue 60 where I met Florence. We called on Mrs. Mayson, and left two tracts. She was working in her garden in the backyard, and didn't answer the door. We left the tracts, anyway. We had a nice visit with Mrs. Brown, the elderly lady who wants us to come often. She is just lonesome and shut in, because of age and dizziness in her head. She can't go far from home alone. I cooked Donna's leg of lamb in my oven; she also baked a cake in it. Marty and Wayne and family ate dinner with them. Miriam and Lewie and family came and ate also. Marty and children spent the day with Donna. Rex worked for his dad and Lewie today. Lou and I went to the Park Theater and enjoyed both pictures. Jess Dewey came to talk with Rex about genealogical work. Lou took Charlie to the doctors for his second chiropractor adjustment this evening at 6:35. He thought that Charlie walked better tonight. Oh, I do hope the treatments will help Charlie.

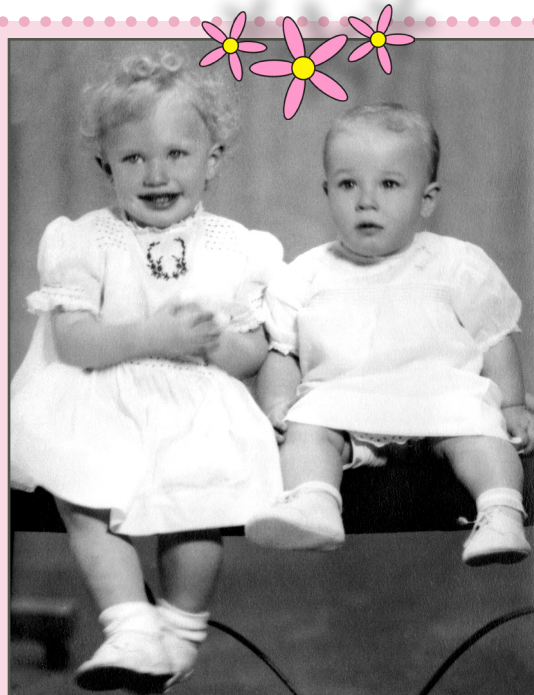
May 6, Saturday

Lou's friend, Martha, called this morning. She left some money for Lou to go ahead with the carpenter work he is going to do for her. She is a nice person; they worked together at the general hospital. She wants a kitchen cupboard built. I played with my baby Mary an hour this morning while Donna was phoning about her Mutual summer work. The asthma attack I had last night, after I got to bed, wasn't a hard one, but it stayed with me today. I had to burn the asthma powder twice this evening. I rode in the car to Beth's with Donna and the children this evening. We left Janet to take her piano lesson at Beth's and went on York Boulevard to Safeway Store to do a little shopping. I stayed in the car with Mary and Joan while Donna did our shopping. Lou went down to give Charlie a shave tonight. I studied for my missionary lesson, put my hair up in pin curls and went to bed early. I had a special prayer asking for relief from asthma and heart fluttering's, so I'll be able to go to the missionary class and give my lesson in the morning.

May 7, Sunday

My prayers were answered, I had a good nights rest and felt well enough to go to my missionary class and give the lesson. We had a nice class. I enjoyed Br. Reese's class, too, and the fast meeting. We had a wonderful spirit in the testimony meeting. It seemed everyone wanted to say something. No time was wasted. Bishop Overlade read a letter from Bob Dalton, who is in the Pacific Islands in this war. It was a grand letter of a Mormon boy's testimony of his gospel and what it means to him now. Sr. Dalton [*Carrie Rebecca Jensen Dalton*] sat next to me; she bore a lovely testimony after hearing her boy's testimony. Lou didn't go to church at all today. He worked at Donna's, cleaned the yard, fixed gates and painted on the fence. We left baby Mary with

him this morning and again tonight. Donna and family ate dinner down to Marshes'. Lewie took Donna and the children down. Sr. Marsh brought Ruth's baby, Barbara, to church this morning. She is a darling. Ruth and Kathleen, the other baby, are coming next Thursday from San Francisco. Sr. Myers and Chris and baby boy, came to church, darling baby. Sr. Myers is going to move back into Garvanza Ward. I'm surely glad she is, I've missed her a lot. Emily Simms spoke in our ward tonight. The Mutual had charge. It was a very fine meeting, good speaker; spoke on the boys in the service of our country.



Kathleen "Kay" and Barbara Deal came to visit their Grandma Marsh in May of 1944.

May 8, Monday

Donna didn't feel very well this morning; she had another touch of intestinal flu. We didn't wash. It was cloudy and cool. I decided to paint on the fence. I got all dressed in slacks and Lou didn't have any paint mixed. I came home and wrote a letter to Ralph Keller who is in Italy. I wrote five pages. I walked to the post office, mailed his letter, and a lot of wedding invitations that Donna had addressed for Ruby Nelson, the blind girl. I did some shopping in Kress and the drug store, and walked back home. After dinner we rode to Clayton's, we took Lorene and Charlie to Dr. Nelson's for Charlie's third chiropractor adjustment. It is too soon to tell if the treatment is helping, but Charlie feels more cheerful, we think he looks better. The fact that he can get away from the house and see different scenery builds up his morale. Lorene says he looks forward to these visits to his doctor. Lou mixed some paint and did a little painting on the fence until it got too dark to see. Donna helped her daddy with some choir music tonight. I enjoyed the radio. My mission is up this month. President Ashmore wants me to stay with them longer, I'd like to work longer!

May 9, Tuesday

It was another damp misty morning, almost like a light rain. We washed, anyway. Donna got it started early. I finished up while she took baby Mary to the clinic so that the doctor could look at her vaccination, which was done two weeks ago today. It took okay; it was for small pox. We sent Mother her Mother's Day cards, Donna sent one to Grama on Mother's Day. Lou wrote a note telling Mother to have dinner and a show on the \$2.00 he sent. I hope she will have a nice day. The sun came out this afternoon so the clothes had a nice drying after all. I painted on Donna's fence all afternoon. I was too tired to go to Mutual tonight. Florence O. called for Rex and Donna. Janet and Joan did Donna's dishes, bless their little hearts. I rested on Donna's couch until they came home at 9:30. Asthma was just around the corner, but I didn't have to use the powder. Lou did some painting on the fence when he got home this evening. It looks fine with this second coat. It's a pretty little fence, I love it, and also the handy man who can do all these little jobs, which makes our home so nice and comfortable, bless him.



Lou Renshaw is "the handy man who can do all these little jobs, which makes our home so nice and comfortable, bless him."

May 10, Wednesday

It rained a little in the night, and this morning. We expected it, as the weatherman said it would. We seldom have rain as late as May, but the victory gardens will welcome it. President Ashmore asked me on Sunday if I'd like to stay

in the mission field longer than the two years. I would like to work longer; I love this work, if only the asthma would leave me. I have a lot of trouble when I get out in the sun tracting. I'll have to think about it. This time of year is hard on my asthma, but I am a lot better this year than last. Annie called me last evening, said that baby David had the 3-day measles now. Irene took him to visit with her folks for a couple of days and he came down with the measles. She'll have to stay a week now. The baby was so awfully sick two weeks ago with the other kind of measles. I surely hope he'll not be ill with these. Donna and Inis Stanton went uptown this morning; they went to the music store and bought several pieces of music, some duets for Inis and Donna, and some for trio numbers for Beth to sing with them. They had expected to take in a show, but spent too long selecting their music, so ate lunch, did a little window-shopping and came home. Donna got home about 4:30. I stayed with the children and did my ironing at Donna's. I cooked pork roast; Donna and family ate here. Janet had intestinal flu this morning and was in bed most of the day. Joan stayed home from school, also. Lou took Charlie for his fourth treatment tonight.

May 11, Thursday

Donna drove our car to the bank for me. I paid on the loan. It will be paid off next month, and then the home will be cleared and the rent can go into the savings account instead of on the loan, grand, eh? Donna bought a pretty dress in Mode O'Day for Sr. Marsh for Mother's Day, \$3.95. We each bought birthday cards to send Ray Clayton and we each sent a dollar bill in the cards. Ray is in Brazil. We left Mary asleep in her crib. Our neighbor, Pollyanna, said she'd listen to see all was okay. Joan went with us. Janet was in school. I bought two pair of hose in Mode O'Day; we each bought a big box of groceries in Si Perkins market. I received a nice letter from Glen Andersen, and one from Violet. Beverly bought six small packages of Kleenex for me, I was so thankful to get it. We can never buy it in the stores. Beverly is "floor lady" over her department in the Fifth Street Store. She calls me when they have cleansing tissues come in. She has the girls buy some for me cause she knows how much I do need tissues with this asthma condition. She's a sweetheart! I painted on the fence this evening, Lou and I both worked together until 6:30, and then we had to hurry through dinner so Lou could go to choir. Baby Mary had an upset stomach this evening at choir time; she vomited all over, so Rex and Donna stayed home.

May 12, Friday

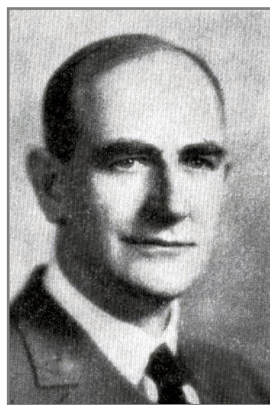
Baby Mary feels fine this morning, so it may have been something she ate yesterday. I got dressed in my slacks this morning to go over and paint on Donna's fence, but decided to answer a few letters first. It was 11 a.m. before I'd finished. I wrote to Violet, Lydia, and Glen. The telephone kept me up and down all the while I was writing. I think Donna was called four or five times, also. She baked a chocolate cake in my oven this morning to take to the Mutual officers and teachers party at Florence Oates's tonight. Lou asked Rex to take our car and drive Uncle Charlie and Aunt Lorene to the doctors for another chiropractor adjustment this evening. Lou was in his old work clothes, painting on Donna's fence, and he didn't want to quit just then. Al and Sue came in to Lorene's, Rex visited with them before coming home. I waited for him to come and drive Maude Craddock and me to Br. Nelson's to our missionary testimony meeting. Of course Rex didn't know I was waiting. I had to walk to Aldama and York where Maude was waiting. I was so sorry to have kept her waiting so long. Florence O. called for Donna, Janet and Joan at 7 p.m. They went to see a school play some of Florence's children were in. They went to Oateses' after, for the party. Lou took care of baby Mary. Rex drove our car to Florence's. We had a grand meeting. The Mutual officers and teachers gave playpens to Treus and Stapleys for their new babies.

May 13, Saturday

We surely had a wonderful spirit in our testimony meeting at Elder Nelson's home last night. Bishop Overlade and first counselor, Br. Bywater came to our meeting. We were happy to have our stake mission president, President Cutler and his secretary there, also. Sr. Nelson served ice cream and cake after the meeting. It took me all day long to clean through my house today. I didn't feel too well so I was slow. Donna and children left about 8:50 this morning. They met Rex's bus on Mission and Griffith, at 9:30, and enjoyed the trip out to the end of his run and back to where they got off to go to Marty's. The Marshes and Strongs are spending the weekend together at Strong's. Donna kissed me and said she was sorry she wouldn't be here in the morning, to give me the Mother's Day gift, but she said Daddy would. It was in a box on her bed, (unwrapped because of the tissue shortage). She and Rex and Daddy Lou had bought it for me. I knew it was a lace tablecloth, so I opened the box and looked. After seeing it, I just could not wait until morning, so I brought it home and put in on my table. It is beautiful, looks grand on my table. I'm surely one "lucky Mama!"

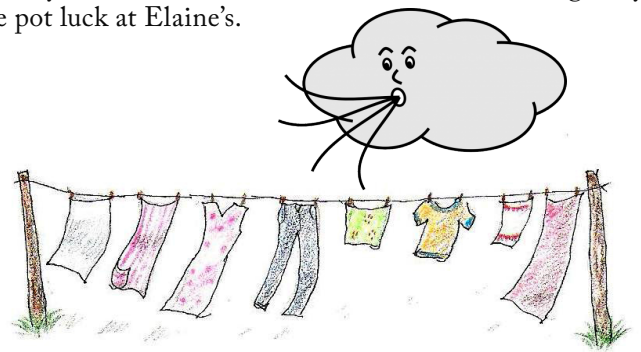
May 14, Sunday—"Mother's Day" and Stake Conference

Lou worked at the Peerless Pump Company all day. I was sorry he couldn't go to conference. We had such a grand conference. Oscar Kirkham was here from Salt Lake. He surely gave a fine talk and all the speakers were good. We had a missionary meeting at 1 p.m., Br. Kirkham and



Oscar Kirkham

President Cannon spoke, grand meeting. I did something I felt so bad about. I went with Br. Imsen to eat, we ate the lunch I had taken, and then he treated me to a root beer float. I felt so ashamed when I got back and saw Florence Marsh. To think I had left her without any lunch. Oh, it hurt me. I just forgot her, she had Ruth's baby. I didn't think about Florence O. taking the baby and yet Florence M. made arrangements for Elder Imsen to bring us home after the meeting. I should have remembered her. I love her so, and wouldn't hurt her for the world. She was sweet about it, just like her, "bless her heart." Br. Imsen brought us to the end of W car line, and we came to my place. I was disappointed to find Florence and Ernie waiting for her because I wanted to fix a nice lunch for her. My children came home this evening. I had Marty come in to see my lovely lace table cover. Oh, it is exquisite, a wonderful Mother's Day gift from my loved ones. Ernie Oates was ordained to our stake high council today. Little Joan fell at Marty's today, and cut her head. Wayne took her to the emergency hospital; she had a stitch taken. P.S. Annie, Beverly and Dale took me to conference this morning, they ate pot luck at Elaine's.



May 15 "was a lovely washday; one of those spring days when the wind blows the clouds away, the sky is so very blue."

May 15, Monday

It was a lovely washday; one of those spring days when the wind blows the clouds away, the sky is so very blue. It looked like it might rain at first, but the wind scattered the dark clouds around until they were white and fluffy and lovely to look at. Janet went to school, but Donna kept Joan home because of the cut and bandage on her head. She will have the stitches taken out by a doctor in a few days. Joan fell on the cement steps in Marty's backyard. Wayne and Donna took her to the doctor, Donna said that Joan was so good; she didn't make any fuss. The doctor mentioned how brave she was several times. Lou went to his priesthood chorus practice tonight. I enjoyed reading President Grant's message given in the general conference last month. It was in this last issue of the Era. Sr. Mary Stead started out for conference yesterday, but was attacked with awful pains in back of her head and down her spine. They had to take her home and call the doctor. She has been in bed ever since. The pain has eased up some. We received an invitation to Roland Renshaw's wedding reception this morning. He and Donna Ricks are being married in the Salt Lake Temple on Friday the 19th of May.

May 16, Tuesday

Ray Clayton's birthday, hope he enjoys it. Joan went to school this morning, she still has the bandage on her head, but it is a small one. I did my ironing. Donna and I took our car out this morning. We bought a congratulation-wedding card to send to Roland and Donna. I wrote a note to send in it, and asked him to send us an address where we can mail them a gift, too. We didn't have enough time to send one in time for the reception at the Jensen home. I'm so happy they're going to be married in the temple. The right start means so much to their happiness through life. Lou called at 5 p.m. to say he was going to work late. We were glad that Mrs. Danbecker let Loyce come over and stay with the children tonight while we went to Mutual. I had promised Beverly two weeks ago I would go as her mother to the Gleaner social, "The Sheaf Binding." Irene asked Annie to go as her mother. We had a very lovely program and social after, we played a number game that Beverly brought back from Salt Lake. It was lots of fun. The party was given in the atmosphere of Hawaii. The girls presented mothers with lovely Hawaiian leis, Gleaner room and Relief Society room were decorated very pretty with lovely things from Hawaii. Al brought Sue in to the party. She was Mable O'Brien's mother tonight. I was so sorry Lorene couldn't come. I would have stayed with Charlie if I'd known.



*A Woman Gleaner by John Varley
May 16 the Gleaners held a social,
"The Sheaf Binding."*

May 17, Wednesday

Sr. Marsh still has Ruth's baby girl, Barbara. Florence went up to help Ruth [come] down with the two babies, but in the mean time Ruth and Dick found a house in San Francisco where they wanted to move, so Ruth stayed to move. Florence brought the youngest baby down two weeks ago. I'm sorry Florence and I can't get out to do our missionary work. It worries me to miss out so much. Ruth's baby is surely a darling, six months old. I darned and mended today. I went to my stake missionary meeting tonight. Helen Stay took me



Donna and Roland Renshaw on their wedding day May 19, 1944.

and Maude C. and Marie K. over in her car. Lou worked until eleven o'clock tonight at Peerless Pump, a carpenter job in the office. He worked late last night, too and all day on Sunday. He is trying to get it finished while the office force isn't in there. Lou likes his boss and the boss seems real pleased with Lou's work. He has told him so several times. Inis came up to rehearse some duets with Donna. Ruth Pierce came over to play for them. Bill took Charlie to the doctor's again tonight.

May 18, Thursday

I shampooed my hair this morning and painted on Donna's fence this afternoon. I had quite a time with my baby Mary. She wanted to play "peek a boo" with me through the pickets where I was painting. I was on the outside and she was in the yard. The little tike can get out the front gates now; she was up at Mrs. Barkley's this afternoon watching the colored maid sweeping the porch. Mary was "spell bound," I don't think our baby had seen a black lady before. She was so interested. Her big blue eyes open so wide, she wouldn't even turn when I called her. The colored lady had to laugh at her. She talked to Mary, but Mary just looked, ha ha! I stayed with the children tonight while folks went to choir. Inis and Donna went to Beth Johnston's a little early and rehearsed their duets. Bob Stanton took them over. Rex went, also. Lou went to shave Charlie before going to choir. Sr. Mary Stead is feeling better, but she is still bedfast. The children were in bed when Donna left; I enjoyed reading from the Era, the conference news.



Roland and Donna cut their wedding cake May 19 in Salt Lake City.

May 19, Friday

Our bishopric treated us to a free dinner for ward members tonight. It is the second free dinner given by them, that I can remember, in Garvanza. Donna went over to the church at 9 a.m. to work her shift. I took care of Mary; I got her to sleep at 11 a.m. and then I painted on the fence for two hours. Donna got home at 1 p.m. I took a bath and nap this afternoon. Lorene called me on the phone. I told Lou to have her call me today. He went down to give Charlie a shave last night and was surprised to find that Charlie had shaved himself with his left hand. The man is improving every day. I tried to talk Lorene into going to the dinner while I stayed with Charlie, but she wouldn't leave him, said he doesn't like her to leave him at nights. Bill has taken Charlie to the doctor this week. Beverly took him tonight. We'll take him next week. We all enjoyed the baked ham dinner at church. It was delicious; there was a large crowd out. Lou led the singing and helped with the dishes. The men folks were drafted to K.P. duty, which was nice, eh? Donna and Inis sang duets; lovely. Beth J. played for them. We had two funny skits; Imsens, Br. Gibby and Br. Lewis. Joan Greenwald played a piano solo. We had all three children at the dinner. Janet went home with the Oateses' to stay all night. Joan had to go to the doctor to have her stitches removed in the morning, so couldn't go.

May 20, Saturday

Donna took Joan to the doctor at Ross Loos this morning to have the stitches removed. The stitches came off on the bandage. The doctor says it was a bad cut and will leave a scar, but glad it was no worse. It could have been her eye or nose instead of her forehead. Mrs. Pierce took Mary for a ride in her baby cart while I went to the bank to cash Lou's

check and deposit most of it. Lou is making big wages and building a bank account, too. Lovely, but sorry it takes a war and bloodshed to bring this about. I'd much prefer our dear young men back home well and happy, and us poor as ever. We've paid for the home and saved over \$600 in little over a year. There is a shortage of carpenters, lots of work and big pay; someone's loss is someone's gain. Lou's check was \$131.62 for two weeks. I fed Mary at noon and she took her nap. She is the best little doll to go to sleep, bless her heart. I painted on the fence at Donna's all afternoon. I cooked a leg of lamb while painting. We enjoyed a nice dinner. Lou didn't feel very well tonight, he has a chest cold.

May 21, Sunday

We had our Mother's Day program this morning instead of last week, because of having stake conference last Sunday. I surely did enjoy the program; it was in the chapel. Everything went along so smoothly and nicely. Janet sang with Robin and Sandra R. a song to the "Fathers." They sounded so sweet; sang out so clear, it was cute. Billie J. played "Mother" on his violin; he did it very well, too, all the children did fine. The priesthood chorus sang two numbers, and that was lovely. Emma Dewey gave a tribute to Mothers and wives and men in the service. It was lovely. Ken Bywater gave tribute to Mothers. Ernest Jones's small son gave a poem, so darn cute. Mary Lu told the children a story. Donna played for the little trio, and Billy Johnson's violin solo. The Sunday School presented all mothers with a very beautiful Mother's Day card. They gave the oldest mother and the youngest a lovely red rose. We had three youngest mothers, Irene Andersen, Helen Stay, and a young lady I didn't know. I couldn't see the elderly lady, didn't get her name. We had a very large crowd out, had to open up the foyer. Lou took care of Mary this morning. We had a lot of stake visitors. Sr. Marsh brought Ruth's baby to our missionary class. Idell Nordstrom came, her first time, she was set apart as a missionary at stake house last Wednesday.

May 22, Monday

It was a cool, damp day, but the clothes dried, so all is okay. We had a large washing. I had to hang some on my lines over the garages. I went to Si's Market this afternoon and to Mary Lu's for ice cream. Lou had her put away five quarts for him. It was Lou's turn to entertain the priesthood chorus tonight; he had them come to Donna's because of the piano. Donna made two white cakes and a large chocolate cake this afternoon. Lou took Janet to Beth's for her music lesson at 5 p.m. He called to see Clayton Goodsell about a

carpenter job. His boss needs another man, so Lou thought maybe Clayton would consider it. Lou went back for Janet after her lesson. Bill took Charlie to the doctor's last week. It is Lou's turn this week. He took him again tonight. Charlie had shaved himself again today. Lou has shaved him twice a week since his stroke. I'm glad to see his improvement. Charlie has always been independent. It is hard on him to need help. I went over to Donna's tonight and helped serve the men the ice cream and cake. Erma Carlson had a few minutes to visit with me. Grant brought her early, he had another meeting, so couldn't stay.

May 23, Tuesday

I received a nice letter from Violet this morning. I do hope she and the girls can come down to Los Angeles this summer. Donna took Joan to Ross Loos this afternoon to have the doctor put a new dressing on the cut on her forehead. I painted on the fence at Donna's while baby Mary was asleep. She had a nice long nap because the house was so quiet. Joan was away, and Janet was late getting home because of her Brownie class after school. Lou took over the paint job when he came this evening. I came home to prepare dinner and get ready for Mutual. Maude C. called and invited me to go to a cottage meeting with her down on Pepper Street. I was happy to go and said I'd meet her at the car line. Roland Renshaw and his sweet bride surprised us with a visit. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple last Friday. I'm sure he has made an excellent choice, she is a beautiful girl, reminds me of Laraine Day. They looked so happy and I'm so glad for their happiness. They are coming to dinner tomorrow. Lou stayed with the children tonight while we

were away. Mrs. Danbacker is ill, so Loyce couldn't come. I enjoyed the cottage meeting. President Ashmore conducted; Elders Wankier and Henry were there, too. President Ashmore called on all of the missionaries to speak. He gave me the subject of "Baptism." I had planned what I'd say, so the quick change of thought threw me overboard. Maude and I came home on the streetcar, no gas for cars. A lovely spirit was in the home tonight; they are fine people.

May 24, Wednesday

Lou got his car bumpers caught in Pollyanna's fence this morning and had to remove three pickets to get out. Now she can tease him, he had a lot of fun with her when she did the same thing to our side of fence a few months back. Lou hasn't taken the car to work for sometime, but he wanted to get gas today. I've remembered the name of folks where we went to the cottage meeting last night, it's Houston, fine people. The little daughter joined the Mormon Church in Arizona; she is trying to get her folks interested in the gospel now. We're invited back to their home next Tuesday evening. Pollyanna brought Lou's permit for gas (to take Charlie to the doctor for three months) to me this afternoon. She worked at the ration board today. I went to Better Food Market this morning and bought things for dinner. Florence O. called for Donna at 10 a.m., they went uptown to look at bridesmaids dresses. They're going to be bridesmaids for Ruby Nelson next month. Donna brought our wedding gift

Laraine Day

(October 13, 1920 – November 10, 2007) was an American actress and a former Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer contract star.

Day was born La Raine Johnson in Roosevelt, Utah, one of eight children in an affluent Mormon family. She had a twin brother, Lamar. The family later moved to California where she began her acting career with the Long Beach Players. She was a 1938 graduate of Polytechnic High School in Long Beach, California.

Day was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church). Day's fame mostly coincided with her dedication to Mormonism. Throughout her life she never swore, smoked, or drank any kind of alcohol, coffee or tea. Until her death in 2007 she retained her Mormon faith stating that, "It brings me comfort in a confusing world."

—Wikipedia



Laraine Day



Donna and Roland Renshaw surprised us with a visit on May 23, 1944.

for Roland and his bride home today. It is a Nashua blanket, rose color, very pretty. It has a wide satin binding. We've given several of these nice blankets to nieces and nephews for wedding gifts. I had a busy day, we enjoyed the bride and groom this evening at dinner here. They brought us some of their wedding cake. After dinner they went downtown to a show with Rex and Donna. Martha Fowler came for me at 6:30. We went to Isabel Thomas's home. She drove us in her car to Burbank. We picked Florence North up at her home, she took the blessing down. Al gave Martha a Patriarchal blessing; it was a lovely blessing. Lou stayed with the children again tonight, bless his heart.

May 25, Thursday

I didn't rest too well last night; I had a sick headache all night. I ate some creamed pudding and a little wedding cake before going to bed; I knew better, too. I felt so ill I had to spend most of this day in bed. I was so disappointed because I couldn't go out doing my missionary work today as I had planned. Florence M. called from town, to say she was leaving to meet me. She and John had been uptown with Ruth all morning buying some clothes for Ruth. I told her I was ill, so she didn't need to hurry away from town, which made her glad, as John and Ruth wanted her to stay longer. Lou got his own dinner this evening and did the dishes; bless him. I ate nothing today, but I did drink some tomato juice, which Donna brought over, also some Prana herb tea [*prana is said to ease an upset stomach*]. Lou went to choir practice tonight. Maude C. called this evening, wanted me to go out doing some missionary work, sorry I was ill. I'd loved to have gone. Lou talked to her; I was in bed. I got up about 8 p.m. pain in head had gone, so I felt better. Ray Ross came; he is our block teacher. Mr. Hansen, our head air raid warden, brought papers for Lou to distribute about a picnic that the wardens are giving on Sunday. Ruth Marsh Deal and little Kathleen came down from San Francisco Tuesday night. Florence and Donna went to Glendale station to meet them after Mutual. I talked to Ruth on the phone yesterday, she says her baby Barbara has grown a lot since she saw her last, three weeks ago.

May 26, Friday

Florence had so much to do today we couldn't go out doing missionary work. Ruth and her two babies are visiting here this week from San Francisco. Florence is going back next Wednesday to help Ruth home with the children. We were going out yesterday, but I was ill. We've had a time to get together these past three weeks. Little Florence Irene has the measles, which ties her mother up with her. I called Idell Nordstrom this morning. She said she'd go out with me at one o'clock, if she could get rid of an awful headache.

Lou put up his lunch last night so I didn't get up early this morning, what a good man. Later – Idell and I met at the library; she went with me to call on Mrs. Misner

and daughter. We had a nice visit in her home and an invitation to return. We called on Mrs. Mayson. Her grandson answered, and said Grama was taking a bath. We left her some tracts. We called on elderly Mrs. Brown, and had a nice visit in her home. We left some tracts; she invited us to return. I took care of baby Mary and David Johnston this afternoon while Donna and Florence went to town to meet Ruby Nelson's niece to see about bridesmaid dresses. I went with Lorene and Lou to take Charlie to the doctor for his adjustment. Little Diana Johnston had her tonsils removed today. Donna had baby David all day. Rex worked with his Dad and Lewie all day. Donna made lamb stew today and gave us enough for our dinner. Donna and Florence each bought new sport dresses, half price sale, they are cute. Daddy paid for Donna's for her birthday. We brought Charlie up here after his treatment, gave him a Zion songbook.



Roland and Donna's wedding cake. They brought some of the wedding cake to Elvie and Lou.

May 27, Saturday

We took our car to Aunt Annie's this morning and left baby Mary with Annie and Irene. We took Janet and Joan uptown with us. Donna drove the car to Avenue 50 and parked. We caught the streetcar there and went into town. We took Joan to the doctor at Ross Loos to have a new dressing on her cut. The doctor was well pleased and said it was healing up much better than he'd hoped for. She can have the bandage off in a few days. We ate lunch in the Ross Loos Building, and then walked to 848 Hill Street, where Donna met Ruby's sister, Grace, and her daughter, Marie, in the "Heavenly Shop," a little shop famous for wedding gowns and bridesmaids gowns and all accessories. They carried coats, dresses, gowns, and etcetera. Right now they are selling everything out at half price, except the wedding gowns and accessories. Ruby bought her wedding gown there. Florence and Donna bought their bridesmaid gowns there, but Marie went to a department store for her gown. I bought a \$14.95 slack suit for \$7.50. It is black with red trim, a beauty, I think. Donna bought two all wool sweaters for \$5.00. Daddy and I bought Donna a pinafore dress, half price, \$5.00. It is green with little embroidered pockets, cute. A yellow blouse goes with it. Donna bought the blouse. Rex rode on the same streetcar home with us. He drove from Avenue 50 to Annie's for Mary and then home. Donna bought suckers for Mutual kids party in May Company (90 of them, three pounds). We bought a lovely towel set, \$4.25 for Ruby and Ben's wedding gift. Tonight Rex helped Lou wire Mary's bedroom and the bathroom for wall switches instead of the old drop cord light. He'll finish it up tomorrow.

May 28, Sunday

I missed the York Boulevard car, just a minute too late. I saw it, but was across the street. I decided I'd walk to church, as the next car would be a half hour to wait. I got to the missionary class as they were singing the opening song. This was report day where all the missionaries report activities of their past month's work. I enjoyed hearing reports, almost like a testimony meeting. Donna brought Janet and Joan to Sunday School in our car. Rex and Lou were home with baby Mary. Lou finished the light switches in Mary's bedroom and bathroom. He and Rex spent the day tearing off the wall paper in Mary's room. Baby David Johnston started the job last Friday, while he was getting into the mood for a nap, ha ha! Well, the paper was loose and old, so it needed a new job, anyway. Lou and Rex worked all day scraping the walls, an awful job, and on Sunday! Donna had dinner started before Sunday School. I helped her get it ready after. I brought over the chocolate ice cream and some chocolate chip cookies, nice dinner. Mary had her nap in the playpen. Donna stayed home with the children this evening. Rex went to church with us. We had a good meeting. Reed Brinton and Mel Gibby spoke, the choir sang two good numbers. Martha Fowler brought her sister, Ann; I sat with them. Ann seems interested in hearing about our gospel. We took John and Ruth home after church. We ate fried chicken and hot rolls with the Marshes. Florence stayed home with the baby today, so Ruth could enjoy Sunday School and church. Ruth looked lovely in a new dress, hat and coat that her mother and dad bought for her. Ruth is going back to San Francisco on Wednesday. Her mother, Florence, is helping her home with the babies.



May 29, Monday

I write very little about this terrible war. I feel so badly when I think of all the young boys who are suffering because of it, and of their loved ones here on the home front, who suffer so much with the worry of these dear boy's safety, and of my dear nephews who are in it. I pray night and morning that the Lord will cause that righteousness will soon overpower the wickedness in this old world, and our boys can come back home again. I cannot bring myself to feel delighted when I hear of the suffering of our enemies either, all of God's children. If only we would all live the "Golden Rule," how different this world would be. American troops are within 17

miles of Rome now. It is getting hot for the Germans in this awful war. Donna and I had a very large washing. Sr. Marsh and Ruth brought both babies up on the bus; they folded up the buggy and brought it along. They got off in Highland Park and had pictures taken of babies before coming to Donna's. Donna prepared a nice lunch. I enjoyed the lunch with them. Florence and I made two missionary calls this afternoon. Donna drove us in our car. We called on Estella McComas, and left four tracts and Relief Society message, (two birds with one stone). We took a promised Book of Mormon to a man on Hayes street. He was asleep, so we left the book and four tracts with his mother-in-law. Lou and Rex sized the walls and woodwork in the baby's bedroom tonight.

May 30, Tuesday—Memorial Day

Janet, Joan, and the little Leffner girls buried two tiny baby birds that fell out of their nest in Donna's backyard. They put each in a little matchbox, planted flowers, held funeral ceremonies and all. They did this a few days ago. Donna and I got a big kick out of the little cemetery yesterday. They had a marker at each grave, one read, "Died May 26, 1944, Baby Bird." The other read, "Died May 26, 1944, Sister Bird." A larger marker on a stick in front read, "Simeterie" (Cemetery). Cute, ha ha! They even had a mourner's bench with doll blankets spread on it. Lou worked today, but Rex took it off. I ironed; Rex put the second coat of size on the bedroom. It is ready for the paint and paper now. Donna took Janet to her music lesson at Beth's this morning. This afternoon Rex and Donna took Janet and Joan to see a picture show at the Highland Theater. Mary was asleep in her little crib. I looked after her. We enjoyed a fried rabbit dinner; baby sat on my lap and ate with us. She had a grand time in Grama's plate; I had fed her first. She drank her milk while I was putting dinner on the table. She looked so little and cute sitting in the big chair drinking her milk. I didn't bother to get her high chair. The folks came about 5:45. We had a radio blackout for 28 minutes this evening. It is the first we've had in many months. Planes proved to be friendly.

May 31, Wednesday

I spent most of this day mending dresses for Donna's children, making some longer and some shorter. Three little girls make lots of sewing; bless 'em. I walked to the post office to mail a birthday card to my Donna girl. I put a dollar bill and some 3¢ stamps in it. Joan walked down on the Avenue with me. I bought her a little cup of ice cream. I went in Ivers and bought a cute novelty coat pin for Donna; it's a little doll dressed in red and gray felt, with long yellow braids. Donna looked at them on Saturday and said, "how cute," she thought they were. I also sent a money order to Ross Loos for Donna. Martha Fowler called on the phone to say they kept her waiting so long at the ration board that she couldn't come down to see me as she'd planned earlier and her sister had left the children alone too long then. Tonight Lou took Charlie to the doctor for adjustment. I went to the Park Theater with Beverly and Irene and enjoyed the pictures. Beverly came for me in her dad's car. Rex painted the ceiling in Mary's bedroom. He brought home some pretty pale pink paper for the walls; it has tiny pink and blue flowers in.

June 1, Thursday—Today is the birthday of my Donna girl; I do hope she will have a very “Happy Birthday.”

Rex gave her a lovely blue taffeta formal, which she is wearing as a bridesmaid on Sunday for Ruby Nelson’s wedding. Florence Oates’s gown is just like it, only yellow; both are bridesmaids. Rex also gave Donna two nice wool sweaters, and a blouse; a violet shade sweater and a mixed yellow green shade sweater. Sr. Marsh gave her a pretty little afternoon dress, pin stripe, (red and white). She left it with me, as she went to San Francisco to help Ruth and babies back home yesterday. Lou and I gave Donna a bright green spun rayon pinafore dress and the little pin I got for her. We sent her a birthday card with stamps and a dollar bill in it. We gave her a rabbit to fry for their dinner this evening, too. So she had a nice birthday. The sad news of Br. Haddock



Richard Haddock died when he was 55 years old.

passing away rather dampened our happiness. Sue called me at 8 a.m. and told me about his passing away. Oh, I feel so badly about losing that grand man. We loved him so, everyone loved him in this stake. He was the best speaker we had, I think. Garvanza was the last ward he gave a lecture in just last month. He’d been ill ever since. I wrote to Violet and Mother R. Donna went down on the Avenue. Tonight I stayed at Donna’s with the children while the folks went to choir.

June 2, Friday

Lou ate breakfast at Chili Ville. I had a very restless night because of an asthma attack, so he told me to stay in bed and rest. I got up at 9 a.m. feeling much better. I cut two inches off the bottom of Donna’s bridesmaid gown. She and Florence took the gowns to Inis Stanton’s and she hemmed them up on her electric machine. The little shirttail hemmer does it so fast, and a tiny hem looks nice. I made the seams in the sleeves smaller to fit Donna’s arm, also sewed buttons on better. The buttons are all the way down the back to the waist line. Idell Nordstrom came here at 2 p.m. We made a missionary call on Mrs. Bertha Hume, enjoyed a nice long visit in her home. She is a Baptist, and she seemed to enjoy our gospel conversation and invited us to return again. It is the first time we’ve been invited in the house, so I feel encouraged. It was a revisit for me, the first time for Idell. We called on a lady; she hadn’t had time to read the tracts we left last month, so we talked at the door. She invited us to come back anyway. Rex worked for his dad and Lewie today until 8 p.m. so he couldn’t go with Donna to rehearse the wedding march and etcetera. Ernie and Florence called for Donna. Lou went down to take Charlie for his treatment at Dr. Nelson’s but Charlie didn’t feel like going tonight. His stomach has bothered him today. Lou came back and called the doctor up on the phone.

June 3, Saturday

We had sunshine this morning for a change. It has been damp and cloudy for several mornings past. Donna did a washing. I spent the morning cleaning out the clothes closet. I put several things aside for the church welfare truck which is coming next Tuesday. I put Janet’s hair up in curlers this morning. I’m surely glad I bought these nice little rubber curlers when Janet was about 2 years old. You can’t buy any now. They are lovely for her hair, too. Lou called this afternoon, he wanted Donna to drive his car to Ernie’s station and pick him up. They put gas in the car and came home. Florence Marsh got home from San Francisco this evening. I cooked a nice fried rabbit dinner this evening. We’ll enjoy it tomorrow. I do not like to bother about eats on Sunday if I can help it. I spend most of my day at church, anyway. And I love it. We have Ruby Nelson’s wedding tomorrow. I put Donna’s hair up in pin curls tonight; she is a bridesmaid tomorrow afternoon.

June 4, Sunday

I pressed Donna’s gown this morning. Oh, what a job. It took almost an hour. I brushed Janet’s hair into ringlets; she looks so pretty with her hair in those lovely long curls. Rex drove us to Sunday School. Donna stayed home and had dinner all ready for her family. Br. and Sr. Marsh ate with them. It was warm today; I didn’t wear a coat to Sunday School. I was sorry I had to miss my missionary class; I never miss unless I’m ill. I thought I’d better press the gown this morning and I didn’t expect it to take so long. Lou painted on the fence, finished the job. It looks swell. He cleaned out the shed in Donna’s backyard, got a pile of salvage for the welfare truck to take. I do hate him to miss Sunday School, though. I helped Donna dress her hair this afternoon, she looked very beautiful in her lovely turquoise blue taffeta gown, and Florence Oates was lovely in yellow taffeta. Marie, niece of the bride, wore pink. They all looked so sweet. The bride was very lovely, too. She had such a sweet smile, as did the groom, both are blind. Ben sang, “Oh Promise Me” to his bride. It was a very interesting reception and wedding to see so many blind folks and

Seeing Eye dogs. Oh thank God for my eyesight!



Ruby invited the children, so ours took up a whole row, four Oates, Janet, Joan, Robin and two Robinson girls, so cute to watch them. It is a lovely church; The Highland Park Methodist, on Ash Street. The minister let



The Highland Park Methodist Church in 2010.

our children play in the nursery room while the reception was on. That was nice of him, and they loved it. Donna played the piano before we came home and the children sang, “Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam.” President Steed was the speaker in church tonight. Florence M. ate lunch with me after church. Lou and I walked to the bus line with them.

June 5, Monday

Our beloved Br. Ray M. Haddock was buried today. Lou got off from work this afternoon. He took Donna and me to Glendale to the funeral. We left Mary and Joan off at Beth's. It is hard to realize we won't see Br. Haddock at conference and stake meetings anymore. He was surely loved by the church people out here, and all who knew him. He had a lovely funeral. President Cannon conducted. Br. Haddock's boss gave a nice talk; Br. Olsen and Preston D. Richards also spoke. Br. Reese gave the opening prayer; Al gave the closing prayer, all paid grand tribute to this wonderful man. It was nice to have both stake patriarchs do the praying, too, lovely. And oh! such a lot of gorgeous flowers, enough for many graves. Ed Robinson sang, "Oh, My Father," a young woman sang two numbers, "Oh, Dry Those Tears" and another number. The Glendale chapel was filled. I saw so many people I haven't seen in years. Hazel Bud?? talked to us. I've forgotten her new husband's name; she's been married to him 5 or 6 years, maybe. I knew her first one best. She now has a grand man and he's joined the church. He blessed her little granddaughter last Sunday. I'm glad she is so happy now. Donna and I did a big washing this morning. I made four tapioca cream puddings tonight for the Relief Society luncheon. Janet went to the circus with her schoolteacher and class after school, more fun!

June 6, Tuesday

I didn't have room on Sunday's page to mention that Ed and Myrtle Robinson made all the punch and took charge of the kitchen and serving at Ruby's wedding, it was delicious punch, too. Donna made 7-dozen little cookies and took over; some other friends made cookies, also. Florence and Ernie Oates gave the bride and groom a lovely wedding cake; it cost them over \$10.00.

It was surely nice of them, and it was a very delicious cake. I cut some of it for the folks. Florence started the cutting and serving of the wedding cake. Pictures were taken of the bridal party, also. I did part of my ironing this morning and then folded 4½ pints of whipped cream into the puddings, got ready and Donna took me and the pudding over to the church at noon. I stayed home to keep the pudding on ice as long as possible. Florence O. went early to help the ladies with preparing of lunch. We had a nice crowd out, served about forty-three. The lunch was nice, all seemed to enjoy it. We had new potatoes, creamed sauce, parsley, whole carrots, cooked and buttered, hot rolls and meat loaf. We served nice icebox cookies with the pudding. Donna came back after lunch. She left Mary asleep with neighbor Ruth listening. Florence O. brought me home. Florence M. helped with the dishes. I went to a cottage meeting at

Houston's tonight. We had a grand meeting. Mrs. Brown came out to our luncheon today, brought little aprons and caps, I hope she will come out again. Florence O. took her home. Invasion of France started today!

June 7, Wednesday—AMERICA IN PRAYER TODAY

The much talked of invasion of Europe to liberate the Nazi controlled countries of Europe, began yesterday. All radio programs went off the air for the day, so the news commentators could give us the invasion news and comment on said news. Our allies got nearly 10 miles into North Western France, they say. President F. D. Roosevelt asked our nation to join him in prayer this evening for allied victory. We listened to his wonderful prayer; it was surely grand. He must be a "Man of God" to compose such a beautiful prayer. Los Angeles was called upon by Mayor Bowron to go to church and pray, or pray at home, for the safety of our boys. This invasion news is taken in a very sober and quiet way here in Los Angeles. Many of the defense plants shut down for prayer for the allied victory for a few minutes yesterday, all over the city. Tonight's headlines read, "Allies Clear Beaches of Germans." Oh, it is an awful war. I hate to think of the suffering of the poor fighting men, just boys,

most of them. Florence Marsh and I called on Loyce Coupe, had a nice gospel conversation in her home for two hours. I expect to be released soon. I've been on this mission two years now and have surely enjoyed it. Lou and I took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's for his adjustment. Lou couldn't get the material (red wood) to do Martha's remodeling job, so we took her \$30.00 back tonight. She is a friend of Lou's from the hospital.



American troops approaching Omaha Beach, during the Invasion of Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944.

June 8, Thursday

Mother's letter said Ralph has been wounded in his leg and ears, is in the hospital in Corsica. Oh, bless that dear lad. I surely do hope his injuries are not serious. I'll be happy if it is just bad enough to keep him out of the fighting. He's been in this war two years overseas now. I surely wish he could come home well again. I walked down on the Avenue to do a little shopping. I met Sr. Ida Woods and Lorene on the Avenue. I feel so sorry for both of them. Lorene because of a sick husband; Ida because of a sick body. It's a shame. Lorene's case isn't nearly as sad. I also saw Emma Dewey and little daughter. I didn't think I'd see the day I could buy a penny's worth of hairpins for 15¢, but I have. There was also a big lineup in Kress Store for tissues. I didn't have to get in the line because Beverly (bless her) has kept me well supplied.

June 9, Friday

My little Janet was all smiles this morning when she came to have her hair brushed into ringlets. She is surely adorable when she is smiling. I like her little "ray of sunshine" on this cold damp morning. Yesterday was the same cold; I had to put the heater on a time or two to keep comfortable. Mr. Allen killed four rabbits for us last night; one for Donna, Florence O. and Miriam M. We are taking fried rabbit to the park tomorrow, to the Garvanza Ward's birthday picnic party, 21 years, I think. Florence Marsh called to say she couldn't go out to do missionary work this afternoon; she had another dizzy spell. I called Mrs. Brown and told her we couldn't come this afternoon as planned. Mrs. Brown's husband is a member; I believe she'll come in too. She is interested in the gospel. Donna took Joan to see the circus this afternoon. They went with Mrs. Lucket and her Brownie class. Janet went last week with her schoolteacher and class. Donna and I went down in our car this evening to take Lorene and Charlie to the doctor's. Lou was busy working in Donna's yard. Donna let me out at Br. Wankier's home. We missionaries had our testimony meeting there tonight. It was a very fine meeting. Glen has been moved from Texas, we don't know where yet.

June 10, Saturday

We celebrated the 21st birthday of our Garvanza Ward this afternoon with a picnic in the South Pasadena Victory Park. We had a nice crowd out, and an enjoyable time together. Lou and I ate with the Marsh family. Florence O., Donna, Miriam, and I all fried a rabbit. Rufus and Alice Marsh and their family joined us; they brought fried chicken, also doughnuts and rolls that Ruf had made. John and Florence brought a freezer of ice cream. Everything was delicious. We watched a ball game between the elders and the Aaronic priesthood boys, before dinner. It is a lovely family park over there, the swings and merry-go-round for the children are close to the tables where you can see the kiddies at play and there are nice lawns and trees. I enjoyed wearing my new slacks. Alice Marsh fell at her home, and broke her arm, she had it in a splint, she did it about two weeks ago. Donna took all of the dinner for us; all I had to take was one rabbit. She made chocolate cake and everything, sweet child. I spent my morning cleaning through the house. Donna took Janet in our car to Beth's for her piano lesson this afternoon. Glen called from Barstow,



Kenneth Bird and Shirley Hoglund

California. He is on his way to San Francisco. We're so happy he'll be in California for training.

June 11, Sunday

Lou took me to my missionary class this morning. He came back and worked in Donna's yard, transplanting flowers. He surely has made the place, over there, look nice. Florence O. brought Joan to Sunday School. She brought Joan and me home to the junction after. I should say Ernie, he was at the wheel and it was he who invited us to ride home with them. Sr. Oates was with them, too. Janet had a little chest cold, so Donna kept her in bed most of the day. Rex and Lewie left at 3 a.m. to go fishing. Loyce stayed with Janet and Mary tonight while we went to church. Sandra Moyers went to church with us; her folks went to a party or dinner this afternoon. We had a very nice meeting. Our bishopric spoke and all did very well. The trio sang two numbers; Inis, Beth, and Donna with Joan Greenwald at the piano. It was very lovely. They do sing so sweet together. Glen Andersen called Irene from San Francisco; he met Ruth Deal at conference today. They called from her home, I think. Anyway, Ruth invited Irene to stay at her home, so she is leaving in the morning for San Francisco to see her Glen. Beverly is going up Wednesday to take baby David and see Glen, too. Sue and Al came in to see Lorene and Charlie tonight. Shirley [Hoglund] brought her boyfriend, Kenneth [Bird], and girl friend Barbara, to see Uncle Lou and me tonight.

June 12, Monday

Irene left this morning for San Francisco to see Glen. Ruth Marsh Deal invited her to stay at her home. It was another damp day; some of our heavy pieces didn't get dry. Our little baby Mary had an earache this morning. Donna called the specialist to ask about it, she put the same medicine in baby's ear as he had her use in Joan's ear when she had the abscess a few weeks back. Mary got relief soon after. Neither of our girls went to school today. Janet's cold was almost gone, she was up and dressed all day. Joan is okay but Mary was crying so much this morning that Donna couldn't get Joan ready for school. Lou and I took Charlie and Lorene to the doctors for his adjustment this evening. Charlie feels and looks better today. He was not so well Friday when we took him. We visited in Lorene's after coming back. Al and Sue, Elaine, Bette, Ray and little Jerry came while we were there.

Al gave Charlie a patriarchal blessing. We brought Elaine and little Jerry up to visit with Donna while the blessing was given. I got a card from my darling dad. I'd surely love to see him again. Hannah Helman sent a picture of herself and Frances and daughter.

June 13, Tuesday

I received a nice letter yesterday from Hannah Helman. She sent a picture of herself, Frances Helman, and daughter, Sara Jean, and Alice Egbert, who is a Mormon girl related to the Strong family. [Alice was from Valview, Idaho.] She was on a mission down there and called to see our relatives before going home. Her mother is Alice Strong Egbert. I answered Hannah's letter, and wrote a note to Sr. Spencer. I sent her a pretty friendship card with a nice hanky in it. I told her how I missed her in my missionary work. She was my companion for a long time. She is living in Ogden, Utah now with her daughter or son? I also wrote to Sr. Haddock, with a note put in the condolence card I bought for her. Br. Haddock passed away June 1, on Donna's birthday. We all loved him and felt his passing keenly. Lou works most every evening in Donna's yard, he has the place looking so nice now. He also takes Charlie to Dr. Nelson for an adjustment, three times a week. I went to the cottage meeting at Houston's home. President Ashmore came up to get Br Reese; he took me back. Maude C. and Sr. Olmstead came down in Margie's car. We had a grand meeting; Br. Reese gave a grand talk. We ladies bore our testimonies.

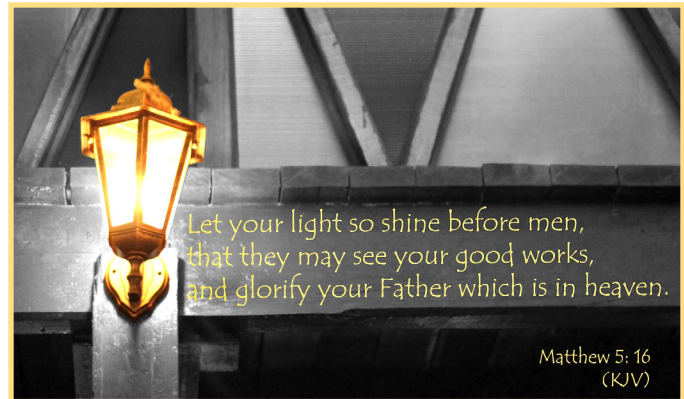
June 14, Wednesday

Marty called me on the phone, she and Wayne brought Aunt Ida and Uncle Ern back from Utah in their car, and arrived Sunday night. I talked to Aunt Ida. I talked to Sue, also Annie about sending Dad a "Father's Day" gift. We decided to each send some money in the card, as it is too late to shop and we don't know what he needs even if we had the time to get together. Florence Marsh and I planned this morning to do some missionary tracting, but when I went over to Donna's I found her sick in bed with a bad cold, backache, and etcetera. She gets dizzy when on her feet. I came back and called Florence, postponed our work until tomorrow. I mailed Dad his card and \$1.00 bill. I ironed this afternoon while Mary and Donna were sleeping. Joan visited with me. She found a small can of popcorn in my cupboard and was very anxious to have some popped, so I stopped the ironing long enough to pop a bowl full for her. Janet and little Leffner girls also enjoyed the popcorn when Janet came after school. Lou took Charlie to the doctor for his adjustment. I walked to Maude Craddock's to our missionary "Book of Mormon" class. Mr. and Mrs. Carro came. We had a nice class.

June 15, Thursday

Donna felt better this morning. I helped her do up her work. She drove us up to the market in Daddy's car. We left baby Mary asleep in her crib, so we hurried back. I met Florence M. at the top of the hill. We did some missionary tracting, over on Crescent Street, and had a very interesting afternoon. We had three real nice gospel conversations and invitations to return. Mrs. Kern, at 6424, said if she ever joins a church, it'll be the Mormon because she has some wonderful friends

in that church, and there must be something to a church that'll make folks as nice as they are. Nice, eh? "Let your light so shine before men that they will see your good works and etcetera." The way we should live, of course. A man next door said almost the same thing. He is reading a Book of Mormon now given to him by an elder he worked with in Tooele, Utah. We had a nice talk with a dear little old lady, 86 years old, who loves the Prophet Joseph Smith and The Book of Mormon. She is a member of the Reorganized Church, she laughingly called us "Brighamites," said we'd all see alike some day. I went to bed feeling miserable, coming down with head cold like Donna's had the past three days.



June 16, Friday

I didn't rest very well because of a head cold. Lou told me to stay in bed; he got his own breakfast and put up his lunch, sweet man. I got up at 8:20 to brush Janet's ringlets around the stick. I put her hair up in curlers last night. I really did feel tough, earache, sore throat, nose raw, back and legs ached; in fact it felt like I had a toothache too. I unpicked the red tape off my kitchen and bathroom curtains, and sewed yellow tape on. I never did like the red in my house. Donna took Janet to Beth's for her music lesson in our car. She then took her to Mrs. Lucket's home where Janet is spending tonight and tomorrow with little Susan, who stayed with Janet a few weeks ago. Susan's sister, Marcia, is staying with Sandra Moyer tonight and tomorrow. The kiddies think it's a wonderful arrangement. Mrs. Lucket is Janet's Brownie class leader. Pollyanna has a Brownie group a little older, age of Sandra and Marcia. I made a vegetable veal stew for dinner, spent most of my day on the couch. I had to postpone going out with Florence, too ill. Beverly took Uncle Charlie to the doctor's at 2:30. He was going to be out this evening, so Lou couldn't take him. Annie got a letter from Irene; Ruth wants her to stay in San Francisco to have her baby at the clinic. Annie has baby David while Irene is in San Francisco with Glen.

June 17, Saturday

I felt better this morning, did the cleaning through the house, which took most of my day. Donna is still coughing hard, but feels better, she says. She did a washing before starting her housework. She also made a cake for Lou and Rex, for Father's Day. She made a chocolate one for Rex, and white for Daddy, some girl! She really is a sweetheart; we are surely blessed to have our Donna. Janet came home this afternoon with Mrs. Lucket after lunch. Little Susan

started to feel sick, fever and neck hurting; sounds like mumps. Sure glad that Janet has had them. Pollyanna was going to keep Marcia a few days to see if little sister had mumps, but Marcia got to feeling ill this afternoon, so she had to be taken home, too. Janet and I walked to Highland Park this afternoon. We bought Father's Day gifts; three pair of sox for Lou. Donna and Rex have chocolates and ties for Father's Day. Donna let a man come in the house and take some pictures of the baby. I watched. She smiled so cute for him. The man brought Lou's \$14.00 incinerator this morning and put it together with cement. We can use it in three days. I'm glad Donna has a nice place to burn papers now. It was taking a chance to burn with so many dry weeds in the other yard next door. Rex painted in Mary's room after his nap tonight. Lou and Donna worked in the garden this evening, replanting flowers.

June 18, Sunday

Lou caught a gopher in a trap this morning at Donna's. Good hunting! Helen Ross Hyland had a baby girl this morning. Her husband is in the service of our country, where most of our young men are, bless 'em. Lou took me to my missionary meeting, Donna brought the girls back to Sunday School, Lou took care of Mary, and he worked in Donna's yard. Elaine Oates came home with Donna and children. We brought Sr. Christensen to her bus line as usual. I enjoyed church this morning. Donna stayed home with the children tonight; Rex worked late. Lou and I went to church early because he started the choir "vesper service" at 5:45, so folks who like to sit quiet in the chapel and hear the choir sing before church starts at 6 p.m. can do so. It's very nice, I think. I hope more of the choir members will come out early for this service. We had a grand meeting tonight. Br. Joseph E. Olsen and



Mary Elaine Marsh, photo taken June 17, 1944.

President Steed were the speakers. President Steed released Bill Johnson from the office of ward clerk and installed Raymond Ross in his place. After church, we took Sr. Sloan and Doreen Taylor home. Dave had business, which kept him later. Dave dropped a 90 pound weight of some kind on his foot the other day at work, and broke it in three places. Will be on crutches for a long time, I guess. We went to see Charlie and Lorene after church, Al and Sue came, and Jorgensen's were there, too. It was Father's Day today, Donna and Rex gave Daddy a box of chocolates and a pretty tie, and Donna made him a cake. I gave Lou a tie and sox; the kiddies gave Rex a tie and three pair of sox.

June 19, Monday

I mailed Mother's birthday card and \$3.00 yesterday. We enjoyed a nice visit at Clayton's after church last night. Charlie feels better and looks better. Jorgensen's were there and Al and Sue. Br. Ross took Lorene and Charlie for a nice ride yesterday afternoon. Donna and I had a large washing this morning. It was a lovely sunny day, nice breeze blowing, also. Donna took Daddy's car and went to Highland Park; bought Grama a pretty towel and washcloth for her birthday, mailed it at the post office. Lou came home this evening with a miserable head cold; he rested on the couch until time to take Charlie to the doctor. Charlie looked much better today. It'll be a happy day for all of us when he is well again, bless his heart. Northing is impossible with the Lord when we have faith. Lou and I enjoyed a good dinner at the Rite Spot this evening. We waited our turn, but it was worth it. We had a slight earthquake at 5 p.m. yesterday. Lou felt it, but I didn't. It is the second one this month. I felt the other little one, and Lou didn't, he was asleep.

June 20, Tuesday

I was bothered with asthma in the early morning. I got up and took the juice of a lemon; it relieved me. I started wheezing again after getting up at 6 a.m., felt badly all the while I was getting breakfast and putting up Lou's lunch. I had an appointment to go out with Idell Nordstrom to do missionary work, so I prayed earnestly to my Father in Heaven to give me relief and He did. I was able to go out and enjoy a lovely gospel conversation with my little friend, Mrs. Heath. We spent two hours talking to her; she is surely interested. She said she believes she has always been a Mormon at heart because our doctrine is what she has always been looking for. It makes us feel happy when folks can see the true light. Mrs. Lucket called Donna to see if she'd go help with the Brownie class as her little girl was ill and she couldn't take care of them. I looked after Joan and Mary while Donna was away. Janet is in the class. I'm worried over Donna's cough; she can't get rid of it. She felt so miserable this evening that she stayed home from the Mutual Park outing at Yosemite. Rex went alone; he is a counselor in the Mutual, too. I was suffering with asthma tonight.

June 21, Wednesday

I had a tough night with asthma and heart troubles, my dear husband had to get his own breakfast and put up his lunch. Donna and Mary came over this morning, she did dishes while I played with baby. Donna's cough is no better. I called Dr. Ziller and made an appointment for both Donna and me to have a vaporator treatment and chiropractor adjustment. I called Sr. Marsh; she said she would come up and look after the children while we're gone; sweet of her, eh? She is a grand person. Our appointment was at 2 p.m. We took our car, I wore my slack suit and bedroom slippers. I forgot to change the slippers, so that shows how I felt! Too ill to care. The doctor didn't give Donna the vaporator; she worked on her over an hour with light and electric massage and spinal adjustment. I had the vaporator and the other treatment. We got home at 4 p.m. I went to bed feeling really ill. My poor darling bought his dinner out, and then took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's for his adjustment. Lou took Charlie's old car to Ernie's on the way down, in tow. He tied the wheel of Charlie's car. Lou brought Lorene and Charlie up to see me on the way home.

June 22, Thursday—Today is the birthday of Mother Renshaw.

I surely hope she will enjoy her birthday and that our gifts have arrived okay. I stayed in bed all day, it seemed I ached in every bone. Donna's cough is some better, but it worries me to see her have to work so hard. She even finished up my ironing and cooked dinner for her daddy. Oh, how I do wish I was stronger so I could help her a little

more, instead of her having to do for me. The choir had a party after their rehearsal tonight. It was in honor of two faithful members who are quitting. Mary Stead, because she feels she is too old, and has lost her singing voice, and Catherine Trimmer, who is moving up to Lake Arrowhead to cook, this summer, for camp. Nellie Imsen took charge of refreshments, weenies and buns, and root beer. I stayed in bed and suffered from this awful flu. Br. Lewis brought a visitor to choir this evening; one of Joseph Robinson's [Joseph Eldridge Robinson] daughters. After Lou got home he decided she was Kate [Minnie Kate Robinson], the daughter of his first wife [Minnie Ann Knell]. Kate Robinson used to be organist in Adams Ward years ago. She lives in Utah now.

Joseph Eldridge Robinson

First California Mission President had three wives: 1. Minnie Ann Knell 2. Willmia Brown 3. Harriet Spencer. President Grant told him if he didn't stop living with all three of these wives he would be excommunicated. Joseph felt that he had to have three wives like his father in order to get into the Celestial Kingdom. However, after Pres. Grant told him to stop living with them - he lived with his first wife but took care of the other two. He had a wonderful, musical family. My mother went to his funeral in Los Angeles and said that the children put on the funeral and sang and talked - it was a beautiful funeral. One of his sons was in the Kingsmen Group that sang so much at that time.

—From a note on Family Tree on Joseph Eldridge Robinson's page.

June 23, Friday

I was disappointed this morning. I thought I'd feel well enough to get up and dressed, but couldn't make it. Donna straightened up my house and brought me orange juice. She is still coughing, too hard to suit me. I do worry about her, she has too much work for her strength. She took children in our car to Beth's for Janet's piano lesson and paid my gas bill and sent money order for the phone bill. Lou took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's this evening for Charlie's treatment. I have taken chills, and hot fever spells, headaches, backaches, and been most miserable all day. I've coughed so much my poor stomach and ribs are really sore.



Sarah Renshaw and Lillian Keller Spring of 1938.

June 24, Saturday

I had another miserable restless night, poor Daddy, I'm sure I disturb his rest, too. The poor man has to get up and cook his own breakfast and put up his lunch. I feel sorry about it. Isn't it strange, when we have to stay in bed it isn't half as much fun, yet when I'm well, Oh, how I hate to crawl out in the early mornings. I wonder how Diana and new daughter are getting along. I haven't seen her little son yet; they say he is cute as can be. I find it hard to write in bed, when not feeling

well, anyway. I'm so worried over Donna's cough; she looks so thin and pale. I could weep because I'm so helpless when she needs me so badly. She waits on me with all she has to do. I do feel so very miserable and ill today. I'm also sorry I wasn't able to get the sandwiches; they're expecting me to bring to church tonight, over to them. I hope they'll forgive. Donna is coughing hard, and working too hard. Florence Marsh came in to see me this evening. She says she is going to take Donna's children for a few days until Donna is better.

June 25, Sunday

Florence Oates called by for Janet and Joan, took them to Sunday School. Grama and Pa Marsh took Janet and Joan home to keep them a few days. They came to Donna's after Sunday School to get clothes for the girls. They took Donna, Janet and Joan to eat dinner at the Rite Spot. The Marshes offered to take little Mary for a few days, too, but Donna didn't want to impose too much, so she kept her. I was sorry because Mary, bless her baby heart, is the one who needs all the attention and is heavy to lift. How can Donna go to bed and rest a few days with a baby to take care of? I was too ill to care much about anything. I've been on juices since last Tuesday afternoon. Bill and Annie came to see me this afternoon. Lou and Bill administered to me, I felt better after that. Bill and Annie went to see Charlie this afternoon, also. Oh, this awful coughing is doing me harm, I know. I suffer awful with pains in my stomach and ribs when I have a bad coughing spell. I have had a headache all week, too, which the cough doesn't help any. I'm a very unhappy mama, and I don't mean maybe!

June 26, Monday

Lou left our car home so Donna and I could keep our appointment with the doctor. I was too ill to go, the coughing has injured my right side, torn the ligaments or something. The pain was awful. Rex came home for his time off, and took Donna to the doctors; he bought a few things he needed for his Scout outing tomorrow, and called back for Donna. They brought some adhesive plaster for me. Lou taped my stomach and ribs up good and tight and it isn't as painful now, when I cough. Dear old Sr. Christensen came all the way from her home in Lincoln Heights, out to see how I was feeling. She missed me last night in church. Lou told her I was ill. She is such a darling, but hard to talk to because of being so deaf. I haven't been able to stay out of bed since last Tuesday night, a week tomorrow, and it seems like three. I am really miserable, my head has never stopped aching, Oh, woe is me!

June 27, Tuesday

I'm sick and tired of this darn bed; still I couldn't get along without it. Oh, what a week of suffering. I can't stay up because of weakness and pain. The phone has been ringing a lot, too, but I don't care. Sr. Christensen had her landlady call to ask how I was today, she was worried lest she'd made me worse by her visit yesterday, bless her old heart. Donna has been waiting on me. She did my washing this morning and she isn't well enough to do it. I'm so worried over her cough. Florence Oates brought the girls back home this afternoon. It was nice of her to take them, she is so lovely to Donna always. The Oateses are taking their little family to Arizona for over the Fourth holiday. Ernie's people live in Arizona. They are leaving Thursday morning. I wish I was well so I could take care of Mary so Donna could really get a rest, she is the little "busy body" who keeps everyone on their toes. Bless her little heart, while Donna is picking up after her in one place, she is very industrious in another spot. Oh how

we do love the little darling, anyway. Rex and his scouts left this morning for the canyon. Florence



Oates took them up at six o'clock. Lou is going after them on Thursday evening. I sat up in bed to cough so many times, I caught pleurisy in the right side, oh, more pain.



Mary Marsh, Elvie Renshaw and Joan Marsh circa 1943.
In June of 1944, Elvie longs to feel well like she did in this picture.

June 28, Wednesday

I seem to be fighting a losing battle. Each day I hope I'll be able to get up the next day, but no. I seem to feel worse or weaker, anyway. Donna had to call Dr. Ziller again and tell her I was too ill to come for my appointment. She went at 2 p.m. for her own. I felt so upset because Donna couldn't get the car started, Lou took it to Ernie's shop yesterday to have it fixed so it would be easy for Donna

to use, but it was harder than ever, we're all mad. Of all the different kinds of pain, it seems I'm trying them all out. If only my head wouldn't ache so hard. Oh, this pleurisy, that's the pain, some unseen hand sneaks up back of you and sticks you with a knife or dagger. Lou has got me taped up front and back and it surely does help. The Peerless Pump Company is closing down for four days. Lou has decided to take advantage of this opportunity and go to Phoenix to see his mother. I hope he can get reservations, he needs a change; only too bad to go when it's so hot there. I had a nice long talk on the phone with Florence O. She is going to help me give Donna that needed rest. Br. Reiche papered Mary's bedroom today.

June 29, Thursday

Donna took Janet and Joan to town this morning to get Daddy's ticket to Phoenix. They met Florence Marsh at Ernie's station, where she put Mary in her buggy, (which

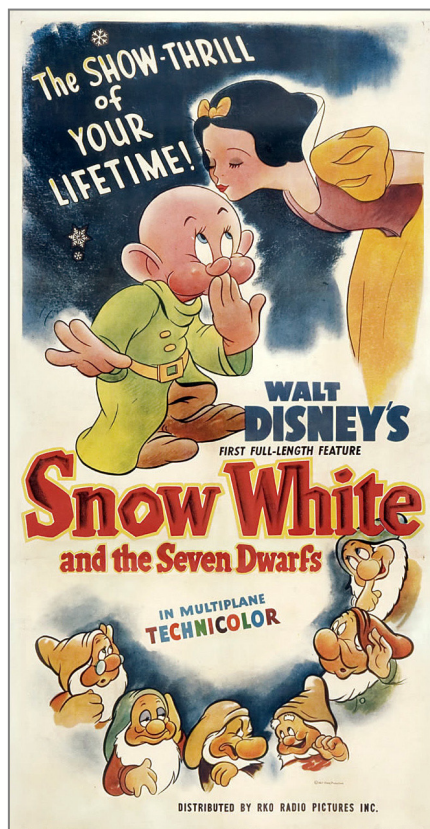
Grama had there for Ruth's baby) and took her home to keep overnight. It's a wonderful chance for Donna to rest. Donna took the girls to see "Snow White." I'm so glad that Donna has not got to worry over a big company dinner tomorrow evening. She was almost beside herself with an upset house, and not feeling well. Sr. Marsh offered to have the dinner at her house. I never saw Donna so happy over anything, she almost cried, she was so relieved. Believe me, so was I, bless those dear in-laws of Donna's. They came through and saved Donna from a lot of work and worry. Of course Donna wanted Madge [*Madge Arlena Marsh*] and Jim [*James Raymond Mills Jr.*] (Rex's cousins) to come to dinner, but with her illness and the upset house, it was too much. She likes things so nice, as we all do if we can have it that way. Lou's ticket is on the Greyhound Bus, Saturday night at 12:30. Awful hour, but the best she could get. Lou went up to San Dimas Canyon to help bring Rex's scouts down, they've been up there since last Tuesday. I got dressed this afternoon, after ten days in bed, and I feel weak. I did a little hand sewing on dresses. I rested on the couch in the front room this afternoon, enjoyed the change.

June 30, Friday

Well, Dear Diary, I feel discouraged, it seems this battle to get back my strength is a losing fight, but of course I know it isn't; for the Lord will bless me and one of these days I'll be feeling fine again. If only I could get strong enough to leave this house and get a few of Dr. Ziller's vaporator and light treatments, I'd start to feel better, I know. I'm so happy over the change the treatments have made in Donna. She feels such a lot better; her cough has almost gone. Baby Mary stayed at Grama Marsh's last night. Donna and the girls went down this afternoon. Oh it was surely lovely of Florence to let Donna have her company dinner there, and to take over the responsibility like she has. Lou stopped in Ivers Department Store and bought a suit of underwear. I do wish he had bought two. I'll mark them tomorrow. He has five old suits, but they look so awful patched and with stained underarms. I got dressed in my slacks this afternoon and I did a little patching on two of Janet's dresses, and then back to bed on couch. Lou took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's for treatment tonight. Sr. Christensen went to see Charlie this evening, she sent some Idaho sage home to me. I drank some of the sage tea, oh me, what bitter stuff!

July 1, Saturday

Donna called from Marshes' this morning. I thought it was Lorene's voice, I don't know my own daughter's voice on the phone?? Of course I thought she was home across the street. They all stayed at Grama Marsh's last night, nice, eh? Donna took Janet to the Ross Loos doctor for a



checkup this morning. She left Mary and Joan at Marshes'. Janet is going to have her tonsils out next Wednesday. I drank some more of that awful, bitter, Idaho sage tea. Sr. Christensen was nice enough to send it to me; I'll be brave and take it, ugh! Donna bought some pretty little red and blue house slippers for Janet and Joan. Sr. Marsh and Donna went to Sears and Roebuck on the bus this afternoon, bought curtain material for Donna's bedroom and Mary's bedroom, a pretty dotted material, white. I got dressed in slacks, but spent the day on the couch. Marshes brought Donna and family home about 7 p.m. Lou went to the bus station about 10 p.m. Rex was going to take him down in our car, but Lou decided it was too late to keep us up. He put the car in our garage and went down on the streetcar. He had lots of time, as his bus didn't leave until 12:30.

July 2, Sunday

I had a good nights rest, only about three hard coughing spells. It was the best night in ten or more. I've been ill since June 20.

The folks had planned a get together "pot luck" dinner out at Hoglund's this afternoon. Aunt Lide [*Eliza Ann Parramore*] and Uncle Sam Bailey came up to our Sunday School this morning, and then they all went to Burbank. Charlie and Lorene went this time. I was glad he could go. Beth and Dick went, Rex and Donna and children went. Beverly drove Ray's car. I was not able to go. I'm so weak; I can't seem to get over this illness. I spent the day on my couch. Al and Sue came to our fast meeting this morning. Milo Bingham wanted him to bless their baby. Al and Sue took Donna and family back to Burbank. Beth and Dick brought them home. Janet came home in Ray's car with Beverly. Joan stayed out in Burbank with the Vandergrifts. Lou was scheduled to arrive in Phoenix about noon today. I hope his bus was on time and his trip pleasant. I had a lonely day, but enjoyed the radio. Oh, I'll be glad when this weakness passes. The folks came home about 7 p.m.

July 3, Monday

I rested rather well last night, but still too weak to suit me. Donna had to do our washing alone again. She took Janet to Ross Loos in Glendale for a heart and lung check at 3 p.m. She is all-okay for the tonsil operation. She had the blood test on Saturday. She will have her operation on Wednesday. We'll all be happy when this thing is over, bless her heart. I walked over to Donna's and brought the clothes in from the lines while she was away. Mary was asleep. It was my first time to go over to Donna's in two weeks. I took my time bringing in the clothes, but I was tired. Donna was upset to think I'd do it; it won't hurt me! This evening Donna took Uncle Charlie and Aunt Lorene to the doctors. She brought them up to see me before taking them home. I wonder how Joan is enjoying herself at Vandergrifts? And how my

husband is enjoying his visit in Phoenix? I know his mother is happy; I'm so glad he could go. I sent his ration stamp book airmail; I gave him the wrong book for his shoe stamp. I'm so sorry about it. Donna told me the shoe stamp is in Book 3, he took book 4, oh me! Donna took my bedroom curtains down and washed them today, they surely needed it.

July 4, Tuesday—Independence Day

Yes, it is the 4th of July and I for one, have had a very quiet and safe, sane holiday. I did a little ironing, but had to leave it three times, because of weakness, things looked so dark and I felt so faint. I had to hurry to the couch. I do feel rather discouraged, it seems I'm weaker today than yesterday. Mary Stead called on me, we had a nice visit while I was resting. I wonder how Lou is celebrating this holiday? I hope he is enjoying his visit with his folks in Phoenix. Rex stayed home in bed all day because of coughing most of the night. Joan is out in Burbank with the Vandergrifts. Donna ironed most of the morning. She did my bedroom curtains, which was some job, with all the ruffles. She cleaned my windows and helped me hang the curtains. Donna is a grand daughter; she brought my dinner over this evening, too, the sweetheart. Rex got up this evening and took Donna and the children for a ride on our car. They went to Burbank and brought Joan back home. She was beginning to get a little homesick.

July 5, Wednesday

I wasn't well enough to take care of Mary and Joan, so Donna had to take them to Marshes' this morning about 7:30. Janet, bless her little heart, had her tonsil operation at 8 or 8:30 at Ross Loos. Donna stayed with her all day until she was well enough to come home about 4:30 p.m. I had the little dear on my mind all day. I called Florence Marsh at four o'clock. Rex had called her and said Janet was getting along all right, she came out of the anesthetic with very little trouble. I felt much better then. Donna had her home soon after. I received two cards from Louis this morning; he is having a nice visit. Rex took Charlie to the doctor this evening. He stayed with the children while Donna and I went to have a treatment from Dr. Ziller at 7:30 p.m. This was my first time out for two weeks. I know the doctor was surprised to see me looking so pale and thin. I was so weak the

perspiration just ran down my legs while she had the light on my chest, and back. The doctor rubbed my legs with alcohol, so I wouldn't take cold going out in the night air.

July 6, Thursday

Florence Marsh and Idell Nordstrom came down to my house this morning to get some addresses. They were going to do some revisiting in our neighborhood. Florence fell and cut her leg, and her knee, in several places, tore her stocking all to pieces. They were taking a short cut here, and she turned her ankle and fell. I felt so bad about it. I loaned her a pair of my stockings, and Donna helped her take care of the injury. Pearl Murphy called me on the phone, first time in a long while. It was nice hearing from her again. She and Jack are surely crazy about that adopted baby of theirs. I'd like to see him. My daddy walked in on me this evening. I was surprised to see him as I thought he'd stay until Saturday, but I was glad to have him home again. Lou said it was hot in Phoenix but he didn't mind it; he was not too uncomfortable. He enjoyed his visit there. I'm so glad he went and had a nice visit with his mother and Lillian.

July 7, Friday

Today is the birthday of my brother-in-law, Bill Andersen, and Florence Oates, two really nice people. I hope they have a "Happy Birthday" and many more after this. I did

not rest too well because of gas and bloat condition in the night. My legs felt shaky this morning. Donna went to a luncheon at Mable O'Brien's home. I was invited also, but was not well enough to go. I went over to look after the children. Donna had their lunch all ready. I put the baby to bed after her lunch. Janet took a nap; also, her throat is better today, but still very sore. She had her tonsils out on Wednesday. Donna came home in time to take me to Dr. Ziller for a treatment at 4 p.m. She did some shopping and came home. Janet looked after baby Mary, and Joan went with Donna. Lou called for me at 5 p.m. He had the baby with him. I went with Lou to take Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's for Charlie's adjustment. Donna made an angel food cake this afternoon. It looked swell. We had so many egg whites because we've both been drinking the yolks in orange juice.



Florence Oates on her wedding day 1932. On July 7, 1944
Florence turned 33 years old.

July 8, Saturday

I rested much better last night. Lou got his breakfast and put up his lunch. I do hope I'll be able to do it again for him soon. Donna brought the pictures of our baby Mary over; they are so good. She gave me one. Such darling babies, I compared their pictures and all are so adorable. They look a lot alike in their pictures, Janet, Joan, and Mary. Donna did a big washing this morning. I was so sorry I couldn't help her. She took my clothes over to do. I'm so helpless now. Annie called on the phone and said Irene had a lovely room and bath, in a private home. She gets room and board free in exchange for a little help with two children and housework. Irene is in San Francisco, just eight blocks from Glen's camp. This afternoon I went for a ride with Rex, Lou, and the children. Rex drove. We went to a doctor way out on York Boulevard where Rex got a prescription for a cough medicine his mother had made arrangements for him to get for his cough. Rex and Lou each bought a chicken for us to cook tomorrow. We drove to Highland Park; Rex bought a linoleum rug, a pretty blue, with flowers in, for Mary's room. He painted around the edges of the floor tonight.

July 9, Sunday

I rested quite well again last night, but am still so weak and shaky. Oh, it takes me a long time to get over this illness. Lou got breakfast, he is surely good about this illness of mine, bless his heart. I'm so tired of feeling like this, but thankful to be out of bed and able to do a little to help out. I cooked the chicken. Rex stayed home from work today because of coughing most of the night. It isn't like Sunday when none of us go to Sunday School; I do not like it. Oh, I miss not going to my missionary class and to Sunday School. I will be happy when I can go again. Lou put the third coat of paint on Mary's bedroom woodwork today. We enjoyed our chicken dinner. Donna made biscuits and gave us some, which her daddy enjoyed. I didn't dare eat any; I ate Melba toast. Keith Burnett brought his fiancé, Gladys Kilson, to Sunday School this morning. Marty and Wayne left baby boy with Donna this afternoon while they took their little girls to see "Snow White." Lou went to church tonight. Erma Carlson took care of the choir. Lou enjoyed listening for a change. Florence and John called in after church; she ate a bite of lunch with Lou. John ate a dish of ice cream; I'd eaten earlier.

July 10, Monday

When Lou put the car in the garage last night, he didn't turn the key off, so it was on all night and until Donna went to get the car at 1:50 today. The battery was dead. Janet was supposed to be at Glendale Ross Loos for a check up after her tonsil operation last Wednesday. A salesman, at my door, helped Donna get the car rolled out of the garage. Pollyanna

got her car out and pushed our car until Donna got it going. We got in and went to Glendale. I stayed in the car with baby Mary. Joan went in the doctor's offices with Donna and Janet. We let the engine run all the while, never stopped it until we got back. I went in the bank, and made a deposit and left Lou's pants at the cleaners and Donna bought a few things at Si's Market. Janet and Joan went in Mary Lou's to buy ice cream. This evening Lou had no trouble starting the car to take Charlie to the doctor's. I rode down with him. Charlie looks fine tonight; he walked along by himself and got into the car without help. Annie called and said she had a lot of plants for Donna, her neighbor gave her some, and they will be lovely flowers when they bloom. We went over to get the flowers. Janet and Joan went along, baby Mary was asleep by 6:30 because she had no nap today. Beverly sold me one of her package of tissues, sweet child. Donna planted the plants.

July 11, Tuesday

Donna went to Pasadena on the bus this morning. Tillie M. sent word she had some sleepers in her baby shop and would hold them for Donna. She knew Donna had tried to get some several weeks ago. Donna bought a wedding gift for us to send to Marilyn Cartwright, who is getting married to Jerry Goodwin next Saturday night in the L.D.S. chapel in Long Beach. Donna bought the gift at the Broadway Store in Pasadena and had it sent to Wilmington from the store. It is a crystal set, bowl and candle holders. She bought two light fixtures for Mary's bedroom, a cute little wall light and a bowl in pink for the ceiling. Daddy Lou hung them this evening when he got home. There is no time wasted where our daddy is concerned; he also put a drop-light in the clothes closet. Donna got home in time to take me to Dr. Ziller's for a treatment at 2 p.m. I am still weak and shaky, but improving. It was the luncheon day at Relief Society, but I had to miss it. I've missed three Sundays and I surely hate to miss my missionary class and church on Sunday.

July 12, Wednesday

I had a rather bad night with gas and bloat. Oh, I wonder what causes it when I am so careful what I eat. I'm so thankful the awful asthma attack didn't come with it. The vaporator treatments keep the asthma attacks down. Florence Marsh and Idell Nordstrom did some missionary work up on Crescent Street near here. Florence came over to Donna's after, and cut and basted the curtains and drapes for Mary's bedroom. Donna sewed them on the machine over here. They hung them up. Mary's room looks real pretty with new pink and blue wallpaper and white woodwork, new linoleum rug and etcetera. Donna took Janet in our car to Beth's for her piano lesson. Janet wanted to walk home so Donna let her.



Marilyn Cartwright to marry Jerry Goodwin
July 15, 1944.

Aunt Annie called to let us know when she started out. Dale walked a few blocks to see she got started out right. It took her fifty-five minutes and Grama Elvie was worried. She could have made it in thirty minutes easy, but our little girl took her time. She said a dog followed her and she had to hide from the dog along the way, ha, ha! Lou took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's for Charlie's adjustment. Florence Marsh brought me a new pair of hose for the pair I let her use when she tore hers. Grama Pierce had the little girls of our neighborhood over to her home this evening from 7 to 10 p.m. They love to go there. They had a program and refreshments.

July 13, Thursday

Donna did a big washing this morning. I'm so sorry I couldn't help her. I did try to be of help. I mended some of the children's dresses. Donna made a custard pudding for me; I baked it here. They are so delicious; her custards are about the only thing that tastes good to me now. I was bothered with gas and bloat again last night. I got up and sat by the fire for thirty minutes or more after taking the alkaloid. I don't think Lou knew I was out of the bed. This afternoon I went with Lou to get our radio back. It cost \$8.28 to fix it. I'm surely glad to have it back. I've been lost without it. I wouldn't have felt so lost if I'd been well and able to get out. Mary Jorgensen called to see me and Janet, cause we've been ill. She was driving Ray's car, Cliff Jorgensen is teaching her, he was with her, of course. I did some shopping in the Owl Drug Store. Shirley's mother, Gracie, took all of our little neighborhood girls in her car this afternoon out to see Shirley's new home. Nine little girls and Grama Pierce and Gracie, a car full. They had a swell time, came home about 7 p.m., had ice cream out at Shirley's. Lou and Rex went to choir tonight. I went to Donna's and tried to help put up some apricots. I wasn't much help. She put up seven quarts, water bath way.

July 14, Friday

I'm so happy because I had a good nights rest, and felt so much better today. I did

a little cleaning in the two front rooms. After my bath and lunch, it was time to leave for the doctor's. Donna took me in our car. We left Mary in her crib, trying to get to sleep. Donna came back for me, she had all the children. Dr. Ziller came out to the car to see the baby. She says Donna has a lovely, healthy looking family. We stopped at Boy's Market; each got a basket of groceries. We bought ice cream in cups for the children to eat while we were doing our shopping. They hate to stay in the car while we shop, and I don't blame them. I bought a sewing machine belt in Shaughnessy's. Rex bought cement, and posts, and a rope to make a good strong swing for his girls, and some sand to put in the sand box for Mary. Lou and Rex nailed the sides on the sand box tonight. Martha Fowler called me on the phone this evening. She isn't feeling very well, I'm sorry for her. She misses her husband such a lot, he is in the Navy, fighting for our freedom. Lou took Charlie to the doctor's for a treatment. He fixed a hose under Lorene's icebox so water would run outside, to save her having to empty it. He worked until 10 p.m., with Rex, putting posts up for the swing. Wonder what we'd do without our Daddy Lou? He had a busy evening helping others. He put my machine belt on after 10 p.m.

July 15, Saturday

Today is the wedding day of Marilyn Cartwright and Jerry Goodwin. Wayne and Marty took us; Rex, Donna, Annie, Lou, and me in his car to Long Beach this evening to witness the marriage. Uncle Al Hoglund married them in the L.D.S. chapel in Long Beach. It was a very lovely ceremony, with beautiful baskets of flowers, and a grand white archway with slender white candles, a dozen or more, on each side.

Marilyn was so lovely, she is such a pretty little lady, anyway, and her gown of white satin was gorgeous.

Jerry was a fine looking groom in a sailor uniform, a handsome pair. Ruth had a lovely gray dress with beautiful fuchsia colored flowers in and a fuchsia veiling hair dress. Clarence gave his daughter away; he was handsome, too, in dress suit, of course. Baby brother, David, was the ring bearer, darling in his little navy uniform. Brothers Jerry and Blaine were handsome in their academy uniforms. They assisted at the entrance and in serving after the ceremony in the patio. The bridesmaids looked lovely in pink and blue,



Clarence and Ruth Cartwright at their daughter Marilyn's wedding.

maid of honor in blue, I think. Well, it was all lovely; I enjoyed seeing Aunt Lizzie and her girls, Blanche and Oscar, and all the folks. I also loved the nice long ride there and back; a treat we do not have often now days. It was my first outing since my illness. We left the children at Marshes tonight, met Wayne there. Donna and Rex stayed all night at Marshes' with the children. Lou and I came home alone. My mission release came in the mail today.

July 16, Sunday

John brought Donna and the children up in his truck this morning. Rex went to work. I kept Mary while Donna and the girls went to Sunday School. Donna took little Judy and Mickey Strong, Irene and Leonard's children, to Sunday School. Judy came home with them, cute little girl. She went to church with us this evening. Leonard came for her tonight. We left Mary at Aunt Annie's while we went to meeting. It was my first time out to church in three weeks. I was glad to be in church again, I still feel shaky. My friends were very nice; they seemed happy to see me out. Bev took care of Mary and David. We had a lovely meeting, Br. Nephi Andersen and a Dr. Adams spoke. The choir music was extra nice, too. I was glad to see Lorene out, Sr. Jorgensen stayed with Charlie. She is a darling to do it. Bless her heart. I missed Florence M.; she has had two teeth out, so wouldn't come until fixed. I stewed Donna's chicken and ours while they were in Sunday School. Lou and Mr. Allen worked all day digging in our yard, to find where the sewer was clogged. They did find it. It was a solid mass of roots; we could use the toilet and tubs after they cleared the pipes. Moyer's and our pipes have been stopped since Saturday morning.

July 17, Monday

The plumber came out this morning; he was here about fifteen minutes, took his snake wire through the pipes and pronounced them clear. Mr. Allen and Lou had taken care of that yesterday. The bill was \$7.50. Mrs. Allen was glad she didn't have to pay him for the hours Lou and Mr. Allen worked yesterday, at that rate! They wanted to be sure the pipes were clear, so had the plumber use his snake wire. Mr. Allen took care

of cementing up the holes in the pipes and covering up the holes in the ground. Donna took the children to Highland Park and bought all three some shoes. I rode down with them but stayed in the car. Tonight after dinner, and after taking Charlie to the chiropractor, Lou and I bottled twelve quarts of apricots, cooked them in the oven. Mr. Allen gave us the fruit. He surely had a lot this year and they are real nice. Pollyanna went out today and picked 33 pounds of the cherries. She was busy pitting them tonight with Beecher's help. Some job to take all the stones out! I went to bed very tired, and a little asthma trouble, also. Oh, I get so mad at myself, to think I'm so weak. Lou did most of the work.

July 18, Tuesday

I was bothered with asthma and gas last night, so couldn't rest very well. I felt miserable all day. I had all I could do to stay on my feet. I had to lie down while Mary was asleep. Donna went to Sears and Roebuck. She left about 9 a.m. and got home about 5 p.m. She bought several things that she and the children need to take up in the mountains next month on their vacation (bathing suits, sun suits, slacks for self, and blue denim slack for the girls, polo shirts, and other things). The children are enjoying the nice big swing that Rex and Lou put up in Donna's backyard. Tonight our Mutual had an outing to Indian Springs. Pollyanna and Beecher Moyer went at Donna's invitation. They took Rex and Donna and the girls; Janet, Joan and Sandra, in their car. We kept Mary here. I felt so miserable Lou got his own dinner; he also put up the rest of our apricots in the oven. I got baby to sleep on our day bed. Al and Sue came to see us; they had Charlie and Lorene out for a little ride. They invited me to go along. I did and enjoyed it a lot. Lou stayed with the baby, isn't he a sweetheart? The folks got back about 10:15 p.m. Pops and Rex left Lewie up in the canyon with the truck and no key. It was in Pop's pocket. Ernie had to go back up to the springs to take Lewie the key. Janet went home with Robin to stay a day or two.

July 19, Wednesday

I had a miserable night until I burned the asthma powder about 12 midnight, and then I got relief and sleep later, but I was not able to do anything but take it easy this morning. Oh, I feel so bad about it.



Brothers, Wayne and Leonard Strong. On July 16 Leonard and his wife Irene with children Judy and Mickey Strong came to church in Garvanza.

Oven Canning

I have always canned every year using the old fashioned way of using the hot bath canning method. This year I read of a new way of canning. I fill my clean jars with whatever I am canning and put them all in my oven. Turn the oven on to 250 degrees. When the oven is preheated I turn the oven off. I let the jars sit in the oven for at least 1 hour. When I take the jars out of the hot oven they all seal so easily. Or I can leave them sit in the oven until it cools. I can so much faster using this method. It is wonderful. But now I am reading so much on the internet saying this is not a good way to can and it is not safe. I have never had any problems canning this way and enjoy it so much. Are there any other readers out there that have heard of any problems using this method? I plan to continue using this method.

<http://www.hillbillyhousewife.com/oven-canning-method.htm>

Donna had such a large washing with mine and her own. Oh, why must I be so weak when I want to help so much? She is not able to do my washing, too. I'm so unhappy about it. I surely am puzzled this morning; there are so many big flies in my house. I can't find where they are getting in. I never have flies in my house like this. I've been swatting all morning. I wonder if the open sewer we had for 2 days caused it? I've gone over all the doors and windows, the back door has an opening, but it's been like that all the time before. I just can't have flies in here. Mother R. has moved into her little house in Phoenix. She sounded so happy about it in her letter, I'm glad for her, too. I'm glad my two year mission is up; it was up in May. I received my release last Saturday, July 15, in the mail. I loved the work; I'm so glad I had this call, but now I'm ill, I welcome the release. In Elsie's card yesterday she said Wayne [Davies] is in defense work in Washington. They were all going to visit Portland the next day for a couple of days. I did not know that Doris had moved from Salt Lake. I guess Dad won't come down now as Uncle Sam [Bailey] said.

July 20, Thursday

I was slowed down again today because of asthma last night. It was two o'clock this morning before I could get a good easy breath. I sat propped up in bed until that time. I burned asthma powder twice. I felt so bad because I didn't have our car to go get Uncle Sam and Aunt Lide at Annie's this afternoon. Lou had to take it because he is working in his boss's home the past few days, and has no other way to get there. Annie brought them over on the streetcar; she had little David, too. They all looked so hot after the walk down our steps. They went from here to Lorene's, back up the hill and took the bus. When Lou got home this evening, he took the baseboard off of our kitchen cupboard and sure enough he found two dead mice. Oh boy! What an awful smell. He cleaned everything out good, washed under the cupboard with soda water. I've learned my lesson, no more poison grain will I put out to catch mice. I thought they'd go home to die. I'll go back to the trap if bothered again. Lou bought four watermelons, ice cold, to treat the choir after rehearsal tonight. Nell Imsen paid for them out of fund. I put Donna's hair up in curlers; she is going to have long ringlets tomorrow night at the pioneer dance. Florence got the costumes at the Costume House. Donna's was so dirty she washed it. I patched it for her.

July 21, Friday

I put Florence Oates's hair up in curlers this morning, so she could wear the long ringlets tonight. I put Donna's up last night; they are both in the old fashioned dance tonight. Rex and Ernie are in it, too. It is to be on the floor show program at the 24th of July celebration the Mutual is giving at the stake house tonight. I'd like to see them

dance to Br. Gouchie's old time fiddle music, but I'm too ill to be away from home. Rex had his day off; he cleaned the kitchen stove good and some of the woodwork, nice boy. Donna ironed her pioneer costume this morning. It was a big job, with that full skirt with rows of ruffles. Lou called from work to tell me the company is taking them to dinner tonight out to McDonald's, a swell place to eat. I'm so glad because the poor dear has been neglected since my illness. Janet is still at Robin's; she called me on the phone. She is having a swell time, and never gets homesick, the rascal. Beverly took Uncle Charlie to the doctor's tonight. Lou and I almost forgot it was his night. He called up from McDonald's to tell me to have Andersens take Charlie. I had an awful time getting them on the phone, it was payday and they were out buying their grocery order, cashing the check. Beverly went at five to seven. I guess Charlie was upset because it was so late, poor dear. I brushed Donna's and Florence's hair in long ringlets, they looked sweet in costumes. They almost talked Lou into going along. But he stayed with Donna's children instead. I'll be glad when the

Democratic convention is over. I'm tired of listening to the speeches. That is about all we can get on our radio now days.



Uncle Samuel Bailey circa 1892.

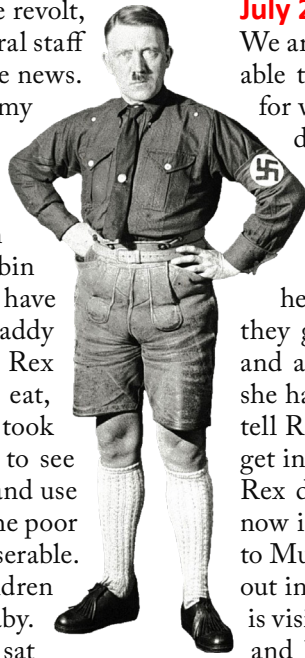
July 22, Saturday

Ernie Oates was sick last night so he couldn't go to the Pioneer dance. Florence asked Lewie to take Ernie's place in the floor show, old time dance, as her partner. But Lewie didn't show up, so a young man from the stake helped out. Lewie and Miriam started out for the dance with the Gibby's, but had tire troubles, so they all went back home. I had a good nights rest and felt much better. I wrote a letter to Mother R. and one to Violet, and cards to Lillian and Dad. Donna made a custard pudding for me. She also baked a white cake here and made a tapioca pudding at her house. Donna and Rex went with Beth and Dick out to Burbank to eat dinner with Elaine and Ernie, Lucille and Lloyd, and Gwen and Rulon. They ate at some air plant, eating where they could watch the airplanes. I did some cleaning today, but I had a system, which worked okay. I would work for a while, and then I would lie down on the bed until my stove clock would ring to let me know my rest period was up. That way I managed fine, but it took most of my day. Donna left baby Mary with me while she went to the market. This evening Lou brought home a box of plums and a box of nectarines. He put them up in bottles by himself, all I did was make the syrup and put on some caps, he did all the work. Isn't he grand? We got twelve quarts of plums, and seven quarts of nectarines. We cooked the plums in the oven and the nectarines in the water bath.

July 23, Sunday

It looks like Adolf Hitler and his general staff are having a "hot" time of it. The German radio says "Hitler is

determined to wipe out all involved in the revolt, and attempt on his life." Many of his general staff have been put to death already, so says the news. I hate war, so say very little about it in my diary. It was cool and damp this morning. Donna and Joan went to Sunday School. I kept Mary here, I'm still shaky and weak, but better. Janet came home with Donna; she has been staying with Robin since Tuesday. Grama Elvie was glad to have my Janet home again. Donna had her daddy eat with them; she cooked a rolled roast. Rex slept until 1 p.m. I'm still careful what I eat, so I stayed home to eat. Bill and Annie took Charlie out for a ride, and brought him to see me. Oh, I wish Charlie could talk better and use his arm again. The leg works quite well. The poor dear gets discouraged when he feels so miserable. I went to church; Donna and all three children went, too. She stayed in back with the baby. Rex sang in the choir. Janet and Joan sat in front of me. We had a nice meeting; the adult Aaronic priesthood took charge of the program. Br. Brown conducted; Br. Silva gave a good talk. Marshes came to Donna's after church, brought ice cream, and ate sandwiches. Our papers say the rebellion is spreading in Germany. I hope it will end this awful war.



Evil Hitler.

July 24, Monday

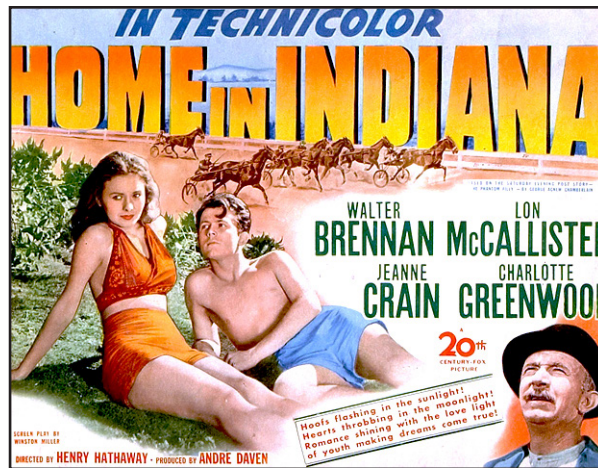
Donna did our washing; I washed her dishes and tried to help a little. I am feeling much better, but still so weak. I fed baby Mary and put her to bed for her nap. Donna wouldn't let me help with the washing; she is a dear. Lou took his car again. He worked on the job he is doing for his boss, at his home. Lou thinks he'll finish it up tomorrow, and then he'll go back to the plant. Leonard brought his little daughter, Judy, over to visit a day or two with Janet and Joan. They are so thrilled to have her come and sleep all night; she is a cute little girl. Roy Valantine came to have Donna help him with his violin practice, she plays the piano for him, it helps him a lot, he says. I went with Lou this evening to take Charlie and Lorene to the doctors for his adjustment. We visited awhile at Lorene's while Lou talked about putting a new roof on their house. We called at Reiche's home and Lou talked to Br. Reiche about painting Charlie's two houses, also papering and painting Donna's bedroom. Charlie sold his car for \$100.00 today. Ernie Oates fixed it up, and made the sale. He wouldn't take one cent for his work. Grand fellow, that Ernie!

July 25, Tuesday

We are still having cool mornings. I felt better today. I was able to do my own ironing and a few pieces of Donna's, for which I'm thankful. Lou worked on the job he's been doing for his boss; he finished it up today, so will go back to the Peerless Pump tomorrow. The Ross Loos nurse called Donna this morning and said there was an opening Friday morning for Rex to have his tonsil operation, if he wanted to take it now. If not, he must wait until October, which is the appointment they gave him at first. Donna called the Bus Company, and asked them to have Rex call here before six p.m. as she had to let the nurse know before 6 p.m. They forgot to tell Rex, so Donna called again this evening. She couldn't get in touch with Rex, so called Ross Loos and said to put Rex down for the operation as she felt sure he'd want it now instead of waiting. He did want it now. Donna went to Mutual tonight, I stayed with the children. Lou worked out in Donna's yard; he has it looking so nice. Judy Strong is visiting with Janet and Joan for a few days. Annie, Dale, and baby David, left at noon for San Francisco to visit with Glen and Irene.

July 26, Wednesday

Lou finished up the job at his boss's home, so he left the car home today. Donna and I made good use of it. She drove me to Dr. Ziller's to get my heart pills. We shopped in Boy's Market; Donna got a big order, over \$10.00 worth, groceries, meat and vegetables. We stopped in Highland Park long enough to buy birthday cards for Beverly, mailed



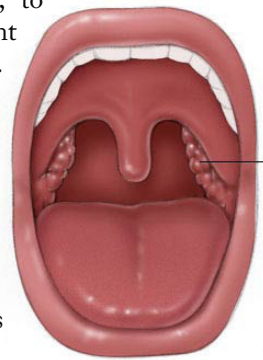
them from the post office. I sent a book of 3¢ stamps in my card. Irene came for Judy this afternoon. She showed Donna how to braid Janet's hair in the French braid. I watched, but wonder if I could do it? This evening I had a nice dinner cooked. We were through by 6:10, dishes and all. I rode to Clayton's with Lou to get Lorene and Charlie. We took him to Dr. Nelson for his treatment. Charlie has been going three times a week for three months. There is some improvement, but it's slow with illness from a stroke. Charlie has such a weak heart, too. I called Patten Blinn Lumber Company and ordered ten rolls of roofing paper for Lorene and Charlie. Lou is going to put on the new roof for them. Lou and I went to the Arroyo Theater tonight and saw a real good picture, "Home in Indiana," also a silly comedy, "Make Your Own Bed."

July 27, Thursday

Today is the birthday of my niece, Beverly Andersen. I hope she got the birthday card and book of stamps that I sent yesterday. Donna also mailed her a card. I hope she has a nice birthday; she is a sweetheart. Annie, Dale, and baby David are in San Francisco visiting Glen and Irene. Donna went to Highland Park today and bought our gifts for Rex's birthday. She bought a pretty sweater jacket for him from her and the children, and a blue dress shirt for Lou and me to give him. I stayed with the children tonight while they all went to choir practice. Rex is going to have his tonsils out at Ross Loos tomorrow.

July 28, Friday

Rex left this morning in our car, to have his tonsils removed. He went to Ross Loos; Dr. Beasley operated. Donna went down to the hospital after lunch, and stayed until Rex was able to come home. Rex took a local anesthetic. Donna drove him home about 5 p.m. He felt okay when he first arrived, but as the anesthetic wore off, he began to feel worse, and by night he was feeling miserable. Oh, I know what an awful sore throat one has after a tonsil operation. He'll feel even worse tomorrow, poor boy. Little Janet had hers out the fifth of this month. The Marshes came up to see Rex tonight; John took Donna up to the Rite Spot for a sandwich and ice cream. Florence took care of Rex with ice packs and etcetera. I spent the day mending the children's dresses on my sewing machine; also looking after the children while Donna was away. I had a little hurt in my lungs and was very tired this evening. We went to bed at 9 p.m. An asthma attack was very near. I tire over nothing now days. Lou took Charlie and Lorene to the doctors.



Rex had his tonsils out the day before his birthday. Recovery from a tonsillectomy is much harder on an adult than it is on a child.

July 29, Saturday—Today is the birthday of our boy Rex, what a day?

I rested rather well, no asthma, but wheezy last night and today. I did manage to vacuum and dust up my house. It took me all day, with the rest periods, to do what I could have done in two hours if I'd been well. Asthma is a real curse. Donna did our washing today; we won't have to wash Monday. Donna and children are leaving for their mountain trip next Saturday, August 5. Poor Rex had a very miserable birthday, his throat is so very sore, I felt sorry for him. I took the blue shirt over, he couldn't talk, just smiled his thanks. Donna gave him a sweater jacket; he wore it to the doctors yesterday. Janet and Joan and Leffler girls went to the 10¢ Store and bought Rex two birthday cards, alike, and two little china animals, a pig and a deer. It reminded me of

the time Annie and I bought Mother and Dad two little dolls, one in pink and the other in blue. I couldn't understand their mirth, I thought them a wonderful gift, only it was hard to leave the dolls standing on the mantle to look at, ha ha! Rex's folks gave him \$10.00 for his birthday, nice, eh? They are surely generous with Rex and Donna, grand folks. Donna and I bought rabbits from Mr. Allen.

July 30, Sunday

Donna got up early, fried both rabbits, so I wouldn't take chances on getting an asthma attack from the flour. She is such a grand girl. I did not go to Sunday School, so I kept baby Mary with me. Donna took Janet and Joan and Mickey Strong. Lou drove them over to church and called for them after. He went to look at an electrical job for Mr. Alstadt in a house at 418 S. Avenue 56. Lou put the plugs in some time ago, about three years. I fed Mary and put her to bed at noon. I had gravy made and potatoes cooked so Donna and the children could eat when they came.

Poor Rex couldn't eat any of their good dinner, throat too sore. He is a little better today. Lou and I enjoyed our dinner home. Donna gave us some of her coconut cake. I just enjoy looking at cake and ice cream now days. Martha Fowler called me on the phone; she isn't at all well. I'm so sorry about her troubles, nervousness, the doctor says. I wish this awful war was over so her husband could be with her. She loves him and misses him, too much for her own good. We took all three children to church. Sr. Marsh took Mary out after the sacrament; she is so lively and happy, too noisy for church. We had a nice meeting, pioneer talks. Florence O. gave a nice talk. Donna sang in a mixed quartet, Inis, Donna, Grant C. and Harry Lewie, real nice. We brought Florence and John home to see Rex after church, and then we took them home and ate lunch with them. I surely enjoyed this bite with the Marshes, first time for a long while. We brought some melted ice cream home to Rex from his folks, just right to drink.

July 31, Monday

I had a good nights rest and felt better today. I went over to Donna's and got a few pieces from her ironing, which I did here. Rex's throat is better; he isn't suffering like he did yesterday and Saturday. Donna took Janet and Joan to Pasadena to Tillie Mosley's baby shop to try on slacks. She has had them put away for several days. Tillie wanted them to come over and eat lunch with her. Rex and Mary slept most of the time they were away. I received a nice letter from Roland and Donna Renshaw. Our landlord, Mr. Allen has worked his last for Standard Oil. He is retired after working over twenty years for the company. I think we'll benefit by his being home as he will keep his places looking nice and he has a full time job right around these four homes of his. The Allen's are grand people, I've surely enjoyed living in their home. This evening I went with Lou to take Charlie and Lorene to the doctors for his treatment. Charlie has felt

better these past few days, more cheerful. We visited with them until 9 p.m. The ten rolls of roofing paper came today, so Lou will get busy on Charlie's roof soon.

August 1, Tuesday

Dick Johnston brought his car over to Donna's early this morning. Donna took Beth to the dentist to have a double tooth out, Beth has been quite ill the past three or four months and the doctor told her to bring someone with her, as she may have to take gas. Beth is expecting another baby in five months. Donna left here at 10 a.m., Rex is still home from his tonsil operation; he is feeling better, but his throat is still sore. Mr. Allen has cleaned all around my yard so nice; I knew I'd enjoy his retirement. Beth and Donna came about 1:30. Beth had to have two teeth out; she didn't have to take gas. Donna took her to Highland Park to do some shopping; Janet and Joan went with them. Donna took Beth home, brought Dick's car back here. Dick called for his car this evening. Our Mutual had a picnic in the Victory Park near here. Florence and Donna had charge of the games; they had a lot of stuff to take over to the park. Rex went with Donna and Florence in her car. I stayed with the children; they played out in the sand box until dark. Lou watered lawns at Donna's. We both read the paper after the children were in bed.

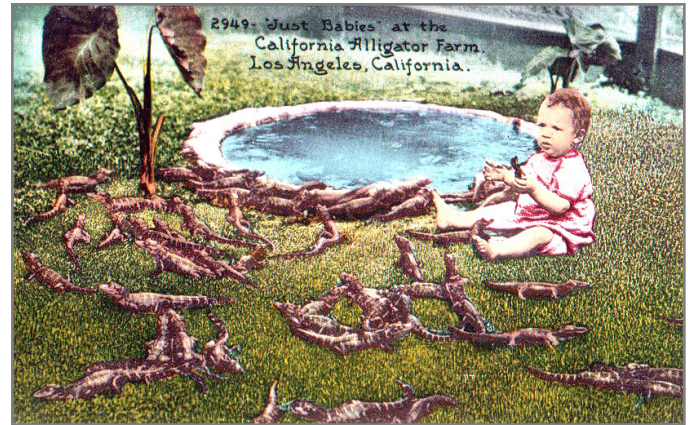
August 2, Wednesday

I put Lou's lunch up last night; He got his own breakfast, bless him. I haven't slept very well lately, I don't know why? I just lie awake, not a bit sleepy. I have had asthma wheezing in the night, which keeps me awake some of the time. I decided to have some more treatments, so I called Dr. Ziller this morning. She said I could come in at 3:30 p.m. Rex went to Ross Loos for his check up after his tonsil operation, and I rode with them to my doctor's. Donna and children went with Rex for the ride. They did some shopping before calling for me at 5 p.m. They bought new shoes for all three kiddies. We bought some groceries and came home. I was late with dinner, so Lou was a little late calling for Charlie and Lorene. I was sorry about that, cause Charlie gets so nervous when we are late. Rex and Donna went to the correlation meeting at the church with Paul F. They left children in bed, baby asleep. I went over for a while. Marty called and said her sister, Dolores, and baby are in Los Angeles, visiting them, but Dolores has been very ill since coming. I got a letter from Violet today; she and the girls are coming to Los Angeles next week if they can get seats on the bus. Oh, I hope they can. Elaine called to talk to Donna about their mountain trip on Saturday.

August 3, Thursday

I had an awful attack of gas last night. I really did suffer from it. I couldn't get relief until about midnight when I went to bed, but the asthma attack came when I lay down, so I had to get up and burn the powder. I sat up in my sleepy hollow chair until 2 a.m., and then I put up Lou's lunch and went to bed. I didn't get any sleep until almost daylight. I was discouraged, but feel better today. It was warmer this morning. The children enjoyed a shower bath on the back lawn; even baby Mary. Rex took Janet and Joan for a walk

after lunch. I talked to Martha Fowler on the phone; she isn't feeling very well. I'm sorry for her. Harold Stead called on the phone; he wants Lou to help him get himself settled in Phoenix, Arizona, where he has to go for his health. He wants Lou to write his folks about Harold. We had a real cool July, the radio commentator said, "the coolest in 64 years." Rex took the children to the alligator farm, it turned out to be a ride instead of walk. Janet and Joan were thrilled with today's outing with Daddy. They had a boat ride and merry-go-round ride, ice cream and popcorn. They called to see Grama and Pa Marsh, too. Donna worked hard all day getting ready for the mountain trip. Lou went to choir.



August 4, Friday

I rested better last night, but had to burn the asthma powder twice. I was thankful to be free from the awful gas and bloat, anyway. Florence Marsh and Idell Nordstrom called to see me this morning. They were doing some missionary work in my neighborhood. I surely enjoyed their visit. I mended several pair of panties for the children. Rex took Donna in our car to the market to get groceries to take on their canyon trip. Donna and children are going up in the mountains camping next week. Florence O. and her children, Elaine V. and her kiddies, Myrtle R. and her children, Laura J. and her boys and Beth Bywater are all going to the same camp for the week. I guess they'll have a lot of fun. I surely hope so. Grama Marsh is going to take baby Mary for the week. I'm so unhappy because I'm not able to take the little darling as planned, but glad she'll be in such good hands. Bless those dear hands, anyway. Florence M. is a wonderful lady, and I do love her. She is so grand to Donna and the children. Rex went to Ross Loos for his throat check up today, he is feeling okay now. He plans on going back to work tomorrow. Lou took Charlie and Lorene to Dr. Nelson's.

He worked on Charlie's roof after, getting it prepared for roofing. Rex and Donna took little Mary to the Marshes tonight. She'll be there a week, while Donna and the girls are in the mountains. Mr. Moyers gave us a big lug of plums tonight. They are nice neighbors!

August 5, Saturday

We had a lot of excitement around here this morning with our young mothers and children ready to leave for the mountains. Elaine and Ernie arrived in his mother's car at 10 a.m. Janet and Joan were tickled with seeing Elaine's kiddies, lots of happy noise when they arrived. Then Florence Oates and children arrived, more joyful noise. By 11 a.m. Myrtle R. and children were here. Oh boy! Now we could go, what fun. Yes, Grama Elvie enjoyed it, too. Rex was happy cause he went to the mountains instead of work. He drove Florence's car. Donna called the Bus Company and had him excused. Rex hasn't been back to work since his tonsils were out on July 28. It was real quiet around here after they left. I came in to finish my letter to Mother R., telling her Harold Stead was coming to Arizona for health and Lou wanted them to help him get acquainted and to ask Jack to help him find work. A hard letter to write, but Louis asked me to do it for him. He is anxious to help Harold who has just been released from the Navy. *[Harold was 23 years old and single. He was very ill as a baby as referenced in his father's life story. See KW8F-WMC on Family Search. His older brother Albert Stead was a good friend to Rex Marsh.]* My sweet sister, Lorene, walked in and announced she had come to do my work and bless her heart; she did just that. She gave my house a good vacuuming and dusting; best it's had in a long time. Isn't she a dear and all she has to worry about, with Charlie so ill. Mary stayed with Charlie while Lorene was here. I do miss my baby Mary; she is with Grama Marsh.

August 6, Sunday

It is surely quiet around here with Donna and the children away. I miss them a lot. Lou got up early and went to Charlie's to start putting the new roof on his house. Lou worked Friday and Saturday evenings scraping off the old tar and gravel so the new roof could go on. He got one side ready. I was frightened about noon with a faint spell, which lasted about an hour. I began to wonder if it was "curtains" for me.



Dolores Fife



Yvonne Fife.
Violet, Dolores and Yvonne Fife came to visit the family in Southern California in August 1944.

I could hardly move my arms or legs I was so weak. Well, after a prayer and the wire brush treatment, I felt better. I made a custard pudding and chicken stew. Rex and Ernie came about 1 p.m. from the camp, said it was grand up there. The girls and children are having a swell time. I'm so happy for them. I invited the boys to have some chicken, but Ernie was in a hurry to get his mother's car back to her. He had to start work at 4 p.m. Rex ate a dish of the stew after I took it over to him. Lou got home about 2 p.m., tired and dirty. Lorene sent two big pieces of pie home, lemon and banana cream. She also sent me a bowl of custard pudding, sweet generous Lorene. Lou took me to church tonight. It was Primary graduation night. It was a nice meeting, but seemed a little long because we could not hear what all the teachers said in their talks. Lots of children out, ladies didn't speak up loud enough. Violet and girls leave for Los Angeles this morning, if they can get seats on the bus when it arrives in Cedar.

August 7, Monday

I had a good nights rest, got up early and put Lou's lunch up, and also made his toast. He cooked bacon and eggs. It was the first time I've been up to help him since my illness six weeks or more ago. I did a little hand washing and bottled twelve quarts of plums that the Moyers gave us. Lou intended to put them up; he'll be surprised. Annie called me on the phone, said she had someone there who wanted to talk to me. It was my sister Violet. I was thinking about her, wondering if they got seats on the bus. Surely glad they did. I can hardly wait to see her and the girls. Dolores is out in Burbank with Shirley; she came in for Dody last night. Shirley is on her vacation this week and wants Dolores with her then. I talked to Yvonne on the phone. I talked to Florence and heard my darling baby Mary say, "Hello." Oh I miss that little dear and all of them. I hope Donna and the children are enjoying their mountain home this week. Annie and Beverly brought Violet and Yvonne over this evening. I was so thrilled to see them. They look swell. Yvonne looks so much like Violet did at her age. Pretty little girl, and has grown such a lot since I saw her, three years ago. Annie took my washing home to do, bless her! I was fighting an asthma attack while the folks were here; oh the asthma is h---!

August 8, Tuesday

Poor Lou, he had to get his own breakfast and put up lunch again this morning. I had a rather bad time of it in the night. I get so discouraged when I'm not able to do for my sweetheart like he deserves, he has been so darn good about it, too. I couldn't do much today, but take it easy, which I'm getting fed up with. I surely miss Donna and the children, but glad they're up in the mountains enjoying life. I call Marshes every day and hear my baby Mary's voice, the darling. I'm glad she has such a grand Grama Marsh; I love her, too. I am tired of staying home every day but I can't climb the hill to get out. Martha Fowler called to tell me of an L.D.S. doctor in Glendale who is helping her such a lot. She wants me to try him, also, maybe I will? Dear old Sr. Christenson came to see me again today, "bless her heart," she brought me the name of an asthma medicine her sister has used, and had good results with. She came last Tuesday, brought me some tincture of Benzoin to inhale in steaming hot water. She is so anxious to see me well again, the dear. I hope Violet and girls are enjoying their visit. Oh, I wish I was able to be with them more. "Yanks on their way to Paris, 112 miles away"; so says the news.

Plain Tincture of Benzoin can also be inhaled in steam as a treatment for various conditions including bronchitis and colds. There is some disagreement as to whether or not benzoin should be used as a treatment for asthma. —Wikipedia



A Frenchman offers drink to GI on the way to Paris.
http://www.kingsacademy.com/mhodes/03_The-World-since-1900/07_World-War-Two/07h_The-Western-Front.htm

August 9, Wednesday

The Germans are having trouble within their own ranks. Our news says, eight high German officers, involved in the plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler, on July 20, and overthrow his Nazi regime, were hanged today, only two hours after sentence of death had been passed on them. I rested better last night, so have felt better today. I cleaned out a few more kitchen drawers and shelves. I surely do miss Donna and the children. This evening I rode down with Lou to take Charlie to the doctors for his adjustment. Lorene said she was going to the show tonight with Beverly, Annie, Violet, and Yvonne to see "White Cliffs of Dover," she asked me if I'd like to see it too. I've been waiting for it to come to Highland Park so was glad to go along. Lou had to come home and work on Pollyanna's kitchen sink. He is building a new sink and covering it with inlaid linoleum, red. Mr. Allen is going to paint the woodwork in their kitchen white, nice, eh? We drove to Marshes' after the treatment, and I saw my darling baby, Mary. Oh, it was grand to hold the little doll and feel her chubby arms around my neck. I surely hated to leave her; I miss her so. She wanted to go in the car. Grand show, best I've seen in a long time.



August 10, Thursday

I rested well last night, got up early and helped Lou with breakfast and lunch. I ironed three shirts Rex had washed and rolled up to iron. I haven't seen him since Tuesday. I think he went up in the mountains last night to see Donna and children. I made up the curtains for Donna's front bedroom. Sr. Marsh made them for Mary's room. Violet spent the day with Lorene and Charlie. Dolores is still out in Burbank; I haven't seen her yet. Annie brought my washing and ironing back tonight. It looked so lovely and clean; ironed and all. Isn't she a darling? I'll say I do have grand sisters and I love them. Lorene came over last Saturday and cleaned my house. I'm so glad to be feeling better, hope I'll keep it up and soon be well and strong, which is the greatest blessing I know of (temporal blessing, of course). Bill and Annie brought Violet over tonight, also Yvonne and Dale and baby David. I surely enjoyed their visit. Lou was at his choir rehearsal. Violet gave me a lovely picture of Dolores and Yvonne, which pleased me very much.

August 11, Friday

Martha Fowler and Sally Taylor came for me about 11:30 a.m. I waited on the corner for them. We went to Glendale to see Dr. Richardson. I had my first treatment, went to bed for about three hours to take the electoral vibration treatment, and then had a chiropractor adjustment from the doctor, and a lecture on how to eat, what to eat and etcetera. Dr. R. invented this machine, they claim he is working wonders with it; can he help me?? Lou and Mr. Moyers finished the kitchen sink job in Moyers house this evening; Lou earned \$15.00 for his work. It is a very nice looking job. Lillian called me this evening from the Clark Hotel. She and Jack and Louise are in Los Angeles for a short visit, Jack came to see his mother, who lives with his sister, Mary, in Lynwood, California. He is also on business. Lou and I drove down to the hotel; we had a nice visit with them. We took them in our car to see New China Town and Old Mexico, little places nearby. We must watch the gasoline now a days, darn it! I'll be glad when the boys come home from this awful war, and things are normal again.

August 12, Saturday

I climbed my hill for the first time since my illness about two months ago. I went to the market, bought a leg of lamb and some vegetables. I washed Donna's bedroom windows and hung her new curtains. I vacuumed and dusted her house. She left it nice and clean, so there wasn't any hard work to do. I wanted it to look nice, so I picked some flowers for the front rooms. I came home and did a little cleaning in my house. My legs ached a lot today, which made me feel tired and miserable by evening. Donna and family came about 3 p.m. in Myrtle Robinson's car. Florence and children are staying at Pine View Lodge another week. Rex went to the camp Wednesday and stayed



Rex, Donna, Joan, and Janet at Pineview Lodge 1944.

until they all came home today. They had a grand time; all have a nice suntan. Lou brought Mary home from Marshes' after his work. I was glad to have them all home. I've missed them a lot, especially our darling Mary. We were all happy to see her back home. Marshes invited Rex and Donna out to dinner with them, but Rex wouldn't borrow our car.

August 13, Sunday

Donna took Janet and Joan to Sunday School, I kept baby Mary here. I cooked a nice dinner, had Violet, Yvonne, and Donna and children to dinner. We had a nice visit. Lou got the framework finished for his latticework arbor this morning. It will be very pretty when completed. He has fixed Donna's yard up so nice. Lillian and Louise came about 4 p.m. We all enjoyed the shade in Donna's backyard, under the big walnut tree. It is such a lovely tree, and I do love beautiful trees. We all went to church tonight. Lillian sang in Lou's choir. Al and Sue brought Dolores from Burbank. I introduced her to Louise. She sat in church with Louise and Violet. I stayed in the back with baby Mary, she is such a talker, I knew we'd have to go out, which I did after the sacrament. Al went to see Charlie, he had another heart attack today, so wasn't so good. After church Al, Bill, and Br. Jorgensen went down and administered to him. I know it's an awful worry to Lorene, bless her heart; she is so good to Charlie. Poor man, I wish he was better. Lillian and Louise came back after church and we had a nice lunch and visit. Lou walked to the car line with them. Florence



Mary Marsh, 6 months old. Elvie missed Donna and family while they were at Pineview Lodge. Elvie also missed Mary while she stayed with Grandma Marsh.

Allen Franklin had a baby girl this morning. We're all thrilled about the new Allen grandchild; its their first. Bill and Al went to see Helen Hoglund [Helen Ana Hoglund daughter of Oscar and Blanche Hoglund] in the hospital, and administered to her. She is very ill.



Janet Marsh, holding the globe that Grama Elvie and Grampa Lou gave her on 8th birthday.



Lillian Keller

he'd better stop the treatments for a while and see how he feels. The Andersen family is going out to Burbank tonight for a potluck dinner with the Hoglunds, and families, and bring Violet and Yvonne back. Dody has been at Annie's since Sunday. Rex did some of Donna's ironing this afternoon while she went up to the ration board to take papers for gas to take Charlie to the doctors and for our canning sugar blanks. Tonight Rex and Donna took Janet and Joan to the Mutual picnic at one of the parks. I can't remember which one. They went swimming. The pool was for Garvanza Mutual alone; I took care of Mary.

August 16, Wednesday

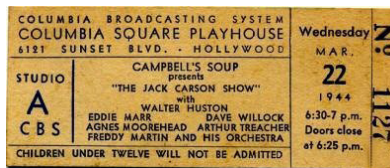
Lillian called me on the phone this morning and said they were leaving Los Angeles for home about noon. Their visit here was a short one, we only saw them twice. I called Annie and invited them to come to lunch. Dolores was coming so I decided I wanted them all. I made a Jello salad, and some chocolate ice cream. I had some cold lamb. I had Annie stop in the market and buy some tomatoes and bread. We had a nice lunch, no fuss, which was swell. I surely enjoyed the family get-together. Annie, Dale, baby David, Violet, Dolores and Yvonne. Donna and the children were back and forth, also. I love being with my family. I wish Violet and family lived in California. Dolores rode on the bus to Lorene's to ask Mary to go out with her and some friends to Ocean Park tomorrow night. Mary is going to ask Cliff Jorgenson to go with her.

August 14, Monday— My little Janet is 8 years old today.

I hope she'll have a very happy day and live to see many, many, happy birthdays. Grampa and I gave her a glass ball paperweight, with a little man and falling snow inside, and a blue dress with white flowers in. Grampa also gave her 50¢. Donna gave her a pretty little red print dress with white embroidered lace, also a chocolate birthday cake and a party for the little neighborhood kiddies. Martha Fowler and her mother called for me at 11 a.m. We went to Glendale for a treatment from Dr. Richardson, my second. I met Martha's mother for first time; she is nice. I like her and I guess the feeling was mutual as she kissed me when we parted, said I looked like one of her daughters, nice, eh? It takes most of the day to go over there and have a treatment. I didn't have an adjustment today, it cost \$12.00 for my diagnosis and electric vibration today, enough? Beverly went down to take Charlie to the chiropractor, but he wasn't well enough to go to the doctor's tonight. He had a bad heart attack last night. Lorene called Br. Watkins in to see him today, I feel so sorry for him. Lou worked late building a foundation for a Mrs. Hunter, who is a neighbor of Johnny and Florence Franklin.

August 15, Tuesday

I did my washing today at Donna's. She had a big washing yesterday, but she left her colored things. She helped me put the washing out. We surely enjoy the nice lines and new iron poles Daddy Lou put up for us. He is our "handy man;" bless him. Lou called to see Charlie on the way home. He is a little better, but his heart is very weak. We think maybe



Elvie & Lou saw "The Jack Carson Show" on August 16.

Violet couldn't let Dody go with the young man and his two friends who she didn't know, unless one of Dolores's cousins went, too. The folks left here about 4 p.m. Annie and baby David went home, the others to town to meet Beverly and go to a show. Ernie O. called Lou and said he had two tickets to see the Jack Carson show on radio. We rushed to Hollywood C.B.S., and enjoyed the show.

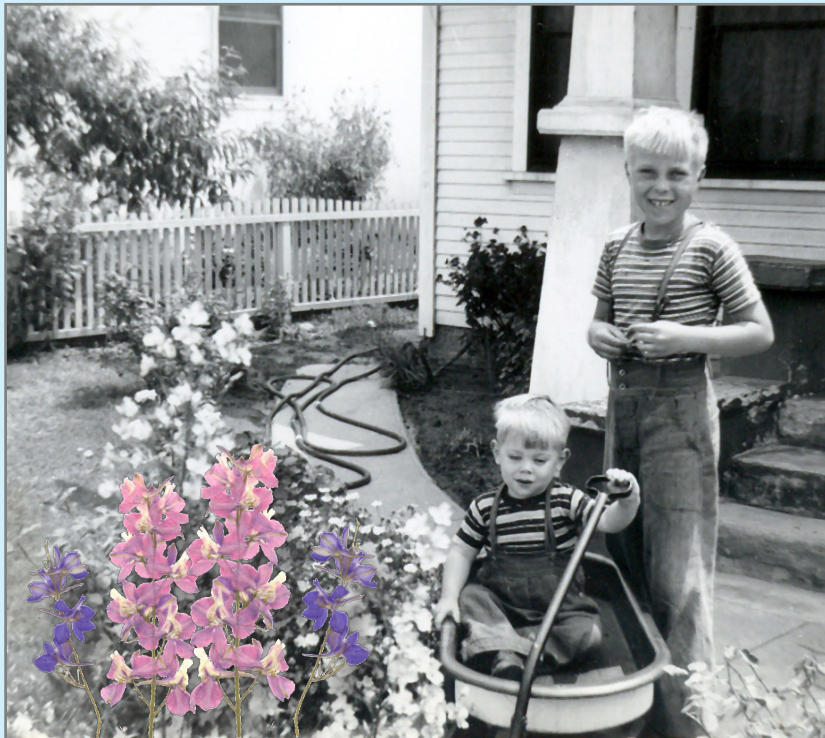
August 17, Thursday

I got up again this morning to help my daddy get his breakfast and lunch. I'm so glad I'm well enough to do it again. I did the ironing that I couldn't finish yesterday, and washed and ironed my kitchen and bathroom curtains. I washed windows and woodwork around the windows, hung clean curtains back up and enjoyed it. I've wanted to do them for a long time. The official ward members gave Marie Kendrick a party last night. Donna and Inis had charge of the music. Marie and family are moving out of our ward to Alhambra. They've bought a home there. We'll all miss them. Marie was a very faithful worker here in Garvanza. My legs are still hurting me, aching so; it makes me so tired all the time. Donna took our car to market and the light and gas company. Janet and Joan went along. I kept Mary here. I fed her, put her in her crib for her nap. She is surely a

darling baby. We are wondering about a cough she has now? Hope it isn't whooping cough, but she doesn't seem to have any cold. She only coughs when in the bed at night. Lou went to choir. I was too tired to stay with the children, so Donna didn't go. Donna cooked a nice dinner tonight, and gave her daddy a big helping. He smacked his lips over the Swiss steak. I didn't have to bother with dinner, isn't she a grand daughter?

August 18, Friday

I was bothered with asthma in the night; it was not severe, just wheezy. I worked a little too hard yesterday. I can't get away with that anymore. Martha Fowler came for me at 8:40. She came in while I finished eating my wheat. I cooked five quarts of wheat this morning and sealed it in quart jars, oven baked. It is surely good cooked that way. We called for Mrs. White, Martha's mother. I had a vibration treatment, went to bed for about three hours. We all three had adjustments from Dr. Richardson. He forgot to recheck my diagnosis chart, so I have to wait until Monday. We got home about 2 p.m., hungry. I ate more wheat; I like it, believe it or not! I can't get Lou to taste it, not him, ha ha! I ate some again this evening. I'm feeling better and I want to keep that way. I did some mending and darning this afternoon. I called Annie; she was relieved to hear from Glen and Irene after three weeks. *[Annie was watching their son David and after three weeks she finally heard from Glen and Irene!]* She said Dody went to Ocean Park on the date last night. Mary and Gilbert J. went along, so Violet would feel okay about it. All had swell time, three couples. Rex and Donna received a nice refund check from the income tax office; it was a happy surprise.



David Andersen and his uncle, Dale Andersen circa 1944.

August 19, Saturday

I rested better last night, so I got up at six this morning and helped my daddy get off to work. He took the car again this morning; he is stopping at Charlie's for more latticework slats. Donna walked to the market and York bank. She took my little cart; sorry the car wasn't here, as she didn't feel very well. I took my time cleaning through the house. This evening Rex and Donna went to town to meet John and Florence. They treated the Marshes to a show and refreshments for a change. Lou worked on the latticework arbor until dark. I stayed in the house with the children until they went to bed. Donna left them in bed, but they got up when I went in to see why the baby was crying. She wasn't sleepy, as she'd slept late this afternoon. Lou sent me home to get my rest and he stayed until Rex and Donna came at twelve midnight. My daddy is real good like that. He knows I'm not well and he's so thoughtful of me; bless his heart.

August 20, Sunday

Lou finished his latticework arbor today, it looks swell; I wish I felt well enough to paint it, like I did the fence, only not on Sunday. We all went to Sunday School. It's the first time I've been in two months. Baby Mary stayed with Grampa and helped him with the arbor, or did she?? I cooked the leg of lamb this morning. Donna and I put our food together and had a nice cold lunch over here. She made a Jello salad. I surely enjoyed the dinner, as it was really warm today, and we didn't want hot food. Donna drove me and the children to Lorene's to see Uncle Charlie and Aunt Lorene. He looks so frail, poor man. The hot weather is hard on him, me too. They were sitting in Ray's room, as it is the coolest in the house. Donna went to Inis's to go over her songs; she played for Inis to sing in Glendale Ward tonight. Ernie O. took them; he was the speaker. I fed Mary and put her to bed. Rex came home early, tired, and went to bed. Al and Sue called in on the way from Charlie's and took me and the girls; Janet and Joan, to Annie's. We had a full car: Violet, Yvonne, Bette, Dolores, Al, Sue, my kiddies, and me; nine of us. Beverley showed us all the moving pictures they had. We got home about 10:30. Dolores came home to sleep with us. Violet rode home with us. I fixed her a bite to eat. They are going back home tomorrow.

August 21, Monday

I surely did hate to see Violet and her girls go back home so soon. Two weeks is not long enough to have a good visit with all of us. Oh, they have gone so fast. I didn't see half enough of them, what with the gas shortage and all, we didn't get to run back and forth like other times when they've been here. Dolores slept here last night; I enjoyed having her a lot, but she had to leave

before 9 a.m. to get packed. Their bus left at noon. None of them wanted to go, darn it. Dolores promised to be back to work, and Violet had some peaches ordered for canning. Well, I'm glad we had this chance to see them, anyway, they all looked good to me. Dolores and Yvonne are so pretty now. Yvonne looks like Violet. I wanted Donna to take Dody to Annie's in our car. Lou left it home, so I could get up to Bingham's for a vibration treatment, but Donna couldn't get the darn thing started. We felt so bad because Dody had to take the streetcar. Beverly took them in their car to the bus station, and then went to her work at Fifth Street Store. I became so tired and started to have asthma trouble, so I had to come home before the washing mess was cleaned up, which hurt my feelings. I like to help Donna put her house in order after our washing.

August 22, Tuesday

Asthma caused me more troubles last night. I had to burn powder three times and was propped up in a sitting position most of the night. Lou wanted to leave the car home, so I could go to Bingham's for a vibration treatment, but it wasn't working right. He had to push it out into the street to get it going. Lou took the auto to see if he could have it fixed. I wanted to do my ironing, but was not well enough. I darned sox and mended the girls little red sweaters. Mrs. Benton is ill; her daughter came to help her today. She looks so frail, can't keep anything on her stomach. She has been ill for several days. She has a very weak heart, also. I wish I was well so I could offer to do things to help over there; she is such a dear little neighbor. I do hate to see her feeling so miserable. Lou called Donna, talked to her about the car. He is worrying about me not being able to take my treatment as planned. I think he is going to get a new battery from Western Auto. He bought one from them about a year ago. Mary Stead called on me this evening. I had a nice visit with her. She left her little Navy star pin for me to give to Mrs. Pierce to wear while Allie is in the Navy. Harold Stead is in Phoenix for his health.

August 23, Wednesday

Lou left the car home today; it worked all right. He brought it out of the garage, so Donna could use it without bothering to get it out. Susan Lucket stayed with Janet last night. Donna and I left home about 11 a.m., we took Joan to Dr. Watkins, the dentist, to look at her front tooth which was loose. It had us worried because the root was so long for a baby tooth. We could see it through the gum. The doctor was too busy to see Donna and Joan, but Donna pulled a fast one on him; she went to his front door and called him. He took her in and pulled the tooth, for \$1.00, less than a minutes work. But it was worth it to know that all was okay. The new tooth can be seen coming. I went to the bank and deposited \$90.00, and then waited for Donna and Joan to come from the dentist. Donna took me to Sr. Bingham's about 2 p.m. I had a nice long visit with Jennie while I was in bed taking the treatment from her vibration machine. I wish I had the darn machine myself to save a lot of time. I could use it at night. I paid \$1.00 for use; she said I didn't need to pay anything, but I feel better paying. Donna played for Ed Robinson to sing at a friend's wedding this afternoon. It was

a Quaker wedding. She took Susan home, Janet and Mary stayed there while she went to the wedding in Ed's car. Joan, went, also, and stayed in the car with Myrtle's kiddies.

Quaker Wedding

Quakers, members of the Religious Society of Friends, marry without a lot of fanfare. Often referred to as the silent ceremony, Quaker weddings differ from the traditional Protestant ceremony in four significant ways: there is no officiant; no giving away of the bride; a wedding certificate is signed; and there is a long period of silent, open worship after which those attending may speak on the couple's behalf.

The wedding, held during a worship meeting, begins as the couple enters together and sits with their committee facing friends, family, and meeting members. Everyone worships silently until the couple feels it's time to say their vows. They rise, hold hands, and each declare: "In the presence of God and before these our families and friends, I take thee (bride's/groom's name) to be my wife/husband, promising with Divine assistance to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband/wife so long as we both shall live." Then they sign a Quaker marriage certificate and sit down, while it is read aloud by a friend or relative. Everyone returns to more silent worship, during which congregants and guests may stand to say a few words or voice support for the couple (think: heartfelt toasts). The meeting usually ends with a nod or a handshake from a committee member. All those present will also sign the certificate as witnesses.

<http://wedding.theknot.com/wedding-planning/wedding-ceremony/articles/quaker-wedding-ceremony-rituals.aspx>

August 24, Thursday

Lou left the car home again so I could go to Bingham's and take another vibration treatment. I had a little more asthma and gas troubles last night and this morning. I had to burn the powder before I could finish all my ironing. Oh, it is a trial for me, this darned asthma. But many people have worse afflictions, I must not complain. I couldn't go to the luncheon, sorry. Maude Swan invited the choir ladies. The members are giving Mollie a gift in choir this evening. Donna took me to Bingham's on her way to the luncheon. I enjoyed my treatment and visit with Jennie. She sat with her knitting while talking. She has made so many pretty sweaters for her girls and self. Lou called while I was at Bingham's; he wanted Donna to come for him at work. Lou called Swan's, but Donna had left, so Sr. Horrick called Mrs. Barkley, who told Donna that her daddy had mashed two of his toes, broken the big one. Donna went for him. Pollyanna sent her husband after him not knowing that Donna had gone. Donna brought him home, the doctor had x-rayed and dressed the foot; he must go back tomorrow to have it taken care of. An iron bar fell on his foot. Erma Carlson took care of Lou's choir. Donna went to play the piano. Marshes invited Rex and Donna out to a show, but she had to play for choir. Beth J. is still in Salt Lake. The luncheon at Maude's was for Mollie Graham, who has just been married.

August 25, Friday

Br. Barton came over to practice with Lou's choir for the conference music last night. If Donna had only known for sure he was coming, she could have gone to the show with the Marshes, too bad. Martha Fowler called for me

about 11 a.m., we went to Glendale to have an adjustment from Dr. Richardson. The nurse let me go to bed with a double treatment for half hour after my adjustment, while they were taking care of Martha. I surely enjoyed the rest. Martha took home one of the vibrations machines; she and her mother are going to buy it, \$150.00. They can take the treatment at home now. Swell, I wish I could buy the machine on a five year lease. I bought five pounds of wheat and left it in Martha's car. I bought some alfalfa tea in the Health Store, also and did some shopping in Si's Market. It was hot walking home. I left my sugar application at the ration board for canning sugar. The x-ray showed that Lou had broken his big toe; the other one was mashed. They are sore today, but I'm surprised he can get around like he does on that foot. He cut the top of an old shoe out. Lou stayed with Mary tonight while we went to the program. There was a big crowd out, good show. The program was to help buy a piano for the Junior Sunday School. A radio and screen star entertained us, Miss Virginia Sale. Leo Pierce played on his violin, and his friend accompanied him.

August 26, Saturday

Donna fried my rabbit this morning. I made potato salad; she fried her rabbit yesterday. We took a nice lunch and left home about 11 a.m. for the picnic at the Montebello Stadium. It was a lovely ride; we enjoyed the games and program, also free soda pop, ice cream, milk, and beer. Of course I didn't partake, but Grampa Lou and his children did enjoy the ice cream, soda pop, and milk. They surely had a lot and were very generous; all one had to do was ask. We came home after the program about 3 p.m. They had dancing, but we were not interested with our children and Lou's broken toes, and me not feeling too well. The dance was out! Mary had a nice nap on her blanket, under the shade of the trees, while the program was on. It is a nice park. We were all hot and tired when we arrived home. We stopped to buy watermelons and groceries in the market. Grama Elvie was especially tired, almost to the point of an asthma attack. I went to bed early. Lou took the metal dressing off his foot. The doctor put it on to protect his toes, but it was hurting him, so off it came. The picnic was sponsored by the Peerless Pump Company.

August 27, Sunday

Our neighbors left early this morning for their vacation in the mountains. Mr. Allen has been painting their kitchen all day. It'll be swell to come home to a nice new kitchen, all white, with a red linoleum sink. Mrs. Allen has been up to her daughter Florence's all week. The new baby girl came home from the hospital last Sunday. Lou went to work today, there was some carpenter work in the office that had to be done while the office workers were out. Donna took Janet and Joan to Sunday School on the streetcar. Lou had to take his car because of his broken toe, with the top out of his shoe. The crowded streetcar might get his toes stepped on, ouch!!! Donna left Mary with me, and Rex in bed. He came over after Mary about 10:30, and oh me, I cleaned up my house. It's the first time I've done that in over 20 years, shame on me. What with going to take treatments and the picnic, I couldn't get at it. I kept Mary tonight while Rex, Donna, and

Joan went to church. Janet is up to the Oateses', going to stay all night. Donna and Erma took care of choir music. Erma played the organ, Donna directed and Lou came home about 7:30. I had my baby fed and in her little bed asleep. I fixed dinner for Lou, he was tired because of sore toes.

August 28, Monday

Donna had a large washing so I didn't do mine today. I took care of baby Mary and Joan this afternoon while Donna went for a swim with Florence and children. Janet was with the Oateses. I felt so sorry for dear little Joan, she wanted to go so desperately, but couldn't go in the water because of sores on her legs and a bad scab from a burn she got on her arm when she put it on the little light globe in her room. Donna gave her a dime to spend at the 10¢ Store. She got home just as they were leaving in Aunt Florence's car, and the flood of tears was on. Grama Elvie felt badly about it, too, even the baby thought it was awful for the car to go without her, bless, 'em. I patched some carpenter overalls for Lou. This evening Lou went up to Bingham's to get our peaches, two lugs for us, and two for Donna. The Bingham's went to friends in Beaumont yesterday for the peaches. They are surely lovely big peaches, not ready to can yet, too hard. I went to bed early, really tired. I have a little cold in my chest, which didn't help matters any. I get tired over nothing now days since my illness.



August 29, Tuesday

I spent the morning writing letters to Mother R. and Violet, and cards to Lillian and Dad. Lou left the car home so I could go to Bingham's for a treatment, but I didn't feel well enough. My chest cold hurt. I called Sr. Floyd in Glendale, and talked to her about getting one of the machines for myself. Lou told me to do it. She is going to talk to the doctor and see if he can have one ready for me on Friday. She told me to fry a big onion in a tablespoon of glycerin, and apply it to my chest the same as I would a mustard plaster. She said it was a lot better for relief on congestion in chest colds than the mustard. Her tip about the cayenne pepper for gas and bloat worked swell for me, so I tried the onion and glycerin; went to bed for almost three hours this afternoon. It did me a lot of good and made my chest feel much better. She is a good nurse. Louis and I bottled twelve quarts of peaches this evening; they are beautiful peaches. Donna went to the market for me in

our car; she had a big ironing this morning, which tired her out on this hot day. I wish I could help her, darn it. Florence Oates and her mother went to town today and bought three darling white taffeta dresses, \$6.00 each for the little girls to wear on Sunday when they are confirmed to the L.D.S. church. They will be baptized on Saturday; Janet, Florence Irene, and Robin. Janet's dress is too small; Donna will have to change it.

August 30, Wednesday

I helped Donna can twelve quarts of peaches this morning. We did them in my oven, she brought things over in the kids wagon; fruit, sugar, and bottles. Donna took Janet down to Los Angeles to the Fifth Street Store, to change the little white taffeta dress. She got the very same thing, only ½ size larger. All three little cousins are going to be baptized on Saturday evening, and all have the same pretty little white taffeta dresses to wear Sunday to be confirmed in. The girls are all thrilled about the affair. They'll never forget the day they were baptized and the day they were confirmed. That is what the parents went to impress them with, the importance of this step in their little lives. It is the doorway back in the Kingdom of Heaven. Mr. Allen took me in to see Pollyanna's kitchen which he had just finished painting. It is very nice. They'll be glad to come home to such a lovely, clean, white kitchen. Donna did my washing this evening and made a coconut cake and some toll house cookies. She is a busy lady; they are going to the beach tomorrow. The cake is for the choir party.

August 31, Thursday

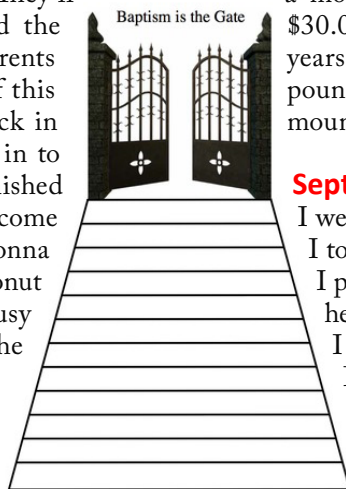
Rex took the day off today, so he could take his family to Long Beach. I was going to take care of Mary for them, but I haven't been well enough, I have a fresh chest cold, which made me miserable, and changed the plans. Sr. Marsh said she'd look after her. Lewie took the baby to Marshes' on his way to work with his father. Rex worked with his Dad and Lewie Tuesday and Wednesday. He took three days off from his bus job. Lewie brought Mary home this evening about 6 p.m. I kept her until the folks arrived about 8 p.m. They called in Marshes expecting to bring Mary home. All had "the day at the beach look," red sunburned faces. They had a grand time, swam in the ocean, had a ride on ponies and the merry-go-round, and etcetera. They went on the P.E. train or bus. I had an onion and glycerin plaster on me all night; felt better this morning. Lou went to choir tonight, they had a little party for Molly Graham after the rehearsal, gave her a cake set for a wedding gift from the choir members.

September 1, Friday

Donna took me to the bank this morning in our car. I took \$30.00 of our savings out to pay to Dr. Richardson for a month's rent for one of his energizer instruments. I'm going to try it to see if I can get help like the other folks I know who have tried it. We'll see?? We did some shopping in Better Food Market. Donna stayed in the car with baby Mary. I got out at the library; Donna came home with the groceries. I went in the Ration Board to ask about the application papers I left there over three weeks ago, for extra gas to take Charlie to the doctors. They were still on file, she said, they'd take care of them right now, but I couldn't wait for them, as they were so darn slow. I waited thirty minutes, and then had to leave. They promised to put them in the mail this afternoon! Martha Fowler and Sally Taylor were waiting for me outside. We went to Glendale and had Dr. Richardson give us each an adjustment. I brought home one of his energizer instruments, \$30.00 a month if I rent it by the month. I paid the \$30.00. If it helps me, I'll buy it; \$150 for five years. My sugar canning stamps came today, forty pounds. The Moyers got home tonight from their mountain vacation trip, they had a swell time.

September 2, Saturday

I went back to bed after getting Lou off to work. I took a treatment for 2½ hours on my machine. I put it on Lou last night, he had about 5 hours, he slept swell I thought, didn't even wake when I got up to change the dial on his treatment. I felt better this Saturday than I have for many weeks. I vacuumed and dusted. Donna and Janet walked down on the Avenue and bought some black slippers for Janet to wear tomorrow with the new white taffeta dress when she is confirmed. They took my shopping cart and brought home vegetables and groceries and a leg of lamb. I cooked the roast this afternoon. We all ate together over here. Rex got home early so he could go to Glendale to baptize Janet. Ernie let Donna have some gas in our car so we could go to see the three little cousins baptized by their fathers. Little Ronnie Nelson was also baptized by his father. Al and Sue brought Ann and Carol Sue to see the girls baptized. Al baptized four or five young folks. We had a nice meeting first. Donna played for the singing; Sr. Marsh conducted the singing. Glendale Ward had charge. Rex and Donna went to a show after they got the girls in bed. They left them alone, we didn't know! I put the machine on Lou tonight.

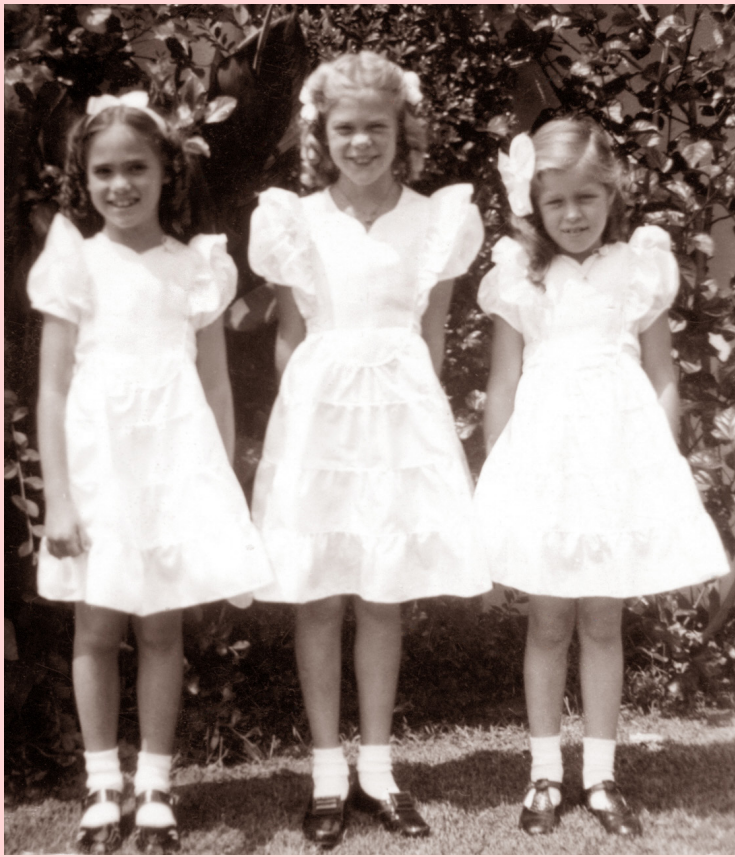


Janet Marsh, Irene Oates
& Robin Marsh were baptized
September 2, 1944.



September 3, Sunday

Janet came over this morning to have me brush her ringlets. She looked so sweet in her pretty white taffeta dress, black slippers and white ribbon around her head. Today is a big event in her dear little life. She, with her two cousins, Robin and Florence Irene, were each confirmed members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They all wore white taffeta dresses alike; all had their hair in curls and white bows. Oh, they looked like little angels. Each child's own daddy confirmed them into the church. Little Ronnie Nelson was confirmed by his father. Just the four confirmations and all four fathers did the confirming, very impressive. I saw them all baptized last night in Glendale by their fathers. Rex took pictures of the little girls after Sunday School. All three came home to eat dinner with Janet. Yes, a big day for them, bless their hearts. Little Joanie felt kind of out of things. She looked darn cute in her yellow dress with blue hair bows. She sat with me to see the girls confirmed. She stayed through the meeting. Lou took care of Mary again tonight while we went to church. The Mutual had charge; it was a nice program. Rex conducted the program, Florence presided, and the trio sang, Myrtle, Inis, and Br. Lewis, two numbers. I enjoyed them so much. Al and Sue brought me home. They had come in to take Charlie and Lorene for a ride, and stopped at the church when it was out, visited with some of the saints. Florence Irene slept at Donna's tonight.



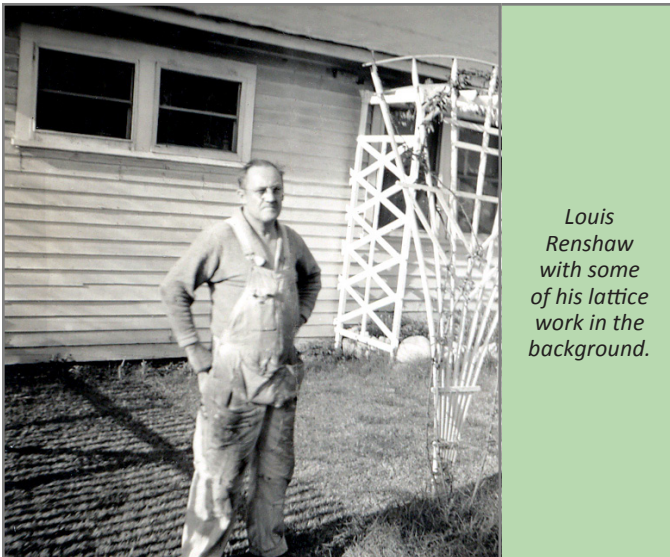
Janet Marsh, Robin Marsh and Irene Oates on September 3, the day they were each confirmed members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Another Sunday in the fall of 1944 when the cousins wore the same dresses. Tillie Mosley was their teacher.

September 4, Monday

Donna did her washing and a few of my pieces. Mary brought her father over to have a treatment on my energizer instrument this morning. I kept it on him for 2½ hours. I do wish Charlie could get some help from it. I'd be so happy if it would help him back to good health and me, too. We'll give it a chance, anyway. Br. Reiche is papering Lorene's bedroom today. He has finished painting the houses, and the front room. I'm anxious to see the place now. We've been out of gas, or almost, so not using the car any more than we have to. Janet and Joan have enjoyed their little cousin, Florence Irene, who stayed all night. Florence and Ernie called in to see me this afternoon. Lou went with Ernie to look at a house he just bought for his mother near our church house. It was a lovely evening. I helped Lou nail his latticework for a short while, and then Ernie and Elaine came with the children. Ernie took over my job for which I was thankful. It was nice to see them all again. The kiddies are growing up so fast. The baby had her hair in pigtails, she looked so much like Carol Sue with her hair braided. Rex worked late, so didn't get to see the Vandergrifts.



Louis Renshaw with some of his latticework in the background.

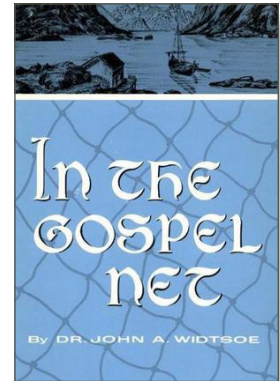
September 5, Tuesday

Donna left baby Mary with me while she took the girls back to school. Little Joanie felt nervous to stay, she cried and Donna had to wait around until Janet came in Joan's room. Joan wasn't one bit nervous last year in her kindergarten class, wonder why she is this year? Maybe some of the kids have frightened her about this teacher? The extra gas coupons weren't in the mail as promised. I talked to Pollyanna and she gave me the board's phone number. They said they had it ready and holding it for me to pick up, what a board! They said they would mail it last Friday afternoon. Donna went to the market and called in at the ration board for the coupons. An awful fuss to go through for six gallons of gasoline, but this is war! I haven't felt as good today, my little nailing job on latticework was too much, I guess. I didn't even do the hammering, just held the board against the lattice while Lou did the work. It was when I held the little sledgehammer that I felt the hurt in my heart and lungs. I patched three pair of garments for Lou; they are getting old and thin, (like

me) and need mending after almost every wearing. Beverly brought me some tissues, sweet kid. She and Annie were going to a show, and invited me to go, but I am not well enough, sorry. Donna put garlic on Joanie's sores; she went to bed early. I do hope this garlic treatment will clear her up.

September 6, Wednesday

My chest was so congested last night I couldn't lie down to sleep, so Lou propped me with pillows. I didn't burn the asthma powder, but kept the energizer on me until 3 a.m. It helped me to breathe; glad I didn't have to use that awful powder, anyway. I'm surely having a time to get rid of this chest cold. I put an onion and glycerin plaster on my chest this morning and stayed in bed until 12:30. I had the energizer on, too. I felt better this afternoon. Donna took my washing over and did it. I really feel bad to have her do my washing when she has so much work to do; it worries me a lot. If I could only get well and help her, I'd be happy. Joan went to school happy this morning. She is in Sandra Pierce's classroom now. I went to bed about 9 a.m. with another onion and glycerin plaster on. These lungs of mine are surely congested. I never had such a time to get rid of a cold. I had the flu over two months ago, and can't get this congestion out of my lungs, but I will. I've been reading most of this day, Dr. John A. Widtsoe's little book, "In the Gospel Net," the life story of his mother. I surely am enjoying this lovely story.



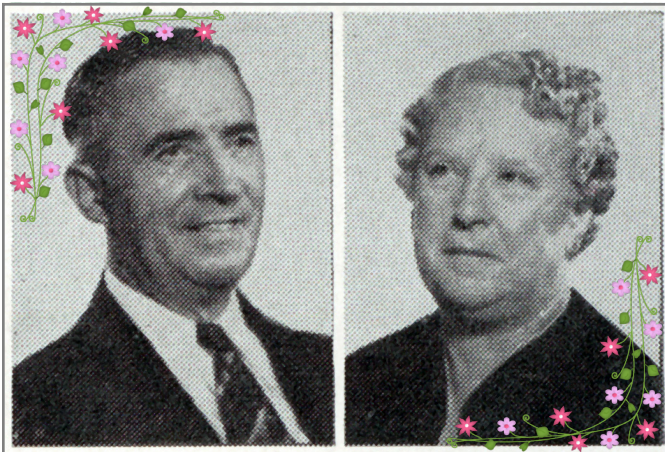
This is the true story of a woman, a seeker after truth, who, tossed by the waves of mysterious fate, was caught by the gospel net, and carried into a far country, where, through the possession of eternal truth, though amidst much adversity, she and her family found unbounded happiness (Deseret Book).

September 7, Thursday

I rested very well considering this cough. I kept the onion plaster on all night. Well, our hot weather has arrived as always when the poor kiddies get back in school. The heat is turned on! We've had a lovely cool summer until now. Florence Marsh and Martha Fowler called on me about 11:30. They had been doing missionary tracting near here; both looked hot and tired. They enjoyed a nice cold piece of watermelon, which I was happy to give them. Surely glad I had it in the icebox. Lou brought it last night from the market. Donna did my ironing this hot morning, bless her heart. I feel bad to cause my darling this extra work; she has enough of her own. I talked to Annie on the phone; she says Luella, Charlie's sister, is visiting Lorene and Charles. I went to bed all afternoon with my energizer treatment on and felt better when I got up at 5 p.m. I was disturbed several times while taking the treatment; the phone three times, and my baby Mary got away from home and came a calling, bless her heart. I had to get up to let her in and let Donna know she was out of the yard, which Donna thought she had her safely in, while practicing with Janet on the piano. Tonight Donna and Rex went to the Mutual convention at the stake center in Burbank. It was even warm tonight.

September 8, Friday

Br. Simeon Stead passed away this morning early. Sr. Stead found him dead in his bed. He was up to the bathroom shortly after midnight; Mary asked him if he was all right when he came through her room, he said "Yes." It was an awful shock to find him dead this morning. Br. Stead had been suffering from a nervous breakdown for a long time. He got to feeling a lot better a few months ago, and then took a turn for the worse. We'll miss Br. Stead; he was a very fine, faithful Latter-day Saint, who everyone liked. I was going to Glendale with Martha F. this morning, but didn't feel well enough so talked to her on the phone. We go for treatments from Dr. Richardson (chiropractor). I spent the afternoon in bed with my energizer instrument on. Al and Sue came in to see Sr. Stead this evening. This evening Lou and I took Donna and the children, Mary and Joan, (Janet stayed home to play with friends) down to see Lorene and Charlie. It was real warm, we all sat out on the porch. I was so happy to see how nice Charlie's two little houses looked since they've been painted. All so white and clean looking, surely look swell. They needed it, too. The front room has been painted pale green, and they have new wallpaper in the bedroom. Br. and Sr. Hardy called on Claytons also, they had been to Stead's. We did not tell Charlie about Simeon.



Simeon and Mary Stead in 1942, from the "Garvanza Book of Years."

September 9, Saturday

It took me most of the day to do my cleaning, but I got through with rests in between. Donna baked a coconut cake in my oven. Rex got home early; they went to the market and bought things for our dinners tomorrow and a pair of cotton pajamas for me. I was too tired to go. I went to bed with the energizer machine on. They took the children with them in our car. This evening I rode to Pasadena with Lou, to Sears and Roebuck. I surely did enjoy the nice ride through the pretty streets to the store. They have such lovely homes in Pasadena and Lou knows how to find them when he wants to. Lou didn't get what he went after, but we had a nice ride which we don't get often now days. We went to Kress Store and Better Food Market. I stayed in the car while Lou shopped. We called to see Mary Stead and Harold before coming home. [*Mary is Simeon's wife and Harold is a son.*] They feel so badly about Br. Stead's passing, but are taking it like a Latter-day Saint should, knowing the joy that is his at being released from his suffering.

Harold arrived from Phoenix this morning. We came home and ate lunch, which Lou helped me prepare, nice man, eh? Rex and Donna went to the Park Theater tonight. Loyce Danbeker stayed with the children.

September 10, Sunday

I hated to miss stake conference today, but this cough of mine is awful and I don't feel well enough to sit long on hard seats. Donna helped me get dinner; we ate over here. We had a big leg of lamb between us, \$1.25 each. We've bought meat together several times, to save points and a leg of lamb can be cooked in my stainless steel so nicely. Lou went over to work on the house that Ernie Oates has just bought for his mother. He came home at 1:30 to eat with us. Sorry Rex couldn't get here for the nice dinner. It was a beautiful day, nice and cool. We thought we'd go to conference this evening, but I started to cough so I changed my mind. I'd only disturb folks around me if it happened in church. Lou and I took Charlie and Lorene for a nice ride in Pasadena and Altadena, a nice slow drive like I like. We came home about 6:30, and ate a bite of lunch. I went to bed at nine this evening with the energizer instrument on. Lou played lovely radio organ music, which we both enjoyed. Mr. Allen got home this afternoon from his hunting trip. I guess it was evening; it was about 8:30.

September 11, Monday

It was cool and foggy this morning. I'm glad it's not so hot. Br Lewis called by for some red songbooks; they are going to rehearse for Br. Stead's funeral. He had Ed Robison and Sr. Swartz in his car. Donna did our washing; I helped hang them out. My cough is still bad, but the congestion is clearing up. Our baby opened the big gates this morning and took her wagon out on the sidewalk; she learns fast. Donna brought her back. She tried it again in a few minutes, got the gate open, but pinched her dear little finger in the gate somehow, almost mashed it. She cried so hard and held her breath, something she seldom ever does. Grama Elvie felt so darn bad about that dear little finger, it turned blue in a few minutes. Donna and Florence Oates went out in our car this afternoon to take care of some Mutual business, getting teachers lined up and etcetera. They took Mary with them. Tonight Marty and her sister, Dolores, called for Donna. They went to a musical picture show in town somewhere. Rex got home early and took care of the children. I washed and dressed sores on Joan's legs; put garlic on them. It is clearing up the awful sores, too. I'm glad the nurse told me to use it. We got an airmail letter from Jack K. telling about Harold's car; I read the letter to Harold over the phone.

September 12, Tuesday

I had some bad coughing spells in the early morning. Oh, it worries me to be so disturbing to poor Lou when he is so sleepy. I hate this awful coughing; it takes my strength, too. I didn't even hear the alarm this morning. Lou got up and took care of his own breakfast and lunch. I'm sorry about that, too. I really do want to help him; he is so good about it all. I put the energizer on me and stayed in bed until 12:30 noon. I just had time to get ready to go to Br. Stead's funeral at 2 p.m. Rex stayed home from work; he

drove us to the church. We left baby Mary off with Aunt Annie; she had to stay home with her little David. We picked up Emma Dewey who was waiting at the junction for a York car. The funeral services were very lovely. Our chapel was well filled, and many very lovely flowers were there to show how well Br. Stead and family are thought of. Yes, they are grand people and he was so faithful to the gospel. Bishop Overlade conducted and gave a nice comforting talk. Bishop Hoglund gave a fine talk, too. Ed Robinson sang "Oh My Father," the quartet (Br. Lewis, Ed, Sr. Swartz, and May Gerischer) sang "An Angel from on High." The choir gave a beautiful flower stand with "choir" across it. Rex and Donna went to Mutual opening tonight. Dick Johnston had dinner with them and went, too. Br. Stead was buried in the Inglewood Park Cemetery. President Ashmore took Al, Sue, Sr. Dalton, and me. Sue and I bought pottery dishes after coming from Inglewood.

September 13, Wednesday

Well, Br. Stead is buried, and our Mutual has opened for another season. Donna and Rex were busy getting things together for the program last night. Rex had a skit with Nell I., Dick J., and Grant C. in it. Lou and I stayed home with the children. Donna washed some more of my clothes this morning. What would I do without her? I stayed in bed until 12 noon; with the energizer on. I must make the best of this month; it cost me \$30.00 to rent the instrument. I do feel better in many ways. This afternoon Donna and I took Mary in our car to Highland Park. I paid my gas bill. We pay two months gas and light bills since the war has caused a paper and man shortage. They send us a bill every other month. We looked in Ivers and People's Store for bedspreads. Lou says he'll buy me a nice one for our wedding anniversary gift. I didn't see anything I wanted in our two stores, very poor selection in now. Ivers Store had some very pretty children's dresses that just arrived. Donna and I had



A funeral spray with "choir" across the flowers was sent for Br. Simeon Stead's funeral.

four of the dresses put away for Joan's birthday. I paid \$3.00 to hold them. I'm giving her one at \$2.95 and the other at \$1.95. Donna, the same. I helped dress Joan's sores on her legs, they look better today. Florence Marsh had another bad fall last week; she cut her leg and sprained her ankle. She is suffering from aching and swelling; couldn't attend the funeral yesterday. It is her third fall in as many months. Poor little David has impetigo on his face, Annie is fighting it, so it'll have to go.

September 14, Thursday

Lou's extra gas coupons came yesterday afternoon. I was surely surprised at the speed, after waiting a month for the coupons for Charlie's gas to take him to his doctor. It makes a difference when one's company is pulling for you. The Peerless Pump Co.'s big boss filled out the papers for Lou's extra gas. I did some ironing this morning. Lou gave me \$10.00 and said to buy something I wanted for a wedding anniversary gift from him, sweet man. Donna had to take Joan to the doctor's in town, so I decided to go with her to 5th and Broadway. She had to go to 8th and Figueroa Street. We left baby Mary with Grama Marsh.



The Stead family in 1942, happier times for Albert, Harold, Lillian, Mary and Simeon Stead.

Rex worked for his dad today; he brought Mary home this evening in Lewie's car. I bought a very pretty chenille bedspread, \$7.95 in the Fifth Street Store where Beverly works. I told her I was going upstairs to look at the spreads, she said she'd take her 15-minute leave, and come up. She did, bless her heart, and let me have her discount. It saved me almost a dollar. It was surely sweet of her to do that for me. I waited for Donna on the third floor, in the ladies lounge. We bought a book and game for Sandra Pierce's birthday tomorrow. I bought a book for Joan's birthday. We came home and enjoyed the ride in our car instead of the crowded streetcar. Annie called to say Aunt Hattie [Mary Harriet Bailey] is visiting with Sue, is coming to visit us on Saturday, and to Annie's tomorrow.

September 15, Friday

I couldn't wait for tomorrow to put my new bedspread on the bed; so we're enjoying it now. It is so pretty. My darling husband gave it to me for a wedding anniversary gift. We've been married thirty years tomorrow. Aunt Hattie Richmond is coming to Annie's this evening from Burbank. Al and Sue are bringing her in; she has been visiting with them a day or two. Archie, her son, and wife, Edith, brought her to Sue's. Beverly is going to bring her to my house tomorrow morning. I did my cleaning today; it took me all day, as I'm so slow since my illness. Donna and I went to Boy's Market this morning in our car. We took baby Mary, she kept us both busy, bless her heart. I sent an airmail letter to Mother R. while out this morning. I want her to hear about Br. Stead's funeral before Harold arrives. He is leaving for Phoenix tomorrow evening, and I told him I'd write the folks about the services so he wouldn't have to bother, and thank them for taking care of his car and etcetera. Tonight Rex and Donna went to the Highland Theater. I stayed with the children. Rex worked for his dad again today.

September 16, Saturday— My sweetheart and I were married thirty years ago today.

In reminiscing it doesn't seem so long ago. I recall every detail so clearly; it seems only in the yesterdays. I still love the same man after all these years. He's been good and faithful. We've had our ups and downs, but we are happy because we love each other and nothing else matters. Oh, we have been blessed a lot. Yes, the Lord has been kind to us. We have our Donna and her babies, a wonderful blessing. She has a fine husband, too. Beverly and Annie brought Aunt Hattie R. [*Richmond*] over about 10:30 this morning. I had a nice visit with her; she ate lunch with me. We went over to Donna's. Florence O. came. Aunt Hattie thought she was a young girl, not married, couldn't believe the girls were her children. We were going to take her to Lorene's when Sue called to say her son and wife were on their way to Annie's to get her. They were going back home, near San Francisco (San Leandro), California. Bill came for her; she seemed disappointed to leave so soon. The son they'd come to see at San Diego had been transferred to San Francisco, almost back home. Lou and I enjoyed dinner at home, and then went downtown to a picture show. We saw two swell pictures, "Mr. Skeffington" and Gas Light." We had a bite of lunch before going to bed, very happy anniversary.

September 17, Sunday

Lou, Donna, and Janet went to Sunday School. Joan had a cold so she stayed home with Mary and Grama Elvie. I'm fighting a little head cold myself. I had earache until I dropped some medicine in it. We have had a cool summer, only two or three hot days. We expected this month would be hot, but not so. It is damp and cool for the most part. Florence O. invited Donna and the children up to eat dinner with them. She stayed home from Sunday School. Ernie took them up after Sunday School. Louis and I enjoyed our dinner; it was nice and quiet. Lou took care of singing in Sunday School. John Treu is in Utah. This evening Mary drove Charlie over to see us. He looks frail and feels discouraged. Oh, my heart aches for him and Lorene, yes, and Mary, too. She is a sweet little dear with her husband so far away in this awful war, and Ray away in Brazil. So much suffering caused by this d--- war. Wayne took Donna and Ruby and Ben [*Helwig*] to his ward tonight. Ruby played and whistled for them. Rex stayed home with the children. I went to church with Lou in our

ward; it was a nice meeting. Ernie O. had charge. Lois McKenzie sang two lovely numbers. Ernie gave a good talk, also. The choir was excellent. Inis Stanton sang on Wayne's program.

September 18, Monday

Donna took my washing over to do again this morning. Oh I'll be happy to be well enough to make it up to her. May the Lord bless her with health to carry on. She has such a lot to do. I went to bed after breakfast and cleaning up the kitchen. I kept the energizer on until 1 p.m., one pad on my throat and chest; I felt much better this afternoon. When I get my blood built up again, I will not catch colds like I now do. Donna kept Joan home from school because of a cold; she is coughing hard. Baby Mary has a head cold, too. She cried with earache. Little Sandra Pierce wouldn't go to school because Joan wasn't going to be there. She cried and made such a fuss, Ruth couldn't make her go; so she kept her in bed all day. Poor little Sandy is so nervous about school, she couldn't continue in her kindergarten last year because of illness. Lou shook walnuts out of Donna's big tree. Donna and Janet picked them up. After dinner Lou worked on Ernie's house (Sr. Oates's home) for a few hours. I darned sox and listened to the radio.



September 19, Tuesday

I had a good nights rest and feel much better this morning, only one bad coughing spell when I got up. We are still having foggy, damp mornings. This afternoon I did my ironing. I had just about finished it when I started to feel strange, sick stomach and the shivery chills with pains in back of my neck and intestines. I was glad to get into my bed, and put the energizer instrument on and I stayed in bed until 4 p.m. I felt better, got dressed and watched baby Mary while Donna went to the market and drug store for me. She took Janet and Joan. All three children have head colds. I had Donna buy the blood building capsules, "Lextron," that my insurance man so highly recommended. He feels so sure they'll be the very thing I need. I wonder?? I've been on Dr. Richardson's treatments over two months. In some ways I am better, but I'm weaker and I catch a cold if a breeze even blows on me. Lou went over to work on Ernie's house near the church. He and Br. Imsen are fixing it up for Ernie's mother to move into. I stayed with Donna's children while she and Rex were in Mutual. I wanted to do her dishes, but I felt too miserable. The children were in bed. I sat with a blanket around me, so awfully chilly. They came in at 10:30 p.m. A man came to Donna's this afternoon to demonstrate the stainless steel kitchenware. Rex signed up for the set, \$106.00. I'd like to have some, too.



Elvie Suffers



It would be wonderful to have been able to get help for Elvie's health with twenty-first century medical options. Elvie certainly was open to trying any cure that might have helped her from herbs, tea, pills, vaporator; light and electric massage, spinal adjustments, bed rest, whole wheat cereal, restricted diet, mustard plasters, onion & glycerin plasters and much more.

It would appear that she was suffering from asthma, high blood pressure, low immune system, colds & viruses and she was living in an area with very poor air quality. None of the treatments she tried would be as effective as living with clean air and having access to the twenty-first century medical options.

September 20, Wednesday

Rex worked with his father and Lewie again today. I wonder what the P.E. Bus Company thinks? I'm so glad Donna is going to get this very lovely set of stainless steel; I've worried about her cooking in the aluminum. She has a good many years of cooking ahead for her family and she needs it. Daddy and I will buy something that isn't aluminum, but not such an expensive set. We won't need as many pieces anyway. If "Mama" doesn't feel better soon, I'll not need cooking pans, or doctors! I had another weak spell today, and was glad to get back into bed. Donna typed for Erma Carlson all day yesterday. She went to the market and drug store for me this evening after doing her big ironing. Oh, I wanted to help do that ironing, I'm no help to her anymore; it hurts me more than anything. Mary Stead called this afternoon to read Harold's letter to me. She was so delighted because Mother Renshaw is letting Harold move into one of her little apartments for the same money he is paying for the room he is now in. It is nice of her. She is always doing good like that.

September 21, Thursday

I didn't go on the machine this morning. I thought maybe I was using it too much. I will let it go a day. I took the Lextron capsule again this morning, we'll see?? Donna took some newspapers up in our car to the school drive. Pollyanna had her car full this morning, too. I talked to Martha Fowler, she is ill with the flu. I'm so sorry about that, she was feeling so well. Donna has a head cold now, caught it from the kiddies, I guess. They all have colds. Mr. Allen cut down the big low branches from the trees in front of our houses; he worked on it most of the day. He stopped his work twice to take our baby Mary to see his dogs. He has four of them now, and she loves them, which pleases him, I guess. He loves dogs and Mary loves Mr. Allen and his dogs and rabbits. He lets her hold the baby rabbits. Mary calls the dogs "woo woos." Rex and Lou went to choir rehearsal tonight. I feel better today but still weak. I wish I could enjoy eating again, I just don't care whether I eat or not. I eat to live, "believe you me," and my daddy lives to eat! Ha ha!

September 22, Friday

I had baby Mary here about an hour and a half this morning while Donna did some washing for both of us. I turned so ill I had to give her a ring to come and get the baby. I went to bed for the rest of the day. I had the chills until noon, and then I felt too hot all afternoon. I called Dr. Richardson's nurse, Sr. Rose Floyd; she said she'd have the doctor call me when he came, which he did, about three hours later. I felt better after a nice talk with him. The doctor thinks I've used the energizer too long and too often. He wants me to cut down on it and see. The doctor talked to Martha Fowler, who is ill with the flu. Donna took Janet to Beth's to have her piano lesson. Joan and baby went also, in Grampa's car. This evening Louis worked on Ernie's house; the one he bought for his mother. I'm taking six blood-building capsules a day. We'll see if Grama Elvie can get some good blood again. I hate to have "bad blood" in the family.

September 23, Saturday

I did a little cleaning, but little, spent half my day in bed. It was a hot day; everyone was talking about the heat. I didn't feel it at all; it felt good to me, didn't have the shiver chills as bad today. I talked to Annie on the phone. Beverly is taking baby David to Glen and Irene in San Francisco in the morning. Lou took his car this morning. He and Donna went to the market this evening when he got home. Donna fixed a picnic lunch; she and Rex took the children to the park this evening. Rex called and asked her to have dinner in the park, which pleased the kiddies a lot. Janet went to the Franklin Theater with Sandy Moyers; it was Children's Day, birthday cake and everything; 12 to 5 p.m. How Grama Elvie hates the children's show, oh, the noise. Lou and I both enjoyed the President's campaign speech, he knows what to say and how to say it. Donna took the family to the park in our car. She said Mary had a grand time on the lawn, trying to do everything the girls did. She is growing up so fast that baby of ours. Boy, I find it hard to write in bed without my table!

September 24, Sunday

I rested better last night, and I feel stronger today, but I have the pleurisy in my left side. I suffer when I cough; it's okay otherwise. Lou went over to work on the house Ernie bought. He walked so Donna could take the car to Sunday School. She was backing out of our driveway; Mr. Allen was backing in. They collided, it was surely a surprise to both drivers, his car got the fender dented and the stop light broken. Donna felt so awful, but Mr. Allen said it wasn't her fault, they just couldn't see each other. It was almost funny, both were going very slow. Baby Mary stayed with me, she was a good little soul, I had to go to bed at 11 a.m. She stood by my bed half an hour while I played with her, passing things back and forth, counting each thing. Then she got up on the bed and I entertained her almost an hour. It kept my brain working to think up things to do. Donna brought Elaine Oates home. I made some potato salad for Lou and went back to bed. Martha Fowler called on the phone and said she feels better today. Florence M. came over; I had a nice visit with her while John took a nap at Donna's. They ate at Rite Spot. Al, Sue, and Lorene called this evening; they had Charlie out for a ride. They came back after taking Lorene and Charlie for a ride and home. Lou served watermelon to Sue, and ice cream and cake to Al.

September 25, Monday

I surely enjoyed the nice long visit with Al and Sue last night. They are always in such a hurry when they come over. Sorry they had to spend the evening in my bedroom. I was in bed most of the day, and all of this afternoon. I feel so badly that I think I'll accept the invitation to go out to Burbank and visit with Sue and Al a few days, to see if the change of climate will help me. I can't rid myself of this cough and my lungs hurt today. It has been three months since I had the flu or whatever that awful illness was. I seem to get worse in some ways and better in others, but I'll lick this illness with the help of the Lord, with His help nothing is impossible. Donna did my washing again today. Oh how I hate to see that little dear working so hard. Her own house and children are a big job without doing for me when I should be helping her. Lou is so good about helping himself. I know he is tired of it, too, but he doesn't complain, bless his heart. I talked to Florence Marsh this evening. Rex worked for his father today. He brought \$4.00 home to me for the garments Florence bought



Al & Sue Hoglund in January 1942.

from me. Florence's cotton garments were too short in the body for me, I'm sorry about that. My doctor wants me to wear cotton underwear until I feel better. I sold my brand new rayon garments to Florence Marsh.

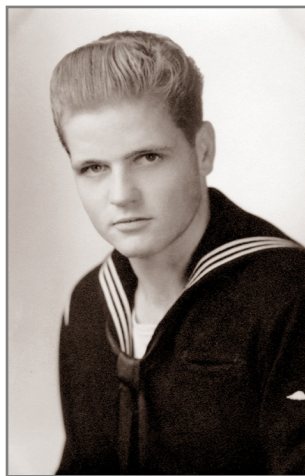
September 26, Tuesday—My sister Sue's birthday, I do hope she has a very happy day!

Burnie (Sr. Burnett) and Sue celebrated Sue's birthday uptown yesterday, dinner and a show, I think. I felt very miserable this morning. My lungs hurt so much. The gas fumes were bad today and yesterday. I cooked some wheat and brown rice to take out to Sue's with me. I felt so ill I just had to go to bed. I put the energizer on after I had warmed myself good with the heating pad. Donna went to Morgan's Beauty Parlor for a permanent wave from Christy. Pollyanna took care of Mary, I was too ill. When Lou came this evening from work, he put my things in the car and we came out to Burbank. We brought Janet and Joan with us. Rex came home early; he was going to drive

us out, but Daddy said this morning to wait for him, so we did. Rex and Donna couldn't go that late because of Mutual tonight. Loyce D. took care of Mary. I felt better as soon as I arrived in Burbank where the air was free of gas fumes. Bill and Annie brought Lorene and Charlie and Mary out. Sue treated to birthday cake and punch. The cake was decorated lovely. Elaine and Bette bought it for Sue. They had Sue and family to dinner at Elaine's. Lou ate with them. The children and I had eaten before coming. Lorene brought Sue See's Chocolates, Annie and I gave her \$1.00 in a card. Al had three blessing to give after 10 p.m.; Brother Barton's friends, too much, I think!

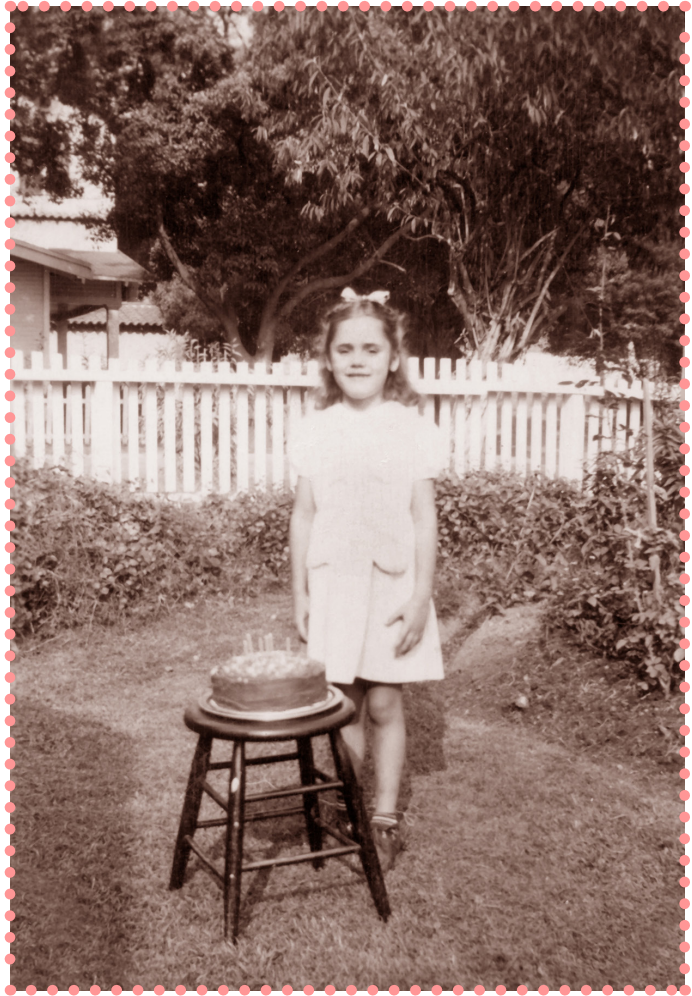
September 27, Wednesday

I slept very well, only two coughing spells, which worried me because of Shirley being in the other bed. She said I didn't bother her, she would! I stayed in bed most of the day; only up to eat. I got dressed in the afternoon. My lungs have not hurt at all today, so I do feel a lot better about things. Lucille Pack called in; I was happy to see her and the children, they visited in my bedroom. Elaine and Lucille took the little kiddies out to see Alice and Helen Pack. Sue did a big washing, she isn't too well herself, her knee hurts a lot. I enjoyed the nice dinner Sue cooked. Shirley and her boyfriend Kenny went out to bowl after he had helped her with a school



Shirley's boyfriend Kenny Bird.

report. The children came over after school. Ann is a cute little lady, talks like an adult. Al was tired tonight. We all went to bed early, he had one blessing this evening for an expectant mother. Well, our noted evangelist, Aimee, died after taking sleeping tablets. She was found by her son, Rolf. She had a sermon planned for the Oakland people tomorrow. She did a lot of good, I guess. They say it was a heart attack. She was in Oakland; Aimee Semple McPherson!



On September 26, 1944, McPherson went to Oakland, California, for a series of revivals, planning to preach her popular "Story of My Life" sermon. When McPherson's son went to her hotel room at 10:00 the next morning, he found her unconscious with pills and a half-empty bottle of capsules nearby. She was dead by 11:15. It was later discovered she previously called her doctor that morning to complain about feeling ill from the medicine, but he was in surgery and could not be disturbed. She then phoned another doctor who referred her to yet another physician; however, McPherson apparently lost consciousness before the third could be contacted.

The autopsy did not conclusively determine the cause of McPherson's death. She had been taking sleeping pills following numerous health problems – including "tropical fever." Among the pills found in the hotel room was the barbiturate Seconal, a strong sedative which had not been prescribed for her. It was unknown how she obtained them.

The coroner said she most likely died of an accidental overdose compounded by kidney failure. The cause of death is officially listed as unknown. Given the circumstances, there was speculation about suicide, but most sources generally agree the overdose was accidental, as stated in the coroner's report.

—Wikipedia

September 28, Thursday

Sue and I sent Dad and Yvonne each a card with a dollar bill in, for their birthdays, on October 3. Mary Stead called me this morning. She wanted me to go to Arizona with her next week. I'm sorry, but I do not feel well enough to get ready for the trip. I took a treatment on the energizer this morning. I enjoyed the sunshine, after it came out, this afternoon. Elaine went to the market for Sue; we kept the little ones here, Sharon and Jerry. Lucille Pack and the children came and waited until Elaine got back. We had a nice fish and baked yam dinner. I am enjoying food again. I hope I can soon get back my health; it has been four months since my illness first came. The change of climate has helped a lot. To get away from the gas fumes in Los Angeles was grand for me. I'm so grateful to Sue and Al for inviting me to come out here. My Daddy Lou called me on the phone this evening. It is his choir night. Bette, Ray, and Shirley went to Highland Park with some friends tonight to play miniature golf. Baby Jerry stayed here. Al had a meeting at church.



Mary and Joan Marsh on Joan's 6th birthday.

September 29, Friday

Today is the birthday of my darling, Elvie Joan, and I'm not there to wish her "Happy Birthday," bless her dear little heart. I hope she'll have a very nice birthday. I left two little dresses and a storybook with Donna for her. I surely miss not seeing my dear little ones, especially the baby, who came to see Grama two and three times a day. Having Elaine's children here helps a lot. Bette's little Jerry and Sharon, Elaine's baby, are back and forth. The other children are in school. Elaine went to town with Lucille this afternoon to do some shopping. Lucille wanted to buy a maternity dress. She is selling some of her furniture, and her home in Burbank to buy one in Coronado Beach, near San Diego. Lloyd is teaching school there now. Sue took care of the two babies while Elaine was away; we also had them while Elaine took Ann to the dentist this afternoon. I feel much better today. If I can only shake this cough and gain a little weight. I weigh 110 pounds. I received a card from Donna this morning. She said Florence took care of Mary

on Wednesday. She and Rex went to a show while the girls were in school. Al and Sue went to a social in their ward house; Relief Society opening social. They invited me to go, but I didn't feel well enough. Annie called to see how I was. Elaine and Ernie went to Marie Kendrick's house warming party tonight. They left the kiddies alone until Kenny and Shirley could get there. Ann came running over in pajamas crying. I went over until Shirley came.

September 30, Saturday

I received another card from Donna; bless her, and I haven't written her at all. I wanted to drop her a card, but I forgot to bring my postcards. I thought I had them, but I can't find them, so I must have left them on the cupboard. I left my hair net too, darn it. I like a net to keep my hair in place when the pin curls are in. I stayed in bed until noon, while Sue and Shirley did the work. I had the energizer machine on me. My month is up today. I'm disappointed it hasn't helped me more, but I do feel I can get a lot of help from it if I can convince my Daddy that way. Sue went over on the Avenue to meet Al. They did their shopping. Shirley started her job at the market this morning at 11 a.m. She worked late last night, too, 8 p.m. Bette got off work at noon, and came to Elaine's for Jerry. I wish the weather would warm up so my cough would leave, I feel a lot better, am not coughing as hard or often. Ann and the neighborhood kiddies are having a wonderful time catching the huge tumbleweeds as the wind blows them down our street. Sure looks like a lot of fun. My sweetheart, Lou, called on the phone to see if I wanted anything from home. I told him to bring my brown suit dress and shoes. He brought my winter coat and fur for which I was thankful, as it was cold enough for it tonight. Lou and I went to the Magnolia Theater in Burbank tonight with Ernie and Elaine; we saw a good show. It was good to see my Lou, I thought he would stay overnight and tomorrow, but he has to work at Peerless Pump tomorrow.



Magnolia Theater in Burbank, with two movies that were shown in 1954.

October 1, Sunday

We all went to Sunday School. I enjoyed my winter coat and fur. It was a nice day, but I'm cold most of the time now. I am feeling much better, "thank the Lord." He is kind to me to give me folks, like I have, who will let me stay out here in Burbank until I feel better. Yes, I'm blessed, but I do miss my darlings in Highland Park. Oh, I do wish we did not have those awful gas fumes in Los Angeles, so I could stay

home. We had a lovely fast meeting. I bought four pair of garments for Lou and three pair for me after the meeting. We rested this afternoon. Al and Elaine went to church at night. Shirley had an awful headache; she slept all afternoon. Al brought some ice cream home; he and Shirley ate it. My Donna called me on the phone this evening. It was good to hear her voice. Lou worked at Peerless Pump today. Donna thought he had gone to see Uncle Charlie tonight. Rex and Donna took the children to church tonight; they left baby Mary at Miriam's house. Pollyanna took care of Mary this morning while they went to Sunday School.

October 2, Monday

Shirley was ill all night, awful headache and sick stomach. Al gave her a blessing at 1 a.m.; she couldn't go to school this morning. I called nurse Floyd, asked how to get to her house from here. Sue and I were going to Glendale to the doctor's office, so I could have an adjustment, but Shirley was so ill we couldn't leave here. I called the nurse again, and made an appointment for this evening. Ray and Bette took me over in Al's car. They waited with baby Jerry in the car until I came out. I kept them waiting longer than I liked. The doctor was so busy. He is going on a vacation for two weeks, and everyone wanted his care before he left. I bought a \$3.00 bottle of blood building tablets from him; it cost me \$5.00 with the adjustment. Al called Dr. Beers to Shirley. He came about 10 p.m., gave her a hypodermic, she fell asleep soon after and seemed to be resting easy. We were all glad to see her out of her awful distress, she had vomited so many times and had painful head and backache, also diarrhea. The doctor said it was intestinal flu. He gave Sue some sleeping tablets, she hasn't been sleeping at nights. I rubbed Shirley's head and back several times today.

October 3, Tuesday—Today is the birthday of my dear Dad, and niece, Yvonne.

I hope they both have a very "Happy Birthday." I sent each a card and \$1.00 bill. Shirley had a good nights rest, and felt better today. She stayed in bed most of the day or on the couch. She ate some soup at noon. Kenny came to see



Yvonne Fife

Shirley this evening. I shampooed my hair this morning. Oh, how the gray shows up now, I wish it was white instead of this mixed. Al went out this evening to administer to a young woman who is very ill in the hospital. She wants to join our church, was going to be baptized on Saturday, but was ill and couldn't. Oh, I hope she gets well. I am feeling a lot better. I hope I'll continue to feel like this when I go back home. I am even enjoying my food now, and am ready

and anxious to eat, which is a real treat for me. I do miss my Donna and her children, also my sweetheart, Lou. I wouldn't want to be away from them very long. Little Jerry and Sharon have head colds, also Ann. One baby gets the cold and it travels through the family. The folks are so nice to me. I'm enjoying my visit here. I flushed the toilet in the shower room tonight; it flooded over, what a mess!



In back: Mary Jorgensen, Elvie Renshaw, Elaine Vandergrift, Charlie Clayton, Shirley Hoglund, Mary Clayton, Annie Andersen. In front: Lynn, Mary Marsh, Mike V., Sharon V., Carol and Ann V. circa 1947.

October 4, Wednesday—Today is the birthday of my brother, Charlie.

I hope he has a nice day. Shirley felt fine this morning. She got dressed and shampooed her hair. Sue has caught the head cold from the babies and feels miserable today. I'm feeling fine and enjoying the lovely sunshine and clear air out here. Tonight Al drove us into Los Angeles to wish Charlie a happy birthday. I was disappointed because I couldn't hug and kiss and talk to my darling children. I did kiss all of them, but they were asleep and didn't know. Rex and Donna were at correlation meeting at the church, also Annie and Lorene. Lou was down to Charlie's. We went down to wish Charlie a "Happy Birthday." We bought cards on the way. Sue put \$5.00 in his card. I could only put \$1.00. Bill and Lou were with Charlie when we arrived. We had a nice visit, had to leave without seeing Lorene or Annie, who were having a Relief Society social after the meeting. I went back home, Lou tried on his garments; they fit okay, size 46. I was afraid they'd be too large. I went in to see the babies again. Little Mary's foot was sticking out of her crib and Grama Elvie did hug and kiss it. I also looked at Janet and Joan, gave each a caress. I'd loved to have talked to them. We drove by the church, but Sr. Burnett told us Rex and Donna had just left, sorry. Annie and Donna washed my two front rooms, (curtains

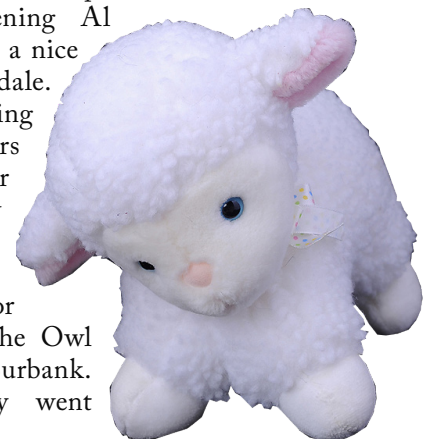
and woodwork). Donna's new set of stainless steel came, I saw some on her stove tonight.

October 5, Thursday

I am so thankful to Annie and Donna for doing the curtains and cleaning up my two front rooms, so lovely, yesterday. And Lou, bless him, has painted my two cupboards inside. He had washed all the dishes, sweet man; he is so good to me. I'm anxious to get well enough to go back home and take care of him, try and make it up to him. I wrote to Annie and Donna and Violet this morning. I received a lovely get-well card from Carrie Dalton, nice, eh? And a nice get-well card last week from Beverly, Glen, and Irene. Beverly is back in Los Angeles now, she took baby David up to his mother and daddy. Shirley went to school this morning, but did not work at the market after school. I'm glad she is better. Al had his adult Aaronic priesthood class tonight. Elaine came over; we enjoyed the radio. I guess Lou is rehearsing his choir tonight. I wonder if Rex and Donna have left the children alone again while they went to church tonight? I just can't help feeling uneasy when the little ones are alone, silly old Grama. The thought of fire is my biggest worry; of course they'll be okay. I am surely enjoying Sue's swing in the backyard and the sunshine.

October 6, Friday

I didn't cough at all last night or today, and I'm so happy that my lungs are healing up so well. I'll be able to go home soon. Sue feels miserable with four boils on her leg and a cold. She coughed a lot this morning. Sue did some vacuuming, and ironing, also a little hand washing. I ironed a few pieces. I received a card from Donna saying she came about three minutes after we left last night; sorry she missed me. It has not been as warm the last two days, but there is nice sunshine in the afternoons. I enjoy Elaine and her children. Shirley went to a ball game after school. Ann and Carol Sue are starting piano and tap dancing lessons at the community house near here, their first piano lesson was yesterday. This evening Al and Sue took me for a nice ride over to Glendale. We did some shopping in the lovely big Sears Roebuck Store over there. I bought a few things to take home to my children, and a little white lamb for my baby Mary in the Owl Drug Store in Burbank. Shirley and Kenny went bowling.



**October 7, Saturday—
Today is the wedding
anniversary of my darling
daughter, Donna, and her
husband Rex.**

She called me on the phone this morning and reminded me of it. So sorry I didn't remember to mail them a card. Lou gave them \$5.00, I was glad of that. Elaine and Shirley went into Los Angeles to buy gifts for Bette's birthday tomorrow. They left at 9 a.m. Shirley did her scrubbing first. Ernie took care of the little ones with Ann's help. I did a little hand washing. Sue is feeling miserable with a cold and the boils on her leg. Al came about 1:30; we had cooked dinner. We left for Los Angeles about 4 p.m. I got home in time to ride up to Oateses' with Lou; he took the children up for Grama Marsh to look after. She is staying up there while Florence and Ernie are in Salt Lake. Our children stayed all night. Rex and Donna were celebrating their anniversary. Florence had a nice dinner cooked for children. Her brother's boy, who is in the service, was there, also. She invited us to eat, but she had enough to feed already. Lou and I went to Pasadena; he ate a nice dinner in a café. I couldn't eat anything. I had toast and herb tea and fruit at home. Lou and I went to the Park Theater; saw a good show. Al and Sue called by to see if I was going back with them; they'd been visiting with Lorene and Charlie. I surely enjoyed being home with my darling Daddy Lou again.



A page from Elvie's scrapbooks. There was another couple in the place of the small photo. It was replaced here with a photo of Lou and Elvie Renshaw.

October 8, Sunday

Today is the birthday of my niece, Bette Haddock. She had her birthday dinner here at Sue's, a lovely dinner which Lou and I also enjoyed with the Hoglunds. Bette got some lovely gifts from her husband and family. I stayed in Los Angeles last night with my husband. It was good to be home with him. We took care of baby Mary while Donna and the girls went to Sunday School. John and Florence brought the children down this morning in Ernie's car. They stayed up at Aunt Florence's last night with Grama and Grampa Marsh while Rex and Donna celebrated their wedding anniversary. Lou and I changed bedding on the bed, defrosted the icebox, and put the house in order. Then we took Mary with us to see Uncle Charlie and Aunt

Lorene. Charlie is encouraged because he went to a new doctor who thinks he can help him. It is Sr. Overlade's doctor. We went to Si's Market from Lorene's then to church to get Donna and children. We brought Estella McComas and the children home from Sunday School. Donna fed herself and children while Lou dug up some canna plants for Elaine. We all came out to Burbank. Lou and I ate a delicious dinner here. Donna and children visited with Elaine and children. I was so happy to have my dear family with me today. They left for Los Angeles at 5 pm. Lou had to be back to take care of his choir in church tonight. Al went to a memorial program for a Burbank boy who was killed in action. Sue is better, but still suffering from boils. None of us went to church tonight.

October 9, Monday

Al took us for a ride to see Ray and Bette last night. They had a fire burning in the fireplace. It was so cozy to sit and visit with that cheerful fire burning. It's a shame that Ray must go into the service the 17th of this month, and disrupt that lovely little home life of theirs. This awful war is making so many happy homes sad and unhappy. Oh I wish it was all over, and they could all come back home. I'm anxious to hear about Irene.

Glen phoned from San Francisco to his mother; said Irene was in the hospital. I wish that baby would arrive. Dear little Irene is away from all of her folks at a time like this. I'm glad Glen is there. Sue feels so miserable with the awful boils on her legs. We called Annie on the phone, she said they had not yet heard from Irene, but Irene's mother was on her way to San Francisco. I'm glad she'll be with Irene to look after the babies, little David and the new one, when it arrives. Al went to the Children's Hospital tonight with a young couple to administer to their baby who is very ill. They look so young and unhappy, I felt sorry for them. Ray and Bette left the baby here while they went to Glendale to see if they could sell their car. Little Jerry was friendly with me. We looked at pictures in a book, he is surely a cute little fellow.

October 10, Tuesday

It was damp and cold until noon, but was nice and sunny all afternoon. I wrote cards to Janet, Joan, and Mary. Sue's cold is better, but the boils are still painful. I enjoyed the sunshine out in the lawn swing all afternoon. Sue took a nap. The babies came over a time or two, the cute things. They surely keep us busy while they are here; they are so interested in everything. They love to have us read to them, read the pictures. Bette always comes for her baby, Jerry, about 5 p.m. Elaine or Ann take him up to the corner to meet his mother most of the time. I have surely enjoyed this nice visit here with Sue and her children, all grand people. I was surprised this evening when Mayo Wetzel called me on the phone. He and Margie are visiting their son, Mayo, who lives out here and works at Lockheed. They tried to get our house, but no one was home, so they called Wayne Strong; he gave them Sue's number. I talked to both Margie and Mayo. They went to see us. I'd like to see them.

October 11, Wednesday

Sue did a big washing, she is feeling some better, but not well enough to work like she does. She is still suffering with the awful boils. Elaine and Lucille Pack went uptown this morning, shopping in Los Angeles. They went to see Dr. Robison, also. Lucille is expecting the "blessed event" in December, I believe. We had the two babies here until noon, when Ernie came for them. I entertained the little ones until he came, reading Elaine's storybooks. They love to look at the pictures and hear a story about each, a job I'll say, ha ha! Sue and I took naps this afternoon. I went on the energizer machine for 2 ½ hours. Someone from Long Beach wanted a blessing from Al tonight before he left for "over-seas," but they couldn't find a scribe and they'd forgotten to get a recommend from their bishop. Too bad they had to be disappointed. Sue and Al went to the market tonight. I enjoyed the radio; Shirley was lost in her book. My sweet Daddy called me tonight on the phone; he wants me home. I'm anxious to go, too, even though the folks are grand to me here.

October 12, Thursday

Today is the birthday of our country, "Columbus Day." I have gained 4 pounds, I'm 114 now and I'm feeling so much better. I'm anxious to go back home and take over my job. My poor daddy Lou has had a miserable time getting his own meals. Donna has been very kind to cook his evening meals, when he'd be there to eat. He's been going over to Ernie Oates's after work, to fix up the little home. It was real cold this morning, but nice and sunny later.

Our two babies came over again this morning, surely cute, but into everything, Jerry and Sharon. I dampened down the clothes that I wanted to iron. Sue didn't want me to do any ironing, but that easy work doesn't hurt me at all. Elaine and Ernie went to the store for us. Shirley went to work at the market after school. It was the first time since her illness last week. I enjoyed the swing and sunshine this afternoon until the babies came, and then they enjoyed swing and stories that I read to them, ha, ha! As soon as they spy me now, they want a book so I can tell them all about the pictures in it. Al took me with him tonight to his adult Aaronic Priesthood meeting in Sunland; to a couple who belong to the "Reorganized Church." It was a very nice meeting and people. He had about twenty-six to his class tonight. I enjoyed the lovely ride to Sunland, also the dear old fashioned house and beautiful grounds and huge oak trees, so lovely.



Bette and Ray Haddock circa 1941.

October 13, Friday

Oh, but my eyes need attention, new lenses, I guess. I don't see well to write or read anymore. Sue did some vacuuming and dusting while I did up the kitchen work and washed out a few pieces of my underwear. I received a card from Donna and while I was reading it she phoned me. She said Rex took Uncle Charlie to his doctor yesterday, she and baby rode down with them, Aunt Lorene, of course, too. Charlie has a new doctor, he's way down on the other end of town. Sr. Overlade recommended him. Today was his second treatment. Donna said our phone is being moved to her house today. They want it that way. Sue and Al got a letter from Sr. Mary Stead who is in Phoenix with Harold. Donna says I have a letter at home from her, also. I wrote a postcard to Mary, will answer her letter when I get home. I do hope Los has written to his mother. I would have written, but he said he'd answer her letter this time. I didn't have her new address here, anyway. This evening little Jerry and I rode to the market with Sue and Al. We sat in the car most of time. Jerry, like my baby Mary wants to fill the basket with everything, ha, ha! Rose and Otto Elsebush brought their married daughter over for a blessing from Al tonight. She's been very ill. They also gave Sue and Al a box of chocolate bars, their son makes them. I would have enjoyed a peppermint bar, but no, no touch 'em, if I am to get well. Shirley had drops in eyes so couldn't work at market this afternoon. I guess the doctor will give her glasses to wear. Sue looks better, her boils are clearing up, she says.

October 14, Saturday

Saturday, the scrubbing day for Shirley! I stayed in bed to keep out of her way while she did her bathrooms and kitchen cleaning work. She worked at the market today, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sweet kiddo! Sue did some vacuuming, most of it yesterday. Ray is being inducted in the Navy on Monday, he and dear little Bette are trying to make the best of the time left them, sweet kids. Darn this war, anyway. I do wish we'd hear that Irene's baby had arrived, must have had a false alarm. Glen phoned Annie over a week ago, and she was in the hospital then. I washed out some underwear and a few towels this morning. Irene's mother, Mrs. Booth, has gone to San Francisco to be with Irene. I learned Tuesday is Ray's induction, not Monday. Jerry and Sharon enjoyed "The Three Bears" and "Three Pigs" read to them by Aunt Elvie. We read the pictures in books; they love it. One on each side of me out in the lawn swing. Al got home about 1:30; worked in the yard after dinner until 5:30 p.m. Ray and Bette brought his car back at 6 p.m. We all rode into Los Angeles to bring me and my belongings home. Al then took the family to see Charlie and Lorene, to take them for a ride, I think. I was surely glad to get home to my loved ones. Donna had a nice stainless steel rabbit and vegetable dinner cooked for us. Ray bought \$27.00 worth of canned goods for Bette and Shirley to use while he is away.

October 15, Sunday

Daddy and I enjoyed a nice breakfast; Donna cooked wheat for me. We took Donna and the girls to Sunday School. I stayed home to look after Mary; she is too young to keep still in church. We took the baby with us to Si Perkin's Market where we bought a box of groceries. The baby is no help in the market, either, she'd have our basket full in no time with everything her baby hands could get hold of, ha, ha! Cutie. I baked some potatoes and cooked carrots, enough for both families, so Donna could get her lunch ready in a hurry. The children are always hungry when they get home. It is good to be home again; I'm so thankful to feel better and be able to do things. I must get well and strong so I can take over my job. Louis and I took Janet to church with us tonight. We had a grand meeting. President Steed was our speaker. The choir was good, too. I missed the lovely singing of our choir while I was away. We brought John and Florence to the bus line on Avenue 52 and Figueroa Street; we also took them to church from the York Junction where they were waiting for the streetcar. I will be glad when we have more gasoline so we can take them home. I love to ride and visit with our dear friends.

October 16, Monday

I enjoyed getting up early and helping my darling husband this morning. He cooked his breakfast while I put up the lunch, like old times. Surely hope I can stay well now. Donna did our washing; I helped hang the clothes out, entertained baby Mary, dried dishes, and helped with the bed making. I was going to take a treatment on my energizer machine when Donna came to tell me I was having company. Marge and Mayo Wetzel were on their way over to see me. Their son was driving them over. They are visiting from Salt Lake City. I was surely glad to see them both; they look fine. We had a nice visit. I was sorry they couldn't stay until Lou got home, but they were in a hurry. Mayo is going home on Wednesday morning; Marge is staying a while longer. We had some good times together in the days of our youth. They are swell people. I enjoyed hearing about the old friends in Utah. Donna came over and visited with us, also. Tonight Beverly and I went to the Arroyo Theater to see "Janie," a cute picture. Lou worked on Sr. Oates's little house. It's near our church. I rode over to Annie's with Lou, that's how Bev and I got together. I treated to the show. Vernon Jorgensen arrived in San Francisco from overseas. Marty and Wayne brought Glen Strong over to see us; sorry I missed seeing him.



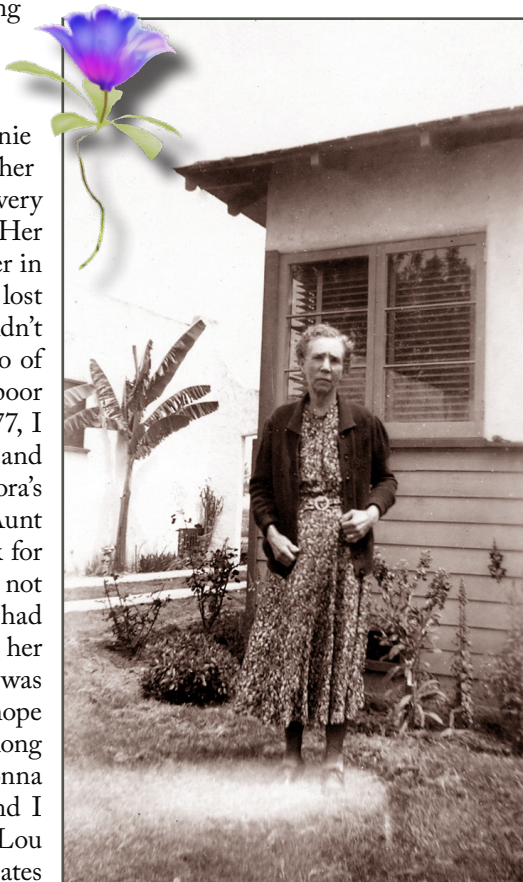
Vernon Jorgensen
Pharmacist Mate Second Class Vernon Jorgensen has reported back to San Diego, after a 30-day leave at home with his wife and parents. He was on detached duty with the marines for 15 months, and during that time took part in two invasions in the Pacific war.
Jorgensen is a S'40 graduate of Franklin high school, and was art editor of the "Almanac" during his senior year. He is now awaiting transfer to the Mojave desert, where he expects to be stationed for the next few months.
He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Jorgensen, 1517 North Avenue 50, and husband of Mrs. Mary Jorgenson, Franklin W'42.

October 17, Tuesday

I surely enjoyed Beverly, and the picture show last night, but sorry I missed seeing Glen Strong. They visited at Donna's. I got up again this morning to help my Daddy off to work. I am feeling better every day and am so thankful to my Father in Heaven for this blessing. Donna started the ironing early and did my ironing with her own. I felt bad about that, because she has too large an ironing herself to do mine, too. Donna's iron is broken; we both have to use mine now. After lunch we took Mary and Joan to Marty's house. We left them there with her while we went to Sears Roebuck store, on 9th and Boyle. I bought some white enamel pots to cook in, so I won't have to use my aluminum pans anymore. Donna bought six pottery dishes, little blue dessert dishes, she also bought baby Mary some shirts and panties. She bought a big lampshade for her reflector lamp. The baby knocked the lamp over last week and broke the big white globe or shade on the bowl, whichever it is called? Strange it didn't break the light globe, but lucky! Rex and Donna went to Mutual. Lou went over to work on Ernie's little house. I enjoyed the radio and my diary. Sandra Moyers slept with Janet and Joan tonight. Pollyanna visited with me for a while. Mary [Olson] is about to explode with joy because Vernon is coming home Saturday. He is in San Francisco now, back from fighting Japs.

October 18, Wednesday

I helped my hubby get off to work, I feel a lot better and hope I can take care of him better now. Donna and I went to Highland Park shopping this afternoon. We left Mary asleep in her crib and Joan drawing by the telephone so it wouldn't ring a long time and wake the baby. Blanche called Annie this afternoon and told her that Aunt Lizzie was very ill in an institution. Her daughters had to put her in this home because she lost her mind and they couldn't manage her. It took two of them to hold her, the poor old dear. She is about 77, I guess. I'm sorry for her and the girls, she was at Nora's when she went insane. Aunt Lizzie was so homesick for home in Utah, but was not able to live alone so had to remain here with her girls. Blanche said she was unconscious today. I hope she'll not have to suffer long this way. Tonight Donna shampooed her hair and I put it up in pin curls. Lou worked on the little Oates home for a while. Sr. Oates will be moving in soon; a day or two.



Aunt Lizzie Strong at one of her daughter's homes in California. She lost her husband 15 years ago in January 1929.

October 19, Thursday

Donna went over to get Aunt Annie and the curtain stretchers this morning. She helped Donna do up her bedroom curtains this morning. I kept the baby entertained. I'm not good as a worker, anymore. I hope to be well and strong again soon. I'm feeling better each day. I'd like to get my blood pressure down a little now. I cooked Lou's breakfast while he was shaving, and then put up his lunch while he ate. Lou has a cold and doesn't feel too well. He needs a good rest; he works too hard. I fixed lunch for Annie and Donna, they had to hurry; Annie had to be to Beth's house to stay with the children while Beth went to the dentist. Donna had to be at Clayton's to take Uncle Charlie to his doctor. Baby Mary and I rode with them to the doctor. He lives away down on Manhattan Street near Wilshire Stake house. We waited about an hour while Charlie had his treatment. Mary had to go "po-po," Donna and Lorene took her in the doctor's home; the nurse showed them where to go. She also called the doctor to look at baby's pretty dark blue eyes. The doctor gave Mary a sweet powder on her tongue. They thought her cute and she is. Folks went to choir tonight; I stayed with the children, Joan and Mary. Janet slept with Sandra Moyers, her folks went to a show. I looked in on them twice.

October 20, Friday

Donna decided to take advantage of Aunt Annie's curtain stretchers while she had them here, and do up her living and dining room curtains. They were soiled but not dirty. I was a little worried about washing such sheer rayon net, but the clerk said they'd launder beautifully, so we took a chance. Oh, what a headache they were. They shrunk about 6 inches when wet, we had to change the stretchers twice, and oh, we had to be so careful or they would split. They'll never wash again, but they look lovely now. We managed to hang them so the holes were hidden behind the drapes. I feel so sorry because I thought they'd last a few years. Daddy and I gave them to Rex and Donna last Christmas. I talked Lou into going to the stake house to the Halloween dance tonight with Donna, Rex, Marty, and Wayne. I didn't want to go. There is a man shortage, Lou is a good dancer, and so he obliged to please Donna. I went to the Highland Theater, with Annie and Beverly, to see "Casanova Brown" and "Sweet and Low Down." I enjoyed both pictures. I got home at 11:30. I took a treatment on my energizer. Lou came at 12:35; he had a nice time.



October 21, Saturday

Louis didn't take his lunch this morning, so I slept in. He got his own breakfast, nice man, eh? Donna had a busy morning, as usual; she took Janet to Beth's house for her piano lesson, came home, fed the baby, and put her to bed. Then she fixed a little picnic lunch for Janet and Joan. They ate it out in my backyard on their little doll blankets. They looked so darn cute. Donna took the car to Ernie's station to pick up Daddy, who phoned her that he was going to lay off this afternoon, and wanted her to come for him. Lou had a lot of shopping to do, so he just had to take some time off. Donna went to the Wilshire Stake house with Belle Ashmore to a beehive Mutual convention. Lou left her at Ashmore's. I looked after the children. Lou ate his dinner out and did some shopping and taking care of business before coming home. I cleaned the kitchen and bathroom. My daddy had a lady friend for a partner last night at the dance. Venda Berkelson's sister, Lyllis [Lyllis Mae Homer Jacobs], has just moved into our ward, she is a nice girl. Her husband left her for another woman. I'm glad she went to the dance and hope she enjoyed herself. She has two children. She's been so unhappy, I hope we can make her happy in our ward. Lou took the car this afternoon to have a new window put in the rear right door, also bought new shoes. Mary J. is all excited because Vernon is coming home today.

October 22, Sunday

Lou and I were down to Clayton's last night when Vernon arrived at 10:20 p.m. Mary had been waiting all day for him. The poor little dear was very worried because he was so late. She was surely excited when he did come. We had several tears of joy shed. Lou handed Mary a bath towel to use. It was passed around to Lorene and Charlie. I felt I could have used it, also, had a hard time keeping back the tears. Bill, Annie, and Dale left a few minutes before Vernon came. Dale was so disappointed; he insisted on waiting until 10 p.m., they left at 10:10. Vernon looked handsome in his Marine uniform. Mary was anxious to see him in his sailor suit. She had it all ready for him to put on. I went to Sunday School this morning. Rex was home, they all went, took baby Mary.

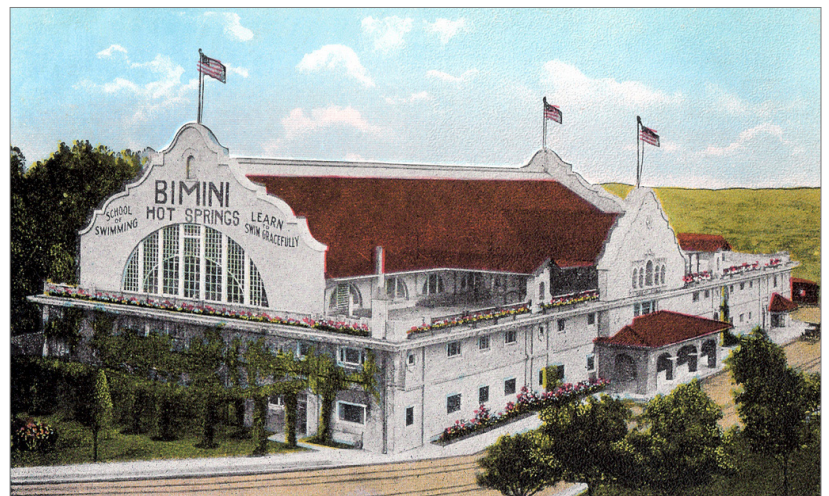


Joan, Lyllis Jacobs, and Janet circa 1945. Lou met Lyllis at the dance on October 21, 1944.

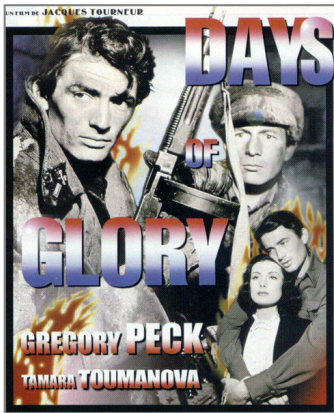
Rex took care of the baby when Lyllis didn't have her. We had a lot of our service men home and out to Sunday School. Vernon J., Kenny T., Jimmy C., the Lewis boy, and several boys in uniform were there. I wish they could all come home to stay. Ray Haddock went into the service on Friday. I enjoyed Sunday School and Relief Society classes. Lou finished up a few little jobs at Sr. Oates's home. I was happy to see Bob and Martha Seguire back home. We all went to church again tonight. Rex had to take Mary out, she wouldn't be quiet, wanted to "go see Mama," who was up on the stand to play piano. Rex and Mary came home, they walked. We had a nice meeting. David Taylor and Br. Dewey gave a report on the general conference.

October 23, Monday

Donna and I had a very large washing; she did most of the work. I washed dishes and fed Mary her lunch and helped hang clothes out. Marty left baby Bobby with Donna today, while she went uptown with her brother and his wife who are visiting her for a few days. I met the brother, but have forgotten his name. He doesn't look like the other brothers I have met, nice looking lad. I believe she has two brothers and a sister-in-law here visiting. Little Bobby was no trouble at all. He sat so long in the swing chair they brought, and then he had his nap. Wayne came for him about 6 p.m. Rex and Donna took all three children to Bimini for a swim this evening. Lewie and family went also, all in Lewie's car.



Louis and I went to the Park Theater, after dinner, to see Tamara Tourmanove and Gregory Peck in "Days of Glory," and Wally Brown in "Seven Days Ashore;" we enjoyed both pictures. Mary is almost crazy with joy because her darling husband is home on a furlough after being overseas fighting Japs for the past year and a half. Vernon is in the medical corps of the Marines. He had to take care of wounded men on the way back to the states, so he was one tired boy when he arrived in San Francisco last Monday. But a few days rest and he was good as ever. The poor boys were worn out even before starting for home. Some of the wounded men died on their way to San Francisco. This war is surely terrible.



October 24, Tuesday

Donna said the children had a grand time in the swimming pool last night. I had Donna take me over to church this morning in our car. We stopped at the market on our way; Donna went in the store. I stayed in the car with baby Mary, which is a lot more fun. I hate to do the marketing. I quilted about four hours. It was nice to be with the sisters again. It was the first time since my illness four months ago. They served a nice lunch; I didn't eat anything, but wheat bread and the grapes I took over. The minced ham and cakes are not on my diet list, and I am careful to keep on the diet because I am improving. We didn't have many ladies out, so couldn't finish the quilt. I was surprised to see Effie Bishop there quilting. It's the first time she's been. She is on her two weeks vacation. We had Annie, Srs. Burnett, Horricks, and Hansen, Isabel and daughter, Bette, Sr. Hardy and Effie. The back of the quilt was green; the color came off on our hands. It won't wash too well, eh? The blocks are put together with the green, also, wartime dyes. Donna, Beth Bywater, and Inis rehearsed at Inis's for a duet in Mutual tonight. She drove our car and took baby Mary.

October 25, Wednesday

Irene and Glen had a baby girl, born early this morning. Aunt Lizzie Strong passed away today [October 24, 1944]. They are taking her body to Salt Lake for burial. Gas fumes were awful today; they gave me an asthma attack, eyes and throat smart!



Aunt Lizzie

October 26, Thursday

Annie talked to Glen three times yesterday from San Francisco. The first time was to tell about the birth of their baby girl, second time to say the baby had died. He blessed and named the little infant, "Dawna Irene." The poor little dear had to have a blood transfusion because of an anemia condition. It is a disappointment to all of us, we've been so anxious to hear of the arrival of this precious little one. I feel so sorry for Irene and Glen, so alone in a strange city. Annie called this morning to say that Irene's mother is leaving for San Francisco this evening. She wants to bring little David back with her. Glen and Irene will come later, about two weeks, when Glen will be moved to a new camp. Last night Rex drove our car and took Lorene, Annie, Donna, and me to Wilmington where we met Aunt Lizzie's family, and Blanche, Helen and Gay, at Cartwright's Mortuary. The family wanted us to see Aunt Lizzie before they shipped her body home. We had a nice little service in the pretty chapel. Aunt Lizzie looked so lovely. Ruth had her hair dressed very pretty; she had a lovely white dress with silk lace. The temple robes, too, of course. Pearl and Louie Swift were there. We had a nice visit with all. Ruth and Donna sang "In the Garden," Al gave a nice talk and prayer. They are leaving for Salt Lake this morning. Clinton and the three girls are taking the body back home. Ruth served lemon pie to all who wanted it, not me! Donna took Uncle Charlie to his doctor today. Olive Saxelby rode down with them, I took care of Mary.

October 27, Friday

Lou came home early from his choir practice last night; only six came out. Rex was the only male member. My Daddy feels discouraged, he tries so hard to have a good choir, but it can't be a success if they won't come out to rehearsals. Many of his best singers have been put into offices in the ward and stake and they can't come to choir now. I spent this whole day writing letters and cards. I wrote to Ralph K., Glen and Irene, Dad, Uncle Art, Sr. Spencer, Lillian K., Violet, and Mother R. Donna made a Halloween costume out of some old drapes for Joan to wear to the church party tomorrow morning. It is an Indian costume, cute. Janet is sleeping with Susan Lucket tonight. Mrs. Lucket is fixing Susan and Janet up in grass skirts, the costume of Hawaii, with all the trimmings. Janet borrowed my pretty red and white lei that Beverly made me. Susan is wearing Donna's. Vernon took our car to take Charlie to the dentist to have two teeth out. He must have them all out. They're taking him to a specialist. Dr. Reese said he wouldn't pull them for \$100.00 a tooth because Charlie's heart is so weak. Donna took Janet to Beth's for her piano lesson. Lou worked at Mr. Vaughn's house after work. Elmer, his friend at Peerless Pump, is helping Lou on this job. Rex and Donna went to see the, "Ice Follies;" I stayed with the children.

October 28, Saturday

I slept late this morning. I was up late last night at Donna's. Daddy said to stay in bed and I was glad to. Donna took a car full of kiddies to the Halloween party at the church this morning: Estella McComas's three and her own. Janet slept with Susan Lucket; she took Susan to the party. Mrs. Lucket dressed them both in Hawaiian costumes. Joan wore the little Indian costume that Donna made for her. She won the prize, a war stamp, for the most original costume. She looked so cute. Donna had the Indian beads and headdress from a program she was in years ago. She also had the costume, but it, of course, was too large for Joan. Aunt Susie was in the Indian program with Donna, she made their costumes then. Lou came home after work, didn't go to work on the Vaughn's house, as he has been the past few days. We had dinner and went to the Park Theater. Donna was tired this evening, out late to the "Ice Follies" last night and busy all day with the party and etcetera. Susan slept with Janet tonight.



some out and did dishes, fixed lunch for Janet, Mary, Donna, and myself. Janet was kept home from school because of a cold on her chest. She wore a costume last Saturday to the church party that wasn't warm enough. Donna took me in our car this afternoon to the bank. I deposited \$73.80. We did a little shopping in the market, Kress Store and Ivers. I went in the post office, sent money order for Donna. Joan was with us; we picked her up on her way home from school. We also went to Dr. Ziller's. I paid her the \$5.00 I owed her; she took my blood pressure. It is still too high, but better than the 180 it was. My heart action was a little too sharp she says, whatever that means. Tonight Lou and I went to the Park Theater to see Katherine Hepburn and Walter Huston in "Dragon Seed," Leonard Strong had a small part, also. It was a swell picture; we also enjoyed Joan David in "Kansas City Kitty," cute actress. Donna put a mustard plaster on Janet tonight.

October 29, Sunday

I went to Sunday School with Janet, Joan, and little friend, Susan Lucket. Donna drove us over to church in our car. Florence and Ernie brought us back. It was our Sunday School conference. The Junior Sunday School joined with us in the chapel. We had two songs from the kiddies, and a story by Tillie Mosley, and then we went to class work. I enjoyed Mable O'Brien's lesson in Relief Society.



Br. Reese had a very fine class, also. I love Sunday School, anyway. Sue talked to Annie on the phone. She said that Ray was in Alabama; they lost very little time in shipping him out after his induction. Poor Bette and Ray, they were so happy in their dear little home, with baby. Lou worked on Vaughn's home with his friend, Elmer, all day. Little Mary has a miserable cold and hasn't felt very good today. Janet went to bed this early evening with chest congestion. Donna had to go to church to accompany Lois McKenzie. Loyce D. took care of Mary. Joan went to church with us. Lou sat in church with me. Norma Hardy led the singing. Joan went out to get a drink of water and had to stay out until after the sacrament. She was broken hearted, came in crying because they wouldn't let her in. Florence Marsh left this morning to have a visit with Ruth and children.

October 30, Monday

I'm so thankful to the Lord that I'm feeling better and can do my own work. We had a big washing at Donna's today. I had a very little to do with the washing, but I helped hang

October 31, Tuesday

It was dark and gloomy all morning. It looked like rain any minute, but by noon the sun was shining through. Poor little Janet had to stay in bed all day with heavy chest cold. Pollyanna took all the children to school in her car. Ruth and baby rode up with them. Donna went up to the school at noon with Joan's and Sandra Moyers' Halloween costumes. Ruth went up with Donna in our car. Rex was home with Mary and Janet. He went to work at 1:30 p.m. Donna called for

the children after their program and party. Pollyanna went to work at Si's Market. I did my ironing today, and a few pieces of Donna's, also. I took a treatment on the energizer this afternoon. Donna shampooed her hair this morning; I put it up in pin curls. Our Mutual had a Halloween party tonight, games and dancing. Donna did not go because of Janet's illness. I offered to stay with the children, but she wasn't anxious to go and didn't want to keep me up late. Janet had a pumpkin lit on a little table by her bed. Donna made the face in it for her. The neighborhood kiddies had a fine time going from door to door with "trick-or-treat" game, more fun! I did not have many come here because Donna told them I wasn't well. I had candy ready in a dish, ha, ha! Leo and Ruth took Joan to the playground tonight to the big bonfire and entertainment.

November 1, Wednesday

Janet felt much better today. Donna let her get up and dressed this afternoon. She practiced her piano lesson with Donna's help. Janet is doing very well with her music

lessons, of course she has the advantage of a mama who understands the piano as well as Donna does, and who had the good sense to help her along each day. I spent the morning covering a hanger for Janet to take to the school bazaar. The teacher gave each child a hanger to bring home to have covered. Donna bought pink satin ribbon to do the job; it looked pretty when finished. I put some blue French knots on the flower like bow. Too fancy to hang clothes on, I say, but that's what they wanted. Janet was pleased. Donna made a chocolate cake to take up to the school. Janet's Brownie class had a party after school. Donna took the cake up, and then came back home. Janet couldn't go. Lou worked on Vaughn's house this evening, came home about 7 p.m. After eating, he took me over to Glendale to Sr. Richardson's office. I took back the energizer instrument after using it for two months. We had a nice visit with nurse Floyd; she let me take a small energizer box to use on lungs. I got a letter from Mary Stead who is visiting Harold in Arizona. She is coming home soon. She is a nice person; I surely do like Mary.

November 2, Thursday

Lou and I received a very sweet letter from Irene and Glen in answer to the letter I wrote them, and thanking us for the \$5.00. Irene is a darling girl; she looks at the passing away of her infant daughter like a good Latter-day Saint girl should. They'll be coming home about the 10th of this month. Glen will then be shipped out to another camp. Donna took the neighborhood children up to school in our car. Janet was well enough to go this morning, thank goodness. Grama Elvie hates to have her sick, because of the chest congestion. I worry when any of my darling babies are ill, bless 'em. Donna took Uncle Charlie and Aunt Lorene to his doctor. Mary was in her crib asleep. I looked in on her. I wrote a letter to Roland and his wife, Donna. While I was answering his letter I received a



Standing: Charlie, Roland, Winnie, Eugene, in front: Elaine & Jerry Renshaw in San Jose September 1944. Stanley is not in the photo and they moved to California without husband and father, Ralph "Babe" Stanley Renshaw.

Winnie Moves to California

Babe and Winnie were endowed and the family was sealed in the Salt Lake temple on June 27, 1941. Babe struggled with alcohol addiction in his adult life. He did live in San Jose later on, but it appears he did not initially move with Winnie and the children. Winnie remarried six years after Babe's death in January of 1949.

postcard from him telling me his mother, Winnie, and children are living in San Jose. I was surprised to hear that. Roland didn't mention his father. Oh, I wonder if Winnie and Babe have come to the parting of the ways? I surely hope not. Roland said his wife Donna is visiting her folks in Salt Lake City for two weeks. Bishop Overlade called and wanted Lou to come to church and talk over the choir business at 7 p.m. He got home at 6:55, cleaned up, went to church without dinner. He ate at Rite Spot after choir.

November 3, Friday

I wrote a long letter to Mother R. this morning. Donna washed a few pieces for me with her washing; she always washes twice a week. I'll be glad when this presidential election is over next Tuesday. I'm so tired of campaign speeches on the radio, and the mud slinging at our president and etcetera. My mailbox is filled up with campaign literature. It'll feel good to get back to normal. Nurse Floyd told me last Wednesday that I must eat garlic to get my blood pressure down. Uncle Frank, (Dr. Bailey) told me the same thing twenty years ago, but I was afraid of offending people with the awful odor. Uncle Frank also said that

parsley would kill the odor, and I still didn't take his advice. I couldn't see how that sweet little dainty parsley could kill anything like the garlic odor. Uncle Frank knew what he was talking about; bless him. The nurse told me to put a small clove of garlic in a spoonful of syrup and swallow it whole, and then chew parsley. I did just that, I didn't have syrup, and so I used a light molasses, which I like better. Neither Lou nor Donna noticed the garlic odor. I kissed Lou and talked close to Donna, and then finally I asked them, "Can't you smell the garlic?" Both said, "No, did you take some?" If I had listened to Uncle Frank I wouldn't be suffering with high blood pressure now.



November 4, Saturday

I cleaned the kitchen and bathroom this morning. I also washed a corner of the kitchen walls back of stove; it was dirty. I've been wanting to get at it for months, but not well enough. I have about half of the walls and woodwork washed now. I have to take it easy. Lou says he'll help, but he is so darn busy he can't find the time and I can't stand the dirt. Maybe he'll do the ceiling. I wouldn't even try that; I did some of this washing last week. We took Mary over to stay with Aunt Annie, Uncle Bill, and Dale. She had a grand time with them while we went to see "Junior Miss" at the Pasadena Play House this afternoon. It was a cute play, but we were all disappointed because the little actress we wanted to see especially, didn't play her part, a substitute was put in. Janet's school teacher saw the play and told Donna that the little girl playing the part of Judy, the Junior Miss, looked just like our Janet, and she was so anxious for Donna to take Janet to see this cute play. The little blonde was good, but of course, we felt bad because we didn't get to see the little girl the teacher wanted us to see. A lady back of me told me the other Judy was darling, dark like our little girl. Tonight Rex took Donna and me to see "Hairy Ape" at the Starland Theater; it was good.



November 5, Sunday

We had a nice rain all night, which we surely needed. The trees and foliage looked so pretty and clean this morning. Donna and the girls went to Sunday School. Lou rode with them to Vaughn's house where he worked on the remodeling job he is doing for Vaughn. I stayed home to take care of baby Mary. When she goes to church someone stays out in the foyer most of the time with her, she talks too much, makes folks laugh. Donna said they had a grand fast meeting; some tears were shed when some of our boys, who are home on furlough from the battlefield, bore their testimonies. Vernon J. and Bob Dalton bore lovely testimonies. I would love to have heard them, and sorry I didn't get to see Bob. He asked about me, Donna said. Bob was one of my Sunday School boys a few years ago. Donna got Loyce to stay with baby Mary while we went to church tonight. It was Relief Society conference. Lorene conducted; we had a very fine meeting. Sr. Farnsworth, of the stake board, gave an excellent talk. The

bishop gave a talk, which I also enjoyed. Lou's choir sang two lovely numbers. It rained all the while we were in church.

November 6, Monday

It was a beautiful, clear, clean day after our nice rains. Donna and I had a large washing. She did most of the hard work. I make a good helper. I am feeling such a lot better and am so thankful for this improvement. Donna called Chris for me. She is going to come to my house next Monday morning and give me a permanent wave, the new cold wave, \$15.00. I haven't had a permanent for about three years, and I want a good one. I finished the woodwork in the kitchen this afternoon. This was the third day working at it. Lou did the ceiling for me this evening; now our little kitchen is bright and shining again. We heard President Roosevelt and Governor Dewey tonight, in their final campaign talks. I enjoyed the talks; both were good, but our President knows what to say, and how to say it. Better still, he knows what to do in this world of ours. I'll be glad when this campaign is over. I hope the best man wins. I think he will. I'm for him cause we need him until this war is won and the peace terms made. Then President Roosevelt can have the rest he has so richly earned by his wonderful labors in our country now and before the war.



November 7, Tuesday

Lou voted at 7 a.m. when the polls opened. I cooked his breakfast while he was voting over on Arroyo Glen Street, next street over from us. Donna and I went to vote about 10:30; we took baby Mary with us. I went in first, and then Donna. We went to Highland Park in our car. I bought a large grocery order at Si's Market. Vaughn couldn't cash Lou's check because of the bank being closed today; he gave me an I.O.U. for \$100.00 and paid me \$13.74 cash so I could buy some food. I wanted to go to Relief Society this morning and help quilt, but wasn't feeling well enough. I did get ready, but decided I'd better not quilt today. Donna took me in our car so I was able to take care of some business on the Avenue. President Roosevelt is ahead in the election returns, looks like another landslide for him, I think he is the right man at this crucial wartime, and I am glad he is winning. We need him to help plan the peace. Little Mary had a late nap so she wasn't ready for bed when Donna and Rex left for their Mutual meeting. Florence O. brought her over here. I had to get dinner for Lou, he worked on Vaughn Bowen's house until 7 p.m. Janet and Joan were in bed when Donna left; Lou stayed at Donna's until the baby and the girls were asleep. I went to bed with a little asthma trouble.

November 8, Wednesday

President Roosevelt won the election again! I'm delighted that our president won. Donna and I left with baby Mary in our car, at eleven o'clock this morning. I deposited \$260.00 to our savings account Lou has saved his first \$1000.00. We have \$1,105.14 now. I have had the honor of banking every cent of it. Louis has worked hard to earn this money. He also has paid for his home in these past two years and put a lot of cash into remodeling the home. I feel I have helped by getting along on as little as I could, so we could save like this. We've paid our tithing, too, and the Lord has been good to give Louis his health and strength to work. Poor Charlie would give anything to be able to work again. Donna and I took the baby to Marshes'. Grama M. took care of baby while we went to Los Angeles town. I paid the first installment of taxes; there was a huge crowd at the Hall of Records paying taxes. I can't understand why? So soon after we received our notices. We thought we'd go early and get out of the rush, but it seems everyone had the same idea. Donna stood in line for me, almost an hour. There were six long lines. Oh me! Poor Donna was all in, sorry. I bought some razor blades for Lou; we ate our lunch in the Health Store, my treat. We went to the Fifth Street Store and talked to Beverly. She helped Donna get her \$20.00 worth of stamps, which Rex paid for the dolls he bought for Janet and Joan the other day. Bev also let us have her discount on some Christmas wrapping and stickers. Sweet girl. Tonight we had a nice visit with Vernon and Mary here. Vernon showed us his proofs of pictures, all good of him. Donna had company; Catherine Ross and Lyllis Jacobs. She served them chocolate cake and ice cream. They rehearsed dance.

November 9, Thursday

The sun was shining bright this morning even though the weather man had promised us rain today. We had a very pleasant day; it did cloud up this evening, but no rain. Donna cut her lawns, which was too big a job for her. It worries me to see her struggling so hard with the lawn mower. I went over and tried to help push the mower. Between us we got it cut, she had most of it done when I got there. We raked leaves from the backyard walnut tree and burned some. Baby Mary enjoyed the leaves; she helped put them in the wagon. I did some patching on the sewing machine. Vernon and Mary came for the car this morning. He took Lorene and Charlie to the dentist. Charlie had two more teeth out. Sr. Lewis called Donna this afternoon and wanted her to come over to the church and help them with fashion show rehearsal. Donna played the piano while children displayed dresses and etcetera made to sell at our Relief Society Bazaar tomorrow night. Lou wanted to use the car when he got home at 5 p.m. to take lumber over for Vaughn's remodeling job. Donna had it at the church. He was disappointed. I felt bad, also.



Mary Marsh loves to help Grama Elvie.

November 10, Friday

It rained all night and today, a welcome rain because things were dry and dusty. Too bad for the Bazaar and dinner though. There is a bazaar and dinner at school which Janet and Joan are anxious for Donna to attend, too. Rex was going to work with his dad and Lewie, but rain changed that. I wrote a letter to Violet and one to Dad. Pollyanna took the children to school in her car. Rex called for them in Dick Johnston's car. Donna was going to take Beth to her doctor's office this afternoon, so Dick brought his car down. Rex took Beth instead. I was relieved that Donna didn't have to drive that long distance in this downpour. She was very busy at home anyway. She made two butterscotch cream pies to take to the Relief Society bazaar. Donna had a house full of kiddies all afternoon because of the rain. They had to stay in most of the time. Beth's little Diana and Joan visited with me for awhile, cute things. I took a bowl of Jello salad to the bazaar. Rex and Donna went with Janet and Joan to their school bazaar before coming to church tonight. Donna bought a pretty pin and earrings there. I was surprised to see Bill's sister, Em, and husband, Art, at the bazaar. Bill and Bev went to the depot to get Glen, Irene, and little David. We were all glad to see them. Al brought Sue and Elaine to our bazaar. I was happy to see them, too.

The dinner was very good. I helped dry dishes for a while. I was delighted to see Maude C. back home.

November 11, Saturday—Armistice Day

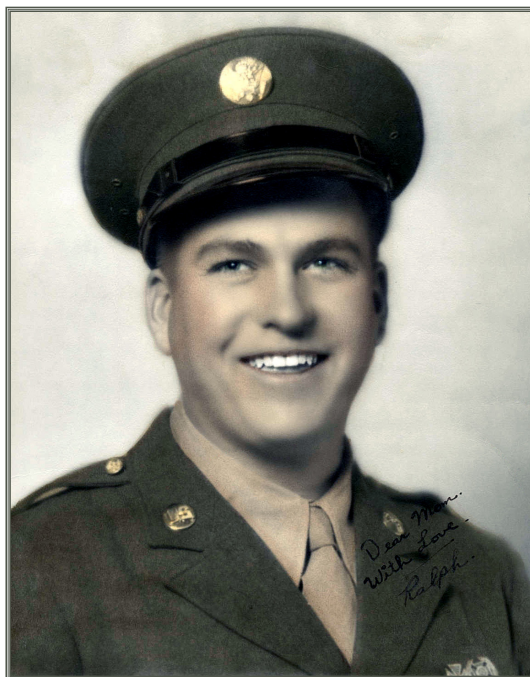
I listened to the radio ceremonies this morning, when President Roosevelt placed the wreath of flowers on the "unknown soldiers" grave. What a shame that other armistice didn't last. Oh, we do hope the next one will hold fast. We had a very nice bazaar last night. I was so sorry that Lorene could not be here, but Charlie didn't want her to leave him even though Mary and Vernon were to be with him. My heart aches for both Lorene and Charles. Donna and I bought several things at the bazaar. I bought a cute little dress for Mary's birthday gift, \$2.75. It is white with pink check trim. Grama Florence bought a cute little white slip to go with the dress. I bought some embroidered dishtowels to send Grama Renshaw, 40¢ apiece. Four was all that was left of the set when I got around to them. I bought five dishtowels for myself, not embroidered, 25¢ apiece. They are all lovely big towels. I was happy to see Martha Fowler out, and also Br. Lorin Hansen; both have been very ill. Martha is thrilled with joy because her husband is coming home from the war; he has been given an honorable discharge. I'm so happy for her. Donna bought a set of dishtowels, two white slips for Janet and Joan, and three pair of coveralls for Mary, cute, but too small in the waist. She'll have to take the coveralls back, too bad. Donna gave Mrs. Danbecker a pretty towel for taking care of the baby while we were at the bazaar. It rained most of this day; we had several real heavy downpours. I cleaned the kitchen and bathroom. Tonight Donna went to the church to their seventies party. She took a butterscotch pie and a dozen sandwiches. The children were asleep before they left. They went in our car; it was raining hard.

November 12, Sunday

I fried a rabbit before going to Sunday School. Donna stayed home this morning; she had a rabbit to fry, too. There's not much use taking baby Mary to Sunday School. She is too noisy, wants to talk out loud. Rex was off work for a change and went to Sunday School with us. Lou drove us; we picked up three at the York Junction; Srs. Christiansen, Richardson, and Peggy K., eight of us. Lou went to work on Vaughn Bowen's house with Elmer, he called for us after Sunday School. It was raining. Lou took a rabbit lunch over to Elmer. I ate alone, my wheat, some Lima beans, and yams, good. My doctor says no rabbit or chicken for me now, maybe later. Lou came home about 4 p.m. Janet brought Elaine Oates home to eat dinner. Donna let the girls make tollhouse cookies this afternoon. They brought baby Mary to me to get her out of the way. She is into everything, ha ha! Mary sat on my stove top and watched Grama Elvie pop some corn. She was very interested in the procedure and delighted with the results. Like her Grama, she loves to eat popcorn. Loyce D. took care of Mary tonight while we went to church. We had a splendid meeting, short talks from Florence O. and Edna O., Reed E. Callister gave a good talk, the choir sang four times, seemed extra fine tonight. Bishop and Sr. Overlade talked to Lou. They want him to carry on; he had asked to be released. Donna brought Lyllis J. home after church. Daddy took his rabbit over and ate with them; they had music after. Mary woke up when we got home; I played with her while the others sang. Rex and Donna took her with them to take Lyllis home.

November 13, Monday

Crystal came to my house this morning at 9:30 and gave me a \$15.00 permanent wave. The new cold wave. I surely enjoyed this new wave and a nice visit with Chris. She dressed my hair very pretty, also. She left here about 2:30. It was raining when Chris left, and rained all afternoon. Rex and Donna took our car to Ernie's station for ten gallons of gasoline. They took baby Mary. Donna did some marketing for us both while out. Rex went up to school for the children because of the rain. He fixed the windshield wiper on our car. I'm glad of that. It worried me when they had to drive in the rain and the wipers wouldn't work. Annie and Inis both called at Donna's this afternoon, Rex answered, Donna and Mary were here visiting Crys and me. Rex came to tell us that they phoned to tell her that Ralph Robinson had been killed in action over there in this awful war. Oh, isn't that awful, that sweet young man killed. I feel so badly about it. He was such a handsome, fine boy; my heart aches for his dear mother and wife. He is the first boy to go who is near to us in our church. Tonight Rex and Donna went to the Highland Theater to a picture show.



Ralph Brown Robinson was killed in France Nov. 1944.

They left at 6:30 p.m. the children were in bed. Lou and I looked in on them three times. Janet and Joan got up to make a phone call to Lefner's children, ha ha! It was raining so we told the kids to take our car. I was all prettied up, and no place to go.

November 14, Tuesday

Oh I do feel sorry for Sister Robinson, I know her poor heart is breaking over losing that handsome son, Ralph, who was killed in action last week. She received the word yesterday. I do not know Ralph's wife, but am sorry for the dear little girl, too. It was dark and looked like rain when Donna started her washing; she said she had to wash some things, so was going to do it all, even if it must hang out in the rain. Her optimism was rewarded because the wind blew clouds away and the clothes all dried. I helped a little with the washing in kitchen sink. I got shirt collars and cuffs scrubbed ready for the washer, also some of the soiled things. I also did the dishes and gave Mary her lunch, and put her to bed. She didn't stay in bed long as company called to see her. Crystal brought her mother and baby son over especially to see our baby. Crys had told her mother all about Mary and how healthy and pretty she was, so Sr. Myers wanted to see her. We had a nice visit. Crystal's baby is such a darling little red head. Rex got home early from his bus job. This afternoon he and Donna went to Pasadena to get their driving licenses renewed. Mary and Joan stayed with me. Janet was in her Brownie class after school. Tonight Bishop Overlade and Grant Carlson came to talk to Louis about the choir. I was over to Donna's with the children and Rex and Donna were at Mutual. They decided to disband for a few weeks and reorganize later.

November 15, Wednesday

It was a lovely sunny morning, a grand treat after so much rain and gloomy looking mornings. Donna drove our car this morning to take the children to school. Then we, Ruth Pierce, and baby, and me, went with her to Ruth's mother's Mrs. Edwards, where we left little Sherry with her Grama. We left our baby with Grama Marsh. We went down to Sears and Roebuck's big store where we shopped. Donna went to the office first and got a \$40.00 coupon book. Ruth went to the toy department and bought her children's Christmas toys and games and etcetera. Donna bought flannel pajamas for the girls, two pair each, sox, six pair, coveralls for baby, three pair, a little red corduroy dress for Mary, eight white sheet blankets; bought them all from mail order. There were none in the store for sale. We bought a little red wicker bottom chair for Mary and Ruth bought a blue one for her little Sherry. Donna bought a cute black dress for herself. We came back for the babies and

Mrs. Edwards showed us through her pretty home. She has fixed it up so nice. Florence M. came out to the car to say hello to me and Ruth. Tonight Lyllis Jacobs came over to Donna's to rehearse a duet with Donna. She also rehearsed one with Lou. They are singing Sunday night. She and Donna are singing in Mutual next Tuesday.

November 16, Thursday

It was a beautiful sunny morning again this morning. I put Donna's hair up in pin curls after she had shampooed it. I ate lunch with Donna and baby, a delicious beef stew she'd made yesterday. We went down to get Lorene and Charlie at 12:30 noon, took baby. I cashed Vaughn Bowen's check for Lou, deposited \$75.00 of check to our account, brought the rest home so Lou could pay Elmer for his half of the work on Mr. Bowen's house. Elmer called in after work for his money. Donna waited for me to take care of business in the bank, so I could ride to the doctor's with Charlie and Lorene. The baby fell asleep in my arms on the way to the doctor's. She slept all the while Charlie was having his treatment, about one hour. I did my ironing and part of Donna's flatwear this afternoon. Tonight Donna and Rex went out to Elaine's house to a party, which Elaine is giving for Glen and Vernon who are home on furlough. It was a get together party for the cousins. Marty and Wayne called for Donna and Rex. They went to Annie's to meet Glen, Irene, Beth and Dick, and Beverly. Sue had Mary and Vernon to dinner this evening; they went to party at Elaine's after.

November 17, Friday

Cleaning day and a lovely sunny one. Donna put out a small washing, some towels for me, also. I left my vacuuming half way finished, and went to Highland Park with Donna and the baby in our car to buy Mary some white shoes, so she can go to Sunday School again and keep someone busy, "shushing" her, ha, ha! Bless her little baby heart, she loves to go to church with us and entertain everyone. When she notices her mother and Grampa on the stand taking care of the music, she points and sings out loud, "Dee, Bampa, dee Mama." Sometimes Rex is in the choir and she calls to him, "Hi Daddy." Then it's, "wanna go Mama," and she'd go, too, if we didn't hold fast to her, ha ha! The baby was tired when we got home; we walked her around to find shoes. White baby shoes are hard to get these war days. Derks Shoe Store



Mary and Elvie in 1943. In November of 1944, Mary keeps Grama Elvie on her toes at church. Mary wants to join her family on the stand. To this day (2014) Mary is a faithful member of her ward choir.

had one pair her size, so Donna got them. We bought some meat at Save More Market, and then came home; Mary slept until 5:30. Donna took Janet to her piano lesson at Beth's. She brought me some groceries from Boy's Market on the way home. Tonight we all rode down to Sears Roebuck Store. Rex took care of Mary; carried her most of the time and she is heavy. Donna got her eight sheet blankets from the mail order department. They were ready and waiting this time. We couldn't fit Joan in kind of shoes they wanted. Rex and Lou bought some grand popcorn for us.

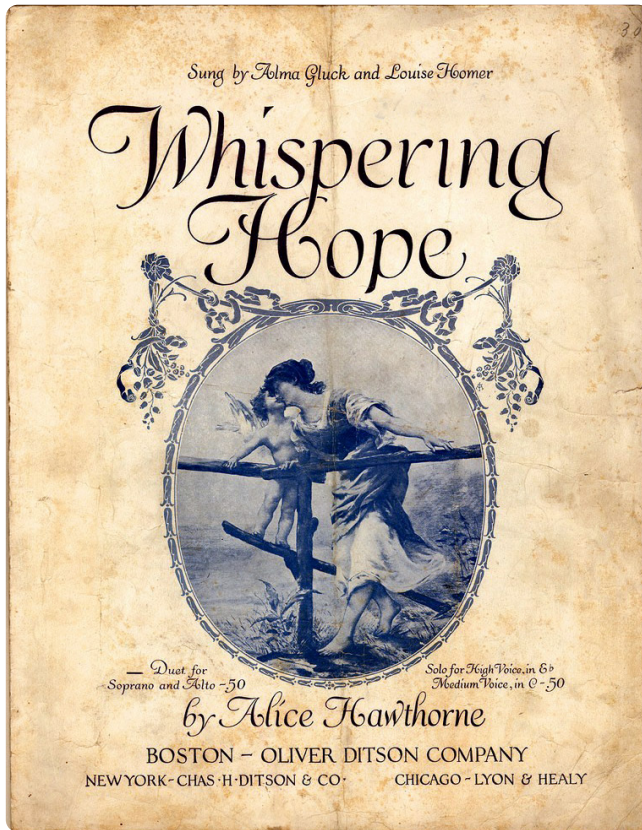
November 18, Saturday

Friday and Saturday mornings Lou goes to work an hour earlier; we like the other mornings best. It's hard to get up in the cold dark morning, anyway. Lou has been getting up and warming the house since I was ill. I get up in time to put up his lunch; he cooks his own breakfast, nice boy. Donna took Joan to Highland Park and bought her some black slippers, now all three have nice Sunday shoes for a while. I fixed lunch for Mary and Janet, and got Mary cleaned up ready to go to Grama Marsh's. Donna and Joan ate when they got home; they went to Marshes' on the bus. Sr. Marsh wanted them to come down and meet Rex's cousin, who is visiting in Los Angeles, Mabel's sister. [*Mabel has four sisters but only two are living in 1944.*] She is John's sister's girl. [*John's sister named Mary Ann Marsh.*] We all know Mabel [*Mabel Emma Swain*]; she lived with Marshes a few years ago. Janet played the piano, after Donna had entertained the folks. Janet is doing very well with her music, she looks so darn little and cute sitting there playing her pretty pieces. Grama Elvie is very proud of her. This evening Louis and I went to Highland Park. We left when Donna got home about the same time. We did a little shopping in Kress Store; and then went to the Park Theater. We saw two good pictures. The little Oates girls slept with Donna's children tonight. They walked down on the Avenue to Kress Store with Donna and the girls. Florence and Ernie went to a party at President Cannon's. Ernie Jr. stayed at Marshes'.

November 19, Sunday

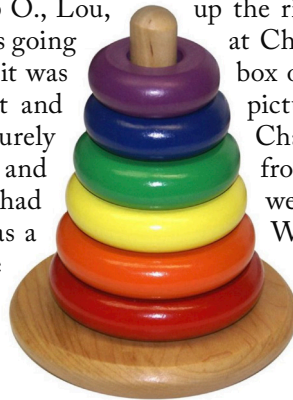
I was surprised to learn in Sunday School this morning that Br. Chris Hansen had passed away. He had been ill for a long time. They are holding his funeral services in our chapel tomorrow at 2 p.m. The Bishop asked Donna to take care of the musical numbers. It is a big job with everyone busy working. I was happy to see Loyal Tacy home on furlough; he looks swell. This training our boys get seems to agree with health, if not with them, ha ha! If only they didn't have to fight and kill and be killed. Lou finished up a few odd jobs for Sr. Oates this morning. Florence and little family ate dinner with Grama Oates today. Ernie Jr. went to the Rite Spot to eat with Grama and Grampa Marsh. After dinner we went in our car to the Wilshire Club House to see Laura Johnson's three little boys in a violin concert. Lou stayed home with Mary. Sr. Marsh and Laura J. went in our car; Donna drove us down. It was a nice long ride, which we get few of these war days. We all enjoyed the concert, wonderful what they can do with such tiny folks. We took baby Mary to church again tonight. Florence O. took care of her this

morning, in Sunday School. She was very good, but she cried when her feelings got hurt tonight, so I had to take her out. Donna came down from the stand to get her. Lou and Lyllis sang a duet tonight in church; it was lovely. They sang, "Whispering Hope," they sing very well together.



November 20, Monday

We didn't do our washing this morning as usual; Donna had a busy morning rehearsing music and making arrangements for said rehearsals. Lou took his car so he could come home at noon, as he was to sing in the mixed quartet this afternoon at Br. Hansen's funeral. Donna walked to Inis's to run over her solo, "Going Home," with her. We had to be at the church at 1:30 p.m. to rehearse with the quartet. They sang, "Oh My Father," 'they' were Bishop O., Lou, Inis, and Myrtle. Lillian Peterson Jorgensen was going to sing, "Nearer My god to Thee," but she felt it was too much for her, so Myrtle and Inis sang it and it was lovely. The music was all very nice; I surely enjoyed it. Bishop Overlade, Bishop Hogle, and Bishop Earl White all spoke, just grand. We had such a wonderful spirit present. Br. Hansen was a good faithful man, loved by all. He and his wife took care of the bread and linen for Garvanza sacrament without cost to the ward for over sixteen years. They sent two boys on missions, too. They are a very fine family, I only hope I will live well enough to be with them over there. Edna O. took care of Inis's baby and our baby. We took Inis and Sr. Reiche to the funeral. It was Myrtle's



"Br. Hansen was a good faithful man, loved by all. He and his wife took care of the bread and linen for Garvanza sacrament without cost to the ward for over sixteen years. They sent two boys on missions, too. They are a very fine family, I only hope I will live well enough to be with them over there."

birthday, her small daughter was giving a party for her; we took Inis to get baby then back to Myrtle's party, with her two children. Rex and Donna went to Highland Theater tonight. Pollyanna looked after the children.

November 21, Tuesday

Glen and Irene called on us this morning to say bye bye. I have been thinking about those sweet kids all week. It is such a wicked shame they must be parted again. He leaves this evening for a camp in Texas. He was in this camp a few months ago, and then they sent him to San Francisco, now back to Texas. I guess overseas next. Oh, I hate what this awful war is doing to our dear young people, to boys who love home, a wife, and babies, like that dear boy does. I am thankful for Glen's religious training and his love of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It will help him through. He'll have all of our prayers, also. Dear little Irene, so brave when I know her heart is breaking. Annie's face shows what it's cost her, too. Darn this war, anyway. Vernon and Mary must be parted again tomorrow; his furlough is up. He has been in the Pacific battle for 16 months, dear lad. My heart grieves for these dear young people torn away from each other. My little niece, Bette, and baby left alone, too, with Ray down in Alabama. Donna and I did a huge washing, twelve sheet blankets, eight of her new ones, and four sheets, with the regular weeks washing. We used the neighbor's clotheslines, also. I went to Mutual with Donna and Rex in Florence's car, first time this year. Lou sat over at Donna's while the children slept. I enjoyed Dave Taylor's Book of Mormon class, also Inis Stanton's music class.

November 22, Wednesday

Baby Mary and Grama Elvie went with Uncle Charlie and Aunt Lorene this morning to Glendale. Donna drove us over in our car. Charlie had three more teeth out, this time the front uppers. Donna and I did some Christmas shopping in a Western Toy Shop across the street from the dentist office while Lorene and Charlie were in the office. I bought books and games for Janet and Joan and a bright colored pyramid toy for Mary. She got restless in the car so I let her play with her toy. She had a grand time building up the rings on the pole. She'll be glad to see it again at Christmas, ha ha! Donna bought the girls each a box of colored paper designs. They can create pretty pictures on black paper—just stick 'em on. Poor Charlie came out with a mouth full of cotton. These front teeth were harder to get out than the others were. We took him home as quickly as possible. We got out of the car to kiss Vernon goodbye. The poor boy's furlough is up. He reports at San Diego in the morning; leaves on train or bus this evening. Glen left yesterday. We have two sweet little heartsick wives left here. Isn't it a d--- shame to break up these dear young married folks? Lewie M. brought three big rabbits over this evening. Lou killed them. I'm going to fry them in the morning, to take to Marshes.



November 23, Thursday—Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day and it was a perfect day, sunny blue skies. I fried rabbit for over two hours, three huge ones, this morning. I was careful with the flour, but got some, and had an attack of asthma, which I overcame with my little energizer. We went to Marshes' at 1:40 p.m. to another wonderful dinner. The tables were beautiful as always. Turkey, chicken, and rabbit, with all the trimmings, pies, cakes, and ice cream. I ate very little, but surely did enjoy my dinner, and felt grand after. I helped wipe dishes for a while, but they insisted I rest. My sweet Daddy helped for me. He washed dishes and helped clear up dishes, nice boy. Lou took a walk this afternoon. He had a little gas and bloat distress. He can't take it, like he used to. He didn't eat such a lot, either. The young folks played games. We had a lovely afternoon together. All went to the Highland Show tonight to see "When Irish Eyes are Smiling." Miriam and Lewie stayed at home with the two babies, because Miriam wasn't feeling well. Ernie Oates treated all to the show, seventeen of us with the children. He also bought the turkey today. The pictures were both good. We have had a wonderful day. Joan went to Aunt Florence's to sleep with Diane. Robin and Florence Irene slept at Grama Marsh's, maybe Elaine did too, I'm not sure. Janet came home because of her music lesson tomorrow.

November 24, Friday

Joanie stayed up to Aunt Florence's last night. They brought her home about 4 p.m. Janet slept until almost noon. We were glad cause we had them out until midnight last night. Donna didn't fare so well as baby was ready to get up at her usual time. She had her nights rest,



ha ha! I slept in, put Lou's lunch up last night. Donna went downtown to get some music for Janet. She has finished her last book. Donna bought some Christmas things at Barker Brothers Store. They're sending them out. She also came home with a cute new hat, it goes swell with her suit. She got home at 4:30 and took Janet to her piano lesson at Beth's. Tonight Lou and I went down to see Charlie and Lorene. He looks brighter in his eyes, but of course his mouth is sore. I hope having the teeth out will make him well again. Vernon called Mary from San Diego. She left on the 3 p.m. train to be with him over Sunday. He expects to be shipped to Mojave next. Glen called Irene from Texas; he is one blue boy. He hates it there, poor kid.

November 25, Saturday

Another pretty morning. I love these pretty blue skies and sunshine. I went uptown this morning with Annie and Beverly. We caught the same streetcar. I walked up the hill for the first time in many weeks, took my time. Dale was with them. We did some Christmas shopping in the Fifth Street Store. Gifts to send to Violet's family. I bought a dinner ring, for \$6.50, in same store, a birthday gift from Lou. We got Beverly's discount on all that we bought in Fifth Street Store; blouse for Dody, cap and glove set for Yvonne, games for them both, a set of dishes for Mary and sheer hose for Grama R., also for Donna. I bought a pretty blue hat, and a flower for fur with my birthday money from Lou. I also bought a centerpiece for my table; five large candles, red, and ten little choirboys singing. It is so cute. I couldn't wait to set it up. Tonight Lou went to stake priesthood conference in Burbank with Br. Harry Lewis. I did some mending while listening to the radio.

November 26, Sunday

Donna drove our car to stake conference in Burbank this morning. We took Sr. Valantine and daughter, Helen, also Uncle Bill, Dale, and Irene. It was a grand session. Young boys of priesthood spoke. Roy Valantine gave a splendid talk. Elder Worthen was the visitor from Salt Lake; he is an excellent speaker. There was a huge crowd out to this morning's session. They opened up the overflow doors and filled the other chapel. We didn't stay to visit after the meeting, as usual, because of being in a hurry to get home and eat lunch, and then down to Vermont Ward to Ralph Robinson's memorial. We was "killed in action," in this wicked war. Donna and I went to the memorial, Lou stayed home with the children. He built a picket fence between his and Leo Pierce's home. Leo helped him and they finished the job today. It is a big improvement to the old wire torn fence that was up there. The Memorial was lovely. Rad sang three numbers, Uncle Al gave a fine talk, President Leo J. Muir and President Ivans also spoke well. Beverly drove their car full, Hardy, Thomas, Treu, and Burnett, six of them. Elaine sent the children's cute felt peasant caps she'd made for Donna, all too small. Donna was disappointed. Maybe they can be fixed to fit? They surely are darling. Mary's was a birthday gift. Heber Robinson [a brother to Ralph] came from San Francisco to the memorial, we shook hands with him. Donna and the children went to dinner this evening at Sr. Shirtliff's home, took our car.

Albin A. Hogle's remarks given at Ralph Brown Robinson's Memorial Service

My brothers, sisters, and friends. I feel that it is indeed an honor to be asked to attend this service. As your Bishop has said, this boy grew up as a member of my ward. I have known him since childhood and I have known the other boys and girls of this family, too. His mother, I think, is one of the finest women God has placed upon this earth. I have worked with her when she has been president of the Primary and later as the president of the Relief Society organization. I feel now to me has fallen the responsibility of comforting her, for Sister Robinson and I have on many occasions gone into the homes of those who have lost their children, father, mother, wife or husband, and I have marveled at the sweet and the lovely spirit which she maintained during these visits. What a wonderful work she did in comforting those who lost their loved ones. She is acquainted with sorrow and grief, and certainly she does know that this is a struggle, as President Muir has said, and yet, I have never heard a word of complaint of the burden which has fallen upon her shoulders, and never have I known her to fail in the performance of the duties which fell upon her.

So, when we realize the kind of woman this boy's mother was, then we know that this boy, too, when he went into battle for the last time, perhaps felt that he wouldn't come back, but the thought in his heart was, "Well, this is my duty. This is the thing that is required of me, and regardless of the consequences, I want to do my duty."

A short time ago I talked to a woman who had a son in the Saipan area, and in his letters to his mother he said, "Mother, don't pray too hard that I will come back alive, but pray that I will do my duty – that I will have the courage and the strength to do my duty."

Something has been said of the intellect of this boy's father, and I know that the family too are of an intellectual group – that the intelligence of the father and mother have been transmitted to them. It isn't surprising to me at all that Ralph should be a Sergeant – that he should become an instructor of Infantry – that he should become a leader wherever he may have been called to go. I know that these other boys [*his brothers*], too, are in possession of their gifts of leadership. I know that they too will excel in their particular line of endeavor. It is just as natural as anything could be, and I can heartily endorse the words of President Muir because I know that they are words of truth, and I know that this boy is and will be engaged in a great missionary work. I know that there are millions of these young men, not only on the side of the Allies but on the side of the enemy powers, too, who are searching for the truth which they failed to find upon this earth.

Aileen Patricia Sager

When Aileen Patricia Sager was born on 28 June 1924, in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, United States, her father, Lester Harold Sager, was 27 and her mother, Helen J Luick, was 24. She married Ralph Brown Robinson on 5 April 1944, in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, United States. She lived in Los Angeles Judicial Township, Los Angeles, California, United States in 1940. She died on 15 June 2001, in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, United States, at the age of 76.

—From Family Search

On June 17, 1947 she married Frederick Robert Davis. She was not a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and her temple work was done 10 years after her death in 2011.



As Brother Muir said, I also felt when I learned of the passing of this boy that his father will find an able and capable assistant in Ralph, for he will assist his father in this great missionary work which is taking place in the spirit world. Ralph had his failings, just as you and I have our failings, but in my experiences, I have come to believe that God does not expect perfection of us in this life, he expects us to try, but I feel that he is merciful and that he understands the temptations with which mankind are troubled. I think he knows our hearts well enough and knows the strength of our spirits and realizes the weaknesses of the flesh, and so I say this: Even though we may not take advantage of all the opportunities that come to us in this life, the blessing of the Lord are still with us, and he will bless us if we will just make the effort.

About eleven years ago President Muir came into my ward and in my home. We were holding a meeting of block teacher, and this thought stayed with me. He said, "I expect when I reach the presence of my Heavenly Father, He is going to read over my book of life and is going to say, 'You did this, and you did that. I am very much ashamed of you. On the other hand, you did this, and you did that. Come on in. I think we have a place for you.'" I think that this thought has changed my mode of thinking. I am far from perfect.

This good man who has just spoke to you was a member of the Stake Presidency when I was called to be Bishop of Garvanza Ward. In spite of my imperfections these men had patience and helped me to surmount the obstacles. Due to their influence, I have been permitted remain as bishop for sixteen years, and so I feel that even though Ralph may not have obtained the acme of perfection upon this earth, I feel that the gates of opportunity are still open – that he will progress and that he will grow.

I know that his wife will understand perhaps the work in which he is engaged, and I know that through the contact with his fine mother she will learn of those steps that are so necessary in order that they may go through life together.

In one of the periodicals a short time ago and learning of the passing of Ralph, I came across a letter written by a mother in reference to her son who had given his life in the battle, and I felt that it was appropriate. It said, "I am proud I reared a son brave enough to do his duty and to do it well. It is comforting for a stranger to say he was brave and courageous. He was my whole world. In the last letter written a few days before his death, he said, 'I'm in the thick of the battle, I know, but I have no kick coming as I asked for it. If it will ease your mind any, remember that this was my idea; I have been reading my Bible regularly. It makes me feel a lot better.' We are proud of him. Our hearts will go out to him and the rest of our lives."

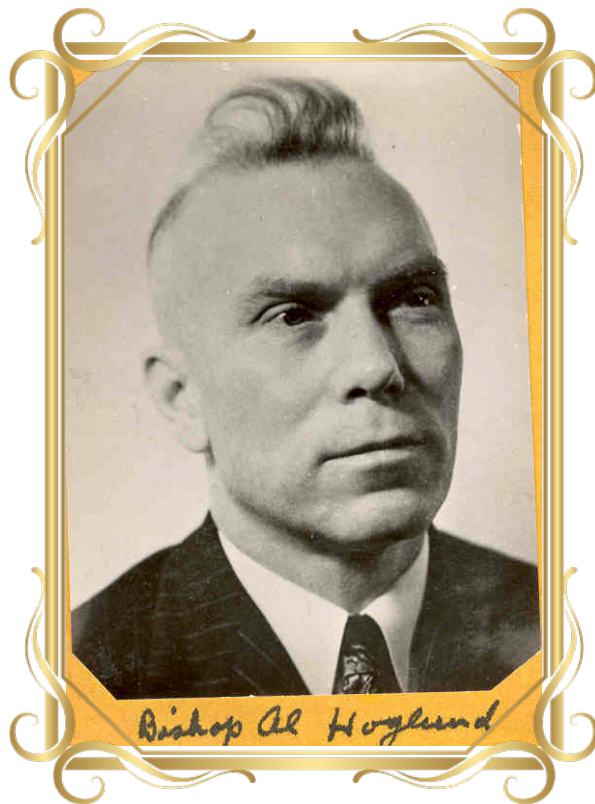
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The Gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us a little different. We know that we will go home to Ralph. Ordinarily father and mother precede their children to that place when has been prepared for us, but in this instance, Ralph has gone ahead. He has gone to prepare a place to which his mother will come shortly. None of us know how long we will remain on this earth. Some of us are here for a long, long time, and others of us are taken in our youth, in our childhood, and yet I feel in all the power of my being that the Lord has prepared a place for all who are taken from this life. I feel that we all have work to do in the spirit world, and I am happy in the thought that death is not the end of life. We lived a long time before we came here. Life existed and so life will exist a long time after we live, and this life is just a preparatory school. We are here for such a short time to prepare ourselves for a greater place and a greater life to come.

The Lord, Jesus Christ, died that we might live again, and Ralph too had died for a principle, - principles of the constitution of the United States of America – the principles of free agency. I can say that the Lord God is more interested in this conflict, and I feel that when our boys are called into the service, they do go with the blessings of the Lord upon them. Even though some of them are taken from us, I feel that His spirit will comfort these mothers, these wives, brothers, sisters, and fathers who are mourning their passing.

May the Lord be with you and bless you. There isn't anyone I know who is more entitled to the blessings of the Lord than this good mother. I am sure that the wife of this boy is on the same caliber, as such a boy would be reared to select as his companion one who is like him, so I feel that the blessing of the Lord will be upon his wife, whom I hadn't met until today. I pray that He will comfort you, and these things I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen

The text of the Memorial service is found on Family Search on Ralph Brown Robinson's page. This talk would have been of special interest to Elvie because it was given by her brother-in-law Al, who was married to Susie, Elvie's sister.



Susie and Al Hoglund



November 27, Monday

Blanche [Blanche Mae Strong] called Annie yesterday and said that Leo [her brother, Leo Le Roy Strong] is very ill. He was taken sick on the train coming from New York. Virginia [Blanche's sister, Clara Virginia Strong Konold] is very sick in a Salt Lake hospital, and Helen [daughter, Helen Ana Hoglund] isn't well; her husband [Robert McKendrick] was reported "missing in action," a lot of trouble in one family. Donna and I washed today; it was a lovely sunny day. After lunch we went to Boy's Market and the Save More Market. Janet and Mary went with us. Joanie stayed home to skate. Janet sat out in the car with baby while we did our shopping. We saw Myrtle R. and Sr. Robinson. She is staying a few days with Ed and Myrtle, and then on Saturday, she and daughter, Billie [Willmia Robinson], are going to live with daughter, Jo [Josephine Robinson Allen], in Arizona. My heart aches for that dear sister, her youngest boy, Ralph, was killed in action a few days ago. Tonight Lou and I went to the Park Theater to see Bing Crosby in "Going My Way," it was a very lovely picture, and I surely enjoyed it. It is my darling baby Mary's birthday tomorrow, two years old.



November 28, Tuesday—Our darling baby Mary is two years old today, bless her heart.

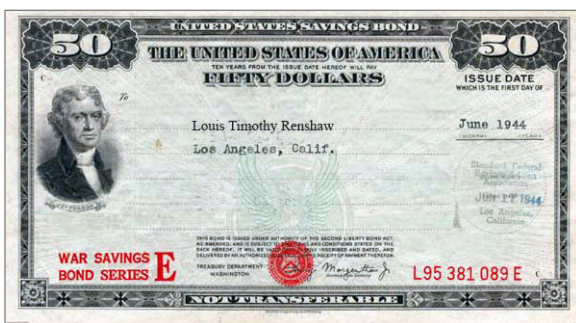
What a darling she is. Janet and Joan wanted us to wait until they got home from school this afternoon before giving Mary her gifts to open, so we did. It made no difference to her, and meant such a lot to her little schoolgirl sisters. Donna made a birthday cake, and about six dozen cookies, besides doing her ironing, busy little mother, eh? I did my ironing. Donna took a few pictures of Mary with her birthday cake, and gifts. She had her new red corduroy dress that Donna bought for her, on. She looked so cute in it. The neighbor kiddies watched Mary open her gifts, and also enjoyed a piece of her cake. Grampa and I gave her a little white dress with pink check trim, and a toy dog, which walks when she pulls it by the string attached to it. Janet took her money to school and she stopped in the little Ten-Cent Store to buy baby sister a gift. She bought her a toy cow. It is cute to see what our little ones do, bless 'em. Donna took her cookies to Mutual, she and Florence served hot chocolate and cookies to the Mutual tonight. Lou went tonight, his first time out to Mutual this year. I looked in on the children, and did Donna's dishes.



Mary, Elvie, and Joan in 1943.

November 29, Wednesday

It is a nice bright sunny morning, but our radio newsman just informed us we are to look for rain this afternoon, we'll see? Donna and I went to Highland Park this afternoon while the baby was sleeping. We went in our car. I drew \$180.00 out of our savings account. Lou let Rex borrow \$150 to pay on a car he wants to buy. He bought a war bond with the balance; put some to it, and bought a \$50.00 bond. We have fourteen bonds now. Lou signed up for \$200.00 worth of bonds at work. This is the sixth war bond. That is, Lou is buying the bond tomorrow at work, and then we'll have fourteen. I just heard Mrs. Allen laughing. I love to hear her and Ellie laugh, they seem to enjoy life such a lot, it sounds so cheerful. They are nice people. Lou and Elmer stopped at Vaughn Bowen's home to do a little carpenter job this evening after work. I made a beef stew which tasted real good for dinner. Donna went to the correlation meeting at church tonight. Rex went to play basketball with the elders. I stayed with the children. The electrician at Peerless Pump fixed my vacuum. Lou brought it home tonight. I'm so glad it's okay.



November 30, Thursday

In spite of the weather man's predictions for rain yesterday and today, we had a nice day, some clouds, but it was pleasant, anyway. Donna put out a washing. I did my Relief Society visiting this morning and called on dear, old, Mrs. Heath. She had her 90th birthday this month. I met her through doing missionary work. She is always so glad to see me, bless her dear old heart. She is such a nice little lady and has been a shut in for many years, most of her time spent in a wheel chair. Donna took Aunt Lorene and Uncle Charlie to his doctor this afternoon. Mary slept all the while Donna was away. We both wrapped the Christmas gifts that go to Cedar City and to Phoenix this afternoon. Rex bought a lovely wine colored chenille robe for Donna's Christmas gift. He brought it over here for me to keep for him until Christmas. The doctor says Charlie is going to get well, isn't that grand news? He can use his arm a little now. Lou and I visited with the Andersens tonight. They treated us to stick candy that Sr. Christenson made. I brought some home to the children. Baby David was very friendly with me tonight, cute thing.

December 1, Friday

It was another nice day. The weatherman missed it this time. I guess the winds blew the rain clouds away from our city. I washed some woodwork in the dining room and bathroom, also did my vacuuming. Donna took Janet to Beth's for her music lesson this afternoon. She also went to the market for us both. Lou rested this evening when he got home. After dinner we went down to see Lorene and Charlie. He is improving, I believe. The doctor told them yesterday that he'd have Charlie able to work in six months; that will be wonderful. I hope it'll come to pass. Charlie feels very much encouraged; he can move his paralyzed arm a little now. Mary showed us some of the souvenirs Vernon brought her from the Pacific Islands. She has some very pretty necklaces and bracelets, also a few Jap souvenirs, which he took from dead Japs. [Let's pretend not to read that last comment.] Rex came home happy with the car he wants to buy. He might own it tomorrow. He has the cash, \$250.00. The fellow who owns it works at P.E. with Rex. Our fruitcake looks and smells delicious. Donna made it last evening. I baked it over here. Rex helped her stir the batter.

December 2, Saturday

I did my housework up good yesterday so I'd be free today to go Christmas shopping. I left home about 11 a.m., went in Broadway Store, bought fancy hair dress comb with mother of pearl trim and ear rings to match, for Donna, also some gold ear rings. I bought a pretty scarf in Fifth Street Store. Beverly got her discount on the scarf for me. I bought some overshoes in Grants Store before going to Fifth Street Store. Lou took the afternoon off and came to town. Donna called Bev to have her hold me until Lou came, but Lou got there first, so he had to wait for me, as I had no idea he was to meet me. Good thing I went in Fifth Street Store to say hello to Beverly, eh? My shopping ended there, we went to the Health Cafeteria for lunch, and then in Mullen and Bluetts Men Store where we bought a pretty brown suit and hat for Lou, also a lovely gray topcoat. (The suit was \$55.00, hat was \$10.00, over-coat was \$35.00) Nice Christmas, eh? We went in the shoe shop while I had new heels put on my shoes; Lou had his shined. We went back to get our shopping bag from Bev, she took care of it for me. Then we went home to eat, and then to Highland Park to buy some brown shoes for Lou. We went to the Park Theater and saw "Seventh Cross," a good picture. It was a very happy day for me, Christmas shopping and day out with my sweetie.



December 3, Sunday

Another lovely cold morning, frost on the housetops. Donna and I took all three children to Sunday School. Lou painted on his new fence and finished the latticework. Leo and Ruthie painted on their side of the fence. We had a lovely big Sunday School, nice class. I enjoyed Br. Reese's lesson as always. We had a very wonderful fast meeting,

lots of babies blessed, too. Sr. Brown and little Misner girl were confirmed members of the church. We have visited both families in missionary work several times. It's a grand feeling to see them "come in." I hope Mr. and Mrs. Misner will join. We have all three children in. She was out yesterday; I talked to her, she said she thought they'd both join us soon; they are nice people. Donna and girls went up to Aunt Florence's to dinner. Donna took a chocolate cake and her roast. They had a house full of Marshes, Aunt Alice and some of her family. Donna fed Mary and put her to bed. I looked after her until Donna got home. Louis and I went to church tonight. We picked Bob and Martha S. up at the York Junction; we brought Mary Stead home after. Harold S. had to leave Grama Renshaw's because Shirley wanted the place. Sr. Mary Spencer is back from Utah, I was glad to see her in Sunday School.

December 4, Monday

Janet came over this morning to have me comb her hair. She looked so darn pretty with the ringlets in back and front rolled up. Her hair is so long and thick and shines so lovely, a little beauty, is my Janet. Yes, all three of my little girls are beauties; Grama Elvie thinks so anyway. The housetops were white with frost this morning. It was a lovely sunny day. Donna and I went uptown this morning to do Christmas shopping. We took baby Mary up to Aunt Florence's in our car. We drove to Avenue 50, parked the car and went to town on the streetcar. Donna bought a beautiful dresser set for me; mirror, brush, and comb. I thought she was buying it for my Christmas, but she surprised me with a birthday gift. Oh dear, I didn't dream she'd be spending so much on my birthday so near Christmas. It really worries me, I know the struggle they have to make ends meet with their little family to buy for and all. Why did I have to have a birthday so near Christmas to worry folks about? We bought several little gifts, sox and ties for Rex and Lou, soap and bubble bath for children to give friends and cousins, also books and games. I went to the bank before going to town, and drew out \$100.00 to pay for Louis' new suit, coat, and hat at Mullen and Bluett's.



Antique Sardonyx dinner ring found on line. Rings like this are for sale in the \$400 to \$1000 range in 2014.

December 5, Tuesday—Today is the birthday of Yours Truly, 52 years old.

Donna and I had a large washing this morning; it was a lovely day. We went to Highland Park to the market in the car. Mary and Joan went with us; we stayed in the car while Donna shopped. Tonight Al brought Sue, Elaine, Bette, and the two babies in to wish me "Happy Birthday." Bill, Annie, and Dale came over. Lou bought two quarts of ice cream and pie and cakes, we treated the folks, had a nice visit. Sue gave me a lovely bottle of hand lotion, "Forget

Me Not," Annie is making an apron for me, Lorene gave me a darling picture, a Dutch boy and girl, elevated from the background, surely cute. Violet sent pretty stationery. Lou gave me \$20.00 to spend. I bought a sardonyx dinner ring, new hat, and some Christmas gifts. He also gave me a \$50.00 war bond in a lovely birthday card. Donna and family gave me a beautiful dresser set, it is plastic, I guess, it looks like clear crystal. I was sorry that Lorene couldn't be with us tonight. Charlie isn't so well; he has a chest cold. The folks went down to see him after they left here. Bill and Al went over to administer to Sr. Bingham, she is ill with asthma. I had a very lovely birthday. Rex and Donna had to go to Mutual; both are in the presidency. Pollyanna looked in on the children, they were asleep.



This is the gift Lorene gave Elvie on her birthday in 1944. Elvie gave it to her grand daughter Kathy in 1972. The mystery of when the gift was received is solved in the diary. However, Elvie's age in the poem rhymes better with Lorene!

The little Dutch boy and girl, was a birthday gift, from my sister Lorene - as near as I can recollect, I was twelve, or thirteen? I always loved these adorable little Dutch dolls - For many years they hung in my home, on one of the walls - Kathy darling, I'm giving them to you, Because I know you love them too - Grama Elvie - 1972

This poem is on the back of the picture.

**WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT
SOME OTHER TIME!**

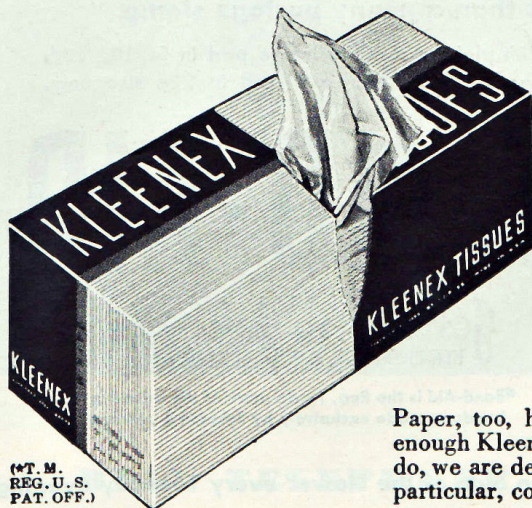


4. ANSWER: Right now *is* the time to discuss it! Because your country needs women *at once!* Millions of them! With or without experience! Full time or part time! In war plants and in civilian jobs.

**BUT HOW CAN YOU
FIND A JOB?**



5. ANSWER: Easy! The want ads in your newspaper show the kind of jobs in *your* town. And you can get free advice at your local U. S. Employment Service Office. "*The More Women at Work—The Sooner We'll Win!*"



Published in the interest of the
war effort by *Kleenex Tissues



Paper, too, has a war-time job . . . that's why there's not enough Kleenex to go around. But regardless of what others do, we are determined to maintain *Kleenex quality* in every particular, consistent with government regulations.

(*T. M.
REG. U. S.
PAT. OFF.)

A Kleenex ad from 1944. Beverly Andersen got tissues for Elvie whenever they were available.

December 6, Wednesday

I wrote to Violet thanking her for the lovely birthday gift, and a letter to Mother R., and one to Roland and Donna R. It took my morning. After lunch, Donna took me in our car to the post office to mail the letters and buy some stamps. We took all three children along. I gave Janet money to buy them all an ice cream cone in Mary Lou's Shop. Joan went with her to help carry them. Donna sat in the parked car with baby in back of Mary Lou's. I was trying to buy hairpins in People Store, with no luck. They did have some safety pins, which I was glad to get. This war has made so many changes for us. We can't buy butter at all, only the people who are personal friends to grocery men get butter, no cigarettes, glad we don't use those darn things. People are getting panicky over the cigarette shortage. I miss the cleansing tissues most. Bev gets them for me when the store has them. Well, how blessed we are to live here in this "Promised Land" when all the world is at war in their own hometowns.

doctor this week. After our lunch we took another little walk. While Charlie was resting, I addressed some of my Christmas cards. Lorene came about 3:35 p.m. I walked to the Light Company and paid my bill, and then I went to People's Store and bought a pair of button bows to give Donna for Christmas. I have several small gifts for her so far. Lou and Elmer worked an hour this evening on Vaughn's house. I got one square of butter, which I mixed with my Nuco. We have a butter shortage again; glad to get the one square.



December 8, Friday

I spent the morning addressing my Christmas cards. I did some of them while staying with Charlie yesterday. I vacuumed and dusted this afternoon. Donna went down to Inis Stanton's this afternoon in our car. They rehearsed the duet they are going to sing at the Blind Club tonight.

We are safe from bombs and etcetera. Lou and Elmer worked late at Vaughn's home tonight. Donna went to officers meeting at church. Rex went to early meeting and then to practice basketball. I took care of the children, put Mary to bed.

December 7, Thursday

Rex took me down to Lorene's this morning. He didn't work this morning because he wanted to take care of the ration board papers, which he needed to get his "A" card. Rex bought a Ford car last week and he is anxious to get gasoline so he can run the car. Lorene met Annie at Fifth Street Store where they did some Christmas shopping. Lorene bought a dress for herself, also. I walked out in the sunshine this morning with Charlie. It was surely a lovely day. I think the sunshine will help Charlie. He has a little cold on his chest, so he did not go to the

Ruby asked them to sing for her club. Mary was asleep in her crib; I looked in on her. Donna took Janet for her music lesson about 4:30; she took baby with her. Joan stayed home with me. Lou went to work with Elmer, at Vaughn's house a little while this evening before coming home to dinner. Florence Marsh called and invited me to a missionary testimony meeting at her house tonight. It was the last one, which President Ashmore would attend. He is moving to Oregon, has a new job there. He wanted all the missionaries who had labored under him to be present tonight. I'd love to have gone, but my hair wasn't dry enough to take down. They forgot to let me know about it until 7 p.m. I received a Christmas card from Clara Kelson Shaffer; she has had a stroke, poor old dear.

December 9, Saturday

Janet and Joan received tickets to the Highland Theater because of buying a war bond at school. The show started at 10 a.m., Donna took them down in our car. She did some shopping, but not much because Mary was along. She had her washing almost finished when it was time to go for the girls, 12 noon. I went over and finished up for her. Mary spent the morning with me while Mother washed. Lou's new clothes arrived from Mullen and Bluett this afternoon. I paid the \$82.00 C.O.D., we had already paid \$20.00 on them, nice Christmas, eh? Donna did more shopping on her second trip out. After dinner this evening Lou put Mary's kiddie car together. Uncle Bill milled it out for Donna; it is ready for the paint now. Lou and I went over to church, met the seventies and missionaries and partners at 8 p.m. We doubled up in the cars to save on gas. We had Br. and Sr. Reiche in our car. We went to the Ashmore home, all of us, about 40, crowded in the big front room with the lights off, until the Ashmore's came home from Br. and Sr. Silva's where they'd been invited to dinner. We had half hour to wait. He seemed surprised. We had a grand party and good eats, chili and pies. I sat up to the table with my partner, Br. McClaws, but didn't eat, wouldn't dare. Ed Robinson sat up too, he didn't eat any chili or pie, but drank milk and ate a banana. Dean McManning took pictures of all of us at the party, flash light [bulb].

December 10, Sunday

Lorene walked to church tonight. I felt so darn bad to think we didn't know she was able to come to church. She seldom ever leaves Charlie but Mary stayed home. We took Lorene home after church, also took Mary Stead home. John Treu's

priesthood chorus took charge of the meeting tonight. They had four short talks and a Christmas song between each speaker. It was a very lovely meeting. Erma Carlson was released as ward organist. Another sister was installed; we don't know her. Lou was upset to lose Erma. We had a nice visit with the Claytons tonight. Rex drove me and the children to Sunday School, this morning. Donna stayed home with the baby; she has a cough so Donna stayed with her. I enjoyed Erma Dewey's lesson in Relief Society as always, also Br. Reece's class. Rex had new seat covers put on his car yesterday, it looks very nice inside now. He worked today, took us on his way to work. Florence M. and I came home on the streetcar. Florence O. had to wait for her girls who had gone to Robinson's Store in Los Angeles town to see their beautiful Christmas window display of "The Life of Christ." It is lovely; I saw it, too. Janet went also with the class today. I fried some rabbit this afternoon, had asthma trouble. Donna had Florence and family all stay to dinner when they brought the girls home. I was invited, too, but came over here to eat my wheat.



Scenes from the Life of Christ 1451-52. Tempera on panel, 123 x 160 cm. Museo di San Marco, Florence

December 11, Monday

It was a lovely sunny day, our clothes all dried nicely. We took the car out to the Save More Market and the post office. I mailed my out of town Christmas cards and a package to Ruth and Dick from Donna and Rex; a fruit cake and sox for babies. I bought a few more cards in Kress Store. I thought I had enough with the four boxes, but not so. We both bought a pound box of chocolates in Kress. I can't stand in line for candy at See's, I don't eat it, anyway, and my Daddy will like these "Fame and Fortune" chocolates, they're okay, look real good. It is a Chicago Company. Marty and Wayne left the children with Donna this late afternoon while they went to the costume house for costumes they are wearing in a play

in their ward Friday night. Donna expected the man who plays the saw to come for a rehearsal with her tonight, but he failed so show up. He asked Donna to accompany him on a program next Monday night. I wrapped Christmas gifts tonight. Lou ate something that didn't agree with him, he suffered with cramps and diarrhea.

December 12, Tuesday

Louis didn't rest very well; he got up about five times. It disturbed my sleep some also; when I did sleep I was wrapping gifts [*in my dreams*]. I got rather nervous last night before I quit the job. I finished up this morning. I have a few more things to get yet. I mailed a few more out of town cards today. Mary stayed with Grama Elvie while Mama put her hair up in pin curls this morning. Oh my! What a big help our baby is! I was trying to make a Jello salad; she was up on the chair adding everything she could find near her, to the salad. Those baby hands, bless them, are busy, believe me, into everything. She says the cutest things too. How precious our darling babies are, anyway. Even if we are glad to get rid of them when we're doing something like making a salad or wrapping gifts. I made a beef stew and some chocolate pudding. I took a bowl of stew and some pudding over to my dear little neighbor, Mrs. Heath, who has been paralyzed for several years. She is 90 years old. I met her while doing missionary work two years ago. Rex drove me to her house. I took baby Mary in. We walked back home. Mrs. Heath was so happy to see our baby Mary. She was so glad I brought her the food; she cried and kissed me, poor old dear.

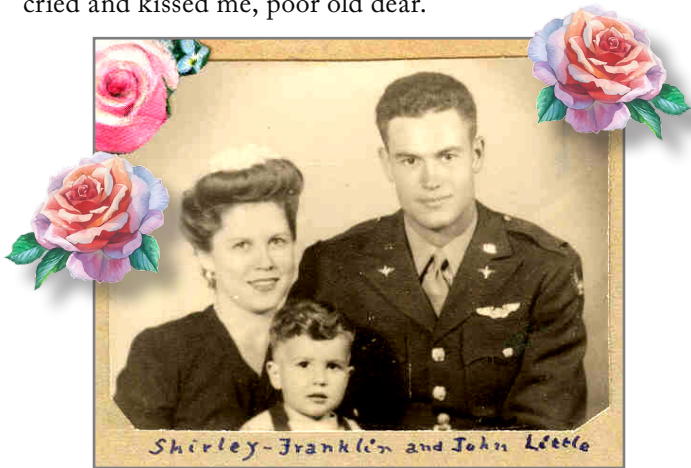


Photo Elvie received December 13, 1944

December 13, Wednesday

We received several more nice cards this morning. I was surely pleased with the one Shirley sent. It has a picture of her with Franklin and little son, John. It is good of all three of them. I guess Franklin is overseas now. Isn't it a shame to separate such a dear little family group? Oh, this war is terrible. I have six or seven nephews who are away from their sweet wives and babies. I did my ironing this morning. I went uptown at 1:45, met Annie at the Fifth Street Store, by Bev's department. She went with me to buy a game for Rex, shirt for Lou, and a dress for Lou to give me for Christmas. I got them all in Fifth Street Store and Beverly's 10% discount, nice, eh? I bought a cute print dress for Donna in the Betty Maid Shop also a smock

there for Donna. The dress is brown with big white daisies in; smock is red with black and white flowers. My dress is a purple shade, plain with a draped skirt, very pretty, I think. It was \$19.95. We waited for Beverly to get off work, and then we all rode home in the Andersen's car, which Bev had parked up on Figueroa Street and 5th. Beverly had a lot of Christmas packages to bring home, so she took the car today. I enjoyed it coming home. Lou went to Glendale with Don, worked in his garage until 10 p.m.

December 14, Thursday

Annie called to say that Beth has a baby girl, born 7:20 this morning. She went to the hospital at four o'clock a.m. The baby weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces. I'm so glad she is here, and Beth is over that illness, the worse part. Donna and I washed this morning, sheet blankets, towels, and underwear. We do our starch pieces on Mondays; she has to wash twice a week with so many little ones to keep clean. I spent the afternoon mending and darning, mostly children's clothes. I made two bib aprons for Mary out of Janet and Joan's old aprons. Donna left Mary asleep this afternoon while she went up to the school to a P.T.A. program. Both Janet and Joan were on the program to sing with a group of their schoolmates. Mary was still asleep when Donna got home. I looked in on her twice. Lou brought the little storybook doll cabinet home last night. He made it at work. It is ready for the stain or paint job. It is surely cute. The girls will be pleased, I'm sure. They have several little storybook dolls they want to show off in this little case. I'm giving them each a doll this year, too. Lou worked with Elmer this evening at Vaughn's house.



Storybook dolls from 1940s listed on eBay in a wooden display case for \$260 in November 2014.

December 15, Friday

It was a nice sunny day. We hung out the things that didn't get dry yesterday. I wrote a letter to Violet. We received a letter from Roland; he sent his mother's address as I asked him to do. She lives in San Jose, California; she has left Ralph (Babe) in Salt Lake City. I'm sorry they had to come to the parting of ways. I thought that Donna and I were going over to Pasadena to shop this morning, but she came to say she had too much to do. She needed to make a cake for the high priests party (Vitamin Kids), as they've named themselves. It is tonight. She also had to go up to school and help serve popcorn balls to children this afternoon. She is a room mother. Mary and I rode up to school with Donna. We stayed in the schoolyard; Mary enjoyed the little swings. Donna wasn't long. We brought Sandy Pierce and Joan home. Donna called by where Mrs. Lucket is working to pick up some pins and earrings; sets she had ordered for Christmas gifts. They are lovely ceramics. Tonight Rex and Donna went to see a play that Wayne and Marty are in at Alhambra Ward. We took Donna's cake over to Annie's and then went to the Park Theater. I didn't feel like playing Bunco at the party tonight, and Lou wouldn't! We enjoyed the picture. Mother Renshaw's Christmas package arrived today. We've lost our mileage record, and can't get a "B" card!!

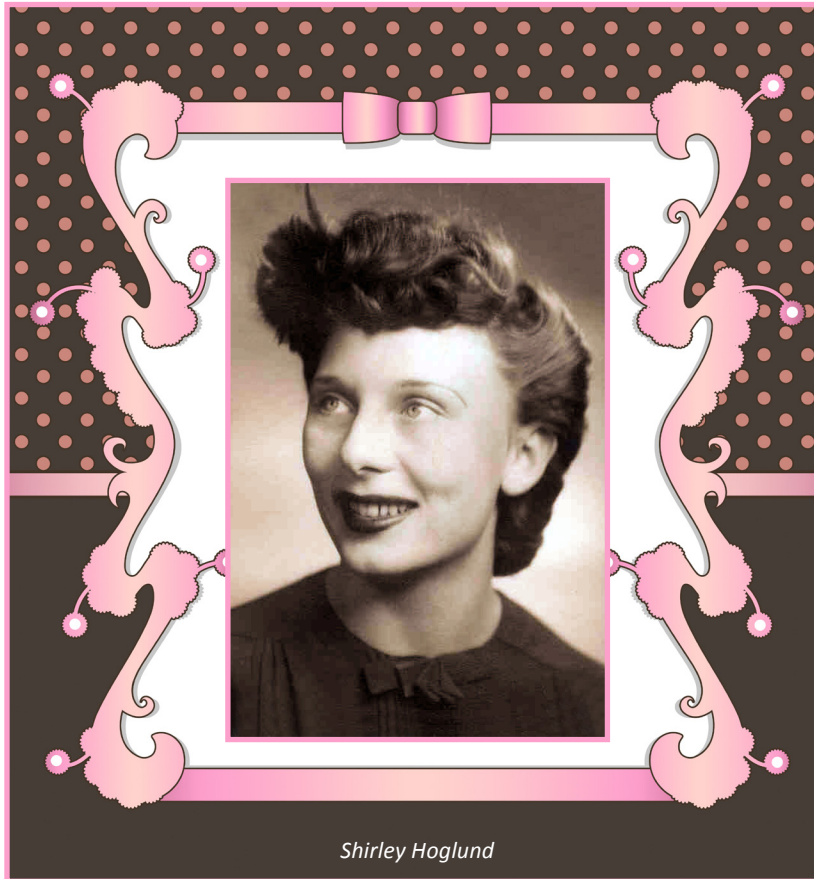


Ralph "Babe" Renshaw is living in Utah and his family is in California.

Lou and I rode down to Highland Park. I bought some Christmas ribbons in Kress Store and some candy for Lou to eat. Lou bought a few things in Kress hardware. We stopped in Si Perkin's Market, we enjoyed window shopping and watching the busy Christmas shoppers hurrying to and fro. Donna spent a busy evening, addressing Christmas cards. Rex took Janet and Joan to see the basketball game he played in. Rex and girls went out early this evening and bought a Christmas tree. Oh my! What fun. It's a wonderful time for the kiddies. Grama loves it, too.

December 17, Sunday

It was a beautiful sunny day. Lou went to Glendale to work at Don's mother's place in garage. Florence O. called by for me and the little girls. We had a very nice Sunday School and Relief Society. Joan wore the little yellow dress Aunt Florence gave her; Elaine outgrew it. Joan looks pretty in yellow. We came home on the streetcar. The Oates stayed to eat dinner with Grama Oates. Donna had the dinner ready when we arrived home. I ate with them. I took Janet and Joan for a ride on the streetcar this afternoon to town, so they could see the beautiful window displays in the big stores downtown. We had popcorn, gum, and chocolate malts. They wore the cute little bright peasant hats that Elaine V. made. People smiled at them. One elderly gentleman said, "Well, I can tell they're not



Shirley Hoglund

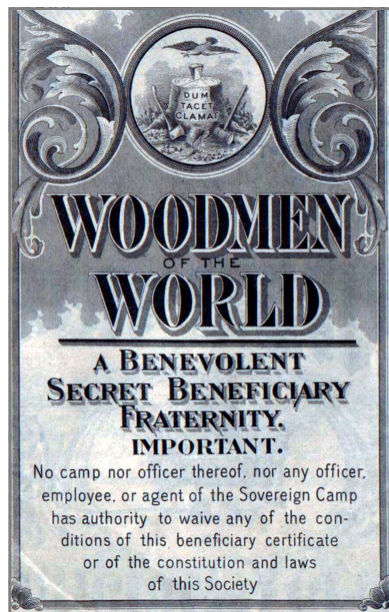
December 16, Saturday

I wrote a letter to Mother R., a card to Roland and Donna. I went back to the ration board this morning and told them we couldn't find the mileage record card, we don't think they sent it back to us. Of course they won't accept that idea, she gave me another blank to fill out, more time wasted. I did the vacuuming and dusting this afternoon. Lou came home about 4 p.m., he had half day off, he and Elmer finished up Vaughn's job, and then he came home and helped me turn the front room around, that is, the rug, so wear will be on the other half for a change. This evening

sisters, just twins!" He enjoyed his little joke a lot, so did Grama. I didn't tell him any different, just laughed along with him. Donna and baby enjoyed naps this afternoon, also Grama; he got home just before we left. Donna gave him some dinner, too. Louis and I went to church tonight. It was a nice meeting; President Walker and Elder Olson were the speakers. Mary left with Vernon for Mojave at 5 p.m. We went to see Lorene and Charlie after church. Lorene was feeling blue, had been weeping. It will be lonely without Mary. Al and Sue had been there. Shirley came with her folks, and left a picture of self for me, sweet child.

December 18, Monday

It was such a lovely warm sunny day, our clothes dried in a short time, even though we got rather a late start. The Christmas cards are coming fast now; we have so many lovely cards. The children are enjoying their vacation from school. Donna fixed a picnic lunch for them to eat out in the little playhouse. The little Leffler girls brought their lunch over to eat with them. It was cute to see them each carrying their little bottle of milk, and bag of lunch. Baby Mary wanted to eat in the playhouse, too, but the girls objected, ha ha! Can't blame them, baby hands keep things moving fast. Donna persuaded Mary that a lunch in the house with Mama was much nicer. Baby went to bed for her nap, but spent the time taking off her shoes and stockings and undressing her dolly. She went to bed early this evening, sandman had no trouble this time, and sleep came shortly. I stayed over to Donna's tonight while she and Rex went to town, where Donna accompanied a man who played the saw. It was a "Woodmen of the World" program. She earned \$5.00, which pleased her because she never gets paid for all the accompanying she does for our church, ha, ha! I'm delighted with Shirley's picture; bless her heart, for giving me one. Lou worked in Allen's workshop, painting and staining Christmas toys for our children.



Woodmen

Joseph Cullen Root originally founded the first group, Modern Woodmen of America (MWA), because he wanted to create a fraternal benefit society that would "bind in one association the Jew and the Gentile, the Catholic and the Protestant, the agnostic and the atheist." While he succeeded with MWA being that type of organization, heated arguments resulted in Root and another man being evicted from the society.

Root kept the name 'woodmen' because he was inspired by a sermon that talked about "woodmen clearing the forest to provide for their families." Root saw Woodmen of the World as being an organization that would "clear away problems of financial security for its members."

<http://agraveinterest.blogspot.com/2011/06/woodmen-of-world-and-tree-stone-grave.html>

December 19, Tuesday

Donna took me down to Clayton's this morning to take one of Lou's safety razors to Charlie. We took Mary along. Donna was dressed for town; she brought us back, and then parked the car at Better Food Market while she went to Pasadena on the bus to do her shopping. I gave the children their lunch over here. Mary stayed in the house with me

while I ironed. Donna came home about 2 p.m. The mail was delivered three times today, twice yesterday. We have so many beautiful Christmas cards; I just love to look at them. Donna fried the two rabbits Mr. Allen gave us the other day. Br. Imsen moved all of his furniture in Allen's front garage; they've moved in with some people Nell has been working for. Idell Nordstrom was so happy this morning, her boy, Melvin, is coming home today. He's been away overseas fighting in this awful war. Don, the other son, is home on furlough, also. Florence and Idell took dear old Mrs. Heath a Christmas gift, nice card, and glasses of jelly wrapped pretty. Tonight Lou and I went to Mutual. It was social night; we played games in our class, had a lot of fun; ate homemade ice cream and cake. I ate a little ice cream, no cake. Lou went in Rex's class; they played Monopoly. Rex's class went to Jack's Malt Shop for malts after the game.

December 20, Wednesday

I wrote cards to Shirley Little and Roland and Donna Renshaw, thanking them for their lovely greeting cards with their pictures on. I also wrote to Shirley Hoglund thanking her for the lovely picture, which she left for me on Sunday night, while I was at Clayton's. These sweet nieces and nephews of mine, I do love them. It is a thrill to have their photographs to look at. I have enjoyed Dolores and Yvonne's photographs which they gave me this summer, sweet kiddos all of 'em. The Relief Society gals came for me at 12:30. I had been ready since 10:30. Annie thought they'd be here about 10 or 10:30. I waited on the corner a long time, and then Annie called on the phone, and told Donna they were delayed getting Christmas boxes for poor and shut-ins. I came back in the house and ate my lunch. Lorene called to see what was holding them, too. She'd been waiting, also. I was to stay with Charlie while Lorene went with the sisters to deliver the Christmas boxes. She had time to give Charlie his lunch, too. They were out about three and a half hours. I was happy to see Lorene get away for a while. She needs to get away more often. It isn't good for her to be so confined with her worries. Charlie and I took two short walks in the lovely sunshine around his yard. He is very weak, must stop often because of his heart, poor man. Isabel T. took Sr. Hardy, Lorene, and Annie out in her car today. I helped Donna and girls decorate their house for Christmas tonight. Rex got home in time to take over which made us happy. The tree, I mean. Lou went home with Don and they finished up his job tonight, he got home at 9:30 p.m.

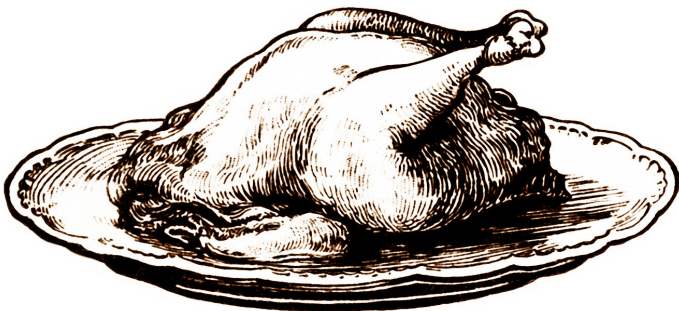
December 21, Thursday

Janet and Joan went up to the little 15¢ Store yesterday, bought some red and white crepe paper, which we used to decorate their house with last night. We put red bows and trim on the lamps with a few red berries and pine needles in the center of bow, really looked pretty. Donna had the mantle and piano fixed very pretty with pine cones and needles and red bows. She painted the pine cone tips white. Yes, their house looks very festive and gay. Baby Mary enjoyed the fun much to the anxiety of the rest of us. Christmas balls and lights are grand playthings, she thinks. Well, we had to park her in the high chair to her displeasure, bless her heart. Lou gave me the money to go down and get my dress from "will

call." I went to town at ten o'clock this morning; bought five pounds of nuts in Grand Central Market, a few little toys in Kress, and went to Fifth Street Store, got my dress and talked to Beverly. I ate lunch at the Health Cafeteria. I bought five pounds of filled candy at May Company. I came home tired but happy. The gas fumes came in our location very heavy this evening, I suffered from them as usual, with an attack of asthma.

December 22, Friday

I didn't rest very well last night because of asthma trouble. I had a rather difficult time trying to do my cleaning today, but got through somehow. Lou got off early this afternoon. The company gave each employee a nice big turkey, and a box of lovely dates, also a nice greeting card, nice, eh? Lou cleaned pinfeathers off and got the turkey stuffed all ready for the oven before we ate dinner, I helped with the dressing. It is a lovely twenty pound or more turkey, so nice and fresh. It is the first turkey we've ever had given to us. I made the lime Jello salad; Donna made pies, pumpkin and mince. We have everything ready for our big dinner tomorrow. Lou rode down to tell Charlie and Lorene we'd eat at 1 p.m. We are so glad that Vernon and Mary came in from the Mojave camp, they'll come to dinner tomorrow, also. I am tired tonight, but thank goodness free from asthma. Rex and Donna took the children over to the Christmas party at church. Donna made a chocolate cake today. She took half of it to Ruby and Ben, it's Ruby's birthday.



Lou was given a turkey from the Peerless Pump Company.

December 23, Saturday

We had our turkey in the oven at 7:10 a.m. It was dressed last night. Donna made the pies yesterday. I got the dinner ready with ease. Donna set the table. Br. Imsen came to see Lou; he was down at Ernie's station. I had Rose call him from Donna's phone. Lou came home and he and Rose Imsen went out to look at some houses for sale. Lou is anxious to help them find a house to live in. Poor little Janet had to stay in bed all day with a chest cold. She has a part to say in the Sunday School program tomorrow, we want her well enough to go. Louis went to get the folks for dinner. We sat down to eat as soon as they arrived at 1 p.m. I was so glad that Mary and Vernon were home and could come. Everyone seemed to enjoy the dinner. The turkey was grand. Oh, what a bird, over twenty pounds. Donna's pies were delicious, too. I made ice cream to eat with the pies. Donna brought some chocolate cake, too. We had yams, peas, carrots, creamed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, and Jello salad. The dressing was good. Poor Charlie didn't feel at all

well. They took him home soon after dinner. Br. Jorgensen came to see Vernon about Clayton's car, to try to help get it started. He took Clayton home. Lou bought me a pair of hose and four pair for himself tonight. We went down on the Avenue. He bought me house slippers, face cream, and perfume, also. Later, I stayed with the children while Donna and Joan went on the Avenue to shop.

December 24, Sunday

Janet came over this morning to have me brush her hair into ringlets. I had just finished when she almost fainted away. Her little face went as white as snow, she fell against me. I picked her up in my arms, put her on my bed. It surely frightened me. The little dear wanted to go to Sunday School and say her piece in the Christmas program, so she said she felt fine. I could see she didn't feel too good; she was in bed all day yesterday. I curled Joan's hair, too, she had memorized Janet's piece and said she'd go and say it, which she did. I insisted on the others going to Sunday School and let me stay home with Janet and Mary. Lou took them to Sunday School. They said the program was very good, and Joan said Janet's piece swell, bless her heart. We all ate dinner here. It tasted as good as yesterday to me. I love cold turkey. So sorry Rex has had to work and couldn't be with us for these nice dinners. He took some in his lunch today. Al came for Lorene and Charlie this afternoon. They ate Christmas dinner with Sue and family today. They're invited to Andersen's tomorrow for another Christmas dinner. I do hope Charlie will be well enough to go there, also. Lorene must get out more. Lou and I went caroling with a crowd from church at 10:30 p.m. We had a nice meeting tonight, Inis and Myrtle sang two duets, Bishop Overlade spoke, held meeting to only one hour. We opened our gifts after church at Donna's. Lots of lovely things for all. Lou and I got home from caroling at 1:30 a.m.



December 25, Monday

Today is the birthday of Our Lord Jesus, the day, that is, that the world has named His birthday, but we Latter-day Saints know He was born the 6th of April instead of December 25. It makes little difference as long as His birthday is remembered. Donna woke us up at 8:30, so we could go over and see how cute our baby Mary and little sisters acted over Christmas gifts from Santa. Janet and

Joan know who Santa is now. It is fun to see how thrilled they get over the toys and etcetera. We had a grand Christmas all of us. Donna and Rex gave me gloves, hose, and pin and earring set. Daddy, they gave a shaving set and brush and ties. We gave Rex a tie, sox, and game. He gave Donna a lovely red robe, slippers, and pajamas. We gave her a fancy comb, earrings, house dress, and smock. Oh, the children got so many things, a beautiful baby doll, life size for Janet, a doll with long braids for Joan, and a big teddy bear for Mary. Grampa R. made the doll cabinet for Janet and Joan's storybook dolls and the little red wagon for Mary. She also got the kiddy kar that Uncle Bill milled out and Lou put together and stained. Lou also painted and repaired the red wheelbarrow. They got games, books, too many gifts to mention; a grand Christmas. Grama Marsh made slips for all the girls, doll dresses, and gave them sox and money. We had plenty of turkey and pies and etcetera for both families again today. Lou gave me a pretty dress, gold pin and earrings, and many things. I gave him a shirt, sox, and ties. He got his suit, topcoat, hat, and shoes. We all had a lot of gifts. Grama Renshaw sent Donna and me each a lovely flowered table cloth. Lou went over to call on his friend, Jimmy Sanders this morning. He was shocked when they told him that Jimmy died December 15. The poor man has suffered many years with asthma.



The original Kiddie Kar. Uncle Bill and Grampa Lou made a similar one for Mary, Christmas in 1944

Br. Jorgensen came here to have Lou help him fix a hose to go in Clayton's car. They worked on it twice before it was okay. Mary has a head cold; she slept all afternoon. Donna ironed; we took Janet and Joan with their dolls out to Burbank to see folks. Sue has a bad knee again. They had a lovely Christmas out there, too. We called in to see Beth's new baby girl on the way home. She is a pretty little doll. We called in Annie's; Lorene and Charles were just leaving, they had been there to dinner. Mary and Vernon ate at Jorgensen's. Marty, Wayne, and family spent the evening with Donna and family. Rex worked until 3 a.m. Lou and I went up to Ernie and Florence's to wish them "Merry Christmas" and met their neighbors, they had musical numbers and songs and moving pictures. We had a nice time. Myrtle and Ed R. came later, a very, very merry Christmas for all.

December 26, Tuesday

I went uptown this morning and bought a girdle from Beverly. I changed Donna's smock for a larger size, couldn't



get the red one and so took blue. I went to the United Artists Theater and saw "I'll be Seeing You," a good show. I ate lunch in the Health Cafeteria. Little Mary is miserable with a cold. I bought my 1945 Diary. We received a card from Margaret [Renshaw] telling us about the death of Howard Taylor [James Howard Taylor was a Renshaw relative]. He was buried December 22, in Ogden, Utah.

December 27, Wednesday

I wrote a letter to Mother R. thanking her for the lovely tablecloth, also wrote a card to Margaret Renshaw thanking her for letting us know about Howard Taylor passing away. His funeral was Friday, December 22, in Ogden, Utah. I was so sorry to learn of his passing, he was a nice fellow. Too bad for the folks at Christmas

time, too. Florence Marsh took six of her little grandchildren to a picture show in Los Angeles downtown (Elaine, Irene, Diane, Robin, Janet, and Joan). Florence O. called for them at 12 noon. They are all going to Grama Marsh's after the show and have dinner and stay all night. Great treat for the kiddies and swell rest for the mamas, too, ha ha! Little Mary is quite miserable with a head cold and earache. Tonight Lou and I went to the officer's party at the church. Rex and Donna went, also. We ate dinner at church, potluck dinner. I took a chili-mac casserole, Donna took a scalloped potato casserole; she went to the market earlier to get the ground beef for our dishes. They had a lot of delicious food over there. I went off my diet. The Bishopric furnished ice cream and plenty of it. We had a real nice time. We danced and played games.

December 28, Thursday

I gathered up the clothes ready to wash this morning, but had an attack of asthma so had to take it easy all day. I prepared some wheat for cooking and I guess I got some dust in emptying it into the pan for washing. It has been cloudy and sunny in turns today. The asthma is a curse to me, but I'm thankful it isn't something worse. I do get relief, and feel fine, while some poor folks must suffer all the while with some of the awful diseases we have in this world. Donna and baby Mary came over this morning. I played with Mary here, while Donna went home to do her dishes. Florence O. brought the girls home about 2 p.m. 1944 is about over; it has been kind to us for the most part. I had about four months of illness. Charlie had his stroke, and many other worries came along with our boys; Glen and Ray taken into the service, Irene lost her infant daughter, and other trials, but all in all, we've been blessed a lot. We go into 1945 with hopes high and faith in the Lord. Many joys and sorrows crowd into one year. Donna enjoyed a nice rest while the girls were visiting with Grama Marsh. It is nice to have them go away to visit Grama Marsh, we know they are in excellent hands, so can enjoy the peaceful quiet. But it is nevertheless grand to see the darlings come home, too.

December 29, Friday

Rex had the day off after putting in a long hard week driving service men to and from their camps, and other people who were coming or going for their holidays. Donna and I put out a big washing, we got through about 2 p.m. Rex helped with the house work, he took the children for a ride in his car over to see Wayne and Marty's children this afternoon. Tonight Loyce D. stayed with the children while Rex and Donna went to a show with Wayne and Marty. Louis and I rode out to the stake house to the dance. Elysian Park Ward's chorus of young men and women sang several numbers for us, very nice. We all sang Christmas numbers and others. The dance started at 9 p.m.; there was a lovely crowd of young people out, a very fine party. I had several nice dances and enjoyed watching the young folks dance, so sweet looking, all of them. John and Florence went with Lewie and Miriam; we all went to the Rite Spot after the dance for eats. We met Rex, Donna, Wayne, and Marty there, a surprise! Lou and I sat up to the counter, there was no room at the tables. There was Myrtle, Ed, Ernie, Florence, Br. and Sr. Smith, Miriam, Lewie, John, and Florence. Very nice time. I went off my diet tonight, but was careful. All I ate was chicken noodle soup. It was good. We received a nice letter from Mother R. thanking us for the Christmas gifts.

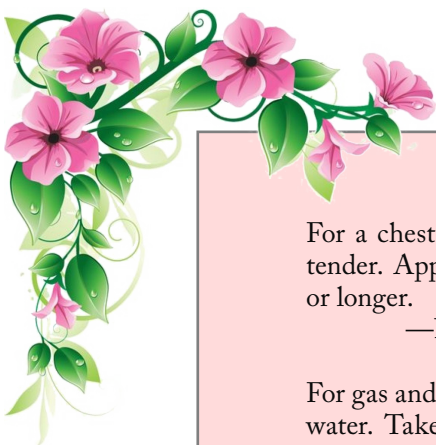
December 30, Saturday

Today is the birthday of my dear little nephew Dale Owen Andersen. He had a birthday party. Elaine brought her three children in on the bus. She left the baby home. She came to Donna's and rode over in our car with Donna and the children. Baby Mary was home asleep in her crib. I looked in on her between doing vacuuming and dusting. Donna and I went to the Better Food Market at 5 p.m.; we took the baby along. Lou came home at 6 p.m. feeling miserable with a fresh cold. He went to bed after dinner, but first he soaked his feet in hot mustard water. He took a hot lemonade and two aspirin. I hope he'll feel better in the morning. I guess dancing and getting too warm last night made his cold worse. It was real cold when we came out of the dance hall. Elaine and Donna visited with Beth and new daughter while

the party was going strong at Aunt Annie's. The children had a swell time; I wonder how Aunt Annie enjoyed it?? Ha ha! I sent some money to Dale with a little card wishing him a "Happy Birthday," bless his heart. He is a cute little fellow, like brother Glen was at his age. I wish Glen could come home to his sweet little Irene and baby boy. Darn this war, anyway. Only one more day left in my little diary book. It seems only a short time ago I started this book!

December 31, Sunday—New Year's Eve

The last day of 1944. Much has been crowded into these twelve months. Thousands of sweet young men have given their lives in battle. Thousands of mothers, wives, and sweethearts have broken hearts, homes are broken, disease running rampant. We have a doctor shortage, the hospitals are filled, and gasoline, shoes, and many foods are rationed, and we have heavy taxes! People and cities are being burned up. Satan is having his day, all because we, the children of God, will not harken to His warnings. Here in America we are a blessed people, yet many do not praise God, who has so abundantly blessed us. Oh, I do thank God for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and for my membership in it. I thank Him for this, "The Promised Land." My loved ones and me have been blessed. I'm so grateful for His loving care over us. I go into 1945 heartsick because of the wickedness in this world, but with faith in God and His promise to the faithful. Rex took Joan and me to Sunday School, which I enjoyed. Marshes invited Rex and family to dinner, Oateses' went, also. Lou and I rode out to Monrovia to see his cousins, Pearl and Pawnie Redborg, this afternoon. It was a beautiful day and drive. Ruby and Gordon Hodges, and Clarence Renshaw were out at Pearl's, so Lou had a nice visit with all five cousins. Clarence gave us a pretty 1945 calendar. We had to hurry to get back in time for church. We had a grand meeting. President Steed was our speaker; Ed Robinson sang two numbers. We saw the old year out and the new one in at Saxelby's house, lovely time. Rex and Donna saw the old year out and the new one in with friends up at Florence and Ernie's. Loyce D. stayed all night with Donna's children.



Health Hints in the back of Elvie's diary:

For a chest cold, fry a big onion in one tablespoon of glycerin until tender. Apply to chest, same as a mustard plaster; keep on one hour or longer.

—Nurse Floyd from Glendale

For gas and bloat, take a small pinch of cayenne pepper in a cup of hot water. Take a teaspoonful after eating, have water boiling hot, wait until it cools.

Note: Garlic has violet ray in it. It is good to rub on sores that break out on body.



Quotes Elvie placed at the end of 1944:

“A life spent worthily should be measured
by deeds, not years.”

—*Richard Sheridan*

“Love gives itself, it is not bought.”

—*Longfellow*

“Life is beautiful to whomsoever will think
beautiful thoughts.”

—*Stanton Davis Kirkham*

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God,
and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

I Corinthians 3:16

“Hath not God chosen the poor of this world,
rich in faith, and heirs of the Kingdom which He hath
promised to them that love Him?”

James 2:5