

August 12, 1984

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We had quite a day today. About noon we (Ida -Rose, Sherlene and Daniel Bartholomew) drove in our Topaz to Jedediah's Mountain Retreat up Hobble Creek Canyon near the golf course to attend the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of Jack Hopper and his wife, Olga Butler Hopper.

All of their children and grand children were in attendance at one time or another throughout this past week. This place rents for about \$900.00 per week with everything furnished for about 20 people, but with sleeping bags ,etc. the place would probably accomodate 60 persons.

The reunion with our Schenectady friends and the Hoppers was very enjoyable. Jack was our Branch President when we arrived in Schenectady in October of 1948. He was a kind, considerate man and we respected and liked him very much. On first meeting Olga, Ida-Rose was very impressed with the way she was able to manage a family of seven children. Of course, in due time, Ida-Rose had seven of her own and raised them very well.

There were some sad things concerning this reunion. For some reason, Jack and Olga have become inactive in the Church. This is also true for four of the children: June, Richard, Robert, and Marjy. Robert left for his home in Texas early this morning and we did not get to see him. We saw Richard for a short while. He lives in Bogata, Columbia and is secretary of Exxon's interests there. He is a handsome young man. He and Sherlene were born just one day apart and were both baptized on the same day in The Susquehanna River as near as we could tell to the spot where the Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were baptized according to John The Baptist's instructions. Jack used to tell his boys that they should go after Sherlene when they grew older. Richard's sister, Susan Doty says that Richard has become very worldly. We are saddened by this.

We saw Velma Aldrich, Reed & Verna Mae Burnett, Catherine and Lorraine Rich (maiden names), Boyd & Lota Brinton and others.

Then we came home for awhile and then took Helen & Jens Jonsson, in our Mercury Topaz to Midway where Clinton & Naomi Larson have a lovely

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mountain home. They had about 20 guests, most of them from our ward, and gave us a marvelous dinner. We spent about three relaxing hours there and returned home at about nine p.m.

We had a good time travelling with Helen & Jens. They and Ida-Rose were joking and telling stories most of the time. Jens told a story about Harvey Fletcher having no money to take the subway home in New York City. He sneaked past the guard but the guard spotted him and gave chase. Harvey eluded the guard by jumping on the nearest subway car just as its doors were closing. However the subway was headed the wrong direction. Jens didn't know how he extricated himself from this complication.

My subway story comes from an experience in Boston. Jack & Dottie Widick and Ida-Rose and I shared the same house near Harvard University during World War II. Our studies were at MIT and every morning, Monday through Saturday we would catch the subway train to get there. There was a steel grate turnstile about a block from where we lived where a ten cent coin would allow you to enter a passageway to the train stop. The gate was very well constructed so that not even a small child could get under, over or through it. On this particular morning, I put in my ten cents. The mechanism malfunctioned and the gate would not turn. Exact change was required and I did not have another dime. Jack had but one dime. There was not time to go home for more dimes as our train was due any minute. So since both of us were rather thin, I put my front to his back as closely as possible. With him standing on my feet, he put in his dime, the mechanism worked, and we shuffled through the turnstile. Luckily there was no guard around to see this performance or we would have both been in jail that morning instead of at our classes at MIT.

I'm typing this letter on my new Apple "Macintosh" computer. I bought it on a special deal through the BYU for about half price. So now we have an Apple IIe with a "Brother" daisy-wheel, letter quality printer, which also has a dot-matrix printer. The Macintosh only has a dot-matrix printer.

H. Tracy Hall

(Dad)