

Tuesday, July 17, 1981

Dear Children: This will be our communiq ue(?) for next month, and we will not send a letter to Liz on the 1st. When all the children were here we gave them a list showing how we had dispersed our stock to the family. Hopefully this will now appreciate in your estate and not in ours, and that will be much better.

Tracy is no longer in the Bishopric and so today I sat down and wrote in my journal. I get around to this about once a week, and since I am too lazy to go about writing the points of his farewell talk to the ward to you children, I am going to copy part of my journal entry for you to save time.

It's been a wonderful five years, and the best thing I could wish for my sons and daughters is that my sons and my sons-in-law will at some time have the experience of being a bishop in the church. As Tracy said the other night--"Well, I have found that the way to have happiness in this life is to give service". Most of you have already learned this while you were on missions. Since Tracy hasn't gone on a mission (yet) he learned this through teaching and serving in the church.

They've already made him a home teacher. And he is still involved in helping the girls get to and from (one or the other) from girls camp. He promised Anna Mae the moon (and his truck) if she would take the girls to camp. (What we need in this ward is Nancy and Doug. Nancy just got back recently from going to camp. )

It's the truth that the more you work for the Lord, the more joy you receive. You can't keep up with the Lord--the more you obey his commandments and do what he asks and serve his children in the church, the more he pours out his blessings. And what you may have thought was going to be a "chore" in the church, you learn to love.

I want to thank you kids for coming home this summer. We wish Sherlene could have come too, but we really didn't expect anyone to come. I get the feeling that maybe we will be away for awhile where we can't see you all for a bit, but that may not turn out to be true, because we could be sent on a mission to California--or New York--or Washington D.C. Anyway--it was neat to see you all again.

Sherlene, I am sending some more genealogy with Virginia. I imagine you and Dan will get down to the temple sometime in the next little while and can pick it up. Also a gift for next year. We can't give any christmas presents or birthday presents (except to the Kids) for the rest of the year because we have shot all our gift giving that can be done without filing papers for "gifts" with the IRS. You will all need to renew your Science 80, and your better Homes and Gardens, and your National Geographic yourselves this year if you want to continue the subscriptions as that will be over our limit, too. (lawyer' advice.) The Christmas gift I brought back to you, Sherlene, you can't have this year. You have to wait until after Jan 1 to open it as explained above. Love, Muzzer Hall