

Dear Y'all,

(Jan 27 to 16 March - we've doing much better! Keep it up, Utahans! Less than 8 weeks -)

I don't really know what I'm going to say or have the spirit of letter writing at the moment, but maybe it will come as I type. I definitely feel warmed and moved by your letters--especially Charlotte and Bryan's letters, and hope they continue to contribute to future issues. Thanks 10⁰ to everyone in Utah (especially Mom) for hurrying this edition of the Hallmanack along. Nathan, who just a minute ago was laughing and dancing while holding on to the edge of his crib, is now crying. Virginia is putting the finishing touches on a cutissimo plaid jumper for him. She looked at him so he's happy again.

LIFE AT THE ARCHIVES
Last Saturday we went with Hobart Bartlett (a retired chemist widower in the ward) to Richmond, to do some genealogy. Brother Bartlett is a very fast, but not very accurate driver, which I think gave Virginia the fits. I wasn't concerned, however; I figured that if his Chevy had gone 16 years and 210,000 miles without a dent it must be because the Lord was protecting him and preserving him for the duration of his mission. So we made it OK, leaving here at 5:45 a.m. so we could get a parking space. If the Virginia Assembly had adjourned a day earlier, we wouldn't have had to leave so early and would have been a little more awake.

I researched the Bagby's (one of my Dad's lines) and found some families that aren't my line. Virginia looked up a lot of deeds and patents for Kincaids, but most of it was information Mom already had. I think the only new thing might have been that we found David Kinkaid in Spotsylvania County in 1733, which is the earliest any of this tribe have been definitely located. However, the records from that county aren't numerous, and those that exist from the 1700's have already been thoroughly indexed, and revealed nothing proving any family relationship or previous place of origin. If we do anything significant it will be on a line Mom hasn't worked on so much. Anyway, one of the attendants had been very friendly to Nathan while we were at the Archives, and he had really been a very good little boy. Virginia was able to research almost the whole time--although when Nathan did make a noise he made sure he was heard clear to the top of those 30 foot ceilings. As we walked out past the desk one of the archivists drawled "Bye" and Nathan responded "Bah Bah Bah Bah..." They thought he was very smart, and free from Yankee ways.

Nathan wants to type a line now. n ' f g, 98, m z 1-j NI ,H HH (He has also mastered crawling, and in the time it took me to type the above paragraph, has made it to the top of the stairs three times. (Not from the bottom of the stairs, but from the study.)

"LIFE IN THE BUREAUCRACY"

I need to make some moves away from my present job, but have trouble finding the time to pursue job-hunting. The last couple of months it seems like I'm working hard from the start of the day until I go home, which is often overtime. The weekend before last I worked Saturday (almost unheard of in our sort of Government work--because you do it for free, paid overtime being discouraged by Policy). The reason was that to justify our new fee schedule each office in the Commission was supposed to set out in great detail the services performed and the benefit conferred on the recipient for each type of authorization issued. The previous fee schedule was invalidated by the Court of Appeals because it wasn't sufficiently tied to the "Benefit to the recipient," as Congress directed. In this business, that benefit is very hard to quantify. So the people in the General Counsel's office who have been dinking around on this for the last 14 months (trying to get Congress to write something more apecific, or twist the arm of the Comptroller of the Currency), and finally decided Feb. 1 to do what the Court of Appeals requested. They wrote a memo to the Bureau Chiefs Feb. 6 saying the statement of benefit, and a detailed narrative of the service rendered (i.e., the steps in processing each sort of application) should be