

November 7, 1982

Dear Ida Rose and Tracy,

I have started this letter three times, and I'm really not that busy. Really enjoyed your letter, from Zimbabwe. Your work sounds interesting and hard. I guess that I have been thinking about a mission when I retire but I would certainly need to study a lot more than I have studied. It seems as if I have been coordinator in Sunday School or other non-teaching jobs all my adult life. Oh yes, I have taught the Cultural Refinement lesson. Anyway--I'm afraid that I am sadly lacking in the knowledge required for missions.

In our ward paper Earnest and Ruth Rothe wrote that they were in Cape Town and really liked it there. They have been assigned to work with the inactives and help with firesides and other activities to strengthen members and bring in investigators. They have had only one baptism this year, so there's plenty to do. They are concentrating missionary work in Cape Town because they want to make a Stake there within a year (quote the Rothe's letter).

It sounds as if you will be coming home in February. It will be good to see you. Mark and Dee had a baby July 9th. A really nice, red headed boy. He has been a lot of work for Dee (first one) but a real joy. I have really enjoyed him. He is just nice to hold. At this time, he is the only grandchild that I have near enough to squeeze.

I really don't know how Mard did on your place. He lost the second crop. He cut the hay and it rained, and rained, and rained. Sooooooooo. But they got the corn in. They have enjoyed your place. Dee seems to be a fine house keeper. She is a wonderful cook. It is so nice to have them close. They are fun to have for neighbors. The young couple downstairs seems especially nice.

Dr. Brimhall didn't really farm your place this year. I guess that you know that. The Mark DeHarts or at least Dee (who I talk to more) said that he was buildikng a summer home, I think. Anyway the weeds have really taken over. Wish Mark could have done more to keep the weeds down but he has been working 16 hour days, it seems. I guess that he and Scott will run our place next year. Mark had the experience but the economy is a problem.

You will have two grandchildren to get acquainted with. You have many more than I do. Scott and Ivy, (my oldest boy and his wife) are expecting in the spring. That will be sixteen. Luann, my youngest girl, and her family moved to Boise from Georgia. He was a dentist in the army and has set up his practice there. His father is a dentist in Boise. It seems to be a good area. It is good to have them close.

Mother is going down--at least I think that she is. She is still quilting reading and knitting so I feel that she is blessed to have the abilities plus the desire to keep busy. It is hard for her to be alone so much when I am in school. Usually take her out to dinner or lunch on Friday or Sat. She went to her second show with a friend of mine and I Saturday. It was "The Man from Smokey River". It was filmed in Austraila. This scenery was absolutely magnificant. It was rated "G" and had a nice story with it but the film was really the scenery. (You'll have to see it when it gets, or rather when you get home.

I'm sure that it is too late for a table cloth. If you should be able to get one, still, I would really like one. My table is  $41\frac{1}{2} \times 64$  inches. It is oval but that doesn't matter much. I usually use an oblong tablecloth. I imagine that a 12" drop would be fine. I guess the size would be around 65 or so by 88. I'm sure that it is too late so I won't send a check. If you can get one, let me know and I'll send a check. I appreciate your thinking of me. And I appreciate having you two for friends a good part of my life. You are choice people and it has just been nice knowing you both. Well have to have a reunion of the old Ogdenites when you get back.

Do want to wish you a "Merry Christmas". It will surely be a different one. As ever, Ardell

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO



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