

Biographical Sketch
of
Bessie Lovina Campbell

Bessie Lovina Campbell, the seventh child of Warren Campbell and Mary Eliza White, was born on 17 July, 1896 in Liberty, Weber County, Utah. She was the granddaughter of Solomon Leonard Campbell and Lovina Campbell and John White and Eliza Brown.

At six years of age, Bessie started school in Liberty, Utah where she continued until the age of nine. Their home was bought from Lorin Campbell and was only one block from the school house.

Bessie was baptized on 1 July, 1905 in Liberty, Utah by Joseph Ward and was confirmed by her father, Warren Campbell. The baptism was performed in a deep hole in the Spring Creek river that ran through the center of town, not far from their home.

In June of 1911, Bessie graduated from the eighth grade in North Ogden, Utah. John Quincy Blaylock was he principal. After which Bessie worked for several years doing house work, and caring for the sick.

Bessie then got a job at the Utah Knitting Works, cutting garments. It was interesting work and she received good pay. She worked with Ella Garner, a neighbor.

The older girls of the family were taught to cook, sew and do all the chores their mother would do. As the family grew in size, the older girls were able to do most of the housework. Bessie said that at one time of her life, her job was to take complete charge of her youngest brother, Don, get the vegetables from the garden and clean them for the evening meal. Mary Eliza, mended the clothing for their thirteen children, and later took care of her ailing husband and enjoyed her hobby of making quilts. It is noted, that at the time of Mary Eliza's death, she had made a lovely quilt for everyone of her numerous grandchildren, to be given to them as a gift on their wedding day.

Bessie met Lewis Alfred Randall at a "Character Ball" that was held in the ward building. She was dressed as a little girl, with her hair done up in ringlets. They had a very nice time at the dance and Lewis asked if he could see her home after the dance. They then dated for some time.

In the fall of 1914, Lewis received his mission call to the Australia Mission and prepared to go. Bessie and Lewis' sister, Luetta and brother, Earl went by horse and buggy to the train station to bid him good bye and wish him a safe trip to Australia. Lewis and Bessie corresponded during this time, it took a month for the mail to go back and forth. She anxiously awaited news about Lewis and his travels, experiences and his health. During the time Lewis was on his mission, Bessie kept very busy working, which she enjoyed. Also she was happy carrying out her church assignments in the Mutual.

As the two years came to an end and Lewis returned from Australia, the ward held a "welcome home" dance in his honor. Lewis asked Bessie if he could see her home that evening, as was the custom, and of course, she accepted.

They continued dating and enjoyed one another's company. Lewis had access to the horse and black top buggy, so Bessie felt they always went in style. In the winter they had the cutter, with sleigh bells, heavy fur robes and gloves. They had many good times going to dances, parties, theater and to church.

On Bessie's 21st birthday, 17 July 1917, Lewis asked Bessie if she would marry him. She needed to ask her father's permission to marry Lewis. She was quite nervous about asking her father. So she rode into Ogden and all the way back, (by Buggy) and she still hadn't asked her father. She then followed him into the field still trying to get up the courage. Finally her father stopped and asked her what she wanted. Bessie then asked her father's permission to marry Lewis. He said, "well you are old enough aren't your".

Lewis then gave Bessie a diamond ring he had purchased in Australia. They set the date for their wedding, December 5th, and after most of the heavy farm work was finished. Their wedding ceremony was performed by Alvin F. Smith in the Salt Lake temple for time and eternity on 5 December 1917.

A wedding reception was held on December 7th in Warren Campbell's family home. As was the tradition, they served a sit-down, hot meal for all who attended the reception. Bessie remembers it being a lot of work, but they had an enjoyable time and many friends and neighbors attended to wish the young, handsome couple success in their marriage.

Lewis and Bessie began their married life in Randall District, in a two room house. Lewis worked on his father's farm. They both worked together in their church calling in the religion class.

Howard Lewis was born on 3 October, 1918. The war was going on and things were not too good. The flu broke out and spread fast. The entire town was quarantined. Many people died in North Ogden. Both Lewis and Bessie got the flu, so Lewis' mother, Isabella, came to their home and with a mask on her face and a robe over her clothing, took care of them and Howard as they needed help. They were so grateful Isabella did not come down with the flue. The worst of the epidemic was over in about a month. They wanted Howard blessed and given his name, Uncle Dave Randall said he wasn't afraid to come to their house and took charge of the ordinances. Lewis then blessed Howard and gave him his name.

Grant Nelbourne was born on 5 March 1922. Lewis and Bessie needed more room and had moved into the old home up on the Randall farm. Farm equipment was cleaned out of the house, it was painted, wall papered, a new floor put down and was made very liveable. There they had three large rooms, a lean to and a back room that could be used for storage, plus a wash room. They were very comfortable here and got along very well with Lewis' folks.

Their little family was growing, Lewis and Bessie again needed more room. They purchased a home from Samuel Randall in 1923. They were pleased to have their own home. Here they could improve their home as they could, farm the land as they wished.

Ruth was born in 15 March 1924. They were delighted to have a daughter.

They soon began to prosper, they worked exceptionally hard, but it was a pleasure to see things grow and do well. Their cherry trees and raspberries were in their prime.

Early in 1933, Bessie found she was expecting again after 9 years. Eleanor was born on 21 July, 1933. Bessie had high blood pressure and she did not have an easy time after that. Lewis had nearly severed his thumb cutting wood prior to the birth. The depression was at hand, people were out of work, prices for the fruit had dripped, everyone was affected. People were unhappy and depressed. Lewis and Bessie' family had plenty to eat as they raised their meat and grew most of their fruit and vegetables, but money was scarce.

Two years went by and times began to get better. Things improved a great deal. Their crops were good and both Lewis and Bessie's health had improved.

Howard was called on a mission to Tahiti. They now had money enough to support him in this call for their church. He successfully completed his mission.

They bought more land, planted more trees, remodeled their home all seemed well again.

They worked hard, but they loved their vacations, camping with the children and many of their good friends. Later taking time out to go to Mesa, Arizona for 4 or 5 weeks during the winter time. These outings were the highlight of their life.

Howard and Grant had joined the Navy, and December 7, 1942, found Howard off the coast of Hawaii when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Thank goodness he was far enough away to be safe. This was a great worry to Lewis and Bessie.

Ruth was married to Blaine R. Kendell and Blaine went off to the Army.

Their life was now full of worries and concern for their children and their country.

Life still went on, the farm kept them busy and had plenty of hard work. When the war was over they spent some time enjoying vacations.

Grant married Barbara Sander, they eventually moved to Whittier, California. Lewis and Bessie Visited Howard in Washington D. C. and Grant and Barbara in California.

In the summer of 1953 Lewis had a heart attach while taking care of his cherries. From then on their life changed. Lewis could do very little and on 15 December 1953, Lewis had another heart attach that took his life.

Bessie found it very difficult to continue on alone. Her life was always with Lewis, working hard together, vacationing together and going to church together. They helped each other throughout their entire life. They were truly sweethearts and companions.

Bessie decided she had to pick herself up and get on with life. She enrolled at Henager's Business School. After the completion of her training she got a job at the bookstore in Ogden that was just to her liking.

She attended the temple whenever she could and carried out her church responsibilities. She took some trips to temples around the country, which she enjoyed.

Eleanor married Berlyn Joseph Cook and made their home in San Diego, California.

At the bookstore Bessie met Daniel William Knighton and they were married on 11 July 1958 in the Logan temple for time. They made their home together on 1604 Eleventh Street, Ogden, Utah for about 5 years. "Bill" died also of a heart attack.

Bessie then spent most of her time going to the Logan Temple, traveling to Logan once a week. She decided it would be easier if she moved up there. So Ruth and Blaine moved her to Logan near the temple.

She usually spent 5 days a week going to the temple, taking at least 3 sessions a day. It was there in the temple that she met Ernest Hugi a young 91 year old, who took notice of this faithful sister who was always in the temple. On 9 April, 1969 they were married in the Logan temple for time.

They remodeled Ernest's home and made it very comfortable for them both. They still continued their temple work. They also took a couple of interesting trips together, one to California to visit three of her children and one to Chicago to visit Ernest's relatives.

Bessie had sold her farm and was glad not to have that responsibility. She enjoyed her temple work and genealogy work. After going to the temple each day, she would have Ernest tell her about his life as she wrote it down. On his 93rd birthday she presented him with his completed life story. On 4th May 1971 Ernest passed away.

Bessie had now lost three husbands, but she continued on, enjoying Ernest's lovely home, keeping busy with her temple, church and genealogy work, planting and taking care of her flowers which she always loved and took such great care. She then began to write her life story.

On 27 May, 1973 Bessie had a mild heart attack and was but into the hospital and on 31 May 1973 she jointed her husband Lewis in death. As her grandson, Stephen, told at her funeral, he knew his grandmother wasn't doing to get well, because as they were giving her a blessing, he saw Grandpa Lewis there waiting for Bessie.

Bessie Lovina Campbell Randall spent her life in dedication to her Lord, her husband and her children. Life was good.

As of this date July 4, 1995 Bessie Lovina Campbell has:

4 children
12 grandchildren
44 great grandchildren