

In the early years in the church, it was not too difficult to have a General Authority show up at a Sacrament Meeting. David O. McKay was kind of an Area Authority, so to speak, for the Ogden Utah Saints and you might even meet him walking down the street. David O. McKay lived in Huntsville a town to the east of Ogden.

Well anyway, we occasionally would have him show up at meetings.

In one such instant Ena Barnes, who was our Sunday School teacher had us singing in class. David O. McKay was going to be our Sacrament Meeting speaker and heard them singing. So David O. McKay leaned over to our 26 year old Bishop, L. Grant Lofgreen and said "Don't let those boys get away from you". Ena Barnes and our young Bishop provided many opportunities for our chorus to sing at Sacrament Meetings all over the valley.

We were kept busy in all sorts of activities. For example, our Bishop rented a train. In those days they were all steam engines. They had one engine and one car and drove to the edge of the Great Salt Lake where there was a very nice sandy beach. We played in the sand for hours and witnessed a terrific sunset at dusk. Then we boarded the train and went to a switching station where we could turn around and head for where we had started.

Como Springs was another great place to swim in the warm water. We also swam in the Weber River. We also went to Lagoon.

One time we went to Arco Idaho with our HiHatters Dance band. They danced so fast there that you could hardly keep up with them. Of course we went to church there and had the 18th Ward Boy's Chorus give the talks and sing the songs.

The age range of chorus members was from about 14 to 19 years so some of the older boys had cars and could help with the transportation.

We often went to General Conference in Salt Lake City and would manage to get all of the chorus members to attend.

On one occasion, someone found out that our Chorus was in town so we were invited to sing some songs. It was carried on the radio and we were now very excited about that.

Just another example of the availability of General Authorities is the fact that Heber J. Grant dedicated our 18th Ward meeting house in 1927.

This singing business was a great way to keep us all out of trouble. Out of 18 boys, I can only remember two boys who drifted away from the church.

Ena Barnes who organized and directed the Ogden Eighteenth Ward Boys Chorous was a cousin of David O. Mckay so she had a little leverage with the First Presidency of the Church. Consequently, she arranged a meeting with the First Presidency to come to Salt Lake City and sing for them. This occurred on March 26, in 1938. We sang for president Grant and in return, he sang for us. and told him of some of his experiences.

Then President Grant gave each of us a signed copy of a small booklet entitled "The Power of Truth" written by Willium George Jordan. . The book is 64 pages long and is about 8 inches by 5 inches , The cover is red with gold lettering. Every one of us received a book with their three signatures in it.. Additionally, they gave each one of us a belated Christmas card.

This card has a reddish envelope and is 8 inches by 5.5 inches and looks quite old after some 63 years have passed by. A fancy string shows from the outside. This string holds the pages together. My name: *H. Tracy :Hall* had been typed on the front of the envelope and the front page has the message that follows—

Treasures
I would Share
Christmas 1937
Heber J. Grant

On opening the card, the first thing that you will see is a picture of Heber J. Grant. Following that is a photograph of his beautiful hand writing. Aditionally there are 14 pages of wit and wisdom The first presidency at this time consisted of the following: :

Heber J. Grant, President
J. Reuben Clark Jr, First councilor
David O. McKay, Second Councilor