

Brief Comments and Observations about David Howe Smith

“Employment and interests very diverse. General and persistent interest in salesmanship. Early with the Aetna Insurance Company and the Hartford Company. Also salesman for men’s clothing, especially woolen goods from the Logan and /or Cache knitting mills. Organizer and promoter of flour mills for Midget Marvel Milling Company, chiefly in Idaho but territory included Nevada and Utah. This was a compact, small short-system mill which was quite successful for limited local needs.

Beginning about 1915 he organized a milling company known as the Bountiful Milling Company at Bountiful, Utah, in a partnership with two others. This was very near our home. It was a flour and feed mill and was operated primarily by a Mr. Thistle although my father spent considerable time there. This was quite successful for a short time but due to partnership difficulties was given up about 1922.

Another interest was occasional activity in the wholesaling of alfalfa seed and in the buying of such seed in Idaho and Utah for Utah companies and for the J.G. Peppard Company of Kansas City. This was generally in the twenties. During this time also sporadic attempts were made to farm successively in the Delta, Draper and Petersborough localities of Utah. Somewhat earlier and for a period indefinite to me he owned a small ranch near Afton, Wyoming which I remember visiting once. A tenant operated the ranch.

The home property of my father was at Bountiful, Utah and the family was born here. The property was about two-thirds of a city block and included an estimated six acres, mostly in sweet cherries and peaches.. The house was located at the corner of First north, second west and adjacent to the Bamberger Electric Railroad running between Salt Lake city and Ogden. The property was irrigated from creek water from Ward’s Canyon to the East. The house and property may have belonged originally at least, to my grandmother Sessions who lived with us. Caring for the orchard including tillage, hand grubbing around trees, pruning, irrigation and harvesting and shipping of fruit comprised a considerable summer project with which my father helped only when not traveling on business.

We were members of the Bountiful First Ward. My father was active in the church when at home. He was a good speaker and teacher. He could be emotional, forceful, sentimental and persuasive.

The family moved from Bountiful to Logan in 1922. This was my father's home area where his father had been a Bishop for about 40 years, especially in the Fourth Ward. We lived in four different houses there. My father was a principal solicitor for funds for the construction of the present Fifth Ward Chapel and his and my mother's funerals were held there.

A mission to the Southeastern States is described in a summary written by my father.

Though crippled since childhood my father was a very hard worker. He had played baseball in the nineties. His hands were both distorted from injuries in baseball, he having been a barehanded catcher. He was not an athlete or sportsman generally but had a lasting interest in baseball.

He had many friends in business and church circles in the Salt Lake neighborhood. Some of those remembered are Charles R. Mabey, Simon Bamberger, Melvin Ballard, Anthony Ivins, Alma Sonne and Joseph Cardon, the latter of Logan.

Personally he was optimistic about growth and development and had many ideas about business opportunities. He trusted everyone and lost much financially because of this. He was generous beyond his means and in later years was frustrated because of disappointments. He was inclined to be orthodox and strict in his acceptance and interpretation of the doctrine of the Church and at times was bitterly disappointed in his inability to be entirely successful."

David Clyde Smith

Sept. 25, 1978

Impressions and Memories of My Mother Samantha Sessions Smith

“My mother was born Feb. 9, 1874 at Bountiful, Utah. She died Jan. 24, 1941 at Logan, Utah and funeral services were held there. Interment was in the David H. Smith family plot at Bountiful. Her father was Perrigrine Sessions and her mother was Emorett Loveland Sessions. She was one of 54 children of Perrigrine who was polygamous with seven wives. In mother’s own family there were five girls and six boys. Her mother lived with us in her later years.

After two years at the University of Utah, mother taught school for two years at Helper Utah. She was married Jan. 4, 1905 and had seven children—in order David Clyde, Chester Ronald, Lucille, Raymond, Robert, Horace Sessions and Charles Reed. Raymond and Robert died in infancy. There were 14 grandchildren and 28 grandchildren.

Prior to marriage and in her early married years she took pride in being stylish and well-dressed with her friends. She was active, vigorous, competent and a hard worker until her late years. She was a busy person. About 1935 her actions became more restricted because of severe varicose veins in the legs and other problems. She was strict as a mother but inclined to be indulgent of father and was generally cooperative. She was neighborly and helpful and solicitous when needed. Since my father was away very frequently the responsibilities of family and child decisions often rested on her. Both parents were protective for their children, supportive and encouraging. One son received a Ph.D. Degree, two earned the M.D. and one completed the M.S. requirements. Mother was especially close to her only daughter who did not complete work for a college degree.

Mother was very interested in her brothers and sisters of the several families of her father and was close to them. While at Bountiful and with a large house, she looked forward to the April and October conferences of the L.D.S. Church when relatives might visit us. Only one brother and family lived close. At conference time our house was overflowing and mother was kept busy with housing and feeding problems of adults and children. She was always interested in news of family and friends and was an information center in this regard. She liked also to talk and reminisce about the early days. She was very defensive of family life as she remembered it, including the practice of polygamy and its acceptability and operation in the family.

While raised in and a long-time member of the L.D.S Church she was not as strict and orthodox as my father. However, she worked with the Relief Society and in other ways supported the church program. As children we attended Sunday School and participated in junior activities at her urging. She was an active member of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

While in her time there was little opportunity for hobbies for a busy mother she was interested in art, especially oil painting of flowers of which she finished several very nice pictures. Early she did considerable painting of china and worked with wood burning. She was an enthusiastic flower, small fruit and vegetable gardener. Her brother was a Rhode Island Red fancier and she became interested in them also. This became a productive sideline for her, with the children's help. Since we had about four acres of sweet cherries and two acres of peaches in our town property, fruit was sold in season and she was responsible for supervising the picking and shipping when my father was away. This was during the period from 1905-1922 when the family resided in Bountiful. Mother was in the period of 31 to 48 years of age. Father was a salesman and traveled considerably. In the period 1922-1925 he was also involved in the lease and operation of farms away from the family home center at Logan. Another hobby became the hosting of many people from Salt Lake City, especially on weekends, who came in season for cherries and peaches. Since the visitors were mostly friends and repeaters and shaded lawn and refreshments were provided, this was a social season.

The family moved to Logan in September of 1922. This was the year in which I started college. While Logan was my father's home town and he knew many people there it was a strange place to mother. Father had several sisters with families there. During her 19 years in Logan mother lived in three different houses. During much of this time she kept student boarders. This came about due to financial reverses in Bountiful and family need. It was largely through her efforts that four sons finished college. It seems doubtful that she was entirely happy about leaving her home area to live at Logan.

In retrospect my mother may have kept too busy and worked too hard to have enjoyed a happy married life though she did not complain and completed her role as loving mother and wife."

David C. Smith
May 1984

Pictures follow of
The Remarkable Sons and Daughter of David and Samantha Smith

DAVID CLYDE SMITH

CHESTER RONALD SMITH

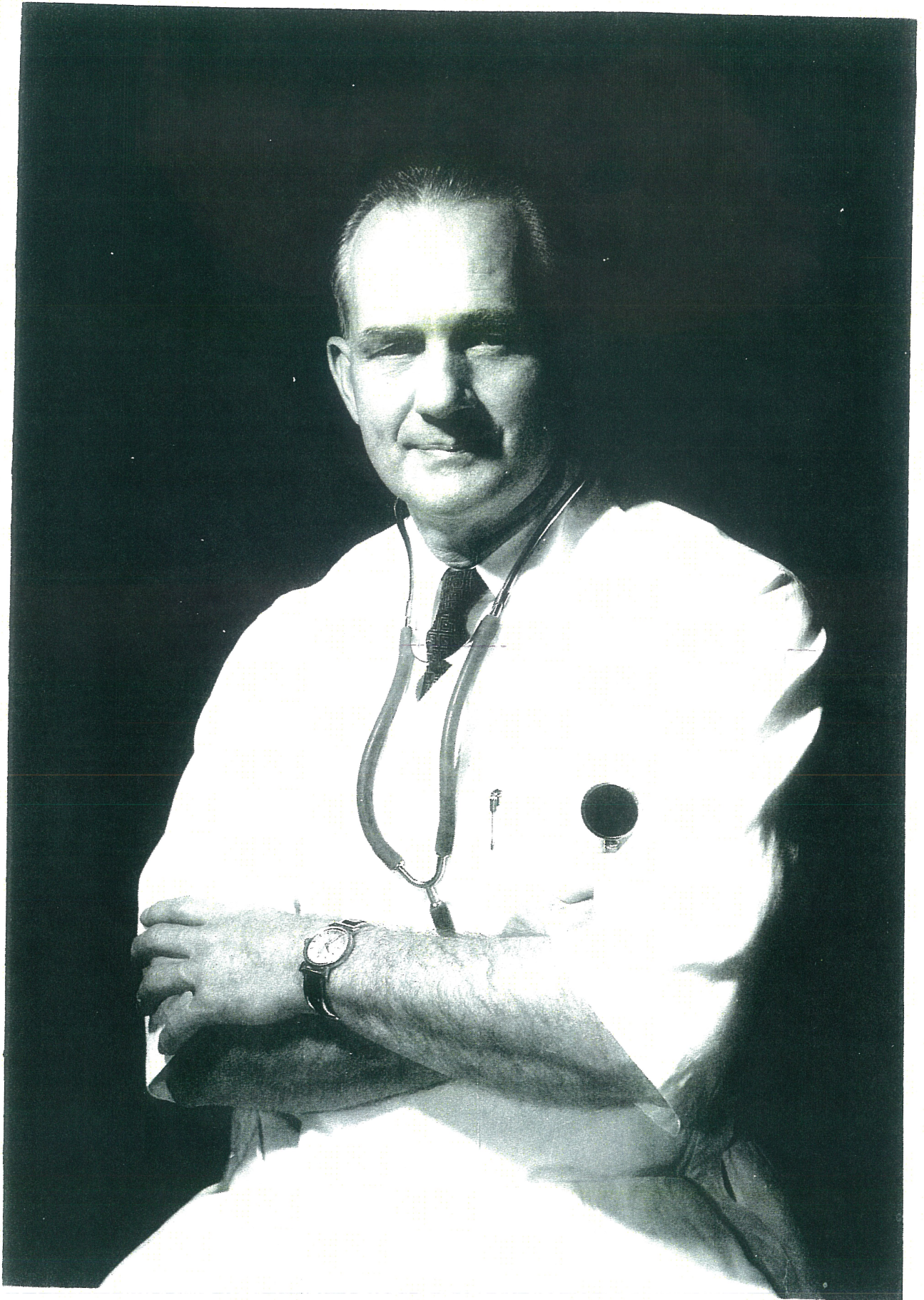
LUCILLE SMITH HANSEN

HORACE SESSIONS SMITH

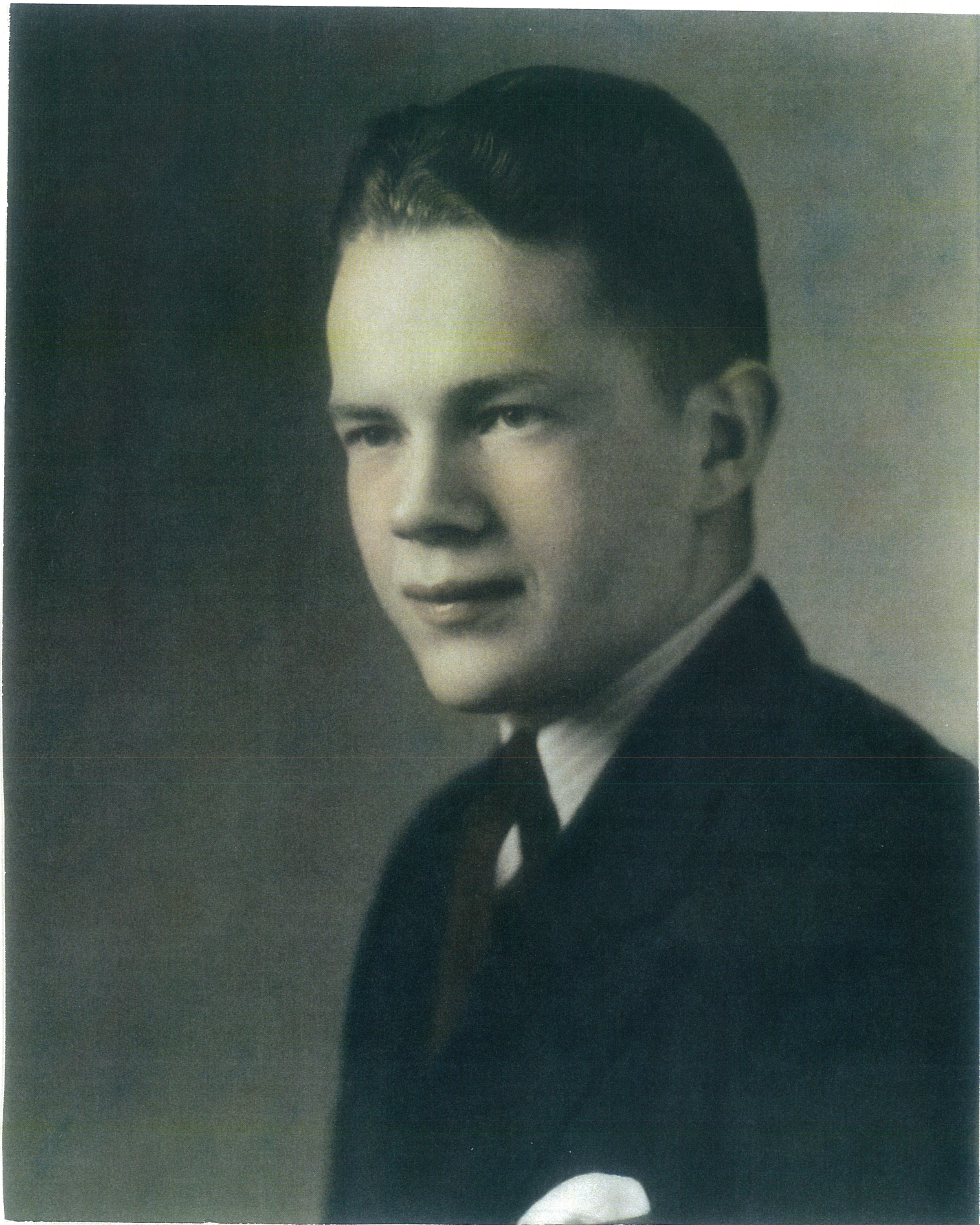
CHARLES REED SMITH*

*This picture includes Reed's first wife by the name of Nadine Naisbitt, also of Logan, Utah. Separate biographies have been written about each of the above family members with some detail about their spouses and children.



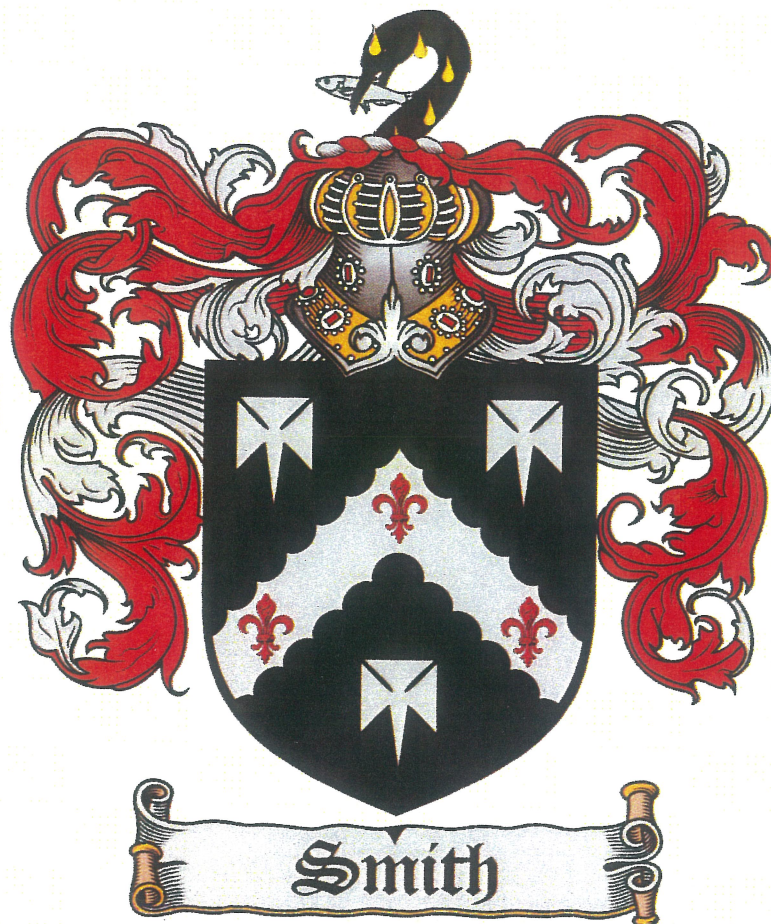






Uncle Horace Sessions Smith
Prime of young adult life





The *Smith surname or family name* is the most common of all names in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. It is held by more than one person in 100 in each of these countries. It is the most frequent name among those of English and Irish descent. At least 3 million in the U.S. and more than one-half million in the United Kingdom share this name. It was so prevalent in England at the end of the 19th century that it was said that the Smith's were common to every village in the north, south, east and west. It is also very common in Canada, surpassed in number by only one other name. Germany is also the home of many with the equivalent name/s.

The Smith name is derived from the Anglo-Saxon term *smitan*, meaning to smite or strike. This led to an occupational name of smith and perhaps the most well known name of blacksmith because the workers who specialized in this trade had to strike, hit or hammer the hot metals in order to shape them. The development of metallurgy required specialists to apply their knowledge and skill to all of the related metals and the end products to be developed. Many other occupational names are related, including tinsmith, goldsmith, silversmith, coppersmith, gunsmith, arrowsmith, shoemaker, and others. It should be noted that these are very important specialties that are critical in agriculture, industry, manufacturing, artistic jewelry design and fabrication, sculpting and in making the weapons of hunting, protection and war. Plow shears, horseshoes, wagon wheels, guns, arrows, statues, steel ships, rings and other jewelry, are just a few of the results of their labors. In the early times, the name was relevant to those who worked not only with metals, but also to those who worked with wood and all of the mechanical occupations. This helps to account for the very large numbers of people who carry the Smith surname.

Many who are named Smith or any of the related names or derivatives did not obtain the name through an occupation. Some adopted it when they migrated to America or to Europe to make it easier to fit in and be assimilated, while others were seeking to avoid being noticed or set apart because of their ancestral countries, cultures or names. Many of African descent involved in the slave trade were given the Smith name. There are many similar names throughout the world that have much in common with the Smith surname. These include such names as but certainly not limited to: Smyth/e, Schmid/t, Schmit, Smitas, Szmidt, Smeets, Schmieder, Smed, De Smid, and De Smedt. There is much more to learn about this very common and prominent surname and its many regional and national variations. Knowing more about it will improve our family history and genealogy research and reporting.

*Selected sources include Wikipedia, Ancestry.com, Ancestor Search and About.com-Generology.

Talks about

David Howe Smith & Samantha Sessions Smith

Smith Reunion in July of 2011

The following segment of this book is a condensed version of the larger biographical history of David Howe Smith and Samantha Sessions Smith. Gary Hansen reported on Grandfather David and Anne Staheli reported on Grandmother Samantha at this reunion. It was a privilege to have so many of our family members there.

David Howe Smith

David Howe Smith was born on October 17, 1876 in Logan, Utah. His parents were Thomas X and Ann Howe Smith who were among the earliest pioneer settlers in the Cache Valley. He was the fifth born child and their first born son that survived. When David was born he had only one living sibling born through Ann Howe. The first three, two brothers by the names of Walter and George and a sister named Adelaide, died on their birthdates or in infancy. David's living sister was Francis and she was known in the family as Fannie. She had been born about two and one half years before him. What a joy it must have been for Thomas X and Ann Howe to have Fannie and David living and growing into their childhood years!

David's Other Brothers and Sisters

When David was born he had another 'ready-made family', but he did not live in the same house with any of them. In fact they did not all live in the same house, because some were adults, already married and had homes of their own. They were the children of Thomas X and Margaret Gurney Smith, his first wife that he had married in England. Their daughter Lucy was the oldest child in this family and she would have been 24 years old in 1876. She was married to Thomas B. Cardon and had her own household. Orson Gurney Smith was their oldest son that David would have called his brother, and he was 23 years old at David's birth and married to Caroline Carpenter. They lived in Paradise where he was serving as a young Bishop. The other living siblings in this family were: Thomas, Fredric, Catherine, Emma, Alice, Margaret Drucilla, Florence and Harriet. It must have been quite an experience to have ten brothers and sisters from this family to know and with whom to build relationships. He received letters from many of them while he served on his mission and some of them sent money. Orson was mentioned particularly in this regard.

David had eleven living brothers and sisters in this polygamous family when he was born. He would enjoy the blessing of one more brother that Ann Howe and Thomas X named Eugene. He was about one and one half years younger. They were probably the best of buddies and friends while growing up and beyond. Then, Pricilla was born but she died at the age of one. The next four sisters survived to adulthood and included; Mabel,

THOMAS X SMITH ~ ANN HOWE FAMILY



DAVID EUGENE
 MABEL S. BRADFORD FANNIE S. GOODSELL PATIENCE S. ADAMS
 MARIE S. KIMBALL JENNIE S. STODDARD



THOMAS X SMITH



ANN HOWE



ANN HOWE

Patience, Marie and Jennie. However, Jennie would pass away in her mid twenties as the young mother of two children. These five additional siblings create a total of sixteen living brothers and sisters. It must have been quite amazing, enriching, complicated and developmental all at the same time.

The Early Pioneer Environment

It was their challenging work to tame the frontier and to make the wilderness a place for human habitation. There was nothing there when they arrived that would resemble anything of modern community or civilization. All they had was raw potential, but, I am sure that they viewed it as very significant. They were in immediate competition with the Indians because this was their homeland and the pioneers were invaders. Land had to be cleared of sagebrush, wild grass, bushes and trees to make it useful for agricultural purposes. Freely running streams had to be controlled and directed through a system of canals and ditches to irrigate the parched land. Only then would the precious seeds in their fields and gardens grow to maturity and provide a harvest.

These first generation pioneers battled the bears and rattle snakes. They had to fight crickets and grasshoppers to avoid devastation to their crops and gardens. Their chickens and geese were at risk to the coyotes, badgers, bobcats and skunks which made a meal of birds or eggs. This was the very challenging environment that David's father faced when he moved to the Cache Valley in 1859 with his first wife Margaret. David's generation benefited greatly by all the work completed by his parent's generation.

The Family Home, Garden & Farm

David's childhood home was modestly appointed. It has been reported that his mother used some boxes, decorated with petticoat fabric for some of the furnishings. This was a do it yourself era! Cash was very scarce. Foods had to be produced and then carefully preserved for the long winter months. The gardens, orchards, fields and farms were absolutely essential assets. They were central to the sustaining of life itself; including the poultry, pigs, cattle, horses, mules, sheep and dogs and cats. There had to be some extra food supplies for the Indians. The pioneers shared with them to maintain a kind of peaceful coexistence and to avoid more hostilities. Their production also had to be sufficient to help them pay their tithes and to help the poor

and needy. These demands imposed a lot of essential work upon the men, women and children.

I am sure that David had considerable experience in the planting, watering, weeding, and harvesting the gardens, orchards and fields that were owned by his father Thomas X and his two wives. His mother Ann and Margaret lived in separate homes in Logan. The garden and orchard properties would have been in Logan and adjacent to their homes, but the farm acreage was reportedly about 10 miles to the south of where they lived. I don't know the exact location, but it would have been to the southeast somewhere near present day Hyrum or slightly southwest toward Wellsville.

It was a very long walk or ride to the farm and even further on the return home after a long days work. I am convinced that David learned how to work and something about what was required to sustain a family in these early years. I can visualize him working with others especially during the times of planting and harvesting. I am aware that his mother Ann used to make major meals for the threshers including a large number of pies. They must have been very happy when these foods arrived at the fields to feed all of the hungry workers, David and other family members among them.

Living in a Polygamous Family

I don't know what it would have been like to be part of the second wife's family with regard to the older brothers and sisters that were born to the first wife. There was what I would call a rather firm 'mandate of silence' that curbed the outward expression of complaints and problems. I suppose there was a lot of cooperation and working together, but one would expect that there were the normal tensions, conflicts and jealousies too. The first wife and her children would have been more established, settled and comfortable in their home, having had much more time to develop it.

The oldest living son of Thomas X and Ann would have had his share of opportunities to work along side of his father in the farming and other domestic work. There must have been some long talks as they walked or rode the wagon together to the farm. The conversations would have been very interesting, led by Thomas X who was so involved in building the Church and serving in leadership circles. There were the very difficult times too when Thomas X was away for long periods on his mission to England and in hiding to avoid being arrested and jailed by the police for being a

polygamist. When Margaret Gurney Smith died, a lot of new responsibility was accepted by Ann Howe Smith to help care for Margaret's youngest children. It added new complexities and work to David's immediate family.

The Problems of Clothing and Shoes

I am certain that it was a continual challenge for both wives to clothe all of these growing children without much fabric or many patterns and without good sewing machines. The problem of providing shoes for everyone was significant. Many pioneer children went without shoes during the summer months. Refined leather was at a premium and shoemakers were scarce. One had to get on the schedule of the shoemaker in order to have a pair made. The luxury of nice fabrics, refined leathers, and machines for most pioneers would not be available until the railroad came into Utah and cash was available to make purchases.

David's Legendary Heritage

David was privileged to be born into a family of great faith in the gospel and devotion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They were stalwart in following the principles and practices that distinguished them as disciples and saints. They were among the pioneers who literally established the foundations and institutions of the Church and the community in Cache Valley, and particularly Logan. In England, they lived in a country with several millennia of history, culture and advancements in civilization. There they enjoyed the benefits of all this development and had potential access to its amenities. Now, they were at the heart and center of their own culture, actually making the history and creating the institutions and facilities of a new settlement and society on the frontier.

Thomas X and his first two wives became a major legend in our family history. He served as Bishop of the Logan 4th Ward for about fifteen years before David was born and continued until David would have been about 30 years old. His mother was valiant as a Bishop's faithful and compassionate wife. It is easy to see that David, Orson and Eugene must have had a lot of responsibility with their father so involved in various works of the Church and community. There were profound influences of commandments and covenants and civic law and order that affected these young people growing up in this conservative community. These values were evident in David's adult life as he continued to be a serious minded

individual who upheld and sustained these early teachings that he was given by the word and example of his faithful parents.

His Preparations and Missionary Service

David knew well the importance of missionary service. He had advanced through the offices of the Aaronic Priesthood. He performed his duties as expected of faithful young men. His father as Bishop would have facilitated mission calls among those who were able to serve. He was articulate and willing to teach the gospel and to share his testimony. He was a mature and friendly young man, ready and able to become a missionary for the Lord Jesus Christ. He would be endowed with added purpose and blessings through his ordination to the office of a Seventy by Seymour Young that preceded the departure from Salt Lake City to his field of labor in Kentucky of the Southern States Mission.

Elder Smith endeared himself to the hearts of many that he taught and led into the waters of baptism and the blessings of confirmation. The mission served as a defining time of his religious life. The biography about him includes a ten page chapter about this demanding mission; with very little money, no assured lodging, frequent uncertainty about meals and very limited medical care. It entailed an enormous amount of walking distances of 10-20 miles many days and in all types of weather. In summer it was typically hot and humid. In winter, they endured the snow, bitter cold and freezing conditions. During the rains they got soaked and walked the muddy roads and trails. The missionaries had to carry their clothes, foods and other belongings with them in a small grip or suit case.

They spent a lot of time in the woods; out in nature, seeking the spirit of God, studying the scriptures and preparing for their evening meetings which they had arranged at great effort in homes, schools and churches. He and his companions taught hundreds of people in these various settings. They had to overcome considerable prejudice and rejection and worked very hard to build good relationships. They had to be ready for the mental and spiritual battles they had with ministers and others who rejected their testimonies. Between their great exertions, the Lord's watch-care and the kindness of many good people, they survived the deprivations and illnesses and succeeded in their efforts to bring people into the Church.



Grandfather was deeply touched by and grateful for the Holy Spirit and referred to how it helped him in his talks and testimony bearing. He was tender hearted and often mentioned the love of other missionaries and the people they served. They were like a new extended family and it was difficult to leave them and move on. He was a significant missionary in these years in Kentucky and helped many individuals learn the gospel, gain a testimony and progress toward their salvation.

Marriage to Samantha Sessions

David age (28) and Samantha almost (31) were both seasoned and well educated adults before they married. Both studied at the University of Utah and obtained their certifications or degrees according to various family records and statements by family members. Their marriage was in the Logan Temple on January 4, 1905. All of their seven children were born in Bountiful while they lived in the Sessions/Smith family home. Midway in their years of childbearing, they experienced some of the greatest heartaches of parenthood with the loss of two infant sons by the names of Raymond in 1912 and Robert in 1914. The three of their children born before these two (Clyde, Ronald and Lucille) all lived to adulthood as did the two sons (Horace and Reed) that were born later.

Diversity in His Skills and Work Activities

David's diverse work activities required a combination of many aptitudes and skills. His early life prepared him to work in the production of crops, fruits and vegetables. I think that he had been involved with small grains like wheat, varieties of corn, alfalfa, potatoes, and a variety of vegetables and fruits. These experiences would be used when he was an adult and responsible to help provide for his family. His son Reed wrote in his own autobiography that David had raised clover and alfalfa seed and had popcorn for sale at one time. Clyde and Ron wrote about some limited farming operations in the localities of Delta, Draper and Petersborough in Utah. Clyde wrote that David had a small ranch in Afton, Wyoming that was handled by a tenant.

Manager of the Bountiful Realty Company

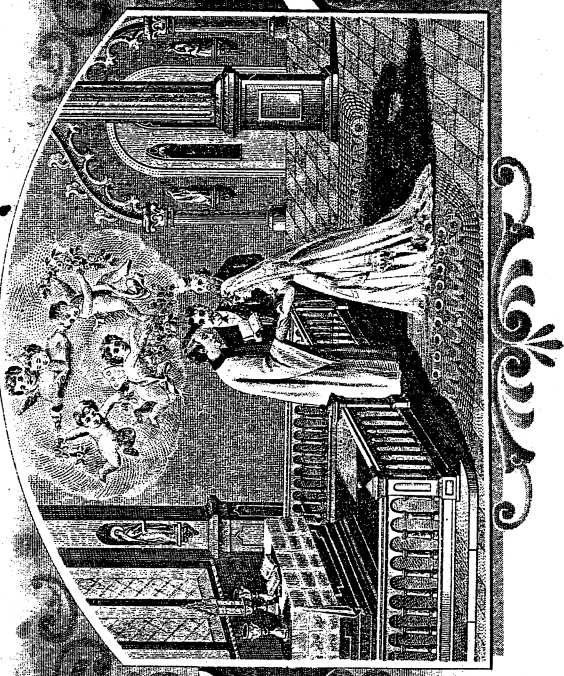
In 1912, Samantha Smith wrote a letter to her friend Lilia who was leaving for a mission. It was written on letterhead of the Bountiful Realty

Certificate of

STATE OF
UTAH.

Marriage.

COUNTY OF } S.S.
CACHE.



I *Herby Centry* that on the 4 day of Jan
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five
at Logan in said County, I the undersigned, an
Elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

David H. Smith did join in the
Holy Bonds of Matrimony according to the Laws of this State
of the County of Cache State of Utah and
Samantha Sessions State of Utah
of the County of Davis

David H. Smith GROOM.
Samantha Sessions BRIDE.
IN THE PRESENCE OF
W. Hammyne
A. Peacock
WITNESSES:
Elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Company. It showed that David H. Smith was the Manager of this Company. No other details are available about the length of his service in this capacity. It is worth noting that the officers of the company had enough confidence in David to hire him in this capacity at about 35 years of age.

The Feed and Flour Mill in Bountiful

After his marriage to Samantha, David and a partner joined together and were involved in the operation of a feed and flour mill in Bountiful. It was very close to the Smith home, across the street and the railroad track to the south. My mother wrote that he built this mill with borrowed money two years before the end of WWI (1914-1918). After some time of successful operation a major complication took place. The war caused significant shortages in the availability of certain food products including wheat, flour made from wheat and sugar. The federal government created a Food Administration and each state was responsible to impose controls and limitations on the distribution of certain foods. Wheat flour was limited and people were required to use flour substitute's part of the time. These included soy flour, corn meal and potato flour. Millers were encouraged to tie the sale of wheat flour to the sale of these less desirable flours.

David and his partner acquired a significant quantity of these flour substitutes during the time these limitations were imposed and consumers were buying them. When the war ended and restrictions were lifted, the market collapsed for the sale of the substitutes. If the family record is correct that I have on this, they eventually lost the family home and three acres of fruit trees and garden space to satisfy the debt associated with the flour mill. Clyde described the loss as being related to partnership difficulties. Both explanations are plausible and compatible.

The Family Move to Logan

The Smith family moved to Logan in September of 1922. Logan was home to David and many in his family were still there. The adjustment would be more difficult for Samantha, leaving family and friends and her life in Bountiful. The Utah Agricultural College was in Logan and Clyde was ready to attend. They moved into a house that was large enough to accommodate college students who wanted a room and board arrangement. My father, Ammon Melvin Hansen and his brother, Enoch Lars Hansen, were two of their boarders beginning in 1926. It was

during this time that my father and mother, Lucille Smith, met and began a courtship that led to their marriage on April 5, 1928.

Sale of Small Flour Mills

My mother, Lucille, wrote that Grandpa Smith sold and helped build flour mills. Clyde mentioned that David sold the Midget Marvel Flour Mill. He described it as one that was a short-process mill that was economical for a time in small communities. This was an extension of David's interest in agri-business. Communities without grain elevators and long process mills could be well served by the short-process flour mill.

The Sale of Insurance, Men's Clothing and Woolen Goods

Clyde reported that his father had a persistent interest in salesmanship. He was affiliated with the Aetna and Hartford Insurance Companies early in his career. He also sold men's clothes from the woolen knitting mill in Logan. I believe that a lot of this work was away from home and outside of Cache County. David had a lot of sales experience in both Idaho and Utah.

Remembering Special Things about David

His son Reed described David as "a kindly man, interested in everyone, good natured and pleasant. He had arthritis in his hands from playing a baseball catcher early in his life without a glove. I remember that our friends used to come over to see us and would play with Dad part of the time. We always looked forward to his coming home from his salesman trips, as he would always bring us a gift. He really had a sweet tooth and he always had caramels in his pockets." His daughter, Lucille wrote some similar things about him. "My father always used to call me dolly." (during her childhood) In paraphrase, 'He had a sweet tooth and always brought candy when he returned from his trips. He was a kind and loving man.' Clyde said: "he liked to prepare and give sermons in Church. He taught the Gospel Doctrine class and also served as a Stake Missionary. He was a good speaker and teacher. He could be emotional, forceful, sentimental and persuasive."

In an undated tribute to his father, C. Ronald Smith wrote the following rather broad-reaching summation.

“When I look back and contemplate my Fathers influence on my life, the following things now are primary:

1. He taught me to work. He always had plans ahead to keep all of his boys busy in productive jobs. In the mill, at home working in the orchard (grubbing out heavy growth between and around the trees, a very tiring disliked job for me and Clyde as youth.)

2. Instilled in me the principle of complete honesty in all dealings with government and individuals.

3. He was strongly in favor of the Word of Wisdom, and as youth he taught us not to drink any alcoholic drinks or smoke tobacco. He had us promise him we would always keep the W. of W. He had never smoked or drank, he said.

4. He taught us faith, hope and eternal happiness by living strictly to the principles of the gospel.

5. He had a strong testimony of the Gospel and this increased our testimonies.

6. He always stressed our getting a good education and reverence for sacred things.

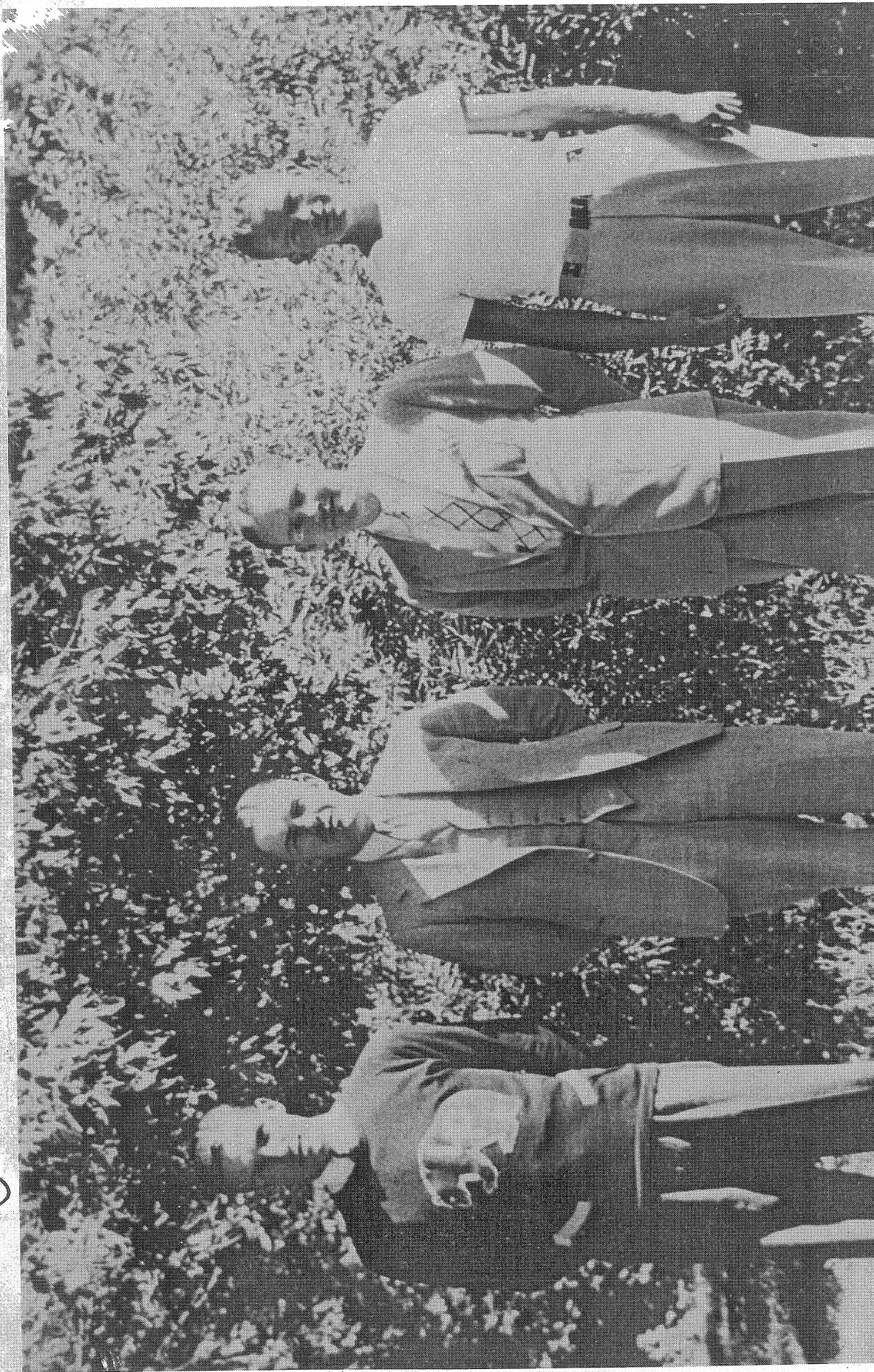
7. We gained character traits from his life—humility, compassion, love for others, etc.”

What a powerful summary of the influence and accomplishments of this father in the life of his son. Ronald would have written this after he had lived at least 50 years or more. He had a good long perspective of time and a mature lense with which to make these judgments.

Their Remarkable Sons and Daughter

I believe that David and Samantha had considerable satisfaction and happiness associated with their children. They all grew up to become responsible, independent and law abiding adults. They all appreciated the value of higher education and accomplished much in their work and professional lives. They set a very high standard of excellence and accomplishment in a number of important dimensions for their posterity to follow. Biographies are available now which provide a rich sampling of many details about their remarkable lives. This is of utmost importance

Sons of Samantha and David Smith





because they are indeed great treasures which came forth from the lives of David and Samantha Sessions Smith.

The Last Years

According to Reed, Grandpa Smith had a heart attack five years before he died. During those five years he spent a lot of time reading Church books and helping to raise funds to build the new Logan 5th Ward Chapel on the hill near the Logan Temple. This new Church facility was one of his important temporal achievements that would benefit generations of the Saints. He died the day after the Chapel was dedicated and his was the first funeral held therein after the dedication. Grandma had died 11 months earlier and she was the first to have a funeral in the Chapel. Throughout their lives, the gospel and the Church had been a very important priority to both of them. It was not just a co-incidence that their lives and deaths were so interrelated with the completion of the Logan 5th Ward Chapel.

It was a privilege to attend that Ward for some of the time while Bonnie and I were living in Logan and going to Utah State University. It is also significant that they were both buried in the Bountiful City Cemetery, in the pioneer community of the Sessions family where Samantha had been reared and where she and David had lived as a married couple during their child bearing years.

During Samantha's funeral, President Joseph Quinney Jr. said: ...I have known Brother Smith all my life. I have known his father and members of his family. They represent everything that is fine and noble; and they have devoted themselves to those principles that will eventually bring them back into the presence of God. There has been no more devoted man to the church than Brother David H. Smith. For as long as I can remember, he has been an advocate of the doctrines of the church. There is no question in his mind as to the future.

Timeline of David's Early Life, Marriage and Family

Born in Logan, Utah on October 17, 1876

Baptized on October 17, 1884 and Endowed on October 13, 1897

Grew up and lived in Logan for about 21 years

Graduated from Logan High School (Per record of his son Reed Smith)

Called on a Southern States Mission in the fall of 1897 at the age of @ 21

Ordained a Seventy and set apart as a missionary on October 19, 1897

Served primarily in Kentucky until late 1899 or sometime in 1900

Attended & graduated Utah Agricultural College (Per record of son Reed Smith)

Married to Samantha Sessions by Elder Thomas Morgan on January 4, 1905

(This was in the Logan Temple. He was age 28 and she was almost 31)

First home in Bountiful with mother Fanny Emorrett Sessions (died May 14, 1917)

Their children were all born in Bountiful as follows:

David Clyde Smith was born on November 27, 1905

Chester Ronald Smith on December 4 1907

Lucille Smith on October 16, 1909

Raymond Smith on January 19, 1912 Died March 20, 1912

Robert Sessions Smith on February 1913 Died March 29, 1914

Horace Sessions Smith on June 12, 1916

Charles Reed Smith on May 19, 1919

David's father, Thomas X Smith died January 1, 1907 at home in Logan, age 78

His sister Jennie Smith Stoddard died, October 23, 1918, Salt Lake City, age 26

David and family moved to Logan, Utah in September of 1922 (Clyde's record)

His dear mother, Ann Howe Smith died in Logan on November 16, 1925, age 75

His wife Samantha died at age 66 years & 11 months, Logan, January 24, 1941

David died in Logan at age 64 years & @ 3 months on January 6, 1942