

March 20, 1983

Dear Ida Rose and Tracy:

As we look across the street and view the 8 inches of snow covering your very green lawn and view how carefully your niece and her husband have kept your home we hope you find yourself in situations in Capetown which are as beautiful and satisfying. We have surely missed you and will be so happy to look out the window and know that you are coming home to stay. We hope you are keeping a good record of all the people and your experiences and that we can share those experiences with you when you return. Karen and my sister Mima are unable to talk of their missionary experiences or receive communication from the field without tears in their eyes.

I am losing my 1st Councilor again next week. Louise Erickson will be leaving with her husband Ed for the Manchester mission where Louise's brother is the Mission President and has requested their help. Aren't the people in England going to be lucky to have a couple such as the Ericksons to carry out the work. Barbara Taylor is still being held back by that leg of hers which they have determined is a chronic condition. The Stake President is attempting to find a place where she can serve with very little walking and she hopes to be leaving within the next month.

Brother Kenneth Weight had a beautiful funeral service last week and it was gratifying to hear all the good things he did to stimulate the lives of his grandchildren and children. Their family nearly completely took care of the services with talks and music -- and I was happy to learn things about him before he became so crippled up with his legs.

BYU seems to roll along at its normal pace. In the College of Engineering and Technology (the new name) there is a great deal of emphasis in getting donations out of industry. Jens is working on a \$900,000 donation of equipment out of Hewlett Packard over three years. He trapped President Holland into making a \$24,000 donation to match an industrial contribution from Tetronic because the department was out of equipment funds. The \$5,000 micro processor tester is coming from John Fluke. We are looking for a \$50,000 donation of equipment from Intel. National Semi Conductor regularly donates \$10,000 worth of integrated circuits every year. We would be dead in the water without the largess of industry. But it surely seems to take a lot of time and here at home we sometimes wonder why a certain percentage can't be brought home as a finders fee. The EE Department is up to nearly 950 students now. The EE and technology report half of the college enrollment which is now up to 38,000. While it is difficult to find jobs in a good lot of disciplines EE, ME and the manufacturing graduates of technology seem to have little difficulty.

/activity has been the

The other most exciting "resignation" of the basket ball coach. Apparently his sin was that of not having the proper public relations having had nothing to do with his skill as a basketball coach.

One of our great accomplishments of the last year is helping grandma Jonsson complete her autobiography. She certainly lived an exciting life. You will be interested in skimming through it when you get home. And we did it just in the nick of time. She is now age 84 and is becoming very

difficult to get coherent historical information out of her that doesn't differ from week to week for the same circumstance.

Jens has two of the neighborhood girls working for him in the office, Linda Harris and Louine Hansen that are very mature and making a good contribution. Speaking of the Harris' you may remember some of the trying circumstances while the kids were growing up. Mike has now graduated from EE and now has a fine job with Sperry working with such a casual attitude. They have a new one now who in cahoots with the Rey Andrus girl, is trying to bend the church out of shape. Last Friday night their parents thought they were at a slumber party at 3:00 A/M. Saturday morning. We hope they don't set off fire crackers in the organ area like one of the girls did a number of years ago. The Nielsons youngest daughter Jean surprised their parents by eloping last week. The Nielsons will have an open house for the couple the day before Julie leaves for Washington D.C. to live the first of May.

Jens claims the ground is getting further away as he stoops over. To eliminate that problem we purchased a small trampoline (a three foot rebound unit) We will see how long that lasts.

Gene Chapman is going to Saudi Arabia into a small town North of Jetta, at an elevation of 9000 feet. His wife and daughter are going to stay here and wait until she finishes school. However he is planning on frequent trips home for visits. He cancelled out of the fireside we had scheduled this evening so instead we had Lory Free talk about the earth and its minerals and rocks. It was very interesting. He had all of his grandchildren by Mary Ann there to listen and take advantage of the occasion to bare his testimony to them. Chase Allred was there but of course without Virginia. She gets around a bit - in fact went to her church meetings today--but after the treatment her abdominal growth has shrunk by about 1/3. Chase feels encouraged about the shrinkage.

You will find a new institution when you get home. We have organized a ward alert system not only for emergencies but to take care of funeral announcements for the middle of the week. We can telephone throughout the entire ward in a matter of minutes.

Now let's pass on a good rumor. The word is that the church is going to get rid of unprofitable welfare farms. President Bateman seems to think our welfare farm has been on welfare long enough and will attempt to make it very high on the 'hit' list. Who knows what is going to happen. Despite the agony we are going to miss the taste of fresh cherries once a year.

It's certainly been wet this season. I 15 at the end of South University Avenue is within inches of being inundated. The 4 foot dykes are being built in the edge of the river near the boat harbor and the run off hasn't even started yet. We will probably have skii season until August.

We can hardly wait until we can see you drive up again and to feel of your spirits. We know what you are doing is worth the effort and is true. May the Lord's choicest blessings attend you.

Love,

Helen & Jim

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Elder and Mrs. Tracy Hall
Serengity
Executive Suites
Kopzee Road
Apt A-305
Mowbray 7700
Capetown, South Africa

passport & air
line ticket -

Or. Margitta -

.1-

2nd to fly to
Del. Univ. -

23rd to England