



# The Kinsman

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Vol. 22, No. 1

January, 1968

## GREETINGS, COUSINS!

With this first issue of a new volume of your family paper, the officers of the Jesse N. Smith Family Association take pleasure in sending love and greetings to you and your loved ones. You are part of the great family of a noble pioneer, and share a heritage that will continue to shed inspiration and blessings throughout your lives and those of your children who come after you.

We ask you at this time to join hands with us in a grand project to reach every family which is part of the posterity of Jesse Nathaniel Smith. Beginning with yourselves, we would like to enroll every couple (or head of family) in our Association, and invite your assistance in helping make our member list complete!

By-laws of the Association provide for an annual enrollment fee of \$5.00 per family. This small amount is used for preserving and publishing family history, for support of genealogical research and Temple work, and for publishing the Kinsman each month as a line of communication to all members. Checks should be made payable to the J.N.S. Family Assn. (a non-profit unit), and sent to:

Moroni W. Smith, Treasurer  
504 N. 4th East Provo, Utah 84601



## MESSAGE FROM THE FAMILY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear Kinsmen:

Again I have been appointed our Family Association President for another year. I have accepted this appointment with hope and prayer that I can be of help to all of you. I feel greatly honored, because in a way, the President takes the place of Jesse N. Smith, on earth, a great and holy man who I sincerely love. Some excellent and willing vice presidents and officers have been appointed to complete the official roster. They constitute a representation from each of the wives of grandfather. A short report by each of them is included in this issue of the Kinsman. You will hear from them, with their addresses, and observe their useful work all during the present year. They will serve as a medium to your link in our large family chain.

I must take this opportunity to pay my respects and give thanks to the vice presidents of last year, viz: Willa Barton, David Evans Heywood, Jr., Atty. Jarrett S. Jarvis, Dr. Marion Smith, Dr. Oliver R. Smith, Edith S. Bushman; and of course to Uncle Don and Aunt Nell Smith and John and Aunt Myrtle Blocker. They all struggled with me to get the dying old home grandfather built in 1856 restored and partially paid for. They helped us all to awaken to the responsibility that was ours, and work together to unite the family of our revered grandsire and his faithful wives, and to magnify the life's work of their 44 children whom we all love and respect.

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My main purpose this year will be to develop the meaning and benefit to our large family, of the following words: "And when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." (Luke 22: 31-34)

Consequently, I, as president of 6,000 cousins and eight living children, known as the Jesse N. Smith Family Association, call upon each of those children and cousins to unite, cooperate with, and strengthen each other. The noble living children, God bless them, will always be faithful to our purpose and I know they earnestly desire that we promptly proceed with a family unification project, to strengthen each other.

It is hoped that we can get every family officially listed by giving the name and address and occupation of the head of each family wherever it may be. It is my sincere request that you take this opportunity NOW. I love you all and pray God to bless you in your righteous endeavors.

Sincerely your kinsman and cousin,

Don Mack Dalton, 1395 N. 1st East, Pleasant Grove, Utah (son of Daphne Smith Dalton)

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IS IT WORTH IT? WE THINK SO!

There are descendants of Jesse N. Smith who have been closely tied to the Family Association for almost all of their lives. For this significant group, the continuation of the organization and family newspaper, the Kinsman, is very important. There are second, third, fourth and fifth generation descendants who have not felt the close family ties and have not developed any particular allegiance. The present officers are keenly aware that the purposes of the organization must be objectively studied and the means of communication among this vast and diverse family must be oriented to the changes which have and will continue to take place.

Jesse N. Smith, his wives and his children have been distinctive people and had and are having a very real impact upon the societies in which they lived and live. Your officers sincerely believe that values apparent and remote can come to each and all of us by supporting a family organization and a family publication.

We invite you, whether you are a first or a fifth generation descendant, to support our effort by belonging to our family group as a dues paying member and as an idea and news contributor. Such a membership and such a subscription are only \$5.00 per year. Accept our challenge---send your money, your ideas and your news by return mail.

Sincerely,

Harold Smith, 1st Vice President  
(son of Samuel F. Smith)  
26 N. Main St., Heber, Utah 84032

NEW FAMILY PAPER STAFF APPOINTED

At a meeting of the new officers of the J.N.S. Family Assn. on Dec. 16, 1967, Ruth U. Evans, 3rd vice president was appointed to serve as news editor of The Kinsman. She will be assisted by other vice presidents and by M.W. Smith, treasurer. Special appreciation was voted for the faithful and devoted service of John and Myrtle Blocker in publishing the paper during the past years in Mesa.

Inasmuch as the new printer does not have a regular front page heading used previously, this issue features a photograph of Jesse N. Smith at the age of about 40 when he was mission president in Copenhagen. In future issues we plan to include also the photos of his five wives.

WORD FROM THE 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

J. Fish Smith (son of Joseph W.) phones to say he was unable to send a formal message at this time, but will do so in February. He would like family members to send in suggestions on what they would like to read in the Kinsman. Should we continue with life sketches of various family members, or include portions of the Jesse N. Smith Journal? In any case, he urges brevity and terseness! --R.U.E.

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Dear Kinsmen:

It was with a certain degree of surprise when I received a letter from Mother early in December, telling me I was voted in as the 3rd vice president to represent the family of Jesse N. and Janet Johnson Smith. My first reaction was that I just couldn't measure up to the calling with my large family, but after serious thought and prayer, my only conclusion was that it was my responsibility and duty to fulfill this assignment and I know I will be richly blessed for any degree of effort I expend. I feel very humble in being a part of this great family of ours and will do my best to assist in the function and maintenance of our family newspaper as your typist and solicitor of news items. Hal is correct in saying that the means by which our paper can be of greatest service and interest to all, is by keeping us posted of the current events in the Smith clan.

It was with pleasure that I spent several days during the Christmas holidays visiting in Mesa with my family members. I'll long remember seeing my beloved Smith Aunties and reminiscing with them about the years of the past, and the great times we have spent together attending reunions in Snowflake. I am one of those grandchildren who can remember many of the 44 children of Jesse N. Smith, and shall always be grateful for the heritage that is mine. At the same time however, I am quick to recognize that those five wonderful women, along with Grandpa Smith, earned their laurels in this life, and it is up to all of us as their descendants, to magnify their good names, by our worthwhile actions and good deeds while upon the earth. I'm sure all of our loved ones who have passed on, will be pleased if we continue to put forth the effort to keep in contact with each other, and be united as one of the large families in the church. President Wilkinson has stated that Grandfather Smith has the largest progeny on the BYU campus today. With your support and sustaining vote, we will endeavor to serve effectively as your officers for 1968. Sincerely,

Ruth U. Evans, 751 N. 1200 East, Provo, Utah 84601  
(daughter of Leah Smith Udall)

Dear Relatives in the Smith Family:

At the officers meeting in Provo last month, I told President Don Mack and others there that I didn't apply for this position! They all said, "We didn't either!"

I surely like all of my uncles, aunts, and the many cousins of each generation that I know and have met. I'm sure I would like all the ones I haven't met too!

We were reared in the Uintah Basin in Utah. We were interested in Mamma's family in far-away Snowflake. Mamma would tell us about the different families. I remember I'd just about get the Fish, Smiths and the Smith, Fishes straight and then I would forget! Since having grandfather's book, I can look up the relationship and have it straight in my mind! I surely thank the ones who pushed that project.

All the Smith relatives I know are nice people. This no doubt stems from the love and pride the brothers and sisters had for each other, as taught by their parents. There was never a hint of "half-brother or sister". Each child was as welcome in any of the homes as his own, in this big polygamous family.

I'm sure all we kinsmen, 6,000 strong, can respect and be interested in each other through the Kinsman publication.

Virginia B. (Mrs. C. John) Peterson (d. of Rachel)  
8701 Redwood Rd., West Jordan, Utah 84084

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#### WHAT THE JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION CAN DO FOR YOU!

Whether you are a descendant (or relative by marriage) in the first, second, third, or fourth generation of Jesse N. Smith, the Family Association has much of value to enrich your life. Let's get the most from it!

First, through the Kinsman, it provides a means of keeping in touch with other wonderful members of this great family. It's a heart-warming experience to find that certain fine men and women you've been admiring are actually your kinfolk--but you weren't aware of it before. You'll find some of them near you.

Secondly, the Association sponsors annual meetings--at least two per year--probably through which you can extend your circle of acquaintances in the family and keep up your friendships with those you've already known.

Thirdly, the Association brings you the enrichment of more information about your progenitors--Jesse N. Smith, his noble wives, their children, and their ancestors. Think how valuable this aid will be for your Family Hour discussions and projects, and how useful for adding stories and pictures to Books of Remembrance. I've found nothing so effective in teaching good principles of living to my children as the stories of their ancestors. You owe it to your children to pass on this heritage!

As a grandson of Jesse N. and Emma Larson Smith, I appreciate the opportunity to serve as 5th vice president. We hope to have your suggestions on ways in which the Association can be of most service to you.

Oliver R. Smith (son of Hyrum Smith)  
970 N. 12th East, Provo, Utah 84601

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is a sort of awesome responsibility to follow Uncle Don C. Smith as treasurer of the JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY. He and Aunt Nell and Myrtle and John Blocker served so long and so well and so ungrudgingly. So far, the treasurer's task has not been burdensome. Only 40 subscriptions to the Kinsman have come in up to press time. Of these 40, twelve have included an additional \$5.00 to \$15.00 to apply on the Parowan home project. Thank you one and all. Likely the reason most of you are hesitating is because you didn't know where to send your dues for 1968. As you write in, be sure to supply your Zip Code.

It is impossible to send our receipts. Your cancelled check is ideal evidence of payment. The family account is in the FIRST SECURITY BANK, under the name: JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION. Whatever amount you send me, cash or check, will be placed in this fund to your credit.

Our home is a two and one-half story white frame house with a red tile roof. It stands on the corner of 5th North and 4th East. Call on us when you are in town and get acquainted. Urge your BYU students to contact us when they come to Provo. May you all have a health and prosperous and satisfying year in 1968.

Moroni West Smith (son of Jesse N. Smith, Jr.)  
504 N. 4th East, Provo, Utah 84601

SMITH COUSINS AT BYU

We are at a critical juncture in the history of the Jesse N. Smith Family Association now that the responsibility for family continuity has passed substantially from those of the first generation to those of the second and subsequent generations. We find that many of our young people here at BYU are scarcely aware that Jesse N. Smith is one of their great-grandfathers, etc. as the case may be. Are you similarly ignorant concerning their forebears? We hope not! Surely the mission of Elijah in our dispensation must be made meaningful in our individual lives.

For the past 20 years, the Cousins' Club, a branch of the Jesse N. Smith Assn. at BYU, has endeavored to hold semi-annual reunions designed to foster awareness and regard for our common heritage. President Wilkinson, who met with us in April, 1967, has recognized us as one of the most outstanding families on the campus. Yet our reunions have not been attended by many JNS descendants at school, probably because they are not fully aware of the potential of our organization.

Our next reunion is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, April 10; the first full day back on campus after spring vacation. Complete details will appear in the next Kinsman. Meanwhile--parents, we need your help! Please urge your student(s) to plan to attend our reunion. Get to know your fellow JNS family members on campus, both students and faculty, and other relatives in the vicinity. Parents, please contact M. W. Smith, 504 N. 4th East, Provo, Utah 84601, with names, addresses and phone numbers of your BYU students, or ask them to contact us.

We would like to have every last BYU student descendant of Jesse N. Smith at our April 10th reunion. All other members who can make it are also invited. We'll see you there.

H. Smith Broadbent, Pres. of Smith Cousins' Club  
1147 Aspen Ave., Provo, Utah 84601  
(son of Lorana S. Broadbent)

NEWS OF SMITH FAMILY MEMBERS

Agnes Rencher Francy (dau. of Bathsheba S. Rencher), was killed at 7:10 p.m. Dec. 21, 1967 when she was hit by a car as she crossed the street in front of her residence in Sandy, Utah. She was enroute to the post office to mail her Christmas cards when the accident occurred.

The funeral invocation was given by Don L. Smith, son of Don S. Smith, Kamas, Utah, son of great-uncle Silas Sanford Smith. Don L. picked Agnes up each morning as he went to the State Capitol, leaving her at the Genealogical Library and picking her up in the evening. Agnes would put off eating her lunch often until she rode home as she did not take time from her work to eat.

She has worked on genealogy for 40 years. She finished high school in St. Johns, Ariz. and had some university training. She took a course in genealogy nearly every year to stay up to date on the latest knowledge of it. She earned her living doing research for patrons. She did much research for our own family. Recently she was set apart as a genealogy missionary. She has furnished many names and effected many sealings in the temples of the church. She was in charge of names for the Prophet's line. She helped organize a number of Book of Mormon classes in recent years, enlisting BYU professors to teach them.

Besides her genealogy work, church work, house work; she farmed and irrigated. She loved to raise flowers and vegetables. She was faithful, optimistic, cheerful, ambitious, kind and helpful.

Agnes was born January 30, 1907 in St. Johns, Ariz., to William D. and Georganna Bathsheba Smith Rencher. She married Reuben C. Francy, June 3, 1929. He died January 24, 1932 from injuries sustained when a horse rolled on him. Agnes had their temple sealing done two years ago. She has four brothers and one sister. Attending the funeral were Smith Umpstead Rencher, Springfield, Ore.; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rencher, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rencher and Mrs. Ethel Mangum, St. Johns, Ariz.; Mr. and Mrs. George A. Rencher, Eager, Ariz.; and nephews, David Grant Rencher, Provo, Utah, and Mr. & Mrs. Roy B. Rencher, Phoenix, Ariz. Interment was in the Sandy, Utah cemetery.

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William C. Smith, (son of Jesse N. Jr.) of 3002 South 400 West, Bountiful, Utah, went to Rexburg, Idaho during the holidays to see her daughter, Carol and her husband, Karl N. Butler and their six children. While there, William C. suffered a stroke which affected his speech and the right side of his body. At last report, his speech has returned to almost normal and he can walk about. His right arm is still less than good, though he can write a legible hand. He is distressed about being away from his ordinance work at the Salt Lake Temple. Our prayers go out in his behalf.

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GOLDEN WEDDING: December 28, 1917 to 1967---Married 50 years. It seems normal living. Just right. No change. All is well. We have had many enjoyable years together. We feel assured the future will bring the same peace of mind and calmness we have enjoyed in the past. But it seems so much time! That bothers us. What is it? Where has it gone? Does it make any difference? Perhaps we are in eternity but not aware of it. Some one said, "Time goes, you say? Ah, no! Alas, time stays. We go."

Don Mack and Geneve Dalton

Linda Smith Ollivier (dau. Marvin, g. dau. of Hyrum) flies home from New York often to visit her parents and family in Salt Lake City. Her husband, Joseph, has a prominent position with TWA there, and they spent Christmas and New Year's in Utah. Linda was BYU Homecoming Queen in 1963. She also danced with the BYU show, "Curtain Time USA" which played around the world for the U.S. State Department.

Stewart Smith, (son of Marvin, g. son of Hyrum) will be home from his mission to Finland on January 16. Robert, a brother, filled a mission to Germany and is now attending the BYU.

Uncle Hyrum Smith is gradually regaining his health after his illness which kept him home from the Parowan reunion on Aug. 13, 1967, when his father's home was dedicated. You're the patriarch of our family, so keep your spirits high, Uncle Hy!

Mabel Decker, (wife of Alvin) is visiting the older of her two granddaughters, Marilyn Lidtka in Garden Grove, Calif. In two months she will visit her daughter, Wila and family (Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Hamilton) in Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. and Mrs. Marshall Decker and daughter, Kathy Jo will fly to the Hawaiian Islands for a vacation on January 13th.

Two missionaries in the Benson family are Mark Peterson in Korea (son of Virginia Benson Peterson (grandson of Rachel) of West Jordan, Utah, who will be home in May. Denny Lambert (son of Rhea, grandson of Rachel) is in Argentina and has been out in the mission just short of a year.

Kelly Benson, (son of Melvin Benson, grandson of Rachel) is in training with the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Lowry AFB, Colo.

Sue and Noel Swain of Orem, Utah (dau. Sadie Avery, granddaughter Denie Hulet), were saddened December 2nd in the loss of their three-month-old baby boy, Randall Floyd Swain, with spinal meningitis. The attendance at the funeral was a display of how highly respected Sue and Noel are among their many friends and kinsmen. They are the parents of five other fine children.

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#### MARGARET SMITH JENSEN

I was in Salt Lake late one evening last week and called Emily Parker to inquire of Aunt Margaret Jensen's welfare. Emily said she had visited with her earlier that day and she seemed very alert and glad to see her. She ambulates around the rest home in her wheelchair, and is known by the patients as "The Sunshine Lady". She is grateful for her opportunity to attend church services conducted at the Wasatch Villa Convalescent Home each Sunday and Relief Society during the week. She eats well and seems to be in good health. Her face lights up when anyone mentions Uncle Nephi and Paul and her grandchildren, for about all she has to think about now are her sweet memories of the past, in the days we all remember when the Jensen home on 21st South was a haven of rest for any and all wayfaring kinsmen. She truly is a remarkable lady. Whenever in Salt Lake, try to take a few moments and visit her at 22nd East 33rd South.

--Ruth U. Evans

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Please notify us if your address is not correct as listed.