

Published Quarterly by the

Jesse N. Smith Family Assn.

THE KINSMAN

More Reunions Planned for 1973

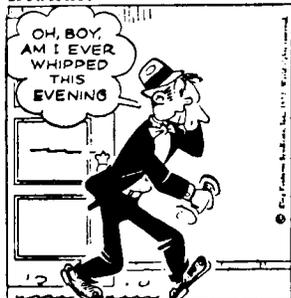
An even dozen reunions are planned during 1973 for members of the Jesse N. Smith family in the western states, according to information received by N. Pratt Smith, first vice president of the family association and coordinator of regional branch activities. A few additional gatherings may be added to the schedule later, and will be announced in future issues.

The combined attendance at last year's 16 regional meetings reached 1,072, a total believed to be a record for the family. These meetings and figures do not include the separate reunions of descendants of sons and daughters of Jesse N. Smith, many of which are held annually. We would be happy to receive a tally of these gatherings as well, and to report them as each one is held.

Below are listed the dates and general locations of reunions held or planned for 1973, along with the names and addresses of chairmen where these have been reported. All kinsmen are urged to get in touch with the nearest chairmen for information on times and places of the meetings, and plan to enjoy the renewal of acquaintances and adding to the family lore.

- April 5 Provo, Utah, at Brigham Young University; 120 present. (see p. 2)
- April 21 Hughson, Calif.; Northern California group spring meeting.
- May 26 Auburn, Wash., joint meeting of Portland and Washington regions.
Dean Bushman, 3030 M St SE #4; Ken Jarvis, 11021 SE 295th St 98002.
- June 2 Holbrook, AZ; J. Merl Farr, 124 LaJolla, Holbrook 86025.
- July 20 Snowflake, AZ; Ted F. Smith, Box 127 Rt 1, Showlow 85901 (see p. 3)
- July ? Jackson, Wyo.; Madalyn Frost Faler, Box 571 83001 (with Idahoans)
- Aug. 4 San Diego, CA (Chairman to be announced.)
- Aug. 11 Parowan, UT; Albert Aikens Smith, 2709 Edgewood, Provo, UT 84601.
- Aug. 18 Los Angeles, CA; Guy Smith, 932 S. Van Horn, W. Covina, CA 91790.
- Sept. ? Northern California group fall meeting; Norman D. Smith,
39435 Acacia, Fremont, CA 95436.
- Oct. 4 Provo and BYU; Jesse M. Broadbent, 3164 Navajo Lane, Provo, UT 84601.
- Nov. ? Phoenix-Mesa; Hal Smith Jr., 1149 E. Geneva Dr, Tempe AZ 85282.

Blondie



GHC 12-12
YOUNG

JESSE N. SMITH FAMILY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, 1973

President--Oliver R. Smith (s. Hyrum) 970 N. 1200 E., Provo, Utah 84601
 1st Vice Pres. (Emma W.)--N. Pratt Smith, 1221 S. 400 E., Bountiful, Utah 84010
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 Genealogist--Emily S. Parker (Priscilla), 1647 Garfield Ave., SLC, Utah 84105
 Historian--Augusta Flake (Martha), Box 277, Snowflake, Ariz. 85936
 Kinsman Editor--Oliver R. Smith, 970 N. 1200 E., Provo, Utah 84601

CHAIRMEN OF REGIONAL BRANCHES

PHOENIX-MESA: Hal Smith Jr. (Harold, Samuel) 1149 E. Geneva Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282
 SNOWFLAKE: Ted F. Smith (Elias) Rt. 1 Box 127, Showlow, AZ 85901
 NORTHWEST STATES: Dean N. Bushman (Edith, Joseph W.) 1430-32nd SE, Auburn, WA 98002
 NORTHERN ARIZONA: J. Merl Farr (Natalia) 124 LaJolla, Holbrook, AZ 86025
 LOS ANGELES: Don M. Pearson (Winifred, Walter) 2563 Gardner Pl., Glendale, CA 91206
 SAN DIEGO: Ruth S. Brooks (Ruth) 6794 1/2 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, AZ 92120
 N. CALIFORNIA: Norman D. Smith (Wickliffe, Walter) 39435 Acacia, Fremont, CA 95436
 SALT LAKE CITY: John Dawaín Smith (John C., Walter) 1520 E. Winder Ln., SLC, UT 84117
 PROVO: Jesse M. Broadbent (Lorana) 3164 Navajo Ln., Provo, Utah 84601
 B.Y.U. STUDENTS: Steven J. Smith (Don H., Hyrum) 970 N. 1200 E., Provo, Utah 84601
 IDAHO: Melvin L. Smith (Elias) Rt. 1 Box 49E, Shelley, ID 83274

FAMILY MEMORIES FEATURED AT REUNION IN PROVO

The Alumni Building on Brigham Young University campus was the scene of the semi-annual reunion of the Provo-BYU branch of the Jesse N. Smith Family Association on April 5. A program featuring recollections by senior family members was presented under direction of Jesse M. Broadbent, president.

Two former presidents of the Family Association, Don Mack Dalton and Harold H. Smith, also spoke to the group, along with Oliver R. Smith and N. Pratt Smith, current president and 1st vice president.

Lorana S. Broadbent, one of the five surviving daughters of Jesse N. Smith, told highlights of the career of her father, while a number of pictures were projected on the screen by her son, Dr. H. Smith Broadbent of BYU. She quoted also from the writings of the late Judge George H. Crosby Jr. of St. Johns, Ariz. which paid tribute to the Mormon pioneer. She said, in part Jesse N. was fatherless at the age of four. He was studious and desired an education, but grew up on the frontier where there were few schools; consequently he turned to books to learn such subjects as history, politics, and law. His mother taught school by day in Parowan, and at night would sew while her son read to her. After he grew up he filled positions of leadership in southern Utah and served two terms in the Utah territorial legislature. In 1879 he moved to Arizona where he was a stake president for 27 years and a representative in the 19th Arizona territorial legislature.

A vocal trio, "Happy Childhood Home," was sung by Emma B. Dexter, Lorana Dexter, and Pamela Petuskey, daughter and granddaughters of Lorana Broadbent. Attendance at the gathering was 120, including a number of visitors from out of state.

Preceding the reunion a business meeting of the Family Association officers was held in the E. L. Wilkinson Center on the campus.

Snowflake Reunion July 20, 21

A special reunion of the Jesse N. Smith family on Friday, July 20th, will be part of the 95th anniversary celebration noting the founding of Snowflake, Ariz. Ted F. Smith (Elias) is chairman of a program to be held at 10 a.m. in the Snowflake Stake cultural hall. Other events of interest include tours of pioneer homes on Friday and Saturday, and a parade, rodeo, barbecue dinner, and other features on Saturday.

Bess R. Ericksen (Leonora, Joseph W.) is president of the Snowflake Historical Society which is preparing the home tours. Other officers include Freda Rowley, vice president, and Al Levine, secretary-treasurer. The group recently received an American Heritage award and a gift of \$50 from Consolidated Copper Co. of Arizona in recognition of its work in preserving local history sites.

Parowan Reunion Aug. 11

The Smith Memorial Home in Parowan, Utah will be the focus of interest for a special gathering of the Jesse N. Smith family on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Family groups are invited to bring picnic lunches to enjoy at noon in the shaded areas of the city park across the street from the home, which is located on 1st South, one-half block west of Main St. Picnic tables are provided in the park.

At 2 p.m. a program of historical interest will be presented inside the old home under direction of Albert A. Smith (Priscilla), whose mother was one of the children of Jesse N. Smith who was born in the home. This will be followed by a visit to the Parowan Cemetery to see the graves of Mary Aikens Smith and two infant children of Jesse N. and Janet Johnson Smith. Other points of interest in the area include the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, located in the old rock church on the city park block, which was constructed in 1866.

Space is available on the lawn at the rear of the home for the use of those who may wish to pitch a tent on Friday or Saturday night. Two motels also are available in the town, as well as others in Cedar City, 20 miles south of Parowan. Additional information may be obtained by writing the chairman at 2709 Edgewood, Provo, UT 84601.

SIDELIGHTS ON THE SMITH HOME IN PAROWAN

A large, bronze plaque on the front of the Smith home in Parowan reads: "Jesse N. Smith Home, dedicated to the memory of Mary Aikens Smith and her sons, Jesse Nathaniel and Silas Sanford, and to the memory of all the pioneer settlers who founded Parowan in 1851."

Under the leadership of Apostle George A. Smith, a cousin of Jesse and Silas, the first group of settlers arrived in Parowan in January, 1851. Mary A. Smith and her sons answered the call of Brigham Young to join the settlement some eight months later, leaving their home in Centerville, Davis Co., and selling their lot on the block just west of the Temple Block in Salt Lake City. Jesse was 16 and Silas 20. Silas had married Clarinda Ricks in July.

Jesse wrote in his journal: "We moved into a part of Joseph L. Robinson's house belonging to Joel H. Johnson, and put up the first log building in Cedar City to pay for it."

On May 13, 1852 Jesse married Emma Seraphine West, and on Jan. 27, 1856 he married her sister, Margaret Fletcher West. In the same year he began to build an adobe home in Parowan. The family moved in on March 23, 1858.

Jesse N. Smith Journal Reviewed

(From Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 1972, pp. 392-3; by P. T. Reilly)

Six Decades in the Early West: The Journal of Jesse Nathaniel Smith; Diaries and Papers of a Mormon Pioneer, 1834-1906. Edited by Oliver R. Smith. (3rd ed.; Provo, Utah: Jesse N. Smith Family Association, 1970. xiv + 556 pp. \$15.00.)

Jesse N. Smith's journal, originally published to answer a family need, soon caused students of Mormon pioneer history to realize that here was rich source material of historical value. The Jesse N. Smith Family Association is to be congratulated for making this expanded third edition available to scholars.

The book generally is well done. Journal entries have been edited to comprise 459 pages, the editor dividing the text into seventeen chapters, appropriately titled. Four appendices and various illustrations (of interest primarily to the Smith family), maps of Utah and Arizona, and an index embody the book. The objective foreword was written by the able Charles S. Peterson.

It is not clear how much editing was performed. Despite the statement that "some routine entries of insignificant nature" had been omitted (in the preface to the second edition), there are indications that some sensitive entries also were excluded.

Regrettably, the index and maps do not fulfill their intended functions. Both err in the detail provided, but the major fault is omission. For instance, the ferry established by Harrison Pearce is mislocated and its road is not shown. (Jesse N. Smith considered using this route on April 13, 1880.) The overlapped portion of southern Utah is different in the Johnson area of each map, and the pioneer road has been mislocated on Buckskin Mountain, Jacob's Lake being confused with Jacob's Pools. The brief, four-page index is in error and also omits many names and places, a failing which will trouble serious researchers.

Jesse N. Smith was an aggressive leader who was politically oriented both within his church and in the frequently critical non-Mormon world. He was in a position to write fascinating accounts of the events in which he participated, but his delineations invariably are understated and highly condensed.

Apparently Smith compiled his record as a duty chore in response to Doctrine and Covenants 21:1. His journal probably was written in retrospect up to December 1855, at which time, as an Iron County representative, he went to the territorial legislature in Salt Lake City. There he began making irregularly-dated entries. For long periods he wrote nothing, although his descriptions on two missions to Europe were full and nearly continuous. Between the dated notations of September 15, 1870, and August 16, 1878, he wrote only 24 short passages. Usually his writings are a melange of things positive to his point of view, but on rare occasions controversy is revealed, especially when he felt he was challenged. An example of such a reaction is described on March 25, 1885 (p. 307).

Smith made some very candid statements regarding the business ability of John W. Young (pp. 250-51), but he also acknowledged his help on other occasions. Whether he writes of Ammon M. Tenney's pique (p. 248), the rejected bid for (continued on p. 7)

Family Home Evening Feature

A Man Who Couldn't Be Bluffed

Ed. Note: This is the first part of the story of Zechariah B. Decker, first son-in-law of Jesse N. Smith, as told at the Snowflake Pioneer Day observance by Silas L. Fish on July 24, 1948.

I have been asked by the committee to talk to you today about a pioneer of this community who was a master hand with a gun, who had to use gun-play many times to save his own life, but who never made any notches on his gun. Many times, when almost any other man would think he was justified in "shooting it out," this man would find a way to avoid bloodshed and yet protect himself, the people, and their interests. This is a story that would thrill you if properly told. But this story is true, even though it sounds like the movies. The incidents actually happened--they are not products of the imagination.

Zechariah B. Decker Jr. was born March 11, 1850 in Salt Lake City. Soon after, his parents moved to Parowan, the first settlement in Utah south of Payson, and there he grew to manhood. He spend much of his boyhood in the saddle, riding the range, caring for the settlers' cattle and horses, and seeing that they found feed and water and did not wander off. While riding the range he trained his eye to discern moving objects at a great distance. He also practiced shooting until he could hit a rabbit on the jump, a hawk on the wing, or a coyote on the run. All this training was to prove useful to him later on. This and his subsequent training made him a great scout--keen of eye, discreet in judgement, and quick to act.

At 16 he stood picket guard to protect the cattle from the Indians, and so he learned early to face danger. Later, he went on expeditions against the marauding Redskins. On Oct. 4, 1869 (at the age of 19) he married Seraphine Smith, daughter of Jesse N. and Emma W. Smith. They had twelve children, six boys and six girls, half of them being born in Parowan.

But there were more frontiers to colonize. President John Taylor called a colony of Mormons to go from Parowan and other southern Utah towns and settled on the San Juan River, in southeastern Utah. When the colony was organized, Zack and his family were among the number. They started in 1879, when Zack was 29 years old. The full story of that journey across one of the roughest pieces of territory in the West would fill volumes. Once they had started, it soon became apparent that they had chosen one of the worst routes possible; but the die was cast--they would not turn back.

For weeks they blasted their way through solid rock, and finally descended into the precipitous canyon of the Colorado River through the famous "Hole in the Rock" that they had carved out. They tenaciously inched their way by grinding labor and dogged determination, though they suffered from hunger and thirst, from the stinging blasts of winter, and from the winds whipping the desert sand in their faces. They built a boat and crossed the river; then they carved their way through the rough, precipitous, stony country that lay beyond.

They finally reached the San Juan near where Bluff now stands. But the cattle, which were being driven over the southern route through northern Arizona, were overdue. Zack thought something should be done. He finally volunteered to go in search of them.

(continued on page 6)

A Man Who Couldn't Be Bluffed (continued from page 5)

He and Dick Butts were sent on this expedition. They crossed the San Juan to the south and started on their search. Zack could see a dust cloud or spot a moving object farther and more quickly than many trained scouts. Seeing a suspicious dust in the distance, they put spurs to their horses and rode with full speed to see what it meant. They were not a minute too soon. The boys with the cattle had reached the watering place that their explorers had developed the year before, only to find the Indians in possession and forbidding them to come in. The boys had tied the chief to a wagon wheel and proceeded to water their animals. Indian runners had gone out and given the word, and the Indians were swarming in from all directions and were preparing to attack.

Zack gave orders to release the Indian chief. The boys objected, but Zack insisted. The Indian was frothing with rage, but Zack approached him kindly, apologized for the boyish act, and then drove out a large steer from the herd and offered it for the use of the water. The steer was accepted and the Indians proceeded immediately to prepare for a big feast.

Zack and the men rushed the watering of the animals and then pushed the cattle as fast as possible to be out of the Indians' reach when their feast was over. They traveled all night, and finally reached the San Juan with no further incident. Thus a massacre was averted, and the men and their cattle were saved.

Zack and his father had brought some blooded horse to the San Juan so they could breed and raise choice stock. These horses were stolen one night by Indians. The next day Zack set out alone to recover them. The full story would be very interesting, but I shall tell only the climax. Zack rode for nearly 30 miles trailing the horses up the San Juan. He came suddenly to a bend in the river--and there they were.

With the horses were four Indians--one standing guard, two skinning a beef which they had just killed, and the fourth was cutting the hide into strips and tying logs together, thus preparing a raft for ferrying the beef across the river. Just across the river there was a large camp of Indians. They saw Zack, but four Indians with the horses did not. The Indians across the river began shouting and yelling to warn the four with the horses and beef. These Indians looked across the river to see what they were shouting about. This gave Zack the opportunity to come upon the guard with his old-time cap-and-ball six-shooter. When the guard saw Zack, he was dumfounded. Zack made sure he could not get his gun into action. The Indian put on a bold front and exclaimed: "What are you doing here? There are four of us." Zack replied, "There are six of us!"

Zack ordered the Indian to let down the (corral) bars and get on his horse. The stolen horses came running out and Zack drove them and the Indian as fast as he could. The Indian, not wanting to face the law, soon refused to go further, and Zack ordered him to return to his camp. Zack then caught a fresh horse, the one he was riding being tired, and without waiting to saddle him, he was off--driving the other horses on the run. He was none too soon, for the Indians gave chase, but he got away with his horses.

(Further exploits of Zack Decker will be told in our next issue.--Ed.)

WILLIAM P. JARVIS DIES AT 74

A grandson of Jesse N. Smith, William Prior Jarvis, died March 17, 1973 at his home in Orem, Utah after a long illness. He was born Sept. 22, 1898 in Eagar, Ariz., a son of Heber and Susan Janet Smith Jarvis. He received his education in Heber and St. Johns, Ariz., and earned a B.S. degree from Brigham Young University. He served in the U.S. armed forces during World War I.

He married Vesta Wakefield on Dec. 3, 1921 and afterward taught school in Huntington, Utah and other locations. They moved to Orem in 1965 after serving a work mission for the Church in Texas. He is survived by his widow and two daughters, Mrs. Max G. (Mell) Nielsen, Orem, and Diane Jarvis, Provo; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; four brothers and four sisters: Joseph S., Mesa; Silas, Pima, Ariz.; LaVerl, Nampa, Idaho; George Jarvis and Mrs. Jack (Pearl) Farr, St. Johns; Mrs. Maude DeWitt, Safford, Ariz.; Mrs. Margaret Black, Phoenix; and Mrs. Ethel Foster, Vista, Calif.

Funeral services were held March 20 in the Orem 35th Ward chapel, with burial in Orem City Cemetery and military rites by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

ILLNESS TAKES GENEVIEVE MONSON FRYE

Genevieve M. Frye, 56, died Feb. 22, 1973 in a Salt Lake City hospital following a long illness. She was born June 20, 1916 in Holbrook, Ariz. to Lawrence M. and Mary Smith Monson. She attended schools in Salt Lake City and married John L. Frye on April 2, 1956. She was employed as a secretary in First Federal Savings Bank.

She is survived by her husband and mother in Salt Lake City, and the following brothers and sisters: Kenneth L., Denver; Harry R., Los Angeles; Robert L.; Mrs. Calvin (Mary) Jackson, Mrs. Robert (Luana) M. Dorius, all of Salt Lake City.

Funeral services were held Feb. 26 at Mountain View 3rd Ward chapel in Salt Lake City, with burial in the Pleasant Grove City Cemetery, Utah.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YOUNG KINSMAN

Complimentary memberships in the Jesse N. Smith Family Association for 1973 go to these young couples. We ask each to send us a family record sheet on themselves, and to keep us informed of their addresses.

- Aug. 72 Paul Francis Broadbent (Francis, Lorana) and Margory Boyack; 20334 Saticoy Apt. 26, Canoga Park, CA 91306.
- 19 Dec. 72 Jeffrey R. Frost (Austin, Editha) and Patricia Fowle; Box 35, Show Low, AZ 85901.
- 21 Dec. 72 Deanna Broadbent (Francis E., Lorana) and Lowell D. Slade; 10 E. 900 North, Provo, UT 84601.
- 20 April 73 Rhonda Fairbourn (Fern Flake, Martha) and David Lanier Isaksen;
- 7 June 73 Gregory Brammer Monson (Smith W., Mary, Joseph W.) and Nancy Holt; c/o 1760 Oneida, Salt Lake City, UT 84109.

JESSE N. SMITH JOURNAL EDITION REVIEWED (continued from page 4)

political compromise with the Barth "ring," or the maneuvering of Brigham Young Jr. to evade signing the notes for the land purchases of Snowflake, Taylor, and Woodruff (p. 364), we know that he has made shrewd assessments of the situations, even though his written descriptions are meager.

The Smith journal will mean more to those who are thoroughly familiar with the history of the Saints' migration and settlement than it will to the casual reader. In this respect it must be ranked with the most important journals pertaining to the Mormon experience in Arizona.

West Family Genealogy News

by Lilia Smith Seegmiller

We recently recieved a tremendously exciting report from our West researcher which has provided us with a total now of six sheets of Pedigree going back to the 14th generation on the West line and back to the 15th generation on the Bartholomew line. We also have a total of 13 family group sheets of these direct ancestors. They are available to any West descendant or relative who will support our research with a contribution. (We ask that the contributions be no less than a \$5.00 per report - there has been two so far - because of the costs of reproduction and mailings - we need to have something left over for research.)

Our research is proceeding well in England, but our need for financial support is growing as this success in England has kindled a desire to try to get a researcher working on the Southern States lines which have been dormant for so long. Two research efforts is our goal now. We really need all of Emma West and Margaret West Smith's descendants to help us.

Please contact the president of the West Family Organization, Lilia Smith Seegmiller at P.O. Box 69, Thatcher, Arizona for further information, or simply send a contribution to the West Family Genealogy Research Fund to Lilia or to Glenn Smith, who is the Treasurer, both in Thatcher, and the sheets will be mailed out promptly. It was suggested to send checks to the Research Fund and then it could be a tax deductible item.

KINSMAN APPOINTED STAKE PRESIDENT

Robert J. Smith of Provo, executive secretary-treasurer of the Jesse N. Smith Family Association, has been called as president of the Brigham Young University 8th Stake. He succeeds David H. Yarn Jr., with whom he previously served as first counselor in the presidency. Robert, youngest son of Samuel F. Smith, is associate academic vice president at BYU.

THE KINSMAN
Jesse N. Smith Family
2465 North 820 East
Provo, Utah 84601

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Richard & Doris Smith
404 San Nicolas
Santa Paula, California 93060