

"Zion," alias 80 Greenridge Ave. White Plains, N.Y. 10605 May 21, 1980

Hi Ho!

We wrote you a letter already (that is, Dan did) and we have managed to lose that, along with all the rest of the originals you wrote for the Round Robin. We did make a copy of your letters, which I hope I can find--I couldn't find it, either, this morning. At any rate, I'm going to act on faith and write you another letter from us, give a final search and send whatever comes up. If I end up sending you just copies, we'll send on the originals as soon as they show up. Now that I am no longer on the Stake Board of the Relief Society, I anticipate that all kinds of wonderful things are going to happen--like having time to run an organized household (stop laughing, Mom).

I was given a "carrot" offer to teach the genealogy class in our ward, and I couldn't resist. It was a hard decision, because I felt a lot of pressure to stay on the board another year, and I did love and enjoy Sister Kimball (even if I didn't always agree with her approaches and programs)--but I've had huge organizational jobs for enough years--I just felt a need to sink my teeth into something solid. I have all kinds of ideas for perking up our genealogy program--and it will be WONDERFUL to buckle down to some of my own genealogical goals. I'm floating along some of the work I did publicizing our Relief Society Special Event this year. We had a record turnout--on a very bad weekend, and I humbly submit that my publicity campaign didn't hurt any. As you will see, my approach was most sensible and serious. We ran off 1500 copies of the yellow program and distributed them 3 weeks before the event at Stake Conference (see, I can be organized when I need to be), and I put on the skit "Birdbrain Refrain" (which I plan to submit as my Master's Degree thesis) at Stake Leadership (then we got people to put it on in the various wards). I also arranged for posters in each of the eight wards and a huge poster (displaying various types of New York birds) which was set up at all stake and regional events prior. All this activity can be fun if it happens once in a great while. But I've been tying black velvet bows on special events for the Saints for years now, and I'm hankering for a change.

We have had some very happy experiences which I'll have to tell you about. First, a German woman (Sister Spielman) who Dan and I met at a cocktail party sponsored as a business obligation by the Hornabrooks (church members)--was baptized. We started talking about the Church in response to her questions when we turned down a cocktail--and that led to some cottage meetings and fellowshiping--but her husband was cool to the whole idea, and eventually she seemed to lose interest. But missionaries contacted them in Katonah where they moved--and we got a surprise call inviting us to come up to her baptism. Also, miraculously, her husband is coming around, and the Don Youngs told us we just might be invited to his baptism soon. So, sometimes what we think was a flop revives later, after all. Also, last week we took Dorman and Fran Israel, Jewish friends who live around the corner from us to New Canaan, Conn. for a production of "Promised Valley" last week--and they responded very favorably. She is director of the book bindery for braille which Marva Jex and I visited and helped in over the last two years. He is an electrical engineer (retired) and Marva said she told everyone at the bindery last week (including the Rabbi) that she had a delightful evening with us and she couldn't believe the Mormon commitment and energy. She also said that after looking at all the beautiful women there, she decided a prerequisite to joining the Mormon Church was that you be beautiful. They called us the day after the performance to tell us they were reading up on the Church and wanted us to know they were interested!

Then we had such beautiful reports from the teachers of Daniel and Laura when we went in for teachers' conferences. Daniel's teacher, Ms. Muhlrad (Jewish) said she hoped I knew how lucky I was to have a boy like Daniel. She said he was the class example and leader and that the other boys always asked Daniel to solve disputes or make ethical judgments because they knew he was fair and honest.