

Excerpts from the History of Riverton, and Lives of Some of Its People

R979.2 Excerpts Vol. 1

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Riverton

Location Key

- 1 William Edward Bate (1885-@1899)
(Hannah S. & Maud Nell)
- 2 William A. Bills, Sr. (after
1902-1915) (Emeline)
- 3 Gordon S. Bills (1885-1932)
(Ellen Holt)
- 4 Hans Christian Nielsen Hansen
(?-1896, Karin, Hansene,
Christine, & Marie)
- 5 Alexander Henderson (1874-1917)
(Hannah, Almira Silcock, &
Minnie) 11719 S. 1300 W.
- 6 Joseph Draper (1876-1885) ^{Herriman Rd.}
(Esther Silcock & Mary)
- 7 N. T. Silcock (1865-1906) ¹⁰
(Jane Heath)
- 8 N. T. Silcock (Harriet)
- 9 Robert Dansie, Jr. (@1880-1905)
(Paulina Silcock & Christina)
- 10 Riverton School/Church (1879)
13115 S. 1300 W.
- 11 Gordon S. Bills (Bertha "Len-
nie")
- 12 Timothy Gilbert (1865-1888)
(Anne, Johanne, Elisabeth)
- 13 Timothy Gilbert (2nd location)
- 14 Charles Mormon Nokes (1883-
1926) (Caroline)
13211 S. 1700 W.
- 15 C. M. Nokes (Sarah)
13083 S. 1700 W.
- 16 Daniel Densley, Jr. (@1886-
1930) ("Lizzie")
12981 S. 1700 W.
- 17 D. Densley ("Libby")
12908 S. 1700 W.
- 18 D. Densley ("Minty")
12831 S. 1700 W.

Morgan Rd.

Redwood Road

South Jordan Canal
40
Lower Road

Draper Rd.

06

07
08

09

011

013

012

Jordan River

14

15

16

17

18

2

3

○ sites of homes-not existing
● homes-existing (1989)

Other Polygamists--Location Not Known

Alexander Bills (Emily & Rachel)

Joseph Smith Black (1897-1901) (Sarah)--lived in south part of Riverton

*Polygamists
Location of Homes*

EXCERPTS FROM THE
HISTORY OF RIVERTON

&

LIVES OF SOME OF ITS PEOPLE

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HISTORICAL RECORD OF RIVERTON

"What Thou Seeth, Write in a Book." Rev. 1:11

Riverton Precinct, Salt Lake County. Established Dec. 23, 1879. It is bounded on the North by South Jordan Precinct, separated from Draper Precinct by the Jordan River, bounded on the South by Bluffdale Precinct, and on the West by Herriman Precinct. It contained about twelve square miles and included School District No. 44. Riverton Ward is coextensive with Riverton Precinct.

Early settlers at this time were all Mormons. Because of the large holdings of Archibald Gardner, Riverton community was called Gardnersville. Some give his holdings as much as 1,000 acres. Among his neighbors was a bachelor, Samuel Green, who had built the first home in this locality in 1853, a one room log cabin with a dirt roof. His property was an early entry to Archibald Gardner, who had also made the first entry on all property in that locality, that he had been able to acquire under Squatter's Rights, but as he had acquired more land than he was capable of farming, it had to be released to others for no man was to become wealthy at another man's expense. Later Judge Charles Smith named the town Riverton.

The town is situated between the beautiful Rocky Mountains on the East and the Oquirrh Range on the West, which are attractive at all seasons of the year, and are rich in minerals.

Because of the lack of water, the first homes built by the first settlers were along the Jordan. They were mostly dugouts and a few log cabins. They had to go to the canyons to get logs. They would chop them and hew the sides with axes. The cracks between the logs were filled with clay. They had oiled paper for windows and buckskins for the doors. A few had rock houses. Lars Jensen had the first rock house built on what was refer-

red to as "bench land", west of Redwood Road in 1870. In the history of Samuel L. Howard he says he helped survey the road from West Jordan to Bluffdale. Because redwood pegs were used to mark the survey line, they soon began calling it Redwood Road, which name has been retained to this day.

Among the first settlers, besides Sam Green and Lars Jensen were: John Spencer, Nicholas T. Silcox, John Hansen Sr., George Beckstead, Peter Olsen, Patriarch John Smith, Christian Christensen, Timothy Gilbert, Peter N. Garff, Samuel L. Howard, Mr. Andersen, Mr. Williams, and others. They located along the Jordan River which was the only source of water supply at the time. Nicholas T. Silcox was Branch President of this little group which was under the direction of West Jordan.

The first water was taken out of the Green ditch about 1866 and was known as the Sam Green Ditch. This was the beginning but was inadequate for their needs. The Utah and Salt Lake Canal were started first, then in 1871 the South Jordan Canal was started, as it had been surveyed the previous year. After three years labor, in which John Hancock and John Hansen, Sr. took very prominent parts, the County came to the assistance and completed the canal, which taps the Jordan River near the point of the Mountain, about one mile north of the County line, and is about twenty miles long. Water was turned into it about 1878, and from that time the bench country began to fill up with settlers who irrigated their farms from canal water. A few years later, when the Utah and Salt Lake Canal were completed, more land was brought under cultivation; hence the gradual increase of the population.

It must be remembered that the land called Riverton and vicinity was once the home of the Piute and Ute Indian tribes, and thundering herds of wild horses accented by the bay of wolves and coyotes were sounds commonly heard on the broad expanse of the sage covered flats in

about 1868. Before anything could be raised on the land it first had to be cleared of sage brush, leveled, plowed and then planted. In the history of Samuel L. Howard, Sr., he said he was the first man in Riverton to accomplish the raising of grain and he encouraged others to do the same.

At an early date a branch organization was affected, with Nicholas T. Silcox as president and presided under the direction of the West Jordan Bishopric until the reorganization in 1877, when ~~Gardensville~~^{hwy} was consolidated with and made a part of South Jordan Ward, which was organized June 17, 1877. In 1879, when a precinct was established, the name of the settlement was changed to Riverton as before stated. Another branch organization took place in 1881, when Lars Jensen was appointed president under the direction of the South Jordan Bishopric, William A. Bills, bishop. After this, meetings were held regularly every Sabbath. Elder Jensen presided until his death, April 23, 1883. Sometime afterwards, Orin P. Miller was placed in charge of the branch. He presided until Aug. 23, 1886, when Riverton was organized into a separate ward, with Orin P. Miller as bishop, and Jesse Morgan Smith and Gordon S. Bills, as counselors. In 1900, the Jordan Stake was organized, Riverton felt a keen loss when Bishop Orin Miller was taken from the office of bishop and made the first president of the Jordan Stake. Gordon S. Bills was appointed bishop in his stead, Feb. 10, 1900, with Charles E. Miller and Zachariah Butterfield as counselors. This bishopric was in office for almost 22 years. Charles E. Miller died August 5, 1921. That same day Gordon S. Bills was honorably released together with Zachariah Butterfield and Isaac Freeman. At a Stake Conference held Nov. 12, 1922 at Sandy Gordon S. Bills was made patriarch of Jordan Stake by Hyrum G. Goff, which office he held until his death.

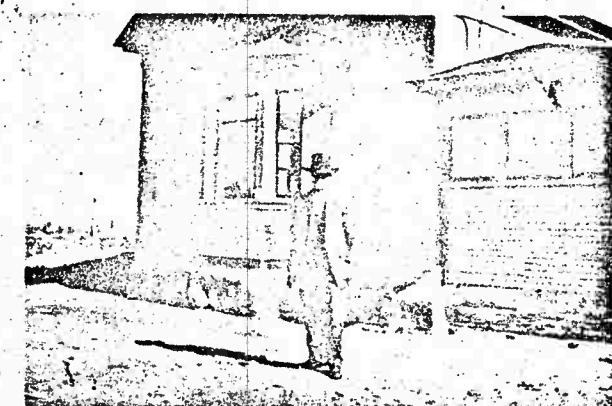
Bishop Bills was the most outstanding religious character of his day. He had great faith in administration and prayer. His home life as a polygamist was ideal. When in the mission field with Daniel Densley, they were mobbed, but left in the woods unharmed when the mob was scared away by a woman dressed in white who had come out to find them. They had been staying at

her place. They felt the barrels of guns in their ribs. He was the father of 18 children by two wives, and loves his family and the gospel.

The early church meetings to be held in Riverton were in about 1881 in the N. T. Silcox log house about where the Richard Withers place is located. Meetings were held here for a few years.

In about 1879, the first school for education was started in one room of the George Beckstead home on 1300 West, with about 14 or 15 pupils of all ages in attendance. They

all met together and learned to read and write and learned their multiplication tables; later geography was added. Many parents learned from their children. Edward Orgill was their first teacher.



FIRST SCHOOL AND CHURCH HOUSE
(John C. Wiberg 1921)

About 1879, a one room adobe building for school was built. Not large, but large enough for school, church and community activities. On one corner a lumber shanty was built for coal and wood. The yard around the school house was sandy and the sego lilies bloomed in abundance in the early Spring. The school was situated on rising ground a short distance from the Jordan River, about 19 miles south of the Temple block in Salt Lake City.

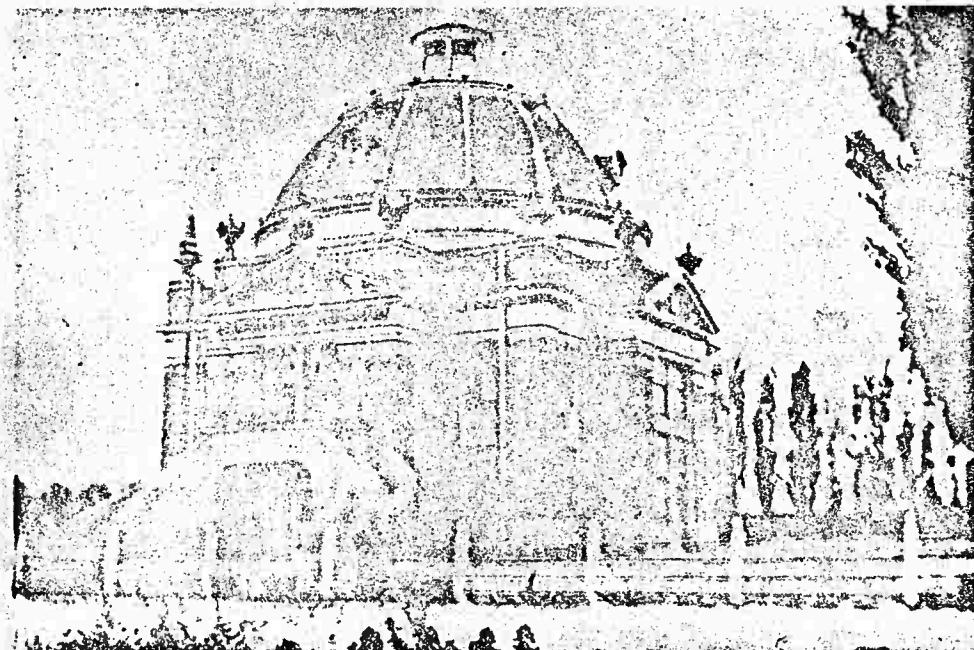
Later a brick section was added much larger than the original structure. Daniel Densley advanced the money from the addition. This school and church served the community for about 20 years, before the next church and the next school house were built on Redwood Road.

The old church, when no longer in use, was sold to a private party, was remodeled and used as a dwelling house. Don Coy now occupies this home.

Riverton was established as a voting district about 1879, December 23.

The Sunday School was first organized February 29, 1880, as a branch of South Jordan Sunday School. It began with five officers and teachers and 23 pupils. In 1899, it had 22 officers and teachers and 237 pupils. Superintendents of the Sunday School were: Alexander B. Kidd, September 26, 1880; Timothy Gilbert, December 12, 1882; Samuel L. Howard, October 1882, until the branch was organized into a ward. His leadership continued until December 31, 1899. On April 31, 1900, a social party was held at the Daniel Densley Hall to honor him and others retiring. John Hansen, Jr. was chosen Superintendent April 14, 1901, with George Dansie and Alexander Hamilton as assistants.

A large domeshaped church was started in 1899 under the direction of Orin P. Miller but for the lack of money, it was not finished until December 20, 1920,



RIVERTON CHURCH

when it was dedicated. The new Bishopric, Gordon S. Bills and counselors had this burden to contend with. Thomas P. Page donated two acres of ground on which this church was built. Thomas M. Hamilton put the first load of rocks and pulled the northeast corner stone weighing 2800 lbs., with his horses, Nig and Dock. Richard W. Kletting was the architect, and Bishop Willard C. Burgon, of Union, was the contractor. The building was a long time under construction, but the people were united and one could see teams and wagons a mile long going for sand, gravel, etc. It is estimated the building cost about \$25,000, but that was not all as so much was donated. Even after so much sacrifice by everyone, when the building was quite complete except for the roof, a special call was made for \$2,000 -- \$500 each from George Dansie, Zachariah Butterfield, Charles Blake and George Beckstead.

These donations were freely given.

A few of the outstanding men of Riverton in early days to whom we owe honorable mention are: Daniel Densley, George Beckstead, Reuben Hamilton, Thomas Hamilton, Charles Dansie, James Blake, Nicholas T. Silcox, Sr., Edward Orgill, Frank Seal, Sr., John Hansen, Sr., Thomas P. Page, Thomas Nichols, Charles Nokes, Samuel L. Howard, Phillip Nell, Fred Webb, and men already mentioned.

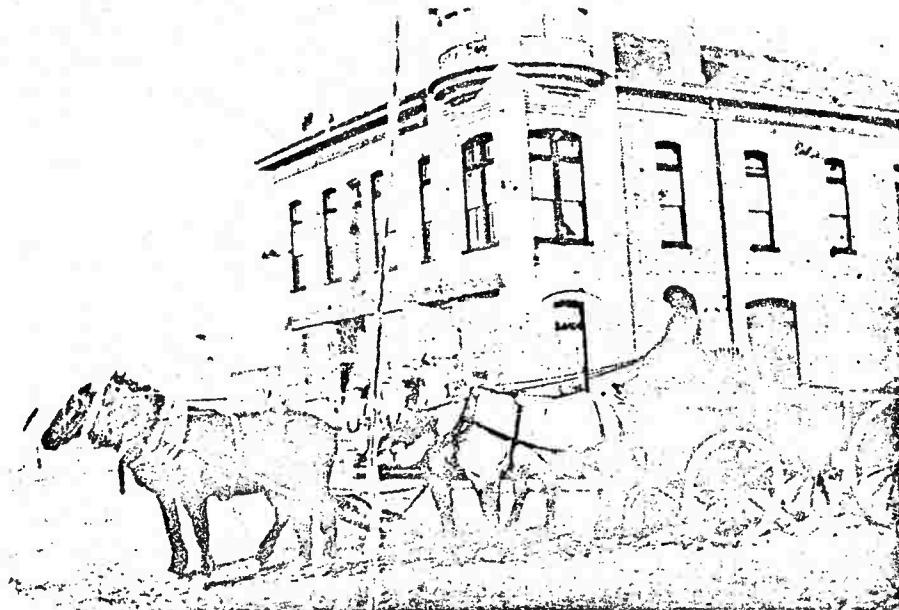
Many names should be included in this list of leading men, and women should not be neglected or overlooked, for they worked and sacrificed also to make Riverton what it is today. All the time these pioneers were struggling under such trying circumstances, entertainment and recreation were not overlooked.

About 1873, Daniel Densley, seeing the need of a larger building for recreational purposes and a place for housing small businesses, built a brick building at what is now 12600 South Redwood Road, northeast corner. It was called the "Commercial Building". It

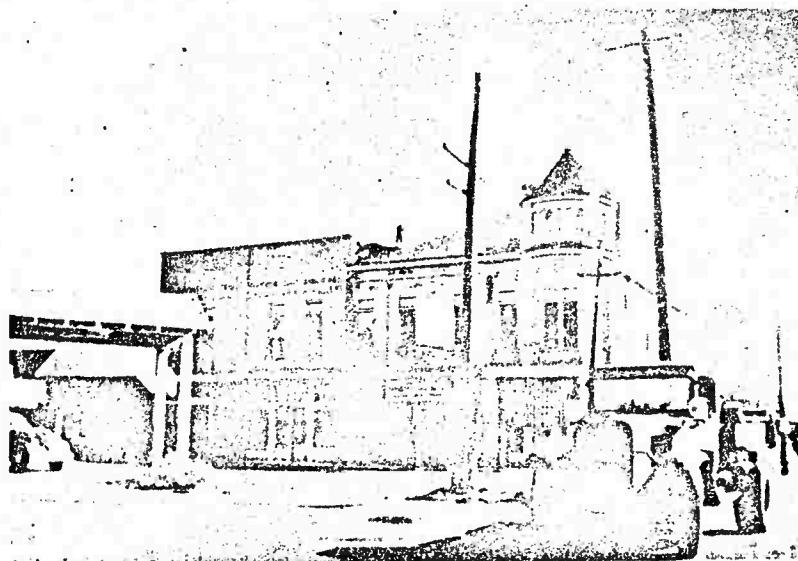
was a two story building with an amusement hall and a hardwood dance floor. It was the largest in the county and it was unusually crowded at least once a week, not only by the home people but by those who came miles to "trip the light fantastic". It had a large stage for dramatics. All the traveling troupes made stops here, playing to well-filled houses. Home dramatics were encouraged. John Hansen, Jr., was appointed stage manager under whose direction, a wonderful set of scenery was made, and, according to his history, it was the finest outside of Salt Lake City. Among those who regularly took part in these plays were: Charles Millard, Charles Jeffs, Thomas Hamilton, Eugene Miller, Seth Pixton, Thomas Nichols, Carrie Green, Marina Hansen, Lydia Seal, Grace Swan, Lorena Bills, and Edith Miller Smith. The money these plays made helped maintain the ward and sent money to the missionaries. The community was fortunate in another way in regards to their dancing as they had a good orchestra in their own town. William E. Bates was their leader and also their violinist. His sons, Arthur and Ernest played the fiddle and piccolo, Edward Orgill, the trumpet, and Fred Webb, the violin. Sometimes it was hard to tell who was having the most fun, the orchestra or the dancers.

An amusing story is told in the Samuel L. Howard, Sr. history. It says that Bishop Orin P. Miller appointed him manager of recreation and dances for the Ward. This was a pleasant job for him for the joy and satisfaction he received while acting in this capacity, as he loved to dance. While he was manager, he made the necessary sacrifices to obtain a pair of dancing slippers. They were so much nicer than the heavy work shoes many had to wear. They were like magic to his feet and as important to his attire as his white shirt and tie. In them, he danced all the fancy steps of the day, including the little extra quick steps that went along with the other part of square dancing. His dancing slippers were treasured, guarded, shined and used. They were a luxury, possibly the only one

had in his life, and after his last dance when they had to be put away, he knew they had been worth the price.



COMMERCIAL BUILDING 1902
(William or Joseph Bodell in wagon)



COMMERCIAL BUILDING

In the dances at the Commerical Hall, there were no pickup partners; every dance had to be asked for after a proper introduction. One waltz in an evening, was all that was allowed by order of President Brigham Young. Boys from out of town needed a recommend to come to these dances.

The first floor of the Commercial Building housed many small businesses, such as general merchandise stores, at different times of course, Post Office, Bank, Implement Shop, Harness Store, Shoe Repairs, Dwelling Rooms, Beauty Shop, Barber Shop, etc. Some of the people running these businesses were Daniel Densley, George Bills, William Parry, Fred Webb, Gilbert Lloyd, Charles Millard, Roland Page, Merrill Hand, Ardella Snyder, Polinars, Latimer, Schill, and many others.

Later years, the dance floor was used as a roller skating rink.

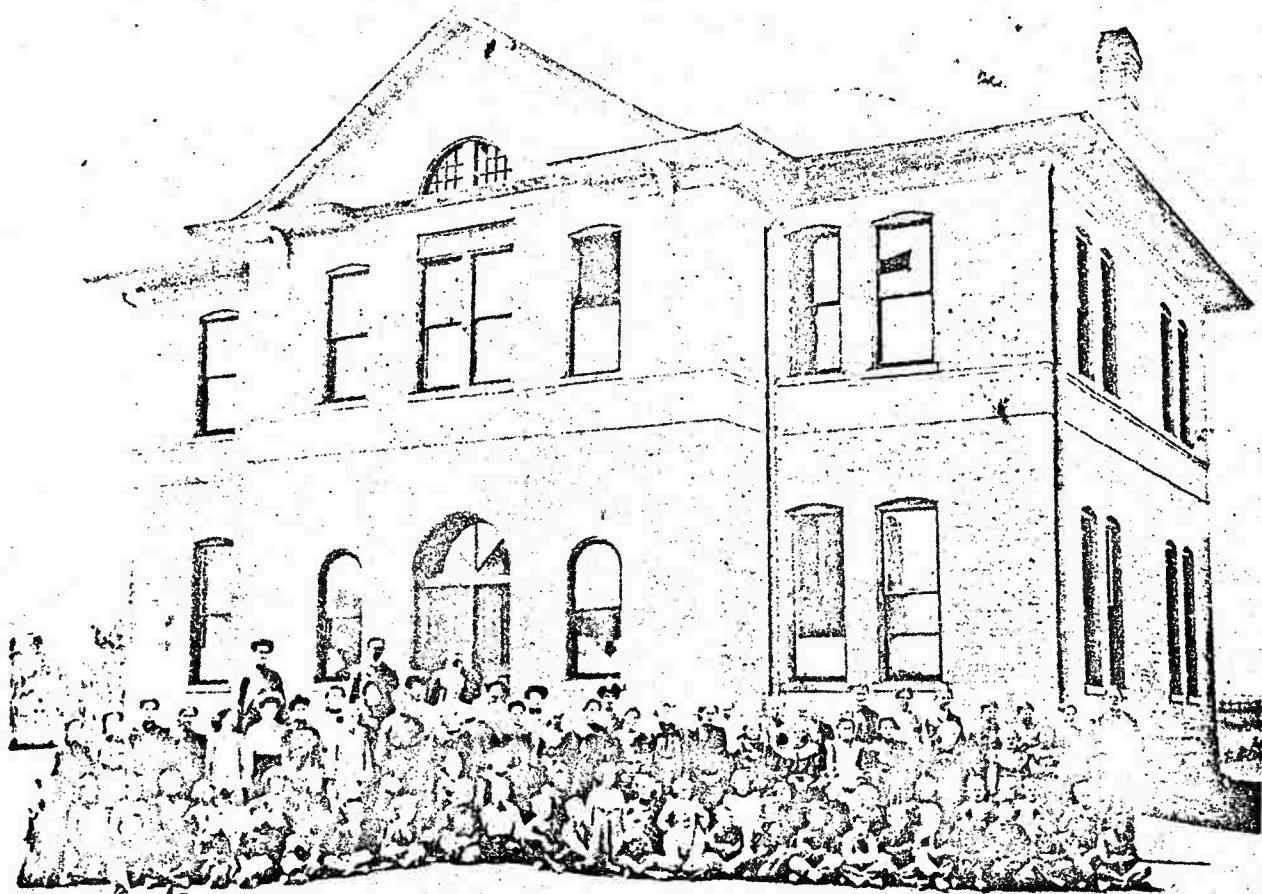
In 1927, Christian Mortensen sold the building to the Riverton Second Ward, he being in possession of it then. Wilford Meyers was Bishop at the time. Lancelot Bills was the next bishop of the Second Ward and then, Franklin Seal. During his term of office, the building was condemned and torn down. This was October 10, 1939. Riverton and surrounding communities looked with sadness at the old landmark when it was being razed.

JOHN HANSEN, JR. - Second School House

The second school house was built at about 12830 South Redwood about 1892. It was a two story old brick building with four rooms, two upstairs and two down, also a small room upstairs for a library. There were eight grades at this time, two classes to a room. Students graduated from the eighth grade into High School. There was no High School near at this time, consequently a lot of students never got anymore schooling.

In about 1901, John Hansen taught in this school and

according to his history, he established a school library and purchased the first 200 books in about 1905. He also bought and gave the school a grove of hardwood trees which the children helped to plant on the north side of the school grounds.



SECOND SCHOOL HOUSE IN RIVERTON

John Hansen taught school in Riverton about 17 years, filled two missions for the Latter-day Saints Church, helped organize the Jordan Valley Bank in 1905-06, and was the first cashier at the bank. He was made supervisor of the Jordan District in 1907, and 1909 was made Superintendent of the District, where he served two years. He was manager of the Page Hansen store in 1913-14. For ten

years, he was director and president of the Riverton Pipe Line. In church work, besides being Superintendent of the Sunday School, John taught an adult class, and was later Stake Superintendent. He was often called on to speak at public meetings and funerals. In 1928, he was appointed to the State Board of Agriculture by Governor Dern, then Governor Blood, and was president of this Board for ten years. On February 22, 1895, he was appointed manager of the Old Folks's Reunions, and headed this group for many years. Out of this office grew Old Folks Day.

John was active in establishing the pumps at the outlet of Utah Lake in 1904. He received his education at the B.Y.U. in 1884 to 1887. Edward Orgill was one of his teachers when he was a lad. Mr. Hansen died March 18, 1950 at the age of 84.

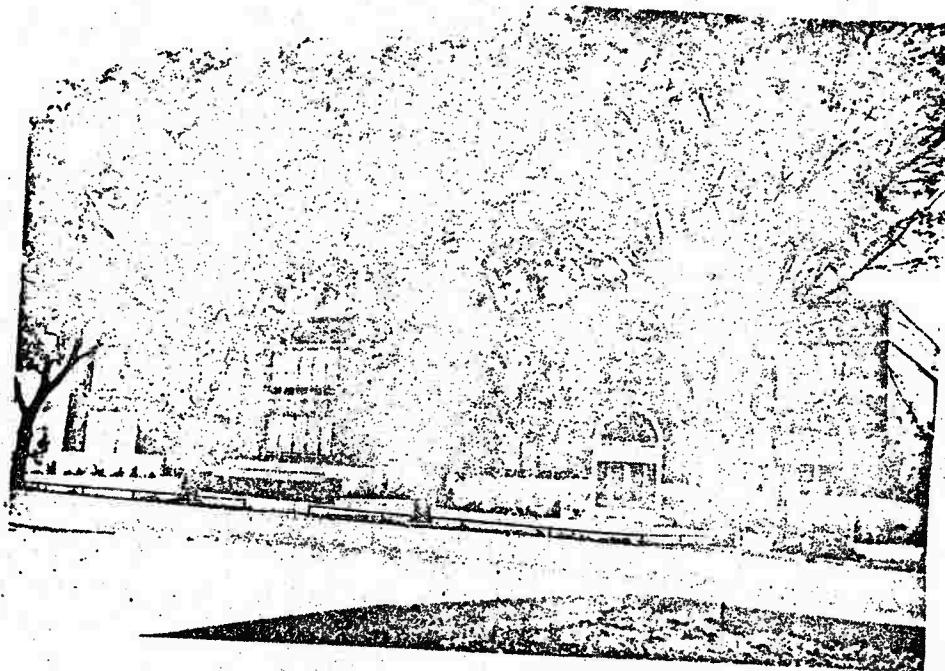
SCHOOLS - Continued

Taken from the history of John W. Smith, pioneer of Rural School Consolidation in Utah. He was the first superintendent of Rural Consolidated Schools, January 1, 1905 to July 1, 1909.

In about 1905 "Consolidation of Rural Schools" in Salt Lake County was a live topic and had been for a number of years. John Hansen, Jr., along with John W. Smith of Draper, and others, did much to promote the consolidation of the schools in Salt Lake County. The district called Jordan District, comprised the southern half of Salt Lake County, contained about three hundred square miles and had a population of about 13,000 and a school population (1907) of 3,739. John Hansen, Jr. was on the Board of Education and also principal of the school in Riverton.

Riverton was one of the small towns to favor graded schools. The four room brick building on Redwood Road was a step to improve the schooling and more teachers were needed. As the population grew this building and others were needed. Later a second school for elementary grades was

erected. In 1926, the south building was torn down and the present one constructed. At the same time, the north building was being remodeled but before it was completed, it was struck by fire and was completely destroyed, July 30, 1926. This was a great disappointment at the time, but now that it is past and the new building that was put in its place is all paid for, the people feel happy because it is much nicer and matches the first one as to color and general design.



RIVERTON SCHOOL 1960

All teachers who taught in Riverton had to live in Riverton in dormitories, which had been built for them. In 1919, Mr. Stephen F. Stephensen moved to Riverton and lived with his family in an apartment in the four-room brick building. He was principal for six years. In 1922, he became Riverton's postmaster. He was active in the L.D.S. Church and taught the adult class in Sunday School about 45 years in Riverton and elsewhere. He was born in Levan, Utah, February 4, 1890. He married Hazel Giles December 24, 1915, and they had ten children born to them; two sons have been lost in World War I and the Viet Nam

War. He was president for two years of the MIA, president of the Lion's Club. Stephen attended the B.Y.U. and the University of Utah and taught school 17 years in Riverton and other schools. He also served a Stake Mission.

The new buildings had only been used for a short time, when N. K. Thomson became principal in 1927, which position he held for 24 years. At that time the school included the Junior High grades. Mr. Thomson became bishop of the Riverton First Ward and also worked in the West Jordan Stake Presidency while he lived in Riverton. He held different civic offices in the town.

Niels Kimball Thomson was born July 15, 1892, in Ephraim, Utah, and married Dorcas Beta Olsen September 20, 1916 in the Manti Temple. He graduated from the Brigham Young University in 1916. He was Attendance Coordinator for the Jordan District until retirement. He was a member of the Riverton Town Board, a charter member and president of the Riverton Lion's Club and held other civic jobs.

The Thomsons were the parents of seven children. They moved to Sandy after retirement where Mr. Thomson died April 12, 1968.

Dorcas Olsen Thomson, a former school teacher, came to Riverton with her husband N. K. Thomson and family in 1927 when he became principal. She was born October 17, 1895 in Emery, Utah. She was active in church work and civic affairs. She was West Jordan's Stake Primary President, Ward Relief Society Officer, and class instructor, member of the Lady Lions and president. She was the initiator and helped organize the Riverton Ladies' Liter-

Club in December 1931 and was the first president. The purpose of the club was "to establish and maintain a library for the promotion and general diffusion of knowledge among its members in matters of literature, science, and other branches of learning for women." Forty years later, the club is still functioning, (1971). In the first year were: Mrs. N. K. Thomson, Mrs. Hansen, Mrs. Herschel Egbert, Mrs. Thomas L. Densley,

Mrs. Eugene Miller, Mrs. Roland Page, Mrs. Vern Morgan, Mrs. Edger Morgan, Mrs. J. Harold Berrett, Mrs. Clifford Swenson, Mrs. Harry Sandstrom, Mrs. James Broadbent, and Mrs. Fae Adams. As one member dropped out for different reasons, others joined.

Mrs. Thomson died June 23, 1957, at age 62.

When Mr. Thomson came to Riverton School, there was no gymnasium, but one was erected in 1930; at this time there was no playground equipment, no lawns, shrubs or flowers. Materials for playground equipment was purchased where ever it could be found, and the boys along with the teachers, did the work of assembling it. The money was raised from school entertainments. The land had to be cleared of rubbish which had to be hauled away and new dirt brought for lawn planting. Students helped with their father's teams and some help was furnished by the W.P.A. when employment was a problem. Another addition was made to the school in 1963. In February 1970, the district bought the Clifford N. Swenson property and made it into a parking lot.

The subjects and activities offered in the school were greatly increased after they got better buildings, equipment and more teachers. Today (1971) the school has three main buildings, which house a cafeteria, six rooms with two grades to a room; 21 teachers; principal, Ira E. Moss; two clerks; Miss Jean Madsen, Librarian; two kindergarten classes a day, one A.M., one P.M.; and a janitor. The three Junior High classes, 7th, 8th, and 9th, go to West Jordan Junior High School; the High School classes, 10th, 11th, and 12th, go to Bingham High School at Copperton.

Beautiful steel buses have replaced the old time horse drawn wagons, and students are transported to the various schools in the new way.

As the Riverton people look back to the early days of one teacher, one room, etc., they are justly proud of the wonderful advancement that has been made through the years.

EDGAR AYLETT

Edgar Aylett was school custodian from 1915 to 1949, until his retirement. He then became custodian for the First Ward Church. He was also Superintendent of the Riverton First Ward Sunday School.

Edgar was born June 12, 1885 in West Jordan. He married Clara Orgill March 20, 1907 in the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of four children. Mr. Aylett died July 4, 1964.

TITHING YARD HILL - as told in the history of Samuel L. Howard

When land was needed for a tithing yard, it was one of the choice spots on the farm of Samuel L. Howard, Sr., that was decided upon. It was near the top of the hill on the north frontage. This was the way Mr. Howard and others paid their tithing: The best of each crop, the sweetest fruit, the fatest calf, the greenest hay, and the fullest measure of grain. So, when the land, though only a small price, was to be paid for, it was chosen the same way. This was when tithing was paid in produce from the farm. so a lot was needed for an office, other buildings, hay stacks, etc. Then pasture land was needed for the cattle and horses. The level ground was used for the buildings, and land sloping towards the river, was for pasture and feeding pens. When it was discovered they had overlooked a lane way to the river for the animals to use to go for water, Mr. Howard gave them another piece of ground. Only one deed was found for one of these transactions among his papers. It was dated 25 October 1898, and was designated as the land on the old Beckstead ditch sold to the Riverton Ward by Samuel L. and Sarah J. Howard. It was not known until the hill was designated as "The Tithing Yard Hill" which name is still used by old settlers of the town. If you were looking for it today, you would be directed to about 1150 West 12400 South, Riverton, but only

the formation of the land would be a hint that you were in the right place. Freeman Lloyd was once the supervisor of the Tithing Yard. At one time the building burned down and a lot of the Ward records were burned.

MAIL AND POSTMASTERS

The home of Samuel L. Howard was used as a post office when the mail was delivered to South Jordan from Sandy. It was brought from there by John Blake who carried it on his back as he walked the round trip each day. There was no rural delivery then, so those living in the town had to call for mail at Mr. Howard's home. The caring for the mail was left strictly up to his wife, Sarah Jane Howard, but each member of the family realized the trust that had been placed in them and knew it was not to be handled by any but her. At that time there was no recompense for the work. It was just a neighborly accomodation extended by them. Later, when William E. Bate built a small general merchandise store, the first in Riverton, it was decided to take the mail there as it was more centrally located. It was on the southwest corner of 1700 West 12600 South.

A Riverton Post Office was established March 14, 1892. Upon request, Donald B. Petersen wrote to Washington, D.C., and received the following list of postmasters and the dates of their appointments:

Arthur Bate	March 14, 1892
Ernest T. Bate	April 17, 1896
Catherine Thorne	July 6, 1899
Edwin A. Walker	February 15, 1901
Seth Pixton	April 4, 1903
Carrie Nokes	January 20, 1905
Seth Pixton	December 20, 1905
Geneva Garside	August 5, 1909
Seth Pixton	May 22, 1911
Geneva Garside	July 10, 1912
S. F. Stephensen	January 9, 1922
Michael J. Tischner	April 18, 1931
Joseph C. Frost	March 16, 1932
John Madsen	September 1, 1936
Glen C. Crump	June 9, 1961
Robert D. Nevin	July 5, 1963
Afton D. Crane	March 3, 1972

There was a time when mail for Riverton and vicinity, came by train to the Denver and Rio-Grande Depot, about two miles east of Riverton. It had to be brought from there by horse drawn vehicles. This job was given to Edward Orgill, first Riverton school teacher, and after he taught school for about 20 years. He carried the mail and sometimes hauled freight for the stores, or sometimes he took a passenger to or from the depot. He drove in a buggy, surrey or light wagon, as the demand was needed. He took the trip in all kinds of weather and never missed a day. Mr. Orgill was quite a remarkable man for the audacity and courage he displayed throughout his life, and for the things he accomplished. When he was 16 years old and still in England, where he was born November 25, 1840, he met with a serious accident while working in a mill. While going through a small opening to get to the next room, his coat caught in a belt on a large wheel, and took him round and round. His right arm had to be amputated, both his legs were broken several times, which caused him to limp badly the rest of his life. He used the compensation money to bring himself and brother, Nephi, from England to Utah, where he lived with his brother, Joseph, in Draper. He attended the University of Deseret. He soon got a job teaching school and was Riverton's first school teacher. He worked in small schools where he taught children of all ages in the same room.

When he taught school in Herriman, he fell in love with one of his pupils, Mary Ann Farmer, and they were married October 24, 1876 in the old Endowment House in Salt Lake City. Mary Ann proved to be a wonderful helpmate to him. They had born to them ten children, all living to adulthood. In their early married life they homesteaded some land in Riverton. Besides teaching school for twenty years, hauling the mail for many more years, he, with the help of Mary Ann, managed a dance hall, played in several bands and did the calling for square dances, led the church

choir, and sang in the choir most of his life. He worked in the Sunday School and the M.I.A. for many years. He was superintendent of the old Religion Class, in which his wife also assisted. She was prominent in the Y.W.M.I.A. and the Relief Society. Edward was a great lover of sports and never missed a ball game. With the younger boys, he was generally the umpire. He died January 25, 1926 at the age of 87.

SETH PIXTON

When Seth S. Pixton was appointed postmaster in Riverton, a proper building was necessary to house the mail. Seth returned to Riverton after serving a mission for the L.D.S. Church to England in 1901. It was at this time he bought an interest in the Page-Pixton store. In September 1904, he was appointed Salt Lake County Assessor.

During the year 1905, the Jordan Valley Bank at Riverton was organized. At a meeting of directors, held June, 1906, Seth was chosen cashier, which position he held for 15 years. For several years he managed the bank and acted as postmaster. He was instrumental in organizing the Jordan Valley Pipeline Co. so culinary water could be piped from Bear Canyon, above Draper, to homes in Riverton.

Seth also helped to get electricity and telephones into the homes of Salt Lake County. For eight years he served on the Jordan School District Board of Education; six years, he acted as president. During World War I, Seth served on the Selective Service Board besides keeping his responsibilities as cashier of the Jordan Valley bank.

In January 1921, Seth was appointed State Bank Commissioner and April 1921, the family moved to Salt Lake City. Seth Silcock Pixton was born June 20, 1875 to Robert and Anna Silcock Pixton. He married Ellen Weaver on April

28, 1897 in the Salt Lake Temple. Ellen died December 22, 1935. Seth died November 1956 in LaMesa, California.

Sometime after Seth was appointed cashier of the Jordan Valley Bank, he decided to give up the office of Postmaster. On August 5, 1909, Geneva Howard Garside was appointed postmistress. She was left a widow with two boys, when her husband, Ernest Garside, was killed during a grazing-right dispute in Wyoming. He was shot by angry cowboys at his sheep camp. Lyman T. Butterfield was in the camp at the time but escaped unhurt by hiding in a ditch.

The Jordan Valley Bank closed its doors in February 1932 during the depression years. Henry Hurren was cashier at the time.

CHARLES W. JEFFS, first Rural Mail Carrier

Charles W. Jeffs, born December 13, 1881, in American Fork, Utah, was the first rural mail carrier. He delivered the mail to Riverton, Bluffdale, and Herriman, and picked up the letters and other mail in a horse drawn cart.

Charles married Eurilda Orgill October 8, 1908 in the Salt Lake Temple and they had two daughters, Verda and Geneal. Charlie, as he was called, died December 2, 1911 when he was only 30 years old. Verda died when she was four and Geneal is now Mrs. Einar Peterson.

Eurilda worked as a clerk in the Thomas P. Page general merchandise store and Magna as a clerk in a store. Eurilda was prominent in Church work, having been counselor and president of the Ward M.I.A. and president of the Relief Society. She married Harry E. Page December 1917. They had two children, Dexter and Leah Mae, whose husband, Calvin Osborn was bishop of the Riverton Ward at one time.

Harry, when he first came to Riverton from England, looked for his Uncle, Thomas P. Page. He first met Eurilda later, in a new building, he started an implement

and hardware store. He made it into a general merchandise store later and had living quarters in the back. Harry E. Page died May 17, 1958. Eurilda died April 10, 1969 at the age of 86.

EUGENE CHARLES MILLER

Eugene Charles Miller was appointed rural mail carrier of the Riverton Post Office July 1912. He served for 30 years until his retirement, September 15, 1942. He then moved his family to Los Angeles, where his wife, the former Nellie Blake died July 6, 1944.

Mr. Miller was born February 10, 1877 in Riverton; the son of Charles and Christina McCallister Miller. He married Nellie Blake May 16, 1900 in the Salt Lake Temple. "Gene" died June 3, 1965 at the age of 88 years. The Millers had five children: Vesta Crane, Virginia VanShaw, Jessie Olsen, and Paul and Max. Paul died in 1959.

After Eugene C. Miller retired in 1942 as rural carrier, Cecil O. Poor of Herriman, carried the mail as a substitute for 13 years. He died in 1946. In 1943, Clifton D. Lloyd was made rural carrier on Route #1 and Reid W. Egbert carried the mail on Route #2 beginning February 14, 1955. When Clifton no longer delivered the mail in Herriman, the ladies there presented him with a home made quilt to show their appreciation for his many kindnesses shown outside his regular duties.

A new post office was dedicated August 17, 1962 at 1630 West 12600 South. Glen W. Crump was acting postmaster at the time. Clerks were Afton D. Crane, who began work at the post office July 1949, and Fern D. Helt, who began work there February 1954. They both worked at former offices.

WELFEE SOCIETY IN RIVERTON

It was in the first school house and church building

December 12, 1880, the Relief Society was organized. Jane Silcox was the first president with Sarah J. Howard and Caroline Hansen, counselors, and Henrietta Bills, Secretary and Sarah Kidd, Treasurer. Sisters Kidd and Bills were released April 10, 1881. Christine Miller and Sister Helm were sustained in their places, with Elizabeth Miller as treasurer.

Following presidencies consisted of:

Sarah J. Howard, president; Christina G. Miller and Mary Green, December 1900.

Ella Peterson, president; Matilda Hamilton and Mary E. Seal, July 1, 1910.

Lorena Bills, president; Sadie Stocking and Thora Nielson; Isabelle Butterfield, Secretary; and Ellen Bills, treasurer.

Rosa Howard, president; Anna Viberg and Sadie Stocking; Isabelle Butterfield, secretary, June 28, 1914. In November 1912, Blanche B. Densley was appointed assistant secretary.

Other presidents were: Sarah C. Morgan, Lydia Otteson, Mary J. Page, Blenda Hamilton, Eurilda Page, Blanche B. Densley, Gladys Densley and Jane Morgan.

The first Relief Society was organized under the direction of William A. Bills of South Jordan.

It would be impossible to record all the good deeds done by these willing workers. They never let personal desires or work interfere with the responsibilities that were theirs as leaders of the Relief Society. They were called upon both day and night. These calls were made when a birth awaited, for sickness, or at a death, which included preparing and dressing the dead for burial. In cases of death, they had to call on some men to assist. The body had to have constant care to preserve it until burial, as embalming was unknown to them, and the ladies must keep stitching until burial clothes were made.

The Relief Society often received special assignments such as the gathering of wheat, which was to be kept in readiness for famine or for any calamity which might come

to church members. The call came from the First Presidency for the Relief Societies to take the project of gathering the wheat, which included providing a place to store it. Often they were allowed a place within the Tithing Yard, but the cost of the erection and maintenance of the granary was theirs. The husbands of the women assisted with the heavy work and provided teams of horses for the gathering of the wheat. The main purpose of the wheat project was to help in time of need, but it was the custom to loan some to the farmers in the Spring for planting, then refill their bins in the Fall. However, they never gave out all they had on hand, for this would defeat their purpose. This was the time when the wheat was taken to a flour mill for grinding into flour.

HOW DID GRANDMOTHER DO ALL THIS?

Well, she didn't have to attend P.T.A.; she had one Sunday dress and several calicos; the rest of her wardrobes consisted of aprons and underclothes. Not so much upkeep to that.

Grandmother, on a Winter's day
Milked the cows and fed them hay
Slopped the hogs and saddled the mule,
Then got the children off to school;
Did a washing, and mopped the floors,
Washed the windows and did some chores;
Cooked a dish of home-dried fruit,
Pressed her husband's Sunday suit,
Swept the parlor and made the bed,
Baked a dozen loaves of bread;
Split some firewood and lugged it in,
Enough to fill the kitchen bin,
Stewed some apples she thought would spoil,
Cleaned all the lamps, filled them with oil,
Churned the butter and baked a cake,
Then exclaimed "For Heaven's sake,
The calves have got out of the pen."
Rushed out and chased them in again,
Gathered the eggs and locked the stable,
Back to the house to set the table;
Cooked a supper that was delicious,
Afterwards washed all the dishes.
Fed the cat and sprinkled the clothes,
Mended a basket of hose,

Then opened the organ and began to play:
"When you come to the end of a perfect day."

THE RIVERTON CEMETERY AND SEXTONS

The land where the cemetery is now located, was donated by Charles M. Nokes, it being a part of his farm. The ground was very sandy and tumbleweeds and sandburs grew profusely. An eight-months-old baby, Sarah Jane Draper, born February 7, 1876 was the first person on record to be buried there. She died October 5, 1876. By the end of 1891, according to the records, there were eleven bodies buried. At that time it was officially declared a cemetery, and ground was laid out with 18 plots to a lot. Later, Elias C. Butterfield, Town Clerk, and William and Anna Silcox, remapped the area, increased the number of plots to 20 to a lot, brought the records up to date. However, some were missing. Henry Seal, who died at the age of almost 101 years, in 1963, was the oldest person to be buried there. Zachariah Butterfield was a close second, being buried in 1964 on his 100th birthday. The highest number of burials in one year were 22 in 1964. The most in one day were six, due to the sad bus accident in 1938. Mr. Silcox said he had had many weird experiences while Sexton. "There is no stillness like one experiences at night in a cemetery". Mr. Silcox, who lives next to the cemetery, declared he lived on "Easy Street" because so many people next to him were resting. Mr. Silcox retired in 1969 after 42 years as sexton.

At the time he took over, graves were discerned by mounds of soil. Prior to Memorial Day, relatives had to clear off the weeds before decorating their graves. In 1952, a sprinkling system was installed, getting water from an irrigation ditch across the street. A lawn was planted. For some time, this necessitated almost day and night care to get the grass started and for it to become the attractive place it later became. Mr. Silcox did farm along with his cemetery work.

Sextons through the years have been: John Thorn, Gilbert Lloyd, Freeman Lloyd, Henry Maynard, 5 years, William O. Silcox, 42 years, and Claude B. Densley, the present sexton.

Mr. Silcox retired December 31, 1969 at the age of 78 years. Mrs. Silcox was the former, Anna Cascutti, a convert to the L.D.S. Church, 1921. She came to Riverton when she was 15 years old, with her parents who came to the United States from Italy. Anna was married to Will September 20, 1917. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple a year later. She was a wonderful helpmate to her husband and supported him in his work.

CHARLES M. NOKES

Mr. Nokes, who donated the land for the cemetery, but kept out plots for his family to be buried, was born August 8, 1853, in Brighton, Iowa. He joined the L.D.S. Church in Minnesota in 1876. He married Caroline Hamilton, 1879. They had six children. Caroline was a sister to Sarah Jane Hamilton Howard and to Charlotte Hamilton Beckstead, wife of George F. Beckstead. She died September 11, 1925.

Mr. Nokes married Sarah E. Shores March 4, 1885; a plural marriage for which he had to serve a term in the State Penitentiary. Eleven children were born to this union. Mr. Nokes died April 8, 1932. He held important offices in the Church and was generous in helping with food donations to the widows in the ward.

As water became available, conditions improved and favorable methods of farming came into use. Crops became quite abundant. Reams of information could be written and volumes of results of research work on this subject could be reported. Riverton grew.

Quite a number of deep wells with pumps were driven

and people from nearby would haul their drinking water from these wells. Some had windmills; some the "Old oaken bucket". Joseph Morgan, in his history, tells of the County Well on the southeast corner of 12600 South 1700 West. "The County drilled a well with iron pipe and a big wooden tank on stiles and a windmill to draw water then drain it out in troughs so animals could come to drink and people also came to fill cans and barrels with the clear, cold water. This was in the drought years of 1899 to 1901. During these years, Utah Lake was practically dry."

The weekly family bath was quite an occasion. Water was heated on the stove in the Winter, but in the Summer the girls and boys would often go to the canals to swim around in the water then no home bath was needed. In the home the youngest of the family would bathe first, then next in order of age. It was necessary to add a kettle of clean hot water as the process proceeded so when the head of the family had his turn, the tub was full. Saturday night bathing was the order in most everyone's home. No water was ever wasted for often it had to be hauled and placed in a convenient place for house use. Canal water had to be settled before it was clean enough to use. A Galvanized tub was used for the bath. The following verses describes it:

"Ma's Old Galvanized Washtub"

Did you ever take yore Saturday bath,
an' try to wash an' scrub,
While sqatin' down on yore haunches
In a galvanized washing tub?
If not, then you ain't missed a thing
But I'm telling you what's right
I done it until I was almost grown
An' every doggone Saturday night.

In Summer time it wuz bad enuff,
But in Winter it wuz really rough.
Spreadin' paper, fillin' buckets and kettles
An' all that sorta stuff.

But gettin' ready for that ordeal
 Was only half o' the rub
 O' takin' a bath on Saturday night
 In a galvanized washin' tub.
 Did' you ever stand there stripped to the skin
 A wood stove bakin' your hide,
 A-dreadin' to put yore dern foot in
 For fear you'd burn alive?
 Finally you got th' temperture right
 And into the tub you'd crawl,
 That cold steel'd touch yore back
 An' you'd squeal like a fresh stuck hog.

You'd get outta the' tub next to the stove
 An' stand there drippin' and shakin',
 The front o' yore body's a freezin' to death
 While the back o' yore body's a bakin'.
 That's the price I had to pay
 That awful ordeal will haunt me
 Until I'm old and grey.

I ain't thru yet, there's somethin' else
 That I been watin' to say.
 I wuz the youngest of all the kids
 When bathed each Saturday,
 Now we all bathed accordin' to age
 An' I fell last in order
 Which meant I had to wash myself
 In that same dad-blamed water.

I'm a man o' clean habits,
 An' I believe in a bath a week
 It helps to keep clean an' healthy,
 An' it freshens up my physique
 But if I had my druthers, I'd druther eat a bug
 Than to take my Saturday bath again
 In that galvanized washin' tub.

Read in an Old Folk's part in W. J. 1964

Pipe Line Comes to Riverton

In 1908, water was piped to Riverton from Bear Canyon, East of Draper, a distance of from ten to thirteen miles, a great undertaking but a blessing to the people who had previously had ditch and canal water for culinary use. Joseph Morgan says that wooden 4 inch pipe was used and was all layed by hand--the digging, laying and covering. He says he helped with this work although he was just a young lad at the time, about 16.

About 1921, the wood pipe was replaced with six inch cast

iron pipes. As the town grew, more water was needed to serve the people's needs. In 1949, a storage tank was built on the upper part of Morgan Road and deep wells were driven, run by electrical motors. In 1952, pumps were installed. In 1962, another tank and well was built on Herriman Road, under the direction of Mayor George Usher. Later on, after six years of planning and digging, Riverton can boast of its clean, cool water. This last water comes from a 200 ft. mine shaft drilled and blasted into the mountain side in Bear Canyon. The mining operation was completed in 1968, and the good clean water found and transported by pipe line about six miles across the valley to Riverton's water supply, to give Riverton the water needed for 900 connections. (1968) This water has been tested after the mine was completed and stamped and pronounced very suitable for culinary purposes. No one is allowed near the water source and the entrance fixed so that animals or other things cannot get in to cause pollution. It cost about \$12,000 for the equipment and other items to mine the water, says Mayor Usher. Two sets of steel doors were placed and sealed so that no pollution can get in the water. About 300 gallons a minute is added to the water tanks.

Electricity

Electric lights first came to Riverton, June 14, 1912. The homes were usually equipped with a single cord dangling down from the ceiling and a single clear light globe. The light was bright and hard on the eyes. A lot of the time, lines were overloaded and the light was just a red glow. Most people kept a supply of candles and a kerosene lamp on hand just in case.

Natural gas came to Riverton in 1955, the main artery running along Redwood Road. Soon after, it was gradually taken to other streets and lanes, until all of Riverton was supplied. It was much cheaper than electricity. In 1964 a main office was set up in Sandy which takes care of Riverton needs.

Side walks were built in about 1912 on the west side of Redwood through the main part of town.

The first telephone was put in the T. P. Page store June 8, 1895. (Page history)

Transportation

Automobiles

One of the first automobiles in Riverton was owned by Edwin J. Butterfield, who bought a car in about 1911. These cars were not enclosed, but had only side curtains. The ladies riding in these cars usually wore large hats with a long scarf over the hat and tied under their chins, to keep them from blowing off. A few others having early cars were Jim Jensen, Dr. Fergusson, who also helped to get electricity in Riverton, Dr. O. R. Hardy. Maurine S. Page says she remembers her mother admonishing her father, James Steadman, to be sure to get off the road if he saw Ed Butterfield coming in his Ford car, or he might get run over. Clara B. Richards says gasoline was 5 cents a gallon, no license plates were needed and the speed limit was 25 miles an hour. It seemed like fairly flying it was so fast; no automobile wrecks were heard of.

Orem Train

In the Fall of 1913, the Orem Electric Interurban Railroad was run from Salt Lake to Payson, in Utah County, cutting many farms in half west of Redwood, north and south. This was seriously objected to by the farmers but it went through regardless. It made its initial run as an excursion train to the Salt Lake Temple from Utah County on March 13, 1914 and on the 23rd of the same month, made its first passenger trip run from Lehi to Salt Lake City. It discontinued operation from Payson to Salt Lake March 1, 1946. Rails, ties, poles, etc. were removed soon after this time.

Leslie E. Butterfield worked for years as Rail Express Agent for this Railroad. He was born Oct. 20, 1894 in Herriman, Utah and died Nov. 13, 1963. He married Amy

C. Winters Feb. 9, 1916 in the Salt Lake Temple. She was born Dec. 18, 1892 in Idaho. They each served a mission to Missouri. They were the parents of six children.

Redwood road was paved in 1920 for the first time and in 1957 was widened and resurfaced.

Canning Factory

About 1915 a canning factory was built in Riverton where farmers took their tomatoes, string beans, peas, corn, etc, to be canned. It proved to be not a paying industry because of conditions at the time and it was discontinued in 1922.

Utah Poultry in Riverton

Later the site of the canning factory was sold to the Riverton Branch of the Utah Poultry, in 1928. The plant was remodeled, eggs were brought in from the poultry raisers from surrounding areas. The poultry industry grew rapidly. At the Riverton plant eggs were cooled, candled, cased ready for shipment to large Eastern markets, giving employment to many in making a livelihood.

Iola Maynard Newman says about the Utah Poultry:

"It opened its branch in March 1928. Iola was secretary from 1928 to 1934, six years. Golden Tempest was manager for five years when he was transferred to Midvale. Next floorman was Heber Butterfield. Darell Crane worked there for two years. Nona Jensen worked there from 1937 until her death Feb. 1, 1967, a period of 30 years. Iola came back to work there in 1945 and worked until 1971, when she was forced to discontinue because of an illness. Owen Hamilton was made branch manager in 1933, 30 years, when he was advanced to head office. Dallas Stradley was head man for the next 3 years. He was followed by Delmar G. Duncan in 1965. The name of Utah Poultry was changed to Intermountain Farmer's Association."

A Few Miscellaneous Notes

Riverton First Ward completed 1947. Held first meeting Sunday Feb. 2, 1947. Bishop Elmo W. Hamilton. Relief Society President, Jane Morgan. Abram Bowen was the first funeral to be held in the new chapel Feb. 1947. Dedicated Dec. 28, 1947 by Spencer W. Kimball. New bishopric Sunday July 12, 1953, J. Harold Berrett, Eldred R. Hamilton, Deno Seal. Riverton divided into three wards Dec. 16, 1957; bishopric in Third Ward was Calvin G. Osborne, Ralph C. Page, Charles R. Tea -- clerks Billy Slater and Lyle A. Larsen. New bishopric in Third Ward Aug. 12, 1962: Raymond S. Beck, James Herbert Hansen, V. Owen Pickett; clerks, Billy Slater, Dale Trapp and Gordon Densley. On Sept. 15, 1968, a few people were taken out of Third Ward and put in the First Ward to more even the numbers in each ward.

Melvin Berrett, Riverton Fifth Ward Bishop, died suddenly, March 24, 1970. His was the first funeral to be held in the new Riverton Stake Center, March 28, 1970. Dean Nevin was sworn in as Postmaster in Riverton, July 5, 1963. He served in this capacity for 7½ years until his death by a self-inflicted bullet, May 5, 1971. Very sad. In 1907, officers in the Jordan Valley Bank were: A. T. Butterfield, Pres.; Thomas Nichols, Vice Pres.; Seth Pixton, cashier; directors, Thomas P. Page, Thomas Freeman, William T. Hyde, John Hansen, Jr., George H. Dansie, Zacharian Butterfield and Byron Groo. The Murray Eagle printed at this time the following: "The first settlement in what is now known as Riverton occurred late in 1849 when parts of the narrow strip of land in the Jordan River bottoms were farmed and a few dwellings a mile or two apart, were erected. That of Nicholas T. Silcox, one of the oldest pioneers, who died late in 1906 being one of the most prominent. About 1875, the building of a canal, brought a large influx of settlers, and in 1881, when the water from the Utah and Salt Lake canal was brought in a large number of new farms were taken

and brought under cultivation. Riverton in 1907 was a district of good farms and especially fine residences for an agricultural community. They raised lucerne, wheat, sugar beets, and potatoes. Orchards were planted and they raised apples, pears, peaches and plums. Riverton was one of the small towns to favor graded schools and the village now has five classes. There is a fine meeting house here, which is claimed to be the finest Country Ward House in the State. The Amusement Hall, called the Commercial Building, built by Daniel Densley Jr., is also one of the largest in the County, and usually crowded at least once a week by those who came miles to trip the light fantastic. The dance hall and stage were on the second floor, and the first floor was used for businesses. In 1907, it housed the Jordan Valley Bank with Seth Pixton, cashier, George Bills and Joseph Park, general merchandise and meat store, Fred W. Webb, shoe repair and harness shop, Charles Millard, carpenter.

David Bills ran a grocery and meat store a half block away; John Malquist, a blacksmith shop; Gilbert Lloyd a blacksmith shop; Page Pixton, general merchandise store. The local post office of which Seth Pixton was postmaster and hired Geneva Garside to work there, had free delivery routes. There is a large acreage of land west of the irrigated district which is dry farms.

Jordan Valley Bank closed its doors during the depression in 1932, never to open again. Henry Hurren was cashier at the time. Many people lost their savings. Riverton was without a bank for the next 26 years.

The Riverton Branch of the Walker Bank and Trust Company, was established in Riverton, July 16, 1957. Riverton and the surrounding towns found it convenient to have banking service in their town after having to go either to Midvale, Sandy, Murray or to Salt Lake City, for so long. Stanley W. Burgon, Union, was the first manager and assistant cashier; Merrill Worsley, Herriman, was teller; Ruby Young, stenographer and bookkeeper.

Riverton Town Park

January 29, 1951, Dr. J. Irving Hansen sold 15 acres of ground and 12 shares of canal water to be used for a town park. Eldred Hamilton and Leonard Beckstead made the transaction. Later an extra plot of ground west of the other plot, was bought from Gwynne Page and annexed to the first plot. Since that time grass and trees have been planted, a ball park built, playground equipment brought in, horse shoe games and toilets added, a water fountain for drinking purposes, a fireplace, a pavilion with tables and benches, a stage for programs, buildings to house concessions on celebration days, some cement tables and seats for picnicking placed out under the trees, a good sized arena built for horse shows and rodeos. Through the Summer months the park is in great demand for family reunions, ward parties, ball games, horse shows, and other amusements such as a tennis court in Summer and ice skating in Winter. The park is steadily being improved on until it is one of the finest in the county.

Riverton Town Hall

A half acre of ground was purchased from Daniel and Elizabeth E. Densley and the same amount from Edgar P. Morgan, on Redwood Road and 12877 South and a brick building was completed March 31, 1956. Elmer Seal was Town Board president at the time. The structure was built at an original cost of \$20,000 to house town board and clerk offices, a recreation hall, kitchen, equipment for pipeline company, a space on the north side for a fire engine. Civic clubs of the town raised funds to make inside and out improvements, as floor covering, a refrigerator, cupboards were put in the kitchen, a piano was bought, and later an extra room was built back of the fire engine room and is used nearly every night by club meetings, family reunions, votings, weddings, and other entertainments.

Riverton Doctors

George Fergusson was the first doctor to live in Riverton, probably about 1909 or 1910. The second doctor was Oscar Roi Hardy, born June 14, 1880 and died March 6, 1922. He married Laura Madsen April 1, 1900 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died August 30, 1943. He graduated from Northwestern Medical School in 1912 and came to Riverton to practice directly after. They had a daughter, Marian and a son, Harvey, and on April 23, 1913, triplets, all girls, Elise, Estelle and Ester, were born to them. Ester died before she was a year old but the other two lived to adulthood. Elise is now Mrs. Edgington and Estelle is married to Dr. Clarence Oldaugh, Los Angeles. Dr. Hardy had one of the first automobiles in Riverton and lived here most of his adult life.

Information by Estelle H. Oldaugh

Dr. S. C. B. Sorensen moved to Riverton in 1922 where he set up a practice until his retirement in 1968. He was born Sept. 23, 1881 in Denmark. He came to the United States when 16 years old. He was raised and went to school in Norway until he graduated from high school. He, with his parents, a sister and two brothers, joined the L.D.S. church and came to Utah, preceding the others. In 1903 he filled a mission to Norway. He married Agnes Carlson in the Manti Temple Dec. 1907 and they had four children born to them. He worked his way through Medical School in Southern California. His wife, Agnes, died in March 1931. He married Ethel McDonald, a trained nurse, May 3, 1933 in the Logan Temple.

His son, Jacob Toccoy Sorenson also became a physician and surgeon and began practice in Riverton in 1940, with his father. Later he set up a practice in Draper, where he built a nice home. He married Marjorie Densley, a school teacher of Riverton, Sept. 10, 1936 in the Salt Lake Temple, and they went to Philadelphia for two years after going to the University of Utah for six years. He interned for two years at the L.D.S. Hospital for the next two years before

starting to practice. He still doctors many Riverton people (1971) and has a large practice.

First Dentists

Nicholas Thomas Henderson was Riverton's first dentist. He was born July 4, 1883, in Salt Lake City. He married Alice Jensen of Crescent, June 27, 1906, and practiced dentistry in the home of his Uncle William Silcox about 1911. He later moved to Salt Lake where he set up an office and practiced until his retirement when he was old. They were the parents of five boys and one girl. Kenneth was a dentist, Jay a physician and surgeon, Mark served a mission for the L.D.S. Church, and daughter, Beth, was a pianist.

John Irving Hansen was the second dentist in Riverton. He was the son of John and Minnie Hansen, born Oct. 23, 1896 in Riverton. He attended grade school in Riverton, high school in Jordan, and dental school at the University of Southern California. He began practice in Riverton in 1919. Later he moved his office to Salt Lake City, coming to Riverton two days a week for a while, then moving to Salt Lake City entirely. He married Nellie Collingham of Price Utah, July 6, 1946 in Denver. He retired.

Another dentist that practiced in Riverton for a while was Calvin Bird Hutchings, born Sept. 12, 1923 in South Jordan. He married Mary M. Clark, Provo, Dec. 28, 1944. They had seven children. He spent two years in the U.S. Navy and attended Dental School at the University of Iowa, for four years.

Plural Marriage or Polygamy

When the Mormon pioneers arrived in Salt Lake City, they came for religious freedom and to raise a righteous posterity in the valley of the mountains, away from outside elements of the world and to increase the population of the western arid land that no one else would have. They were a God fearing people led by their leader, Brigham Young. In the early days of this dispensation, the

Lord revealed the principle of plural marriage to the Prophet Joseph. Later the Prophet and leading brethren, were commanded to enter into this practice, which they did in all virtue and purity of heart, despite the consequent animosity and prejudices of worldly people. After Brigham Young led the Saints to the Salt Lake Valley, plural marriage was openly taught and practiced until the year 1890. At that time conditions were such that the Lord by revelation withdrew the command to continue the practice, and Wilford Woodruff issued the Manifesto directing that it cease. Obviously, the holy practice will commence again after the Second Coming of Christ and the ushering in of the Millenium. (Isa. 7)

During the time when polygamy was practiced, several Riverton men in the Riverton vicinity married more than one wife. They were as follows: William A. Bills, first bishop of South Jordan, born Aug. 5, 1835 in Pittsburgh, Penns. His first wife, Emeline Beckstead, July 4, 1852; they had twelve children. She died Jan. 1, 1917 in Riverton. William's second wife was Matilda Amundsen, March 1, 1869. Nine children were born to them. She died April 19, 1910. His third wife was Petrina Amundsen, sister to Matilda and was married to William the same day as he married Matilda, March 1, 1869. She had three children. She died Jan. 10, 1879. Feb. 6, 1879, he married his fourth wife, Annie Eastwood. She had seven children. She died Nov. 2, 1937.

William A. Bills drowned April 5, 1915 in the Jordan River.

Gordon S. Bills, son of William A. Bills, bishop of Riverton ward, was born March 18, 1854 in West Jordan. He died March 20, 1932. He married Ellen G. Holt Sept. 27, 1875. Ten children were born to them. She died March 2, 1924. He married Bertha Lena Jensen, May 1, 1924; they had eight children. She died Dec. 11, 1943. Gordon was the father of 18 children.

Daniel Densley, Jr. born, Feb. 29, 1858 in England.

He died Dec. 13, 1930 in Riverton. He married Elizabeth M. Butterfield, July 1, 1880. They had 13 children.

Married second wife, Arminta Wardle, Jan. 20, 1886. They had eleven children. She died June 8, 1940. Married Elizabeth E. Bodell March 9, 1888. She died May 18, 1956. They had ten children. Daniel was the father of 34 children.

Charles M. Nokes, born Aug. 8, 1853 in Iowa. Died April 8, 1932. Married Caroline Hamilton, 1879. They had six children. She died Sept. 14, 1925. Married second wife Sarah E. Shores, March 4, 1885. Eleven children were born to them.

Alexander Bills, son of William A. and Emeline Beckstead Bills, born Sept. 4, 1857 in Little Cottonwood.

Died Feb. 20, 1930 at Provo, Utah. Married Emily Bathsheba Beckstead Sept. 28, 1875. They had thirteen children. She died Oct. 6, 1937. Married second wife, Rachel Clemency Neel, Feb. 5, 1880 in Little Cottonwood. She was born Feb. 20, 1860. They had eight children. She died Jan. 15, 1933 in Riverton. Married Hattie Mable McMartin, Nov. 7, 1901. They had eight children. She was born Aug. 20, 1872 in Potsom, New York. Died Nov. 29, 1942. Alexander was the father of 29 children.

Charles M. Nokes and Alexander Bills served six months each in the State Penitentiary for having more than one wife at a time.

School Bus and Train Accident - December 1, 1938

Twenty-two Jordan High School students and bus driver, Farrold H. Silcox, were killed. others seriously injured, and some died later. This was the toll of Utah's and maybe the nation's worst traffic accident in history, when a speeding Denver-Rio Grande Western freight Train plowed into a crowded Jordan District High School bus, fifteen miles south of Salt Lake City, December 1, 1938. The dead and injured came from Riverton, Bluffdale, South Jordan and two from Crescent. The accident occurred at 8:40 a.m. as the bus running parallel to the train, stopped for the crossing and

then pulled onto the track. Fog and a light snow made visibility poor.

A terrible sight greeted the horrified eyes of the first arrivals at the site of the accident. Only a few of the bus occupants were conscious and only two of the forty riding the bus could walk. Bodies and parts of bodies, littered both sides of the rails. The frame of the bus literally wrapped itself around the locomotive and was so firmly wedged onto the engine, that it took acetyline torches to free it. All available doctors, nurses, and other rescuers, and ambulances, were called into service. At news of the accident near hysteria enveloped the southern part of the County. Jordan High School was dismissed and all students sent to their homes to calm relatives and assure them of their safety. Hundreds of persons crowded the accident scene, and some fainted as they recognized the demolished personal effects of some loved one. The County Hospital became a 'regular madhouse' as they attempted to make room for the victims and the hospital was in chaos as crying parents sought to locate their children.

Within half an hour the once calm countryside was turned into a swirling mass of saddened humanity, hysterical parents searching for loved ones, grim officials proceeding with their tragic duties and hundreds of others anxious to count the disaster toll. Boys and girls bound for Jordan High School, left their homes and entered the school bus, laughing and chatting, full of the joy of life and animated by the glowing dreams and ambitions characteristic of youthful spirits. Less than an hour afterwards, grief stricken parents, hysterical and blinded by tears, were searching along the body strewn railroad tracks, hoping against hope that they might find their loved ones among the living.

A few days later, when all victims had been identified, mass funeral arrangements were made for most of the victims, and the last rites were pronounced. Thousands gathered at the Riverton School gymnasium on Sunday and again on Monday where each day six caskets were placed side by side, where services were held.

Names of those who lost their lives and the names of their parents are as follows:

Farrold H. Silcox, 28, driver of the fatal bus, son of Nicholas H. and Minnie Brown Silcox, and husband of Mary Adamson, and father of a son, Lawrence.

Neal W. Densley, 16, son of Joseph A. and Aurelia Wilson Densley.

Ole Peterson, 21, son of Ray and Martha Smith Peterson, doing post-graduate work at Jordan High.

William Glazier, 17, son of Roy and May Bills Glazier Salt Lake City, but staying with his grandparents in Riverton, Mr. and Mrs. David Bills.

Robert H. Egbert, 16, son of Herschel and Mary Hansen Egbert.

Roland Blaine Page, 17, son of Roland and Cleo Bateman Page.

Dean LeeRoy Winward, 15, son of Lee Roy and Mildred Densley Winward.

Carol V. Stephensen, 15, son of Stephen F. and Hazel Giles Stephensen.

Harold W. Sandstrom, 15, son of Harry W. and Anna Mae Sandstrom.

Kenneth C. Peterson, 17, son of Louis W. and Grace Vaudrey Peterson. All of the above were from Riverton.

Bluffdale Fatalities:

Wilbert L. Webb, 19, son of Wilbert M. and Vina Larsen Webb.

Naomi Webb, 16, sister to Wilbert Webb.

Byard Larsen, 15, son of Sylvester and Virginia Larsen.

Rosa Larsen, 18, sister to Byard Larsen.

Naomi Lewis, 17, Daughter of Myrl and Leota Frost Lewis.

Rae Miller, 16, daughter of George and Julia Casper Miller.

South Jordan Fatalities:

Helen Young, 15, daughter of Parley A. and Iris C. Young.

Virginia Nelson, 15, daughter of Leo and Lillie Johnson Nelson.

George Albert Hunt, 17, son of Albert J. and Florence

Cook Hunt.

Helen Lloyd, 17, daughter of William H. and Mary A. Newbold Lloyd.

Lois Johnson, 17, daughter of Oscar Johnson.

Rela Beckstead, 15, daughter of Royal V. and Coradine Smith Beckstead.

Crescent Fatalities.

Viola Sundquist, 17, daughter of Jack and Ida M. Sundquist.

Louis Duane Parkinson, 15, son of Samuel E. and Alice M. Parkinson.

Prominent Clubs of Riverton

Riverton Daughters of Utah Pioneers

Original organization was affected April 11, 1900, on North Temple, at the home of Annie Taylor Hyde. A large number of DUP Camps have been organized from this central organization throughout Salt Lake and County. The main purpose of the DUP is to write and collect landmarks from falling into decay and to collect all kinds of relics of that early day. Application for membership for Riverton Camp was made May 23, 1933. First officers and charter members: Elsie Banks, captain; Francis May, 1st vice captain; Eliza Densley, 2nd vice captain; secretary, Connie Newbold; Annie Garside, historian; registrar, Sadie Stocking; organist, Ella Swenson; chorister, Rosamond Butterfield; teacher, Florence Page; chaplain, Merinda Freeman; publicity chairman, Lillian Densley; members, Isabelle Butterfield, Erma Battison, Emily Densley, Emma Hamilton, Mary Jane Crane; Violet Dansie, Hazel Butterfield, Janie Newman, Della Bills, Victoria Bills, Mary Egbert, Inez Neff, Marjorie Torkelsen, Winnie Bills, Sarah Morgan, Grace Peterson, Nellie Coy, Rosa Howard, Mabel Freeman, Maud P. Butterfield, Teenie Peterson. For a number of years meetings of the club were discontinued.

Meetings were resumed again beginning March 23, 1961, with the following officers: captain, Dora B. Callicott; 1st vice captain, Mary Egbert; 2nd vice captain, Phyllis

Butterfield; secretary, Emma Hamilton; historian, Jenalee Butterfield; chaplain, Virginia Seal; registrar, June Draper; custodian of retics, Sarah Henderson; lesson leader, Anna May Sandstrom; members: Lula Kirk, Norma Madsen, Merna Peterson, Elma Johnson, Mary Mortensen, Mildred Morgan, Mildred Smith. In 1971, this camp is still in operation and they meet every third Thursday afternoon at the Town Hall at 1 p.m. with officers Elma Johnson, Mary Mortensen, Blanche B. Densley and Leva Ccy.

Another DUP Camp for ladies that worked in the daytime, was organized Aug. 17, 1964 and was called "The Tithing Yard Hill" Camp. The first meeting was held in the home of Miss Jean Madsen and each succeeding meeting was held Tuesday evenings in the homes of its members. Charter members were: Desna Newman, Jean Madsen, Aileen Nielsen, Mary Freeman, Iola Newman, Ann Beckstead, Reva Jardine, Maurine Page, Zelma Platt, Virla Wolstenhulme, and Lorena Smith.

Riverton Rough Rider Club

Riverton Rough Rider Club was organized in 1956 by a group of young men in Riverton who enjoy riding and so formed their own club so they could compete with other clubs in the State. They have become a very successful club, participating in rodeo events, parades, etc. First officers of the club were: Robert Cardwell, president; Willard Bills, vice pres.; Emery Berrett, sec.; David Hamilton, tres. Over the years they have helped with many service projects in the community and also have won many ribbons and trophies, at their meets, both individually and as a club. Their membership averages approximately 40 members and they have invited members from surrounding areas, Herriman and Bluffdale, to join them. Their uniforms and flag are outstanding in a parade with their flag being gold and blue and black; their uniform consisting of black pants, blue shirts, white hat and gloves. In 1958 an arena was erected by the members in the corner of the Town Park and bleachers added in the following year to accommodate rodeo patrons which the RRR has

sponsored each year in connection with the 24th of July celebration. An asset to the community the RRR Club officers at the present are pres., Larry Hardman; vice pres., Lynn Page; sec., Ted Facer; treasurer, Robert Cardwell; drill master, George Showell.

Riverton Lions Club

During the Fall of 1942, a group of men in Riverton got together and talked over the possibilities of organizing a Lions Club. They decided to invite Herriman and Bluffdale to join with them. Two meetings were held and on February 17, 1943, a meeting was held at the home of J. Rex Hamilton and the club was organized under the supervision of a Lions International Representative, Harry B. Jacobson from Fort Morgan, Colorado.

The following officers were elected: president, Leonard C. Beckstead; secretary, Joseph C. Frost; tailtwister, J. Rex Hamilton; lion tamer, Arthur J. Orr; first vice pres., Stanley R. Anderson; second vice-president, Marion J. Stringham; third vice-president, Nels K. Thomson; directors, Joseph P. Butterfield, Elmo W. Hamilton, both two years; Charles Turner, SCB Sorenson, one year directors.

The Charter Night banquet was held April 10, 1943 with Eldred R. Hamilton as chairman. The charter was presented by District Governor T. Ray Kingston, Murray. Meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month except through the Summer. Some of the purposes and objects of the Lions Club in part are: to promote the principles of good government and good citizenship, to take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community, to provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest, to encourage serviceminded men to serve the community without personal financial reward.

Some of the things the Lions accomplished through the years included:

Helping to get a fire station in Riverton May 1943.

Getting a petition signed to incorporate the town Aug-

ust 1946.

Sponsoring two baseball teams, 1946.

Buying several strands of Christmas lights to decorate the town, Dec. 1946.

Organizing a Lions Club in Crescent, 1947.

Sponsoring the lighting of the ball park.

Beginning the birthday calendar drive, 1949; money to be used for the betterment of the town and town park; this project was carried on for many years.

Installing two drinking fountains in Riverton, 1948.

Sponsoring floats in different parades for years.

Sending a near blind person to Summer Camp for the blind for a few years.

Taking an active part in selling \$6,000 of Riverton pipeline stock to build storage tank to improve the water system.

Sponsoring Halloween parties in 1949 and through the years for the local school in connection with the Parent-Teacher Association.

Working up a street and house numbering program with the County Roads and Bridges Department, Feb. 1950.

Installing bleacher seats to seat 400 at the Ball Park in June of 1950.

Helping a town member whose house was damaged by fire Nov. 1950.

Helping in the purchase of 16 acres of land for a Town Park, club paid \$400.

Helping with the Memorial Day celebrations each year.

Helping in the sponsoring of pheasant hunts each year, 1951.

Helping with the school ball park.

Helping in the sponsoring of the Queen contests.

Helping to get gas in the community in 1955.

Putting on the Red Cross Drive, 1954.

Sponsoring of the Donkey Ball Game Aug. 1954.

Supplying a young girl with glasses.

Sponsoring the Christmas tree and street lighting,

Dec. 1955 and thereafter.

Sponsoring Little League Ball games.

Helping build a pavilion in the Town Park, July 1956.

Sponsoring the Lions Clubs in Herriman and in Bluffdale, 1957.

Sending two boys to Boy's State July 1967 and each year thereafter.

Helping families to buy clothes to send their children to school and helping other families at other times.

Planting trees at the Town Park, 1959.

Installing signs directing people to park.

Sponsoring a glaucoma survey for people over 35 for the south end of the county.

Sponsoring flood lights at the pavilion and other parts of the Town Park.

Making benches to put in the pavilion.

Buying a wheel-chair for a Bluffdale boy in 1968.

Enlarging the pavilion and building a stage.

Donating \$50 to the Little League Football organization.

Helping with civic needs through the years, such as July 4 celebrations, Easter egg hunts, Christmas parties, making floats for Town Days different years and participating in many other projects.

Riverton Lady Lions

Organized Aug. 3, 1948, object to assist the Lions in their projects and to take an active interest in the social, civic, cultural, and moral welfare of the community. The meeting place was at the Riverton Junior High School small auditorium, in homes, and later when the Town Hall was built, they met there every third Monday evening in the month. They took many field trips such as visiting the Blind Center to see them present two one-act plays, visited the Sons of Pioneers Museum, visited Lark Mines, enjoyed picnic dinners in nearby canyons, visited the Utah Power and Light Company and watched demonstrations in cooking, attended conventions

with the Lions to St. George, Vernal, Ogden, Elko and other places. Some of the accomplishments of the Lady Lions are: 1950-51 sent first girl to Girl's State in Logan, she was Yvonne Berrett. They have sent a girl each year since. Gave \$300 to pay a part on the Town Park Land, donated trees to plant there, bought two pianos, one for the Town Hall and one for the Park pavilion, visited the Sugar Factory in West Jordan, visited the Indian School in Brigham City, visited the Utah State Prison and had dinner there, bought an electric sewing machine for the blind, filled 500 Christmas stockings for children, began custom of trimming a town tree, subbed for Santa for needy families, Mary Crane donated a bedspread and members sold chances. A large amount of money was made this way. Blanche Densley sold subscriptions to the Midvale Sentinel and turned in \$90 to the club, and also sponsored the sale of 90 household books. Flowers were donated to hospitalized members, flowers for members of members' families when death occurred, donated to the Daniel Coy family when his home caught fire, donated to Red Cross, made other donations to Blind Center and to handicapped children. Hazel Orr donated a beautiful figurine on which chances were sold. Catered at weddings, and sponsored drives on the Birthday Calendars for years, spent \$500 on playground equipment for park, paid \$200 for Jordan Valley Day Care Center in South Jordan, paid for cupboard in the kitchen at the Town Hall, \$35 for Christmas decorations for Town Hall at Xmas time and many other projects too numerous to mention. Built a fireplace in the Town Park which cost \$850 and a plaque which cost \$35.50 to put on the fire place.

Charter Members were: Melba Butterfield, president; LaRue Hamilton, vice-president; Mary Egbert, second vice pres., Mary Crane, third vice-pres.; Lilly Simper, secretary; Hazel Orr, treasurer; members, Violet Hamilton, Mary Stocking, Mary Page, Evelyn Beckstead, Lois Anderson, Rayola Smith, Adine McFarlane, Maxine Butterfield, Grace Thorne, Hazel Stephensen, Ethel Sorenson, Ardean Nichols, Julia Stringham, Kathleen Seal, Verda Merrill, Cornelia Butterfield, Dorcas

Thomson, Cleo Page, Stella Berrett, Blanche Densely, Gladys Densley, Norma Grover, Helen Hamilton, Lavetta Hamilton, Sarah Henderson, Myrl Jensen, Jean Larsen, Maurine Page, Teenie Peterson, Joy Slater.

Later the Lady Lions sponsored a course for Defensive Driving, bought a refrigerator for the Town Park, and bought three cement tables and benches for picnicking in the Park.

The Rivereen Club was organized Sept. 1961, a special interest group meets the first Thursday of each month, with two hostesses each meeting. They choose their own special interests. They have had book reviews, lectures, a travelogs, lectures from lawyers, on legal matters, Mrs. Avard Fairbanks, etc. They have each been outstanding meetings. Club members have been kept at twenty so they could accomodate them in their homes. First officers and charter members were: Melva Butterfield, pres.; Desna Newman, 1st vice-pres.; Ann Beckstead, 2nd vice pres.; Jean Madsen, secretary; Reba Jardine, Gwen Amundsen, Fumi Tateoka, Rachel Perry, Bee Brown, Jean Page, Elma Johnson, Jean Newman, Shirley Jensen, Zelma Brown, Marjorie Danise, Twila Parry, Norma Madsen, Valene Lloyd, Margarett Petersen, Roberta Silcox. Each year a project is undertaken. In 1962 we donated two toasters to the Dentention Home; in 1964 donated cash to South Jordan Day Care School; in 1965 installed cement park bench; in 1966 installed second bench in the Town Park; in 1967 donated ten folding chairs to be used in the cemetery; in 1968 donated cash to Boys Town in Kearns; in 1969 donated clothing for children in the Congo; in 1970 bought tableclothes for all to use for tables in the Town Hall. Call one of the officers if one wishes to use them.

American Legion, Riverton Post No. 140

Organization of the Riverton Post of the American Legion was initiated by Lorenzo M. Howard, a charter member of Jordan Post No. 35 of Midvale, Utah.

Mr. Howard called a meeting of eligible veterans, at the

Town Park, during July, 1963, for the purpose of discussing the organization of an American Legion Post. He explained it was necessary to have an organization in order to continue to send local boys to Boys' State. It was also the case of Girl's Staters, to have an Auxiliary organization.

The discussion among veterans present indicated that a Legion Post would certainly be an asset to the community to benefit veterans belonging and need for a Post in Riverton to carry out the burial of veterans and burial services.

They met with many obstacles, but through perservance, Jan. 18, 1964, officers were elected viz: commander, Howard Newman; 1st vice com., Robert Silcox; 2nd vice com., Robert L. Helt; chaplain, Lorenzo M. Howard; sgt-at-arms, Jerry Callicot; historian, Roland Page; service officer, Ned Bills; executive committee, Ralph Crane, Ray Bills, and Glen Page. Paul Howard was appointed adjutant and finance officer. The Legion has grown from the original 16 members to about 50, (1973). Melvin Withers has been Commander of the Post five different times. He says much of the success of the Legion in Riverton, is owing Lorenzo Howard and Paul Howard for their untiring help.

Boundries of District 140 are: Riverton, Bluffdale, Herriman, Lark and South Jordan, however there are a few members from outside of this area.

Activities of the Riverton Legion still operating are: Memorial Day services at the above cemeteries; services for deceased veterans; sending several boys to Boys' State each year; purchasing ceremonial equipment, colors and rifles; purchasing small flags for veterans graves; holding Santa Claus parties at the Town Hall with treats for the children and helping needy veteran's families at Xmas time; conducting flag presentation and dedication on Armed Forces Day; helping with Flag raising and Independence Day celebrations; conducting Flag etiquette education; conducting rabbit hunts and wrestling matches; helping with Queen contests and school award's programs at the Riverton Elementary School; deer hunting contests; holding Legion dinners and western dances.

American Legion Post 140, Auxiliary

On March 26, 1964, the wives of some of the Post members, met and organized the Riverton Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary. Elected president was Kathy Howard; 1st vice president, Afton Crane; 2nd vice pres.; Verna Lloyd; secretary, Fern Helt; historian, Shirley Newman; chaplain, Della Bills; Sgt.-At-Arms, Lois Sours; executive committee, Helen Howard and Sarah Henderson.

The Auxiliary Unit proved to be a great help to the Post during the following years. Mrs. Helen Howard was responsible for the Auxiliary organization in Riverton. She had been a charter member and president of Jordan Post #351948, serving two terms. She was also president of District #3 which included Salt Lake, Utah, and Tooele Counties, 1943. She was director of Girl's State for 14 years, and previously worked in this organization all together 21 years. Ill health forced her to retire in 1967.

Other offices she held were National Committee Woman, 1950; Chairman of Child Welfare of Western Region; chairman of many committees of Post #35 Auxiliary. Mrs. Howard visited every unit in the State of Utah and claims she traveled 30,000 miles by automobile and attended every district convention while in office. She represented National Security Council three times visiting Chicago, Minneapolis and Hollywood. She represented the State of Utah at the National convention in Washington D.C.

Pioneer Choirs in Riverton

Edward Orgill led the first singing in Riverton, and he organized a regular choir before the Ward was organized. Among the members of the choir were: Edward Orgill, William H. Boulder, Joseph Draper, Alma Silcox, Sarah Paulina, Nina Silcox, Mary A. Orgill, Mary A. Howard, and Esther Draper. They held their rehearsals in private homes twice a week.

Mr. Orgill accomplished much in early Riverton history, which was really outstanding under the circumstances, as his one arm was amputated and one leg badly crippled in a

mill accident in England when he was only sixteen. He came to America shortly after, managed to get an education, taught school for many years, later married one of his students, Mary Ann Farmer, and they raised ten children. He not only led the singing, but did the calling at the dances, which were mostly quadrilles, umpired ball games, and was always active in church work.

FRED W. WEBB

Another early pioneer choir leader in Riverton, was Fred W. Webb. He was born May 6, 1856 in England. In 1876, he married Emma H. Bates and came to Riverton in 1878. They were endowed Oct. 24, 1878 and were the parents of 11 children. Mr. Webb and Edward Orgill led the singing in all the different auxiliaries in the Riverton Ward, and each one organized a choir. While Mr. Webb was leading his choir, they won a stake contest in the East Jordan Stake in 1914, and they were given a silver cup with the names of the singing group engraved on it, the year and the leaders name. It was kept in the large domed church until it was torn down in 1939 and it is probably in one of the Riverton wards today.

Names inscribed on the cup were: Fred W. Webb, Erma Crane Battison, Elsie Crane Carpenter, Vilydia Webb Johnson, Linnie Webb Black, John Madsen, Norma Hamilton Madsen, Sarah Howard Henderson, Jean Howard Larsen, Ivy Dansie Sorenson, Rose Dansie Ennis, May Bills Glazier, Sylvia Bills Page, Maud Page Butterfield, Louetta Bills Madsen, Jennie Miller Bills, Joseph Green, Carrie Bills Green, first organist in Riverton; Marie Hamilton Bills, organist; Hattie Bills Hilton, Emma Bills Hamilton, Truby Densley Holt, Lydia Green Otteson, Alto; Edna Lloyd Meyers, S.F. Stephensen, Ren Howard, Eva Howard Crump, Reynold Bills, Ethel Lloyd Dimond, Ida Hackett Battison, Sadie Bills Stocking, Nellie Bills Coy, Chris Madsen, Orin Crump, Florence Hamilton Crump, Jack Henderson, Millard Henderson, Ezra Bills, Irene Miller, Mary Jensen Page, Clara Orgill Aylett, Eurilda Orgill Jeffs

Page, Annie Van Tassell Millard, Fred Weenig, Margaret Weenig
Tea, Charles Webb, William Silcox, Sr., Alvin Miller, Elizabeth Bills Miller, Thomas and Reuben Hamilton.

In the north end of the Commercial Building, was located the only harness shop south of Bingham Junction (later Midvale) and west of Sandy. The shop opened in 1899 and in 1904 Fred W. Webb began business there, repairing shoes as well as harnesses. By good management and good workmanship and paying attention to his customers needs, he established a lucrative and constantly increasing business, which in no small degree, added to the commercial importance of Riverton. Mr. Webb was musically inclined and played second fiddle in the band that was organized. Entertainment was not overlooked while the pioneers were struggling under trying conditions, for Riverton had a good string band also a brass band and they played for all dances west of the Jordan River, even as far as Bingham. Edward Orgill did the calling for these dances and played in three different bands. Fred died Nov. 1944.

Information from Andrew Jensen's history of Riverton, Estella Warner Wiechart, granddaughter of Fred W. Webb, Erma Crane Battison Personal History.

Riverton's First Primary Association

At a Sunday meeting held in the Riverton meeting house, Feb. 5, 1888, a Primary Association was organized in the Riverton Branch by South Jordan's bishop, William A. Bills, with Mrs. Caroline Hansen, president; Miss Nina E. Silcox, first counselor; and Miss Mary A. Howard, second counselor; Mrs. Telitha J. Holm, secretary; Mrs. Eliza Draper, treasurer. Mary Howard resigned and Miss Sarah J. Beckstead was chosen as second counselor, April 14, 1882. Jesse Brown was chosen assistant secretary at the same time.

February 22, 1885 a reorganization was affected as follows: Mrs. Martha S. Pixton, president; Mrs. Elenor Beckstead

and Sarah H. Howard, counselors; Seth Pixton, secretary. In June, Mrs. Howard moved away and Mrs. Matilda Tempest was chosen as second counselor and Miss Margaret J. Dansie as secretary (the former secretary, Seth Pixton having resigned) and Miss Jane Pixton, treasurer. In the Spring of 1892, Mrs. Hilda Walker was chosen as second counselor, Sister Tempest having been promoted to first counselor when Counselor Beckstead moved away from the Ward. Counselor Walker died Oct. 12, 1892, and in June 1893, Mrs. Elizabeth Densley was chosen second counselor. In the Spring of 1894, Secretary Dansie resigned and Miss Sarah E. Blake was chosen secretary to take her place.

In 1894, meetings were held every week and the association was in good condition. The records were complete, but not copied up-to-date. A reorganization was affected at a Ward Conference held May 3, 1896, and Mrs. Marina Hansen was made president with Counselors Dora Petersen and Mary Nielsen. Mary Nielsen Butterfield died July 4, 1897 and Lenora Howard was appointed first counselor in her stead, May 15, 1898. Secretary Carolina M. Nokes was also released. The association was reorganized April 2, 1900 with Mrs. Sarah A. E. Dansie, president; Mrs. Sarah L. Webb and Mrs. Mary Carolina Nokes, counselors; Miss Julia Miller, secretary, Miss Anna May Butterfield, treasurer, and Miss Geneva E. Howard, music director. These officers still were in office Dec. 31, 1900.

The Rivertones, Quartet

The Rivertones, a male quartet consisting of John Smith, Fred Densley, Alfred S. Morris and Orr Hill, and accompanied by Rayola Smith and Mavis Hill, are a part of Riverton's history. This group have been singing together since 1960. They have entertained all over the Western States at numerous community functions, civic clubs, Ward suppers, commercial parties, weddings, etc. They have brought comfort through their renditions at funerals and memorial services. Because they consider their talents a special gift, they welcome the

opportunity to serve through song. Three of this group, John, Alfred and wife, Violet, and Fred are members of the Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir and have been on a number of trips with them.

The "Rivertone Juniors" a trio and sons of the Quartet, Craig Densley, Dan Morris and Ronald Hill have entertained various groups, also. They won the State Farm Bureau Talent (1963) contest when they were ten years of age. They, too, have sung on numerous occasions in different parts of the state. Two members, Robert Peisley, and Steven Hill were added to this group to make a combo, called "The Satisfive". Their entertainment has been temporarily postponed while the young men serve full time L.D.S. Missions. The older group is still in operation. (1972).

by Mavis Hill

Previous to this time, an earlier quartet consisting of the following men were: Stephen F. Stephenson, Allen Stocking, Millard Henderson and Jack Smith.

In 1893, when a general call was made upon the people for donations to complete the Salt Lake Temple, the amount allotted to Riverton, was \$2000; in response the Saints donated \$2829.50. Prior to that time, the Saints in Riverton, had contributed to a fund for building temples at Logan, Manti, and Salt Lake City.

THOMAS PHILLIP PAGE - taken from his history

Thomas P. Page was born in London, England, December 22, 1850. He comes from a very old Welch family. He received a good business education in London. He joined the L.D.S. Church and the succeeding year, 1872, emigrated to the United States and later, the same year, came to Utah. In 1873, Thomas married Emma Harms also from England. He homesteaded 80 acres of wild unirrigated land which is now Riverton, but at that time was West Jordan, subsequently South Jordan and then Riverton. In 1882, he married Harriett E. Frankland, from England, having divorced his first wife. He followed contracting, surveying, fruit growing, having a large Winter apple orchard, and other occupations.

In 1883, the family moved to Scofield, Carbon County, where Mr. Page was manager of a store for the Union Pacific Railroad at their coal mines. They lived there seven years. He moved his family back to Riverton and they lived there the rest of their lives. In 1881, he started a small mercantile business; the second store in Riverton. The building was enlarged and remodeled many times, and at different times housed apartments, post office, bank, drug, lumber, confectionaries, a line of groceries, dry goods, etc. Beginning in 1899, he served two missions to Turkey and other countries nearby. He was released from his mission because he contracted Malaria. But he traveled extensively, especially in the Holy Land countries. He crossed the ocean about 16 or 17 times. He was one of the men to whom a great deal of credit is due for the installation of the pumping plant at the head of the Jordan River that was used for irrigating purposes when the water in the canals was low.

While Mr. Page's attention was called to other lands principally Turkey, Palestine, etc., his business was in other hands. The Page-Pixton Company store was in existence for fifteen years, being run by Seth Pixton. It was

later Page-Hansen and was run by John Hansen, Jr. When Mr. Page returned from his travels, he again assumed control of his mercantile business.

The first telephone in Riverton was in Mr. Page's store.

Mr. Page spent about 17 years of his life doing missionary work, most of the time in Turkey, later the Armenian Mission. He was elected to the lower house of the legislature in 1929 and reelected in the next session. He was the father of 16 children.

Mr. Page died April 5, 1933, leaving a large posterity, some who became prominent in Riverton and elsewhere.

GWYNNE PAGE

Gwynne Page was a member of the Salt Lake County Commission from 1940 to 1946. At the time of his death, June 9, 1962, he was president of the Riverton Motor Co., the Page-Berrett Realtors Co., and the Page Apartments. He had also been president of the Salt Lake County Library Board, Riverton Old Folks Committee, and a director of the Jordan School District. From 1936 to 1940, he was a director of the Sandy-Midvale and Riverton Bank until it merged with Walker Bank, and had also been a director in the old Jordan Valley Bank.

Mr. Page was manager of the Page-Hansen Co., a mercantile store in Riverton and was a former president of the Riverton Lions Club. He had been a counselor to David Bills in the Riverton Ward Bishopric and at one time he served a two-year mission for the Church. He replaced James S. Ferrill in the Bishopric in 1925.

Mr. Page was born January 20, 1885 in Scofield, Carbon County, Utah, and was resident of Riverton since 1891. He married Mary Jensen of Crescent, February 3, 1910 in the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of six children.

DUKE PAGE

Another son of Thomas P. Page was Duke, who gained prominence in different fields. He was born in Riverton July 21, 1894. He married Sylvia Bills October 13, 1915 in the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of seven children. They were later divorced. He married Fay Nielsen May 21, 1948 in Phoenix, Arizona. Duke moved his family to Nephi in 1926 where he owned and operated the Nephi Ford Agency and in 1931 he moved to Payson and opened the Page Auto Company. In 1936 he opened the Utah County Implement and Auto Co. of Spanish Fork. From 1942 to 1955, he was engaged in Real Estate business in Salt Lake City. In 1959 he opened the Duke's Lanes Bowling of Spanish Fork. He was active in Utah Mining developments. He was stockholder and director of other businesses. Mr. Page died March 29, 1962 in Spanish Fork. Mrs. Fay Page died August 8, 1968 in Spanish Fork.

ROLAND PAGE

Roland Page was born in Riverton July 19, 1896. He married Cleo Bateman March 1, 1920 in the Salt Lake Temple. Seven children were born to this union; the oldest son, Blaine, was killed in the train-bus accident December 1, 1938.

Roland was an ardent church worker having held important offices in the church all his life. He worked in the mercantile business most of his adult life and about 1936 opened the Rolsave General Merchandise Store on the site of the old Jordan Valley Bank. He is still operating and owns the store today. (1971)

Roland recalls the advice his father gave him when a young man, "Rolly," he said, 'it doesn't do much good to wink at a girl in the dark." It probably had a double meaning.

Cleo died February 18, 1962. She was born March 26,

1900 in West Jordan. She held many important offices in the church, was president of the Lady Lions, a member of the Ladies Literary, a member of the Riverton Flowers Clubs. She was an excellent seamstress and made many beautiful pieces of handiwork in crocheting, knitting and embroidery. Her speciality was quilting.

MEREDITH PAGE

Meredith was born in Riverton January 31, 1902. He filled a mission to the Southern States in 1923 to 1925. He married Maurine Steadman May 12, 1926 in the Salt Lake Temple. Three children were born to them. Their only son, Alma M., was killed August 1956 in an earth slide at the Bingham Open Pit Mine. He left a wife, the former Ruth Jensen, and a baby, Kristine.

Meredith and his wife, Maurine, have traveled quite extensively, have toured around the world, stopping in the South Sea Islands, East Indies, Mediterranean Sea area, Ports of Call, North African Countries, Italy, Spain, France, Portugal, South American Countries, Mexico, Alaska West Indies, Australia, New Zealand, and many other places. Meredith in middle life left the Church.

MAUD PAGE BUTTERFIELD

Maud Page Butterfield, a daughter of Thomas P. Page, was born April 3, 1890, in Scofield, Utah was married to Zachariah T. Butterfield in the Salt Lake Temple. Soon after the marriage, Zach left for a Mission to the Society Islands. In Maud's early life and while her husband was on his mission, she worked as a clerk in her father's store. She was an ardent church worker and held many important offices in the ward and stake, and filled a stake mission. She was Stake Era Director for many years, secretary of the Farm Bureau in 1936-38 and worked as clerk in the Jordan Valley Bank. She and her sister,

Harriet (Hattie) Freeman, did extensive research work along genealogy lines. Maud made a trip to England to further this work and to gather information. Having had no children born to them, Zach and Maud adopted a daughter, Evelyn, and a son, Edell. Zachariah died April 19, 1952.

Harriet Freeman, having been left a widow with six children to raise, opened a cafe and tavern which she successfully operated for many years. She sold this business to her daughter, Vivian, and husband, Arch Brown. Harriet served a Stake Mission. She died May 31, 1969 at the age of 83.

DAVID BILLS

On August 7, 1921, as Gordon S. Bills was released from the Riverton Ward Bishopric, David Bills was sustained as bishop with Thomas M. Hamilton, first counselor and James S. Ferrill, second counselor, and Michael John Tischner, clerk. George F. Richards, apostle, officiated.

James S. Ferrill was released when he moved to Salt Lake City. Gwynne Page was sustained in his place at a conference held September 13, 1925. (History Record). They held this position for six years when they were honorably released.

David Bills was born April 13, 1874 in South Jordan. He died October 14, 1943 in Riverton. He married Lorena Emeline Smith April 4, 1889. They received their endowments November 9, 1892 in the Manti Temple. Lorena died June 17, 1947 in Provo, Utah. They were the parents of 16 children and with one exception, all lived to adulthood.

They lived for a time in Bluffdale. In 1905, David opened a meat and grocery store in Riverton and also built a nice home. His delivery wagon made regular trips to Bingham and vicinity taking fresh meat and poultry, for sale.

Mrs. Bills was a faithful wife and helpmate to her husband. She was an active church worker most of her life, serving as counselor and president of the Y.W.M.I.A. and president of the Riverton Relief Society.

Orin E. Berrett read an account from the history of Riverton of David Bills and counselors, Thomas M. Hamilton and Gwynne Page, at a ward reunion held March 4, 1933. He said, "On August 7, 1921, David Bills was appointed bishop of the Riverton Ward, with counselors Thomas M. Hamilton and James S. Ferrill and later Gwynne Page. At this time they took over a ward debt of \$11,000 and in five years the debt was all cleared off. They also had repaired the heating system, painted and papered rooms of the church, and on September 13, 1927, they were released from office after having served the church and people for six years."

Up to this time, September 13, 1927, the following officers had presided over the ward:

Bishops

Nicholas N. Silcox, President of the Branch
Lars Jensen, President of the Branch, Grandfather of
Patriarch Reynold Bills
Orrin P. Miller, first bishop
Gordon S. Bills
David Bills

First Counselors

Jesse M. Smith, Uncle of Frank Smith
Gordon S. Bills
Charles E. Miller
Thomas M. Hamilton

Second Counselors

Gordon S. Bills
Christian Petersen
Zachariah Butterfield
James S. Ferrill
Gwynne Page

Clerks

William H. Bowden
James Blake

Charles E. Miller
Seth Pixton
William H. Bowden
Freeman Lloyd
Isaac E. Freeman
Michael J. Tischner

On the same occasion, when David Bills and others were released, the Riverton Ward was divided into the Riverton First and the Riverton Second Wards. Stake President Joseph Holt presided. There were 102 families in the First Ward and 105 families in the Second Ward. The following bishoprics were appointed.

First Ward

Vernal C. Webb - bishop
Reynold Bills
Elmo W. Hamilton

Second Ward

Wilford J. Meyers - bishop
Heber Crane
Thomas Callicott
M. J. Tischner - clerk

Immediately after the organization of the new wards, the Second Ward took steps towards the erection of a new chapel which was completed in 1929 at a cost of \$55,000. In the meantime, the wards met at different times in the domeshaped church. When this church house was razed in 1939, the First Ward held services in the nearby school house.

Construction had already been started on a new church for the First Ward, but due to the Second World War and material shortage, it took eight years to complete.

In 1947, the chapel was completed and was dedicated in December 1947 by Spencer W. Kimball. During this time, Bishop N. K. Thomson and Bishop Elmo W. Hamilton led the First Ward as bishops. They were followed by Bishops Reynold Bills, J. Harold Berrett, Deno E. Seal, Allen Stocking and Orr Hill.

Bishops of the Second Ward during this time were:

Wilford Meyers, Lancelot Bills, Franklin Seal, Thomas A. Callicott, Edward Beckstead, Elias C. Butterfield, Willis Petersen, and Eldred R. Beckstead.

In 1956, Riverton First Ward was divided again to form the Riverton First and Third Wards. The bishop of the Third Ward was Calvin Osborne. Bishops since have been Raymond Beck and Vere Berrett. On September 18, 1960, the Riverton Stake was organized, with J. Harold Berrett being named president, Leonard C. Beckstead, first counselor and Merrill E. Worsley, second counselor. The wards included were Riverton First, Second and Third, Bluffdale, Herriman and Lark. Riverton Stake was reorganized February 11, 1962 by Howard W. Hunter with Leonard C. Beckstead, president, Merrill E. Worsley and Elias C. Butterfield, counselors, J. D. Gaylord Johnson and Clifton D. Lloyd, clerks.

As the population of the Riverton Wards increased, it was necessary to again divide the wards to make the Riverton Fourth and Fifth Wards, with Max S. Beckstead being sustained as Bishop of the Fourth and Melvin Berrett, Bishop of the Fifth Ward. Bishop Reed Thaxton is the present bishop of the Fifth Ward. (1972)

There are now eight wards in the Riverton Stake. Our beautiful new Stake Center was begun in 1968; it was dedicated October 11, 1970 by Milton R. Hunter. It is located at 1855 West 13400 South and is the regular meeting place of the First and Fifth Wards as well as the stake meetings.

LANCELOT BILLS

Born March 3, 1896 in Bluffdale, Utah to David and Lorena Smith Bills, the fourth of sixteen children. He attended Elementary School at Bluffdale and in Riverton where they built the home on 12600 South 1630 West (Herriman Road). He helped his father farm, and deliver meat and farm produce to Bingham Canyon. He served as a missionary in the

Eastern States Mission from November 1914 to December 1916. He married Cecelia Mason, September 24, 1919, and they are the parents of nine children, five girls and four boys. They lived on Redwood Road until June 10, 1930 when they built a new home on 3600 West. He was Bishop of the Riverton 2nd Ward from January 1932 to 1938. The Bingham business was discontinued in December 1930, at which time he managed his father's store (David Bills Store) until his father's death in 1943, at which time he took over the store until he retired June 1961. He died at Provo, Utah, April 4, 1965.

GEORGE W. BILLS

George Wellington Bills was a prominent civic and L.D.S. Church leader of Riverton. For many years he was proprietor of a General Merchandise store at Riverton and also engaged in chicken ranching. He was the first president of the Riverton Commerical Club. Before moving to Riverton he took an interest in the affairs of Bluffdale L.D.S. Ward having served as a member of the bishopric for a number of years, in addition to his work in the Y.M.M.I.A. and Sunday School. In 1908, he was president of an LDS Mission in Ohio.

He was born August 9, 1864 in South Jordan, a son of William A. & Emeline Beckstead Bills, pioneers of that vicinity. He married Lucy Eudora Merrill November 27, 1883 in the Salt Lake Endowment House. He died April 22, 1939 at his home. They were the parents of twelve children.

Lucy Eudora Merrill Bills was born in Millcreek, January 14, 1865, daughter of William W. and Lucy Pugh Merrill. Eudora was active in auxiliary organizations of the church, She died in 1945 at the age of 80 years.

Eudora was a devoted wife and mother and catered to her husband's appetite. Her children recall that, since George loved buttermilk biscuits, she made them for him and served them hot every single morning. In spite of this he lived to be 75.

HEBER S. CRANE

Heber S. Crane, with other men in Riverton were directors of the Riverton Bank that started in 1905. He was a director of the Riverton Pipe Line and owned stock in different companies that helped Riverton to better living conditions, such as "The Utah Poultry Association, Canning Factory, Page Hansen Store, Live Stock Company."

He being a sheepman, and farmer gave many men work and helped many on missions for the church. He was especially generous to the sons of widows giving them work to help their mothers.

He was First Counselor in the Riverton Second Ward Bishopric from 1927 to 1932 and was a generous donator for many church edifices.

He was born in Sugar House and died in Riverton February 7, 1947.

His wife was Mary Jane Miller Crane who lived to be 86 years of age. She was born August 25, 1872 in Herriman, to George and Olive Butterfield Miller. She married Heber S. Crane September 10, 1891 in the Manti LDS Temple. She was an ardent church worker and was president of the Relief Society and also the Y.W.M.I.A. She was a member of the Genealogical Society and Relief Society Visiting teacher for forty years.

Mary Jane was a member of the Riverton Flower Club, helped many people in need. She was a hard worker, and immaculate housekeeper, and was the mother of a large family.

Handed in by Erma Crane Battison

EMILY H. & MOSES DENSLEY

The children of Emily Huffman and Moses Densley entertained at an open house reception at the Riverton First Ward Chapel on their Golden wedding anniversary, September 22, 1948.

Moses, son of Daniel and Sarah Beech Densley was born March 21, 1874 in Herriman. At the age of 15 years, he and his twin brother, Aaron, started herding sheep for their

brothers, Daniel Jr. and Will Densley. Within a few years, Moses and Aaron formed a partnership and continued in the sheep business for sixty years, in Idaho and Wyoming, while each maintained a home in Riverton.

Moses's wife, Emily, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Frisby Huffman, was born January 4, 1878 at Upton, Summit County, Utah.

The couple were married September 22, 1898 at Upton and ten years later went through the Salt Lake Temple. They were the parents of six children. Emily and Moses lived in Riverton all their married life and have been active workers in the LDS Church.

Mrs. Densley served as first counselor to three presidents of the Relief Society, Lydia Ottosen, Sarah J. Morgan and Mary J. Page. She also served as Visiting Teacher for about fifty years. Emily and her sister Eliza, who was the wife of Aaron, were noted for giving so much of their time to assist their neighbors in times of sickness and death. They were always there when needed. Emily died July 24, 1951 and Moses died in March 1952.

Aaron married Eliza J. Huffman July 26, 1900 in Riverton, later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple. She died October 20, 1946.

Aaron served a two year mission to the Western States from 1911 to 1913. He, with his brother Aaron, were well known sheepmen of Idaho and Wyoming.

Eliza was born July 12, 1876 to Jacob and Elizabeth Frisby Huffman. Both Aaron and Eliza were active church workers and parents of seven children.

LIONEL L. MYERS

Lionel Lafayette Myers died March 1962 at the age of 82. He was a former president of the West Jordan Stake Mission. He had been General Manager of the Riverton Live Stock Company and director and organizer of the Riverton Canning Co. He had sheep and owned and operated a farm in Lehi for about 30 years.

He was a High Priest in the Riverton Second LDS Ward and filled a Southern States Mission, and later filled two six-month missions to the South.

Lionel was born April 26, 1879 in Murray to Jacob and Ann Margaret Johnson Myers. He attended Brigham Young University. On June 30, 1910, he married Estella Holley in the Salt Lake Temple. She died an accidental death, October 15, 1913. Later, February 22, 1915 he married Blanche Holley in the Salt Lake Temple. She died February 1961.

REYNOLD BILLS

Reynold Bills was ordained Stake Patriarch of Riverton Stake in September 1960. Mr. Bills had previously served in the presidency of the old Jordan Stake Y.M.M.I.A., was president of the Riverton Ward Y.M.M.I.A., and at the division of Riverton Ward, was made first counselor in the Riverton First Ward Bishopric, where he served for 10 years, and was bishop of the First Ward. He was married to the former Marie Hamilton, August 14, 1918 in the Salt Lake Temple. They have lived in Riverton all their lives and have been active church workers in wards and stakes. Marie has worked in the music department of various organizations for over fifty years. They are the parents of four children; Noel M., Reed J., Seth H., and Vay.

ZACHARIAH BUTTERFIELD

Zachariah Butterfield was one of the prominent men in the community of Riverton. On February 10, 1900, when the ward was organized, he was made second counselor to Gordon S. Bills, which position he held for about 22 years. He was one of the organizers of the Jordan Valley Bank, vice-president of the Riverton Pipeline, an instigator of the Deer Creek Reservoir Project, and served as a director of the Provo Reservoir and the Utah Lake Distribution Co., and was

a director of the Jordan Valley Bank. He served two missions for the Latter-day Saints Church to the Southern States.

Zachariah was born January 4, 1864 in Fort Herriman, Utah. He married Crilla Wardle October 31, 1884 in the Logan Temple. She died in June 1893. He married Mary Nielsen December 2, 1896 and she died July 4, 1897. He married Isabella Dansie and she died February 2, 1937. She had been a school teacher.

Zachariah was the father of eleven children. He was buried on his 100th birthday, January 4, 1964.

DANIEL DENSLEY, JR.

Another Riverton pioneer was Daniel Densley, Jr., born February 28, 1858 in Staffordshire, England. He came to Utah with his parents, Sarah Beech and Daniel Densley, Sr. in 1865. He drove a mule team across the plains. They first settled in Fort Herriman, but lived most of their adult life in Riverton. In a journal Daniel wrote while on his mission, he stated, "I was called two and a half months after I was married to Elizabeth M. Butterfield, to the Southern States of Kentucky, September 1, 1880, to fulfill a mission for the L.D.S. Church. We had just begun to make us a little home when I was called."

He served two years on this mission. He was later engaged in a prosperous sheep business and owned several herds and acquired quite a lot of land. He built his wife a fine brick home and predicted it would be the center of a town some day, which came true eventually. He also built the Commercial Building which in 1939 was torn down; was very generous in helping others to get a start; was generous in his church donations, being the largest donator to the dome church.

He married Elizabeth M. Butterfield July 1, 1880 in the Salt Lake Endowment House. She died May 14, 1931. He married Arminta Wardle January 20, 1886 in Polygamy which was permissible at the time in the church. She died June 9, 1940. He

also married Elizabeth E. Bodell March 9, 1888 in polygamy. She died May 18, 1956. He built each wife a nice brick home. He was the father of 34 children. Mr Densley died December 13, 1930.

DANIEL E. DENSLEY

The oldest son of Daniel and Elizabeth M. Densley, Jr., Daniel E. Densley, served a mission to the Southern States from 1904 to 1906. He married Ethel M. Wheadon in 1909 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died in childbirth in 1910.

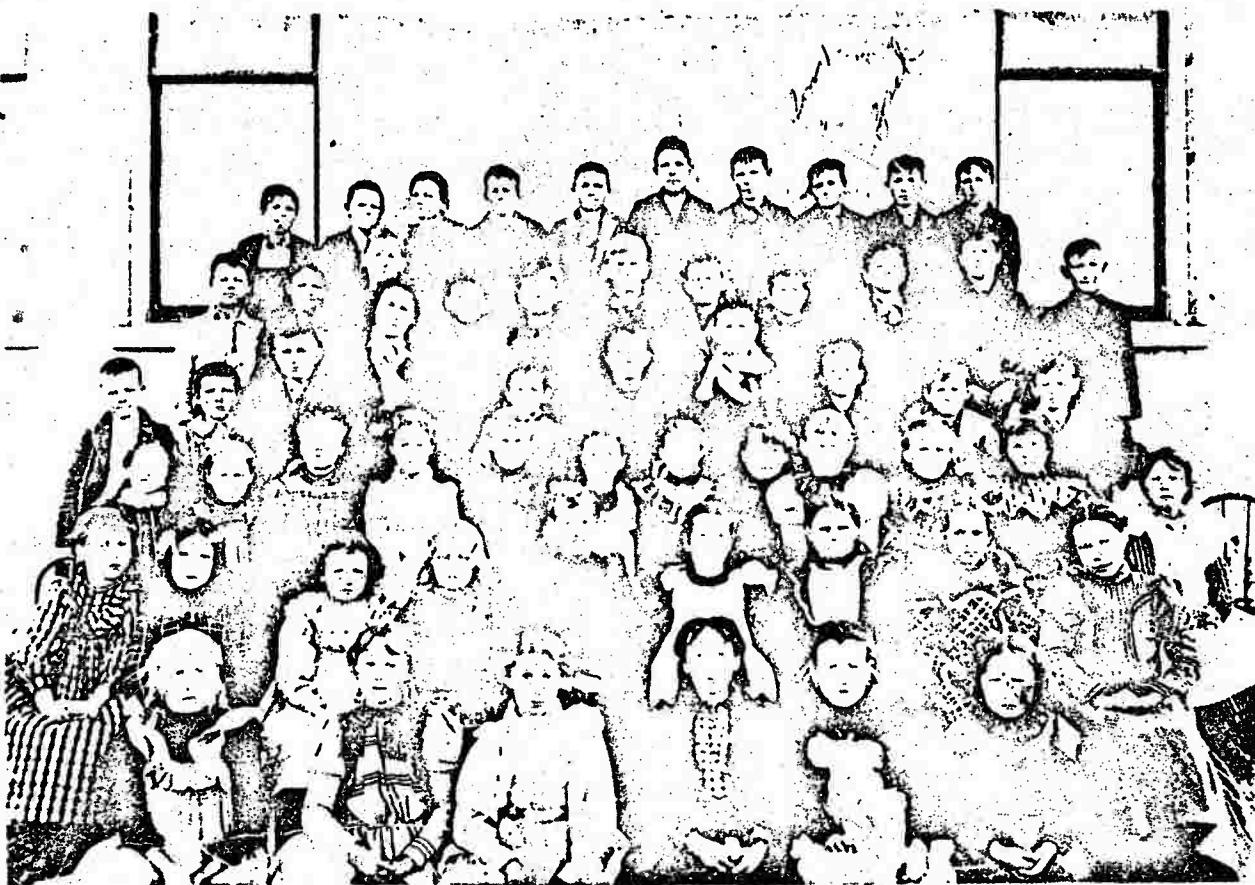
He married Lillian M. Newbold in 1911 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died Oct. 28, 1914. Daniel E. died March 16, 1950. He was the father of 14 children.

THOMAS LYMAN DENSLEY

Thomas L. Densley was the son of Daniel and Elizabeth M. Butterfield Densley; born in Riverton September 5, 1889. He married Hazel Blanche Bills October 19, 1910 in the Salt Lake Temple.

All his young life he herded and later ran his father's sheep. He was good in business ventures and gave employment to many young men in the community. He was especially good in buying and selling. For many years he operated a baled hay, straw and grain business, supplying Fort Douglas, Camp Williams and the State Fair. He was the first man in the south end of the county to haul hay on a flat bed truck, and some of the men later operating trucks of their own, got their start working for T. L., as they called him. They were his brothers, Gordon, Golden, Joseph and Claude; also, James and Holger Houman; Ross McMullen; Joseph P. Butterfield; Orlong Newbold and Robert Helt; Afton Huggins; and Vere Gardner.

In later years T. L. bought and sold livestock and operated a sheep hauling business. He died April 10, 1955.



Taken before 1900
Teacher - Florence Mathews Newman

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN

Born June 16, 1853 in Nyerup Holbeck, Denmark. Died an accidental death at Magna Mills, August 25, 1913. He married (Minnie) Rasmena Julian Mary Pedersen, December 16, 1876. They were married by Daniel H. Wells. They were the parents of fifteen children. He was ordained a High Priest June 23, 1889 by Joseph E. Taylor.

Christian was set apart as second counselor to Bishop O. P. Miller June 23, 1889 by Joseph E. Taylor. He held this position for 11 years until the organization of the Jordan Stake. His wife died November 20, 1901 in childbirth. The child only lived about a year. On December 31, 1900, Mr. Petersen was made second assistant in the Riverton Sunday School.

DORA CAROLINE PETERSEN BUTTERFIELD

She was born April 20, 1878 in a two room log house just north of the Riverton-South Jordan line. She was the eldest child of 15 children born to Christian and Minnie Petersen. She was married to Joseph James Butterfield November 9, 1898 in the Salt Lake Temple. Mr. Butterfield died July 1, 1917 at the age of 46 while moving a hay derrick under a high voltage power line. Dora was 39.

Their children ranged in age 17 years to three years and she was left with a great responsibility in raising the children. Eighteen months later her brother, Angus and wife, Polly, both died during the 1918 Spanish Influenza epidemic and Dora took the two youngest children, Blayne and Cleo, and raised them as her own. When Dora's mother died at childbirth leaving a baby girl, Dora took her to raise; however, the baby only lived ten months.

Mrs. Butterfield worked in the Relief Society as counselor, class leader and visiting teacher for over forty years. She was a member of the Ward and Stake Genealogical Committee for many years and also did Temple work. Dora passed away March 27, 1964 just before her 86th birthday. Her son, Arnold, passed away just ten months previous leaving a wife and family.

JOSEPH P. BUTTERFIELD

He was the son of James and Dora Butterfield, born January 25, 1904 in Riverton. He married Jenalee Jewks of Orangeville, Emery County, Utah, in the Salt Lake Temple, February 15, 1939.

Joseph filled an LDS Mission March 6, 1935 to 1937 to the Southern States. He served on the West Jordan Stake Sunday School Board in 1930 for a short time. He was made a Master M-Man May 13, 1938. He served in the West Jordan Stake as second Counselor to President Lawrence T. Dahl from 1947 to 1955; in the Y.M.M.I.A. in the Second Ward as second

counselor to Grant H. Mortensen. He was President of the M.I. A. July 17, 1932 to 1934.

Joseph and His wife, Jenalee, were called to serve a mission to the Central States March 6, 1970 to September 5, 1970. They were the first full time guides of the Mormon Pioneer Cemetery of Florence, Nebraska.

Joseph was made Bishop of the Riverton Second Ward May, 1971.

DORA GRACE BUTTERFIELD CALLICOTT as told by her.

Church Record - Counselor to Eurilda Page Riverton Ward Y.L.M.I.A. August 1920 to September 1927. Secretary and second counselor to Merle C. Kirk in the West Jordan Stake Y.L. M.I.A. May 29, 1927 to August 1928. Second Counselor to Edna Myers in the Stake Primary May 6, 1934 to May 26 1939. President West Jordan Stake Primary May 26, 1939 to April 19, 1942. President of the Second Ward Relief Society July 9, 1944 to July 22, 1945. President of the West Jordan Relief Society July 1, 1945 to May 22, 1955. Counselor to Ella Bennion in Jordan Valley Region Welfare September 1945 to March 11, 1952. President Jordan Valley Region Welfare Relief Society March 11, 1952 to July 11, 1952. Teacher of Gospel Doctrine Class in the Riverton Second Ward Sunday School 1957 to 1962. Stake Board Member Riverton Stake Relief Society February 21, 1963 to May 1965. Temple Ordinance worker Salt Lake Temple January 1965 and still serving (1971).

Dora was married to Thomas A. Callicott June 8, 1921 in the Salt Lake Temple. He died December 12, 1962. They were the parents of three children; Jerry T., Carol and Joan.

THOMAS A. CALLICOTT

Born August 14, 1897 in Sanford, Colorado, but came to Utah when two years old. He was a veteran of World War I. He married Dora Grace Butterfield June 8, 1921 in the Salt

Lake Temple. Three children were born to them. He was second counselor to Bishop Wilford J. Myers in the Second Ward September 18, 1927 to 1929; Superintendent Y.M.M.I.A. West Jordan Stake June 16, 1929 to March 15, 1931. High Councilor in West Jordan Stake November 14, 1937. Bishop Riverton Second Ward February 18, 1945 to August 26, 1951.

Thomas served about 34 years in law enforcement work. In 1951 Governor J. Bracken Lee appointed him to serve as Warden of the Utah State Prison. He only served three weeks when he resigned the post because of so small a budget and other disturbing unsurmountable problems. He died December 12, 1962 at the age of 65.

ALMON LEROY BUTTERFIELD

Born May 9, 1909 in Riverton, Almon was the second son of James and Dora Butterfield. He married Melba Cooper of Murray June 8, 1932 in the Salt Lake Temple. They are the parents of seven children. He served in many church offices, viz., counselor in the West Jordan Stake to President Walter Maybe in the Y.M.M.I.A., first counselor to Bishop Edward B. Beckstead of the Second Ward August 26, 1951 to 1956; High Council December 2, 1956; Lion's Club President and Zone Chairman; served on the National Committee of the Boy Scouts of America. He traveled extensively for the Boy Scout Program. He is co-owner of the Butterfield Motor Co., with his brother, Elias C. Butterfield.

The Butterfield Motor Company was organized May 1937, by Joseph P. Butterfield, Thomas A. Callicott and Almon L. Butterfield and they obtained the Ford Car Franchise. Later they sold out to Almon and Elias.

Melba Cooper Butterfield was a teacher of organ and piano and was organist in Sunday School and Y.W.M.I.A. when she was only 11 years old. She was a graduate of the McCune School of Music; organist of the Second Ward for about 20 years and in the Third Ward ten years; Relief Society West Jordan

Stake organist six years; Stake Primary organist four years. She attended the University of Utah two years. Melba was the first president of the Riverton Lady Lions organized August 30, 1948.

ELIAS C. BUTTERFIELD

Elias was born December 29, 1911. He is a partner and general manager of the Butterfield Motor Co. He has served as president, secretary, and treasurer of the Riverton Lions, and on the Town Board, plus five years as District Scout Chairman. His church experiences include Stake Clerk, Stake High Councilor, six years, seventeen years as Priesthood Quorum Advisor, bishop of the Second Ward five years, installed as second counselor to President Leonard Beckstead in the Riverton Stake February 10, 1962. He was first counselor when the Riverton Stake Center was dedicated October 11, 1970. Eldred R. Hamilton was sustained second counselor at the same time. Clerks were J. D. Gaylord Johnson, Keith Bergstrom and Clifton D. Lloyd.

MAXINE SARGENT BUTTERFIELD

Born December 2, 1917 in Panquitch, Utah. Married to Elias C. Butterfield August 31, 1937 in the Salt Lake Temple. Seven children were born to them. Two, Veda and Roger, graduated from college. Roger served a two year mission to the North Central States. July 7, 1970 Brent was put in bishop of the Granger 7th Ward.

Mrs. Butterfield is an active church and community leader having worked as chorister, organist and class leader in every auxiliary organization in the ward. She is a member and has been president of the Lady Lions and literary clubs, secretary and vice captain of the DUP, vice-president of the P.T.A. in the elementary grades and in the High School.

LEONARD C. BECKSTEAD

Born March 21, 1907 in South Jordan, a son of B. H. and Annie Holt Beckstead. He married Evelyn Crump of Bluffdale January 24, 1934 in the Salt Lake Temple. They are parents of three girls, Joy, Judy, and Glora. For years Leonard has been a gas and oil distributor in Riverton. He fulfilled a mission to the Eastern States in 1929 to 1931. He has always been an ardent church worker having served as counselor in the Second Ward Bishopric, was a member of the Jordan School Board for eight years, first counselor in the Riverton Stake since the Stake was organized in September 1960. He was installed as President of the Riverton Stake February 10, 1962, succeeding J. Harold Berrett. He was president with Elias C. Butterfield and Eldred W. Hamilton, counselors, when the Riverton Stake Center was dedicated October 11, 1970. He is a charter member and president of the Lions Club.

EVELYN CRUMP BECKSTEAD

Born July 7, 1914 in Bluffdale, Utah. Evelyn has served many years in the church having been made president of the Riverton Stake Relief Society when it was first organized in 1960. She served twice as president of the Second Ward Relief Society, counselor and secretary of the West Jordan Stake Primary. She was past president of the Lady Lions and the Literary clubs, and three years worked in the Salt Lake Temple but resigned to take care of her invalid mother, Julia Crump.

JOHN HAROLD BERRETT

Born September 16, 1897 in Union, Utah. John was a farmer and sales manager of the Riverton Motor Company for 24 years. In church work, he was president of the Elders Quorum in 1936 and bishop of the First Ward in 1942 which position he held for four years. He has also been a counselor in the bishopric and served as president of the Ward Y.M.M.I.A. and superintendent of the Ward and Stake Sunday Schools; a charter member and president of the Lions Club.

Harold married Stella Wright of Union, Utah in the Salt Lake Temple October 15, 1918. They are the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, Melvin, LaMar and Vere having all been bishops of different wards. LaMar and Melvin were school teachers.

Harold was made Riverton Stake President September 1960 but resigned June 11, 1962 because of the ill health of his wife who has been an invalid since that time. He has since been High Priest Group Leader. He died June 29, 1971..

ORIN EVERETT BERRETT

Orin Everett Berrett, son of Heber H. and Ellen Elenor Berrett, was born Sept. 4, 1899, in Union, Salt Lake County. There he grew up on his father's farm.

He attended school in Union and then went on to Jordan High. In 1920, he left for a Canadian Mission, spending part of his time among the Indians, on the Six Nations Reserve. After returning home Dec. 1922, he and his brother, Harold, leased 40 acres of farm land from Zachariah Butterfield, the following Spring. They raised sugar beets, potatoes, grain and hay. They did very well on their farm in Riverton, and were called on by other farmers to plant sugar beets.

On June 11, 1924, he married Nellie Roote, a native of England, who came to live in Union, with an Aunt and Uncle, Willard C. and Emma C. Burgon, at the age of 11 years. She lived with them for 16 years. Orin and Nellie made Riverton their home, first renting the home of Leo and Leah Lloyd, who occupied a small house on the flat while farming during the Summer. In November, they moved into the house owned by Samuel H. Howard, until 1928, when they moved into their own newly built home on Redwood Road, across from A. T. Butterfield's home. Two children were born in the Howard Home, Maxine and Paul, and two in the new home, Joyce and Bernell.

In 1926, Orin went into partnership with Gwynne Page at Riverton Motor Company, serving there as bookkeeper and car salesman, until the time of his death, Aug. 6, 1936.

PAUL O. BERRETT

Paul O. Berrett was the son of Nellie and Orin Berrett. He was born March 1, 1928, in Riverton. He graduated from Jordan High in 1945, enlisted in the U. S. Army, Aug. 1945, serving one year and 14 days in the Foreign Service in Japan. He also served an L.D.S. Mission, 1950 to 1952, in the Western States. He graduated from the University of Utah in 1953. He married Lillian Gerber Sept. 1952. They were the parents of eight children. Paul received his Master's Degree in 1955 at the University of Southern California, through a Hughes Master of Science Fellowship. He received his Doctor's Degree from the University of Utah in 1957. In 1957-1963 he served as Faculty Member of Electrical Engineering at the University of Utah. He is presently (1972) Professor of Electrical Engineering at Brigham Young University.

BERNELL W. BERRETT

Another son of Nellie and Orin Berrett, was born Jan. 20, 1934 in Riverton. He graduated from Jordan High in 1952. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1952. He served an L.D.S. Mission in Hawaii, 1954-56. He attended the B.Y.U. where he was, a member of the Y's Men Band. He graduated later from the B.W.U. He made three tours with the B.Y.U. Curtain Time Troupe - USA, also toured USA with "Lettermen" as Drummer.

In Sept. 1968 he married Carlinne Cecil. He is presently employed in L.D.S. Church Publications.

THOMAS MARK HAMILTON

Born in Mill Creek June 30, 1873 and died November 14, 1949. He married Gladys Caroline Reynolds October 16, 1895. She died January 18, 1917. He came to Riverton in 1893. He served a mission to the Central States. He was a counselor to Bishop David Bills August 7, 1921; set apart by Apostle George F. Richards. Other offices held by Brother Hamilton were: Superintendent of the Riverton Sunday School and Superintendent of MIA; Deputy Sheriff under Oscar Fullmer; Road Supervisor 1915, about five years; Director Alfalfa Mill and Jordan Valley Bank; Chairman of Town Recreation Committee; a dance director in the Commercial Building; and acted in plays directed by John Hansen, Jr.

One son, Everett, served a Central States Mission. Another son, Weston, was on the General Board of the Church; on the Finance Committee; vice-president of Zion's Savings Bank and held other prominent offices.

Thomas Married a second time in the Salt Lake Temple. He and Annie Madsen were married August 21, 1918. Annie was born April 2, 1885 and died October 7, 1951. They had one daughter, Ruth, who later became Mrs. Don J.

Smith, Jr. Ruth worked many years in the Midvale Library.

Annie's main interests were working in the Church and taking care of her beautiful flower garden.

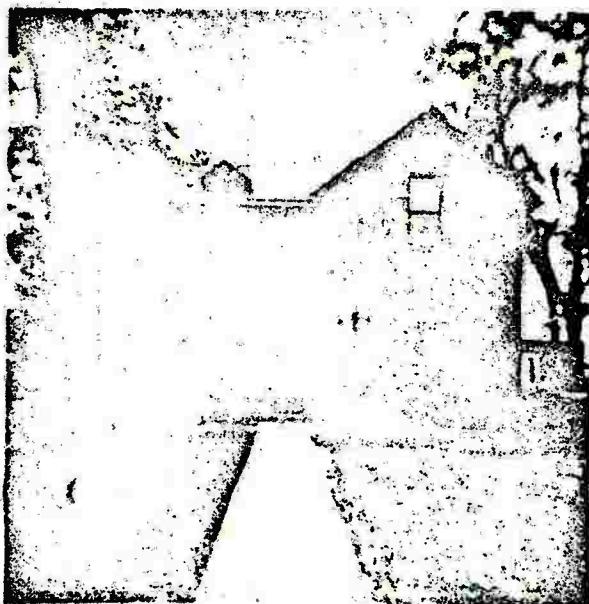
GEORGE HENRY DANSIE - by a daughter, Connie Newbold.

George was born in Bingham, Utah, January 21, 1866 and died March 21, 1935. He was the son of Robert and Jane Wilcox Dansie who came from England to Salt Lake Valley as pioneers with the Ansel T. Harman Co. in 1862. George married Sarah Ann Elizabeth England September 20, 1893 in the Salt Lake Temple. Her parents were William and Eliza Seamons England who also came from England to Utah, arriving in Salt Lake Valley September 13, 1861.

Shortly after their marriage, George and Sarah moved to Riverton where they later built a two story brick home. George was a farmer and stock raiser, raising pure bred horses as well as sheep and cattle. He herded sheep when a lad of 16. His main book was the Bible, which he learned to quote so well. He was sometimes called the "Walking Bible".

Three years after his marriage, he was called on a two year mission to England, 1896 to 1898.

George had one of the best wells in the area and people came from all around to his home to get drinking water until pipe line water came to Riverton. He helped develop the Utah Lake Distribution Canal, building a good mile of it himself. The Provo River water users called



GEORGE DANSIE HOME

it the High Line Canal. George took water stock for pay. He was the president of the Riverton Livestock Co. They would run their cattle in the West Hills in the Summer and have their annual roundup in the Fall at the Dansie Ranch.

George helped construct the church houses in Riverton using his own means to help finance them. He also donated work and money to help build the Second Ward Church. His home was always open to people from all walks of life. Engineers who surveyed Redwood Road, as well as the Draper and Herriman Road had their headquarters at the Dansie Ranch, living in tents and eating at the Dansie table.

A large cement mixer was built by the tracks of the Interurban Train at the rear of the Dansie home, and the cement was hauled by trucks from this point.

The engineers who put the line through for electricity for Riverton and vicinity stayed at the Dansie home while the work was being completed. The electric train that ran from Cache County on the north to Payson on the south had their headquarters for their men at Dansie's. Peddlers from Utah County going to Bingham and Lark would stop overnight to rest their teams. Traveling show people were made welcome at the Dansie Ranch. For many years it was called the "Dansie Hotel".

Mr. Dansie was Justice of the Peace for many years.

George and Sarah were the parents of eight children. Two of them, Marvin and ElVoy, filled missions. Others of the family filled Stake missions and held important church positions.

Mrs. Dansie was Riverton Primary President for 17 years. She helped her husband in every way possible to do the things he accomplished in all walks of life. She was born December 15, 1857 at Hyde Park, Utah and died September 12, 1925.

ELMO W. HAMILTON

Elmo W. Hamilton was born April 20, 1904 in Riverton to Reuben S. and Matilda Winder Hamilton. Educated in the Jordan District Schools. He was called on an LDS Mission to the Southern States, 1925 to 1927. He married Tira Butterfield November 15, 1927 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died April 12, 1939. They were the parents of two boys, Daro and Cletus. Both boys have served in the Fifth Ward Bishopric.

Elmo was a partner in the Hamilton Land and Livestock with his brother, Eldred. He was a counselor in the Riverton Sunday School, First Ward; counselor in the Riverton First Bishopric, 1927 to 1937 and was coach of the Riverton First Ward M-Men Basketball Team, 1939 - 1942; bishop of the First Ward from 1942 to 1948, while the Riverton First Ward was building a new chapel and when it was dedicated, His wife, Larue, helped a great deal in the decorations of this new church.

Elmo was made a High Councilor in the West Jordan Stake in 1948.

Elmo has a wide acquaintance among prominent people in business and political offices. He was Utah State Legislator for five years, 1963 to 1968; one of the original incorporators and a member of the initial board of directors of Valley Bank and Trust Company from 1948 to date; president of the Utah Farm Bureau, 1966 to date; director of Utah Investment Co., 1948 to 1971; president of Salt Lake Co Farm Bureau, 1950 to date; president of Western Farm Bureau of eleven states, 1967 to 1968; director of the American Agriculture Insurance Co., 1970 to date, it being one of the largest insurance companies in America; appointed to the Utah State Agriculture Advisory Board, 1968 to date; president of Salt Lake County Farm Labor, 1949 to date; director and vice-president of Provo Reservoir Water User Co.; called in 1966 to manage a large corporate farm for

the LDS Church in Elberta, Utah and in 1971 is still manager. He served on the Riverton Town Board, 1950 to 1954, and had charge of the water system.

Elmo married a school teacher, LaRue Simper, and she proved to be a great help to her husband. She was very clever in making such things as artificial flower arrangements, embroidery and all kinds of hand work. There wasn't much LaRue couldn't do. She worked at Farm Bureau work and held many important offices. She traveled with Elmo to conventions and the like, all over the United States and to South America.

Elmo was a charter member of the Lion's Club and LaRue was a member of the Lady Lions. She held every office in the club and had charge of the jewels being put in the Lady Lions' pins.

Elmo was installed as Lion's Club president June 14, 1971.

JOSEPH EARL MORGAN

Joseph Earl Morgan was born May 11, 1892 in Preston, Idaho and died January 31, 1971. He married Judith M. Wi-berg in the Salt Lake Temple July 16, 1919. She died Dec. 13, 1969 in a Salt Lake rest home. He was a farmer and live-stock raiser. He served in the Army in World War I. Joe was a lover of poetry and wrote many verses and memorized many more. He also collected and filled quart fruit bot-tles with rocks, about 835, which he numbered to indicate the date and place it was found, such as: each state in the United States, England, France, Italy, Lebanon, Formosa, Nigeria, China, Spain, Palestine, Holland, Canada, Belgium and Okinawa. He claimed he flew 100,000 miles, equivalent to four times around the world. In his later life he wrote a partial history and made three large maps of Riverton.

Excerpts from the History of Joseph Morgan

Indians

In the early days the Indians would camp along the river banks on their way to Bear Lake, where they went for the Summer and back again to Utah Lake in the Winter. Most of these Indians belonged to the Piutes, Shoshone and Bannock tribes and were as a general rule quite friendly.

Joseph Morgan tells about the ones he observed. Indians would come from the mountains on both the south and the west, and would pitch their tents and tepees on the roads where the grass was good, for their ponies to pasture on while they came begging for food. They mainly asked for flour, sugar, salt, bread, etc. They stayed three days at a time. This was in 1897 and after. One of the main places they camped was on the Morgan Road. Many times in the Summer, I saw them there. They made their homes in the South Mountains, as there was a spring of water in nearly every hollow. We could see them coming down, whether they were on horseback or in little wagons, by the dust they made.

Some of the people who had large herds of cattle, put them all together and ranged them in the South and West Mountains.

Carrie Bills (Green) was the first organist in the first church in Riverton. She was the daughter of Gordon S. and Lena Bills.

A little west of the cemetery on the south side of the street, was a large water wheel in an irrigation ditch with wooden cups. As they went down they filled with water and as the wheel turned it emptied the water into a trough to water Mr. John Malquist's garden. It could be heard groaning under its load, a half mile away. Just below the big water wheel that Joseph Morgan tells about, that belonged to John Malquist, a child, Ruth Coy, was drowned,

August 10, 1920 in the big ditch.

Mr. Malquist owned a small blacksmith's shop in the rear of his place. A little further west on the same side of the street, was a milk cooler where milk was gathered in 10 gallon cans by wagons pulled by two horses, with driver, Joseph Green.

John Malquist, a blacksmith and a widower, married Johanna Kooy, mother of Daniel and Helen Kooy. The family came here from Holland. John died and much later Mrs. Malquist died. But Dan who married Nellie Bills, still lived there in a new home. Later another daughter named Helen, died June 16, 1923 when two years old, after eating some gooseberries that had been sprayed. Dan and Nellie also had Beth, Don, Robert and Ivan. The family changed the spelling of Kooy to Coy. Nellie died Sept. 29, 1956. Later Dan married a widow, Madeline Lloyd, widow of Walter Lloyd.

At an early day on the Charles Nokes place, was a molasses mill that crushed liquid from sugar cane stock by a horse pulling on an arm going round and round with cogs meeting together as stocks were put in. The liquid that was obtained went into a trough then into a boiling vat, from here it was let out to cool and put in cans as syrup.

North of the school on Redwood Road, was the big dome church house with four rooms downstairs and the chapel in the middle, big auditorium upstairs with colored windows, entered on the outside by circular stairs on the east. A ball park was just west of these buildings and a grandstand equal to any in the south end of the county. Many games and celebrations were held here. On the corner of Redwood and Herriman roads, James Dansie had cattle yards and a self feeder threshing machine, which was the first in this area. A little blacksmith shop and a vegetable market were on the corner and was run by Thomas Nichols.

SARAH ISABEL WITHERS WILBERG

Sarah Isabel Withers Wilberg, 74, died May 10, 1971. She was married to Carl W. Wiberg Nov. 17, 1915 in the Salt Lake Temple. A few weeks before her death, she wrote the following: John Carl Wiberg had a blacksmith shop in the old Riverton First Ward Church from 1913 until his death, Nov. 9, 1939. Later the house was remodeled again by Ruben Wiberg. She said her sister, Jane W. Withers (later Hardcastle) was the first baby blessed in the new dome chapel Sept. 6, 1908, and was blessed by her grandfather Thomas Winter. Gordon S. Bills was the bishop. She also sent a picture of a tree which she said Nicholas N. Silcox always said it was the first tree planted in Riverton, and it was planted by Robert Dansie, who married Nicholas' sister. This tree was on the lot, later the home of Wibergs, and is there today. (1971)

J HAROLD BERRETT wrote the next few notes:

I was born Sept. 16, 1897. There was only one stake in Salt Lake Valley at the time. In 1900, the second stake was organized, which was the Jordan Stake. Granite Stake was next. West Jordan Stake was organized May 8, 1927, with the following officers: Joseph Holt, pres.; A. T. Butterfield, 1st counselor; David T. Dahl, second counselor.

Riverton Stake was organized Sept. 18, 1960, it being the 303rd Stake in the L.D.S. Church. J. Harold Berret was president until released because of the illness of his wife, Stella, Jan. 11, 1962. Other officers were Leonard Beckstead, Merrill Worsley, Gaylord Johnson, Clifton Lloyd. The old domed church was torn down in 1939 and a new church building was completed and dedicated Dec. 28, 1947. Riverton Ward Sunday School was organized Feb. 28, 1880 with G. V. Kidd superintendent with 16 members enrolled. From 1882 to 1899 Samuel Howard, Sr. was Super-

intendent of Sunday School with 256 enrolled. Riverton Stake Center was dedicated March 22, 1970.

Redwood Road was hard surfaced about 1916 and 17.

Jordan Valley Bank which was organized June 1, 1905, moved to a new building in 1923, located on the southeast corner of Redwood and 12600 South. Harold says he moved to Riverton the same year.

Riverton Livestock Feed Mill was demolished about 1930. It was located on Morgan Road. Lionel Myers was in charge. Riverton Canning Factory was discontinued in 1922. Riverton Potatoes Growers Association began in 1929 and discontinued in 1931 because of water depression. Officers were J. Harold Berrett, pres.; J. R. Peterson, 1st asst.; William Turner, 2nd asst. Utah and Salt Lake R. R. was discontinued March 1, 1946. First Chevrolet dealers in Riverton were William and Leonard Parry; second dealer was George Whetman; third dealer, Riverton Motor Co., Gwynne Page, pres. First Ford dealer in 1923 was Gwynne Page and Vernal Webb, 1923; second Ford dealer, George Whetman; third Ford dealer, brothers Elias, Almon and Joseph Butterfield.

The first commercial truck that came to Riverton about 1924 was owned by Thomas L. Densley. The first flag pole on the Riverton Town Park was donated by Gwynne and Don Page and J. Harold Berrett. Sept. 15, 1963, a few people were taken out of the Third Ward and put in the First to make the wards population more even.

CARL MADSEN

Carl Madsen was one of the early pioneers and builders of Riverton. He was born in Denmark in 1857 and was a convert to the L.D.S. Church. He came to America in 1881 and first settled in Kaysville where he lived for a short time and then moved to Salt Lake City.

In the Spring of 1882, he married his Danish childhood sweetheart, Mary Harder, and the next year they moved to Riverton. He built most of the early buildings in Riverton

including the meeting house with its high dome, the Commercial Building which housed many businesses, such as a bank, post office, hardware store, the largest dance floor, in Salt Lake County, and he also built many homes in the community.

His wife died in childbirth and left him with two small children, a boy and a girl. He later married Annie Crane and they had ten children, besides the two he already had. He served a Scandinavian Mission in 1900. He lived the remainder of his life in Riverton, which was 64 years. His later years were spent doing odd jobs and reading. He built a house for his daughter, Jean, when he was 85 years old.

He died February 7, 1947 and was buried in the Riverton Cemetery.

Contributed by daughter, Jean Madsen

FRANKLIN EDWARD AND MARY ELLEN BILLS SEAL SR.

Franklin E. Seal Sr. was born Jan. 6, 1856, in England, son of Henry and Elizabeth Wheaden Seal, Sr. He had two brothers, Moroni and William, one sister, Emma, who all died when very young. Franklin's mother died when he was only two years old and he went to live with his Aunt, Jane Wheaden. His father remarried and they had two sons and one daughter, Henry, James and Eliza. Henry lived his adult life in Riverton and raised a family here, Leota, James, Morell and Fonzo. His wife was Louisa McGuire Seal.

Franklin was friendly with the Mormon Missionaries, who were allowed to bring one person a month on the ship, and eventually to Utah. So he worked his way across the ocean on a ship, arriving in Salt Lake City, July 18, 1876, at night. He knew no one, and his belongings consisted of one small tin trunk, and twelve cents in his pocket. A Brother Snellgrove, a returning missionary, noticed him, and when he found he was all alone, took him home with him for the night.

A day or two later, a Mr. Goff came to the ZCMI to buy supplies for a new factory he was soon to open in West Jordan. One of the Snellgrove boys worked at ZCMI, and told Mr. Goff they had a boy from England that had worked at a weaving factory, making cloth, and he gave Franklin the job. He made the first piece of cloth and sold it to Alex Bills who in turn had a suit made from it. After working at the factory for some time, he made the acquaintance of William A. Bills, who gave him a job herding sheep. He later married one of William's daughters, Mary Ellen Bills, Aug. 10, 1882 in the old Endowment House.

He worked and bought a house and ten acres of land in South Jordan. Their first child Lottie, was born there, June 18, 1883. After about two years, this home and land was traded for about 35 acres of land and an adobe one-room house in Riverton. At this time, 1884, there was only about 8 to ten houses in Riverton, and the old one room church house. The sage brush was as high as the windows in the adobe house. So Mr. and Mrs. Seal cleared off the sage brush together. He quit herding sheep and went to farming his land. He later sold 11 acres of this land to Charles Webb. He also helped butcher animals for Louis Petersen, who had a slaughter house. He was paid \$1.50 a week for two days work.

Sept. 2, 1899, Mr. Seal was called on a mission to England. The couple had seven children and another on the way. In January Mary, (later Mrs. Edward Beckstead), was born.

The next Summer, there was a bad drought. Mary Ellen took her young baby and went out to work by the day for different people. With the help of the children, they were able to keep their father on his mission. After serving two years, he returned home. Because of the drought, things were in bad shape. Mr. Seal started working hauling gravel from the point of the mountain, for \$1.75 a day. In less than a month after returning home from his mission, he was appointed president of the ward MIA. He was released in 1907 from this office and appointed assistant to John Hansen in the Sunday School in Nov. 3, 1907, where he served for four years. He

was ordained a High Priest Jan. 25, 1908. On Sept. 11, 1911, he was put in Superintendent of the Sunday School and served for five years.

He was chairman of the Old Folks Committee for a number of years, president of the ward choir and genealogical committee for several years, he played in the brass band. He was always interested in civic affairs for the betterment of the community, doing his share in bringing in the Riverton Pipe Line, canning factory, poultry plant, and other things. He died Aug. 27, 1937, at the age of 81 years.

His wife, Mary Ellen, was born June 15, 1867, in a two room house in South Jordan. She was the eighth child in a family of twelve, and was taught to work and take responsibilities at a very early age. Her parents were William Andrew and Emeline Beckstead Bills. Her mother, Emeline was a midwife and traveled all over taking care of babies and their mothers. She also made home made remedies for coughs and blood tonics. Mary Ellen Bills married Franklin E. Seal Aug. 10, 1882, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. She was very young at the time but was prepared to meet the hardships they had to endure. The couple were the parents of twelve children, seven girls and five boys. When they moved to Riverton, she took her small baby and put her behind a clump of sage brush, while she and her husband cleared the land. They had five children born in a one room adobe house with a dirt floor; later in 1897, they were able to put down a board floor. She and her eight children managed to make a living while Franklin served on a mission for the church.

She did washings on a washboard for people of the town, getting very poor pay. She made many quilts, sewed carpet rags, did all kinds of fancy needlework, besides working in the church. In 1910, she was made a counselor in the Ward Relief Society, did block teaching, helped prepare clothing for the dead to prepare them for burial. In the Winter they heated bricks to put in the buggies to keep their feet warm. She passed away Jan. 7, 1952 at the age of 84.

FRANKLIN E. SEAL

Franklin Edward Seal, Jr., 83, and his wife Eugenia Katinka Petersen Eliason Seal, 70, both died of injuries received in an auto-pedestrian accident, October 7, 1973 in Box Elder County.

Mr. Seal was born in Riverton, March 3, 1889, a son of early pioneers, Franklin E. and Mary Ellen Bills Seal. He married Julia Tempest February 6, 1907 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died November 4, 1919. He married Lydia Orgill, June 30, 1920 in the Salt Lake Temple; she died May 24, 1961. On September 5, 1962 he married Eugenia (Connie) Eliason, in the Manti Temple.

Mr. Seal served as director and later as president of the Utah Lake Distributing Co., Provo River Water Users Association and Riverton Pipe Line Co. He was a member of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers, bishop of the Riverton Second Ward from 1939 to 1945. He was a member of the first town board in Riverton, and a past chairman of the Riverton Cemetery Association. He was for many years, a retail merchant in Riverton. They were both retired and doing temple work in the Salt Lake Temple, at the time of the accident.

ELDRED R. HAMILTON

Eldred R. and his wife Violet Page Hamilton, after working for the church and community all their adult life, were in their later life called to serve a Manitoba, Minnesota LDS Mission February 28, 1973.

When called he was a member of the Riverton Stake Presidency and Mrs. Hamilton was recently released as president of the Stake Relief Society. They were both members and past presidents of the Lions and Lady Lions Clubs. They are the parents of six daughters, all married.

At one time, Eldred was sponsored by the Lions as District Governor of 28-T and he listed some of his accomplishments as follows: while he was President of the Lions Club the Ball Park was lighted; he was chairman of committee for purchase and paying for Town Park; part owner of Hamilton Land and Livestock

Company; Chairman of Selective Service Board 25; Vice-President of Salt Lake-Tooele County Beet Growers Association; sponsored and coached many youth basketball and baseball teams; received the Silver Beaver Award for outstanding service in scouting, served an earlier mission for the church, 1925 to 1928; Master M-Man; twice served as a member of Ward Bishoprics.

Eldred is the son of Reuben S. and Matilda Edna Winder Hamilton. Reuben, who was prominent all his life in church and civic affairs, died January 16, 1949 and Matilda, who was a faithful member and active in church auxiliaries, passed away June 12, 1953. They were married January 24, 1894 in the Salt Lake Temple and were the parents of 9 sons and daughters.

Violet Page Hamilton was the daughter of Thomas I. and Florence Crane Page, who were married March 20, 1907 in the Salt Lake Temple. Mr. Page served a two year mission for the church. He died January 16, 1927.

Florence was an active church worker and raised a large family when left a widow at an early age. She passed away May 18, 1964 at the age of 82.

LOUIS W. PETERSON

Another prominent business man and wife in Riverton were Louis W. (Lute) and Grace Vawdrey Peterson. He helped establish the Peterson Meat and Grocery Market in Riverton in 1938 and at one time ran a lunch stand in conjunction with the store. At about the same time Grace operated an Art and Craft Store. She was very talented and taught others to knit, make paper flowers, etc. and at one time operated an apron factory selling to nearby stores. She was also a talented violinist. Together they built several homes in Riverton living a short time in each. They had a son killed in the train bus accident in 1938.

Louis was born in South Jordan December 10, 1880 to Louis and Harriet Bills Peterson. He married Margaret Crump April 4, 1904 in the Salt Lake Temple. She died in 1913.

Louis later married Grace Vawdrey March 11, 1914 also in the Salt Lake Temple. Louis died July 23, 1962 and Grace died August 20, 1972. The couple lived in Riverton for 34 years. They both worked in the church and raised a family here. Son, Bruce, is still in the grocery and meat business. (1973)

SAMUEL H. HOWARD - A brief sketch of his life

Samuel Hamilton Howard was born in Millcreek, Utah, Oct. 21, 1867 and died Sept. 19, 1952. His parents were Samuel Lorenzo and Sarah Jane Hamilton Howard. His mother had been the seventh wife of Archibald Gardner, a polygamist, who married his eighth wife the same day as he married Sarah Jane. She had one son by him, James H. Gardner, and later obtained a divorce. The separation was brought about due to the great difference in their ages, he being 28 years older and had children older than Sarah Jane. She later married Samuel Lorenzo Howard. Samuel H. was the second child in a family of nine. He started to school at the age of six. There were very few families in the Riverton community before the Howard family so they are listed among the early pioneers of this locality.

Sam, as he was called, only attended school about three months out of the year, as this was considered a full school term, so the children were free to help with farm duties. There was always plenty of work on the farm for him at an early age. Later he was given a horse to ride to herd cattle. When he was about thirteen, he was thrown from his horse when it slipped on some ice, while herding cows. He was found unconscious and remained so for five days. There were no witnesses, but it was assumed he had been thrown over the horse's head when the horse slipped and fell, for Sam received a broken nose and a severe cut on the forehead. For a time the cut threatened to develop into blood poison, but was prevented by the prompt action of those attending him;

very different from the treatment he would receive today, but just as effective. Members of the family were sent in haste to find some bloodsuckers which were found in water ponds and were sometimes referred to as water worms. However bloodsuckers was a more appropriate name for they would suck the blood from the wound or open cut. As they were placed on his cut, they would sink their heads into his wound and suck out blood. They had to be watched closely for as their own bodies filled with blood, they were removed and others put to work. This procedure went on unceasingly. The worms sucked out the clotted blood that had formed, in a slow methodical manner that prevented hemorrhage. Thus the sore was kept open until it was properly healed. Doctors at this time were few and the people depended on the Lord and home remedies.

Samuel Hamilton Howard and Rosa Ann Holt were married Dec. 2, 1891 in the Manti Temple and they established a home in Riverton. Eight children were born to them. James William died at the age of six and Samuel Elmer died Oct. 2, 1918 of Spanish Influenza, while serving with the Army in France. His body was shipped back and he was buried in Riverton. Lorenzo M. also served in the Army but returned May 6, 1919. The rest of the family grew to adulthood. Eva Pearl Crump died Aug. 21, 1952 in Bluffdale. She was the wife of Heber J. Crump and the mother of seven children. Virginia Ann lost her husband, Martin Sylvester Larsen, July 19, 1971 in Bluffdale.

Rosa Ann Holt died at her home in Riverton April 1, 1938. She was the daughter of Mathew and Ann Harrison Holt; born August 31, 1863, while the family were crossing the plains, at a place called Chimney Rock, Wyoming. The Howard family had gone into the sheep business in 1887 raising their own sheep. Previously he had worked for George F. Beckstead. In November 1895, they moved into a two-story adobe house purchased from Mr. Beckstead and wife, Charlotte. The house and forty acres of land was on

the corner of 11th West 1200 South. I believe this was the house where school was first held, while Mr. Beckstead still owned it, or before the school house was built south on 13th West.

Samuel H. and family lost their sheep in the big blizzard of May 6, 1905, and eventually lost the big house and farm also, and had to relinquish all rights to their property when the mortgage was foreclosed, Feb. 3, 1905. Mr. Beckstead took out bankruptcy but Howards did not.

George F. and wife, Charlotte, bought his brother's home on South Redwood Road and made it the most beautiful home in Riverton. Many people will remember the beautiful brick barn in the rear. In about 1906 this place was sold to A. T. Butterfield.

The Howard family moved to a new location and began to salvage the broken bits of their lives. For a while Sam took any offer of work, like Bingham Mines, Midvale Smelter, etc. Sam loved sports of all kinds. He served twenty-five years as chairman of the Riverton Amusement Committee. Most interesting stories are told of their 4th and 24th of July celebrations, rodeos including bucking horses, steer riding and roping and other events. These holidays were started with a thundering volley, parade, games, children's races, horse shoe throwing and other games of amusements. The evening was reserved for dancing. Later, he worked on the Old Ford's committee. Intermittently for more than 35 years he served in law enforcement work. Twelve of these he was Constable of Riverton and vicinity. He served under two administrators of county sheriff as deputy sheriff. During 1921-22 his work was in Riverton with Frank Emery, Jack Corlis and Clifford Patten. He also served two years as State Game Warden. Politically he was affiliated with the Republican Party. His first political work began in 1895, when Heber M. Wells was elected governor. He was present at the inaugural ceremonies which were held in the L.D.S. Tabernacle. Throughout his life he voted the Repub-

lican ticket, and was several times chairman of the Riverton District, and was well versed in the political issues at hand.

He assisted in most every enterprise in the town. He served as director of the Page Company for 30 years, also director of the Riverton Canning Co., director of the Riverton Association, assisted in the Organization Band. He was present at a meeting Feb. 20, 1931 to discuss the closing of the bank, Jordan Valley. There in a few short minutes he saw his life's saving wiped out and new obligations came into view which in time he was able to surmount.

Town of Riverton - Incorporated in 1948 with the following officers:

A. J. Orr	President
A. L. Butterfield	Trustee
S. R. Anderson	"
Meredith Page	"
Eldred R. Hamilton	"

A restraining order was put against the board and the court dis-incorporated Riverton.

After new petitions were circulated Riverton was re-incorporated and the Judge appointed the following Town Board:

E. L. Butterfield	President
J. E. Morgan	Trustee
Harry E. Page	"
F. E. Seal	"
J. Melvin Petersen	"

At the election in November 1949 the following were elected and took office on January 3, 1950:

Gwynne Page	President
Elmo W. Hamilton	Trustee
Joseph P. Butterfield	"
M. J. Stringham	"
N. K. Thompson	"

April 14, 1952

N. K. Thompson - Replaced by William H. Cardwell

February 2, 1953

Joseph P. Butterfield - Replaced by Elmer Seal

January 4, 1954

Gwynne Page - Replaced by Elmer A. Seal President
 Elmo Hamilton - Replaced by Meredith Page
 Elmer A. Seal - Replaced by Eldred Beckstead

October 11, 1954

M. J. Stringham - Replaced by Elias C. Butterfield

December 13, 1954

William H. Cardwell - Replaced by Owen Hamilton

January 9, 1956

Elias C. Butterfield - Replaced by Gale Nell

May 13, 1957

Owen Hamilton-- Replaced by Ralph Bastian

January 13, 1958

Elmer A. Seal - Replaced by Wendell Grover - President
Meredith Page - Replaced by William Freeman
Eldred Beckstead - Replaced by Dell Beckstead

January 4, 1960

Gale Nell - Replaced by Douglas Brown

January 1, 1962

Wendell Grover - Replaced by George Usher - President
William Freeman - Replaced by Claude Densley
Dell Beckstead - Replaced by Donald B. Petersen

January 6, 1964

Ralph Bastian - Replaced by Mark Nichols

January 3, 1966

Don Petersen - Replaced by Robert Helt

January 8, 1968

Mark Nichols - Replaced by George Dansie
- NEW MEMBER -- Miles Petersen

January 5, 1970

George Usher - Replaced by Robert Helt - Mayor
Robert Helt - Replaced by Willis L. Petersen
Claude Densley - Replaced by Bruce Petersen

October 5, 1970

Miles Petersen - Replaced by Robert Cowdell

GEORGE J. USHER - First Mayor of Riverton

Mr. Usher served the town of Riverton for eighteen years. Ten years as Watermaster, six years as Town President, and two years as Mayor; as Riverton had by then become a third class city.

While Watermaster he bought and used the first Backhoe to be used on the pipeline to replace much of the digging by hand.

While Town President and Mayor, under his direction, a well was drilled and a water storage tank was built in 1962 on the Herriman Road at 4000 West and 12600 South to supply the water needs of the town. Later, in 1968, a mining operation was completed in Bear Canyon to increase the mountain water supply and protect it from pollution.

Mr. Usher was born in Ross, Montana to James David and Elsie Geneva Myers Usher. He lived in Evanston, Wyoming and later came to Utah where he settled in Herriman and Riverton. He worked as a miner in the Lark Mine for many years. He was a hard worker and a firm believer in doing an honest day's work for a day's pay. He married LaVon Lloyd. They have four children and have resided in Riverton for the past thirty-six years.

Contributed by LaVon Usher

ROBERT LEE HELT

Robert Lee Helt was the second Mayor of Riverton, elected November 1969, and took office January 5, 1970.

He was born in Girard, Kansas, to John Franklin and Lula Mae Hewitt Helt, and was educated in schools in Missouri. He joined the Army Air Force, June 10, 1940 and served five years as a Lieutenant in the Air Corps during World War II. He is a Charter Member of the American Legion Post 140 in Riverton. He was married to Fern Densley and they are the parents of two daughters, Sharon Lee Bair and Robyn Wells, and have three grandchildren.

Mayor Helt has been a resident of Riverton for twenty-eight

years. He is still in office at the present time (1973) and is serving with the following Board Members: Bruce A. Peterson, Maurine Nichols, Robert Cowdell, Richard Schouten and Theron Tisher.

Some of the accomplishments achieved during the term of these officers are: Improved and added new roads; put in two new badly needed canal bridges on the Herriman and Morgan Roads; enlarged and extended pipelines. They have worked with the Council of City Governments to improve the lot of small cities, and also worked harmoniously at all times with County Officials for roads and bridges and garbage collections.

They have organized a police force for Riverton City; remodelled the town hall, adding new office and recreation areas and enlarged front office. A new building has been erected at the Park to house the fire engines; two new tennis courts have been put in; new ball diamonds for the children; other new buildings and many other improvements are being made at the Park.

Citizens have voted on a bond election for a Sewer, which is now under construction. They have also voted on a water bond to improve the water system. The Board is constantly working on many other improvements to take care of the fast growing community needs. Hundreds of houses have been built in Riverton in the last year or two, which have to be supplied with water, gas, garbage collections and road upkeep.

They are in the process of drilling a new well for the town above William Gedge's property. They are also in the process of constructing new sidewalks from Redwood Road east to the Town Park, and at the Town Park, and, the Board has started negotiations for the purchase of a fifteen acre addition to the Park on the East to 1300 West.