

HISTORY OF ALVIN WILLARD HATCH Written by James Eugene Hatch

Alvin Willard Hatch was my great grandfather and died six years before I was born. However my great grandmother saw me and knew me and I had the distinction of being the first great grandchild on the Alvin Hatch line.

Clyde and Myrtle had Elizabeth in their home and my parents lived across the street where Marie Calender is now. My Mother, Charmain, wife of grandson Alvin, took me over every day to see Great Grandma who was paralyzed. She always knew who I was although she couldn't talk to me. She would look at me and smile, my Mom told me. I was only two. She only said "wanna" and nobody knew what she wanted. She must have been very frustrated not to be able to state what she was thinking. She was never afraid of the little boy whose mother held him as he leaned over to give her a kiss each time we came.

Great Grand dad was born 17 April, 1865 in Woods Cross, Utah. His father, Ira Stearns Hatch was born 9 Feb 1802 (there are different dates as to when he was born. He himself gave this one one at Nauvoo where he was endowed)) at Winchester, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. His Mother, Jane Bee McKetchnie was born 28 Feb, 1827 in Edinburgh, Scotland. (Midlothian County.) Her husband died leaving her with three little children, two girls and a boy.

Ira's first wife was Wealtha Bradford. They had seven sons, two of whom were in the Mormon Battalion . There were some daughters. I don't know details about his first family.

Ira married Jane Bee (McKetchnie) on 27 Nov, 1852 in Brigham's Young's office. He sealed them for time and all eternity.

They had Stearns, Philander, Abraham, Reuben, Lucinda Jennette, (who died at age 10) Leonard (who died about one and a half years old) Alvin Willard, and a daughter Iraetta Alzina

Ira Stearns died when Alvin was six years old.

These children grew up on a farm in Woods Cross, Utah, and attended school there.

When Alvin was a young man he went to work on the Union Pacific Railroad as a section worker. He said there must be other work that was not so hard. He and his brother Reuben bought some sheep from the Wood Cross Co-Op and took them to Juab County.

.While down in Juab County he bought a small ranch.. Alvin herded the sheep and Reuben was the Camp Jack.

After six years he sold out and came back to Woods Cross and went to work for the Deseret Livestock Co.

He married Elizabeth Jackson, daughter of William and Anne Wooley Jackson of Woods Cross. This was on 19 January, 1892. They built a big two-story home in Woods Cross.

Great Grand-dad acquired a large area of property in Woods Cross. He had one of the first automobiles in Woods Cross and Bountiful. It was a Rambler.

He was a fine horseman and broke many horses in his life and enjoyed riding all his life. While breaking a colt one time, it reared into the air and it's forefoot hit him on the head, knocking him unconscious. As far as my family knew, he had very few accidents during his life.

In 1898 he and his four brothers formed the Hatch Brothers Livestock Company. They purchased 3500 head of sheep from Jens Nelson of Woods Cross. They bought land from the Union Pacific at Wasatch, Utah and gradually acquired land and still do whenever they have the opportunity. It has been a policy of the company to keep ground and not sell it for they said that once you sell it you never get an opportunity to buy it back again.

They bought water rights to the Hatch South Ranch in Skull Valley, Utah, by Johnson Pass, from a family by the name of Parks. Ira Hatch, a son of Stearns Hatch, homesteaded a place just below the Parks place and this became their headquarters. At this time all this country was open range and anyone could run sheep or stock if they had some sort of headquarters where water was available.

They trailed sheep over Johnson Pass, past the west side of Stockton, to the alternate road by Magna, up 21st South in Salt Lake City, up Emigration Canyon to Henefer, up Echo Canyon to Wasatch. (ten miles west of Evanston, Wyo.)

Great grand-dad lost his mother on 9 Aug, 1916. His father had died of appendicitis in 1869 in Woods Cross. It was this same year, 1916, he was riding a horse during the winter time when his appendicitis ruptured. He was taken over Johnson pass in a bob-sled, put on a freight train and taken to the L.D.S. Hospital in S. L. C. Peritonitis set in and he was there three months and lucky to have his life spared.

In the early times, Great Grand-dad bought five main foods to take out for their supplies; salt, dried beans, a barrel of flour, or "dumpling dust" as it was called, "sow belly" or salt pork and a barrel of Molasses. If possible they supplemented this by buying potatoes, etc. from ranchers.

In the early 1920's they quit trailing up Emigration Canyon and shipped out of S. L. C. on the Union Pacific Railroad.

They kept trailing from Skull Valley to Salt Lake City until 1927. That was the last year they trailed. Then they shipped from St. John, Utah. In 1952, due to the heavy traffic to Dugwau Proving Ground, they were

again to change their way of trailing, for they began to go over Lookout Pass with all the sheep and ship from Faust instead of St. John, Utah.

While Great Grand-dad was out with the sheep, he was only able to get home to his family about every three months. The family spent some time with him at Wasatch for it was the only time they all could be together for a given period of time.

In 1929, they bought the Woods Cross Livestock Co. This included a ranch in Ophir, Utah. The company ran this ranch in Rush Valley until the government took it to make it part of the Deseret Chemical. At the time they bought the Ophir Ranch, they purchased the Castle Rock country which both sheep and cattle utilized.

Great Grand-dad always took a month off every winter and he and his wife went to California or some place to visit relatives. During the last ten years of his life he traveled extensively from California to New York.

He died of cancer on the 26th of Sept, 1939 in Bountiful. He had thirteen grandchildren and his wife outlived him by thirteen years.