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Dear Tracy and Ida Rose:

For a week or two or three, I had been thinking about you an extra lot...with the tho't, perhaps, that you wouldn't really mind receiving a letter from us, but just never quite getting around to writing one. Then, this Sunday, after we returned from Panaca I found - out on the lawn - the Ward Bulletin - with the letter from you "for all concerned". It sounds like you are having your problems, too. But having been an a mission, I already know it is not ALL milk and honey. But lots of it is. Right! We hope things go well with you and that when you return home you will be so grateful that you went. We still discuss going now and then, but with mom's problems and so on, perhaps it is just as well that we are still near by. On the other hand, one never knows for sure maybe - well, see next paragraph.

On January 27, here in our home, (I was in bed with an inner ear infection---boy did the room ever whirl when I tried to get up or even raise up very much) mamma tripped and fell, breaking her left hip. She had surgery at Utah Valley. Dr. Nimer said "Its time for her to leave this hospital (after abt. 12 days), but think she should be in a care center for (nursing facility center rather) for at least two weeks." So, having experience with such places and preferring our little hospital in Caliente, Lincoln County, Nevada, we brought (Torrie came up and got her in her station wagon, made a bed in back) her to Caliente. On April 8th she fell again (at the hospital) and broke her right hip. So surgery again in Valley View Medical Center in Cedar City. Now, she is back in the Lincoln County Hospital. All I can say is that she is "coming along". They have her in a wheel chair part of the time. She has to be restrained (just a band around her and tied) because she forgets she has two broken hips and cannot walk and tries to get up. It is so sad. Old age is hard. She knows us and, I think, is slowly improving, but whether she will ever walk is questionable, and then forgetting that she can't walk makes it so much worse. My guilt feeling at not having her here are great, but when I tried to get her from the wheel chair to her bed Saturday evening when she was so tired and no nurse immediately available I just couldn't budge her. I don't know just how it will work out. Consequently, I have spent much time in Cedar City and Panaca/Caliente. Lory could not always go, but I have been grateful when he could. He has been "tied up" trying to get something done with the Coal property, but currently it is still not completed, and may not be with this group!///??? Those aren't swear words, just question marks and wondering what will happen next.

I hung my first clothes of the season on the outside today and the apple blossoms that are just bursting forth smelled so wonderful. Don't you love the smell of spring? Did your letter say it was coming winter over there? I better quit talking about SPRING then. Much, I guess most of the cherries and apricots and some of the peaches have been frozen they say. We've had some very below zero nites. But today is georgeous. Helen Jonsson (that choice woman) has had a little bone cut out of her little toe ~~is~~ is crippling around. She says they are going to Mexico for a month about June 18. If you get Ward paper (that you sent so faithfully to others) you know that the Paxman boy got married, the Barnett boy (Brent) is getting married today in SL Temple. No reception - just an announcement of the marriage came. Karen Allred and Steve Culverwell (my cousins son and your relative, Ida Rose, on your Langford line) were married last Saturday in the St. George Temple. Because Lory introduced them, we were invited to the wedding and the breakfast, etc. We needed to be in Panaca/Caliente area and so we went (of course we love them and wanted to be there to all of the festivities). It was all just beautiful, the beautiful trip to "roses out St. George", the lovely marriage in the Temple, the good reception in Caliente (where they

plan to live), the fun and beautiful breakfast at the Hilton Hotel in St. George. Virginia and her girls sang two lovely songs, and then Virginia sang a solo. I could hardly believe it. Two of Chase's sisters and their husbands were there, and I think, three of Virginia's sisters and husbands were there plus Leslie and Patrice and their husbands, and Rodney and his wife and Steve* (his new little wife didn't come because her Dad, Bro. Rex Lee was speaking at the graduation (BYU) exercises and I understand they had to go right back, so she stayed to visit her folks), Janie - all the family was there except Linda who lives so far away. Then Steve's ^{two wells} mother, sister, and brother and his sweet wife and little daughters were at the breakfast. Steve's mom isn't a member. One of his sisters couldn't come to St. George, but was at the reception. She lives in Vegas. Well, it was a beautiful day as to special things that happened and as to the spring beauties of St. George. Of course it means lots to me (and Lory, too) because I worked there 3 summers as a young girl in the teens, and had SO MUCH fun. Lory and I were married in the St. George Temple, and it was "our" Temple until we moved to Provo. Between the breakfast, the traveling time and the evening reception, I spent about 3 or 4 hours with mamma. It was a lovely day. plus hours on Friday & an hour on Sunday before returning to Provo.

Only rarely do we see any of your folks. Tracy Jr. comes - that is we see him there now and then - checking on things, I guess. I don't think we have seen either David or Nancy. That doesn't mean they don't come by, we're gone lots, and not always "at the kitchen window where we happen to see the happenings". The young people have mowed and watered the lawn, and I don't know what else. Your daffidils (or is it daffodils?) looked so pretty this spring, and now the neighborhood tilins are out).

Lory and I both feel good at this point. Lory and Chase play a game of golf every now and then. They remind me a couple of kids, they look so tickled as they embark on that adventure. The nite we had the dinner for Chase and Vx Tracy and Ida Rose (you guys), I enjoyed it so much. It seemed so ALRIGHT for the six of us to be together. I'm so glad we did it. We really ought to do it at least once or twice a year just to enforce our love and friendship.

Much love and God Bless you both. We hope your both well. We appreciate the notes and news bits that come of you in the Ward Paper.

Myrtle Joy and Lory

WE don't know much of Ward News because we have been away so much, especially on Sundays. Lory has been released from his BYU 12th Stake calling, and with mamma's illnesses and so on we have spent a lot of time in Nevada plus a Sunday each with David, Helen and Mary Ann and families. mjf