

## **Thomas Arthur King**

**I, Thomas Arthur King, was born in a little town of Coyote (now Antimony), in Garfield County, Utah, January 8, 1889, son of Thomas Callister King and Elizabeth Dunsire.**

**All during my life I was a farm boy and raised cattle. I graduated in 1908 from the Branch Normal High School in Cedar City, which was a branch of the University of Utah.**

**When I was about nineteen or twenty years old, I was called on a mission to the Southern States. I left in October 1909. I was assigned to labor in the Alabama conference. I was there for thirteen months, then transferred to Florida to preside over that conference. I labored in that capacity for sixteen months. I returned home in December 1911.**

**I taught school during the years of 1912 and 1913.**

**I attended conference in Panguitch Stake of Zion at which time I was ordained a Seventy by President Heber J. Grant, who was ordained by Heber C. Kimball, who was ordained by Oliver Cowdery, who was ordained by the prophet Joseph Smith, who was ordained by Peter, James and John, who were ordained by the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**My calling as a Seventy was for a very short term. I hadn't been home more than a year when my name was presented to be a member of the bishopric. I served in that position until December 3, 1913. I married Myra Spencer of Escalante and was involved in the sheep business with my brother-in-law, John Spencer. We worked together for about twenty years. I also sold life insurance.**

**In 1926 I volunteered to serve a short term mission for six months. President Grant suggested that I go to California serving in the San Francisco and Oakland area.**

**After returning from California the stake was divided. Garfield Stake became a part of the Panguitch Stake. I was chosen president of the High Priest quorum. I served for a year or two, and when the stake president moved to Manti I was chosen second counselor at which time I served four or five years. The first counselor moved to Ogden, and I was advanced to first counselor until December 3, 1931.**

**Because of a change in the presidency caused by President Charles E. Rowan being selected to preside over the Texas Mission, I was chosen to succeed him. During my service, we had the privilege of having the general authorities in our home, all of the twelve apostles as well as the authorities from the Sunday School and Mutual Improvement Association.**

My parent in Cedar City passed away and left a furnished home for us. We felt the school system was better and thought of making a move. I corresponded with President Grant, and he advised me to move. Brother George Albert Smith came to our stake and stated that it appeared that I could handle the important position as well from Cedar City as in Escalante. My duties as president continued which involved great distances of traveling in all kinds of weather over dangerous roads. My term as President of the Garfield Stake was from 1931 to 1942.

We moved back to Escalante and stayed a short time, then decided to make our home in Provo, Utah. I was employed by the American Bridge Company at Geneva, Utah and was active in real estate and insurance business.

I taught Gospel Doctrine class for five years in the Provo Fifth Ward, also was chairman of the Genealogical society for five years. After serving a very successful term my health broke. I underwent an operation and ill health kept me from active participation.

I am the father of six children: Arthur Lynn, Ethel D., Lasca, Joseph Spencer, LuWana and Thomas Eugene.

Life sketch given by Thomas Arthur King  
at his home January 13, 1953.

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