

HISTORY OF ELSIE MARIE NOTT GEORGE

It was Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1892, in Salt Lake City, when I first came to bless my parents home. Such a time to pick! Aunt Vie cried because now there would be no Thanksgiving turkey dinner for her, while Uncle Will swung on the gate and yelled, "Whee! At last I'm an uncle." I was the first grandchild and the favorite with my aunts and uncles for many years.

My first home was in Pearl Avenue, Salt Lake City. My father, Thomas H. Nott and my mother, Agnes McDonald Nott were blessed with seven children, three girls and four boys. Two of the boys died at birth and the other two were twins. They were not very healthy so we moved out of the city where they could get the fresh country air. When they got stronger, we moved back to the Seventh Ward between first and second West on 7th south. There I started to school at the Grant School, my first teacher being Mrs. Bladso. My parents were anxious to teach me the gospel so I attended regularly the Sunday School in the Seventh Ward. When only seven years old, I gave a Sunday School lesson in the Assembly Hall at a Sunday School Conference.

When I was seven, a beautiful baby girl was born to my parents. We named her Alta. I was so thrilled, for now I had a sister. Two years later another little girl came and Daddy named her Agnes after my mother, for at her birth we lost our mother. She was a beautiful young woman only thirty years old.

My father was left with five children. This was quite a blow to me for my mother and I had been so close. I loved her dearly. She had been a Sunday School teacher before she was married and so in those few short years she had implanted her faith in me. Grandpa and Grandma Nott took us all to their home and were very good to us, but I missed her sweet companionship and her sympathetic understanding. Sometimes I seemed to starve for love. Grandma was so busy. My father was all broken up and seemed to withdraw within himself showing very little interest. He died when I was only thirteen years old without remarrying. I attended the Wasatch School for two years then the district was divided and I was transferred to the Training School at the University of Utah. It was a blessing for me, but at the time, as I trugged through the snow and wind up the hill, I didn't always think so. I had some of the best teachers in the state. Miss Kimball, Mr. John Welch, Howard Driggs, Charlotte Stewart, and Mrs. Rose Sinclair. I graduated in 1908, and went to the L.D.S. High School. I enjoyed that school very much. I had wonderful training there under B. S. Hinckley, Richard Young, Adam S. Bennion, Oscar Kirzham, A. B. Wright, and others. Adam S. Bennion

continued to be my ideal and inspiration through the years. I didn't graduate, for at the end of the third year Grandma's health failed and I had to quit to take care of her. There went all my dreams of being a school teacher. I wanted to teach very much, so I started to teach primary in the Eleventh Ward in Salt Lake City. I loved telling them beautiful Bible stories and helping them to gain a testimony. It brought me many rich and faith promoting experiences. Oh, I shall never forget. I was attending a Primary Conference when Sister Lilly E. Freeze spoke and sang in tongues. It was interpreted by Sister Zina Young Card, a daughter of Brigham Young. The message was a blessing on all faithful Primary workers and emphasizing the importance of teaching little children. I resolved then to make it my life's ambition. I worked in the Primary for thirty-five years. I taught in every group in the organization and was president in the Bountiful 1st Ward from 13 September 1931 to 3 September 1933. I taught in the 11th Ward in Salt Lake City, Bountiful 1st Ward, 2nd Ward, 3rd and 5th Wards. Then I changed and taught and supervised the Junior Sunday School for several years.

I loved to sing and I started in Evan Stevens' youth chorus and thereafter sang in many choirs. First under Henry Tucket in the 11th Ward in Salt Lake City, and in the Bountiful 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 10th wards.

I have also enjoyed doing temple work in the Salt Lake, Cardston, Manti, Logan, Idaho Falls, St. George and Mesa Temples.

I have been a Relief Society visiting teacher for many years (15), Relief Society Chorister, and Visiting Teacher message leader.

I was president, then secretary and treasurer of the Sessions Camp of the Daughters of the Pioneers in honor of my Great Grandmother Sara Johnson Marsden and Grandmother Harriet Marsden who walked and pulled a handcart in Capt. Horton D. Haight's church train company leaving Florence, Nebraska, early in August 1862, with about 650 immigrants. Arrived Sunday, October 19, 1862, with her two daughters, Harriet V and Clara S.

I married my school-day sweetheart, Marr D. Simons, 11 June 1915, to which union one child was born 26 March 1916. We named her Ruth. He had let his mother run his life and we were both immature, and so six months after we were married his mother took him to her house and left me to battle the coming of a baby and the solitude of the desert alone. I stayed until my baby was born and then with no parents to go to, I left with my baby and came to Salt Lake City. Aunt Sade, Father's sister, took us in until I could find work to support myself and baby.

I got a divorce and while working as a cook for the men at the stock yards, I met Arley George. A year later we were married. I didn't try to build a home this time with a mother-in-law trying to run my home. We moved to Salt Lake where we lived for two years. While there, our first son, Arley Wallace, was born. We moved to Bountiful with our two babies. We were very happy. Arley took Ruth just like his own. We didn't have too many worldly goods, but we had love and contentment in our home. Arley had worked away from home since he was a boy, so when we got started where he could go to church, he joined the choir. He had a good tenor voice and it wasn't long until he realized what he had missed in his life by not continuing to go to church. When he was made an elder, we were very happy, and when he could qualify to go to the temple and take our four children to be sealed to us for time and all eternity, our joy was complete. We had nine children and Ruth made ten, six boys and four girls. When his brother Ray's wife

died, we took his four year old boy, Paul, and kept him for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years until Ray married again and then Paul was taken back to his father's home. It was like losing one of our family. He and Wallace were the same age and it was like separating twins. I had taken them to Primary and Sunday School all the time he lived with us. His stepmother was a Seventh Day Adventist, and she spoiled all I had tried to do. She got him to join that church when they moved to Idaho.

When Arley's father died, his widowed mother coaxed us to come and live in part of her home so she wouldn't be alone. We did, and later, after her death, we bought the home and have raised all ten of our children there. The Lord has blessed us. We have never lost any of them, and we now have them all married but the youngest. They have all been to the temple but one and he married while away from home in the service. He has now converted his wife and they are looking forward to having that privilege. Bob, our youngest, went on a mission to the Gulf States as soon as Steven came home from Canada where he labored in the North Central States Mission. It has been a thrill and a blessing to send two missionaries out to preach the Gospel.

Ruth, with her husband, Clyde McIntyre as chorister, has played the organ for the ward choir, the stake choirs and youth choruses. They have three girls and one boy.

Wallace married Evalaen Hulet and has three girls and three boys. He served in the Army Ordnance Corp. from 1942 to 1945. He was in Iceland 18 months then to Ireland and England. He took part in the D-Day Campaign to France and Belgium, then to Berlin, Germany. He was set apart by Apostle Merrill as Second Counselor in the Bishopric of the Powell Ward in Wyoming 5 September 1948 after first being ordained a High Priest.

Carol has been a primary teacher, Boy Scout Den Mother, and President of the Relief Society in Magne, Utah. She married Glen A. Olsen and has three boys and two girls.

Floyd married Mable Patterson in 1943. They have six children, three boys and three girls. He went in the Navy February 1, 1944 to 1946. He was in Cuba, San Juan, Puerto Rico. He has worked as a Boy Scout Leader in two wards.

EdWayne married Estte Jane Wood, 16 December 1948. They have three girls. He served in the Army Infantry in the South Pacific Islands until February 1944. He was injured in the war when the japs blew up a mountain his Battalion was capturing. He was rescued and flown out back to the States where he was in the hospital for several months but recovered completely.

Helen married Don Starger, 12 June 1946, in the Salt Lake Temple. They live in Pocatello, Idaho and have two girls.

Rhea married Milan Westwood, 14 April 1949, in the Salt Lake Temple. They have four children, two boys and two girls. She teaches Sunday School and Primary and they work on the Genealogy Committee.

Steven married Aldena Todd, 22 November 1957, in the Salt Lake Temple. He went on a mission for two years in the North Central States and is working on the Genealogy Committee in the Bountiful 13th Ward and teaching.

Leo married Barbara Spence, 15 December 1956. They have two children. He served in the Navy from 10 November 1953 to 1957. He is an Eagle Scout.

Robert graduated from Davis High School and is now serving in the mission field in the Gulf States Mission. He is laboring in Texas.

I am proud of my large family. They all have their endowments but one and he has converted and baptized his wife and soon hopes to take her to the temple.

We have 32 grandchildren in 1958 and 3 great grandchildren.