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May Hallmanack

Dear Children and Grandchildren:

We had an exciting April. It was beautiful and sunny. The warmest and driest April on record. In fact, we had no rain to speak of until last week, May, when we had three days of heavy rain. Of course, I had just taken the protection off my tomatoes. They did survive, however.

Thank you for your Mother's day gifts and cards. One advantage of having a large family is that you really feel loved when those special days come around. And other times, too. I think our children are very kind and loving to their getting-older parents.

Tracy was going to give the farm to help fund a Chemistry Chair, but the appraisal came in so low that we decided to hang onto it until it had a better appraisal. He is putting in his will that the farm will go to BYU if anything should happen to him.

We wondered at the same time if we should have a codicil put into our wills saying that in case we were both killed at one time that future grandchildren would get an equivalent share as our present grandchildren. We decided it would complicate things. If we both get killed at one time, our estate would be divided equally between the seven of our children. We decided that out of their share, the children having new grandchildren could take care of their own new additions. In all likelihood we will be around to attend to that.

The warm dry April so far has helped us NOT TO Have a flood in Payson.

Sherlene, the Mayfield girl is your second cousin. Her Mother, Laurel, is my first cousin. Our fathers were brothers. Be nice to her and have her to dinner occasionally. Her grandparents were great missionaries, they went on missions when they were single, and then again when they were first married. They were preparing to go on another mission when she died. He remarried, and his new wife and he were going to go on a mission, but they by that time had passed the 70 yr rule. *He is Angus McKay Langford.*

Sometimes birds are dumb. There is a Robin outside our living room window who is determined to kill himself. I drew the draperies, hoping that it would cut down the reflection and he wouldn't see himself reflected in the window. I think he thinks that some other male robin is invading his territory. I guess the draperies didn't work because he is still attacking the window. He just did it again, so I drew the underdraperies, too. I hope that will do it.

Our flowering crab was a thing of great beauty this year. The only problem was that the hot weather made both the flowering spring bulbs and the flowering spring trees fade rapidly.

Dad has plowed the back behind the farmhouse and we are going to grow cantaloupes, and pumpkins and squash and corn. Also some cucumbers, because I need to make some bread and butter pickles this year. Dad's favorite.

Dad just arrived home for dinner and I have to go relief societying visiting. See you later.

Dad has had a sore throat and laryngitis for the last week to 10 days. he is still recuperating. Today (May 15, I apparently have caught it).