

FIFTY GLORIOUS YEARS (1925-1975)

1925

The year 1925 was a memorable one in the history of mankind and, especially, for two young souls residing in Cache Valley, Idaho.

That year the first "Watergate" occurred and it shook the nation. It was called "Tea Pot Dome." The Reformed Seventh-Day-Adventists awaited, in vain, the coming of the end of the world, which had been predicted for the year. There was a revival of the Zionist Movement, when 500 Jews chartered a ship and sailed from New York to Palestine. Some Harvard students started the hippie movement in America by swallowing live gold fish. The King Tut mummy (3,275 years old) was discovered in Egypt. Greece passed a law banning women's skirts if shorter than twelve inches from the ground. Finally, and perhaps in anticipation of what was to occur on August 26, Niagara Falls was first lighted at night by electricity.

The crowning event of this most historic year, at least from the standpoint of this writer, was the engagement and marriage of Della and Earl.

Actually the engagement between Della Comish and Earl Crockett occurred a few days prior to the arrival of the new year 1925. Earl was spending Christmas vacation in the Cornish home. He had ridden from Salt Lake City where he was in school. It was a cold winter evening. Della and Earl were by themselves in the parlor with a wood fire roaring in the Franklin stove. Father and Mother Comish and the younger children were either in bed, or in the large kitchen at the back of the house.

What a thrill Earl had as Della consented to allow him to place an engagement ring on her finger! Early the next morning with some trepidation, Earl asked Della's father and mother if they gave approval. With a smile on his face and a gleam in his eye, after looking at mother Margaret for her signal, father George held out his hand in congratulation.

During the academic year 1924-25, Della taught school at Dayton, Idaho and Earl attended the University of Utah as a sophomore. In March they got together and drove to Grace, Idaho for interviews after applying for fall teaching positions in that school district. In Preston, they picked up Earl's father and mother and sister Jennie, who went along for the ride in the model T ford. At that time it was extremely difficult to get good tires and the roads were unpaved and rough. Consequently, the ride from Preston to Grace and back, some 80 miles total, took all day and into the night. Earl repaired punctured tires many times on the trip. In spite of his dirty rumped appearance while being interviewed by the Board of Trustees, he and Della were hired for teaching positions in a small two-room school at "Sleepy Hollow," a short distance from Grace.

After the school year had ended, Earl joined his brother George in Marsh Valley doing

carpenter work. The jobs were repairing and remodeling school houses and chapels in Downey, Virginia, Arimo and McCamman. George taught Earl a great deal and they had an opportunity to really get acquainted. During the summer, they each bought identical cars-new model A balloon tired fords and Earl felt that he was indevd rich. Part of the summer he had earned \$1 per hour repairing an irrigation flume, high in the air and rather dangerous, working 12 hours per day. By the end of the week he had \$72 and almost felt guilty because the amount was so great!

August 25th Della and Earl drove the new car to Salt Lake City, staying all night with Dave and Pearl, and the next morning on the historic date-August 26th-they were married by Temple President and Apostle George F. Richards in the Salt Lake Temple for time and all eternity.

The next day they returned to Franklin and were "honored" by being forced to head a parade down main street, riding together on an old white horse, with Della wearing a bridal veil in the form of a long lace curtain. Upon reaching Handy's Drug Store, everyone went in and ordered ice cream sodas charging the bill to Earl. It was all great fun.

Before leaving on a honeymoon, Earl went to Sleepy Hollow and repaired an old log house they were to live in while teaching school, beginning in September. It was a one-room log house, with an unheated lean-to at the back, to serve as a bedroom. He laid a new floor and lined the log walls and ceiling with building paper. A large kitchen coal range was to be used for cooking and heating.

The honeymoon trip was to Portland, Oregon and lasted about ten days. The newlyweds traveled to Portland with George and Estella and family in their identical cars. George was moving to Oregon where, after 50 years, surviving members of the family, including Estella, still reside. Red bandana handkerchiefs were attached to the rear of each car for identification purposes as they traveled. Three days were taken in getting to Portland. While there, Earl and Della visited with Mary and Luther and their children 'and even drove to Corvallis and stayed one night with Della's uncle Newell and family. He was teaching at Oregon State University.

The teaching experience at Sleepy Hollow extended into 1926 and shall be discussed briefly as it relates to that later year. Enough has been said about 1925, even though an entire book could probably be writ- ten on events of that important first year alone.

1926

The academic year at Sleepy Hollow was not an easy one from the viewpoint of teaching. Della had the first four grades and Earl the last four and he served as both principal and janitor. He also had several full-grown boys in the 7th and 8th grades who didn't want to study.

There was no plumbing in the log home and it was necessary to carry water from a spring about one block distant. Della cooked and baked in the crude iron range, but meals were always delicious. She kept clothes sparkling clean by using a washboard, for there was no machine. The new husband learned that his wife really liked having fresh air in the bedroom at night. In

spite of the unheated lean-to, the window was always raised at least a little.

In May, the couple moved to Salt Lake City so that Earl could continue his classes at the University of Utah. They found a little home at 738 East Seventh South which they rented for \$15 per month, and Della proceeded to furnish it beautifully. Earl obtained a Saturday job with Penney's, he also became custodian for the University library and graded papers for one of the professors in the College of Business. Needless to say, he was kept busy, but Della helped him with the library cleaning.

Early in June, Earl took Della to her Mother's home in Franklin and on June 10th a wonderful event transpired. Their first baby, Marian Joy, was born. Dr. Cutler came in the evening of the 9th and stayed all night as Marian did not arrive until about 5 a.m. on the 10th. His total bill was \$75. Marian was a beautiful baby and the parents soon learned that she was also unusually smart.

The library floor needed scrubbing each Sunday-that was the only day the library was closed. When Marian (Joy as we called her until she started school) was about six months old, they placed her on the library floor on a blanket and proceeded to clean in various rooms. Suddenly they heard the baby cry and rushed over to see her crawling on the dirty floor-it had been muddy outside that day-with tears mingled with mud running down her cheeks. She had turned over and started crawling- the first time in her life!

Quotations from a letter Earl wrote to his father dated November 25th are as follows:

Best wishes for a very happy birthday. I can hardly believe that you are seventy-you don't look like an old man. I often think of what a lot you and mother have done for me . . . You have set an example of correct living which will be an inspiration and guide all my life . . . Your poor eyesight has been a great handicap . . . I don't see how you supported a large family of eleven children . . . You never kept me out of school a single day to help you with work.

1927

This was the year Charles Lindberg made his historic nonstop flight from New York to Paris in a single engine plane.

When the spring term ended, the three Crocketts moved to Preston where they lived during the summer with Earl's parents in the large house on First North Street. Prior to leaving Salt Lake, in fact on March 21st, Earl wrote in part, this letter:

Dearest Parents: I just opened your letter with the wonderful surprise in it! I don't know when I have ever been so tickled over anything. \$200 seems like an awful lot of money to us, especially now. Many, many thanks. I am going to pay off the \$100 we owe the bank and make the other \$100 last until school is out in May. [Note: Earl's parents had sent the money after careful saving and explained that they had sent the other boys on missions, but hadn't been able to send him. I

During the summer in Preston, Earl worked as a carpenter for Roy Greaves. He was not a finishing wood worker, but could do rough work including the shingling of roofs and the laying of floors.

In September the couple both accepted teaching positions in Lund, Idaho, staying in two rooms of Elva and Leols home for the year. While they were in school, Elva took care of Marian Joy. Considering the low salaries received, much of the income was saved toward paying for graduate study. Earl's major was Economics and he wanted to obtain a Ph. D. degree. He had attended the University of Utah only three years. However, transferred credit from Idaho Tech, and some correspondence courses taken at Grace and Lund completed all requirements, and he graduated with the B.S. degree.

1928

As the year progressed, Lou Dean, five years old, Mae, three and Marian nearly two, had lots of fun together. In the winter, the parents often froze ice cream in a hand freezer. The three children would run every few minutes with dishes and spoons to test the ice cream and each would sing, "I scream for ice cream"-they loved it.

In May, the diploma arrived from the U of U showing honors because of high grades and Earl was thrilled. It would make possible taking graduate study at the University of California without paying out-of-state tuition. Della deserves equal credit for the accomplishment, as well as other subsequent achievements and honors. During the early years of marriage she worked and gave financial support and always encouraged him to perform well, expressing confidence in his ability to excel. A husband surely is blessed when he has a wonderful wife such as Della.

When May came, the three Crocketts moved to Berkeley, California where he began graduate study. The ride across the Nevada desert was an adventure in itself with washboard roads and a leaky radiator. Earl made a mistake, unknowingly, he put salt water in the radiator-by the time they arrived in Berkeley, most of the rubber hose connections were eaten away.

It was surely an adventure going to California. None of the couple's classmates had gone away for graduate study-certainly not as far away as Berkeley, and it became a daring, adventurous, but glorious undertaking. Natural questions arising: Could they finance the expensive schooling, and had Earl the ability, energy and "stick-to-itiveness" sufficient to achieve a Ph.D. degree-there were then relatively few throughout the nation.

They found the University of California, at that time, to be a quiet, scholarly place with a beautiful campus and outstanding professors.

At two years of age, Marian was a great talker, singer and reciter of poems. She loved to have Delia read to her by the hour and with a few pictures on the pages, Joy could do a remarkable job of pre-tending to read the stories herself.

There was a branch of the church in Berkeley with very friendly members. The Crocketts were wholeheartedly welcomed into the group and soon they felt as though they had always lived there. Earl became first counselor in the Sunday School superintendency and Della first counselor in the YLMIA presidency. She also served on the San Francisco Primary stake board.

Church friends made in Berkeley remained friends for many years thereafter by an exchange of Christmas messages, if through no other means. An example of continued friendship, when Mrs. Emma Russell, who had continued to live in California, died in 1975-Earl was asked to speak at her funeral-forty years after there had been much direct contact.

1929

After living temporarily in two different apartments near the campus, the Crocketts moved to a new apartment house on Russell Street, some four or five miles distant. They still had their ford car, however, to travel to school, church, to shopping, etc. , often in Oakland or San Francisco.

The apartment house was owned by two Jewish brothers, who had advertised for a house manager. Della saw the ad and she and Earl went for an interview. There was a long line of applicants both ahead and behind, however, when it was their turn and Della was interviewed, one brother said to the other, "This is the lady we want," and they disbanded the remaining applicants without interviewing them. Della's job was to rent out the apartments, collect the rent money, keep the halls clean, while Earl took care of the outside lawn. In return, they lived in a rent-free apartment with no cost for telephone, lights, water and heat. Earl also kept books and accounts for the Jewish brothers for extra pay. There was a city park across the street with swings, teeters and slides for Marian. It was an ideal place to live.

Della's sister, Reata, was getting a Master's degree at Mills College, Oakland, and often came to visit. Also, her parents came a time or two. It was a great convenience having a furnished vacant apartment for them on Russell Street.

Beginning with the fall term in 1929, Earl became a University teaching fellow in introductory economics. He taught three classes, each one meeting twice a week and received a reasonable salary. This work was good experience and very enjoyable. It lasted until graduation in 1931. The experience was also good on his record. He could always say that he had taught at one of the very best schools in the nation-the University of California!

Della became ill with bleeding ulcers and spent about a week in the hospital. Happily, she soon fully recovered, and this difficulty reoccurred only once again-some ten years later in Colorado.

While she was in the hospital, Marian Joy wrote her a letter with Earl's help. The following are quotes from the letter:

Dearest Mother-

Guess what! I had my hair cut this morning and sat just as still as could be, only when the clippers tickled my neck and then I had to hunch my shoulders up and giggle. The barber gave me some candy because I was so good.

Tomorrow night Daddy will bring you some pictures of me taken with my short hair. I hope they are good.

I liked your letter you sent last night and Daddy liked his. I'm so glad you are getting well and strong. Hurry and come home. Love, Joy

[Note: She made kisses and hugs all around the edges of the letter and where two kisses overlapped she said, "That is an H."]

The following are quotations from a letter received from Earl's Mother dated August 21, 1929:

Our dear children Earl, Della and Joy: It is now 2 p. m. , dinner is over, father is asleep and I shall answer your welcome letter which arrived yesterday. We were pleased as ever to hear from you. Your letter was very interesting telling about your trip to San Francisco by ferry boat, then down to San Jose and Monterey. The orchards must have been beautiful. We got a wedding card from Jennie and Maurice on the 19th. They had been married just one month (in Philip- pine Islands).
Your loving parents

1930

As 1930 came and the months passed, Earl worked hard in his classes and studied the French and German languages preparatory to taking preliminary examinations for the Ph. D. degree. His committee was composed of seven professors in economics, business, history and political science. The languages needed to be passed first and this was accomplished by summer time. A date was fixed for the oral prelims for October. This examination is a comprehensive one which decides whether the candidate is qualified to pursue the work further by writing a thesis and then passing a final exam. It is the big step at which point most candidates fail, if they are going to fail at all.

As Earl was working hard in preparation, sad news came from Preston. His father Ozro was seriously ill and not expected to live more than a few days. Consequently, he postponed his oral prelims until January and journeyed by train to Preston.

His father had had a severe stroke and was unconscious. He remained in this condition until his death on October 2, 1930, two days after Earl's arrival. All eleven children and mother Ruth were there, except Jennie, who was in the Philippines. The funeral was a beautiful service and father Ozro was buried in the Logan cemetery. Mother was indeed saddened and for weeks she had a child or grandchild staying with her at least at night. After a few months she sold the

home and moved into two rooms in Ruth Ann's home. Sister Ruth Ann was a great help to her mother during subsequent years.

1931

In January, Earl took his comprehensive prelims. He and the seven professors sat around the table for three hours. First one, then another would ask questions. Finally, he was excused from the room and told to wait nearby. In probably less than three minutes he was called back and congratulated by each member of the committee. They told him he had passed with flying colors. In a daze, he walked out of the building and joined Della and Marian, who had unexpectedly traveled by bus from home, because they wanted to be with him. Needless to say, the little family celebrated that day.

Earl proceeded to begin work on his thesis, the approved subject being "History of California Labor Legislation, 1910-30." He hoped to finish in time to take a teaching position in September. 1931 was one of the first years of the Great Depression and jobs were not plentiful.

About 100 universities and colleges were picked throughout the nation and applications were sent to these schools. Della did all the typing which was a big job. Replies came back with much the same discouraging information. "We are keeping your letter for possible future reference, however, we anticipate no vacancies in the entire university." "Yes teachers retire, die or resign, we are not replacing them because of lack of funds."

Finally, toward the end of the summer, Earl obtained two offers -one at Sacramento Junior College and the other at the University of North Dakota. Although the salary at North Dakota was only \$2400, his committee recommended that he take that position because it was a senior college. This he did, after he and Della considered all the pros and cons.

Work on the thesis progressed and when summer came, Della and Marian traveled to Franklin so that they could visit with their families before the need of going to the distant North Dakota in September.

As Della left at the depot, many of the women and girls who had worked with her in the stake and ward primary were there to say good-bye and wish her well. They really loved her and appreciated her past services.

Toward the end of August the thesis was completed, the final examination successfully passed and the new Dr. Earl C. Crockett left by train for Idaho. He sold the 1925 model A "honey-moon" car for \$30 -it had served its day.

After short visits in Preston and Franklin, the three Crocketts left by train for Grand Forks, North Dakota. They found a satisfactory apartment in which to live. It was conveniently located near the campus.

Going to North Dakota University was a new experience. There were no other Mormons on the faculty and the Crocketts had some misgivings, expecting possible social rejection and

loneliness. Nothing, however, could have been farther from the truth. Faculty members wholeheartedly accepted them with visits, enthusiastic welcome, dinners and parties. Actually, although the three years at North Dakota had problems, mostly due to the great depression, they were overall glorious years too.

Earl's teaching load was five different courses, only one of which he had taught before-a total of 15 credit hours per week. This was a tremendous load and it kept him busy keeping ahead of the students.

A wonderful thing happened on December 11th. Della presented the family with a second child, a boy whom they named Robert Comish Crockett. Mother and son got along fine. On Christmas day, their neighbors, the John Rellahans had them to dinner. They put little Robert in a dresser drawer, where he slept during the meal.

The year ended with happiness, but much snow, ice and bitter cold winds. The Crocketts were not accustomed to living so near the North Pole!

The parents still remember a frightening winter episode which turned out to be amusing. About daybreak they awakened and were startled to find no Marian Joy in bed or even in the apartment. They quickly dressed and began looking everywhere with great concern. Finally, the milkman in his horse-drawn cart came along and let jubilant Marian out-she had requested a ride with him around the block as he delivered milk.

1932

The depression deepened and the University followed the example of other employers in the nation by cutting salaries even lower than they had been. The family moved into Mr. Earl's house located half -way between town and school. There was space for a garden with wonderful black soil and various vegetables were grown. An excellent second- hand Ford car was purchased.

There was a small active branch of the Church in Grand Forks and missionaries were often stationed in the area. The family frequently had the missionaries to Sunday dinner. Many of the members of the Branch were new converts and needed fellowship, which the Crocketts tried to accomplish. In September they received the following letter from the Mission President:

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Office of North Central States Mission

Dear Brother and Sister Crockett:

It seems to me, if I had the delicacy of touch to do it just as I should like, that I would wish to extend to you good people a word of approval and commendation. There are many people in the world who would serve the Master

and their fellow man if they could, and many others who could if they would; but, the man the world is waiting for is the fellow who CAN and WILL. To this class, in my opinion, you both belong. Please accept my sincere commendation and love. I know something good about you; and I am proud of you. May the Lord continue to bless and prosper you as you both so richly deserve.

Sincerely your Brother,
ISI Arthur Welling, President

AW/MT

Faculty members were very friendly people and Della, especially, was invited to join several clubs. One partly humorous activity of faculty members, during those severe depression years, was passing word from one to another regarding how money could be saved by such methods as heating water in the garden hose placed in the sun, cooking food on the edge of the furnace door, half -soling shoes by using pieces of worn out rubber tires, etc. Friends made in North Dakota became widely scattered over the nation and still keep in touch through correspondence. It is sad to see them getting old and now (1975) at frequent intervals, hearing about some of them passing on.

Bob learned to walk when nine months of age and he soon had a craving to climb on anything available, such as chairs, table, cup- boards, etc. One day he was left alone in the kitchen for a few minutes and when Della came in, Bob was sitting on top of the table with a full carton of eggs all smashed and dripping on his head, face and clothes.

Being six years of age, Marian entered school in the first grade and did very well indeed. She loved to read and write.

1933

As Earl continued teaching, the work became easier and very enjoyable. Even though it was a 15 hour load, he had now taught all of the courses before and thus preparations required less time.

Every winter was very cold and after the New Year in 1933, this was especially the case. One morning he got up, looked at the thermo- meter, and exclaimed, "It's warming up; it's only 30' below zero!"

When summer came, Della's mother and sister Reata came to Grand Forks for a visit, which was very enjoyable for the Crocketts. Also, during the summer, Earl and Della visited Chicago and the World's Fair. It was quite an adventure and very educational.

During 1933, the Ozro Crockett family started a grand-round chain letter, which continued for over 30 years. It was initially pro- moted by Mary. This was a great way for all members of the family to keep each other informed. The letters circulated about twice each

year. As Earl's or Della's letters came back each time (to be replaced by a new one) they were saved and are now helpful in writing this fifty year history.

Part of the first letter sent by Earl is as follows:

December 18, 1933

Dearest family-

Merry Xmas and a prosperous New Year to you who see this soon, to the rest of you, Easter Greetings !! Gladly do I add my bit and I promise to function as a link in the chain as long as grand-round lasts.

We are well in North Dakota. I am afraid you people in Idaho are stealing California's stuff when you praise your climate so much. Are you trying to make us less fortunate ones jealous? We have had plenty of winter out here. Joy is taking ballet dancing lessons this year and is so enthused, she goes flitting about the house like a butterfly on her toes and waving her arms. Robert tries to imitate and is surely a scream to watch. He had his two-year old birthday last week. Delia made him a cake and for two days everyone was dragged frequently over to the frigidaire to inspect the cake (with candles) or what remained of it. He is learning to put words together in sentences now.

1933 was momentous in a national and world sense. Hitler became Chancellor of Germany-a step leading to the tragic Second World War. Franklin D. Roosevelt became President of our country and began trying measures to reduce the severity of our great depression. In many places unemployment was as high as 20 and 30 percent of the labor force.

1934

Earl's salary had been cut to \$1500 per year for 1933-34, the University President's to \$500, and 20 faculty members were dismissed. It is not surprising that many remaining on the staff, including Earl and most of his friends, began looking for positions in other states where financial conditions might be better.

A letter sent to his major professor at Berkeley, led to a job offer for the summer. It was a position with the National Longshoreman's Board in San Francisco and was gladly accepted.

On the way to San Francisco, the family visited Yellowstone Park. It was the tenth of June, Marian's birthday (8 years old) and the family ate birthday cake watching the beautiful canyon falls. Upon reaching Franklin and Preston there was hurried visiting with the families and a side-trip to the Logan Temple where Della had been baptized, so that Marian could be baptized at the same place.

The main destination, Berkeley, was finally reached. The family resided there for the summer and it was great to see the many friends again, after a three-year absence.

Earl immediately reported for work in San Francisco. He commuted by ferry boat each day, for the Bay bridges were just in the construction stage. He worked for the Longshoremen's Board as a special investigator. In June, the Board had been appointed by President Roosevelt to settle the dockworker's and seamen's strike which had continued in all Pacific coast harbors of the nation for six weeks time.

The docks were piled high with cargo which could not be transported to warehouses, shops or stores, and dozens of unloaded ships were anchored at the docks, especially in San Francisco. The men on strike were attempting to obtain the right to organize into unions and to engage in collective bargaining.

By July 2nd, the employers association decided to transport goods with strike breakers and battles ensued. Several men were killed and there was a stalemate. The Board was helpless in settling the dispute. For four days, there was even a sympathetic general strike in all of the Bay region and most activity came to a halt, even street-cars and taxis. Earl supervised an election among the seamen along the Pacific Coast to determine the proper union to represent them.

Finally, the Board succeeded in getting both sides to arbitrate and the settlement turned out to be rather favorable for the longshoremen and seamen.

During some of the crises of the summer, Earl had direct contact with many government leaders from Washington D. C. who came to San Francisco either to investigate or to assist the Board. These included Senator Wagner of New York, Postmaster General Farley, Francis Perkins, Secretary of Labor, General Johnson of the NRA and even President Roosevelt himself. At times it appeared as though the National Capital was almost being moved to San Francisco.

The summer was a great experience for the entire family and one to be always remembered.

By August, the Economics Department at the University of California obtained a teaching position for Earl as Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado and, in September, the family moved to Boulder. This turned out to be a happy move, indeed, as subsequent experiences proved. Furniture was sent from North Dakota and a home was rented on Eighth East Street.

Shortly after arrival in Boulder, Della was shopping in the downtown business section with Bob, who was three years of age. She was in a department store looking at some goods, when suddenly she realized that Bob had disappeared. He was not in the store nor on the street in front. She became highly concerned and notified a policeman on the street corner. After 30 minutes of search, Bob was finally located in a barber shop across the street and a block away. He was seated in an unused barber chair happily eating an all-day sucker given him by the barber. Apparently, his curiosity had caused him to go outside the store and to the street

corner, where a woman helped him across the busy street, assuming that was his destination. He then wandered into the barbershop thinking he might find his daddy there. Bob was always an adventurous, unfearful soul, with great confidence and trust in others.

1935

Earl experienced pleasure in teaching at the University of Colorado. The teaching load was only ten hours per week and the courses were ones he had taught before. His specialization became public finance and taxation and as years passed he became a tax consultant for the legislature and at least three governors of the state.

He was elected secretary-treasurer of the informal senate-the faculty club-which gave him an opportunity to become acquainted with the entire faculty the first year.

Della rapidly made many friends. It was surprising how many people called to the home the first fall semester to welcome them. There were also several faculty groups the Crocketts joined for exchanging evening parties in the various homes.

Marian was happy in the third grade and Bob had many little friends in the neighborhood.

The North Dakota model A Ford was turned in as down payment on a new and beautiful four-door De Soto car which was loved by all.

The Ozro Crockett round robin family letter was still circulating and the following is a quotation from Earl's letter to his mother, brothers and sisters, dated October 18, 1935:

Permit me to suggest a motto for the Crockett family: "We believe in ourselves." It came to mind when I read Mother's statement that we are "gifted with many talents which have to be brought to light." I agree and believe also that we often are inclined toward over modesty. Humbleness is a virtue, but perhaps sometimes can be carried too far. Let's all vow that wherever we may be, or whatever we may do, we'll show the world that the Crocketts are somebody. Of course let's not be proud or haughty, but we can humbly believe in ourselves.

Della and Earl decided that they would not confine their professional and social contacts to merely faculty and wives within their department or college, but to make friends university-wide and also among down-town people. Their goal was soon achieved. Boulder people were most friendly and it was discovered that many families had the practice of entertaining guests in their homes with dinners. In fact it was customary for many, and soon including the Crocketts, to exchange dinners and share stimulating conversations and sometimes

special programs.

The Art Club asked Della to join and also the prestigious Round Table-a literary club. She also joined and was very active in the Faculty Women's Club.

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The following are quotes from a letter Marian wrote, perhaps assisted some by her mother, to Grandma Crockett, April 5th:

I was one of three chosen out of 4th grade to be in the Spring Operetta, singing with others in the 5th and 6th grades.
The name is "Cinderella in Flowerland."

Last week Daddy made a bird house for the little wren. It is white and we put it on top of the garage. Since coming to Colorado we see lots of song birds. Some of them are: catbirds, wrens, Baltimore orioles, blue birds and king birds.

Barbara and Colleen and I are starting a sewing club. We have invited six others to join.

When I took my French lesson last Saturday, my teacher gave me a bouquet of violets and I am sending you one blossom.

With love,
Marian Joy

People frequently complimented Joy on her large beautiful brown eyes. They might say, "My your brown eyes are beautiful." Bob had hazel eyes and apparently had watched and heard the compliments regarding brown ones. One day at the dinner table, he very seriously asked, "Mother, are hazel eyes better than no eyes at all?"

The family moved to a more spacious house located at 776-14th Street, which they rented for about two years.

This was in preparation for a fondly anticipated addition to their family and as it turned out, the big event of the year was the birth on May 18th of a second wonderful son, whom they named Earl David. He was a beautiful baby, good natured and healthy. It was great fun for the parents to watch Marian and Bob happily take turns holding him, feeding him from a bottle, and later helping teach him to walk, to talk, or still later to ride a tricycle.

Shortly after David's birth, Della's Mother came for two weeks to assist and to visit. She brought a suitcase packed with presents for the new baby, and also for the other children. Her stay was most appreciated and enjoyed by all.

In August the family received the following sad, but loving and spiritual message from Earl's Mother:

MY FAREWELL

Written 4 A.M. Thursday Aug. 20, 1936.

My dear children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, I feel very much impressed to write this message to you and arose from my bed to do so. When the time comes for me to be called from this mortal life I would like to bid you all a fond good-by, but only temporary, for we hope to all meet again beyond the grave and live and work together and enjoy each other's company throughout all eternity. I may pass like your dear father did, without being able to do this, so I want to bear you my testimony, that I know the Gospel is true. It has been a source of joy and comfort to me all through my life from my early girlhood days.

My big aim in life has been to seek my Heavenly Father in prayer for help and support, and I have received the same to the fullest extent. I feel richly rewarded for putting my trust in Him and trying to do what is right all my life.

I would ask you, my dear ones, to always do the same, and you will reap much real joy and comfort, strength and courage to carry on the wonderful work of the Lord, and in gaining a salvation in the Kingdom of God forever.

May our Heavenly Father bless you all my dear ones, that I love so well, and may you ever be humble and prayerful and true to the faith in the Gospel of our Lord, is my prayer for you all.

Lovingly Your Mother, grand-
mother, and great-grandmother
Ruth C. Crockett

She actually lived nine years longer, until she was nearly 90 years old. Almost until the last, she was able to wait upon herself, however, her daughter Ruth was always of great assistance.

1937

The Crocketts assisted in the organization of an LDS Sunday School in Boulder. By now there were several Mormon families residing in the area, as well as a few students. Sunday School was held in the Odd Fellows Hall and, each Sunday morning, someone had to go early

and sweep out cigarette butts and cover the slot machines. Good services were held, however, and it was much more convenient than driving to Denver. Della was appointed Gospel Doctrine teacher and the class steadily grew in size.

Missionaries began coming to the Boulder area and they were always welcomed into the Crockett home. Della fed them and encouraged them to do their best.

In June, Earl's mother came to Boulder for the first time and visited for two or three weeks. After her departure, Della sent a letter which in part stated:

Dear Mother:

I am enclosing a syringa blossom. There is a large syringa bush on the north of our front porch. It is in full bloom and beautiful . . . The children are making wild flower scrap books. Robert's love of flowers made him want to pick every wild flower he saw.

Marian is taking tennis lessons. She is also taking an art class this summer. We were all very lonesome after you left. Marian said, "The worst of having someone come to see us is that it is so hard to swallow when they are leaving."

We all often wonder what Grandma would think if she could see David do this or that. He has his bath in the big tub now and almost drowns us all. He does lots of standing alone-we are holding our breath for the first little steps.

We had especially wished you had been here to celebrate Earl's promotion with us. He is one of the youngest associate professors in our big university. This summer he is again Acting Department Chairman in Economics-with eight men under him . . .

Affectionately,
Della

1938

The Crocketts purchased their 941 Grant Place home and had it remodeled. There was a spacious yard with grass and trees, even some fruit trees-cherries, apples and peaches. Across the back of the lot, facing the alley was a beautiful lilac hedge. The house was a colonial-two stories plus an attic and a partly finished basement. It was a large white brick house with firm foundations, strong walls and good roof. However, the house needed much remodeling, even changing the stairway, the porch, building a fireplace and kitchen cabinets, installing new plumbing, sanding floors, shingling the roof, and complete repainting inside and out.

Della furnished the home beautifully with new carpeting, drapes, a Knabe baby grand

piano and other new furniture.

The family settled down in the spacious home, finding it comfortable indeed. With thick walls and shade trees, it was cool in summer and easily heated in winter. The Grant Place house was really where the oldest three children grew up and thought of as home. It was owned and lived in by the family for 13 years, except for one and a half years during the War, in Washington D. C.

As Dave approached two years of age, he was still saying very little, although he could communicate with gestures, etc. Then suddenly and surprisingly to everyone in the family, he began saying whole sentences. Out of the clear blue sky, as the family drove into the garage, one day, Dave pointed and said, "That's Daddy's fishing basket," or another time as Earl was lathing a wall in the house remodeling project, with lath nails in his mouth, Dave excitedly spoke up, "Daddy you must not put nails in your mouth, you might swallow them!"

During the summer of 1938, Della had a reoccurrence of her stomach ulcer-perhaps she had worked too hard in supervising the remodeling of the house and furnishing it. For a change and rest, the family traveled in their De Soto car into the Colorado mountains, largely camping out and living in a tent. They visited such places as Leadville, Aspen, Gunnison, Durango and the Million Dollar Highway. Each morning, as the children awakened, little Dave excitedly exclaimed, "The same trip, Daddy?"

The beautiful scenery, restful travel, and eating simple food, but including Colorado steak dinners, was apparently just what Della needed, for she quickly and completely recovered from her illness.

As the family often camped by a canyon stream, there were mountains which Marian and Bob loved to climb, and then upon reaching the summit, to excitedly wave down to the rest of the family. Both Marian and Bob were very active and athletic as they were growing up and in their teens. Marian had quite a reputation for doing handsprings and turning cartwheels-many times without stopping. Bob was always very interested in all kinds of sports and overjoyed whenever he made the basketball team or football squad.

1939

Two events of great importance occurred in 1939. The Second World War began in Europe and Della and Earl with Marian and Bob took their first long trip away from home. It was a journey by auto to Quebec, New England, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. David, only three years of age, was left with the Hatch family. He apparently enjoyed himself playing each day with Mary Ann and Lota.

The drive East lasted about two weeks and was taken leisurely enough to be thoroughly enjoyable. In fact, many historic sites visited, made the trip exciting for all. They first went to the city of Quebec in Canada. They stood on Cape Diamond and looked down upon the beautiful St. Lawrence River. They walked the Plains of Abraham, the site of the famous battle

between the French and British, and saluted the large monument of the British General James Wolfe, who won the battle and ultimately the war. Della greeted some guards in uniform, speaking in French, and the children were surprised and impressed.

Returning to the United States, the drive through New Hampshire was beautiful, and upon reaching the Boston area, many historic sites were visited, including Concord and Lexington, the route of Paul Revere from the Old South Church, the homes of Longfellow and other poets and the Glass Flower Museum at Harvard University.

The family found an apartment near Columbia University, where they stayed a few days in New York City. Driving through the streets on Sunday morning was easy, as there was almost no traffic. Then on they went to Philadelphia with Independence Hall and its Liberty Bell. As they arrived at the edge of Washington D. C. , Earl asked a policeman how to get to the White House and he said, "Just follow me," and on his motorcycle guided the family to the President's White House home. Did he think the Crocketts were important people?-perhaps cousins of the Roosevelts?

There was a visit to the Capitol Building, Arlington Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Lincoln and Washington Monuments. They went to the top of the Washington Monument, by elevator, but they all decided to walk down, and in doing so, they got tired and had stiff legs for two days. The children were quite impressed with Lindberg's flight of St. Louis in the Smithsonian Museum.

The return home was uneventful, yet Earl recalls the most delicious and sweet watermelon ever eaten, being obtained from a roadside stand in Indiana.

In 1939, the family was saddened by the death of Earl's sister Lucile at the age of 43. She was the first to go among the eleven brothers and sisters in the Ozro Crockett family.

?????? bell-bottom trousers and wearing a long watch chain dangling down to his ankles.

1940

As Dr. Bushee retired from the University, Earl was appointed in his place as Chairman of the Department of Social Sciences, which included anthropology, economics, political science and sociology. The department was changed to a Division and each of the subject areas were made departments. Thus, he had many faculty members to supervise and the responsibility for employing four new department heads.

That spring he was also promoted to full Professor.

He decided to attend the American Economics Association convention held in New Orleans about Christmas time, so that he could interview prospective candidates for Chairman of Economics. He took Della along and they were invited to ride by auto with a Professor and his wife from the University of Denver.

Dwayne and Reba with Della's Mother drove to Boulder and stayed with the Crockett children.

New Orleans was found to be one of the most beautiful and interesting cities of the nation. The Christmas decorations were everywhere. The conference was held in the beautiful new Roosevelt Hotel where many friends and acquaintances of the Crocketts also stayed. A number, getting together, spent the holidays and evenings in the French Quarter and other places at dances and parties.

Another sad event occurred. In 1940, Earl's brother George died at the age of 54. He and his family were residing in Portland, Oregon. The reader may recall Earl and Della's honeymoon was a trip to Portland at which time George and family had also traveled to that city.

When Dave was a little boy he often wore sailor suits. They were much the same style as worn by the ROTC Navy boys at the University and were loved by Dave. Apparently they made a hit with most women too, for when they saw darling little Dave, dressed so beautifully in navy style, they would want to hug and kiss him. Of course his blond hair and brown eyes might have been the big attraction.

The spring of 1940, Marian was nominated and elected to the highly honored position of Head Girl for her senior year at Uni-Hill Junior High. She had many influential class members, especially boys, who had campaigned for her election.

1941

As the war developed in Europe and, especially, after President Roosevelt's Lend-Lease assistance program for England, vigorous debates and discussions occurred among people throughout the country, including those in Boulder. As the Crocketts entertained friends in their home, or attended social functions in other homes, discussions inevitably led to the question: "What should America do?," "How can Hitler be controlled?"

During the latter part of the summer, it was decided to take a vacation and the family visited in Franklin and Preston and then went to Long Beach, California, where they lived in an apartment on the beach for a few weeks. The children had a wonderful time swimming-Dave had learned to swim-and Marian and Bob swam like fish. Earl's brother David and wife Pearl visited them there.

Marian returned to Boulder ahead of the family, so that she could attend school early. She was a new sophomore in the senior high school. After arrival in Boulder, the following is part of a letter she wrote:

September, 1941

Dear Family:

Today was the flag rush and I had such a wonderful time. This morning we went to school at 7:30. First, we

went to assembly and everyone was dressed in pajamas, except the sophomores . . . We had thirty minute classes and got out at noon. At 1:30 we went down to 17th and Grove streets to watch the Sophs and Juniors in their flag raising contest, climbing Flag Staff Mountain. We were in Helen Picket's car-with us were Barbara, Nancy, Pat and Mary Ellen. [Note: Marian then described in detail the contest indicating that her class, the Sophs, won!]

I've never had so much fun in all my life. Tonight is the Flag-rush Dance. I am going with John. I got a darling dress.

I am a biologist and you'll see me chasing insects and bugs with a net. If you see any rare insects, Bob or Dave, be sure and bring them . . . We think our geometry teacher is marvelous. If anybody could make me like geometry it's him . . .

Love, Marian

When Dave was a young child, he and his boy friend Ronnie, would play with electric trains and construction toys, with initiative and imagination. They demonstrated considerable skill, especially, for their very young ages. They even stretched a wire from Dave's upstairs bedroom window to far outside the house and operated a primitive telephone system. Perhaps it is no wonder that in college, Dave majored in electrical engineering.

When he was five years old and attending a private kindergarten, his teacher said David was the best socially adjusted child in the entire class.

On December 7, all of the family were skiing at Estes Park. Even Dave was learning how to balance and guide himself on skis. It is true that Earl and Della rested quite often. While sitting in the car watching the children have great fun, the radio was turned on and shockingly they heard the report of the Pearl Harbor attack by the Japanese! This of course plunged our nation into the Second World War.

1942

As the war developed, government agencies rapidly expanded while new ones were organized for the purpose of conducting the war. One of the latter, was the War Production Board. Within this organization was the Office of Civilian Requirements, and within it, a unit of government concerned with wholesale-retail activities. Earl was invited to take a position with the government as Principal Economist, to supervise the Wholesale-Retail Unit. After considerable discussion, Della and Earl decided to do their bit for the war effort by accepting the invitation. In April, they found tenants for the Grant Place home and took the family to Washington, D. C.

Their Boulder friends held parties with going away good wishes and they were on their

way.

A duplex apartment was found at 5050 Benning Road in Bradbury Heights, Maryland, just outside Washington city limits, and Della proceeded to see that it was comfortably furnished, which was not easy because some appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines were scarce.

During the year and four months the family was in Washington, Earl enjoyed his work and felt that he was making a contribution. He supervised case studies in Baltimore, New York City, Buffalo and Hartford, Conn. The purpose of these studies was to determine genuine civilian needs during the war period. To the extent possible, scarce materials such as copper, steel, gasoline and rubber, as well as labor power, were transferred from civilian products to war industries.

Sometimes silly suggestions were made by uninformed people. For example, in order to save steel, it was seriously proposed by one man, that horses might have their steel shoes removed, when they are through work each day and then have them replaced in the mornings !

The family joined Capital Ward where David Kennedy was bishop. Ezra T. Bensen was stake president. The people were most friendly and it was enjoyable for the entire family in attending church services. Delta taught the literary lessons in Relief Society and Marian taught a Sunday School class.

Della became very active in the League of Women Voters, joining a group which frequently visited the House and Senate. and had luncheons in various interesting places in the city.

It was a great opportunity for the family to attend outstanding operas and stage plays. Broadway productions frequently came to Washington with the regular cast of famous people. They saw Ethel and Lionel Barrymore, Joan Fontaine, Helen Hayes, Alford Lunt, Lynn Fontaine and many others. When the Barnum and Baily Circus came to town, the children were entranced with it.

In the fall, the children attended school in the District, Dave beginning first grade. They all did very well. At the end of the school year, David's report card had the following:

Promoted to second grade. David has made excellent progress in all his work. His seatwork is always very neat and accurate. He is a good thinker and is able to reason things out for himself. He has contributed a great deal to his class in the way of discussions.

Dave broke his arm, but this didn't stop him long.

Apparently Bob's teacher was quite committed to the importance of intelligence tests. After giving them to members of the class, she reported to his parents that Bob had an I.Q. of 165-the highest in the whole class.

In the Washington school, Marian had excellent grades. She began dating boys, one of them a sporty young jute-suiter with

1943

Dated May 1, 1943, a letter from Earl to his Mother contained the following:

Washington is beautiful now. I wish you could see all the cherry blossoms along the Potomac River and other colorful flowers, green trees and grass, as well as beautiful buildings.

The University of Colorado wants me to return to Boulder to teach Naval students. Some of the faculty have been drafted into the service and they are short-handed. We shall, therefore, move back in time to begin teaching July first. The children are happy about this because they want to see their old friends. Della and I are also quite willing to return, because in many respects life is simpler and easier in a small city.

We are having some Boulder friends in to dinner tonight. We see lots of people whom we have known before in Idaho, Utah, North Dakota, California or Colorado. At present, Washington attracts many people- mostly in military or civilian employment.

Before leaving for Boulder, a testimonial dinner was held June 24, honoring Earl, by those he had supervised. A written toast was given which contained much praise, was signed by all staff members and placed in a glass frame.

The time spent in Washington was a glorious experience indeed, but Colorado was also glorious, and the Crocketts found the University crowded with Navy VIZ boys, many of whom had been transferred from the University of Utah. There were a lot of L. D. S. Church members and thus the Branch grew to a large size.

There was also an Oriental Language School for military people organized on the campus and the leaders became close friends of Della and Earl.

Marian graduated from Senior High at the end of the first term and entered the University of Colorado as a freshman. She was rushed by sororities and finally joined Delta Gamma.

1944

Upon returning to Boulder, Earl was appointed the Gospel Doctrine class teacher in

Sunday School. This was quite a challenge with the large number of Navy men in the class. Marian was Branch pianist.

A cocker spaniel puppy was obtained because of the strong desire of Bob and Dave. It was a red, smart little pup and the children named it Victory (called Vic) and it became a great pet.

In June, there was an Ozro Crockett family reunion held in Preston. Mother and all living brothers and sisters were in attendance. Also many grandchildren and great grandchildren were there. A formal organization was made with a constitution and by-laws. Ozro David was elected President and Earl Secretary-Treasurer. Edwin was requested to lead out in genealogy work. He was already becoming an expert.

Mae Reddish, Elva's daughter, came to Boulder, staying with the Crocketts during the summer while she attended summer school at the University. Her older sister, Lou Dean, had done the same, two years previously.

1945

Many historic events occurred in 1945: Hitler was defeated in Germany, the atomic bomb was dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the war ended, the U.N. charter was adopted as the basis for a world peace organization, F. D. Roosevelt died and Truman became President. All of these were world shaking events.

However, in the Crockett family the most significant of all events was the arrival on March 24th of their darling daughter Margaret Ruth. She was a very special baby-one greatly wanted, as it had been nine years since their previous baby David had joined the family.

The day after Margaret's birth, Earl took a bushel of apples to school and placed in his office. Each visitor who entered, whether faculty or student, was given an apple. Earl would pretend, in each case, to fumble in his pockets looking for a cigar to give, as he announced the birth of his new baby. Then he would apologetically say,

"Sorry, just ran out of cigars-take a delicious apple."

When she and the happy Mother came home from the hospital, for days, the other children happily took turns holding her. The cocker spaniel, Vic, soon adopted her for his watchful care and protection. Sometimes Margy slept in her baby buggy outside in the shade and always Vic lay by the buggy protecting her. This was even true when the neighbor lady, Miss Smith, across the street tended her.

Many of Della's friends constantly enquired about the new baby and promised to come see her. Finally, in order for all to look their best, she had an afternoon tea, honoring three months old Margy, and 32 of her women friends happily came.

September 11th, Earl wrote in his family round-robin letter-

I am enclosing some pictures recently taken of our darling baby. Wish you could all see her in person . . .

The boys are back in school and very busy. Bob is in Ninth grade and playing on the Junior Hi first team in football-he thinks of football waking and sleeping. David is in Fourth grade and leading his class. Marian goes back to the University next month as a sophomore.

With love, Earl

1946

Grandmother Crockett in Preston became very ill. Earl, Della and the children made a quick journey by auto, traveling there in 13 hours. Grandma was most pleased to see all, especially, the new beautiful baby. She got better after a few days and the Crocketts returned to Boulder.

It was this year that Marian first met her future husband, Donald. Both were attending C. U. and were on the stage crew for a number of plays. Don was in the Navy VIZ program. The two began dating and fell in love.

Earl and Dean Jacob Van Ek had been in the habit for a number of years of going fishing together. They were nearly always fortunate in bringing back their limit in trout. During the summer of 1946, Earl took Bob and Dave, a time or two, to Monarch Lake and a great time was had by all three. They camped over night in a tent and each boy caught many fish.

Della still remembers after nearly 30 years, her coming home from a club meeting, or a shopping trip, and seeing Earl in the big green chair by the fireplace in the living room, with little Margy bouncing on his lap, Bob laughing on one side and Dave on the other, and Vic dancing joyously around the room, always looking at the baby.

1947

Earl's mother in her ninetieth year passed away, May 12th the day before his birthday. He attended the funeral in Preston, although Della and the children couldn't get away from home. It was a beautiful funeral and she was buried by the side of her husband Ozro in the Logan Cemetery. Upon returning home in Boulder, he found a birthday letter written by his mother three days before her passing. Quotes from it are the following:

My dear son Earl:

Your dear birthday will soon be here and first of all, I want to wish you a very happy birthday and many more to follow, and health and strength to enjoy them all. I feel like you have had a very happy and prosperous life filled with

fine activities, a lovely wife and smart children. You have never caused your parents one moment's worry or care. May the Lord bless you all as he has in the past.

Lovingly your mother

On May 23rd, eleven days later, Earl's sister Mary passed away in Downey, Idaho. She had been rather ill for a year or two.

Marian graduated from the University and took a summer job in the form of a combined government seminar and internship work experience at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The rest of the family planned the summer for work and leisure at Encinitas, California, where a beautiful Spanish home overlooking the ocean had been rented. Encinitas is a short distance north of San Diego and has a long sandy, beautiful beach, very suitable for bathing.

Marian traveled with the family to California, staying a few days, before flying to Washington; Earl worked on one of his tax studies for the University and state Legislature, but also took out time for fun. Many friends and relatives visited that summer, including Della's parents, her sisters Reata and Geneve and Geneve's son Ramon-all of them for most of the glorious summer. Great fun was had by Bob, Dave and Ramon, swimming and hiking and playing games. Even little two-year old Margaret very much enjoyed the beach-she had no fear of the water. Trips by all were taken down to San Diego, into Mexico and up to Los Angeles.

On the way home, at the end of the summer, the Crocketts drove north, up the coast to San Francisco, Berkeley, Crater Lake, Oregon, then east to Idaho to celebrate Della's parents Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Interesting letters were received from Marian, while she worked and studied in Washington. These are some examples:

June 27th-Last evening we went to the Watergate Symphony. It was great fun, we sang on the bus on the way.

Franklin Roosevelt, Jr. was dynamite! He spoke to us today. I was never so thrilled. He is a very handsome man-about 6 ft. 5 in. tall, impressive in appearance-and extremely effective as a speaker. He had perfect contact with his audience and won them over completely. Will let you know how his mother Eleanor strikes one when she speaks next week.

For Don's birthday I got him a very nice book on photography with colored plates.

Mother, were you serious in saying Daddy was growing a mustache? I can't believe or picture it.

September 4th-I've accepted a position with the U.S. Mission to the United Nations for the coming year! The job will be in New York City . . .

It's going to be hard to leave the seminar. Such grand kids, we have such marvelous times. It's the kind of experience that is just indescribably valuable. I wouldn't trade it for anything.

With love, Marian

Dave was selected to play in the all-city Boulder grade school orchestra and later he became first chair.

1948

An LDS Branch was organized in Boulder, affiliated with the Western States Mission. Earl was appointed First Counselor in the Branch Presidency.

The University began a radio weekly program called "History in the Making." It was a half-hour program of news analysis and interpretation, rather than straight news. Earl, along with Dean Van Ek and James Allen, did the program broadcast from Denver over KOA for a number of years. It was a great experience and the program got several awards -one, the highest in the nation for that type program.

The big event of the year was the marriage of Marian and Don. They were married June 12, 1948. Extracts from several letters tell rather vividly the wonderful events associated with the marriage.

The following is part of a letter from Della's mother dated March 2:

Dear family:

Are you enjoying the spring weather? It has been very warm here the last week.

Della, the quilt came yesterday. It is very pretty. I think it will quilt up nicely. The white and blue go well together. I got a three pound bat (all wool) to go in it. We shall wait until your pattern comes to see what it looks like. Then if ours isn't as nice as yours, we shall use the one you sent. Della, I will furnish the bat and do the quilting. It will be our wedding present to Marian.

I would like to see Margaret in her new spring outfit. I'll bet she looks nice.

I received the pretty apron for my birthday and also the card. They are lovely. Many thanks.

With love to all, Mother

Della's father, mother, Reata and Geneve came to Boulder for the marriage. Also, some of Don's family including his father and mother were there.

After the wedding a letter written by Reata describes the events very well:

June 26, 1948

Dearest Dell:

Just a week ago we were with you. Life at your house was so pleasant and very relaxing, I did enjoy the leisure immensely.

There were so many lovely things for us all. Frequently, I sit and recall-the Higman's grand tea and unique apartment, your picnic at Flagstaff was fun and thrilling. I envy you the nearness of the mountains and magnificent view.

To be invited by Don's parents to the rehearsal dinner at Denver was another fine experienced good dinner in company with some mighty lovely people. I loved the Park Lane Hotel.

The rehearsal for the wedding was a little preview for the big event. "The wedding" I shall always cherish -many, many happy memories of it: with dignity David lighting the candles, the beautiful bride and good looking bridegroom!, the attractive bridal party, maid of honor, brides maids and darling little flower girl Margaret! Earl and Robert looked so proud and happy. Della, you, too, did justice to the occasion. I see you now walking regally down the aisle. For your coloring you couldn't have chosen a prettier dress.

But the loveliest thing of all-to think that you could make such beautiful clothes. Marian will always remember with much happiness that her mother was truly an artist to create the most important gowns for the great event.

The wedding reception was a happy occasion, too. I think everything went very smoothly. As I reminisce, I wouldn't change anything.

The Crocketts fed us so well, I still have that satisfied feeling that I am content to cook and prepare little . . .

With love, Reata

After the wedding, Marian and Don had a honeymoon at Colorado Springs and Yellowstone Park. They drove in a newly purchased sport car.

1949

This was an eventful year for the Crockett family. It will be necessary to merely summarize some of the events.

In March, Earl and Della were invited to go to the University of Wichita for an interview. The school was considering Earl for President of the University. They went, taking four year old Margy along, and had a most enjoyable time. They were "wined" and "dined," had many interviews and a chance to meet the entire faculty.

Della and Margy went on to Philadelphia to visit Marian and Don, and Earl returned to Boulder.

The big reason for going to Philadelphia, Marian was expecting a baby and Della wished to help her. The baby arrived March 16th- a beautiful girl. They named her Janet Lynn and she was very precious.

On March 22, 1949, father Comish wrote the following wonderful letter:

A family letter

Dear Earl: We are glad you have got to the top in your school work. It isn't just luck that put you where you are in the world of learning. It is your hard work and good management . . . We wish you success in whatever you undertake.

Della: How glad it makes us feel to know what a good work you have been doing, wherever you live-always trying to help others who come near, never thinking of yourself, always making others happy-great shall be your reward.

Marian- You have made a great mark in the world, having the pleasure of traveling places, working with U.S. senators, which is a great honor.

Robert: You are the king of a boy. I like to see you doing many things such as writing for papers, besides your school work. You are like the song, making the world bright today. Thanks for the nice box of candy. I hope you will like the book I am sending.

David: You have patience like the Bible described Job. You start on a piece of work and never give up until you finish, no matter how hard it is. We are glad you are doing so well in music. Thanks for the nice candy. You boys can make good candy.

Margaret: How we do miss you playing with the little cat in the box with your doll, pulling them around the room.

Thanks for the candy; the kitty likes it too.

Della: The box of things came O.K. Mother is doing pretty well. We get her up three or four times a day. She sits on the bed to eat her meals. Hope you had a good trip to Kansas.

With love from
Father and Grandpa

In May, Della's mother became quite ill and she, with Margaret, went to Franklin to care for her.

In part, the following is a letter Earl wrote at that time:

Dearest:

How is Mother? We hope much better. I have been informed that the candidates for president of Wichita have been narrowed down to three and I am one of the three. If you agree, I shall notify them to drop my name from further consideration. Don't you think Boulder is a better place to raise a family? [Note: They agreed and he notified the Board of Trustees at Wichita. I

This afternoon I filed our passport applications for the summer trip to Europe.

This afternoon, Bob won his tennis match and is going to the state meet. He is as happy as a lark. All evening kids have been calling to congratulate him.

Dave is out mowing the lawn; it looks beautiful and green.

Margaret, Marcia Wells got a little white rabbit about the size of yours. When you come home you two can play with them together.

On Mothers Day, David gave the following talk in Sunday School. Don't you think it's beautiful?

With love, Earl

Mother's Day Talk-1949 by David Crockett (Age 13)-

There is one name in the English language which means much to everyone of us. This name takes various forms but represents the same dear person in each case. Whether we call her

Mom, Mamma, Ma or Mother we are referring to the wonderful person who is always our pal.

If we are sick she is our nurse, if we are sad she cheers us up. She taught us to pray when we were old enough to talk. She taught us to wash our neck and ears even though we didn't like it.

If we get into any trouble, if we feel that the world is against us we can always go to our mother. She will lend a sympathetic ear, she will understand and will keep loving us.

If we grow up and become good men and women that is all the reward which our Mother asks. If we succeed in life she feels repaid for her hours, months and years of teaching and training, of caring for and waiting on us, and of worrying or being anxious about us.

This year on Mother's Day I am lonesome for my Mother. She is away caring for her Mother who is ill. She has also been away this year caring for my sister who is a new mother.

I hope the Lord will bless all mothers, especially upon this Mother's Day.

Robert graduated from Senior High School with athletic letters for several sports including football, basketball and tennis. He is quite the athlete. Also, during his senior year, he was editor of the Owl, the school newspaper, and assistant editor of the Odaroloc, the school year-book. He has become a great writer and news analyst for so young a person. In the fall he went to Provo and enrolled at BYU for the school year 1949-50.

The European summer tour lasted nearly three months. It was conducted by Canadian Treasure Tours and was really good. Being Della and Earl's first trip to the "Old Country" they were thrilled indeed.

They left the three children in Boulder, each in a family with a close childhood friend. They drove the new Buick to Philadelphia, visited Marian, Don and baby Lynn, and boarded the (Queen Mary in New York. They were on their own for about ten days before joining the tour in London.

The following is part of a letter written on shipboard by Della:

June 26th

Hello Margaret dear:

I wish I could take you and Linda for a walk on the ship- first we would go to the nursery, where you, could have a ride on a big rocking horse, then to the swimming pool for a swim, and next on the deck for a walk to look at the ocean and the ship. Perhaps you would like to see our state room,

the beds and furniture. Best of all we would save for the last-dinner in the dining room. There are many waiters dressed in black formal suits. You can order anything, and as much as you want to eat and it's always delicious. Tonight was a little girl's birthday. She had a cake with ten candles and we all sang "happy birthday." She gave us each a piece of the cake.

We frequently see movies.

Our love, Mother

Another letter from Earl and Della, after arrival in England, in part, had this to say-Della's first:

Dear Children:

The trip on the Queen Mary was a wonderful experience. It is like a floating city of 3, 000 people. The voyage was smooth and I never got very sea sick.

Since our arrival at Southhampton, we have really made time count. We see much evidence of bombing, especially cathedrals. Then on to Winchester. It is a most charming English village about the size of Boulder. It is the old seat of government for the Romans, Saxons and Normans. Next day to beautiful Salisbury and then to Bath. The drive by bus through this southern England is beautiful beyond description! Bath has famous old roman baths. We found a nice hotel and asked for a room with a double bed. In Europe, almost without exception, rooms have twin rather than double beds. We thought a double bed might be cheaper. With hesitation, the clerk took us to a shabby room in the attic with a sagging double bed inside. After all the trouble, we decided not to say no, but learned afterward, that the poor attic room actually cost more than a good one with twin beds!

Tomorrow we go to London and will meet our tour.

Love, Mother

Dear Children:

Today we crossed the road to St. Ives, but didn't see a man with seven wives, cats or kits-where do you suppose they were?