

July Hallmanack
July 19, 1987

Dear Family:

June and July have been quite eventful. Dad has had quite good health the last year, as it has been 10 months since he has gone to a doc with a serious upper respiratory infection. But this one was a lulu. He had a terrible sore throat and mouth. It lasted about two weeks. During these two weeks Sherlene was here, and about the time Dad got over it, Liz and Marty came up.

Sherlene had a good rest and a good visit. We enjoyed her very much. Liz and Marty just missed seeing Sherlene. She left on Monday, and they came in on the following Saturday. However, their visit was all too brief. Liz and Marty had come up for Liz's high school reunion. She said she was surprised that she knew so many people. When she suggested they go home, Marty said, "No, we'd better stay and get our money's worth!"

Seeing Sherlene and Liz and Marty made me home-sick to see Charlotte and Bryan, too. Maybe we can get away when this arbitration business is over. A tentative date for the middle of September has been set for that business.

For the record, in case we haven't put it in a Hallmanack--About Jan 1 Duane Horton was instrumental in contacting a patent lawyer to see if Mega really needed to pay Tracy's royalties. His pitch was that the methods and products currently used at Mega to make polycrystalline diamond was not dependent upon Tracy's patents. The patent lawyer agreed and his royalties were stopped. As usual Horton had gone over the head of the present president of Mega, Gene Myers. The contract with mega stipulated that in cases of disagreement, that the matter should be handled through the arbitration court.

Gene Myers and Tracy wanted to keep it simple and uncomplicated, but that seems remote now because Duane seems to be presenting himself as the "front" man for Mega. Gene is trying to change that, but I doubt if he will be successful. Anyway, we do have a lawyer and Horton's actions have brought her from the rear to the front action.

Today in R.S. we had a lesson that made me wish everyone of my grand-daughters could hear it. And Grandsons. I would hope that all my

granddaughters will have the luxury--yes, luxury, of being a full time home maker and mother. Many of you might not look upon this as being a luxury--but it is. All of our grandchildren have enjoyed that luxury--they have all had mothers who were full time homemakers. I remember that the kids would always yell when they came home:"Mom, I'm home." Of course, I wasn't always home--there were times that I was away--but I usually was. It was a time of day that I liked as well as the children did. (I guess.) I liked to hear what had happened during their day. We almost always had dinner by six o'clock at night. A working mother doesn't usually get home until six or seven p.m. Supper must seem an insurmountable object to her after a busy day at work. It is no wonder that many modern children are raised on fast foods.

The lesson was taken from a "Letter to our Granddaughters" an address given by Elder James E. Faust at BYU.

He quoted from President Kimball who said, "in treating differences (yes, DIFFERENCES) between men and women: Being born as women brings to many endowments that are not common to men and therefore make you (as a woman) unique.

Within those great assurances, however, our roles and assignments differ. these are ETERNAL differences--with women being given many tremendous responsibilities of motherhood and sisterhood and men being given the tremendous responsibilities of fatherhood and priesthood--but the man is not without the woman nor the woman without the man in the Lord. (see Copr. 11:11)

"This statement suggest that bbefore we were born we made certain commitments, female and male, and that we agreed to come to this earth with great rich, but separate gifts. We were called, male and female, to do great works, with separate approaches and separate assignments and accordingly were given different songs to sing."

He then discusses the neglect of society in giving full economic justice to women. "The feminization of poverty is both real and tragic. That is why you should work very had to prepare for your future with some marketable skills.

"Faust then tells his Granddaughters that it is impossible for a women to have it ALL (a career, children, etc_) but that it is possible that she can have it all "Susquentially" which means that she cannot be a 100-percent wife, a 100-percent mother, a 100-percent church worker, a 100-percent career person, and a 100-percent public service person at the same time." (But that she can have it at different times during her life.)

Faust, continuing: "Your Grandmother and I urged your mothers (and fathers) to get an education, not only to help them in their homemaking but also to prepare them to earn a living outside the home, if that became necessary. Going to college is a wonderful experience, but THE DOLLARS, THE EFFORT AND THE TIME ARE MUCH BETTER USED IF THE EDUCATION ALSO PREPARES THE STUDENT TO HAVE A MARKETABLE SKILL." (How often have I heard your grandfather Hall comment that a college education should prepare a person to support a family! We hope that you grandchildren will consider that one of your primary motivations for going to college. And the grandsons in particular should realize their responsibilities to prepare to earn a good living for their future families. There is nothing non-spiritual or selfish about being absolutely practical about choosing a profession or trade which will bring you a good living. Money and prosperity should not be your primary goal in life, nor should you let it become your God, but it is not virtuous (nor of good report) to let your families suffer economically. And this goes for the girls, too.)

Elder Faust then brings out the idea which I think many women overlook. Earning a living (for the breadwinner (the man)) has just as much monotony and humdrumness as homemaking does. We women often have an unrealistic idea of what men do when they go to work. We look upon what "they" do as more interesting, more exotic, more exciting than the dishes, the diapers, and the cooking we do over and over as homemakers. Looking at it another way--the homemaker can stop and lay down if her head (or back) aches. There are few things that can't be put off for a little while. If the breadwinner puts off the things that confront him every day, he could lose his job. And the average man spends most of his working day doing things which are repetitious, boring, and dull. Life is full of the mundane--the things that have to be done. Our attitude towards them is important. We can be positive or negative.

We can listen to good music, the scriptures, and good literature while we do the dishes. HE CAN'T. The homemaker has to deal with the laundry, the dirty floor, and the endless meals to cook--but she can do so creatively. Besides, she gets to see every clever move each of those darling babies make every minute of the day--she gets to share in their lives--she gets to give--- (mostly, grandmother Hall on his general theme, above.)

And Anne Madsen, just back from several months in Israel, added a nice touch at this point in the lesson: She said that there is so much "me firsting" in the world--if we could look upon growing up and becoming a wife and mother and getting an education or preparing ourselves in anyway