

STORIES FROM THE LIFE OF HELENE ELIZABETH LUCAS NEMELKA

An introduction to the following faith promoting experiences by Esther N. Boekweg

This loose leaf contains the faith—promoting experiences of my mother, Elizabeth Helene Lucas Nemelka, born March 21, 1879 in Steinpleis, Saxony, Germany. She is now 67 years of age and I have endeavored to tell these experiences as she told them to me. As I have written these experiences she has verified the facts for me.

I would also like to relate at this time a few of the things in her life that show the mental, physical, and spiritual powers she had.

Mother reared five children, two girls and three boys, one boy was adopted. Two babies (girls) died, making seven children that she had. Besides this she had eight miscarriages.

We lived on a four—acre farm in Salt Lake City, Utah. Father's health was not very good and therefore he wasn't able to make much money. Mother helped to make ends meet by taking care of her small farm. She milked five cows and delivered 42 quarts of milk. On Sundays, she would load the milk in the wagon, go to Sunday School and after Sunday School deliver the milk and then on home to fix dinner for the family. The children went with on the Sunday delivery. Chickens were raised and all eggs laid on Sunday were given to the poor. We never lacked food. There was a vegetable garden and for fresh fruit she bought it at the market and carried orates of it home under her arms. A one-milk walk from the bus line. We could eat all we wanted fresh from the crate. Thus, we were healthy children. She saw to it that Dad could spend all of his spare time doing Temple work which was of far greater worth than all, the wealth he could have secured for his family if he were well. She helped father fulfill a mission in Germany just before the first World War.

Mother always attended her religious meetings. For fifteen years she sang in the Ward choir. She attended meetings such as Sunday School, Sacrament meeting, Relief Society meeting, Mutual, Bible class at one time, and genealogy class. For two years without pay she took complete charge of seeing that the Sacrament glasses were washed and wiped before they were used. (The Ward was paying to have this done prior to that.) She also furnished the Sacrament bread free of charge. Because Poplar Grove Ward was just an old tumble-down schoolhouse with no scenery, she started to care for the grounds on her own by transplanting some of her roses and flowers and bushes. She did such a wonderful work on this that they put her in charge of the Ward beautification committee. Then followed lawn, shrubbery and trees. Besides this, for years she saw that there were cut flowers on the pulpit every Sunday.

She has about 2,000 names to her credit in the Salt Lake Temple. Two years she spent in visiting the sick, sometimes 21 in a month. She also took them something, flowers, candy, books, fruit, or some little thing she knew they liked. Later she served as Second Counselor in the Relief Society.

For ten years she worked night shift, 4 pm to 12 pm. After work she would have to come home and milk the cows. The winters at that time were bad, making things that much harder for her.

As a young girl of 24 she started to help her parents out of bankruptcy. She gave them all totaled 824 marks in German money. To them a mark was as a dollar is to us. But in value was about 1/4 of the American dollar.

When my sister and I were small she would take us to a Christmas doings which were held in the Granite Stake Tabernacle (now torn down). The programs were sponsored by the IDS German Society. She always told us that the building was Santa Claus's home and we loved that yearly visit.

When we grew older and attended Friday evening show nights at the ward meeting house, she would wait at her friends for us and then walk at midnight the mile walk we had ahead of us. If she had not waited for us we couldn't have attended those shows. She always tried to make her children happy. Most of the time she would attend a temple session before going to her friends to wait for us.

With all these things she always kept the Sabbath Day holy, fasted on Fast Day, paid an honest tithing, and did all she was asked to do in the Church.

Myself and one brother were sent on a mission.

* * * * *

In 1913, a few years after mother and dad were married, dad told mother she should keep a diary like he did. So to please him, mother started, but she didn't like it and after awhile she would only put the date and under it the words in German "All is Well." After awhile, she quit altogether. Dad continued faithfully until death writing his diary and many times he told mother she was foolish for not writing at least her faith promoting incidents.

Then one day when she was about 67 years of age the spirit very strongly told her to "write your life story before your memory begins to leave you." This surprised her, besides worried her because as far as writing the never wrote much. I received two cards from her on my mission and they were partly written in German. She told me about what the spirit told her and I immediately told her that if she would help me and come to my home I would write her stories for her the best I could. She was so thrilled. She bought a loose leaf book, paper, typewriter ribbon, and stickers, which I purchased and she paid for and in four years we completed one of the finest records of her life. This was a wonderful testimony to her of record keeping.

* * * * *

Twelve years later I have continually added to this record and made improvements in materials for long keeping. Also I have added other experiences she has had. She is now 80 years old and to our surprise her memory has not failed her. Many times I have mentioned these testimonies to get some verification or date and immediately she starts to repeat the experience to me and to my astonishment she repeats it to me practically word for word as she gave it to me 12 years ago to record.

(This story written by Esther N. Boekweg)

My mother was born in a little village called Steinpleis, in Saxony, Germany. She was the 4th child of her mother. There were fifteen children. Five children died and ten children lived to be raised. Mother was then third from the eldest to be raised. The first child had died.

Her favorite playgrounds were the small brooks around her home. She liked to watch the fishes and play with the leaves and the colored stones. She loved to watch the thinks of nature, birds and insects. When she was older she had to tend her brothers and sisters. In school she enjoyed religious studies the most, learning Bible stories and memorizing scriptures. She graduated at fourteen years old on her birthday and the following Monday she had to go to work in the factory. They went to school on Saturday and had only two weeks spring vacation and two weeks fall vacation. No summer vacation.

From eight to fourteen years old she had to do diapers and wash small cheese cloths which were used to quiet the babies. They would soak bread in water, squeeze it out, add sugar and place in these cheese cloths and tie with thread. The babies would suck on these. Even the threads had to be washed and re--used. When they found a feather dropped by a duck or goose they would save it. Everyone was extra saving. She did dishes, made beds, made sugar and bread suckers, about six fresh ones every day.

When she went to work at fourteen she worked in the factories till twenty-one years old. She learned to work at seven different trades in six different factories during that time. When she accomplished one thing she wanted to try and accomplish something else. This had much influence on her religious life in later years. She didn't try to keep only two or three commandments but kept all the commandments as best she could. One of her bosses used her in one of the factories for an experiment in weaving fancy thread. It worked out fine. Most of the factories were where they made thread, yarn, etc. and materials for clothing. Up at 5 A.M. walk one hour to work to be on the job at 6 and work till 6 and home at 7, winter and summer.

In the last factory where she worked she had a foreman that cursed all day long. In another department there was a foreman that was quiet and fine and many times she had a longing to work under him because she suffered so under the cursing of her foreman. Even the good foreman liked her work so much and her wonderful attitude and wanted to get her into his department but rules and regulations wouldn't permit, She was very happy and surprised when one year after she had joined the church with

father and ten years later after knowing this foreman, he too joined the church at the age of 55. This man mother then knew was attracted to her because of the gospel life they both led and they were also the only two in the factory who ever joined the church.

When mother would hear the whistle of the trains while working in the factories she would have a longing to go to the big city and work and so at twenty-one she did go to the city and began her work as housekeeper for the rich people. Her first job was for a music director of an orchestra and his wife. Here she learned all about fine cooking and good housekeeping. At Easter time, Christmas time and New Years Eve and other special holidays, the director with his ten pupils would go to the big church tower in the city and there play beautiful music that would ring out over the entire city. Mother thought this was really wonderful and was thrilled to know she was their housekeeper.

Mother wasn't too satisfied with her pay so she went to another place to work. In this family she had a taste of what real rich people lived like. She learned lots of fancy cooking. When they took her in the summertime on the coast, she had a big surprise. On the way they stayed at the finest hotel in Berlin. There they treated her as a hotel guest and not as a maid. The hotel help cleaned her shoes, brought meals into the room, and cleaned her clothes. All she had to do was take care of their three children ages 6, 10, and 12. Even in the home she was permitted to eat the finest of what they had. They were a wonderful family and it left her with a desire that in the eternities her servants would be treated as an equal, too, when she learned of the gospel. They stayed at the coast for six weeks. They lived in the best hotel available. They saw that she had a chambermaid — no work again, only supervising the children. The meals were the most expensive meals in the world. Waiters would bring meals to the room on elaborate trays, ice cream (which in those days was something extraordinary), different fishes, duck, veal, special rolls, etc. all things that the common people didn't even dare think about. Down on the hotel table where the Baroness's and Duke's dined they served the same menu except that wine was also served. Wine was not served to mother and the children. They always had so much to eat that mother would give what was left on the tray to the chambermaid and waiter and they would set the tray on the back steps that led to the kitchen and finish the food left. They were sure tickled. Mother was only permitted to swim at night in the pool of the hotel but she never went. Only the Dukes and other rich people went in the daytime. They had their concerts at night. It wasn't a hotel pool. It was the beach.

These people that mother was with owned a large factory. Sometimes mother would peek and watch the elegant ball all in elaborate dress, etc. She witnessed beautiful fireworks on the water front and was allowed to sit in the beach chairs and watch the swimmers in the daytime. This all happened in Warnemunde, Roststock, Germany.

When it was all over mother was happy to get back to her regular routine of working. Sometimes on the vacation she would get restless and make the beds and dust, work the chambermaid should do. One time she crept down to the kitchen for fun and saw the dishwasher through the window of the door just as she took off her wooden

sandal and washed it in the dishwater. The sandals were worn because of the cement floors. Mother was sure surprised but she never said anything. She decided she didn't like the lazy life of the rich.

One day her sister, Helen, visited her and told her she had a nice place where mother could be an independent housekeeper for a millionaire old gentleman. Her sister was the maid for the man's millionaire son and wife. Mother was 24 years old and there she was given a maid to work under her who was 15 years old. These people owned a large estate in the forest where they would stay during the summer months and had great deer hunts in the winter time. Many rich guests would come for these events. Mother helped with the managing of the work. She got a kick out of watching the grown married three sons and one daughter wait for their father to die, but he didn't for a long time. Mother saw him get married again. So mother had to find another housekeeping job. Beside the 15 year old girl, mother had to hire window washers, laundresses and a woman who cleaned the apartment of 12 rooms. They only came once a week. Mother took over the weekly work. One time mother cooked a meal of pigs tail and sauerkraut and mother didn't know how he liked it and she forgot to ask his daughter—in-law who lived upstairs so she made it like her mother, in onion, bay leaf and water. He came in exactly at noon, very hungry, walked into the kitchen and looked into the crockery and was so mad at what mother had done he slammed the lid down and the crockery broke, everything went all over the stove. To make matters worse the daughter-in-law just walked in to show off a new silk blouse to her father-in-law and the juice splattered all over her. Mother was so frightened she ran out of the house. The daughter-in-law came after her and told her not to feel bad, she should have told mother how he liked the sauerkraut. He wanted it done in special wine and sauces. Other than this incident the man was very good to mother and liked her way of handling things. She had to learn the way he liked things cooked. This experience gave her a great lesson in humility.

On a visit home during this time mother found that her father had declared bankruptcy. He was a cabinet maker and with the upkeep of the home and the many children to care for things went from better to worse. He had kept most of his problems from the children up until this time. Mother was shocked to hear of the news and the loss of her parents' already mortgaged home was more than she could stand. She had saved most of her money which was 800 mark, so she took this to tire man who owned the home and he said she could have the home back. There was 1,000 mark interest due and he said that he would settle for the 800 mark and forget the other 200 mark. This he would do if she would keep up the other payments every three months. This she agreed. The day this happened the home was already being sold through court and the deal was to be closed the following day. They hurried to the court, told what agreements they had reached and they were told that if they would pay court costs the deal could be settle that day and the house would not be sold. Each paid half of the court costs. The home now belonged to mother.

Here she was with a mortgaged home on her hands, no money, no sweetheart, and already at the age of 24. Her parents depended solely on her now. What a terrible and sad situation. But this incident was to play the greatest part in the live of her parents

and brothers and sisters. Little at the time did any of them realize this.

The first thing mother did was put her parents and younger brothers and sisters in the top apartment to the rear and said they needed to pay no rent. The house had six units in it because when her parents were doing well they had added on three units. Grandfather couldn't do much because creditors would take everything he made away so grandmother had to go to work to make a little for food. Now that mother's parents were happily settled again and secure, mother contacted her two married sisters. The one said she could have an apartment cheap if her husband would take care of the painting, plumbing and up-keep inside the apartment building. This he readily agreed to, much to mother's surprise and happiness. The other sister and her husband took up a similar agreement only he cared for the gardening outside. Both men did a wonderful job. It was Uncle Carl Fritsch and Uncle Emil Wolf. The other three apartments were rented to strangers. For three years everything went along fine. Then mother met father at the age of 27. My, she was happy, but her biggest worry was the home she had to manage. Father immediately wanted her to get rid of it. In the meantime missionaries converted mother and father. This was one year after they were married. Mother took the gospel home to her parents and there the two married sisters with their families and her parents held cottage meetings, and all were converted.

Then came the spirit of gathering to America. Mother and father with mother's sister and her husband and their children were the first to leave. Then her parents both inherited a little money (the strange part was why the money came now and not at the time when they lost their home, yet it was lost to a daughter who really only gave the home back to them); with the inherited money the parents came to America. Through the help of the Lord the home was purchased back by the man who owned it originally and who held the two mortgages. He cancelled the mortgages which amounted to 8,000 mark and then he gave mother's parents a little profit for the home of 2,000 mark. It really turned out wonderful. The other sister and her husband moved back to the city and through mother's help she also later came to America for the gospel with her children.

Before mother left Germany she had had two miscarriages. She felt bad. *8kw* used to wash the clothes for the missionaries and one day she took one of their garments and put it on, having faith that the garments might make her body strong. She showed Dad and he said, 'I guess it's okay if you have the faith.'

Several months later she found she was to have another child. This was Joseph. She carried him while on the boat to America. He was born in America and when he was blessed in the 29th Ward, a sister in the ward told mother that the Counselor gave him a special blessing saying that whenever he went into a home he would leave a sweet spirit behind. Mother could not understand English at this time.

Over the years this really turned out to be so. As a Bishop in 1955 the compliments on the sweet spirit he has is overwhelming. One man even said he hoped that rubbing shoulders with Joe would rub some of the spirit off onto him.

In January 1980 one of the Wards in the Pioneer Stake was dissolved. The ward was the same population as Joe's ward but inactivity was too prevalent. I was discussing it with one of the sisters in Stake Relief Society and mentioned that Joe had said it was too bad that people would not be active and that the same could happen to our ward if we are not active and the sister said, 'What do you mean, they just didn't have a Bishop like Joe.' This sister belonged to another ward than Joe's.

This was just to show how well he was liked. Even many remarked about his unusual spirituality. Joe recognizes that this is a blessing from the Lord and through the blessing of parents such as mother and dad.

* * * * *

About 1938. One Sunday morning in the Gospel Doctrine Class, Poplar Grove Ward; my mother heard a brother get up and say that he heard the Stake President say that it was just as displeasing to the Lord when we get up every single Fast Day as it is when we don't get up at all. Mother felt bad because she never missed an opportunity to get up.

That night with her niece Ella Putscher, attended a meeting in the 20th Ward where Elder Ballard was to speak and she had told Bishop Otto Hunger that she would ask Brother Ballard and see what he thought. During the meeting Elder Ballard spoke that all those who are faithful and want children and can't have them and show the Lord by adopting some would have the privilege on the other side to raise those children where the parents cannot reach the celestial glory. Mother had an adopted child and this talk made her very happy.

After meeting she wanted to go and speak to Elder Ballard but so many people were around him that she said to Ella, "There are too many people, let's go home." As she said this she said she looked up and that moment he was standing all alone and no one was speaking to him. So she went to the pulpit and he leaned down and took her hand and held it and she told him her problem. "Don't you know the more you bear your testimony the stronger it grows. So bear your testimony whenever you feel like it."

The next Sunday the Bishop asked if she had been able to speak to Elder Ballard and she told him.

That same evening the Stake President visited the ward and she asked him if he ever said anything like she had heard and he said no. Only that he had spoken about people who weren't even doing their duty who took the time away from those 'who did their duty and these people would only preach instead of bearing a testimony.

One Thursday before testimony or Fast Day a sister in the Ward said to my mother (Elizabeth Lucas Nemelka) "It's not right that you get up and bear your testimony every Fast Day as you do." Mother felt bad because when she joined the

Church she always had the idea that each month the Lord would give her another testimony to add to the one she already had to make her stronger in the church--which He did. These testimonies she always bore on Fast Day in testimony time. Well, she decided that perhaps this coming testimony day she would not go to meeting at all, instead she would bake a cake on Saturday and Sunday morning she would take it over to Sister Freeman who was ill in bed and let her husband, who was the Patriarch of our Stake, go to meeting and give him a rest from having to tend his wife. This she did and Brother Freeman was very happy. He went to Priesthood Meeting in the morning and then to Sunday School and mother intended for him to stay for Fast Meeting which followed an hour later. But instead he came home after Sunday School and told her that he must go to the store and get some bread because there was none in the house and he felt he needed it real bad.

When Brother Freeman returned from the store he said to mother, "Now you can go to Fast Meeting." He did not feel like going and felt he was taking too much advantage of mother's goodness. Mother went realizing that she would be late. The opening prayer and both opening songs had been sung when she entered. She crept in the back real quiet and most of her friends did not know she was there. When testimony time came not one single person got up. Time went by and still no one got up. Mother just couldn't stand it and got up and bore her testimony and after that not one minute was wasted by anyone during the rest of the meeting.

My cousin-in-law, Paul Putscher, was there and he bore witness that no one felt like getting up. When he got home, his wife, who was home ill said, "Well, how was testimony meeting?" He said, "You know, if Tante (aunt) hadn't got up no one would have gotten up." This was a testimony to Ella that the Lord did want us to get up as often as possible. Also, mother never felt bad again about getting up if the spirit prompted her.

Mother's idea of testimony was that we should always bear witness of how the Lord can work with us if we but let Him. This she always used as her theme when she bore her testimony.

* * * * *

Mrs. Koska, the people who had sole mother and father their house on 1254 South Redwood Road, had some pigs for sale, a boar and a sow. A man came to Koska's place to buy the pigs and when Mrs. Koska took the man out into the yard to show the pigs to him she looked down to where mother was living and the spirit told her that she should tell mother to buy the pigs. The man said he would be back that evening to buy the pigs if he made a final decision. Mrs. Koska then went over to tell mother what the spirit had told her. She wanted an answer from mother before the man came back. Dad was in the Temple and wouldn't be home till late so mother prayed about it so that she could make the right decision. She asked the Lord to give brother Koplín the answer of what she should do because he was a good neighbor and knew and understood pig raising. Then mother went over and asked him and he said she should

buy the pigs. Mother bought the pigs and later the sow had little pigs and through this little investment mother and father made a profit of around \$600. Koska also turned over to them the pick-up places of slop for the pigs. It was during the World War, 1917, when things were high and hard to get. Later the government went into the pig business and all slop places were taken over so the folks had to stop.

Mother was sitting on the stand one Sunday during Sunday School because she had been called upon to open with prayer. During the Sacrament, which shortly followed, her mind went back to old Jerusalem. She pictured Christ at the age of 33 with such a strong wonderful body and then how the wicked scourged Him and broke that strong wonderful body. She pictured all this in her mind with a contrite spirit and an aching heart which caused tears to come to her eyes. Then the spirit told her to give this picture and feeling as a testimony the following Sunday which was Fast Day. Then she thought, yes, I will give it only under one condition, because she didn't want the people to think she was just showing off. The condition was that He would inspire them to have as the Sacrament Song on Fast Day, "He Died ! The Great Redeemer Died!"

She waited a whole week and still felt she should give this testimony. When Sacrament was to start mother sat with her heart pounding wondering what song would be chosen. She saw the chorister, Sister Leary, open her song book, walk over to the Bishop and ask his approval, he nodded his head and the song was announced, "He Died! The Great Redeemer Died!" Mother's heart leaped with joy. It was her song. After Fast Meeting and mother had given her testimony, Sister Leary told mother she was inspired to have the congregation sing that particular song. During mother's testimony she was so filled that she had the congregation sing "Glory to God On High!" It was not only her testimony but theirs too.

* * * * *

Mother was on the bus one day shortly after her Stake Mission call. She passed an empty lot in the first district she was to labor in. As she looked through the lot to the next street, she had in view two homes and the spirit told her that the Lord wanted one soul from each of those tire homes—a blue painted home and a tan painted home.

She never told her companion about this until six months later when they were tracting that street. They called at the blue home and a young woman answered the door. They introduced themselves and the lady said "Come in." They started to teach the gospel to the lady and she said "I'm Catholic, but my husband is a Mormon." They had been married only two years. The lady continued to tell them that she was very strict in the Catholic belief and Mother said, "Oh, no I" and the lady said, "why not?" Mother said, "If you were a strict Catholic you would never have married a Mormon boy." She answered, "Oh, but I loved him.' She was very friendly and invited the missionaries back. They made one more very good contact with her and preached much Mormonism to her before they were transferred to another district.

At the tan colored house, a sweet little woman answered the door and after

introducing themselves to her they were informed that she was a Mormon but her husband wasn't. They were invited in and wonderful gospel conversation was carried on. They were invited back and on the revisit they met the husband of the house who was very kind to them. Permission was asked to hold cottage meetings in the home and he gave his consent. Due to a missionary transfer from that district they were unable to carry out the cottage meeting so the furtherance of the gospel in these two homes that were shown to mother where inactive members were living had to be carried on through some other source when the Lord was ready for it.

One Saturday afternoon, while shopping downtown, mother lost her purse. She was in the Community Market when she discovered her loss. There was a little over six dollars in the purse. She immediately prayed to the Lord to help her and that if she found the purse she told the lord that she would give a dollar to the first widow lady she met that she knew. Then she remembered that she had shopped last in Penney's Store so returning there she found that someone had turned her purse in t. the lost and found department. She silently thanked the Lord.

It wasn't until the next day in conference that she found the widow lady who should get the dollar. Even then the Lord directed her to the widow. The lady was sitting on her right during the whole meeting and yet it wasn't until the middle of the closing song that the impression came she should give the dollar to this widow. She reached into her purse and gave the lady the dollar. After closing she mentioned the incident to her girl friend and she too was inspired to give the widow a dollar.

* * * * *

While mother was getting ready for town one day the voice told her to take two extra dollars along. She was so surprised and didn't have the faintest idea what she as supposed to do with the dollars but she obeyed anyway. Her niece went with her and as they cane near the street-car line which would take then to town there came an elderly widow lady down the street. Immediately the voice told mother that one dollar belonged to this lady. She gave it to her. When they boarded the bus the only other passenger was also a widow lady when they knew and again the voice told her the other dollar belonged to this lady. Mother knew that the Lord had used her in helping out these two dear widowed ladies.

* * * * *

About three menthe before mother was released from her home mission, she made arrangements for a cottage meeting in her little two-room home. About twelve investigators had definitely promised to come besides ten others which included the stake missionaries, stake mission president, etc. Mother baked two nice cakes and ordered ice cream. Everything was all set for the evening. Mother had fasted all day and so did Dad so that the meeting would be a success. Dad had to work and could not attend.

When the time arrived, everyone was present but the investigators. Not a single one showed up. Mother felt awfully embarrassed and sad. Most of the investigators were from a small community, two blocks from her home. Who then told her companion they had forgotten to invite another lady from the community so my brother Joe and Sister Hollingshaus, mother's companion, went over to see if they could get her in the door. When they arrived at the community they found out some odd things. One little child was sick in one home and they thought it had polio so everyone was excited in the home. Another home, the husband was ill and in another home the wife and husband were both sick. These people were all some of the investigators who had faithfully promised to come. It seemed so strange that they all should be sick this particular night. Further investigation later, in regards to other investigators showed that Mrs. Saathoff, her husband came home that night and announced that he must make a quick trip to Kansas City and leave that very night so she should help him pack and the other neighbor had her coat on to come to the cottage meeting when her mother-in-law knocked on the door for a visit so she decided she better stay home.

A lovely meeting was held in spite of no investigators and they all had a wonderful spiritual feast. After the meeting, mother took cake and ice cream over to the families in the community and they were so tickled when she came over. Of course, mother felt very blue over the outcome of the meeting as far as investigators went and when Dad called later in the evening to see how the meeting went she told him it was a failure. That night she prayed and cried about it. The Lord gave her a comforting dream.

* * * * *

During the night of the failure of her cottage meeting and after much prayer, mother had a very strange and beautiful dream. The dream was as follows. As she entered her little two-room home from the front door, the home appeared as one long room with no partition making it into two rooms. To her right the wall seemed to disappear and as she looked a group of children dressed in white appeared in the air two-by-two and were coming towards her home from the direction of the small community. Then my brother Joseph appeared through the wall next to the scene of the children just as the scene was fading away and the wallpaper was taking shape. He said, 'Ma, did you see it?' She said, 'Yes,' and as she still looked there was still movement on the wall where the scene was slowly disappearing. Then Joseph disappeared and she fell to her knees from the glory of it all. As she arose, a long table stood in front of her. Then in the farther end of the room she saw Dad kneeling in prayer with his hands raised to heaven. Her eyes turned back to the table and there on the table was a beautiful treasure chest. A man dressed in Nephite dress was sitting at the table. He raised the chest in his hands and handed it to mother and she said, "Oh, no." And he said, "Well, what do you want?" And she said, "To preach the Gospel." Then she noticed at the neckline of the Nephite that he had mortal flesh. As the thought came to her that he must be one of the three Nephites the dream vanished and she awoke.

Because her mission was soon over, mother didn't quite understand the dream. The next morning, my youngest brother Nephi came to her with an offer of selling her

home, She turned him down. A few days later Bishop Buehler came to her door and wanted to know if she would take a six months vacation and then accept another two-year stake mission. She was very happy to accept and very happy she didn't sell her home.

It was during this next mission call that mother was able to continue her work in the community, During the six-months vacation period the Bryan family moved into the small community, It was to mothers great joy and surprise that in that family she first saw the same twelve-year-old girl (Marie Bryan) whom she saw dressed in white in her room in the dream. Then she knew the real meaning of her dream. This girl and her family have all joined the church besides other children from the community. Mother also had the surprise of meeting and converting one of the young boys she distinctly saw in her dream. His first name is Don.

One evening as mother was leaving her house and placing the key in hiding, the spirit told her to go back and get an extra Book of Mormon because she would meet someone who should have it. Mother listened to the spirit and told her companion about it when she met her.

The first home that they visited turned out to be a lady who could neither read nor write so mother knew that was not the home, but as they were invited in and were explaining their visit, another lady hurried into the house, excused herself and left her baby for her sister-in-law to tend. Immediately the spirit told mother that was the lady, so mother quickly gave her the Book of Mormon and some tracts, explaining who they were, and the lady left saying she was very pleased to get the book and she would read it.

A few days later they visited this lady and found out that she was from down South. They were very poor and had six children. These people lived in a small community where a few were Mormons but not very active. The lady was called Mrs. Bryan. She was very happy to have the 4issionaries and gave permission for mother and her companion to hold a Religion Glass in her home with the community children. In all there were 19 children in attendance and classes were held every week for two years.

Mother had to do most of the teaching and did a fine Job considering that she was in her sixties and knew mostly German schooling. The children all loved her. She prepared them for Sunday School and Primary in the Edison Ward. When they become better acquainted she took approximately ten children on the bus paying the way for some of them so that they could attend Sunday School. It was too far away and they were too small to go alone. After Sunday School she would seek out one of the Priesthood holders to take the children safely home in his ear as she had to stay after Sunday School each week for their weekly missionary report meeting.

At first the children would sometimes go to Sunday School without clean clothing or washing themselves. The people being poor and with lack of water in the community

and being from the South, they had an “I don’t care” attitude, but through the love and spirit of the gospel, the children soon were cleaned up by the parents and as time went by the child that always seemed to be the dirtiest turned out to wear a perfectly spotless white dress and looked very sweet.

During the Religion Class days, Mrs. Bryan would always be present and sometimes the father would be present too when the class was held after school and he came from work. Many cottage meetings were also held in this home and through the spirit of the Lord and during the two-year period, all the relatives of this family came from the South to visit the Bryan family. There was her three brothers and one sister, his two brothers and his mother and father--all came for visits from the South. Cottage meetings were held on their visits and they were wonderful investigators. Mrs. Bryan’s brother and all ten of the children who went to Sunday School from the Religion Class were baptized three years later. Mrs. Bryan has read the Book of Mormon and though her children are baptized she does not as yet feel worthy but attends church as much as possible.

Shortly before the baptism of the children, Mr. Bryan lost his job. On one of mother’s missionary visits she asked Mrs. Bryan how they were coming along and she said they would make out okay, she still had a little flour for biscuits and she could borrow a little from the neighbors in the morning till work was found. Mother told her to send her husband over in the evening and she would give him a sack of flour.

While he was at mother’s to pick up the flour, Mother’s neighbor, Mr. Jensen, came out and asked mother who the man was and Mr. Jensen got two dozen eggs for him when mother told the story, and he talked awhile to Mr. Bryan and then said for him to come down to the foundry in the morning and maybe the boss could give him a job.

In the morning Mr. Bryan was there but no job was available. The boss upon finding out that he had six children and no work decided to give him a temporary job of clearing for the grounds around the foundry. Two weeks later an opening was found in the foundry for him and he has worked there ever since. Mother told him that he should thank the Lord for the work and that it was a blessing to then because they had opened their home to two servants of the Lord.

* * * * *

In the spring of 1908 about two months before mother joined the church, she had a dream. The dream happened after Dad had been given an opportunity to work with his brother, Adolf, in a coal mine. His brother owned the coal mine. Dad would have made good money. But because of the gospel which came along they turned down the offer and soon came to America.

In the dream someone opened a door for her to look into a room. She saw the Savior with light—brown, almost blonde, hair, dressed in a white robe with outstretched hands towards her. Beside him was a rectangular table of dark wood. Stacked around

the outside of the table edge were silver dollars (5 mark pieces in German which look like American dollars) stacked about 5 or 6 inches high. Then crossed in the middle of the table from corner to corner were stacks of gold pieces worth 20 marks each in German. These were stacked the same height.

It was as if she had a choice to make. She could have all the money or choose the Savior. She walked to the Savior and put her arms around him and then woke up. Then when the gospel came she realized why she had chosen the Savior in her dream.

They came to Americas and Dad's brother became very wealthy. During World War 2 in 1945 things changed. Adolf lost his coal mine. During the wicked reign of Hitler it was taken away. And mother and dad were the ones that were rich in the gospel in America.

One month before Mother completed her 2nd two years of Stake Missionary work, she was sitting in the preliminary meeting in the temple listening to two sisters talking. One was telling the other that she had been called with her husband to do temple work as a mission. Mother had a great desire to do the same type of work and asked father about it. Father was pensioned from the railroad so had time for himself so they decided to go together and do couple names for the Czechoslovakian Mission, father's birthplace. This worked out very well and they were able to go twice daily. They started in the fall when the temple opened in August, but during the Christmas holidays Father became very ill. Mother prayed to the Lord for father to get better so he could at least fulfill a complete year of the missionary work they had started.

Father did get well and they did complete the full year. During the summer months while the temple was closed, father began to fail again and mother began to think that he could not go any more to the temple, but the spirit of the Lord told her that when the two of them had decided on the missionary work on their own, they had prayed about it and had planned on two years, not only one year. Sure enough, Dad was able to go again, only instead of twice a day he could only go once a day. Together they completed all the names in the temple at that time for the Czechoslovakian Mission. They were truly inspired to do this work.

* * * * *

October 11, 1950
To my beloved wife:

"A good wife is a gift of God.' I have all reason to be thankful to my heavenly father for such a gift, because He blessed me with a wonderful wife. Also for the great sacrifice of bringing spirits to this earth and teaching them by precepts and example the Gospel.

I must confess that I have failed to appreciate the help you have given me to progress in good things. In my last days I can see better the many mistakes I have made and I

know that I have to learn many lessons yet in the life to come.

The Lord has blessed you with great light so you could understand even the principles which lead to the highest exaltation in the celestial world, which means much to me. A great mission was given you to bring all your children back into the presence of their heavenly father. I know that through your much praying and fasting, also sacrifices you will be successful and thy children will honor your name.

I am very thankful for the blessings received in the house of the Lord, to be sealed for time and all eternity and have our children sealed to us, so that they will be with us forever through our faithfulness.

I pray the Lord that your last days may be your best and let you finish in peace and joy this mortal life according to your desires. Asking thee to forgive me all my failings and to forget my mistakes,
I remain your loving husband forever
Carl A. Nemelka
"Auf baldiges Wiedersehen."
(Will be seeing you soon.)

One summer day while tracting, mother and her companion saw a man painting on the roof of his house. Mother asked, "You are interested in religion? No, you are interested in painting right now." This introduction tickled the man so he stepped and listened a minute and then said, "Talk to my wife she is very interested in religion." They did and the lady of the house came out on the porch and they talked about the gospel. All the time, the man on the roof could hear their conversation. They were invited back.

* * * * *

Uncle Fred Mehner was called on a mission by the Church authorities. He was living in Salt Lake City, Utah and operating concessions at the resorts. In 1922 he had the Whip and small giant racer at Saltair. At one time he had the Whip at Lagoon. He was doing real well. Aunt Nanny wanted him to go on his mission and said she would take care of the business. But he refused the call. A few months later the Bishop asked him again and he still refused to go. The third call came from President Grant himself and the Bishop had to write back and tell him that Uncle Fred had refused the call. A visiting Bishop from Pleasant Grove Ward in Utah even told Uncle Fred he would be sorry if he didn't go, this was when he was still in the deciding period.

Later the family moved to Victorville, California where Uncle Fred went into the cafe business and had Fred's Cafe on the Highway. He did real well but, in his fifties Uncle Fred became paralyzed and could only mumble a few words and he had to be helped by his wife when he walked. He had a sad time. His wife took care of the business in the cafe. A few years later he died and on his death bed his wife told him that now he would be able to do the missionary work he didn't do here, and so he should be happy. But a few years later Uncle Fred's sister Susan had a dream and saw

him sitting by the roadside with his head in his hands and looking very sorrowful. Beside him stood a suitcase. This accounted for the fact that Brother Ballard in his book "Three Degrees of Glory" says that it would take ten years to accomplish in the spirit world what we could accomplish in one year in this life. So any missionary work Uncle Fred was accomplishing was very slow progress for him because running his cafe he never had much time to study the gospel. He was open twenty-four hours a day at the cafe. Had he accepted his mission call he would have learned more rapidly and accomplished more in the spirit world.

The Bishop had told Uncle Fred that the time would come when he wanted to bear his testimony and he wouldn't be able to if he didn't accept his mission call. Uncle Fred was one to always get up on Fast Day and bear his testimony. Just before he was paralyzed they had Ward Conference and Uncle Fred bore one of the most beautiful testimonies. A month later he got his stroke. He got his stroke in 1939. He was this way for eight years.

* * * * *

When mother was a school girl in the Lutheran Church about twelve years of age, she wondered why the Lord didn't send her down in the days of the Apostles that walked in Jerusalem with the Lord. She even thought she would kiss the ground they walked upon.

When she came to Utah from Germany, she had a dream in which the Lord was walking with his disciples on a cobble-stone street and people were throwing stones at them and Jesus and His Apostles walked straight ahead looking neither left nor right. When she awoke she had the impression from the dream that she should follow that pattern and go straight ahead in the gospel path she had chosen.

A few years later, when she was settled in the Poplar Grove Ward she made the acquaintance of Brother and Sister Harold B. Lee. This family held much inspirational feeling for mother and many times she would find herself going to them with her problems. Through the years their friendship became closely entwined and much to mother's joy and thankfulness to the Lord, Brother Lee became an Apostle in the Church. Her wish as a child had become a reality of its own and many are the wonderful experiences the Lord had given her with the association of this fine man. She has dined in their home and prayed with them. Some of the experiences are in this book.

One small experience was when my brother Joseph was getting married to Gayle Cotterell. It was during the depression and father was sick already for many months and they could not afford to give them a wedding shower. Sister Lee was inspired to ask mother if mother could give them a party. Mother said "No." So Sister Lee took care of it all in her own home. It was a very nice party. Mother was so happy.

* * * * *

One day Mom was shopping for a dress about \$3.00 and as she was looking she saw a nice black dress for \$10.00. She knew that was too much so she went to put it back and the spirit told her to buy it because she would have to appear before the public in it. Then she thought "Oh, that's foolish" because she only bore her testimony on Fast day and it was not necessary to wear an expensive dress on that day. But the spirit continued to prompt her so she bought the dress and sure enough, she was called on a Stake Mission. She served for four years, two terms of 2 years each. Every time she had to speak in the different wards, she had a nice dress to wear. Mother has the dress on in the picture of father and her, the nice picture they had taken to give one each to their children. The picture was also used for her obituary notice.

* * * * *

One day when mother was tracting she was invited into a home by the lady of the house and as she entered, the husband hurried into another room. Mother asked, "Is that your husband?" "Yes." Tell him he may come in too, our message is for all." So the husband was asked back into the room and he was very friendly. Then mother told then a little story she had read about Susa Gates. This story Sister Gates gave at the White House when she was a delegate for the Church to a women's convention.

"One Sunday in testimony meeting a man got up and talked about the husband being the head of the home. When he was through, a little lady in the back of the room got up and said, "I am the wife of the man who just spoke to you and he is the head of the house and I am the neck and I turn the head wherever I want it to go.

They laughed. Before mother and her companion left this couple asked if they wouldn't please show them how to pray. This they did and a sweet spirit was left in the home.

At a Poplar Grove Ward conference, Paul C. Child, Senior, who was the President of Pioneer Stake at the time, was to be the speaker for the evening meeting. Mother and Father had fasted all this Sunday and their time was up at the evening meal but they decided to fast through until after the evening meeting.

When President Child got up to speak, he started in by telling the people that he had been preparing a speech for this meeting three weeks ago but when he entered the chapel that evening the spirit told him he should speak about the dream he had in the past week. His words about the dream were somewhat like this, "I was sitting in my front room when everything went dark around me. I rushed to the front door and looked out and there was great darkness outside and much commotion and I could hear moaning. I then went to my back door and looked out toward the Poplar Grove Chapel and the meeting house stood in a great light and I heard a voice which said, 'All those who enter that meeting house are saved.' Then the scene changed and I stood on the steps of the Jackson County Temple and there was a door and behind that door were men singing. All of a sudden the doors swung open and there came one of our humblest brothers who is sitting in the audience out of the door shouting praises to the Lord, with a host of men behind him. Then I went to him and asked him, 'May I have the privilege of

anointing you as a captain over this heavenly host?' Then I woke up."

"When I had the opportunity, I asked Patriarch Woodbury what it meant to be a captain over a heavenly host. He said I would have to come to the temple where he could explain it but not there in public."

Naturally this was a great testimony to Mother and father in regards to temple work and especially because Brother Child was not too converted to the work, and after this dream he was a great man for the furtherance of temple work. Some of the audience knew that the man referred to in the dream was father because he was such an outstanding temple worker in the ward and Pres. Child looked at him at the time he spoke about him. Then with mother and father fasting they knew the Lord had given them something special by this dream.

* * * * *

When Mother attended her first tabernacle meeting in Utah after she arrived from Germany, she had a great desire that she and father might some day do Temple work for as many names as people who sat in that great tabernacle hall, about 8,000 at the time. Her desire came true.

Father has done over 6,000 endowments. This was done by their own labor. No paid names. Besides this, father has taken care of all the genealogy by himself for mother's four lines (Lucas) and for his four lines (Nemelka). Mother has done all the female temple endowments on the eight lines and father has done all the male temple endowments on the eight lines as far as it has been possible to trace back.

Father has completed all the work of gathering the names and compiling them in his own handwriting. Mother always saw to it that father was not deprived of any time to work on genealogy or in the temple. Her patriarchal blessing says "Thou art chosen to complete the work of thy mother." This was given her in 1909. In 1950 the work has all been completed back, some to the year 1500. To date, they have not been able to find any more names.

Father also did names for charity. When he was paid he gave the money as Temple donation.

Mother sometimes came home at nine o'clock in the evening from the Temple and then had to milk five cows. In those early days, they had one session which took about 150 persons from nine in the morning till about eight or nine in the evenings. This was during the years 1916-17.

At the graveside of Mr. Bell, husband of Marie Hubold Bell and close friend of my mothers, a relative was present who was temple president or one of the counselors of the Logan Temple at the time, about 1965.

Mother was standing by him and was telling him that she had put Dad's books and things in a steel cabinet that she has bought. She said, "I believe that when my husband is resurrected again he will handle his work again." This man put his hand on her shoulder and said very strongly, "Sister, he will handle them again.

Recorded and told to me by mother August 17, 1959. Also told to me several times before this date.

-----Esther Nemelka Boekweg.

In talking of this, my mother and I came up with this thought: "If the Angel Moroni was permitted to come back as a resurrected personage and handle the records he had kept and show them to Joseph Smith in mortality, why is it not probable that we too will again handle our records?"

* * * * *

Mother had had some miscarriages and she felt so blue that she went to Patriarch Horne to get a blessing and in his blessing he said, "Sister Nemelka, if you have a faithful heart you will have all your children."

Later mother had another miscarriage and Dad encouraged her to go to the doctor and maybe he could help her, so she went. Dr. Campbell told her that she should bring her husband back with her because he wanted to talk to them together. When they went they were told that mother needed an operation.

Mother was afraid to go alone for the operation so she asked her friend, Sister Hubold, (Bell), to go with her. But that night she had a dream and in the dream she was sitting on the lawn and from one side Dr. Campbell approached her in a dark suit and from the other side Patriarch Horne approached in a white suit and as mother started to welcome the doctor she looked and saw Patriarch Horne move away and on his face was a look that said to her you do not have much faith. Mother told Sister Bell about the dream and she said it was a dream from the devil. But mother remembered the blessing of the Patriarch and changed her mind and didn't go to the doctor. After this incident she still had four more children, all girls.

Mother never believed in having a doctor. Before her last girl, Mary, was born she had a dream to take a doctor and two nights she dreamed this and saw Doctor C. R. Openshaw, her sister Ella Kiesig's doctor in these dreams.

All the rest of us children had a midwife, called Mrs. Anna Laubengaier, who told mother that when she is through having children she would need an operation which will cost her about \$500.

Mother believed and had faith in the dream to have Dr. Openshaw for Mary and when she was born the doctor straightened out all the organs right after delivery and instructed her to lay three days, day and night right on her back without moving so they,

the organs, would heal normally. They did and mother did not need the expensive operation.

Mother had no more children after Mary.

* * * * *

One Sunday morning, on the way to Sunday School, mother found a dollar. She was so happy that she wanted to share that happiness by bringing someone else happiness with the dollar. Right there the inspiration came to her to give the dollar to Sister Freeman, who was a member of the ward and who was very poor. Sr. Freeman was very happy to receive the money and thanked mother from the bottom of her heart.

Mother's sisters and brothers had all come to America from Germany except one sister who had two daughters and one son there.

One morning, shortly after World War I, mother was working in her kitchen when the spirit of the Lord said to her, "Bring your sister over within the next two years before the terrible times begin." Mother was so surprised that she immediately set forth to accomplish this task. Still it would take the old-fashioned faith because she did not know where the \$800 would come from that it would take to bring her sister and family over to America. Also she and Dad had no money of their own that could be used,

Using her faith in the Lord that He would provide, she wrote to her sister that they should get themselves ready immediately for emigrating to America. Then she fasted. Then she started to contact people whom she thought could give her the money. This took all her time and patience for the next two weeks.

One son of her sister's was already here and when mother asked him he was able to give \$200 of the money. \$100 was loaned by the immigration authorities and \$100 came from a friend. Now, where to get the other \$400?

She was inspired to contact Henry D. Moyle, who is now an Apostle, because he was a good friend of her sister's when he was on his mission in Germany. Brother Moyle was then a very well to do man. She began fasting, because Brother Moyle was a stranger to her and then she visited his office and told her story. Because she was a stranger and because Brother Moyle did want to help mother's sister whom he remembered well, mother was asked to find four people who would sign and stand good the \$400.

This was really a task but the Lord helped her through it all. You see, \$100 was a lot of money at that time for these four people to stand good for and they finally were willing to sign. Even mother didn't know if her sister would eventually be able to pay back the \$800 once she got to America. But mother's faith never wavered. She knew that since the spirit spoke to her in the kitchen and it was all the wishes of the Lord, He would not let her down.

In two weeks time about fifteen contacts were made and mother had the \$800 for her sister. The strange part was that her sister made it to America just before visas were cancelled for all immigrants. The Lord blessed my aunt that she was able to pay back every dollar borrowed, and mother knew that the Lord had repaid her for her old-fashioned faith.

* * * * *

Mother had a friend who never bore her testimony. One day she told mother she had had a dream. In this dream she was dead and was in the spirit world. She was attending a testimony meeting. She said she got up to bear her testimony and the Bishop there said, "Sit down sister, it is not necessary for you to bear your testimony here, you did not bear it while you were on earth."

Still this sister did not get up and two years later she died. She was in her early 50's. Mom felt bad because she knew this sister did have a testimony because she had told some of her faith-promoting experiences to mother. She was from Switzerland and had such a strong testimony of the gospel that she came to America and her parents disowned her for it. (Her friend was a Sister Miller.)

Once when my mother was discouraged and was fasting three days for encouragement from the Lord, my Dad said to her, "I know you are humble but the Lord wants you more humble." My father had great wisdom.
(Told to Esther Boekweg)

* * * * *

Pa's father was a tailor and a very good, very honest man. Pa's mother was a good woman, but very stern and strict Catholic. She didn't like Ma to marry Pa because when Pa's Dad died Pa was his mother's greatest help and comfort until Ma came along. Also they were of Catholic faith and she did not like the idea of Pa becoming a Mormon. The family was never close with Ma and Pa after they were married.

* * * * *

The recorder in the temple let my father be endowed for Hans Luther, father of Martin Luther. It was done on a Decoration Day. This was a great privilege because the great leaders of the church did the work for Doctor Martin Luther and Dad's wife's parents were followers of the teaching of Martin Luther and belonged to the Lutheran Church before they joined the Mormon Church.

* * * * *

Dad never failed an opportunity to preach the gospel. He lived near the Temple grounds and would go over and make friends with tourists and preach to them the gospel. Once he was mistaken by a guide, who thought he was the prophet George Albert Smith, who had come to listen to the guide and the guide was very nervous. The guide told Dad about it when he found out who Dad really was.

* * * * *

Just before mother was baptized, but investigating the gospel, mother had a dream. In the dream her brother-in-law, Emil Wolf, called her and said, 'Elizabeth, come here and see all the spirits.' When mother came she saw a huge room with many spirits in it standing real close together without clothing and she raised her hands to heaven and said in German, "All good spirits honor God in Heaven." As she said this she looked and saw white dresses forming over each body.' She said it was a beautiful sight to behold. She remembered this dream many times and told it to me when she was 80 years old. She had now done the temple endowments for almost 2,000 souls and clothed these people in the robes of the Priesthood.

* * * * *

May 10, 1950

Dear Brother Lee:

When I was twelve years old and belonged to the Lutheran Church, I used to sit in Church and wish with all my heart that I could have been born in the time of the early Apostles so that I might enjoy their companionship. I even thought that I would kiss the ground that they walked on. Little did know that at the age of thirty I would have that very privilege of living in the day of the Apostles. I came to America for the sake of the gospel and here I had my childhood wish come true. Not only did I live in the time of the Apostles, but I had the most wonderful and rare experience of associating with one, yourself. The Joy I experienced in eating at your table and kneeling in your home in prayer with your family and you was indeed a great privilege which I thank the Lord for with all my heart. The counsel and wisdom I received from you have been a great blessing to me.

Because Sunday is Mother's Day and Nephi is back in the church, I feel that I should at this time write to you the following experiences I have had with you, in connection with Nephi and other things I am reminded of but have never told you before. I am sure they will bring much joy to you as they did to me. The Lord has been very kind to me.

Several years ago, I had a little trouble with a Brother in Poplar Grove Ward, in which I was in the right and I felt awful that he felt bad towards me. One day I fasted and on this day of fast I found out that this brother wanted to break the law of the Church and practice polygamy. I was inspired to fast 24 hours longer for the strength of the High Priests in our Ward that they might not be tempted. This man was a High Priest. This man never did go through with his desire and turned out to be a wonderful High Priest in the Ward even to this day.

A few years later, after this experience and on a Mother's Day, I felt very blue because of having a wayward boy and I felt as though I could hardly bear to attend Sunday School on this day. But I went, and when I got there I heard some Brethren speaking of how it was the parents' fault that their children go astray and I turned and said, "It is not always the parents' fault." The above mentioned High Priest turned to me and said, "It is your fault that you have a boy like Nephi." No one knows what I suffered under this remark, especially since I know I had at one time fasted for this very man. I felt so bad that I didn't want to take the Sacrament. Then I made up my mind that I

would forgive the man for what he had said to me on a Mother's Day so that I could partake of the Sacrament. Then the spirit said to me, "Your name will be honored today.' A sweet peace fell over me.

To my surprise we had Stake President Harold B. Lee as our speaker. You spoke first about the mother of the Savior, then the mother of Joseph Smith, and then you said, "Now I want to talk about two sisters who bore their testimony last Sunday. I want to talk about the mother who bore testimony and said, "The Lord grinds me many times through the mill, but I always came finer out after that!" You then talked about me and honored my name. What you said about Sister Plewe I can't remember, or word for word what you said about myself, but the feeling that came over me was the most wonderful Mother's Day gift I have ever received in my life.

You will recall the time that Nephi was in trouble and you went to Governor Blood in his behalf. I never told you that at that same time my sister in California had a dream that Nephi would come to California with his wife and she should take them in. I knew then that you were inspired to go to Governor Blood and the outcome come was good.

Three months ago, Nephi came back from a visit to California and when he got back the spirit of the Lord came over him in a beautiful miraculous conversion. So the prayer and the fasting of his Dad are answered before his Dad leaves this earth. Nephi is now keeping all the commandments he possibly can--fasting, prayer, not swearing, paying honest tithing and donations, and studying. Even fasting every Sunday just like his Dad and paying a dollar for each day of fast. He is very interested in the welfare and pays five dollars a month for donation to the Welfare alone. He is even working at the center when asked. He also keeps the Sabbath day Holy Just like his Dad. He goes block teaching and attends all his meetings. Through fasting he overcame his smoking. He said that the Lord actually took the craving away. He keeps the word of wisdom too. He will be advanced to a Priest and made a counselor in the Adult Aaronic Priesthood, He is certainly happy and so are we and very grateful to the Lord for what He has done to Nephi. I remember I had a dream once that Nephi was just like a thermos bottle, shiny on the inside and rough and black on the outside. How he has been turned inside out. Because he has a lot of character building to do, your book "Youth and the Church" is really doing a lot for him. Right now he is studying the chapter called "The Successful Sinner." He sure likes the book and is getting a lot out of it.

I'm sure that you remember Sister Freeman and the time you administered to her when she was so very ill. There is quite a story about how the Lord worked through me to inspire you to bless her as you did. I had visited Sister Freeman and did some ironing for her. On the way home I was inspired to go home and pray for Sister Freeman and ask the Lord to give her five more years to live. I was shocked, because she was already 76 years old and very ill at this time. I heeded the spirit and the answer came that my prayer would be answered and Sister Freeman would be given five more years.

In the meantime you administered to Sister Freeman and you promised her that it would be made known to her if she should be taken home at that time or if her life would be prolonged. At my next visit to Sister Freeman I walked in at the door and said, "You know what, the Lord has promised you five more years." Then I told her about the prayer. Then she told me about your visit and administration. Five years later, in the very same month, March, she took very ill and a few months later died. As you know,

during these five years she was able to do a great Temple work of over a thousand names, going two times daily to the Temple with Brother Freeman and took care of him for four more years. He died one year before she did. He was 92.

I know that the worth of a soul is great in the eyes of the Lord because he gave me one of His noble sons, yourself, to help us in our trial.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Nemelka

In March, one year during the 1940's, mother visited Sister Freeman, wife of the patriarch in Poplar Grove Ward and also the patriarch who gave me, Esther Nemelka, my patriarchal blessing. She was very sick, so mother cleaned her house and did her ironing. On the way home the spirit told mother to go home and pray and ask the Lord to give Sister Freeman five more years to live. Mother was very surprised because Sister Freeman was 78 years old and very, very ill at this time. Mother heeded the promptings of the spirit and the answer came to her that her prayer would be answered, the Lord would give Sister Freeman five more years.

In the meantime, Pioneer Stake President at that time, Harold B. Lee, administered to Sister Freeman and told her in his prayer that it would be made known to her if she should be taken home at this time or if she would stay a little longer.

At mother's next visit to Sister Freeman, mother cheerfully went into the house and the first thing she said to Sister Freeman was: "You know what, the Lord has promised you five more years!" Then mother told her about the prayer. Then Sister Freeman told mother about President Lee's visit and promise to her. Five years later in the same month, March, Sister Freeman took desperately ill and a few months later died.

The important part of the Lord's promise of five more years was that during those five years Sister Freeman was able to do a great temple work of over a thousand names, going two times daily to the temple with her husband besides taking care of him for four more years. He died one year before her at the age of 92. Once again the hand of the Lord was made manifest.

RECEIVING THE HOLY GHOST

It one of the homes mother and her companion visited in her mission work, a pretty young lady answered the door. They told who they were and were invited in. The lady told mother and her companion that her husband was a member of the church but not active and had never told her anything about the church. They had two boys. One was ten years old and had not been baptized. She knew nothing about religion. Mother and her companion started right from the beginning. They left tracts and revisited her. Mother asked if she had read the tracts and the girl said, "I don't have time." Mother noticed the True Story magazine lying on the table and suggested to her that she might

divide her time a little and read a little religious things too, because mother said she used to love to read True Story magazines but she had always found time to study religion.

They visited her for two years. During that time they taught them how to have family prayer. They knelt with the family and mother would offer the prayer. They also showed the young lady how to study scriptures. Mother's companion was very anxious that the young lady should be baptized before their mission time was up so she turned her name into the mission president for baptism recommendation. The spirit told mother that the lady would not be ready for another year for baptism. The lady was baptized anyway and also the ten-year-old boy. The lady had never been to meeting except the day she was confirmed after baptism.

On the day that she was confirmed the bishop's counselor asked mother if she would give the closing prayer after asking mother's mission companion to give the opening prayer. Mother refused because she felt that the Priesthood should do it at Sacrament Meeting and Fast Day meetings. So he asked her who she would suggest and mother suggested the mission district president or his education mission counselor. The counselor was chosen and gave a wonderful prayer. The two were only present because of the confirmation of the young lady. So it was very appropriate.

In the evening the Bishop came and asked mother, who had told her that women shouldn't pray when the Priesthood is present. She told him about when Susie Gates always said priesthood should be honored. That she didn't believe in it so mother didn't either. Otherwise she had no definite proof. The Bishop asked her to ask Brother Harold B. Lee. Brother Lee was out of town at the time and Sister Lee said she only knew that in the mission field lady missionaries never prayed at any sacrament meetings but there wasn't any real proof against it.

A week later, before meeting, the Bishop asked mother if she had found out anything and she told him what Sister Lee had said, so he said, "Okay, Sister Nemelka, you go right up and open the meeting for us, please." She did and had a wonderful spirit of prayer. She still wasn't converted though. Then the spirit of the Lord told her, "We are in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and there is lots that we can do and it is all right, but when we are in the church of the First Born the Priesthood will be more highly honored." Now she was satisfied.

Now, after the lady was baptized and confirmed, mother was inspired to go over to her house and read her the song "Let the Holy Spirit Guide." Mother listened to the promptings of the spirit and read the song to her.

LET THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDE

Let the Holy Spirit's promptings be your daily, constant guide;
Let its peaceful, heavenly power ever in your heart abide.

It will lead in duty's pathway, and will never let you stray;
It will keep you from all danger, and from every evil way.

Let the Holy Spirit guard you in each act, and word and thought;
Never make a single effort till the Spirit's aid you've sought.
Cherish it as your companion; heed its sweet and still small voice;
Ever listen to its dictates, then through life you will rejoice.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit, or it will not with you stay;
But that it may dwell within you to you Heavenly Father pray.
Ask in faith and He will answer, and will bless you from above;
He will send His Holy Spirit, which will fill your soul with love.

When mother started her second term of missionary work she felt that it was now not necessary to visit this lady anymore and she felt that in time the spirit would come upon this lady. But with these thoughts she heard a sweet voice that said, "Feed My Sheep." Mother was so filled with the spirit and the beauty of this voice that she began to weep, so with a new companion she still kept a missionary contact with this lady and two more years rolled away.

Several months after her second term mission was terminated, mother met the lady uptown and she told mother that she had been longing to see her and tell her what had happened to her in the past few months. She had been very ill and during this illness she had learned to pray and she had promised the Lord she would go to church. Before, she only believed but was not active and had had no individual prayer by bending her knees. It was then that the Holy Ghost came to her with this first prayer and she began to do her duty and now her husband and boy also attend church.

Mother now knew that the spirit had truly been right when she was told to read the words of the song to this lady shortly after being baptized.

Later, when I moved into the Poplar Grove 4th Ward in Pioneer Stake I was put on the Stake Sunday School Board. I had the opportunity to meet this family. Their son, now a fine young man was put into the Ward Sunday School as Superintendent and during his time of office he had the finest Sunday School in the Stake. Many people loved and admired the spirit of this young man. This lady's husband also later was put in as a counselor in the Sunday School under a new Superintendent. They became a fine active family in their ward and still are to this day of Nov. 1966.

A DREAM ABOUT LUCIFER

When my brother Joe was blessed as a baby the Bishop announced publicly: "The spirit of the Lord told me that Brother Nemeika should be in Priesthood meeting tomorrow night, we should set him apart as an Elder." Dad held no priesthood at this time. They had come to America in February 1, 1909 after being baptized in June 1908. Joe was born August 1909 and this was Fast Sunday, September 1909 in the 29th

Ward.

That night mother had a dream. They knew nothing about Priesthood, or Lucifer or things like that. They had only been in the church a year. In the dream she was standing in a basement room and someone said, "Lucifer is coming" and she looked up the stairs and saw a man in black with a terrible countenance. He was dressed as a fine gentlemen, a rich man with a fine smoke-stack hat on. He had a book and held it in his hand and he said to mother, "Cut your wrist and with your blood write your name in this book. If you do you will become wealthy in this country." Mother had a German coin purse in her hand full of money and she threw it down at his feet and the money scattered and she said, "You can have your dirt." Then he gave a hard laugh. She said it sounded terrible. Then he went about 12 feet farther and stood by a girl, sitting on a couch, the girl mother had seen in the German Bible classes she attended and he said to her, "Get down on your heels," and she kneeled before him on her heels. Then mother woke up.

Later mother found out that this girl had later an illegitimate child from a German journalist who took stories about America and wrote them for Germany. He disappeared after he got the girl in trouble. This dream taught mother the existence of the evil one.

TOO MANY POTATOES

Just before my husband Carl was called into the Army to serve in World War II, 1942, we were living with mother. She had purchased four sacks of potatoes at \$3.00 per sack to last during the winter, but Carl was called into the Army in November so in March she still had three sacks left. She knew that one would be sufficient for us and she didn't want any to go to waste by spoilage so she prayed that the Lord should show her some worthy family to whom she could give the two sacks of potatoes.

A few days later she was waiting for her bus to go home from town in front of the Bamberger depot, when she yaw a man shaking out a gunny sack on the light post. She knew the man so when they got on the bus she sat by him and struck up a conversation with him asking him if he needed any potatoes. He said yes, that's why he had the sack. He was planning to purchase a few and carry them home in the gunny sack from the grocery store at the end of the bus line. He had a three mile walk from the bus line. He would not have been able to carry too many. Mother told him she had two sacks she didn't need and that he could have them. He said he would be glad to take them but he had no money. Mother told him she had them left over and didn't want any money. The Lord wanted him to have the potatoes and he should thank the Lord for them. The man was so grateful.

That night he sent his son over to get the potatoes. The man was a good Latter...Day Saint and they had nine children. Mother thanked the Lord that He had showed her the right person to whom to give the potatoes.

A Dream and Visitation of Mother's Parents.

Magdalena Teuscher was an elderly lady that my mother had taken into the home and cared for. She was slow in thinking things out and her mind would often go into blankness, But she did help out a little and mother was very patient with her and paid her \$2.00 a week. This she did for six years and the seventh year she couldn't pay but she kept a record of it. About \$82.00. The lady had \$62.00 saved in a piece of newspaper under her mattress. This her sister took when she died. Because Mother owed the \$82.00 they said mother should pay the funeral expense, which she did at \$10.00 a month. But she had never told father about owing the \$82.00, and she was surely scared to tell him. Then she had a dream and her mother and father appeared to her in a dream wearing white clothes. Mother stood before them carrying a basket of bread rolls and her mother said, "You are in trouble, you need some money, don't you?" Mother said "Yes" and grandma gave her a handful of paper money. Mother laid the money on top of the rolls and the basket and turned around to set it down and when she turned back to continue talking with her mother and father, they were gone. She turned to pick the basket up and as she turned she saw some sheep eating out of the basket and they were eating the money and parts of it were hanging from their mouths. A man approached mother, he was herding the sheep, and also another man was approaching on horseback and he was talking to the man walking, and the man walking said to the man on horseback, "Your sheep have eaten her money." Mother looked at the man on horseback and recognized father and then she woke up.

This dream was so encouraging to mother that she was able to tell father about the \$82.00 debt she had. So in the morning she told father and said that if he said anything about her being a poor manager or such she would run away. Dad was so sweet and only said, "Well, we'll have to find a way to pay it back. Don't worry about it." From that time on they were able to manage \$10.00 on the funeral bill.

The reason the old lady had her money under the mattress, was that for five years she had always given the \$2.00 she earned to her sister to save for her but there was no record kept and mother told her she should have a bank book or something to show for it. The lady realized mother was right so she didn't give the money any more to her sister. Five years of savings were lost to this sister who wouldn't even pay the funeral bill. The only thing the old lady bought herself was a blouse and a skirt. These she wore until they turned to rags. She would use safety pins to hold them together. She had very peculiar ways. When she started a job she never finished it. She would start and maybe four hours later go back to it. She had no power of concentration. She was kind and good and mother was very tolerant with all her funny ways. She had the mind of a twelve year old but in many ways not even that good. After her death her relatives honored mother greatly for having taken care of her.

I was seven years old when Magdalena died. She was like a governess to me. I really loved her. She could do Swiss holeling and I would love to sit on her lap and listen to her. We were very close.

Train Accident Avoided - Year 1926

When I was in 2nd grade at school and my sister in kindergarten, we had to walk a mile to school about a 25-minute walk on a dirt road and over a railroad crossing. Most of the time the little neighbor boy who was my age walked with us. His name was Paul Franke. There was no school bus at this time. During the Christmas holidays mother had a dream of seeing two small beautiful healthy fruit trees in full bloom standing on her kitchen floor. One was my size and one the size of my sister. All of a sudden they withered and died. Then the scene changed and still in the kitchen she was attending my sister and myself laying on the kitchen table as though something had happened to us and her sister Johanna Wolf walked in and remarked about it with a sad look in her eyes.

During the same week my sister who was only 6 years old told mother she had had a dream about a dark horse chasing her down the train tracks as though it wanted to kill her. Also during that week our little friend's mother, Mrs. Helen Franke, also had a dream that the laundry man came to her door and had her little son in the back of his truck, Something had happened to him. When she told mother her dream, mother immediately knew something was in the air because of the three dreams coming during the same week and my little sister was not and is not to this day one who dreams at all times. Later when she received her patriarchal blessing she was told that she would have visions and dreams. Then knowing all the circumstances the spirit told mother something might happen in the month of May, so mother from that day to the 31st of May never missed a day of special prayer for our protection in secret in regards to these dreams. Nothing happened to any of us.

Mother never knew till later that the little neighbor boy and myself would often challenge each other to beat the train across the crossing whenever the train happened to reach there when we three did. Even one time we raced across and my sister being smaller and younger we told her not to try but wait on the other side till the train had passed. Even sometimes we had to cross the tracks in the early morning fog and would only hear the whistle as a warning that the train was coming. There were no railroad crossing signals at this time either. Signs were only put up later after a car accident and death and then later the modern electric bells were installed and the street crossing leveled. The tracks sat up on a hill-like area. We would run up over the tracks and down the other side. Often we met the train coming home from school too and many times the engineer would wave at us.

* * * * *

When Walter was out of school but not graduated, he went looking for work. We lived at 1254 South Redwood Road, about four blocks from where a Presto-lite factory has just been built, where they manufactured compressed gas. When the plant was opened, Walter was 16 years old and he applied for work. When he left home, mother prayed for him to get the work. Sure enough, out of 18 applicants he was picked out with two others to work there.

Through this work he met his wife-to-be who was a secretary there. When he had worked there for 25 years they presented him with a gold wrist watch. He is still there in 1950 and now holds the job of assistant superintendent. The head superintendent operates another plant in another part of the city. This gives Walter the job of operating the Redwood Road plant by himself.

WORK AT THE RIO GRANDE DEPOT

Mother was working at Keeley's Coffee Shop and she felt that the work was too hard and not enough pay and with the work at home to do she felt she couldn't go on. She felt that she couldn't quit because she needed the money so badly and she wished that she would get pregnant then she knew she'd have to quit. One night on the way home through a field and along a canal bank where they had a wooden bench to sit and watch the irrigation flow, mother knelt in the snow by the bench and prayed to the Lord that he would help her. She said she had a funny feeling that maybe He wasn't listening because He was too busy at that moment but the thought came to her that He would notice her knee marks in the snow. She chuckles when she thinks about it now because the Lord showed her that He was listening more than she realized.

At that very time things were taking place in the Rio Grande Depot that they knew nothing about till later. They had colored men doing the janitor work in the depot and they weren't clean and there was much arguing going on. The colored men weren't very nice about it either. So the head man went down stairs of the depot and asked Bishop Carlson, who was a policeman in the depot, if he knew of anyone that might like a job like that. Even a couple with their children, just as long as tin work would be done good. Bishop Carlson says that the voice came to him and it said "Brother Nemelka." Dad was a janitor at the Union Pacific Railroad Building at the time.

So Saturday morning a knock came on the door and Brother Britsche said to mother, "Bishop Carlson said for Brother Nemelka to come to the Rio Grande Depot, they have a job for him there." Dad liked his work and didn't want to go but when he heard the story he decided they better investigate and when the boss, "John" saw Dad he liked him very much and he said, "You can keep your work at the Union Pacific Building and have your family work at the Rio Grande Depot with you." It was in this Rio Grande Building that they later gave Dad a room so he could live in town and save time going back and forth from jobs. Mother took him meals and in this room many hours of genealogy work was done in quiet and solitude. It was a great blessing to the family.

At first when they had to have examinations for fitness to do the work they found mother had a weak heart. But the boss liked her so well that he kept her anyway. A year later my brother Joe went on a mission so she would have to do his work that he was doing on this cleaning job. It meant another examination. After fasting and praying on mother's part, they found nothing wrong. This job they kept for ten years. One month after mother had the job, she became pregnant with my sister Mary, and because the work was so light she was able to work and have a baby besides. My older brothers also helped out when necessary. "John" the boss was depot master at night and when

he was gone they had another boss "Tommy" who was depot master in the daytime. Both bosses liked their work exceptionally well and mother gave them a fine job done.

At Keeley's they were very upset to lose mother because she was the best worker they ever had had. They really pestered her to stay, but when she explained to the boss' wife that if she could get a better job for better pay she would quit too, wouldn't she? She said "Yes" and then they never pestered her to stay.

At the Rio Grande they were really their own boss, they could go and come as they pleased, only that the work was done well.

POWER OF THE EVIL ONE

Mother and Father were visiting with Dad's mother, and Grandma was real angry because Dad was going to join the LDS Church. She was so upset (she was Catholic) that she said to mother, "You so and so, you ought not to be able to die." They had stayed overnight at Grandma's.

When they left Mom noticed that Dad was looking very strange. He didn't say anything at first. Then as they were walking along he said, "You killed my mother." Mother said "No, I didn't." They stopped to visit Mom's sister, Olga Fritsch, and when they left and stepped out into the street there was a large water puddle. Dad said, "I guess you want me to walk through that water?" He was really angry, and Mom said, "No, dear, you can walk around the puddle." He became more upset and went back to Mom's sister and said, "She wants me to go through that water puddle." Fritschen Tante gave Mom a real hard push as to say Mom was crazy and Mom said, "No, I told him he could go around." So then he went around to another direction towards home. They originally were on the way to Filmbach's home because Mom wanted the missionary to drive out the evil one which was making Dad say she had killed his mother. That was when they had the water incident. So they went on home instead.

On the way home, about a two-hour walk, Dad would stop once in a while and say "You killed my mother," and then he would command Mom to pray but said "and not in the name of Jesus Christ." Mom recognized the evil power and refused but she calmed Dad and said "Your mother is all right." When they got home mother insisted that they call his brother and make sure his mother was all right. The minute they got the report that she was all right, the evil spirit left Dad. Dad would say when he asked mom to pray, "Bahdamahl."

Later in telling Elder Filmbach about the incident, he said that if Mom had prayed as Dad wanted her to the evil spirit would have gone into her also. He said, "The Devil wanted to destroy Dad because he was going to join the church and said Dad would have many testimonies and be a great person in the church. Because he was able to overcome the evil one he'll be a good church member."

Told me several times and recorded Sept. 11, 1961.

by Esther Nemelka Boekweg

When mother was telling me this she said, "What a day!"

SATAN OVERCOME

Just before fast day, January 1946, at the close of a two-year Stake Mission at the age of 67, the spirit prompted mother to have a three-day fast. She pondered over this feeling and didn't think much of it because she had for the past few months been fasting almost every Sunday, so she let it slip her mind. It was then that Satan tried to destroy her, twice physically and once mentally.

One morning mother forgot to pray, not that she meant to but she had had visitors and things came up and it just slipped her mind. That afternoon on her way to town on the bus the spirit told her she had forgotten to pray that morning. Then she questioned herself, "Did I?" Then she remembered that she had forgotten so she closed her eyes and silently prayed as the bus was nearing an intersection. She was sitting in the middle of the bus near the window. As she finished praying and looked up a young man driving a truck was headed straight for the bus and would strike where she was sitting. She said his face was ashen and he seemed to realize what was about to happen and then miraculously he swerved the truck which went alongside of the bus towards the rear. The driver of the bus was unaware of the whole thing. He had not noticed the truck coming so rapidly. Mother knew her prayer for the day's protection was answered and also why the voice had spoken to her at that particular moment.

Then, on Sunday evening, the same month, she was going up the steps into the house and she said her knee gave way and she fell into the house. She said it felt as though someone had actually pushed her. She was badly bruised and shaken up but she felt she could go to Sunday evening services anyway. When she arrived at church she was astonished when they asked her to give the opening prayer, they not knowing she had just had a bad fall. She prayed and in the prayer thanked the Lord that she was able to come to church after having such a bad fall. The next day her bruises began to hurt severely and she had to stay in bed a few days. It took a week before she felt well again.

Then, came the day when in the evening she should give her farewell talk for the close of her mission. It seemed that that day all hell was let loose in her mind. Her mental anguish was so terrible that she didn't know how she would ever be able to give a farewell talk. But with the help of the Lord she gave a wonderful speech filled with the power of the Holy Ghost. Then came the realization of why the spirit had prompted her to fast three days at the beginning of the month. So the following Sunday, Fast Day, found her finishing a three-day fast of 72 hours without food or water and thanking her Lord for all He had done for her during the eventful month. That night she had a very comforting dream and the mental agony that was previously experienced found complete release.

RELIEF SOCIETY BUILDING DONATION

At the October conference in 1947 when the announcement was made in the tabernacle about the building of the Relief Society Building, mother was present. When it was mentioned about asking all Relief Society members to donate five dollars for the erection of this building, mother said the spirit came over her so strongly and said she should give \$25.00. She didn't have the money at the time but she knew some way would be opened. Also she knew her son Walter always gave her money for Christmas. Usually he gave her \$10 and a \$5 or \$10 gift with the ten dollars. Imagine her surprise when Christmas came and instead of a present he opened his wallet and pulled out a \$10 bill then another \$10 bill and then looking slowly and hesitantly in his wallet again he pulled out a \$5 bill and gave it to her. Mother knew why the Lord inspired her to want to donate \$25 in her heart at conference time even though she wasn't sure where the money would come from. This little incident of a lady giving her Christmas money as a donation towards the building was also mentioned in the Relief Society Magazine November issue 1948.

“Joy in Full Measure’ by President Belle S. Spafford: “The dollars which make up the fund represent individual contributions of many types: the providently saved nickels and dimes of sisters to whom these savings meant much; The Christmas gift of one sister, long anticipated in order that some little personal need might be met; the golden wedding gift of another, cherished because a loved one had given it to her; the gift of an aged sister, who, in passing away a few days after making her contribution, rejoiced that she had lived long enough to see this program launched and to participate in it; etc.”

HOME

In November of 1951 mother prayed, she wanted to know what the end would be for Nephi and Ruth because they were divorced and Ruth was living with the five children at 54 South 7th East.

During the night mother had no dream and in the morning she said to Dad, “The Lord didn't show me anything even though I prayed.” As she finished saying this the spirit said to her “Nephi should be able to buy the home that Ruth was making monthly payments on.

In December Nephi went to California. One day as he was going to work the spirit of the Lord told him to go right away to Salt Lake and buy the home. When he got there Ruth was selling the home to a man who was coming the next day to close the deal. Ruth had neglected monthly payments up to \$2,000. Nephi talked with her and paid the \$2,000 to keep the home and remarried Ruth.

During the time that Nephi was in California mother did have a dream. In the dream she opened a doorway into a hall, she did not know what hall, and there she saw Nephi standing with his 5 children around him and they all looked sad. Ruth was not there and yet Mother had a feeling that she wasn't dead. In the morning Mother told

Dad about the dream and after a few minutes of meditation and saying nothing, Dad said "Ruth will go to Provo."

Before Dad died in April 1951, he prophesied to mother that after his death mother would live with Ruth and also she wouldn't go to the Temple anymore because of her health. All this came to pass as he said. Mother moved in with Ruth and Nephi after he died.

One day Mother got ready to go to the temple and the iron had been left on by someone and caused smoke real bad and it upset mother so bad she couldn't go to the Temple. No one was home and mother at first did not know where the smoke was coming from. It was quite a shock for her. It was her first attempt to go to the Temple after Dad's death. After the shock of the ironing board her bladder was so bad that she could not control her water anymore so she could never go to the Temple again. Later her legs became worse and she could not step up in a bus. Even for a while she would get on a bus by setting her bag on the top step and then climb up on her hands. The bus drivers used to chuckle at her determination. Even later she would get awful weak getting dressed to go anywhere.

One day Nephi and Ruth had troubles and Ruth sent Nephi out of the house and they got divorced again. The home was given to Ruth by court. Mother stayed with Ruth and Nephi paid for her keep. This was a blessing for the children which needed their grandmother's teachings and Ruth needed the monthly room rent. Mother lived with Ruth 3 1/2 years. Then Ruth remarried and asked mother to leave. This man she married she also later divorced.

Mother stayed with me a few months. In the meantime, Carol, Nephi's youngest girl came to visit mother and told mother her mother was going to lose the home again because of no monthly payments made. Ruth was to move out on the 6th of June 1955. Carol told mother this at the end of May. Right away, mother got the feeling Nephi should buy the home from the bank. This he did and saved the home the second time. Ruth moved with her husband into a smaller home. She also signed the home over to Nephi.

The man who was selling the home originally to Ruth came from out of town and wanted Nephi to buy the home in cash without the trouble of the monthly payments. He was an elderly gentleman and well-to-do and his son wanted him to get rid of the home in Salt Lake. So Nephi had Joe mortgage the home to the bank in Joe's name so no one could take the home from Nephi again. The deal was so satisfactory to the man that he let the home go for \$5,000 cheaper than the original price.

Mother then went to live with Nephi in the home. I was having another baby and needed the room real bad that she had. They also took in an elderly sister who was company to mother.

About two years later Nephi married a wonderful girl, Wanda Gustaveson, and off

and on they have had Nephi's children come and live with them. They have sent his oldest boy David, on a mission to Germany.

Recorded and told to me by my mother (1959).
Esther Nemelka Boekweg.