

### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov 1982**

Yesterday I gave Br. Roland Dutson an outline of the scouting organization in the Ward. I believe that it will be used in all the Wards in the Church that have scouting programs.

I took a long walk today. They repossessed the car so now I have nothing left at all. But the Lord told me I would lose all. I can't complain, I am not, just frustrated.

### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of Nov.**

I had a very calm feeling about me today as I waited on the Lord. But at night I become impatient with Him, and He scolded me. Completely confused me, He became angry with me. I don't blame him one bit. I am an untrusting [person] head.

### **Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.**

After humbling myself, recommitting myself, and crying unto the Lord in prayer for more than an hour, He finally forgave me and let me enter his presence to give me more guidance. We are out of food, and needful household items, no money and very little gas to drive out and get some milk. All we have left to eat in the house is bread, rice, and beans, plus wheat. Som we will stay healthy, but the family is wanting a greater variety. Last night Ashley said we were going to starve. We haven't yet. I don't believe that we will. For the Lord knows our plight, and he hears our prayers. He has told me that this ordeal is all but over. I believe him. there are great blessings in store for us; I also believe that with all my heart.

### **Thurs Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Today we had a problem over money. Bill and Rebecca have some money. We were out of gas and almost out of milk. I asked for some money to help buy some gas. She gave me a dollar. Bill was willing to give all he had. Rebecca wanted to go to the Volleyball tournament. I don't blame her, but it did bother me that she felt that the volleyball tournament was more important than the children having milk to drink.

I picked up the mail today, we got a letter from mom. Ten dollars were in it. It solved our problems.

Robert has the flu. I gave him a blessing. An unusual blessing it was. ...

I have reached a situation in this period of time where I am at complete peace with the situation. I trust the Lord. I have quit asking when or how come. I have felt his peace since Wednesday morning. I believe that I have had to learn this lesson to completely work for the Lord, without reservations. Times like this being out the best or worst in people.

### **Friday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 1982**

I spent a pleasant day-no pressure, reading praying, helping Ammon, tending children while Titine made sleeping bags. Rebecca and I had a Father daughter interview, and had certain problems ironed out. I love her so much.

### **Sat Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>**

Raked the leaves, helped Titine tie off 2 quilts, the quilts were family projects. We all did something on them.

### **Sunday Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>**

I was fixing breakfast of cracked wheat and wheat bread. We used the last of our butter and sugar. I became very depressed and weighed down with a heavy spirit. If these are hard times all, all people were short on food then we would be very grateful for the rice, beans, and wheat. They are truly stable. But because of obedience to the Lord to bring these hardships on my family. I do wish that he would lift these burdens from me. But, when I become the heaviest, the sweet comforting spirit of the Lord comes upon me, and I felt the depression leave and I feel much better.

The spirit has been bringing the scriptures to my understanding much more frequently than every before. I do appreciate his teaching me on a one-to-one basis.

I never want to be caught up into the fact that time is a distant way off and become lax in keeping the gospel principles.

### **Monday Nov 8<sup>th</sup>**

I had an extremely good day today; the spirit sustained me. Titine and I quilted, started and finished a quilt. I had gospel principle taught to me by the spirit. Polly had a high fever all day. At the conclusion of which I gave her a blessing, this started a series of blessings which Titine and Francine received one. Polly's blessing told her that the fever would be done in the morning. That she would marry and raise noble sons and daughters. She would live to be a good old age and be caught up to receive the Lord. She would have trials and tribulations which would polish and refine her. She would see many changes in her lifetime. People would love her because of her cheerful disposition.

...

Titine's blessing, the Lord was proud of her, the sweetness of her spirit and her uncomplaining attitude. His hand was over this whole affair. He knew what was taking place. .... For her sacrifice, she would be rewarded tenfold... As long as she continued to pray Satan couldn't lead her astray. Satan was losing influence over her. People will

recognize that she followed the course she should have. Her family will come to her for advice. Her husband wouldn't go to jail.

### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

Today Titine and I quilted another quilt. How I enjoyed the quilt. They have given me something to do.

When this morning came, Polly's fever was gone. I sat up with her until 2:00 AM, but she is fine now.

Rebecca and I had a talk of trust in the Lord. After which she received a blessing ....

### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Albert brought us some more groceries, what we were out of, sugar, toilet paper, toothpaste, plus several other things plus shortening. I appreciate him so much for his help.

### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>**

I listened to the State Championship games between Millard and Hurricane, Millard won 33-14 between Beaver and Kanab. Kanab won 7-3. Went to a viewing for Ray Western, quilted, and talked to Bill about commitment.

### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup>**

Quilted and waited

### **Saturday 13**

Watched too much TV, ballgames, and a movie that was not worth to be watched. I took the children swimming.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

I was called to be the Scout Master this morning. I also was interviewed by the Bishop for a temple recommend. The bishopric is trying to find a troop committee.

### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> 1982**

I spent time with the children

### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

Went to parent teacher conference at the High School and Middle School. The children seem to be doing well in class. We received some very good reports on all the children. I went home teaching with Joe Walker.

### **Wed 17<sup>th</sup>**

Titine and I left early this morning for Provo to go to the temple. And to the Scout Office. We enjoyed the temple extremely well. The first time I had been for over six months. We ate dinner at the temple cafeteria. At the scout office I found out what the scouts had in the area, of advancement and merit badges.

While in Provo we saw Gary Sloan, our good friends from years back. We had a nice visit. He works at BYU. Titine also saw Carol McClain, another friend of ours. We had an enjoyable day. We Arrived home at 6:30p. Bill is close to becoming a life scout.

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

We went to a Cub Scout Pack meeting; Ammon received his wolf award. They had an old fashion pioneer meal. Since I have been called to be a scout master the spirit of scouting has been upon me. I really get excited about scouting. Ammon stayed home from school because of the flu.

### **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> of November 1982**

Polly, Darien, and Robert were all sick last night. Threw up with the stomach flu. Francine complained of a sick stomach this morning. So, she never went to school.

### **Friday 19<sup>th</sup>**

The children slept in the living room as is the custom on Friday night. They like to watch TV cartoons early Saturday morning. I took the garbage to the dump.

### **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Listened to BYU football and basketball. The Y won both games. They beat Utah 17-12 in football. The Y won in basketball 79-81. I then watched part of the Ohio State- Mich game, also part of the UCLA- USC football game. Part of the Washington- Washington St. game. As for accomplishing anything, -the day was wasted.

### **Sunday 21 Nov**

I started this day slow with my mind on mundane things that should not be considered on Sunday. Was late praying and will have to pray again before I get straightened out.

We had Ward Conference this day. I enjoyed it. There was three hours of sitting, but the speakers were interesting, well prepared, and spoke with the spirit. I have been murmuring some to myself. From the conference I was told not to, I won't.

Several of the speakers spoke on adversity. The primary children sang, as also the ward choir.

Ammon and Robert hid under the bed so they wouldn't have to go. Ammon alas repented all evening. The spirit whispered to me to pray for relief from our situation.

### **Monday 22 Nov.**

Raked the leaves around the house and finished reading the book Jacob Hamblin which inspired me and helped deepen my commitment to the Lord. His spirit has somewhat withdrawn from me. I don't know why. I either am going through another testing to see if I will obey without his strength or I am doing something wrong, or He wants me to do more and I don't know what that "more" is.

### **Tuesday 23 of November 1982**

Read history, begin another day of fasting and prayer. Went to a play at school, Ashley put on.

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of November**

Prepared to go to St. George for Thanksgiving.

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. Thanksgiving day**

On the way down the car overheated and we had to turn around and go back to Minersville and put more water in the radiator. We had a good trip thereafter and arrived in St. George at Grandma Spilsbury's a little after 10:00AM. We had a good meal, Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut (a family tradition), cranberry, dixie salad, rolls, picked tomatoes, water to drink, several kinds of pies- pineapple, pumpkin, banana, lemon.

Joe, Vickie and Their family, Peta and his friend and her two small children, Walt and Titine and their children; Tany, Clark and their family, of course mom and dad Spilsbury were all to dinner. After dinner Joe tried to get an embedded sliver out of my hand. He couldn't get it,

so he called his brother who is a foot doctor, he prowled around for a while; neither one of them could find it. My hand was deadened with Novocain, so it didn't hurt. They told me to soak it to see if it would work itself out. Joe told me to stay home since my hand would be painful when the deadening wore off. The rest of the men folk as well as many of the children went nou tot brand some calves. They never returned until after dark.

We played games in the evening and went to bed after midnight. Vicki [color analyzed the family- she declared that I was a summer].

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup>**

I took the children down to see Santa Clause at the city park this morning. We stood in line for hours.

I finished reading a biography of President George Washington. He was truly one of the great men of his age or any age.

I do believe that I have seen my last boxing match, a world heavy weight match between Champion George Foreman and the challenger whose name slips my mind, the challenger was battered to a pulp. A courageous man, but no match for the champion.

### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>**

President N Eldon Tanner passed on today. He was the 1<sup>st</sup> Counselor in the 1<sup>st</sup> Presidency. Truly a great man, he served as Counselor to Pres. McKay, Pres. Smith, Pres. Lee, and Pres. Kimball.

We got home this evening at 5:45pm we had a good trip. I do have some good in laws.

### **Sunday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>**

We set apart the new Deacons presidency this morning. Another missionary went on a mission or had his farewell today. Tod Harris. We gave Polly a blessing. Our home teachers and myself. She has been sick. Titine has a cold, so does Steven.

### **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of Nov.**

I went out today to help Clayton Jeffery. I owe him a milk bill, and he is letting me have the opportunity to work it off. I started to plow, but the ground is too wet. Polly is sick, but her fever is gone. I hope that she gets well soon. I believe that she will.

### **Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

Helped Clayton Jeffery milk. We had our [ ] scout meeting. I had a very enjoyable time. We passed off the scout ranks.

### **Wednesday 1 Dec. 1982**

We have been in Delta since April, eight months now. What a long time it has been. I have learned never to try to place a time schedule on the Lord. Just do what you are told, try to live worthy, and hope in his own due time he will find the mercy to bless you. I live by this philosophy now and will do so until the end of my days, striving to be obedient, and let Him who I worship handle the time and the details.

Albert brought some more food today. I do appreciate him so much. Clayton Jeffery let me use his pickup to come home in, we had a nice snowstorm last night and this morning.

### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1982**

The University of Utah hospital medical staff put in the first artificial heart in a human today. The last I heard last night was he (*person they put it into*) was doing well. The first Presidency was organized after the death of President Tanner. Will President Kimball, President Marion G. Romney as 1<sup>st</sup> counselor and President Gordon B. Hinckley as Second Counselor.

We chartered the scout troop this evening.

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of Dec.**

Ammon is 7 years old today. We have no money to buy him a present. Titine made him a pair of house slippers, and a birthday cake. His Grandma gave him a He-man doll for his birthday. Ammon understands the situation and accepts everything very well. I wish that I could accept it as well.

I am still using Clayton's pickup to go back and forth to work. He said that I could use as much as I needed too. It amazes me how the Lord works out details. When one door closes another one opens. We don't have money or gas. So, the car quit, we were provided with another one with gas, we could have all the milk and butter we need plus I get to work a little.

### **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> 1982 December**

Bill, Rebecca, and Ashley worked for different people today. I have been reading an old history book of the United States I have been completely engrossed and delighted with it. Unlike the history books today it tells of the patriotism and courage and greatness of our founding fathers. It also talks of their religious convictions. General George Washington was truly one of the great men of the world. And well deserving of the title, "Father of our

Country". The more I read in history, and biographies the more convinced I become of the divine origin of America, and His guiding hand over her. Even though secret combinations plague the land, the Lord will right the wrongs through Judgement and this nation will be cleansed.

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Today is fast Sunday. We had a nice testimony meeting. We met in the Delta Stake Center since our church house is being torn down to build a new Chapel.

We walked to Church about a mile away since we have no car. The First Presidency televised a program to the youth on morality. It was very well done. The teenagers seemed to enjoy it.

### **Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> 1982 December**

I received a letter from Clara Beth today that helped me greatly. For the purpose of history, I am going to copy most of it here:

*Dear Walter,*

*I feel a real need to write to you at this time. I don't know what or if any I should tell you, but I have received such a lot of information about my future and some of my family's. I know this that our futures are intentionally tied up with the church and that when President Kimball dies, all will take a new direction, country, church, and our lives. And the Lord is persevering President Kimball until he is ready for these events to take place. And it is close. I'll know if I'm truly right in what I've received if Norman is with us next Thanksgiving. I feel strongly that he and probably without Dan. Walter, I've been told I'll be a widow soon and I know almost the exact date. I have another year with Norman. I'm so grateful that our lives have become so much closer this past year and I know that will continue...*

*I've received such confirmations on Kimball sometimes I can't quite take it all in, all I know is that time is short, hold on for a little while longer events are speeding up almost unbelievably. Sometimes I feel getting up and crying repentance unto the people...*

*I feel closer to Jonah than I ever thought possible. I understand why he tried running away rather than face the ridicule of a civilized population....*

*Anyway Walter, sometimes we feel important, but the Lord's time is different than ours and while it won't be much longer to us I may seem ages.*

*Love Clara Beth*

*Mom sent us three hundred twenty-five dollars in the mail.*

## **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Albert came to Delta to pick me up and we went to Salt Lake to see mother. She was at the University Hospital having another cancer treatment. We had a nice visit with her.

It snowed all the way home. Phyllis gave us some Christmas presents, and Albert bought us a Christmas tree. I also brought Albert's car home. I don't know how long he will let us keep it. He is probably one of the most charitable people that I have ever met.

Mother is looking better and is gaining some weight back.

## **Wednesday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 1982**

The news reported that there has been flooding this past week in some of the Southern States. We have had cold, snow, and fog here in Delta. I was very tired yesterday and sleepy.

We put our Christmas tree up today. The children are getting more excited about Christmas. The trees are pretty with the fog and heavy frost hanging on them.

## **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1982**

While milking this morning I milked about 8 cows worth into the wash tube before I realized that I didn't have the milker cords hooked to the milk lines. It was very cold this morning, also foggy.

I went to the Delta sports Center and watched the boys play ball. Our team won 30-29, Bill scored 19 points. After the game it was raining ice. The car was one sheet of ice. And the roads were slick.

## **Fri 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec**

The month is one third gone Christmas is 15 days away. It is overcast and cold but not foggy.

Maribah Ann called this morning. It was good to hear from her. She was just wondering how I was doing. She said that she was going to send us some Christmas stuffers for the stockings. I believe that the Lord is teaching me he valued the family to a greater degree than I have ever known before.

I didn't get to sleep until after 1:00AM and up at 4:00am to milk cows. Also, I believe that this is a lesson in that sleep is not as important to me as a schedule of getting up early. I didn't

hurt my health any for my body is sanctified to the point where it is starting to overcome the flesh. I still get sleepy but when I have something to do, I have the vigor to do it.

I went to the basketball game Delta played Nephi- Albert is the statistician for Nephi. Rebecca, Colby, York and Ashly went with me.

### **11 Dec Saturday**

Had a wasted day today milked cows twice spend time with children and read the Deseret News. I looked in the sale ads at the new cars. I feel that we will be getting us a new van before long.

BYU won their first basketball game of the season against Fordham. Their record is now 1 win 5 losses. It is the first time in the history of the school they have lost the first five ball games of the season.

### **Sunday Dec 12 1982**

We had a family home evening in which we set the rule of no playing of face cards in the house. We are to have no cards (face) even in the house. To this point I was wondering about it. A few nights ago, the boys were playing poker with matches. Upon taking the problem to the Lord in prayer, the spirit directed me in what to do. The children took it very well and agreed to the rule willingly.

Rebecca went to a fireside. We talked about airplanes, mostly jets.

### **Monday Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>**

We have had more snow and cold weather. Guardian Angel groups in the Eastern part of the United States are organizing to prevent people or shoppers from getting mugged and robbed on the streets.

Titine is trying to make Christmas and has a hard time finding time when she can get rid of children. We decided after reading an article in the Church news to give gifts, homemade gifts along with the commercial gifts this year.

The home teachers came over to see us and invited us to the Ward.

### **Tuesday Dec 14<sup>th</sup>**

The Ward party tonight for the Married couples in the Ward. Titine and I went. They served scalloped potatoes, Jello, turkey, and ham, rolls, and had a vegetable plate. A nice program

of readings and music was provided. A large part of the ward went. At this point ten days until Christmas, we still don't know where money is coming from, but it will.

Two families have been giving us gifts for the twelve days of Christmas.

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Albert came over and brought us a little food, took the car and traded for the pickup. The weather has been a little warmer today than it has been all week. The roads are terrible slick with snow and ice.

Our charitable friends or Christmas givers gave us some bottles of fruit, three from one family, the other family gave us pineapple, coconut, tangerines, bananas, and apples and nuts.

I had a very peaceful feeling come over me about Christmas this evening. If I want my children to not quarrel, I must have perfect patience in my life more.

### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Saint Nick for this 4<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas gave us four cans of cream corn, and a metal Christmas tree ornament. The ornament is shaped like a Christmas tree.

The news reported of an earthquake in Afghanistan, and flooding in the Southern United States. We received many Christmas gifts- candy, and nuts from the people of Delta. If we don't buy or get another thing we will still have a good Christmas.

Today is mother's birthday. She is still very ill, and I doubt if she will ever get her health back completely, but over the years I have come to know of her greatness. Through blessings, she has received from the good that others speak of her, and my own personal experience with her. She is truly one of the great women of the ages. She has been a good mother, a true Christian, and almost unselfish to a fault. Nothing is too good for her children. She has supported me financially at least two different times in my life. [He three be very concerned about her.]

She is an excellent grandma, and all her grandchildren adore her. She will do whatever she can for them, she now has 47 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Here's hoping that she will live a few more years yet.

### **Friday 17 Dec, 1982**

I unplugged the sink in the bathroom, Titine and I saw a Kindergarten play at the grade school. Robert was Santa Claus. BYU took a beating in the Holiday Bowl by Ohio State 47-17. We received five apples from our Secret (Santa).

## **Saturday Dec 18, 1982**

This evening Ammon and Darien were playing; Darien got a broken left arm. Dr. Lyman met us at the hospital and set it for us. Other than that, the day was uneventful. Titine wrapped Christmas presents. We are having a better Christmas this year than we have had other years. People have been so generous to us.

Someone left a little gingerbread house a few days ago. We have been lucky, only five pieces of candy have been eaten from off it. We must make it last until Christmas.

I stepped on a couple of tracks with my bare feet this morning. It is still a little sore this evening.

## **Sunday Dec 19, 1982**

Eight years ago, today I started a weekly fast and prayer, under the direction of the Lord. He started me on a seven day fast. Little did I know what I was going to go through at the time I was called to go in that direction. What I started out to do was receive a remission of my sins and gain a greater testimony of my Lord. I felt that I was starting on a five-year program. I missed one week of fasting in the past eight years, and it still bothers me. This five-year program turned into a life program.

I have had days without water in the hot summer Las Vegas sun building houses, working at hard physical work when water was desired more than all else. During this time the Lord has put me on several three- and four-day fasts, as well as a twelve day fast the first seven days without water or food. Many other tests had I been put through. Some that just about tore my soul asunder, most of which has been mentioned throughout my journals. Along with the tests, trials and fasting have come punishments, teaching from on high, and repentance. I cried unto the Lord in prayer until my soul was empty, and at times I have away empty, I have cried unto the Lord until my soul was empty until I cold cry no more and the Lord has filled my whole being to overflowing, even more than I felt a could stand, my breast felt as it would burst. Great has been the joy of these times even greater than language can express. The spirit has stirred my being so much that the stirring have even hurt me. I have been awakened out of a sound sleep by the burnings of the spirit. It has burned on me to such an extent that the burnings have kept me awake.

The Second Comforter has been on me so great that I know that the Savior was in the room with me, but my natural eyes could not behold his face. But my spirit was stirred and stirred to a great turbulence. Through all this my calling and election is made sure, and I have received the Second Comforter.

I have reached a point that I could be a son of Perdition if I put God to open shame, I cannot deny, I could only lie and rebel. I am still waiting for the heavens to open up to me and gain a much greater spiritual knowledge of Joseph Smith as well as a sure knowledge of Jesus Christ. For I feel that my faith will only turn to knowledge. Because of the trials and tests, I have grown to know, and appreciate the Savior, and my Father in Heaven so much more.

The Lord has given me the gift of spiritual discernment of others, and the gift of giving blessings but I have been humbled enough in the latter, that I know that I have it only and only when the spirit of the Lord is upon me. I am almost afraid to give blessings anymore, but when the spirit of the Lord is upon me great things come from my mouth. Things that are not of me but of the spirit. The Lord has told me of things to come; He has unveiled the mysteries to me to some extent. I hunger and desire greater knowledge. I still feel that I don't have the gift of healing, and the gift of the knowledge that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. The latter gift I have been seeking and have for years. I have full confidence that I will gain that knowledge in fact God has told me that I would.

I Just pray and hope that this next year will bring me a perfect knowledge of the Savior. This past year has been so full of blessings and growth that I am grateful for the trials that bring the blessings. I don't like the trials, but I am becoming stronger and stronger in them, because I realize more and more fully that the hand of the Lord is in my life, as well as the events of the world.

With the knowledge that the Lord has control of the righteous many things can be born with greater patience. The gift of prayer is the single greatest privilege that our Father in Heaven has given his children on earth, if only all men realized and used the gift of prayer, what a pure world this would be.

I am grateful for our Father in Heaven and His Only Begotten Son. I do hope that I can live with them one day along with all my children.

### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Someone brought us many packages for Christmas. The older kids felt a little self-conscious but the younger are delighted.

We bought some candy and presents. Presents for Bill and York. The day is warmer now. Hard rains are still causing flooding.

### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Today is Maribah Anns birthday.

We went to a choir and band concert. Colby plays in the band. The whole thing lasted about an hour. It was very enjoyable. Colby seems to enjoy band.

Maribah Ann sent a small Christmas package stocking stuffers, I suppose. The snow is melting off the ground.

I have had pain in my left shoulder for some time now it feels as if it is under the shoulder blade.

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Today is Rebecca's and York's birthdays. Rebecca is seventeen and York is Thirteen. We are broke so I don't suppose that they will get much of a birthday.

Titine made some birthday cakes for them. The older children went to the MIA party. Bob is complaining of a sore thumb. Wrote a letter to Maribah Ann.

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec.**

I have a great yearning today to receive a greater knowledge of the Lord today. How I pray that I may be fortunate to receive one.

It is several degrees colder today. The children got out of school for the Christmas Holidays. We are all getting excited for Christmas. Some good people sent us twenty dollars in the mail today.

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> of December**

While milking this morning I was listening to the Conference talks on tape, the spirit bore a great testimony to the greatness of the servants of the Lord.

We finished our Christmas shopping with the twenty dollars we received in the mail. The children pooled their money, their money, what little they had, and now bought some treats for a New Year's Eve party. We weren't able to go to St. George for family reunion this year. The first time that we have missed for some time. We had a very nice Christmas Eve at home. We had the pageant, sang songs, and played games. We also ate turkey, pop, potato chips, fruit cake, candy, and nuts, plus ice cream which were all provided by the Lord.

### **Saturday Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1982**

This Christmas day has to be the most unusual Christmas' that this family has ever had, the kindness of the people here in Delta has provided us with an entire Christmas. The

children received more gifts than at any other. Albert gave us a turkey and people sent us money in the mail. Even the candy and nuts were given to us.

Sometime ago the Lord told me that I would have to learn to trust Him. With this Christmas experience, plus others that we have had over the past four months, I am learning to trust in Him completely.

This has been one of the most enjoyable Christmas' that I have ever spent. The children received several games. I have spent all day long playing with one or the other with their games. All have been good natured, we laughed much. I had to go milk cows tonight, but Bill went with me. We finished in two and half hours.

I received two books, Legrande Richards Speaks Out, one which I am grateful for. And one putting Christ at the center of our life, By Steve Covey. Titine has taken that book over. She read me some interesting things from it. Any reader of this journal will know why the Legrande Richards book is special to me.

Every one of the children received so much more than they expected. All the excitement was a thrill to watch. I just hope that someday I will be able to be as charitable to others, as they are Saintly to me.

I knew weeks ago that this was going to be a special Christmas the Lord told me that it was. He said that we wouldn't have a thing to worry about, but I just didn't think that it would be this goo.... I had a good one just watching the children being so happy. One other nice thing it all came, and I didn't have the hustle of shopping.

### **Dec 26<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Francine, Titine, and I went to Hinckley today to Bryan Wright missionary farewell. I worked with Bryan for a few weeks this summer and became friends with him. at that time he was trying to decide whether to follow the ways of Babylon or the ways of the Lord. I am sure that he will serve a good mission. They invited me to dinner afterwards.

I taught Deacons Quorum, but I have had a headache all day. I don't get them very often but there seems to be ringing.

For a gift to the Savior this Christmas, the family has decided to get rid of the negative attitude that the children have toward each other.

### **Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Titine's folks, Vicki, Jimmy, Jenny, and Vicki's children came to visit us today. They brought gifts for the family, me a white shirt. We had an enjoyable day, playing games and enjoying one another's company.

I called the Sloan's and told them that we couldn't come up new Years eve.

The Spilsburys also supplied us with some of the necessities of life. \$81.00, hamburger, potatoes, and onions.

### **Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> 1982**

Today is Albert's birthday. He has been absolutely the greatest big brother a person could hope to have.

I played games with the boys most of the day. The weather is cold.

We went to tithing settlement. The bishop and I got into a discussion over my working or not working. I know that he is concerned for me.

### **Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 1982**

Polly has stomach flu. So does Steven. Played Dungeons and Dragons with the boys, mostly to protect Ashley from the over reasoning, forceful arguments from Bill and Colby. He has done a good job as a Dungeon Master.

### **Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>**

I milked cows and spent the day with the family.

### **Dec 31 1982**

This last day of December 1982

Brings to a close a year of loss financially but a full year of increased faith in my Father in Heaven. I didn't have to milk this morning, so I have spent the greatest share of the day enjoying the children. At this time, I am at the swimming pool in Delta. I brought Robert, Francine, Ammon, and York swimming. Darien has a broken arm, and Steven has as touch of diarrhea. Polly has been sick and fussy, Rebecca has a friend with her, Bill is out ice skating with some friends, Colby is hauling coal for Mrs. Western, and Ashey is getting coal for Mrs. Stone.

Titine my dearly beloved is home tending the small children. She would rather do that, and I would rather be here.

This year started out in Huntington, with me having a new job. I had had it about a week before Christmas. The job paid enough to get us through Christmas but not much else. I didn't like it very much. The Boss and I had a parting of ways. So, the testing went on and

on and on for one complete year now. Our Father in Heaven is teaching me to trust in Him fully and completely. Which I do now. The greater my faith becomes the more abundant the blessings are. We have much more to eat and more money now than we did two months ago. We have been four months without work or income at this time. The Lord has stayed our debtors; we are in debt over 100,00 or I shall say about \$65,000 and nothing to show for it. And we have lost over \$100,000 this past year. We have no home or a car of our own. Our furniture is in storage in friend's homes, and we haven't ever paid the school receptionist \$90.00 for high school. We have paid a full tithing as much as we can but owe one dollar. Plus 70-some-odd dollars or a borrowed check which we will make up. Titine is about five months pregnant. We still owe on Darien's broken arm of recent. Despite all of this, I can sing Hallelujah, and give praises to the Lord, for I have peace of mind and a confidence towards God that He will deliver us from the financial bondage we are in.

People can't understand all of this, but I know that it is true by the power of the Holy Ghost. I had a reconfirmation that my sins are forgiven me. I have peace toward all men. I feel no animosity toward (anyone). We have peace in the family and love at home.

I don't do as much in the scouting program as I ought- But I do hope to step up to greater heights. This has been a year of questions in the Church and having those questions answered. I have spent more time on my knees this past year than I ever have in any other previous years. The blessings and spirituality have come with effort and prayer, even in spite of all the financial problems I have had, I am still grateful for this year, and I know that I have gained much more than I have lost. Receiving the Second Comforter is worth it all.

I also know that greater knowledge will be forthcoming in the year 1983. Just what the Lord has in mind I am not sure, but I know that it will be something that will be exciting, and growth is [awaiting] for me. Whatever it is I am looking forward to it.

The tests this year have been hard, frustrating, discouraging, and soul stretching. I am grateful for them, but am also glad that those that are over, are over and hope, the that this one will end soon.

In summary, what a frustrating, maddening, wonderful year this has been. Mother went from next to death to improving in health. From living in her own home to living in Idaho with Fred and Phyllis. Titine has grown greatly in faith so has Bill, he had a dream one night that the Lord showed him how terrible this would be without His hand in it. Rebecca has suffered some, but that is about all.

Our butane (*I think it was propane*) gas tank has just used twenty pounds of butane (*propane*) in the past four months. We have baked four times a week, plus done all of our

other cooking on it. That alone is a miracle indeed. The Lord had multiplied the butane (*propane*) for us.

I will leave my testimony at this time in hope that some future generations may read it and become a little better for it. I know that God is a God of miracles. For I have seen them. I know that he sends revelation to his children for I have received it. I know that there is power in the Priesthood for I have seen it and felt it. I know that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God for I have read extensively on his life, his life and work prove that he was a prophet, but the spirit has touched my soul and told me he was a prophet. I know the Book of Mormon is the word of God, for it speaks to me. The same I can say of the Bible, D&C and Pearl of Great Price. I thank our Father for these great books. I know that we have a Father in Heaven that lives and is the Father of us all. He is concerned, he laughs with us, and teaches, disciplines, encourages, and punishes his children. These things I know by personal experiences. I bear testimony that they are true.

I know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I was born with that testimony. It has increased, and I have felt His spirit upon me. I have knelt and prayed where he was in the room with me, because of the veil I could not see Him, but His presence was felt and a knowledge was given. I would be a Son of Perdition if I ever denied or put Him to open shame. It would be like the sun shining and my denying it, for me to deny the divine Sonship of Jesus Christ. The Scriptures bear witness of Him, the Holy Ghost bears witness of Him, and Walter Winsor bears witness of Him. Let this witness stand and be brought [faith/forth] to condemn all who read it and deny it. And let those of less faith be stronger because of my witness.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, his Church the only true and living church upon the earth, this I know also. I say these things and have this testimony by the power of the Holy Ghost and in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer is the greatest power on earth to teach men the right way and bring them unto God. In my own opinion prayer is the greatest (*gift*) that God has given men upon the earth.

Bill and Rebecca went to the church New Year's Eve dance. The rest of us played DnD, I went to bed at 11:00pm since I had to get up to milk.

*(SEPARATE ENTRY)*

I have bits and pieces of my life story scattered around, but I will write a brief sketch in this book, partly out of commandment from the Lord, and partly because I want to.

I, Walter Perry Winsor, was born on 19<sup>th</sup> of January 1938, in Springerville, Arizona, the place where my mother's family farmed and ran sheep. I was born in a small house; three rooms, a front room, kitchen and one large bedroom, we had no indoor plumbing. The house was heated by a fireplace and mother cooked on a wood burning stove. It was also without electricity, even though many of those conveniences were available in those days. I well remember when dad put electricity in the home. How much fun it was turning off and on the lights. The children, upon arriving home would all run to the house to be the first one to turn on the lights, I was the youngest at the time, so I hardly won. But we never had running water in the house, even up to the day we moved to Delta, Utah. I also remember very well the old open well that we drew water from. At first, it was on a pulley and a bucket. Later dad put on a crank handle. It was with this crank handle that an accident happened to me. Ben Woods, my cousin and I were putting [tires] down the well. We could handle one okay. We thought that we would try two. Ben was to push the tire off the side then grab the handle to help me hold it. He pushed the tires, the handle spun around being much more than I could hold, upon the first spin it hit me full along the side of the nose splitting my face from the bridge of my nose to the bottom of it. Behind me was an old black tin tub that mother would build a fire outside, fill the tub with water and heat the water in. The blow from the crank handle sent me backward putting me in that old black tub. It was at this moment that mother came out of the house, seeing me with blood streaming down my face sitting in the tub.

It was while in Arizona those early years of my life that I had several painful accidents, I cut myself on a barbwire fence, it left a scar on my leg a good 6 inches or more long. Blue Bell my pony dragged me cutting my head and scraping a part of the skin of my back. I had a pair of boots that were too large for me, one of them came off setting me free from the rope that was around the horse's neck. Blue Bell threw me off, a landed on the ground on my head which made me sick for a few days. Ben, my cousin, horse kicked me in the shin which made a hole in my leg, I still have a scar from that. I was playing on a pole fence, and fell off hurting myself badly, and got several stitches to sew me back up. A sharp object stuck deep into my finger that caused a bone [feller/fracture] which was extremely painful for several days. Mother had gone someplace and wasn't home, which ever made the pain worse. I used to have painful earaches. While trying to save another boy from drowning in woods pools, he pulled me under the water and almost drowned me, and would have but, a

bigger boy pulled us both out. I ran under one strand of a barbwire fence cutting my face, which left scars.

When about five Albert and I were fighting to see who was going to pull some hay out of the barn, he pushed me out, a mean cow started to charge me, when she was just a few feet away dad just happened to be near and just happened to have a rope in his hands. He roped her, which saved me from a knock by a cow. Another near escape from serious damage to me came when I was about twelve years old. We went up to Oak City Canyon. Some older boys were up on the mountain side rolling rocks. I was going up to be with them. A rock came bouncing down the mountainside directly at me. One of the boys yelled. I looked up. As providence would have it, I spread my legs wide as I could, being too frightened to move out of the way and the rock took a bounce hit the ground exactly between my legs just nicking the inside of my knee and went on down the mountainside. Our stay in Arizona was a delightful one for a young boy such as I. the green pasture, beautiful mountains, and horses, I always had a horse to ride, a river to swim in, and round valley as my playground.

As a student in school, I was just average or a little below. I never earned 100 percent on a spelling test in my life. I remember one incident when the rows of students were having a contest. The row missed the fewest words would receive a prize. I studied until I knew all of the words. Friday, we took the spelling test, and I spelled all of the words correctly, but didn't dot the letter "I" in white, so the word was marked wrong. I was completely crushed, my spirit was broken, I sat there and couldn't hold back the tears. From that time on for the rest of the school year I gave up on spelling.

Somewhere along the line I had an understanding that I was just too dumb to get good grades, that self [misunderstanding] prevailed with me until I went on a mission. However, I was never a good student, but I did maintain A's and B's through my last years in college and graduate school.

I loved Primary all of my Primary days. I can still remember the excitement of going. One lesson that I learned in Primary on the Word of Wisdom came at the right time and has been an influence on me ever since. Dewey Bennet and I had stolen some cigarettes from his dad and smoked them. We went to a special all boys Primary meeting that same afternoon, I can't remember who the speaker was, but I remember the subject was the Word of Wisdom, smoking. I just knew that he smelled the tobacco smoke on me. I was the most miserable of miserable kids. That was the last time that I ever tasted tobacco. I remember another terrible time that I had, an earlier date, with tobacco, we stole some cigars from another friend's dad, went into the old tithing barn and smoked them. I was sick, my friend was sick, we went to his dad's place. His father just happened to be home,

when he saw that we were sick, he said “Smell their breath to see if they have been smoking.”. Caught again. Such was my life as a smoker. Very unpleasant.

Dad farmed both in Arizona and the first few years that we moved to Delta, Albert and I spent many hot days in the hay fields helping bail and haul hay. All the time that we ever worked with dad I can never remember a time when he got angry with us for the mistakes of youth. But he did teach us who to work.

The days in Springerville were happy ones. Just a great place for a young boy to grow up. We had a family of milk cows, horses, chickens, and rabbits, cats and dogs.

Dad decided he wanted to move back to Utah, a little town called Delta. He spent some of his growing up years there so in the spring of 1949 after school was out, he packed his family in a large two-ton truck and moved us to Delta, he had to make two trips. One for the cows and the other for the furniture. In Delta, I was to enjoy my teenage years, make many lifelong friends, and called it my hometown. In Delta is where we buried dad, and in a few short months will bury mother.

I worked in the hay fields in the summer and earned enough to buy a good share of my own clothes. Two summers I worked in the hay mills bagging dehydrated hay. It was a smelly, dusty, hard job. But it paid more than working for the farmers. Of course, I always took time off for scout trips. I played church ball, pitched and caught. But batting is what I was best in. I loved catching but while playing little league baseball my thumb was either broken or sprained so bad that it never did heal. After several years I tried to catch and still couldn't because of the pain, because of my hitting, the high school coach put me in right field. My batting average was a higher percentage than my fielding.

High school was very fun time for me. I had many friends, I was an athlete, captain of the football team, high percentage batter in baseball, and I could have gone to state and perhaps taken state in wrestling, either in the 178 or unlimited class, but I opted to play church basketball. I didn't care to wrestle but enjoyed playing basketball. I didn't make the high school team. Dad had the coach resign over not choosing me to play. Dating was something I did very seldom. My grades were not high enough for me to run for a school office, such a president or as such, but I was elected to many class offices, such as Jr. Class vice president, Seminary President of my class, football team captain. My childhood and high school years slipped by being filled with much joy, success, and sheer happiness.

Dad never made much money, but I was too happy to realize it. we still used an outhouse until I graduated from high school. Albert and I slept in an old cellar because the house was too small for us until the girls left home.

My time was spent with my neighborhood, and ward friends, hunting, some fishing, playing sports, working, attending church, and going to school.

Activities in the Church were many, I was Deacon President, Teacher President, and Priest group Leader. I always attended Church; Albert went I followed him. He was a great help to me during my younger years in teaching me what was right. Always setting a good example. It was a joyous as well as sad day for me when I graduated from high school. The summer after graduation, I worked at the hay mill in Delta. The football coach from college of Southern Utah recruited me to play football for them, and also the football coach from Dixie College. I went to St. George to go to College at Dixie Jr. college. That was one of the best decisions I ever made. For I met my future wife while at Dixie. Those days in St. George were some of the most carefree, days I have ever spent. They were filled with glory from playing football, last long friendships were made, and good clean fun was had. We took the TCAC championship my first year there. But in spite of the good times, there was an emptiness inside me of not knowing what to do with my life. I felt the feeling in High School.

But as the second year of college came to an end, the feeling was [intensifying] the college classes I took filled basic class requirements, but they didn't prepare me for much. I didn't want to go into the army. I didn't want or know where to go to work. I wasn't sure what I should pursue in college, I took what was left, a mission. I didn't care to go on a mission before that time. Having worked the summer, I submitted my papers and went on a mission.

I will digress here for a moment and say that between my first and second year at Dixie I worked on the railroad at Coalville, Utah. While there I met a girl from Morgan, Carol Mae Butters that will at the time of this writing, June 21, 1982, has played an important role in my life, and will yet in the future have a greater influence on me.

My two years in the Northwestern State mission, mostly in the State of Washington, laid a basic foundation for what I wanted out of life. That was to have the Holy Ghost with me and to build a character like that of President Harold B. Lee. He toured the mission field while I was there, my interview with him lasted only a few minutes, but it was to influence me the rest of my life. That interview was the highlight of my mission. For the last six months of my mission President Franklin D. Richards was my Mission President. He is now President of the 1st Quorum of the 70's. but it was on my mission that I started to study and memorizing scripture. Over a thousand of them. But I was stupid and gained a great deal in scriptural understanding and very little in spirituality. Even though I wanted to spiritually, I felt the spirit of the Lord a few times but not many. We found a honest souls that joined the church, but a as a whole I wasn't a very good missionary. My life had to be taken over by the

Lord to sift, punish, and have patience with me before spiritual development would happen. I have often wondered about my testimony, according to almost all that I hear is that each person has to receive a spiritual witness for himself. I never have. The promptings of the still small voice has guided me. My calling and election is made sure I have the 2<sup>nd</sup> comforter, but I never had that spiritual witness. But I had never doubted. The Lord would give me that. I was born with a testimony.

Having completed my two-year mission, I went back to Dixie College, made up some bad grades, and took more classes. Titine and I didn't go together the romance had cooled. I worked for the electric power company that summer and then enrolled in BYU. I went there for three semesters and changed majors three times. Still being lost in my goals, the Spirit of the Lord told me to go in the Army. I did. February 1963. I spent basic training in Fort [Ord] California, crypto school in Georgia at Fort [Gordon]. And then went overseas to England.

England was a great place to be. But in the army, I was still at a loss of what to do with my life. When I was twenty before I went on my mission, I received a Patriarchal Blessing. The blessing had in someways set h whole tone of my life. It started me reading. I have followed its council since that time, this being 1982. A mission was completed from Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1958 throughout 22<sup>nd</sup> (Oct.) 1960 in the Northwestern states. I did more good for myself than anyone else (*talking about his mission service*) although I was instrumental in bringing 6 people into the church, and helped others on their way. I was protected from dogs on two occasions, they tried to bite me, and couldn't, I felt the spirit of the Lord at times in abundance. But had I followed mission rules more closely I would have been a better missionary, done more good for others, and would have pleased the Lord more.

Upon completing a mission, I went back to Dixie College for 2 semesters. Titine and I didn't date; she had other thoughts. But there was still a feeling between us. That lingered until our marriage seven years later.

I worked in Delta the Summer of 1961, went to BYU from 1961- Feb 1962, then under the guidance of the spirit went in the army. I was talking to a friend about his brother that went into the service. The spirit overpowered me telling me that is where I should be, I obeyed. I spent my basic training in fort [Ordo], California crypt school fort Gordon, Georgia, and was shipped to England in Aug. of 1963, to a small intercept base of the Army Security Agency.

I enjoyed England and the beautiful green fields while there. Laying on my bunk one day in the early Summer of 1964, I was thinking about Titine. As we still corresponded occasionally. The spirit said ask her to marry you. I never question the spirit, so I go off my bunk and asked her to marry me. She said that she would come over and see. She did in

August, we were married on the 19<sup>th</sup>, at [Megwith] Hill Chapel, as the temple was closed. We were sealed in the temple in Nov. that same year. We had a year long honeymoon. I finished my Army career in Fort [Wollars], Texas one day after Rebecca our first child was born.

Then back to College at Southern Utah College, graduating in 1967, with an English Communications degree. I went to work for Travelers Insurance group. Worked a year and was fired because I was no salesman. It was after that for the next 10 years that my education started.

I wanted to get rich. Selling seemed to me the fastest way to do it. I failed completely at making money, we lost a home because we couldn't pay for it; we lived in Salt Lake City at the time, we moved to St. George, then to Phoenix, which gave us some good experiences. There I taught Seminary, and really started into a religion, after two years and near poverty in Phoenix and Tempe, we came back to BYU to graduate school. I did all my classwork but never wrote a thesis so I never got a degree.

The Lord blessed us with a survival income. We lived in Spanish Fork at the time, made many friends, and built some good memories. I worked at the Powder plant making explosives, then tried selling real estate, which was a flop. After almost five years in Spanish Fork we moved to Hurricane, another flop in Real Estate. I got a job in the Coal mines. The Lord, with the help (*support*) of my family, then removed my sins from me. And after some more correction from on High, much prayer, and years of fasting, I was finally able to be of some worth to the Lord, while in Huntington while working in the Coal Mines. That been to this time of our lives the most profitable and peaceful time of our lives.

Tom Humphrey, a very dear friend of mine, got me the job. I had never been underground until the day I went to work. I enjoyed coal mining, I don't mind the hard work, and the pay was good. With the help of mom and dad Spilsbury, we bought us a home. A small three bedroom. By this time, we had eight children, of which dad Spilsbury has paid for at least four of them. I have worked in the church wherever we have lived, but in Huntington the leadership roles came, I have been in three Elders quorum presidencies, plus President in the Huntington third. I was called to be a Seventy. The first year until I decided to get into the work was hard. Then after that I thoroughly enjoyed the work, we taught many people, baptized many, and worked very closely with the full-time missionaries. I was called to be one of the seven presidents (*of the Seventies*), then on the splitting of the wards from three to five, I was called to serve in the Bishopric of the Huntington 4<sup>th</sup> ward. That was the most enjoyable job I have had in the church to the present.