

Grandma Nelda – DISK 4

(Continued from disk 3)

I hurried to get ready for school because I had to meet this lady up on the corner. I was hurrying up the street and all of a sudden my feet slipped out from under me and I just tried to not fall down. I just fought the air for about half a block and pretty soon I stepped on some more thin ice and I went down and I took the knees out of my stockings, both of them and I took the covers off of kid gloves. And I was just so shook up that I was just about sick all day at school.

Well, the school children at recess would like to go down off the hill to a little lake to slide on the ice. And this day, why the children come running in the school building and they said, "Oh, Miss Tanner come quick. The ice is broken and Vernon, (a boy named Vernon – I can't think of his last name right now) he's fallen in the water." So we rushed out of the building and down the hill across the road to the pond and this boy was getting out of the water. And we had to take him in and then he didn't have any dry clothes, of course to school so I had to take him down to the furnace room and take all his clothes off from him and wrap him up in a towel and let him sit down in the furnace room. And we hung his clothes up by the furnace so that they would get dry. About every day or two we'd have some kind of experience like that.

I want to tell you about our school. There were only two classrooms in the building. The first and the second and the third grades was in one room. And the fourth, fifth and sixth was in the other room. There were just the two teachers. There was Mr. Johnson who was the principal and me. And I taught the first, second, and third grades. And at the end of the year we decided that we would have a program for the whole town. And so we practiced songs and dances and got ready for this program. Well, we put it on. It was a big success. The children did so well. And Cosme Spencer came over from Provo to see the entertainment. And after the entertainment, why when we got home he pulled a box out of his pocket and guess what was in the box? A diamond ring. And he asked me if I would marry him and I said that I would. And so that sort of put an end to my school teaching.

Well, I had to go tell the superintendent that I wasn't going to teach anymore. So one day I went over to Spanish Fork and I went in the superintendent's office and told him that I wasn't. And he said, "Oh, Nelda I sure hate to see you quit teaching. I wish you happiness, but it seems like I'm always losing good teachers." So then I went in to the primary supervisor. I don't know whether they have primary supervisors now or not, but they were a lady that worked out of the superintendent's office to supervise the schools. Well anyway, she said, "Well, I'm so glad Nelda that you are going to get married. You know, here I am 45 years old. I put off getting married when I was young and never did get married so I think you are doing the right thing."

So that ended that part of my life. Well, I taught two years out at Spring Lake then the third year I taught in Payson. I taught a third grade in the Taylor School that was just a block away from my parent's home and I really liked to teach school. I liked to teach the first, second, and third grades. That was fun time because I had about eight first graders. Now can you imagine this in a school room? I had about eight first graders; I had two second graders, and three third graders.

Because there weren't very many in the school room, I could give them lots of individual attention. Every time why we'd have the primary supervisor come around, why she'd say how far advanced these children were because they were in my class because I could give them so much individual attention. My first grade readers by the end of the year, they were almost into third grade books and they did especially well. I didn't ever think that I could teach three grades in one room, but it worked out very well. So I was real glad to go back the next year and teach again.

And then the third year when I got a chance to teach over to Payson, why that was a nice experience too because there was – out to Spring Lake when I taught out there, I was the only teacher besides Mr. Johnson. But when I taught at the Taylor School in Payson, why there was a lot of teachers and they were all my friends and we had lots of fun together and it was lots of fun to teach there.

Last time, we finished up just where grandma had finished teaching school at the Taylor School, the third grade. And I turned in my resignation and hadn't signed a contract for the next year and it was just kind of hard to do, but when I went over to the district office and talked to the superintendent and my primary supervisor, they thought I was doing the right thing too.

So tonight I'd like to tell you a few reasons why I fell in love with your grandfather. The first thing that I liked about him was that he always looked so clean; he was both in his body and mind. And he handled some embarrassing circumstances so very well without making me uncomfortable. I don't know whether he remembers this or not and there were many others that I won't tell you about. But one day we were taking Lois and Erma to Salt Lake to see my mother. She was up to Salt Lake going to the doctor and we went up to get her. And Erma and Lois were riding in the back seat like children do, they were hanging over the front seat listening to us talk as we were visiting going along.

All of a sudden, Aunt Lois got sick to her stomach and she threw up all over grandpa, or all over Cosme. And we didn't have any way to clean him up or anything to clean either one of them up. So when we got to Aunt Inez' we had to do a lot of washing and cleaning up. And he didn't act a bit angry or anything about that and I know of course, he didn't like it. And one day I'll tell you about that I was holding Aunt Inez' new baby and all of a sudden it just filled its pants and it came out all over my dress. And Cosme was sitting right in front of me

and he acted like he didn't even see it and he didn't say anything. And there were just quite a few embarrassing situations like that that he didn't pay any attention to or didn't make a fuss about and it made me a lot more comfortable. Well, he did this with so many things that I couldn't help but like him and admire him for it.

Another thing that I liked about him – he treated me with such respect. He seemed to want to do everything he could to make me happy and it seemed like he always put me first and that was one thing that made me feel very special to him. We went together I guess three years and then all of that time he didn't do anything or say anything to embarrass me or hurt me at all because I'm sure that he loved me too.

And another thing that I liked about him – he was so respectful to my parents. When I first started to go with him, why a lady came and told my mother, "Oh, Nelda wouldn't want to marry him?" She had known his family and she said, "Oh, she wouldn't want to marry him." But from the very beginning, my mother and father seemed to like Cosme and whenever he came over to our place, why they treated him very well. And my mother liked to make the good things to eat that he liked. She'd have apple pie and ice cream to treat him with when he came and he made my parents his friends.

My mother and father both got so they depended on him quite a lot. My mother would say, "Well, something's wrong with the washing machine or something's wrong with my flat iron. We'll just wait until Cosme comes over and he'll fix it." And he usually did. My father would say, "We'll have to have Cosme look at the car. Something's wrong with it and we'll have to see what he thinks is wrong with it." And so about by this time, most of my girlfriends had got married or gone away to Salt Lake to work or they were away to school or something. I was left without any real close girlfriends.

And so on Sundays when Cosme would come over to see me on Sunday afternoons, then my father and mother, we would get in their car usually and we'd go for a ride – go up the canyon or down to the fields to see how the crops were growing or for papa to turn his water or something on his field. We'd spend a lot of time with my mother and father and they seemed just like another couple to us and we could have as much fun with them as we could with a couple that was our own age. So not only were they my parents, but they were our friends also.

Another thing I liked about him was that he was very unselfish. He would go without things to let me have what I needed or what I wanted. And so tonight I brought some things up that he gave me before we were married that I thought you would like to see. One of the nice presents he gave me was a beautiful red fox fur. And he took me to Salt Lake and said, "Come and go to Salt Lake with me. My brother-in-law wants to give my sister a fur for Christmas. Will you come and help me pick it out for him?" because he couldn't go. So we

went up to ZCMI and we tried on all the beautiful furs and finally I said, "I think Hortense would like this one the best." And so that was the one that we chose.

Well, on Christmas he gave me a little cedar chest and it was about that long and about so high. It was about oh, two feet long (maybe a little longer than that); a pretty little red cedar chest. And when I opened it there was a little tiny box in it and I thought, "I wonder what could be in that box?" I was a little suspicious of what he'd said before, but when I saw the little box I thought, "Well." I was really wishing for too much, but when I opened that box I was wishing for a fox fur. When I opened this little box that fur was so tight in there that it just sprang out and it was so beautiful that I loved it and I wore it for many, many years. It was very, very fashionable and when your daddy, when Carl and Fred were little boys they wanted to play Davey Crockett or Daniel Boone or somebody so I made them a hat out of it and put the tail down the back and they wore their hat while they played. I kind of wish I hadn't, but then they had a lot of fun with it.

And then another nice thing he gave me was a dresser set and I think I showed you the button hook, didn't I one night before? Well, let me show you. This was the dresser set that he gave me. It was very, very beautiful. Now, this is the mirror and it's broken. I wish we could have it fixed, but it has seen a lot of wear. And this was the powder box. It had a lid on it. And there was another box just like it and that was to put the hair comb in when you'd clean out your brush then you could tuck your comb down into that box to keep the dresser neat.

And then guess what this is? It's a polisher to polish your fingernails. They used to have dry fingernail polish and you could take it and go like that and buff your fingernails and make your fingernails shine and that was another thing. And this was a shoe horn. There's the buttonhook that I showed you before and there's the fingernail file. And this is the hairbrush and it looked pretty dirty when I got it out tonight and I wonder how many cats have had their fur brushed with it through the years.

And there's something to clean your fingernails with. And then there were two little boxes, little rouge boxes. I guess and this is all I've got left of the two little boxes. That's just the little lid that went on it and that was so pretty to sit on my dresser. And it was the prettiest dresser set that I think I had ever seen in all my life. And grandpa has been very, very thoughtful all through all his life and chosen such lovely presents to make me happy and to please me.

I want to tell about after we were married. This is a little ahead of time, but it shows how thoughtful he was. Once shortly after we were married I needed a permanent and we just didn't have any money to buy a permanent with. With my thin hair I just had to have a permanent. It just wouldn't stay curled or anything. He said, "Well, we'll see what we can do about it." So one day he came home and he said, "Here's \$10. Use it to go get you a

permanent.” And I said, “Where did you get \$10?” And he said, “Don’t you every worry about it. You just go and have your hair done.”

And so I had a permanent and later I said, “Where did you get that \$10 from?” And he said, “Well, I’ll tell you now. I sold some of my tools.” And he was a mechanic and he needed tools to fix cars with, but he sold his tools so that he could get the \$10 for me. And that’s the way he’s been. That’s the way he was so good to me that I felt like I would be very secure to marry such a good man. And he’s always been very, very good to me.

Then another thing I liked about him – he had a testimony of the gospel and that was important to me too. That he loved the Lord and wanted to serve him and he also wanted a temple marriage and so they were the things that I wanted and the things that I he wanted. And although we’ve had lots of ups and downs and quarrels and things in our life, tonight he said that he’s been very happy. Our marriage has been a very happy one.

Well now, I want to tell you about the day before we got married. He lived over in Provo and had rented us an apartment. He had bought us an overstuffed set. I think he paid \$125 for it and it was a nice one. But that’s about all an ordinary one cost about then and so we had bought us the overstuffed set. And we had bought a rug, a carpet to put on the floor. Anyway, that’s what we had and we had this basement apartment and we had it all fixed up ready to move into when we got married.

Well, I hadn’t moved my things over to Provo so the day before we went to the temple to get married, my father put a little trailer, a little box trailer behind our car and I put my cedar chest in it and all my clothes and the things that I needed. And I had dishes and I had towels and sheets and about everything I needed to start keeping house with in the cedar chest (and all my clothes). And we put it in the little trailer and I went to go over to Provo to take my things so they’d be over in the apartment. Well, as I was over to Salem, about three miles away from home, I was going around a turn and I looked up in the rear vision mirror and what do you think I saw?

The little trailer had come loose off the car and was going off into the barrow pit. So I pulled to the side of the road and a man came over and helped me get it fastened back on the end of the car, on the back of the car. Well, then I got to Provo alright and we had rented a basement apartment. And so when I went down to go in, I walked in the door and guess what I saw? Cosme Spencer was laying on the floor and had been waiting for me for quite a while and he’d gone to sleep. And he’d been laying on his arms and they’d gone to sleep. When I walked in, he got up off the floor and he couldn’t work his arms and he was still sleepy and he looked like a goose or something. I don’t know what he looked like. And I thought, gee, I don’t want to marry that man. But anyway, then we moved our things in and he got his arms straightened out and he looked better. Anyway, then when we had our apartment all ready to come back to, why then we went over to Payson.

Early the next morning, we got up and went to the temple down to Manti to get married. And we went in my parents' car and Aunt Inez was with us; that was my oldest sister. And then Uncle Wilson and Aunt Hortense; that was his sister and her husband's and Uncle Wilson came too. And we all went down to the Manti Temple and we only took one car because Grandpa and Grandma Tanner, my parents, were actually going with us on our honeymoon. Now some people think that's awfully funny, but I want you to know that it wasn't because grandpa and grandma were just like our friends and everybody but us laughs about it. But I couldn't see anything sounded strange about it really. I couldn't see anything strange about it.

So after we were married, we went out on the lawn at the Manti Temple and had a picnic. Aunt Hortense and Aunt Inez and Grandpa and Grandma Tanner had fixed a nice lunch. They didn't have food to eat in the temple like they do now so we went out and had a picnic and when we were finished, why Aunt Inez went back up to Payson with Uncle Wilson and Aunt Hortense. And grandpa and grandma, my parents, and Cosme Spencer (and I was Mrs. Cosme Spencer) we went on to Fish Lake.

Now my father had been working hard all summer on his farm. And he had his hay all put up and everything was all caught up on the farm and he wanted to go on a fishing trip. So we all went on a fishing trip with my father and when we got down to Fish Lake, why we each rented us a little cabin. And before we'd left some of my friends that I'd taught school with, they said "Now, we're going to go to Fish Lake and when they get down there, we're going to have fun with them on their first night married." And so when Cosme went in to the lodge to register he and my father, why sure enough these friends of mine were down there.

So Cosme came out and he said, "Clara and Erma, and their boyfriends, the whole crowd is down here so we'd better watch out." So Cosme and I, we just disappeared. We put our things in the cabin and we just went off up on the trails at Fish Lake and we stayed up there. We stayed up there until about 1:00 or 1:30 in the morning and we had walked around and we found out where they were staying. And so when we saw the lights go out in the cabins where they were staying, why then we went back to our cabin and we didn't see them at all.

The next morning about 4:00 there was a rap on our door. And it was my father and he said, "Cosme, Cosme, I can hear the motors starting down on the lake. It's time to go fishing." And so grandpa got up, I mean Cosme got up and he went fishing. And they didn't have a motor boat so all day long Cosme rowed my father around Fish Lake so that they could fish. And my mother and I, we sat up on the porch up at the lodge just like it is now. We sat up there and we embroidered and we walked around and talked. And when they came in from fishing, why then we had our dinner.

And every night they had a dance at Fish Lake so at night as tired as grandpa was, he'd been going from me all day, so we'd go to the dance. And when it'd get after the dance, we'd go home to bed. And at 4:00 in the morning or 4:30, why my father would rap on the door and say, "Cosme, Cosme, they're starting to go out on the lake. Do you want to go fishing?" And he'd say, "Yes" and he'd get up and go fishing and he'd row my father around Fish Lake again all day long. And that went on for a whole week. And it was, as far as I was concerned, it was all right. I didn't mind because they were all having a good time, I guess.

Well anyway, when we all got back to Payson we got the car unloaded then that was a real separation from me with my parents. And we sat in the front room and we'd say, "Well, we guess we'd better go." And then tears would come in my mother's eyes and tears would come in my eyes and we'd stay a little longer. And finally we left and went to our apartment over to Provo. Cosme had put \$300 down in a drawer of his trunk that he had saved and he said, "Now if you need any money, there's money down in the trunk? So there was a few things that we needed to get started.

Do you know what Uncle Wilson and Aunt Hortense gave us for a wedding present? They filled our cupboard with food. When we opened our cupboard when we got home in our apartment, there was about everything that you could think of in our cupboard – canned vegetables and jelly and jam and crackers and spices and about everything we would need to start housekeeping was in our cupboard. So there really wasn't very much that we needed. But every noon when Cosme would come home for his lunch he'd say, "Let's have some ice cream." So he'd get some money out of the trunk and away he'd run over to the grocery store to get some ice cream or cookies or something good.

And very often at night he'd say, "Let's go to a movie" and so until that money lasted we just had a real good time. But all of a sudden, there wasn't any more money in the trunk. At any rate, there was not very many household items that we bought. We were just having a good time and we surely did. We had a little Dodge Coup and then of course, we went back and forth to Payson every week and it didn't take long even in those days and that was probably a lot of money for that \$300 to just plain disappear.

And when there wasn't any left, why the ice cream stopped and the movies stopped because Cosme wasn't earning very much money. He was a manager then of a garage and he did mechanical work, fixed people's cars and washed them and stored them at night by the hotel. He'd park them and store them and keep them shined up for salesmen and people that came to the hotel. So he didn't earn a lot of money, but I had nice clothes from teaching school and there wasn't very much that we needed and we were very happy together and we really didn't know how poor we were.

The people we lived with were kind of snoopy. So after we'd lived in this basement a while, why we got tired of them peaking in our windows to see what newlyweds did and one thing

and another. And so we had a chance to rent a very nice apartment that was close to the garage and so we moved to this nice apartment. And we weren't there only just a few months when they sold the house and the lady that bought it wanted to live in the basement and so we had to move. And then we moved into Uncle Wilson's parents' basement. And there we had a big coal stove, I had a big coal stove to cook on. It was not that nice of an apartment, but it only cost us \$12 a month. Before that we had paid \$18 a month and so we could save \$6 a month by moving in to Wilson's basement. And there's where we lived until we moved to Richfield.

Just before we moved to Richfield we got a letter that Grandma Spencer was in trouble down in Mexico and she needed us to come. So we thought, "Well, it would please her very much." So Aunt Hortense and Aunt Mary and Cosme and I went to Mexico on a trip. We went down to see Grandma Spencer. We left late in the afternoon and we drove all night and all the next day until about 1:00 in the morning before we got to the Mexican border. And we were in Uncle Wilson's car. I was three months pregnant then with Jewel and I told him that they had the tools under the back set and I was riding a lot in the back and I'd tell them, I said, "I think I've been on every screw driver and tool that go bouncing along in the back seat."

I'd love to go back through and tell you how we chose Jewel's name. We didn't know whether we were going to have a girl or a boy, but one day a friend of mine came to visit and she had a little girl about as big as Marissa and her name was Jewel. And she was so pretty and so cute that I thought, "I would like to name my baby Jewel if it's a girl." So when Cosme came home I told him that Vera and her baby had come to visit us and that her little girl's name was Jewel and he said, "Ours will be Jewel too." So when Jewel was born why, when he took her up to bless her, when then he named her Nelda Jewel. And that's how she got her name from this little girl that was named Jewel. And I might tell you that this Jewel's husband, when she grew up, was the architect that drew up the plans for Aunt Lorealee's house.

But I wanted to tell you something about our trip to Mexico. I had never met Cosme's father and on this trip I had a chance to meet him. And I got better acquainted with Grandma Spencer and with his aunts and his cousins that lived there. And it was such a nice trip. It was the first time that I'd been that far away from home and it was the first time I'd been in a foreign country where the people looked different and acted differently than the ones that I was used to. Well, when we got to the border it was so late at night and we were all so tired that we got a motel and slept 'til morning.

The next day we were 'til way late in the afternoon getting across the border. We had to wait 'til the border officials came. And I don't know, there was a lot of business that I didn't understand. But It took all day for us to get credentials and to get across the border and I

was frightened. When we'd go along, it was just a trail of a road and we'd go bumping along in this car around the mesquite bushes and down into a gulley and around. And the Mexican people had burned the bridges so that we had to go down through the ditches instead of over them because maybe they had camped there and they needed wood to build a fire to make their coffee with. And so they'd burn the wood from the bridges so there weren't any bridges. And it got night and I was afraid.

When we would meet men coming along on horses, they would have handkerchiefs tied across their mouths like I'd see in movies of bandits. And I was afraid and I'd think, "Here's where we're going to get our throats cut. This is when they're going to rob us. Here's where we're going to meet our death." But they would just pass us and go right along and not do anything. Finally, when it got very, very late at night - it was the night of Halloween - and when we came into Dublan in the little town where Grandma Spencer lived (Cosme's mother) there was a big mill and the first thing I noticed that the windows were just like a jack-o-lanterns face - two eyes and a nose and a row of windows that made it look like a mouth. And I thought that was funny to think that the mill with the lights on looked like a jack-o-lantern right on Halloween night.

Well, the road was terrible all the way along and we just bumped and joggled and jiggled along until we got to grandma's house and we were so glad and so tired to be there. And we stayed down at Aunt Mariah's, Cosme's aunt. And Hortense and Mary went up and stayed with Grandma Spencer to her house. And this was the first real chance that I had to get acquainted with Cosme's mother. I had met her and known her in Provo, but this was the first time that I had been able to really get acquainted with her. Cosme had always loved and respected my parents so I wanted to learn to love his mother and his brothers and sisters like he loved mine.

I soon learned that you didn't need to be afraid of the Mexican people. They were just people, just like us only they spoke a different language and looked differently. And the next day or two after we went over to Casas Grandes to buy a present for one of his cousins that was going to have a baby. And when we got over to Casas Grandes, I had never seen such a funny town. The streets were just dirt and we walked down the street and grandpa said, "How'd you like some pumpkin candy?" And along on a table right along on down by the road was pumpkin candy. And I don't know how they made it, but it was just black with flies so I said, "No thank you, I don't think I care for any."

And so he said, "Well, I'll go in this store." I was sitting in the car and just as he was going in the store, here came a man out, a little tiny Mexican man. He wasn't very tall, not near as tall as grandpa. And all of a sudden, I saw grandpa kind of rush towards him and this little man rushed towards grandpa and he grinned. And he just didn't have only one or two teeth in his mouth. And he had a hat that didn't have any crown in it you know; just the brim

around. And they threw their arms around each other. And this man kissed grandpa on one cheek and then he kissed him on the other cheek and patted him on the back and was so glad to see him. And I thought, "Who on earth could that be?" Well, later I found out that he was a man that had worked for Cosme's father when Cosme was a little boy and he had kind of looked out for Cosme when he was a little boy. You will have to get grandpa to tell you more about this little Mexican. And then I noticed his shoes and his shoes didn't have any soles on them. He was walking barefooted, but his shoe was laced up. He'd laced his shoes up, but he didn't have any soles on his shoes.

And the week that we were down to Mexico was so different. We visited all his relatives and they came and visited us and we had a party and we went to his aunt's for dinner several times. And I want to tell you about the dinner. We ate at Aunt Mariah's and oh, she was such a good woman. She was such a good woman and she fixed such good meals for us. She had a nice house and had nice things to set her table with and everything. But she had a big hole in her screen door and I said one day to Aunt Mariah, "If you'll get me a piece of screen and a needle, I'll fix the hole in your screen door." And she said, "Oh, I don't want it fixed. I cut it that way on purpose so that the cat could go in and out of the house."

And there were flies in her house and when we'd sit around the table she'd have a pretty tablecloth on and pretty dishes and good food. And when Uncle Able, that was her husband, would ask the blessing, why we'd bow our heads and all the time Cosme would take his napkin and try to keep the flies off our plates and off the food while Uncle Able asked the blessing. There were lots of flies in her house and the only reason was because she had cut a hole in the screen door to let her cat go in and out because she loved that old cat. But she was a very, very good woman and we appreciated sleeping to her house. And when it was time to leave to come back to Utah, Grandma Spencer felt better and we were able to leave. We'd been to church and we'd done everything that we could down there and seen all of her friends and she felt better so we came back to Utah.

When we got back we came through Richfield and grandpa, Cosme said, "I want to stop in Richfield." because his boss up to Provo that he worked for said that he would like to start a store in Richfield. And one of the men had rented a building and he said, "When you come through Richfield, stop and see what you think of the building." So we stopped in Richfield and while we sat in the car, Aunt Mary and Aunt Hortense and I, he went over and looked at the building. And it was a little building down on Main Street now where the girls have their card desks. And he thought it would be alright to start a little store in. So we went home and that sort of finalized it. Then I knew that we were going to move away from Provo to come to Richfield and shortly after that we moved to Richfield.

Tonight I'd like to go back just a little ways from where we left off last time. I told you about our leaving on a trip to Mexico just before we moved to Richfield. This was kind of

interesting because it kind of ties us right up to the present time (the Spencer family and the Pace family). On our way to Mexico we went out through eastern Utah out through Price and down through Green River. And when we got down to Green River we had some car trouble, a flat tire or something. I'm not sure what it was, but we stopped at a garage to have the tire fixed and it was cold.

It was the last part of October and it was very cold like Halloween, you know. And it was very cold and so Aunt Hortense, grandpa's sister and his sister Mary and I went in the garage where it was warm while the mechanic and grandpa fixed the tire. They got the car ready to go and we were all standing around the stove keeping warm when a man came in and he had a great big black beard. And he was dressed in rough clothing, you know, and he came up to the fire too, up to the stove and wanted to get warm. But most of all he wanted our attention. He wanted to show off because he had had just a little bit of something to drink, some whisky and we didn't pay any attention to him. We didn't know him.

And so he would just dance a little closer to us and he'd almost try to step on Aunt Hortense's toes. And Aunt Hortense was very dignified and she just was very aloof and she didn't want to talk to him at all. But Aunt Mary and I, we began to talk to him a little bit. He said, "I might look pretty rough, but I want you to know when I'm home I wear store bought clothes." We wondered who he was and thought that he was just an old sheep herder. So after we visited with him a little and kidded him a little bit – teased him really a little and finally, why when we were ready to go this man also went outside.

And we said to the mechanic, "Who was that man?" And he said, "Well, his name is Vern Pace. He lives over in Richfield and he's very well to do. He has a lot of money and he's over here selling his sheep, loading them on the train to sell them. When he comes over here why, he has kind of a good time." And he told us some other stories about Mr. Pace that I won't tell to you, but that name stayed right in my mind because this mechanic said, "He has a lovely home over in Richfield and he has a nice wife and she's got red hair." Those things I remembered in my mind.

Well, I told you that when we came back from Mexico from this trip, we stopped in Richfield and Cosme went into the store where the downstairs' office is and that was where we started the store. Cosme Spencer went in to look it over. Well this name, Vern Pace, stayed in my mind, that he had a lot of money and that he had a red-headed wife. And so we went back up to Provo and there's where our story is going to start now and then I'll tell you more about Paces a little later.

Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Whiting had hired grandpa to come to Richfield and start a little, start an auto parts store. And they told us that we would only be down to Richfield for about five or six months. And I thought that was all right. I liked to live in Provo, but I thought, "We need to earn a living and we need to go to Richfield, but it will only be for five

or six months. "Do you know how long it's been? 44 years that we've been in Richfield. We just came down to stay for five months.

Since we'd spent about all our money going on the trip to Mexico and because we had only been earning such a little bit of money in Provo, we didn't have any money to make the move with. I think grandpa had (Cosme Spencer had) only about \$20 in his pocket. Well, I was expecting our first child, Jewel, and we didn't have any money to pay rent with. We hadn't had a chance to find us an apartment or anything and couldn't have paid for one anyway. So it was decided that I would stay with my parents in Payson while Cosme, my husband, came to Richfield and started this little auto parts store.

Well, we moved out of our apartment in Provo and we brought our overstuffed set and put it over in Grandma Tanner's front hall and we didn't have much other furniture. We had a bed and an old dresser that our Uncle Frank Spencer had given us. And we couldn't bring the dresser to Richfield then. But we did bring the bed and a little table and chairs set and our washing machine and the rug. And that's what grandpa (I guess I can say grandpa) moved to Richfield with. And right back where grandpa works on that desk, there was a partition between there and the front. Behind the partition, back where this desk is where grandpa works, we put the bed up and put our table and chairs there. And grandpa got it all fixed up as nice as he could. He put the rug on the floor so it'd be clean for him to walk around on. And you know, there was a toilet back there. You've seen that, haven't you where all the boxes are and a sink?

Well, there's where he tried to live. But that place had been an old harness shop and there was a lot of grease on the floor. The first thing he noticed was that grease was coming up through our good carpet. And so he broke a lot of paste board boxes and he put the paste board boxes on the floor and then he put the rug on top of that so the grease wouldn't spoil our carpet. Then he put the bed up. But for the first few nights he slept on a little canvas camp cot until he could get these things together and get them fixed up in the back.

And so I stayed up to Payson, but we'd get very, very lonesome for each other. And because he was only making \$14 a week, we didn't have any money for much gasoline so he couldn't come to Payson. We divided up the money. He would send me \$5 so I could buy cloth for diapers and baby clothes and he would keep \$5 to eat on. Then we had to save the rest of the money to pay our hospital bill so there wasn't very much money. And sometimes my parents would take me to Richfield and leave me. And then I'd stay down there until I got a ride back to Payson. And sometimes I'd ride back up with Mr. Whiting and I'd stay up to Payson for two or three weeks. Maybe sometimes grandpa could come up and we were always so glad to see each other.

And as I got farther along in my pregnancy it was hard for me to come to Richfield. I either had to sit on a hard straight chair or lay on the bed. And back where the bed was it wasn't

very warm. And there was a little stove right close by where you come through the partition there and it would keep the front part of the store warm so there's where I'd sit and we just enjoyed being together so very much.

And at night we'd go for walks and we'd walk up the street. And I looked in the telephone book and I found where Vern Pace lived so we walked up and I said, "I think I'd like to get acquainted with that woman and see what she's like." Anyway, finally at night we'd have to turn out the lights because Mr. Whiting wanted the lights turned out at night so that customers wouldn't bother us at night. Besides he didn't want the light bill to be high. And so we'd sit there in the back.

And there was a little desk and we'd listen to the radio and there were two or three programs that we really liked, like you like Little House on the Prairie and the Waltons. Well, there was a program called Myrt and Marge and we used to listen to them sing. And they'd have a dialogue and talk back and forth and tell jokes. And then there was another show we always liked to listen to at 9:00 every night and that was Amos and Andy. And they were two negroes and they were real funny. Well, those were two programs that added a little spice to our life with their jokes.

There wasn't a place to cook so one day when I came down from Payson I brought an electric hot plate. That's just one round plate that you could plug in and it would get hot. So when I was down here, why we'd buy some soup or some pork and beans or something like that and then we'd have a hot meal at noon. And when I was in Payson, why grandpa would have corn flakes for breakfast and then at night he'd go down to Mrs. Entz' and have dinner. And that's how we got along.

Pretty soon, it got Christmas time because it was the first of November when he moved down here and it was Christmas. I remember that all the money I had to buy grandpa a Christmas present with was \$4 and so I went up to Christensen's store and I bought him a blue jacket and it was like the sailor's pea jacket quite a lot. And they were made by government relief programs (the PWA). It was Public Works Administration and they would make these blue jackets. And they were very cheap to sell, but it was a good warm one and he needed a warm jacket and so that's what I gave grandpa for Christmas.

Well, because I was going to the hospital do you know what he gave me? Some new underwear and a nightgown. But it was just a much fun as if those presents had cost an awful lot of money because there was a lot of love behind those presents. Well, by April when Jewel was born we had enough money saved to pay \$75 for the doctor and the hospital bill. And that's what it cost us was \$75. And James laughed about that, but when you think that it was \$75 out of \$64 a month, why that percentage-wise it was like \$700 I guess now if you figure it out.

Well, after Jewel was born then Mr. Bradshaw said he thought that we would need a raise and so he raised our wages to \$18 a week. And then I stayed in Payson for a month after Jewel was born and then we came down and rented an apartment. But I want to tell you about when Jewel was born. Along in the night, I took sick. I knew that my baby was about to be born and I went to the stairway door in my mother's house and I called upstairs and I said, "Mamma, I think it's time. I think I'm going to be sick."

Well, their feet hit the floor just like that and downstairs they came and built a fire in the cook stove and put the tea kettle on. And pretty soon my mother said, "Well, did you call Cosme?" And I said, "No" and so she went to the telephone and called Cosme down here to Richfield, But then we had to drive 18 miles over to Provo because there's where Jewel was born was in the hospital over to Provo. And my mother and father were just as nervous as they could be. Besides calling Cosme, she also called my sister in Salt Lake and so Inez and her little boy Fred and her little girl Shirlee, they got in their car and they came to Provo. And grandpa and grandma took me to Provo from Payson. There was a whole convention there to see Jewel born.

In fact, that's what one man who was visiting his wife said, "Looks to me like there's a whole convention here." But anyway, Jewel was born over in Provo in Mrs. Crane's Maternity Home. And I stayed in the hospital for 12 days and then I think you came up and moved me back over to Payson where I stayed for a month. And then when we moved to Richfield we rented the house over on the corner of 4th West and Center Street. And we tried to find a picture tonight, but we couldn't find one so tomorrow we are going to take a picture of that house.

But anyway, we had a nice apartment and we moved the rest of our furniture down and there's where we lived for two years. Well right after we moved into that house, one day grandpa was out cutting the lawn. We moved down the last part of May and he was out cutting the lawn and a man came across the street and I knew who it was because he came from that house over there. And we got acquainted with him and he said, "My name is Vern Pace." And I said, "Well, we've met you before." And he said, "Oh, have you?" And I said, "Yes, we met you one night over in Green River when you were over there selling your sheep." Well, he remembered that he had been drinking so he stopped and went back home across the street.

Well, right after that Mrs. Pace came over and got acquainted with us and this family, the Pace family became some of our very, very best friends. They were almost like our parents because they just took us in and they had us to dinner and they were such good friends. Well, one day the Paces were going back to Washington DC to a government meeting on range land and Mrs. Pace said, "I need some dresses made. Will you make me some dresses?" So I made her four dresses and when she went back to Washington she thought

she was very well dressed. And she told me that the day they went and visited the President she wore one of the dresses that I made.

But anyway, they had four children and one of their boys was named Carl and they had lost one boy earlier than that. He got a brain tumor and died. His name was Sheryl and Carl was next. And while we lived by them, why Carl got sick and died. And then there was Ralph that you know and then a girl named Priscilla and Mac and those were the Pace children. And they were all very, very nice children and they were a family that was very, very good to us. And they just took us in like we were their family too; for Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas, why the Paces invited us to dinner.

Well, I might tell you now that when Lorelee was born they were just about as excited about a new baby as you can imagine. And so the boys wanted to know if they could name our baby. And I said, "Well, I'll you what you can do. You can pick out a lot of your favorite names and then we'll pick out a name from those names that we like." And one of the names they had was Lora Lee. It was two names then spelled L-O-R-A L-E-E. And so instead of naming her Lora Lee we named her Lorelee and that's how Lorelee got her name from this Pace family. And they've always been such good friends and now Ralph and your daddy have good times together.

Yes, we'll have to remember that, that we wanted to name our first boy CG after his daddy, but we didn't want to name him Cosme and so we chose the name of Carl because that pleased the Paces and it was after their boy. And then we gave him Garn for a second name so he would have CG. And at the time that Carl was born, your daddy was born, they gave him \$20 to start a bank account. But the Paces were very good to us and then there was another family that lived up the street that was very good to us and they were the Dr. Poulson family.

And he was the stake president and he was also the dentist. This Poulson family had a big family of girls. They only had one boy and seven girls and they were also very good to us. And when it got time for mutual to start along in the fall, why Mrs. Poulson told the mutual president that if they could get me to teach a mutual class that she would see that I had aa baby tender every Tuesday night and so I taught their daughter Phyllis and the girls her age in mutual. And every night Farrell or Joyce would come over and tend Jewel while I would go to mutual. And at the same time why, grandpa was asked to be in the scouting program, one of the scout masters. And he taught the explorers so every Tuesday night we'd go to mutual and the Poulson girls would tend Jewel.

And they also became almost like our parents. They were just so good to us. And when the general authorities would come down for conference, why they would invite us over to dinner and I'd help Sister Poulson set her table and get ready for the apostles when they'd come down to our stake conferences. And we got milk from the Poulsons. And when Mrs.

Pace would go to Wayne County, why she'd come back with eggs and chickens and bring them over to us. They helped us out quite a lot. They'd never want to take any money for their chickens and their eggs and their vegetables and whatever she'd bring home from Wayne County. They were very good to us.

We bought milk from Mrs. Poulson. Do you know how much we paid for a quart of milk? It was \$0.06. It was raw milk too that we had. Between those two families we almost felt like we were at home with our own parents and to this day the Poulson family and the Pace family are very close to us.

Well, we lived in this apartment for two years and we had as one of our first neighbors, was a friend of mine who got married the same day in the Manti Temple with us. Her name was Lucy Kerr and they moved in just about the same time we did, within a day or two. And so I had one of my very good friends living on the other side of the apartment and it was nice to have her there. Then we lived there until they had promised the apartment to one of the school teachers. The man who owned the apartment was the principal of the high school, Angus Maughn. And he had promised the apartment to the coach. And so when it got time in the fall, we lived there two years, but when it got fall we knew that we had to find a new place to live.

But I want to tell you something that was very traumatic that happened while we lived there. One day my mother and father and Aunt Inez and I don't know who else came to visit. And the day they were going to leave why, we were fixing dinner. It was in the fall and we had corn on the cob and we had watermelon, I remember. But anyway, when they left that day I went to get cleaned up to walk downtown and I went to put my diamond ring on and I couldn't find it. And I looked and looked and looked. And I thought, well, I knew where it was and I bet it was scraped out with the watermelon rinds and buried. And so we hunted for my diamond ring. We dug up all the garbage.

And I thought maybe it was burned with some papers because I thought I'd left it on the cupboard when I'd made some pie crust and we couldn't find it. We went through all the ashes and finally sifting the ashes I found a little piece of white metal and I thought, "That is my diamond." We couldn't find the stone, but thought, "That's the metal." So we took it down to Mr. Poulson. He was the dentist. And he tested it and he said it was tin; it wasn't gold.

Well anyway, all winter long everywhere I went I was looking for my diamond ring. I felt so badly about losing it. And the next spring I was cleaning out the top of my cupboard and I thought, "Here are some seeds in a tea cup that Aunt Inez wants to plant." She had gone out in the yard and picked some hollyhock seeds or zinnia seeds or something and had come in and put them in this tea cup up and put them up in the top of the cupboard.

And I thought, "Well, I don't want them." So I went to throw the seeds out and guess what was in the bottom of the cup? My diamond ring. And oh, did I hurry and get cleaned up and half-way ran to town to show grandpa that I had found my ring. Well, that was one sad thing that happened while we lived there.

Another thing that I remember about that apartment was when Frank Bradshaw came to town he would come to stay with us. He was our boss and he'd have to sleep out in the front room on our daybed. And he was a nice guest. We enjoyed having him come. Although, we thought he was rich and we were very, very poor, we thought it was nice to have him come because he was a nice man.

Well, Grandma Spencer used to come and visit too and I was always a little bit nervous when my mother-in-law came. I'd try to cook things and do my very best in cooking. And one day when I knew that she was coming, I thought, "Well, we'll have chicken and I'll make some ice cream." Well, I didn't have an ice cream freezer so I had a bucket with a handle on it. So I tried to make ice cream in this bucket by standing there turning the bucket by the bale back and forth to freeze the ice cream.

Well, I think it turned out all right, but I had never bought a chicken out of the store before in my life. At home when we'd had chicken, we always went out and killed one and got it ready to cook. And I had never bought a chicken out of the store. So this day I bought a chicken and I put dressing in it and fixed it all up and had dinner all ready when Grandma Spencer came. And when we cut the chicken, do you know what? I hadn't taken the craw out. Do you know what the craw is? When a chicken eat wheat, it stores it in a little sack inside of its neck until it's digested.

Well, I cooked this chicken and I didn't know when they cleaned a chicken in a store that they'd leave that craw in. And so I cooked the chicken and when we went to cut it why, there was wheat all over the meat plate. Oh, and I was so embarrassed, but she was sweet about it. She said, "Well, I don't think you'll ever forget to do that again." Because they'd left the neck on and the craw was there. Well, I had no idea to clean it out. Anyway, that was something very embarrassing.

But grandma was always telling me how to take care of my baby. She'd say, "Now mamma, it's time to feed it. It's time to pick it up. It's time to do this and it's not time to put it to bed." And she had been a trained nurse and really had been a good mother, but I thought I was a good mother too. I was about 24 years old and I thought I knew how to take care of my baby. And sometimes I wasn't ready to feed the baby because I was doing like the doctor told me. But anyway, sometimes it bothered me a little bit when grandma would keep telling me about how to take care of my baby.

And one day Jewel was walking around in a little walker. It wasn't quite like that one, but it was similar. And we had a door to our kitchen that went down the steps to the basement and she said, "That baby's going to go down those steps." And I thought, "No, she isn't. I'll see that she doesn't." Well she'd say, "You'll have to watch that. That baby's going to go down those steps." And so we were very, very careful. And Grandma Spencer went home and guess what happened the next day? The baby went down the steps and you know where she fell? She fell into a clothes basket full of clothes. But that old walker just went over and over and over with her. She went down three or four steps and then it went through a kind of a railing and she fell into a clothes basket full of wet clothes Well, believe me, I didn't ever tell Grandma Spencer that Jewel had ever fallen down the steps, but she did.

One of the first friends we met when we came to Richfield, of course, was the mailman. He was very, very friendly. His name was Reed Ogden. When he'd deliver the mail, instead of just putting it in the mailbox, he'd have to knock on the door. And he'd say, "Nelda, here's a letter. Looks like it's from Payson." And then I'd run and get the letter. Well, you know he was our mailman and then he was our milkman too. And his boys delivered our paper. Yes, and sometimes he delivered the paper and so one day I kidded him and I said, "Reed, the only thing that you don't deliver is our babies." But he was a very, very good friend.

And his boys were scouts at that time and so they'd say, "Phil has to pass off a merit badge. He has to cook a Dutch oven dinner. Come and go with us up to West Mountain and eat out with us. Or come to Monroe, the boys have got to pass off some swimming tests and come over there and we'll go swimming in the pool." And so they became some very good friends of ours. Some other good friends that are still our friends is Elvis and Dorothy Christensen and Beth and Wendell Anderson. They still live over in the 4th Ward where we did. Reed passed away last winter, but they were some of our very good friends and we had lots of good times together.

By that time I was getting acquainted with Mrs. Maughn, the principal of the high school's wife, and finally she moved in the other side of the apartment. And she would invite me to come in when she'd have card clubs. And I got acquainted with Dorothy Buchanan and Rula Frank and Thelma Beutler and quite a lot of ladies that are still my friends. But my mother, one day, she said, "I don't like to see you play cards. You know, you haven't been taught that way. Promise me that you won't do that." And so I promised here that I wouldn't do that. But these women were still my friends anyway.

Well, we lived in this apartment for two years and then they had to find an apartment for the coach that was coming and so we knew that we'd have to move. And so we didn't have any money to buy a house with. We didn't know what to do and so we heard one of the school teachers that was going to move away. He'd taken a job somewhere else, a Mr.

Peterson. And his house was going to be for sale and there were two or three that wanted it, but grandpa went down to the bank. And the banker's name was Ed Street and he used to live up in Payson and was friends to my parents. So grandpa went in to the bank and he talked to Mr. Street and said, "I'd like to buy that little house, but I don't have any money."

Well, Cliff Reese had some money to put down on a house, but somehow or other why Ed Street told Mr. Peterson that he thought that we were the best people to buy the house. And so grandpa had to borrow \$300 from Ed Street to make a down payment on the house. And for security he put our car up for security and my sewing machine and I think something else. All of our furniture, grandpa said, which wasn't much. It was an old bedstead and an old dresser that Uncle Frank had given us. But we did have a nice overstuffed bed and a day bed. Well anyway, that was what we put down for security for the house that we bought. And I think there's where we better leave our story tonight when we bought the little white house over on 1st West and I think I've shown it to you, haven't i?

Tonight we're going to talk about when we lived in the little white house. We told you about it last time; how we bought it and when we moved there we just had Jewel. She was about two years old and we had some very good neighbors. These neighbors were named Andersons and you children know Alfred and Zana Anderson don't you because they live in your ward? Well, the next year after we lived there, the Andersons had a baby girl. They named her Rosalie. And the interesting thing about it was that she was born on Jewel's birthday. Then we found out that Mrs. Anderson and grandpa had the same birthday. And so we felt like we were almost relatives to them and they were very, very close and good friends and they still are.

And I think about the next important thing that happened was the next year when we had Lorelee. Lorelee, we just couldn't think of a nice name for Lorelee and I told you last week about what good friends the Paces were. Well, there was Ralph and Mac and Priscilla Pace. And oh, they were just so excited about our new baby and they said, "Could we pick out a name for her?" And I wasn't too sure I wanted them to do that and so I said, "Well, what you children do is to make a list of all the pretty names that you like and then we'll try and choose one from those names.' And so Lora Lee was a name that they had seen in a movie, the girl's name in the movie, and so they wanted us to name her Lora Lee. Well, we decided that that was a nice name for her, but we didn't like two names and so we named her Lorelee and they were very, very pleased about that.

Well something that happened about that time was the study club wanted to form a junior club and so they got Crystal Magelby and I and we started the Richfield Culture Club. From that time on, grandma has belonged to that club. Well, Crystal Magelby was the first president, but about at Christmastime she and Neil moved to Cedar City and so I became the acting president of Culture Club. Well, the next year when we were ready to start, why

they nominated me for president and they said, "Because you only served half a year, we just would like you to be president for the next year." And I said well, I didn't think that was fair so would they choose somebody and we'd have an election.

So they put up Virginia McKinley. You know McKinley, don't you? Virginia McKinley lives in your ward. And they put her up and we had an election and I was elected president of the culture club for that year. And we did lots of fun things. We liked to go to Salt Lake to the conventions and we did lots of fun things up there. We had a big banquet at the governor's mansion and we put on programs up there and we were doing just lots of fun things. One of the things we did right at first when I was president, we had a first aid class. And we all learned how to give artificial respiration and take care of burns and cuts and things like that and it's always come in handy.

Well, then I was asked to work in the primary and the first job I had in the primary was to teach the 12 year old boys. And when the president asked me if I would teach them, well I said that I would. And I didn't know that she just heaved a big sigh of relief because she said already that year they'd have three teachers. And so the first day when I went to primary, guess what the boys said? "Oh you're going to be the new teacher? We've already driven three teachers out and we'll drive you out too." And I said, "Oh no, you won't. I'm going to be your teacher and I'm going to be a good one and I bet you're going to like me." And so that year we graduated 11 boys out of 12 out of primary. And there was only one boy that didn't graduate and that boy grew up and he was the man that built the cement fence around our lot when we put the cinder block fence around. And he's still a very good friend to me.

Then I was asked to be in the presidency. And then after that I was asked to be the president and I was the president for several years. And then I went from the primary and was in the presidency of the mutual and all this time, why I was substituting over at the school. Every few days about 7:30, the telephone would ring and they'd say, "Could you come and teach the third grade today? Or so and so is sick, can you come and teach the first grade or some other grade?" So sometimes two or three days a week, I would substitute over to the school.

And then one time, I taught first grade quite a long while because Margaret Peterson – do you know Margaret Peterson? I think she was your Sunday school teacher when you lived in our ward. They live over the fence from us. Her brother was lost over in the jungles in Korea, I guess. And at any rate, they never did find him, but they had a funeral and it was very sad. And that was the time that I substituted for quite some time for Margaret.

Well, while I was teaching school I got quite well acquainted with the superintendent and he was stake teacher trainer. His name was Mr. Ashman and he asked if I could be his assistant. And so I was the assistant for the stake teacher trainer for a while. And then he

quit and I was a stake teacher trainer for all the teachers in the stake. And then one of the sixth grade teachers wanted to go back to school and get her master's degree. So Mr. Ashman asked me if I would teach the rest of the year the sixth grade so then I went to school every day.

Oh, just before this though, oh I told you we had had Lorelee and she was about three years old. And I loved to teach school and so daddy said, "Well, if you want to teach school I'll tend Lorelee every day." And so in the morning about this time Aunt Helen, my sister-in-law, was sick and her little boy had to come down and live with us. And both Jewel and Dennis were in third grade together. And we had Lorelee and so every morning we'd get up like you do on Sunday mornings and we'd hurry and get breakfast and get the dishes done. And they'd get their beds made and we'd all be ready for school about 8:30. And then we'd walk with Lorelee over to the school grounds and I'd watch her until she'd crossed the road. And then she'd go over to the store and she'd sit all day long in a chair there at grandpa's desk and draw pictures and color and cut out paper dolls. She was just about like Marielle. And then at 4:00 when school was out (Grandpa would bring her home for lunch and then they'd go back) and at 4:00 when school was out, I'd go get her and come home. And she did that from Christmas 'til the end of school every day.

And I was president of the primary. We used to have a primary conference and put on a spring festival. And I had all these things to do besides teaching school. Well, when it got along about this time of year, Dennis and Jewel and Lorelee all got chickenpox. And they were sick and I still had to go to school. So grandpa hired a girl from Elsinore to come and she stayed with the children all day. And just as soon as school was out, I'd hurry home and take care of the sick children. Well, Jewel only had two or three pox on her and Dennis had only a pox or two, but Lorelee was just covered like you children were.

And at that time, grandpa just couldn't buy parts to sell in the store. It was war time and he just couldn't buy parts. And so he'd hear of a place of business going out of business and he'd rush to that place and buy as many parts as he could. And during this time he had to go down to Clovis, New Mexico and he bought some parts there. And I was left alone at night with Lorelee. And I'd have to give her soda baths like you children had and rub her with lotion. And she was really, really sick and I was glad when grandpa came home.