



The Kinsman

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Vol 22, No. 11

November, 1968

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My Dear Multitude of Kinsmen:

"The multitude which does not reduce itself to unity is confusion." Pascal.
"Men's hearts ought not to be set against one another, but set with one another and all against evil." Carlyle.

For the past two years, as the president of the posterity of Jesse N. Smith, I have sincerely striven to unite his numerous descendants; to lessen and abate the awful confusion we all experience because of lack of unity; need for acquaintance-ship and to know who is who. I find many who are entirely not interested. My hope is, that before it is too late, we can become more closely associated in our branches, widen the use of The Kinsman and strive to enlarge our acquaintance with one another.

I love our common sire, Jesse N. Smith because of the careful manner he lived and so well that he kept a record of his daily life. He was unafraid to put in writing all he did. He wrote a book of 510 pages, called his Journal, which I have carefully read and re-read and marked. It is full of inspiration and has done much for me. But the best thing he did was to give me my sweet little mother, Hannah Daphne Smith Dalton. You have similar feelings and reasons I know. If you ever saw him; met and talked with his wonderful wives, you know their desires for marrying him. He was the central figure in their lives and should be in our lives---his children to the last generation. Let us all join hands, close ranks, rejoice, work together, give of our means, our talents, time and energy to keep bright and shining, the ideals of all of their lives.

Jesse's mother wrote to him while he was a little boy: "Strive to live daily in that way you can feel an assurance that you are accepted of your Father in Heaven; that your heart is pure and your walk is just as becomes a saint of the Most High God". Journal, p. 2. John Smith, his uncle and Church Patriarch, blessed him at age 10, as follows: "That thou mayest be a mighty man." Journal, p. 9. Again on October 7, 1851, when Jesse was 16, the same Patriarch blessed him as follows: "Be careful at all times to do right, for the eye of the Lord is upon thee and has been from everlasting; He designs to make of thee a mighty man in Israel. Thou shall have children that shall be mighty in the hosts of Israel; and thou shalt be blessed with every comfort which is desirable, even to see thy children spread upon the mountains like Jacob." Journal, p. 16. We are those children. He then was 16, remember that.

Many great people loved and admired Jesse N. Smith. President Joseph F. Smith wrote thusly: "I congratulate you on the attainment of your 70th Anniversary in possession of good health and reasonable bodily vigor and sound mind, surrounded as you are by numerous loved and loving wives and children and children's children, and I hope

you may live to witness the gathering around you the fourth generation of your posterity--all honoring you and doing honor to themselves and the great cause to which under God they do and will owe their existence." Journal, p. 461. We are those children.

President Heber J. Grant wrote to the family of Jesse N. Smith, August 14, 1906, after his death June 6, 1906: "I cannot feel to mourn when a good and great man has lived a pure, noble and useful life is called home to an eternity of joy. I know of no one's life whom you can better follow after than your dear departed Father. I say to all of Brother Jesse N.'s posterity, live as he has done and you are sure of an eternal reward and also a life of peace and contentment while you remain on earth." Journal, p. 466.

He further wrote, "When I was made an apostle, I was sent out to Arizona. There I met President Jesse N. Smith. I found him deeply grounded in a knowledge of the gospel, well up in the learning of the day, powerful in the control of his people, splendid of judgment in settling troubles, and a man of the cleanest life. I then asked why a kid like I had been made an apostle, when he had been left out." Journal, p. 465.

President Grant told me on September 25th, 1927, in the Mission Home in Chicago, that Jesse N.'s name was before the General Authorities to be sustained an apostle and would have been except for one negative vote; that because of jealousy and that he was a polygamist. He started to name the opposer, but said, "It will do no good to do that."

My Kinsmen! We all should become acquainted. After acquaintance, we will feel a warm glow in our lives, bringing us closer together; we will see each other as kindred and not as strangers. I love every one of you, and those I have met, I know why! God bless you.

Don Mack Dalton.

FLASH! PLEASE TAKE NOTE! NOW HEAR THIS! CIRCLE THIS DATE! HEAR YE!

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY REUNION IN MESA!

The annual Jesse N. Smith Family Reunion will be held this year on Saturday night, November 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mesa 17th Ward Cultural Hall, 1500 East 6th Ave., (turn south off Broadway at Barkley).

Joseph S. Jarvis will serve as Master of Ceremonies. He and his wife, Mildred, will be in charge of the entertainment and a good time is in store for all the family members.

The new slate of officers for 1969 will be presented by Aunt Myrtle Blocker, who is Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Since Grandfather's Birthday (December 2) is on Monday, I'm assuming in the tradition of the past, as many of the kinsmen as possible will assemble at the Temple for a session in memory of our beloved ancestor. This occasion will be special, in that our kinsmen, Jesse M. and Marvel Smith will be there to greet those who can attend, in their official roles as Temple Pres. and Matron.

Several of the present officers from Utah are anticipating attendance at the Family Reunion, and we hope you'll all remember the date and plan to be present.

STORIES AND INCIDENTS CONTRIBUTED BY CHILDREN OF JESSE N. SMITH

By Bathsheba Smith Rencher, Daughter of Aunt Augusta.

There had been a boundary dispute between two counties--Navajo and Apache. Father was presiding over a meeting to decide the issue, as he was Probate Judge. St. George Craigh was strong in County power and desired to see Father unseated. He ordered Father to leave, but was answered: "I did not come here by your bidding and refuse to leave by your order." On leaving for lunch, Father noticed Uncle "H" (A.V. Greer) and John Hunt had arms, and he stayed with them. Craigh came up and said, "This thing is going to be settled in a way so it will not come up again." Father looked sharply at him and replied, "I'll take no part whatsoever in the shedding of blood." As the afternoon wore on, Father was uneasy, but unafraid, as he knew a climax was imminent. Uncle "H" Greer stood ready for any defense if guns proved necessary. The dispute grew, but Father kept to the subject at hand and got the boundary line settled. The meeting was adjourned, and as Father, Aunt Emma, Mother, Sophronia and I were coming from a conference in Holbrook with Silas, who had just returned from his mission, Silas said, "I met a man in Denver who, when he found out I was a Smith said, "I was designated, on the day of the boundary line dispute, to kill Jesse N. Smith. As I stood in the wings of the stage, I aimed, pulled the trigger of the gun, but it did not fire. I tried again and the same thing happened. I got excited, as I knew I was watched and if I didn't kill him, I knew I would be dealt with by my crowd, so I ducked out, mounted my horse and went for the New Mexico line. I have reformed my bad impulses, and want you to take this message to your people. I am glad I didn't kill Jesse N. Smith."

Bashie further relates this story: When Father and Mother and her brothers and sisters and a company of emigrants from Denmark landed in New York, they found lodgings, but needed some medicine. Father went to a small shop, but it was locked, and he stood there a moment, deciding what to do. He knocked and a man reluctantly let him in. Father apologized because of the late hour, but said he needed medicine badly. The druggist looked at him strangely and said, "What kind of a man are you? I've been trying to shoot you ever since you showed up, but my gun wouldn't fire. Last night a man who looks just like you robbed my store." Father later remarked that his patriarchal blessing said, "Thou shalt be magnified in the eyes of thine enemies."

-----WRITTEN BY AUNT SOPHRONIA, Dau. of Aunt Augusta-----

Father was a vigorous worker at anything he put his hand to. As a child in the garden watching him, I would note how he hoed the weeds. It was to do a good job, and get it done. When he came to our house to stay, Natalia and I liked to run and meet him, take his hands and let him know we were happy. He usually came on the path between our place and Aunt Emmy's. He would sit at night with our family by the fire and would always sing a song for us, which was "Gentle Annie". He baptized me which made me proud. We children liked to play bear at night, but we tried not to make too much noise. One time we over-did it I guess, but he didn't say anything, except he gave one of his characteristic sneezes. He made the sound, 'hu-choo' really loud. We stopped our noise for that evening, for we thought he said 'Hush You'! He kept his stamp box and desk at Aunt Emmy's where he did all his business. When Mother needed stamps, she would send me to get some. He'd open the box, as how many and count them out to me. Generally he would ask if I were doing something to help Mother.

During Father's last illness, he was at our home. He needed ice and I was the one to get it from Flake's each day. It was hard for him to breathe and he needed lots of cool air. All the mothers came often to help take care of him and he had many visitors. Joseph W. came and took dictation concerning Father's affairs. Stake Conference was held during the last days of his life and Bro. Teasdale, from Salt Lake gave him a blessing saying he would get well, but he passed away. The Lord knows and does what is right, even though it was disappointing to those who loved him so dearly.

Here is a letter written by Grandfather Smith on Feb. 10, 1862, in Copenhagen, Denmark, to his cousin, Samuel Smith, who along with Joseph F. Smith, was serving on a mission to England.

Dear Cousin Samuel:

Although I have at this time no letter to reply to yet, I do not feel to let so good a chance of writing to you go by without improving it.

Joseph tells me you have taken to reading. I am very glad to hear it, for I believe that by reading you will find both pleasure and profit.

If I may be so bold as to offer a remark on the subject, I will say that it is not what a man reads, but what he remembers and digests that is of service to him.

For my own part, I seldom read unless I feel an interest in the subject, for if I continue to confine my mind after the interest ceases, I regard the book with disgust and the author with something very like contempt.

During the last six weeks I have done considerable reading, not having done much travelling as the weather has been cold and disagreeable. I am thankful for the interval of rest I have thus enjoyed. For the last year, I have grappled, struggled, and tussled with the Danish language, not knowing whether I or the language would prove the conqueror--in fact the contest remains as yet undecided, although I have punished the enemy (so to speak) pretty severely on different occasions and have, I believe, in every round remained master of the field. From sheer obstinacy, I have thus far maintained the conflict and my battle cry or watch word, or whatever you may please to call it is NEVER SURRENDER. So much for metaphor.

During my short respite from active duty, I have overhauled the scanty library owned by Brother Thomassen and have read in English, Irving's "Life of Mohomet", some of Byron's poetical works, examined the various volumes of the Millennial Star and read the Bible a very little. I do not expect that you will admire my reading matter, but you must understand that I do the best I can, not having access to an extensive collection.

Each Sabbath finds me at the Hall where I am almost sure to be called upon to "blaze away" in Danish. The largest Hall, which will accommodate over 400 persons, is always crowded at the p.m. meetings.

The cold weather has thrown many of the Saints out of employment and some little suffering is the consequence. All who can raise the means, will emigrate this year. There will be a "mighty host" who will set their faces Zionward when the Spring opens. I am rejoiced to see them gather, for many of them have a miserable chance for life here.

When you write to the little wife, please remember me kindly to her and also to others of our friends.

Please write to me when convenient. Present my respects to the Elders and Saints who know me and accept my best regard for yourself. I close as usual, praying God to bless you.

Jesse N. Smith

Editor's Note: At 28, Jesse N. was quite a sage! Thanks to Augusta Flake for sending this xerox copy to me, which she had received from Jesse Winter Smith, son of Samuel H.B. Smith. I might add that Grandfather was a splendid penman too. Ruth

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Salt Lake City, Utah, Sept. 14, 1891

Honorable Jesse N. Smith
Snowflake, Arizona

My Dear Cousin Jesse N.:

Of late I have heard more or less of politics. Until recently, I was in favor of the People's Party politics in Utah, and knew neither Democrats nor Republicans. Then, wisdom demanded that our people should unite in one party against a combination of all parties who had resolved themselves into the "common foe" of the Mormon people.

Our political life and freedom in Utah depended upon our union in politics, all issues being of a local character. When, by intrigue, fraud and corruption, the "Libs"---(a combination of all parties against the Mormons), gained the ascendancy, and threatened the destruction of the last vestige of our liberties, it became wise--and therefore necessary for us to divide in politics, on National Party lines.

Therefore now, for the same reason that we have heretofore been united in local politics, we deem it necessary to divide in order to save and protect our civil and political rights.

In Idaho, our people were all staunch Democrats; the Democrats and the Republicans combined to disfranchise them. In Wyoming, our people were both Democrats and Republicans, and they are esteemed as good citizens, and stand on equal grounds with other citizens. In Colorado, a Republican state, our people are largely Republican, and have all enjoyed fully their political liberties. In Utah, we have been considered overwhelmingly Democratic, and hence, voluminous inimical legislation against us by Congress. In Arizona, you are regarded as almost unanimously Democratic, and therefore a menace and a dangerous element to the body-politic. Altho you are enjoying comparative peace now, it will only be a question of time, if you keep united, when you will be a common prey to both parties; and you will find, as our people have found in Idaho, that your only safety will lie in division in politics on national party lines; and if possible, leaning just a little to the winning side, but always true to the principle of right, and the greatest liberty and prosperity to the greatest number.

It seems to me that the commonest good sense, and the plainest wisdom demands of our people that they should not, and must not combine against superior opposing numbers, and political majorities. When they do, they become a disturbing element; a menace and a prey to the common enemy. If we cannot always be found on the winning side, we can at least have a respectable minority there, who will help to even up and allay the fears of opponents. Our lot is cast in the world, and we must cope with it, according to the best wisdom we possess. It is evident to me that the best judgment requires the people of Utah, at least, to agree and unite on a proper division in the politics of the day. We have nothing to look for--nothing to hope for from the Dem's, for the next two years.

The Repubs--are in power, and can help and have helped us. And if we have more Repubs among us, they would help us still more. And that they have not helped us before, was because they believed we were hopelessly Democratic; while the Dems when in power, and knowing we were strongly Democratic, would not help us.

I feel like Joseph the Prophet said, on Aug. 13, 1843. "All our wrongs have arisen under the Democratic power and authority, and I have sworn that this arm shall fall from my shoulder and this tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth before I will vote for them, etc." They never righted any of those wrongs. Therefore, if he were living today, he would not vote for them. I hope you are not a Democrat. Indeed, I hope you are a Republican and that your boys are ditto.

John Henry Smith and J. Morgan are going to visit you soon. They will tell you how I feel. With love to you and yours, I am your affectionate cousin,

(signed) Joseph F. (Smith)

Uncle Hyrum Smith has written these thoughts, concerning the sacrifices our forebears endured, for the sake of the gospel and their posterity. Since Thanksgiving is this month, this writing is particularly significant and appropriate.

We sometimes think that we have big problems and undergo hardships, but they are small when compared with what our pioneer parents and grandparents faced almost daily. They lived without the comforts and conveniences that are considered necessities today. They were often poorly housed and clothed. They had to make their clothing from the raw wool and cotton. Their food supply was uncertain, inadequate, monotonous. Imagine having to live on whole corn, parched or boiled, for weeks at a time. Can you imagine growing boys and girls going for months without their hunger being fully satisfied?

These were common experiences of our pioneers. They had no doctors or dentists. They did not cry and complain. They shouldered their burdens and moved ahead with the determination to accomplish their mission or die in the attempt. The obstacles they had to overcome from day to day called for unflinching courage and an abiding faith in God. Their experiences built into their characters great qualities that are too often lacking among the people of today.

The pioneers were honest and upright. They practised the "Golden Rule"; they visited the sick; they cared for the widow and the orphan and gave succor to the needy. They shared each others joys and sorrows. They had charity for all and malice toward none. They did not seek power or self-aggrandizement. The great purpose of their lives was to build up the Church and Kingdom of God here on the earth. They were obedient to every call of their presiding officers in the Church--no matter how great the sacrifice involved.

The above is an incomplete picture of the background from which Jesse N. Smith and his good wives came. We love and honor them for their marvelous achievements. We should be eternally grateful for the heritage they have bequeathed to their posterity.

I believe the best way for us to repay them is for us all to live true to their teachings and to follow their footsteps in the straight and narrow way that leads to eternal life and exaltation.

This is Thanksgiving month. We are indebted to our Heavenly Father for life and being; for a choice heritage; for citizenship in this great land of liberty and opportunity; for freedom of worship; freedom of speech; freedom from want; for membership, fellowship and brotherhood in the Church; for our homes and families and the association of friends and loved ones. Let us remember to thank our gracious Father in Heaven for his abundant mercies and show genuine appreciation by serving him loyally and faithfully to the end.

(signed) Hyrum Smith

RUTH'S REPORT ON RECENT RAMIFICATION OF SMITH RANKS

The officers met recently at the residence of President Don Mack Dalton in Pleasant Grove, Utah. Much business and discussion went forth, which will be printed in the December issue. Don Mack was pleased to report that he had written those family members listed in last month's Kinsman and asked them to proceed with the organization of Jesse N. Smith Family Association Branches throughout the West. He had had a partial response and felt sure those who hadn't answered his letter, would respond soon to his request. Some of us oldsters could almost be classified as alumni groups, having graduated "away" from the place of our origin. Don Mack has put much effort into initiating this program of "togetherness" among the relationship in geographic areas. This instilling influence of joining ranks with our kin is something to be appreciated and coveted. So many people have commented how fortunate we are in having a large relationship and that we show interest in one another. So with continued alliteration of the r's, let's rally round our relations, and have rollicking reunions!

The family wishes to extend a Happy Birthday to Aunt Lorana Broadbent, whose birthday is November 29. She will celebrate her 80th Anniversary. She is one of eight living children of Jesse N. Smith, her Mother being Aunt Emma. Her five children and families will gather in Snowflake over the Thanksgiving week-end to help her celebrate. May you have many more happy birthdays, Aunt Lorana.

Oliver R. Smith, (son of Uncle Hyrum) is presently attending the Annual Convention of the Public Relations Society of America in Chicago, Nov. 18 to 20th. Oliver is among selected university teachers of public relations courses invited to participate. He is also a former recipient of a fellowship from the Foundation for Public Relations Research and Education, an agency sponsored by PRSA.

Olivia Lea Smith (dau. of Oliver), was married November 15th, in the Salt Lake Temple, to Charles Baird. Their reception was held that evening in the 13th Ward Cultural Hall. Many kinsmen were there to extend love and good wishes to the newlyweds.

Thanks, Virginia Peterson, for your good letter which arrived a few days after the Kinsman went to press. You are the only person who has made comment on the election year, and your feelings on issues and candidates. Although your candidate, George Wallace didn't win, he gave Nixon and Humphrey a neck and neck race, with the Republicans ultimately squeaking through by a 300,000 popular vote win, and 302 electoral votes. Your comment, "We've been fed little bites of socialism, or communism, for so many years that before long, we'll be dependent. If we follow the status quo, we will be taken over by suave atheists in a "World Order". The communists are also willing to have violent revolution take over, as in Cuba. Let's hope there are a MAJORITY of patriotic citizens in the U.S. who want true liberty in our nation". Some good thoughts, Virginia, and if more people would stand up and be counted, in loyalty to our country--we would SEE more patriotism.

A letter came yesterday from Emily Smith Parker (dau. Aunt Priscilla), telling of Aunt Margaret's general health. She is just about the same as usual. Emily stated how happy she is that the Wasatch Villa holds L.D.S. Services and Aunt Margaret enjoys this influence in her life. The people who bring the Church activities into the home are cheerful and thoughtful and such a joy to our dear aged Aunt. We as a family are grateful that she is cared for so well and seems contented in her lot. Each time I visit her, she gives me added strength to want to live worthily of all of the blessings rendered me, through my association with such a great woman.

Thanks, Lenora and Q. M. Hansen for your contribution. We appreciate your support.

It is with pride that we report reading of the appointment of our Kinsman, Mayola Rogers Miltenberger, to the General Board of the Relief Society. The listing of Mayola's many accomplishments in the Church News, is indicative that she will serve well. We in Utah will look forward to having Mayola join our family organization, and wish her well in her new and important calling.

Our kinsmen continue to get top billing in their professional fields of endeavor. Dr. Daniel L. Decker, Professor of Physics, was honored this past month in receiving the Karl G. Maeser Research and Creative Arts Award. The award of \$3,000. pays for research and expenses in the areas given. Two other professors received awards in History and English, along with Dan. Out of nine men honored recently at the Homecoming-Founder's Day Convocation, two were Jesse N. Smith's descendants. Smith Broadbent was recognized in the October issue.

M. W. reports that Mildred and Joseph S. Jarvis have sent in all their family group sheets--up-to-date, and complete. He is extremely appreciative of this effort, because he is anxious to get the group sheets from everyone in the relationship and keep them current. Also thanks, Mildred, for your nice letter concerning my recent illness. Although slow, it is gratifying to report that each day my health is being restored. Kenneth Jarvis has returned to his office and is proceeding with the writing of his thesis and ultimately getting his Doctorate in Business Administration. His will and determination is most commendable in "picking up the pieces" after the tragic accident that befell his family early this year.

Belatedly, we want to acknowledge the illness and hospitalization of Aunt Ernestine Hurst (wife of Uncle Elias). It is my understanding that she underwent gall bladder surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery. She wrote me a cheerful letter during my hospital stint, and it was appreciated greatly.

THE KINSMAN - NOVEMBER
published monthly by
JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSN.
504 N. 4th East
Provo, Utah - 84601

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Provo, Utah
Permit No. 11.

Verdell F. Palmer
206 North Allen
Farmington, New Mex 87401