

Weight
Nov. 16, 1980

Dear Family,

We enjoyed a stimulating Stake Conference this weekend. Paul H. Dunn was the visiting General Authority and he always keeps everyone's interest with his stories. The first thing he did when he spoke to us was ask if anyone knew the score of the BYU game. The congregation chuckled as he retorted that it was important to be a well balanced individual. (I was interested in hearing that Tracy Jr. is now a sports fan. Bryan and I listen to the BYU games on our side band every week. Now we can say we are well rounded!)

Speaking of being well rounded--that describes my condition perfectly. I had a friend comment today that I look like I'm about ready to burst and that is exactly how I feel. I've had a terrific appetite the past month and in the last two weeks I gained 6 pounds. The doctor raised his eyebrows but said he'd let me get away with it because I'm still below 135 lb.

Two months ago a new Primary Pres. was called but I was asked to remain in the presidency as her second counsilor. I was delighted because I love the Primary but because the other members of the presidency were completely unfamiliar with the program, I carried a lot of the responsibility as they learned. I came home from church each week exhausted. One Sunday while I was up in bed recovering, Bryan called the Bishop and requested that I be released. The Bishopric had asked several sisters to fill my position but they had been turned down. The Primary Pres. was talking about giving me a two month leave of absence but on Bryan's request I was released. I'm feeling much better now and I have appreciated having some time to get ready for this baby and for Christmas.

I made Sarah a cloth doll (McCall's pattern 7222--super simple to make!) that I am going to give her when the baby is born so that she has a baby to care for too. We found an old, but in good condition, ~~cradle~~ doll cradle at a garage sale that we bought for her doily for Christmas. I made a mattress pad, bumper pads, pillows, and a patched quilt for the cradle. I'm having a ball making all these items for the doll! I can hardly wait for Christmas to give them to Sarah.

Virginia, do you remember the pocketed Christmas calendar you made for me while I was on my mission. I made a nativity scene out of felt and attached it to the calendar. The figures, (Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Manger, oxen, donkey, ^{angels,} shepherds, sheep, wise men, camel, star) will be placed in the pockets. Sarah will pull out a figure along with a scripture card each day and we'll read the scripture and then place the figure in the appropriate place in the manger scene. I'll send the pattern to anyone who is interested.

We finally unloaded our Pacer. We sold it at a great loss but we were so frustrated with all the repair bills that we were almost ready to pay someone to take it off our hands. We are now driving a 1968 Dodge Dart that Bryan's parents are loaning to us until we can save some money for a new car.

Bryan came home with good news last night. He received a 10.1% raise. He received a 7% raise last month and was not due for another one until March. When his boss talked to Bryan he complemented him on his work and told him that although

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Bryan here: I have been working quite a bit of overtime these last two weeks. I am glad this will be the last week of it even though we have enjoyed the extra money. I must say it is nice to be paid for overtime. Having a job that has standard 8 to 5 hours sure is a luxury. Also since I work only ten minutes from here, Charlotte can take me to work as often as needed. This means about four times a week. I enjoy being with Charlotte and Sarah very much. Yes, even while she is pregnant!

It would appear that our family has quite a few would be authors. I have not been keeping track but it seems most of us have said at one time or another, "Some day I am going to write a book about..." If I may, I would now like to join that illustrious group. My book is going to be an autobiography. How vain! Or is it? Well the point is, "To me genealogy is boring unless I can learn more about my ancestors than simply names, dates, and places!" Maybe the problem is that I have never been involved in the research process. Anyway, the four generation program was completed for me and therefore I believe keeping a journal is more important at this time. Oh by the way, I was just appointed as the genealogy chairman in our Elders quorum. My responsibility is to teach the brethren how and provide the motivation to get them to complete their four generation sheets; I guess the Lord is going to give me an opportunity for growth.

I have also been thinking about writing a book about the life of the Savior as recorded in the Old Testament. For example: John says, "... for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." (Rev.19:10) If we accept this scripture literally then we must conclude that all of the prophets in the Old Testament wrote about Christ. Their writings may be either symbolic or direct, but all of them testified of Christ. I have been very cognizant of this theme in my reading of the Old Testament this time and it has been very enlightening. I am now up to Isaiah 45. I have been impressed with his writings more than all the others because he accentuates the Messiahship more so than all the other writers. Jesus himself related to this principle when he said during the sermon on the mount, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matt. 5:17&18) Last example in the Bible is the story of Luke there is a marvelous story of an appearance of the Savior to two disciples who were on their way to Emmaus from Jerusalem. Verse 27 says, "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Oh how I wish that I could have been there to hear his words. What did he say? Whatever He said, it caused their hearts to burn and understand. If I ever do write this book it will be written primarily to the church. The focus will be on "what the Old Testament said about the Messiah, how it was fulfilled, and what is yet to be fulfilled." I haven't determined how ambitious I am in this idea yet. Maybe I could get agency to write it for me.

That is all for now,
Love you all,

Bryan

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> He wasn't... salary adjustment until March, the com-
pany likes... for their good engineers.

I am all is well with everyone! (Bry. Bry!)

Love, Charlotte