

Dear Family:

December 29, 1990

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

We took our kids out for a Christmas tree cutting on home evening night in early December. In Oregon there are hundreds of Christmas tree farms within an hour's drive. It was fun for the children to be in a forest like setting choosing from among the live trees. It seems sad that our tree will be taken down soon, but there is some consolation in knowing that it will be recycled. Recycling is a big program in Oregon. It will be shredded and probably wind up on a foot path somewhere.

Business in December is practically non-existent. It slowed down even more when the cold weather set in. I have had lots of time to enjoy being with the children. The children found their Christmas wish in "a white Christmas." It snowed the day after they got out of school for the holidays. I took all the kids out for new boots (Tuesday 12/18/90) just before the storm hit. We discovered that our snow boots of yesteryear went the way of Dessert Industries. The kids made productive use out of the new boots the next morning. Our street is on a steep hill and our house is near the top. The snow was suitable for sledding for over a week. We another snow storm yesterday and more is probable for Sunday (tomorrow).

The best part about the snow is that Dad, that's me, doesn't have to take the kids up to the mountains. The worst part is slippery driving. Charlotte and I got hit from behind while running errands in our Honda. Fortunately, there were no injuries and the damage to our car was minimal.

The problems I have been having with my right knee have never subsided. Two weeks ago I had a MRI (magnetic resonance imaging). The doctor confirmed that I have a small tear in the cartilage. I was sent to a specialist for further consultation. I will be having orthoscopic knee surgery on Wednesday, January second. This will be a routine "day surgery" procedure. The doctor says that he doesn't want me climbing any ladders or crawling under any houses for a month. I will have plenty of time to research a few gospel topics on the computer.

We had a wonderful Christmas. We participated in bringing Christmas cheer to migrant families again this year. We dropped off food boxes and some presents for a single mother and her four children (ages 3-12). When our children approached the door with the presents the nine year old boy said excitedly, "Someone is going to bring us food too!" When I got inside the house, Manual smiled with embarrassment. The 12 year old girl was cheerful and excited. The mother didn't speak any English. Charlotte found her Spanish very rusty. We wished them a Feliz Navidad and left with a good Christmas spirit. Hyrum and Hannah talked "mumbo-jumbo" Spanish all the way home. (It actually sounded a bit like Chinese.) Hyrum can really roll his R's well!

May your New Year be happy and prosperous.

Bryan, Charlotte, Sarah, Hannah, Hyrum and Willis Weight

