

# The Kinsman

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION



Jesse N. Smith

Vol. 24 No. 4

April 1970

## MEMORIES OF PIONEER LIFE IN PAROWAN, UTAH

By Silas D. Smith

Editor's Note: The following account is taken from the opening section of "Early Life Memories of a Mormon Pioneer, Silas Derryfield Smith," compiled by his families in 1968. We plan to offer further excerpts in later issues.

My father, Jesse Nathaniel Smith, was born in Stockholm, St. Lawrence County, New York, 2 Dec. 1834. My mother, Emma Seraphine West, was born 3 Jan. 1836 in Benton County, Tenn. They both came to Utah with their parents in the pioneering days and settled in Parowan. There they were married on 13 May 1852 and it was there that I was born on 9 Sep. 1867, the seventh child and second son of my mother. I was named Silas for my uncle and grandfather, both named Silas; and Derryfield in memory of my grandfather's birthplace which was Derryfield, Rockingham County, N.H., now called Manchester.

I can remember helping to burn the sagebrush as the land was being cleared ready for cultivation, and oh, how tired I could get. At harvest time as father and others cradled the grain I worked helping to rake it in piles. We boys had lots of fun riding the young, unbroken steers. As they were yoked to a plow, they could not buck. Often six or more yoke of oxen were required to pull the big plows in breaking up new ground. At potato-digging time all the family would go out to help. Those potatoes baked in the coals from the brush fires were so good with the noodle soup Grandmother West made to go with them.

We had excursions up the canyons on holidays. It took two days to get a load of quaking aspen wood from the mountains. Around the campfire at night we seemed to hear the roar of mountain lions as the boys told stories of Indians and wild animals.

The wild rabbits were pests and devoured our growing crops, so frequently a rabbit drive was made. The whole town turned out to help exterminate them. A long line of people armed with sticks and clubs went forward, beating the brush as they slowly drove the rabbits before them into a salt lake a few miles from the town of Parowan. The Indians helped in these drives, gathering the rabbits for food and the furs. We boys would catch some of the baby rabbits and carry them home in our pockets, where, of course, they had smothered to death. An old Indian Chief wore a rabbit-skin coat covering him to the heels. Now, when I think of it, I can smell the old thing and the sagebrush smoke and all the filth around the Indian camps. I never had any pleasure mingling about their camps as some of my pals seemed to delight in associating with the Indian children.

President William H. Dame (of the Parowan Stake) had a fine span of mules that took four strong men to hold them from running should they see or smell an Indian.

(continued on page 2)

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & ASSISTANTS, 1970

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MEMORIES OF PIONEER LIFE IN PAROWAN (continued from page 1)

In the swampy grass meadows my father and other men went bare-foot with scythes to mow the grass while the boys raked it to higher ground to dry. This wild hay was stacked and provided food for our stock in the winter time. Efforts to catch the meadowlarks that were abundant in the grassland (by salting their tails, as the men suggested) gave us boys much exercise and provided laughs for the men.

In Parowan there were two one-room school houses, one on the east side and one on the west. I began my schooling in the west building, and when I could read one- and two-syllable words and do simple arithmetic, I was promoted to the east school. Edward Dally was the teacher. He came from Summit (in Iron County) and had attended the Brigham Young Academy at Provo.

Mother said: "How do you like your new teacher, and what does he tell you and them kids?"

"Ma," I said, "he said we must not say 'them' but 'those.'"

That one winter was about the extent of my schooling in Parowan.

We children helped to gather wild berries. In the canyons could be found choke cherries, service berries, and red bullberries. The echo of the bugle as it was played in the rugged canyons I can almost hear to this day, and nothing tasted as good as the clear sparkling spring water we drank as we picnicked or worked in the canyons.

I was quite a good-sized boy before seeing a man smoke either a pipe or cigarette; seems I never saw a drunken man. The Indians smoked, but for a white man to smoke made him, to me, lower than the ignorant Indians.

(To be continued in the May issue of The Kinsman)

CORRECTION: The caption over the first article on page 4 of the March Kinsman erroneously referred to "Silas L. Smith." It should have read "Silas L. Fish."

FUNERAL HELD FOR EMMA S. PAYNE, GRANDDAUGHTER OF JESSE N. SMITH

Services were held March 24 in the LDS chapel at Virden, N.M. for Emma Smith Payne, who died March 20 in Chandler, Ariz. after a short illness. She was born 31 Jan. 1892 in Colonia Pacheco, Chihuahua, Mexico, a daughter of Jesse N. Smith Jr. and Mary Ann Mitchell, and grew up under the hardships of life in the pioneering period there.

She moved with her family to Snowflake, Ariz. in 1912 at the time of the exodus of Mormon colonists from northern Mexico, and afterward to Parowan, Utah. Her sweetheart, Archibald "D" Payne, followed shortly, and they were married in the St. George Temple, 14 Oct. 1914. Their first home was in Canutillo, Tex., and there the first child was born to them. They moved later to Carlisle, then to Duncan, Ariz., and finally to Virden, N.M. where they made their home for about 45 years. They were parents of six sons and four daughters.

Emma served willingly in many capacities in the organizations of the Church. She sang with the Singing Mothers and for many years was their director. For a time she served with the missionaries and went every Sunday morning 20 miles over rough mountain road to hold Sunday School at a mining camp. She was president of the Primary Assn. for Spanish-American children and also worked in the Primary and Relief Society for the Indians in that area.

She loved music, and played frequently for programs in which she accompanied her husband on his harmonica or a neighbor on the mandolin. She taught piano and guitar to many young people, including her children and many of the grandchildren. She had a special talent for teaching smaller children, and last summer, at the age of 77, joyfully accepted another call to teach in Junior Sunday School.

Emma made all newcomers to the community feel welcome with a friendly visit and a gift of hot bread or other food. She was willing to go at any time to help those in need. She nursed many neighbors back to health, and assisted at the birth of nearly all of her grandchildren and some great grandchildren. She gave tender care to her brother Jesse who lived at her home for many years, to her mother during the last years of her life, and to her husband's mother during her last illness. Her husband died 6 June 1965.

Emma is survived by three brothers: M.W., Provo; S. Cooper, Porterville, Calif.; Mar Watson, Chandler; Winifred White, Benson; A. Devere, Lordsburg, N.M.; Archie, Animas, N.M.; Nevin B., Mesa; Guy C. Farmington, N.M.; George W., Chandler; and Myrl Jensen, Fort Grant. There are 37 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren. Pallbearers were her grandsons. Burial was in the Virden Cemetery, where the grave was dedicated by M.W. Smith.

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PROVO AND BYU BRANCHES HOLD GATHERING

More than fifty members of the Jesse N. Smith family attended the semi-annual gathering of the Provo and BYU groups held April 6 at the Alumni House on the Brigham Young University campus. The program was conducted by Clarence E. Bushman (Garland F., Anna), who has served as the BYU group chairman for the past two years. He led the audience in a new song of his own composition, assisted by Shirley Smith (Robert J., Samuel F.) on the piano.

Brief reports were given by Harold H. Smith, president, and M.W. Smith, treasurer, of the J.N.S. Family Assn. A costumed sketch on the life of Janet Mauretta Johnson Smith, third wife of Jesse N. Smith, was given by Ruth Udall Evans (d. Leah). Hyrum Smith, eldest living son of J.N.S., was present from Salt Lake City. As new co-chairman for the coming year the students elected King Udall and Mike and Elaine Carter. (See Addresses on p. 2.) Lori Smith played a piano solo.

### CHAIR OF ECONOMICS ENDOWED BY J. FISH AND LILLIAN SMITH

Establishment of an endowed chair of economics at Brigham Young University through a gift of \$500,000 by J. Fish and Lillian F. Smith of Salt Lake City was announced last month by BYU President Ernest L. Wilkinson. Income from the gift will provide, in perpetuity, the salary of a distinguished professor of economics at the university. In accordance with the donors' desires, the chair's occupant will expand and extend man's understanding and knowledge of free-enterprise economics with emphasis on individual freedom and responsibility. It is the first endowed chair at the university.

Commenting on the gift, President Wilkinson said: "On behalf of the board of trustees, the faculty and students, I express warmest appreciation to the Smiths for their generous gift. There is no cause more noble than that of endowing a chair of learning in a distinguished university."

J. Fish Smith was born 17 May 1891 in Snowflake, Ariz., the second child of Joseph W. and Della Fish Smith. After studying at BYU and Utah State Agricultural College and serving in World War I, he taught school in Arizona where he met and married Lillian Fountain. In 1928-30 he taught economics at Texas A&M College, where he also received the M.S. degree. In 1934 he founded Cool Maid Candy Co. in Salt Lake City, which later became Sunline, Inc., now a family-owned company with manufacturing facilities in St. Louis. His son, Menlo F., is president of the firm.

Earlier the Family Assn. was saddened to learn of the recurrence of a heart ailment which caused the hospitalization of J. Fish. At their meeting on March 30 the officers directed President Harold H. Smith to extend best wishes for his recovery and to commend him and Lillian on their notable gift.

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### NEWS OF FAMILY MEMBERS AROUND THE COUNTRY

PLEASANT GROVE, Utah--Dale Anderson, 17 (Robert, Bessie S., Priscilla) was one of 12 Explorer Scouts in the nation to receive the National Exploration Award at a ceremony in New York this month. The honors, presented at a dinner of the Explorers' Club, was for the youths' accomplishments in the field of science, and included scholarships to participate in future scientific projects or expeditions. Dale earned the award for computer programming systems he developed in aerospace engineering, and plans to continue his study in this field next fall at Brigham Young University.

SOLDATNA, Alaska--"I am Primary president in the ward here and am thoroughly enjoying the work. Thank you for the copies of the Kinsman you have sent. We do enjoy them!"--Deanna Rencher

PORTLAND, Ore.--"We cousins do have a way of turning up in the most unlikely places. We were pleased to find out last year that the Al Barton family, who are here to attend dental school, are cousins through Silas D., his daughter Seraphine Frost, and granddaughter Willa Barton. Now I'm so happy to say we have found the wife of our dear Bishop Linton in Portland 12th Ward to be a cousin also through John Walter, Wickliffe, and Myreel Smith Lewis. If you would please let it be known to all our kinsmen if anyone comes through Portland the welcome mat is always out at our home. We love the feeling of being part of this grand and very special Smith posterity. May the Lord continue to bless you in your efforts."

--Nancybeth and Richard Hammond, 2718 S.E. Market 97214.

DENVER--"I do enjoy the Kinsman and would not want to be without it. The article about M.W. Smith in the January issue was good. There are so many things we don't know about each other which would be interesting and worthwhile to know. I think articles of this type are my favorites in the Kinsman."

--Kenneth L. Monson, 25 Wadsworth Blvd., 80226.

THANKS FOR YOUR LETTERS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND BOOK ORDERS!

Your Association officers wish to acknowledge the encouragement and support received from family members everywhere. Here is a partial list of those whose letters and membership renewals have come in recent months:

Edith S. Bushman, Mesa; Elwin E. Bushman, Joseph City; Robert W. Bushman; Susie & Warren Carter; Ida & Howard Church; Irene Decker, Garrison, N.D.; Maria & S. George Ellsworth, Logan; Madalyn Frost Faler, Riverton, Wyo.; LaMarr & Lucinda Farr, Holbrook; Joseph Flake & family; Seraphine S. Frost & family, Mesa; Jeannete F. Gillespie, Lakeside, Az.; Sadie & Harry Greaves, Salt Lake City; Ellen S. Haycock; Alice S. Hansen, Joseph City; Lenora Hansen, Snowflake; J.F. & Guida Herrick, Salt Lake City; Mrs. Glen B. Heward; Alice S. and Rey Kartchner, Mesa; Alene S. & Karl B. Kenney, Aurora, Colo.; Mayola R. Miltenberger; Larry & Orkell Mortimer, Salt Lake City; Archie W. & June Payne, Las Cruces, N.M.; George A. Rencher, Springerville; Alice Shelley Rhoton, Phoenix; Daniel K. Rogers, Cottonwood; Margaret S. Sevey & family, Mesa; Annabelle Shumway, Winslow; Ardeth C. Shumway, Blythe, Calif.; Esther Shumway, Mesa; L. Wickliffe Smith, Mesa; Albert Aikens Smith, Kennewick, Wn.; June Foy Stage, Hollywood; Leah S. Udall, Mesa; Paul J. Updike & family, Phoenix; Luella B. Webb, Snowflake; Lone P. Whipple, Showlow.

J.N.S. GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER PASSES

Ann Paula Whiting Fortheringham, 43, of Pleasant Grove, Utah died Dec. 2 following an extended illness. She was born 6 Nov. 1926 in St. Johns, Ariz., to Francis M. and Susie Jarvis Whiting (d. Susan Smith Jarvis). She married DeLose Fotheringham 23 Dec. 1947. She had attended school in St. Johns and graduated as high school valedictorian. After her marriage she lived in Provo and Pleasant Grove. She is survived by her husband; one son, Alan Jay, serving a mission in Minnesota; one daughter, Mrs. Manuel (DeAnn) Tafoya, Provo; one grandchild; her parents, Flagstaff, Ariz.; and one brother and nine sisters.

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSN. ENROLLMENT FORM

(Please disregard if you have already enrolled for 1970)

M.W. Smith, Treasurer: Enclosed is \$5 for which please enroll the following in the J.N.S. Family Assn. and send the Kinsman each month during 1970.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name of parent \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ J.N.S. son/dau. from whom descended:  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

NEWLY-WEDS' ENROLLMENT FORM (Please attach Family Record Sheet)

M.W. Smith: Please enter a 1970 gift membership in the JNS Family Assn. for:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Grandparent \_\_\_\_\_  
Where married \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE YOUNG KINSMEN!

The Jesse N. Smith Family Assn. is happy to present complimentary memberships for the year 1970 to the following young couple. We invite each of you to send us a Family Record Sheet on yourselves, and keep us informed of your address. We will send you issues of The Kinsman each month.--M.W. Smith, 504 N. 4th E., Provo 84601

3 Apr. 70 Evelyn Ashcroft (LaMell, Natalia) and William A. Luce; 798  
South M., Kaysville, Utah 84037

WITH OUR MISSIONARIES AND SERVICEMEN

Lisle Updike (Paul, Janet Jarvis, Susan) is a 1st Lt. in the U.S. Army in Korea, and serves on the LDS District Council. His "intended" is filling a mission in Japan.

Galen Mitchell Updike, a brother, has returned from a mission to the Philippines where he was in the first group to serve in that mission. He is a junior student at Brigham Young University.

Suzanne Smith (Justin M., John Walter) is enjoying missionary service in the "Temple District" near Washington, D.C.

Charles Whitaker (Louis S., Hyrum) is receiving specialized training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Tex., prior to service in the Air National Guard unit at Salt Lake City. He will reenter BYU to complete his studies.

Jan M. Graf (Beulah S., Walter, John Walter) is with the Air Force in Korea. His wife, Gretchen, and child live in Provo (740 N. 12th E.)

Kelly Benson is due to come home from Vietnam in May.

THE KINSMAN (April 1970)

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