

The Kinsman

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION



Jesse N. Smith

Volume 24 No. 6

June 1970

THE TWAIN MET

(Some notes from the History of Matthewsville, Graham Co., Arizona)

... "The next day after getting back they went to Snowflake and reported their explorations to Pres. J. N. Smith. They asked him if he had any objections to them going to the Gila (River) to settle and make a home. He said there was not, and arrangements were made for him to come to the camp of Cooley's the following Sunday and organize these people into a branch."

March 16, 1879, Cluff Camp, Showlow Creek, Arizona Territory--Meeting called to order by Bishop Oscar Mann. Jesse N. Smith then arose and said he felt well in meeting with the saints in this place--said he had come especially to fill a promise he had made to Brothers Owens and Joseph K. Rogers--that as soon as the party came back that was exploring the Gila Valley country, if any of the brethren and sisters wished to move over there he would organize them so they might go over under the direction of the priesthood. He counseled us in going to keep the Sabbath Day as much as possible as circumstances would allow, and tend to our prayers, advising us to comply strictly with the law in making our claims and be honest in our dealings with the outside brethren; not to make any promises we weren't sure we could fulfill, and if they started any enterprises for the public good, let them know they could depend on us to cooperate. He advised us not to settle too far apart and hoped we would make a good impression on all those around us.

Pres. Smith asked those present to nominate one of the brethren for a presiding elder and they would ordain and set him apart for that purpose. Joseph K. Rogers was unanimously sustained as their leader. Pres. Smith required Bro. Rogers to keep a record of the names of the brethren and sisters in this group, and to attend to the baptisms of all the children as soon as they were eight years of age, and to keep accurate records. He advised them to organize a Sunday School and day school as soon as possible after reaching their destination; if any outside brethren wished to send their children to these schools to make them welcome. He counseled them to administer the sacrament on the Sabbath Day and to observe Thursday, the first one in the month, for Fast Day; to pay their offerings and tithing. A good spirit prevailed at this meeting.

After 15 days this group of 28 souls under the direction of Brother Rogers arrived at the place they started for on the Gila River. Pres. Rogers might have said, "This is the place," for surely they were guided by the Lord. They were but a small group of righteous people obeying the wishes of Brigham Young [John Taylor], their church president, and stake president, Jesse N. Smith. Why shouldn't this be the place?

The brethren held a meeting and decided to lay out a townsite of 16 city blocks with four lots to a block. Pres. Rogers proposed to call the new city "Taylor." After some consultation, it was suggested that it be called "Smithville" in honor

(continued on page 2)

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & ASSISTANTS, 1970

President--Harold H. Smith (s. Samuel F.), 26 N. Main St., Heber, Utah 84032
 1st Vice Pres. (Emma W.)--N.A. Smith, 2951 Loran Hts. Dr., Salt Lake City, Ut. 84109
 2nd Vice Pres. (Margaret W.)--J. Fish Smith, 615 Aloha Rd., Salt Lake City, Ut. 84103
 3rd Vice Pres. (Janet J.)--Jesse R. Bushman, 2075 N. Oak Lane, Provo, Utah 84601
 4th Vice Pres. (Augusta O.)--Robert C. Rogers, 533 E. 550 So., Orem, Utah 84057
 5th Vice Pres. (Emma L.)--H. Smith Broadbent, 1147 Aspen Ave., Provo, Utah 84601
 Historian--Augusta Flake (d. Martha), Box 277, Snowflake, Arizona 85937
 Executive Secretary--Robert J. Smith (s. Samuel F.), 2465 N. 820 E., Provo, Ut. 84601
 Treasurer--M.W. Smith (S. Jesse N. Jr.), 504 N. 4th E., Provo, Utah 84601
 Kinsman Editor--Oliver R. Smith (s. Hyrum), 970 N. 12th E. Provo, Utah 84601

CHAIRMEN OF REGIONAL BRANCHES

PHOENIX: Rey B. Kartchner, 654 W. 6th Dr., Mesa, Az. 85201
 SNOWFLAKE: Jesse M. Broadbent, Box 190, Snowflake, Az. 85937
 ST. JOHNS: Pearl Jarvis Farr, St. Johns, Az. 85936
 LOS ANGELES: George E. Dalton, P. O. Box 86, Palos Verdes Estates, Ca 90274
 SAN DIEGO: Virginia Bushman Acheson, 3440 Florida St., San Diego, Ca. 92104
 SAN FRANCISCO BAY: Norman D. Smith, 38435 Acacia, Fremont, Ca. 95436
 SALT LAKE CITY: Ellen Smith Lyon Haycock, 3389 S. 2779 E., Salt Lake City 84109
 PROVO: Robert C. Rogers, 533 E. 550 S., Orem, Utah 84057
 BYU: King Udall (E. Earl, Leah) S-619 Deseret Towers, Provo 84601
 Michael D. & Elaine Church Carter (Ida, Asahel) 5C-306 Wymt Terr, Provo, Utah

THE TWAIN MET (continued from preceding page)

of Pres. Jesse N. Smith. It was put to a motion and all agreed. These eight men were as follows: Joseph K. Rogers, W. R. Teeple, H. D. Dall, H. Weech, J. E. Haws, A. Thompson, John Sessions, and John Pierce. These represent the men who came in the first colony to Pima, Arizona.

These pioneers and home-seekers were some of the best blood of the Mormon Church. They were favorably impressed and soon more families heard of this place and many came to join hands with these pioneers. Smithville began to grow, but it soon became apparent that the postal authorities refused the name of Smithville and changed its name to Pima.

In 1880 Brother Rogers was ordained a Bishop at a conference at Snowflake. The influx of settlers was so great that farm land under the Smithville canal had to be divided. People still had to move. The Smithville canal was the first ditch dug in this community and it still bears its original name today.

Until 1883 Pima was the only ward in the valley. The branches still looked to her for leadership and more saints moving to Gila and San Pedro valleys made it necessary to organize a stake in Southern Arizona. Effective organization of the St. Joseph Stake was completed at a conference held in Pima in 1883. The first house finished in Pima was for Joseph K. Rogers.

Now, to shorten a long story we record the following: Robert David Payne, son of Mary Rogers and Howell Sherman Payne Sr. and grandson of Joseph Knight Rogers and Louisa Christina Roseberry Rogers, was married on 19 December 1969 to Lu Ann Smith, daughter of D. Alden and Wilma K. Smith and granddaughter of Don C. and Nellie H. Smith and great granddaughter of Jesse N. Smith and Emma Larson.

--Contributed by Myrtle Smith blocker, Mesa, Ariz.

MIGRATION OF THE JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY TO ARIZONA (continued from May issue)

(The following is excerpted from "Early Life Memories of a Mormon Pioneer," by Silas Derryfield Smith. The author was 12 years old at the time of this journey, which began at Parowan on April 6, 1880.)

To climb Hurricane hill the water barrels were emptied to lighten the load, which was almost disastrous as we expected to refill the barrels at Short Creek but there was no water there. By digging in the sand a little water could seep in which gave a drink for the people, but not for the stock. At Pipe Springs we found water, but no grass for the stock.

When Pa said we were in Arizona, we kids rejoiced, thinking our journey was near its end. Really we were just beginning. Passing Kanab and over the Buckskin Mountains was very slow. At House Rock Spring we filled our barrels, and now there were miles of drifting sand. The wind covered the wagon tracks of those in the lead, and blew sand in our food. Father said we could all add the pint of sand every one should have.

One time all but four of the horses got away and back-tracked. We walked miles before overtaking them. Mother became so worried and tired at this delay that she fell in a faint or bad spell. She seemed lifeless as Father carried her to the wagon and laid her on the bed and there administered to her. Ida Hunt gathered all the children in her wagon and we sang a song and prayed to our Heavenly Father for her recovery. Ida reassured us that Mother would be all right, which did come true.

This delay made it necessary to drive at night to reach the next watering place. Our food was getting low so Mother took some whole wheat from the horses' rations and cooked it for the family to eat. It worked as a physic and that was a busy night--camp members moving in all directions!

In this country with deep washes and canyons all leading to the Colorado River one can easily be misled. A story is told that Bill Merrill observed a track going down a canyon so he followed it, and there he found Paul Smith (no kin of ours) and his wife Jemima. They had come to a jump-off place and could not go on or turn back. Bill hitched the oxen to the back of the wagon and pulled them out.

When we arrived at the ferry (Lee's Ferry) Brother Johnson, the ferryman, used every means to get us safely across (the Colorado River). Ma observed that the alfalfa was a few inches high so she sent me to ask Sister Johnson if we might pick some for greens. She said we could have all we wanted and that was the best feed of greens a boy ever ate.

It was my job to gather the horses that were grazing along the river, and mounting old Bill, I started out. The horses all headed for the boat landing and the leaders proceeded into the river. I undertook to head them back. Father came running, shouting to me to come back. I was now in the water over the horse's tail, and when I turned back, the lead horses also turned. Ten more feet and chances are we might all have drowned, Pa said. Then I began trembling, I was so scared.

Now came the crossing over Lee's Backbone. All the teams were hitched to one wagon and each taken over one at a time. At one point everyone walked and it looked like the foaming river below would get us if we made the slightest mis-step. Without accident we passed over safely. The next watering place, Navajo Springs, had water which was not fit to put in our barrels. A big herd of cattle being driven to Arizona had just watered there and trampled and muddied the water. We had to carry water for nearly a mile to fill our barrels. I thought my father a most

(continued on page 4)

MIGRATION OF THE JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY TO ARIZONA (continued from page 3)

extraordinary man as he would fill a 10-gal. keg and carry it on his shoulder all that distance. Others of us had small pails or 2-gal. kegs. It took a long time to fill the barrels.

Because of the dry weather and those droves of cattle ahead of us, we were fearful of not finding any water at the next place. As the water became low there was only enough for the family use, and Jesse N. Jr. (aged 19) said to me, "Don't you mention that the water is getting low, or every one of the kids will be choked and cry for a drink!" Pa had walked for miles in this region looking for water. Fortunately some travelers he met told him of having found a deep tank of water where cattle could not get. With a bucket and rope plenty of water could be obtained. This brightened our spirits and relieved our anxiety.

When driving into camp I had forgotten having the big armchair fastened on to the water barrel, and passing too close to a tree, the precious chair was crushed. We gathered the pieces of this old heirloom and sadly cached them among some rocks, thinking that sometime we might come this way again and pick them up. (In the fall when Jesse and I passed there again, the pieces were gone.)

From Willow Springs Father rode a horse over to Moencopi and Tuba City to visit these little settlements of struggling saints and to get some food supplies. At the crossing of the Little Colorado near the San Francisco Wash, Lot Smith (no relative) met us. Two days before this we had received the mule team, George and Meg, which Joseph W. had sent from Snowflake. They were sorely needed as our poor horses were nearly exhausted; one had been crippled and later died. Brother Smith, having heard of our coming, had brought us bread, butter, and cheese. We did gratefully enjoy this food as our rations were mighty low. Pa and Ma were taken in Lot's fine rig on to Sunset (near Winslow) for a visit and consultation, where they stayed until our caravan arrived. Walter drove Pa's team on to Sunset where we rested for a day, and we had so much good food I thought "If Pa would just stay here, what a happy ending to our long journey!" and I was sure that Arizona was not all bad lands and muddy water.

At St. Joseph we camped overnight and the good people there sent us food. Homer F. Bushman brought it to us. He was just a year younger than I, and that was the beginning of a lifelong friendship. The people in these little settlements were so united and working together.

It was now May and the wind was still blowing. We were at Woodruff, only 20 miles from Snowflake. We saw something new around every turn. A band of antelope ran along the ridge--the first I had ever seen. At last we were in sight of Snowflake. This was May 22, 1880. Lewis Harris and Ida Hunt had arrived a day ahead of us, so the townspeople and Aunt Janet's family--who had come to Snowflake the year before--were out to greet Pres. Jesse N. Smith and the remainder of his family as they came into town.

I had lost my hat on the way; I had been sunburned and my nose and face were peeling. My hair was thin and white. I was small, bashful, and awkward as any boy of 12 or 13 could be. The first thing my sister Susie told me was of the girl friend she played with who lived across the street. She was a little Swedish girl named Ellen Larson, and was just the girl for me, Susie thought! Aunt Janet was living in a log cabin father had built the year before. He had also selected lots for all his families so tents were set up on these locations for Aunt Augusta's and Mother's families. Covered wagon boxes made good bedrooms.

(Additional excerpts on life in Snowflake will be given later.--Ed.)

SNOWFLAKE ACADEMY REUNION HELD--A luncheon, program, and reminiscing together marked the reunion of Snowflake Stake Academy alumni which was held May 31 in the Taylor Ward cultural hall. The "foundation class" was represented by Silas L. Fish (s. Adelaide), who was a member of the faculty two years and then principal, 1919-24, until the time the academy was succeeded by Snowflake Union High School. He continued as principal of that school until 1946.

Margaret Smith Larson (Joseph W.) spoke as a representative of the first graduating class--1902. Other JNS family members present were: Lorana Smith Broadbent, Ethel Smith Randall, Seraphine Smith Frost, Natalia Smith Farr, Edwin Z. Decker and wife Sarah, Lorenzo B. Decker and wife Anna, Alice Smith Hansen and husband Delbert, Augusta Flake, S. Eugene Flake, Ernestine Hansen Smith Hurst, Paul M. Rogers and wife Vera, May Belle Larson Foulk and husband R. E., Martin D. Bushman and wife Phoebe, Myrtle Smith Blocker and husband John, Fern Hansen Smith (Lawrence), Eunice Decker Heward and husband Vernon.--Augusta Flake, Box 277

SMITH COUSINS TO MEET IN SAN DIEGO--A beach party and potluck supper will be held on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, July 11, for all JNS family members in the San Diego area. For details, those in the area (if not contacted already) should call Jane Lambert Hoopes at 453-3930 or Virginia Acheson at 296-3947. We understand there are some Daltons and others here and we would love to meet them. --Virginia B. Acheson (Anna) 3443 Florida St.

YOUNGEST SON OF JESSE N. SMITH RETIRES--M. Foss C. Smith, youngest of the 44 children of Jesse N. Smith, retired this month after more than 35 years of teaching at schools in Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. Earlier this month he attended the graduations of his sons Kevan and David from college in Utah (see below) and visited with his eldest brother, Hyrum, in Salt Lake City. He was accompanied by his wife, Cleona, who also is a teacher at Farmington, N. M. A special event of their trip was a visit with the new son of David and Judy Smith in Provo, their first grandson bearing the Smith surname. He was named Mathias David. (512 N. Wall Ave., Farmington, N. M. 87401)

CHET ROGERS RETURNS TO UTAH--After 14 years in Oregon real estate and home-building businesses, Chester Smith (Chet) Rogers has returned with his family to Provo. He has been appointed manager of the Provo branch of United Homes Inc. His wife is the former Fay Taylor of Rexburg, Idaho, and they are parents of five children: Mrs. Jeffrey (Evelyn) Caine, Mrs. Lynn (Judy) Rowe, twins Steven and Stan (BYU freshmen), and Larry. (2850 Indian Hills Dr., 84601)

1970 COLLEGE GRADUATION ROLL CALL OF JNS FAMILY MEMBERS

Brigham Young University:

Delcia Bushman (John V., Daphne, Emma Seraphine) B.S., Child Development
 Janet Bushman (Milton F., Daphne, Emma Seraphine) B.S., Education
 Jon Clark and Darla Bushman Clark (Elwin F. Bushman, Edith S., Joseph W.)
 David W. Hastings (h. Norma Church, d. Ida, Asahel H.) B.S., Animal Science
 David L. Smith (M. Foss C. Smith) B.A., English
 Thomas Preston Smith (Derryfield N., Silas D.) B.A., Sociology
 Rogers Stevens Wood (Glena D., Louis Addison Decker, Emma Seraphine)

Colorado State University:

Lee Earl Rogers (Lehi, S. Lorenzo, Eliza S.) Dr. of Veterinary Medicine

University of Utah:

Kevan F. Smith (M. Foss C. Smith) Dr. of Laws

To parents and others: Please send us additional listings of spring and summer graduations for publication in July or August issues.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE YOUNG KINSMEN! Complimentary memberships in the family association for 1970 go to these couples. Please send us a Family Record Sheet on yourselves, and keep us informed of your address.

- 22 Nov 69 Marjorie Monson (Kenneth, Mary, Joseph W.) and Thomas Jess Tweeddale;
1065 Logan (#209), Denver, Colo. 80203
- 30 May 1970 Janet Bushman (Milton, Daphne Decker, Emma Seraphine) and Laurence K.
Pedersen
- 13 June 1970 Jerri Ellen Rogers (Robert C., Rebecca) and John Hilton Cornwell
759 E. 33rd So., Salt Lake City
- 5 June 1970 Barbara Merrill (Beatrice, Henry L. Smith, Jesse N. Jr.) and John
Christian Blackburn; to reside in Alaska

J.N.S. FAMILY CRADLE ROLL (Please send us word on those not yet listed.)

- 19 Mar 70 Mark Allen Smith: Garland & Thelma Smith (s. Philip, John Walter)
- 15 June 70 Ann Carter: Michael D. and Elaine Church Carter (d. Ida, Asahel)

SERVICEMEN'S NEWS: Kevan F. Smith (s. M. Foss C. Smith) has begun active duty as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force following graduation from the AFROTC at University of Utah.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT, FOLKS!

Your officers acknowledge with appreciation the letters, membership dues, and orders for the new JNS Journal and Posterity List which have been received from the following Kinsmen: Bessie S. Anderson, Ruth Flake Boone, John V. Bushman, Don Z. Decker, Austin Frost, Ernestine Hansen Smith Hurst, Lucile Smith Jones, Lilia Seegmiller, and Deanne Smith.

THE KINSMAN (June 1970)
Published Monthly
JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION
504 North 4th East
Provo, Utah 84601

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Provo, Utah
Permit No. 11

Address Correction Requested

SMITHS TO GATHER IN SNOWFLAKE--A gathering of the Jesse N. Smith family will be held at 5 p.m. on July 24 in the Relief Society room of the Snowflake chapel. We hope we have a good turnout of local family members, as well as visitors to Snowflake at the celebration time. Jesse M. Broadbent, chairman.