

The Memoirs of

*Bernard Elden Knapp*

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Letters Bernie Wrote  
to Parents 1961-65

510 Averett Ave.  
Springville,  
Utah

26038

John Bird's  
Student teaching father called  
to be mission president  
of Southwest Indian  
mission



J. W. Knapp  
347 Cleveland St.  
Idaho Falls,  
Idaho

2-3554



Dear Folks,

Hi ! How are you getting along? It is pretty nice weather down here. It's been a little bit on the windy side but it hasn't really rained much and I enjoy it being cloudy and cooler. But today and yesterday it has not been cloudy and it is pretty ~~warm~~ warm. I would just as soon that it didn't stay this way.

School is going along about the same I guess not much change. I don't think that I will ever be so glad to see school let out as this year. Just what day I don't really know. I rather think however that it will be in June. The classwork will be over before then but they have to go back for a few days I guess just to please or satisfy someone. Who I don't know. Not the kids and not me.

Well I have really enjoyed going to the missionary affairs that have been held down in this area. Two weeks ago I went to Salt Lake with Hales, and Crossley to hear Sister Smith report her mission. I learned from one of the elders there that ~~she had~~ Elder Harris was in the hospital again with trouble stemming from that appendicitis trouble that he had soon after he first got home.

Well then last Friday night we Hales, Nielsen, Sister Thomas and I went to Salt Lake again. We had a party just for those that were from Taiwan. Sit. Clsegg and Clegg and Smith were both there. It was very enjoyable. Some of them brought some of their slides and I really envied them for their fine pictures. Wish I had some of them. Well we had a good time. Sister Clegg as always had something all fixed up to eat. A really swell Chinese dinner, with Fried rice too Dad, by the way.

In the church section it named a new mission president to the Southwest Indian mission where Roger Bird was. This man is Baird, from Orem. His one son filled a mission in Hong Kong. He went over with E. Crossley, in the group just ahead of me. The paper said that he had a brother already working in that mission. Possibly Roger Bird knows him.

This Elder Tipton, Roger Romrell's first companion lives in Springville, I didn't get to go to his report here just recently because it came the same night that I spoke here. But I met him at the Baird home recently at a Chinese dinner that was held there. He's a quite a guy. Really a good elder. I guess he was probably a district supervising elder toward the end of his mission. Well if and when I see him again then I shall surely say hello to him and ask how Roger is getting along. I noticed also in the church section that there is going to be a special meeting called a seminar for two weeks during the summer for mission presidents. It mentioned that all had been invited and I couldn't help but to think that no doubt president Taly Taylor would be in Salt Lake for it. If so it ~~will~~ would be a good time for a get together with all the missionaries. from there with him.

Last night we had no sacrament meeting or any other meeting in this ward. During the Fast meeting they read my membership into the ward here. It was on a pink slip. So I assume that it was handled through my enrollment at the BYU. I figure that it doesn't mean too much since schools about out here now anyway.

Well it is pretty hard to keep high school kids interested in school this time of year. It's quite a challenge. I'll have six classes all to myself tomorrow. I have a half hour movie that I can show to them however. It is on Holland. Land Below the Sea is the name I think. I missed the first two classes this morning. I had to go over and take a test on the campus in the seminary class. I also had to go to the hospital and have a few tests taken of blood, urine, and stool. I was supposed to have had a physical to even enter school here. Somehow they never got around to informing me. So one day I thought that I would go in and see the doctor since this rash hasn't entirely cleared up and with the warmer weather I thought I better have a check. Before I could see him I had to go through the school clinic and so now I'm in the process of having several tests. I guess they will be able to find out if it is an allergy of some kind or just what. I have to see the doctor Friday after he has had a chance to see the results and the X-rays and everything. Warren says he's

the best doctor around here. So I guess that he should be able to tell if anyone can. Well tell everyone hello for me. Oh yes E. Harris was okay looks good he was at the Taiwan party in Salt Lake too.



Concerning the chain of authority there are some things that I really don't understand. Can you tell me this then. I assumed that Heber J Grant or I mean George Albert Smith was ordained by Joseph F. Smith once president rather than by Joseph Fielding Smith. I don't know how we are supposed to keep men like them separated on the records. Was the President of the church Joseph F. Smith also Joseph Fielding? Was he Joseph Fielding's father who is now president of the apostles?

And how is it possible to trace the melchizedek Melchizedek priesthood through the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon.

Did you mean the three witnesses or did you mean Peter James, and John or just who? We don't trace through the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon the priesthood surely do we? The line of authority of a high priest. I'd like to know this thanks.

I surely do get sleepy early here lately. Seems that I can't get enough sleep and no wonder I guess when I get up 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning. But I try to catch up on week-ends. Well I don't get up that early all the time. I didn't this morning and I won't tomorrow. The biggest problem is getting enough planned ahead and in a way that you can present it when you should. I don't know that I'll be home for mother's day. I really doubt that I will. I really will have to keep plugging away to have things caught up to where I can keep ahead of the classes this last couple of weeks that are left and with warm weather it will have to be prepared specially good. I met one person in American Fork when I got my car fixed that knew Bishop Allen. He didn't know that he was a bishop though. He used to play basketball with him in Idaho Falls High School I guess. I can't recall his name right now but he's the son-in-law to President Smith former president to the Gulf States when Rex Bateman was there. I took my car to his garage to have it fixed when the over-drive went out. They were pretty nice about it and it turned out not so serious as I had predicted as you know.

Well I guess that I have told you all of this before. Well I guess that I told you about the letter that said that they would not grant me permission to study further also. The reason was that because I had to spend all this time this

semester away from the campus in teaching they assumed that I was not studying the same things or the same course that I was before I went on my mission. I wrote them a letter and explained it all to them and the other day I received a letter back again from the Denver Office. It contained only a form but on the form it had a signature and as far as I can make it out it must be an approval so I guess that one of these days I will be getting a check in the mail. So that will be welcome. I can then pay you back, in part at least. My it gets warm here. the sun pours in in the evening through the bedroom and its always warm. Aunt Finnie keeps the heat turned up in the rest of the house. I keep my vent shut off but it is pretty hard to keep the heat from the sun out. I get so tired sitting here sweating and trying to study when it's so warm as it is. That's why I go to bed so early a lot of the time and then I have to get up at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning in order to get my papers checked and get my assignments. Then if I don't get up or don't work fast enough or run into a difficulty it really throws me off. And then I have to worry about going unprepared to school. That's the part that I hate about this teaching worse than anything else. It's so hard to keep up on the preparation and the paper work and checking. I have papers for from 3 classes to look over tonight answers to chapter questions in their reading assignment. Then last night and early this morning before I went to school I had to finish correcting 3 sets of tests and grade and record the grades. It's always a job trying to prepare ahead of them and having something planned to teach them. A lot of the kids I guess it is the weather or time of year but they don't seem to even plan on studying.

Well I guess this letter seems sort of discouraged. It isn't really. I don't feel too badly. I'll be glad when this next couple of weeks are over though I'll tell the world.

Well mom in case I don't get up and I don't get around to writing again this week I'll say Happy Mother's Day to you in hopes that it will be one and I hope the kids there will be able to get over to see you. So I send my love to both of you.

Love - Bonnie  
and  
all  
the  
family  
for  
me  
too  
-  
Dorothy



281 E 6th N

Provo, Utah



— LAW DAY U. S. A. —  
FREEDOM UNDER THE LAW  
— MAY 1 —



J W KNAPP  
347 Cleveland St.,  
Idaho Falls,  
Idaho



April 23, 1962

Dear Folks,

Hi! Well I made a good trip down. I picked Dennis up about 9:30 in Salt Lake. Golly if they had a road ~~but~~ like the new one to Pocatello all the way to Salt Lake. It takes as long to drive thru Pocatello as it does from the one end of the new highway to the other.

You should drive down some day. It isn't a bad drive. The speed limit is 45 m.p.h. lowest limit - 70 m.p.h. is the high limit. There are 2 lanes going each way - you'd enjoy it and be amazed at what you'll see.

At the Pocatello end there's a stop sign and you leave the highway to the right going west. Then down a hill. There's a red light - straight ahead is that old overpass. If you turn right at the flashing yellow light at bottom of the hill. There's a paved road going north & south. This takes you north about a mile or two. Then you go back to the highway and on to Mabel's or else you can go straight then over the overpass and north on the regular highway until you come to Mabel's.

Well I'll sign off -

thanks again -

I'm afraid my thanks is too much like fine print. I should write it first if I were as grateful



as I should be.

I'm homesick from listening to my recordings of the mission. And I have my mission to thank you for also. And so many things. When I see some people disrespectful to leaders etc. I thank you for my "bringing up" there too.

When I'm home I feel embarrassed sometimes because you push too much. I don't need to be waited on hand and foot. I appreciate your concern and sincere interest but I'm afraid I'm not able to repay you for such kindness and affection. I know I should give you kisses and hugs too but I don't. But I do love you and respect you. I know I'll never amount to as much as you have or nearly what you expect of me - I've already proved that but whatever I am able to feel and show and possibly do for and with the Chinese people is a part of my nature and my training from you I feel for which I'm grateful. I don't feel I'm entirely out of line when I speak of my love and desire toward the Chinese. Jesus said he'd always love the poor - those sealed are sealed eternally. There's an eternal life together to work toward and hope for which makes our Gospel beautiful and meaningful. The short years in the mission are really short in comparison. I grew to respect and love the Chinese saints. I sometimes think the only advantage of other missionaries (than our own church) is that they can spend longer - even a life time - in missionary service to such fine people. What a joy Paul had in his many years, of course his tribulations were like-wise multiplied too. And the sons of Mosiah 14 years as missionaries.

Well we just heard "Trees" song - Dennis commented, "my wouldn't it be nice to write something so beautiful that would stand for many years" - I thought how insignificant that makes

what I receive from you as well as well as a blessing from the Lord - I do love you  
my words of thanks or gratitude compared to



281 E 6th N  
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Ut.



J. W. Knapp  
347 Cleveland St.  
IDAHO FALLS,  
IDAHO,

Dear Folks,

Hi! Well it's still raining alot here. Just been hailing and almost snow now.

I need to go take a driver's test for a Utah driver's license. I thought I'd wait for a little and see if it would stop storming and also for the mail to come.

I don't see the papers and the Post Register comes 5-6 days late in the school library so I don't know any of the news about conditions home. I was glad for your informative letter. After today I don't expect to have any more afternoon classes on Friday. So I'll be through after 9:00 a.m. So I'll try to run home on a week-end in a couple more weeks. By then surely the roads will be cleared up.

I do want to send you something. I'll copy it from the letter that I received from ~~anybody~~ <sup>Tainan</sup> not long ago which you forwarded to me.

It was from Sister Kathryn Manton a lady missionary from Los Angeles. She arrived in Tainan a while before I came home.

Dear Elder Knapp,

Was ~~very~~ surprised to hear from you - as you see

Well I'll put it on an other page I guess. I wrote to her about our Sister Suzie Chow who died in Taipei. One of our strongest members. One who had completed a local mission. Her first junior companion was Sister Manton. Previously she had been the companion of both Sisters Smith and Clegg.

Elder Vandrey of who she speaks is from Jerome. We worked together in Keelung the last couple of months I was there. He arranged for the funeral service. He is here at the BYU now. He's the last one to <sup>have</sup> arrived home.



(2)

Don't send my income tax forms,

I'll make them out when I get home. You might hold my <sup>also</sup> ~~it~~ thing out of the \$110 - this time please.

I was visiting with him just last night.

Well it's just past 3:30 and still snowing big flakes. So I guess it isn't going to

stop so I may as well go on down and take my driving test. I need it for Monday and they will be closed tomorrow.

Sometimes I drop out to Springfield.

They all seem to be well.

Last time I was out women gave me something interesting to read. In the New Zealand Mission publication of a Catholic professor who many years ago was in China (Nanking University teaching scripture). He met 2 Mormon missionaries by chance they stopped in Shanghai on their way home from Europe or Palestine. They gave him a Book of Mormon and he promised he would read it. He laughed about Joseph Smith. Well sometime later he read it. He read it again. He took a trip to Jerusalem. Top Jewish authorities of his acquaintance checked ancient Jewish records. There had been an assassination and there was a leader killed - a second stolen - and a small band (considered as outlaw) escaped into the desert - were pursued but fled in ships into the sea. This according to their record.

ford

large room

2  
3

Sincerely Dennis

He still didn't believe the prophet. An expert on Chaldean checked (read) the entire book and said it was a pure translation (no modern English whatever). He then checked carefully on J. Smith - all the libraries in U.S. - had friends and Catholic students do the work. There was no doubt he (prophet) was not a learned man - his family were poor and humble. Finally he decided if he would obey the word of wisdom he could get an answer. After a long time his prayer was answered and he accepted. Since he has converted 9

cosmetic priests who joined the church and 3500 other people. He took the Book of Mormon to N.Y. and told the Cardinal Spellman (a personal friend and another high up Catholic) he'd joined the church - the BoM was true and he'd rather be a joiner in the LDS church than what they were or what he had been. He said if they could prove the book false he'd give them all he owned - even his wife and work free of charge for their church for 10 years. (I had heard once before from Pres. Heaton. Dennis Crossley had too - In fact he said Pres. Heaton wrote the 1st Presidency for permission to publish in our mission magazine and they said no - it was not known to be authentic.)



29<sup>th</sup> of Jan. 1967  
Tainan - Taiwan  
(Kathryn Manton)

Dear Elder Knapp,

was very surprised to hear from you. as you see by my address I'm in Tainan not in Taipei but I'll try to fill you in on what I know.

Sister Chou was released in May from her mission and at that time in very good health. She continued in church activity as a counselor in the North Branch M.I.A. In September she contracted the flu and lost a lot of weight and had a blood deficiency. About a month later she was very ill with pneumonia + heart disease. During her 7 or 8 weeks in the Tainan University Hospital her pneumonia was cured but her heart disease was worse. I believe it was a bacterial growth on the large heart valve - a fungus type of growth. Later she developed an ulcer which bled quite a lot the last 3 weeks. They moved her to the cottage hospital and had two heart specialists working on her case. She was on the critical list for the better part of ~~two~~<sup>3</sup> months altogether. Had she of lived she never could have been strong enough to bear children or carry on normal activities. Her wonderful testimony never wavered during her illness. Her parting words were of unselfishness - "Thank all the missionaries for all they've done" - Tell my parents not to feel bad because I'm going to live with our Heavenly Father. This is typical of the sweet person she was -

Pres. Taylor flew over from Hong Kong for her funeral. It was typically U.S. style. Sister Chou's father (not a member and Taiwanese) spoke at it. Pres. Lin conducted it. (North Taipei Br. Pres.) It was in mandarin translated into Taiwanese.

There was such a sweet spirit there that one couldn't really feel bad. Elder Vandrey spoke also Pres. Taylor. There was a grave dedication by Pres. Liang (South Taipei Branch president) Sister Chou was my first Chinese



companion and we worked together 8 months. She had a wonderful testimony of the Gospel. a very simple ~~child-like~~ <sup>child-like</sup> faith. She knew Joseph Smith was a prophet - she very completely understood the Gospel. I cherish the memory of our work together.

from here  
is personal  
to her  
of course!

I'll never forget the morning we parted as companions. She and I had our family prayer and both knelt there crying. Finally she said, "these things that we've done together are marvelous." that was a sweet way to separate. She always referred to me as "her companion" even after her mission.

The people in Tai Chung where we worked really loved her. They referred to her as "the good girl" which she was. Her standards and ideals as a young woman in the church would have touched you I'm sure.

There are <sup>american</sup> lady missionaries here now. We are very close to each other and I love each one just like my own sister. But that's the way it should be isn't it?

My time is short now - 2 more months and I'll go home. Can hardly believe it. I dearly love these people and these 2 years have been wonderful.

I hope this answered some of your questions,  
May the Lord bless you -  
Sister Manton,

Well it was a thrilling letter to me.



137 E 600 No.  
Provo, Utah



J. W. Knapp  
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Idaho Falls,  
Idaho

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Sept 21, '64

Dear Folks,

Hi! Well I nearly mailed a letter to you last Sat. I had it written and sealed. I forgot to post it however and it was scribbled anyway and maybe you would not have been able to read it. So I decided today (Monday) that I should write another note. It rained during the night. It has been cold today and rainy. A little while ago the sun peeked out some. So I went out and turned the little colt out in the pasture with Laurie.

She scoured real badly and I guess lost 50 lbs. She still won't eat grain. I've got some grass hay and 3rd crop alfalfa. She can eat whatever she wants. I've roofed a shed so she can go in when there is snow and Laurie cannot get in.

Saturday I hauled her to the hospital - the scours were bad. The vet. said it was serious and a good thing I brought her when I did. He gave her some medicine and Vitamin shots. I gave her one dose since of some medicine for scours. It seems that it has cleared it up. I hope she will start on grain soon. She's not getting ~~and~~ enough ~~is~~ energy on grass and hay although she's seldom ~~so~~ gaint. She drinks fairly well.



I hope all of you are okay. Tell the rest (2)  
hello. I've been expecting to hear about Beth  
any time. Sarah + Warren left. I guess Aunt Fannie  
will be in Salt Lake during the fair with Maxine.  
She has some quilts and other items in the exhibits.  
I didn't go to the Fair. The colt didn't look good  
after scouring. Then Lammie's cut is not entirely  
healed over yet - but it is coming along fine.

There's not much news.

Last week was a pretty sad one for me - with  
the colt being sick. And ~~even~~ even worse for  
me was something with Ruth Ann -

I don't know why it is different now but  
it is. I guess her parents have intervened  
and whether they do not approve of me - or if  
they think I'm too old for her - or if they think  
she's too young to go regularly with a fellow. I  
don't know. I can't imagine her changing that much -

I just sort of figure that somehow things  
have changed because of her parents. But I don't  
know. I ask for your faith and prayers also.  
I don't have much faith in something, and  
this is one area it seems things have just never  
worked out for me. Those times in my life when  
I've found someone I've really been genuinely  
interested in things have never worked out. And



Have always wound up at the end feeling more sad and confused and wishing I had never gotten started <sup>going with them</sup>. I feel I don't want to give up. Anything worth while is worth striving for but it seems such a struggle and without a bright future I sort of hesitate to become more involved if it is to no avail.

I can see one good thing of the whole business - It has humbled me more than anything since my mission and driven me to my knees. But I still don't have any answers and I'm pretty well shook up about everything.

Well I shouldn't bother you with my troubles but anyway I have ~~some~~ <sup>so</sup> many times attributed my blessings more to your faith and prayers than to my own that I do feel like if there is a chance; it will largely come through your efforts and prayers as much as mine.

I have seen Ruth once since I came back. I hope I'll maybe get to see her this week sometime. But I called her on the phone tonight and it doesn't sound very encouraging -

Myna + M'Jean seem to be getting along fine. They have a Japanese roommate from Hawaii and I guess a returned missionary from Calif. for the other roommate.



They are all registered now and today is the first day of classes. Bong seems to be enjoying the place he's staying. He is with fellows from Idaho Falls. One boy is a Hunt. I'll bet he's the one that lived next to Marcia in Idaho Falls.

In my basement the Hill boy from Shelly is living in the large room and with him is a convert from his mission (Chile). A boy from Delta, Utah lives across the hall from me.

Well again tell all the folks hi for me. I'll sign off for now and write again before too long -

I appreciate you. I hope I can have the inspiration to know what to do and do what is right. If one could just see ahead and know what to expect sometimes it would make things a lot easier.

Well I guess I'll have to learn to be more content with just casual acquaintanceship and see how things work out.

Well I'll sign off now -

Bye Sincerely Yours  
Son Love Bernard



Dear Folks,

Hi! Well I suppose it is a good thing that I am not around home these last few days or week. I'd be crying on someone's shoulder ~~should~~

I was pretty blue for a while after I got back down here. The calf didn't do too well and got the scours so badly I finally took her to a vet. Sat. He said it was a good thing I brought her in when I did before it got more serious. He gave her some shots of vitamins and some tablets. He gave me some medicine to give her also. She's over the scours now but she's lost a lot of weight. I suppose 50 pounds anyway. That's quite a lot for something that small to begin with.

A lady gave me some rolled barley the other day. She claimed her calves would eat rolled barley when they'd just wore around in rolled oats. She's eaten a little but hardly enough to bother with.

She eats corn stalk leaves - dry grass - alfalfa and is usually full but just never



seems to get enough of the right things to make her snappy. She is not fussy at all now - just mopes around.

I have put a roll of toe paper on the shed and stowed the floor. She can go in and out whenever she wants to. I leave hay - grain - and water in there for her. But I have a bar across so that Laurie cannot go in. I lock the colt up at night to make sure she keeps warm and dry. I turn her out with Laurie during the daytime.

I haven't seen her trying to suck for several days so I guess she's okay that way now.

Well how are you? Hope you are both feeling well. I guess I'll hear from you before long concerning Beth and how things are turning out there.

Love - Ben's

I wrote you a letter - I forgot to mail it. that was on Saturday morning. Then I wrote another this morning and didn't get it mailed. So now I've started over. I figured I'd try to write this one more carefully so you could read it but now looking back over it I guess it is about the same as the others - so I'll include this morning's too - Some of the stuff will sound just the same -



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Provo, Utah



J. W. Knapp  
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Idaho Falls,  
Idaho



Dear Folks

Hi! I could start by writing good morning! It is 5:10. I haven't slept the last hour and a half. I've just laid and thought - pondered a great deal in my mind.

I'm sorry I haven't written sooner. I hope you'll forgive me. I know you worry when I do not write. But I do not write to trouble you with all my little problems. I'm inconsiderate enough it seems that when I do have a problem, I'm selfish in that I let that dominate my conversation or thoughts. And if that's all I write about I'm certain it would be boring and certainly anything but uplifting in a letter.

Letters should carry a note or message of <sup>truth</sup> ~~truths~~ and happiness. People should be able to confide - share in joys and happiness - and pray together to help each other in times of stress.

I appreciated your letter (time before last) especially. It was so inspirational and uplifting it gave me a great deal of strength and courage. I reread it several times since.

I guess I've lost something - I thought I had a family group book down here but I guess I don't - I'll look around for it when I get home - I'm not sure when that will be however -



Well I certainly appreciate your interest - your faith and prayers in my ~~self~~ behalf. I never did pray and seek after the job I have here I don't know that I was ever even aware of the job being open here until it came as a phone call from Brother Shaw at the B Y U. But I am pretty sure it came as a result of someone's faith and prayer.

Well thanks for sending the clippings concerning Pres. Heston. I seldom read the papers here - I would not have known anything about it had you not written. At the reunion nothing was said and no one - even the ones that seemed closest to him - Elder Hardy who had been one of his counselors didn't know exactly where he was and had not been able to locate him by telephone.

The poor man, I should think he and his wife and their families must be about overwhelmed with anxiety. I had heard that he was to be in San Francisco for sentencing on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. This certainly is a trial in his life and I suppose he is being tested. Certainly such a brilliant man and one who has inspired so many deserves blessings from the Lord. I can't help but to feel that if he is committed to Fort ~~Leavenworth~~ ~~Leavenworth~~

Leavenworth it would be more like Paul or some other leader being cast into prison for some reason. The Lord works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform. I need to get in touch



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with the church seminary office at the B Y U and find out his current address. At this time I wish all of the missionaries could support him with means if necessary and at least reinsure him with letters and words of appreciation.

One source indicates that he did not call any witnesses because they would have been missionaries that returned when he did (on same boat). He did not want to involve them in any way.

It seems his greatest disappointment came when at the trial the government agents (3-4 of them) changed their tunes from anything they had ever said before - and told out and out lies. It was their word against his and the jury found him guilty.

I understand from a teacher at the 'Y' <sup>Pres. Heston</sup> he was here a little over a week ago. At that time, he said this shook him up more than anything else. He had a tape recording of a conversation with one of these men before the trial on the telephone. If it were possible to use the tape he could show the lies - but tape recordings are not permitted to be used in court.

Elder Hardy said he had bought a bicycle in Japan on his way home. He didn't declare it through customs - As a result the records do show that he brought an undeclared item into the country. Before the railway express agency would ship the bicycle from San Francisco it had to be declared. Pres. Heston wrote several



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letters back and forth until finally it was all straightened out. But he did not keep his letters from the Railway Express. So he made a trip to San Francisco to check with the co. They are required by law to keep records of such things for 5 years. Well the file was empty. He searched other places - the boat company - each time the records were all missing. It was as if someone had gone just ahead of him and removed this evidence. The federal agents of course do have access to these files, this adds up.

If he could prove these things certainly there would be some agents in real trouble. Well Jim sure the test to him is a great one. When I feel badly over my little problems I don't suppose I know what problems are. I understand he has a deep feeling of sorry - he feels he's let all of the missionaries down. He feels ashamed that his name has come into print on such a manner, that's why he's tried to keep the church name out of it and the missionaries.

I understand the judge did overrule the citation (trading with the enemy - and had it done away with as an absurd accusation. And called the charge bringing in contraband materials.

I wish I could see the president now and his lovely wife - maybe I couldn't be elegant enough to say anything to really help out in this time but I'd certainly like to have them know how I feel and that my faith in them has never ~~was~~ waned nor changed -



Barry and Myrna have a ride home this week-end. You may see them. I don't see them a lot. Barry stopped at the school quite often last year since it was sort of between-me "y" and his apartment. This year he lives in the opposite direction. I visited with him Sunday a while. He also stopped by the school a couple of times the week before.

I took most of a small box of fruit over to the girls last night after school. They are going out to an orchard today in Orem and pick what peaches they want from what is left unpicked in the tree tops. It's the stragglers left over after the regular pickers have finished. Lillian's mother said (called me) the other day, she'd rather have them picked and used than to stay and be blown off by the wind and spoil. So I can't get out to pick any. I suggested that the girls take the VW today and run out after school. The Hill boy from here is going to go too and get a few that we can use here for eating.

Lillian's mother won't take any money for them so I told her I didn't want them just as gifts - she's always sending a box of something - giving me medicine for the colt or barley or something - So she finally said - well if the picking is good enough pick a few bushels more than you will use and leave with me. I will use them.



It may sound as if I go there quite a bit. I don't. Mrs. Detomasi was in our class last summer. She ~~drives~~ drives their pick up all around. She's so nervous however when she goes to get her license that she always makes a mistake and fails. One of these days later on when I have a little more time maybe I can help her a bit with that. Lillian has a fairly friendly friend I believe. He's a student at the "Y". So I'm glad for that. I don't go there to see her.

I had a couple or three gallons of rolled barley that she gave me. It seemed to taste better to the little colt. She only ate one or two ~~mol~~ mouths full of oats. After she ate some barley I started mixing oats with the barley. Now she will eat just oats. Also she ~~will~~ will eat the calf pellets that the veterinarian recommended along with the oats - She has definitely stopped losing weight. But she has a long way to go to build back to what she was. But she stopped scouring. She eats til she's stuffed all of the time - maybe that's why she's not too lively.

I bought some powdered milk but she wouldn't drink it either from the bucket or the nipple so I guess she's weaned.

The corn stalks I feed them have quite a few ears on and she ate corn before she ever ate even the rolled barley.



Laurie is in the best shape this ever been in. Since no one is watering gardens there has been ample irrigation water. So I have watered the pasture real good and I turn them out each day. and also through out corn stalks. I have about 20 rows of corn. Most of it I have already pulled and stacked up.

Laurie is showing a bit of stiffness again. I really need to get some way to exercise her more. I keep the colt in a shed. I've lined it with bales of hay and straw so it is warm and dry. I've fixed a bar that I can place over the entrance to keep Laurie out. the colt can go in for grain - hay - water anytime. then I shut her in at night and leave Laurie in the small pasture with a little hay and <sup>some</sup> ~~corn stalks~~ - corn stalks.

I feed Laurie about 2 quarts of grain a day in order to keep her eating mineral. Maybe I told you dad - I talked with an old veterinarian here. He said he'd operated on quite a few horses for this problem.

It is not stringhalt he says - He only lost one horse. The owner insisted on keeping the horse at home and he didn't keep the opening clean - infection got into the joint and killed the horse.

He said he had a colt like that once himself. as soon as it was big enough to ride the stiffness cleared up. He says don't worry about her - if she doesn't out grow it by the time she



is mature it won't cost a bit more then to operate. She still has a hard lump on her neck where Ben vaccinated her but all the warts are now gone from her nose.

I hauled her away twice for a good ride. the vibration in the truck way help some I think.

Both times I stopped at Morgan farms. they wanted to see her so I unloaded her. She looks pretty nice. Everyone thought I had a lovely colt yearling. The fellow who owns her great grandfather says he'd surely like to have me use his house when I want a colt. The past few years he's got some fine colts around the state. The yearling and suckling colts at the state fair here this year were both from his house. Also last years champion colt also were from his house and the dam was the mother of my mare up at Warrens.

He said most of the mares are just average. It makes him feel good that his stallion is good enough to keep colts in the blue ribbons crossed to such mares - so he said with a mare as good as Laurie he figured the possibilities of getting a real champion should be real good. Also he says he'd like to get a nice young stallion of real good quality to replace his old horse which is 16-17 years old now.

So if she had not had the wine cut, warts, and skinned legs she might have looked okay at



the fair. Her wine cut is healing. It's only about the size of a half-dollar now.

I have a heavy schedule now for a couple more weeks. This is good however since I'll be able to put in for overtime again. First time since I came back.

We had 29 in a new adult evening class. So I started a morning class too by dividing the group in half. I'm glad I got my hay hauled - irrigating and fences fixed earlier because now when I have to go to school in the mornings too, it breaks my day up too much to spend much time with the colts.

Our weather is nice here now.

Well I hope all of you are well. I had a little envelope from St. Anthony about 2-3 days ahead of your last letter. I was glad to hear Warren is down and working. Conference was nice. I listened Sat and Sunday.

President Heston used to tell us - when tracking and you meet someone you feel is pretty big or important just think of it as fishing - often it's the big ones that get away - many times we get too anxious and do not play them enough.

Maybe that's the way it is with Ruth Ann - I couldn't understand why she had changed in a week. She changed entirely in her attitude toward me. Finally when I called one Sunday her mother answered the phone - she said she wanted to see



me. So I went out and saw her. We had a long talk. I happened to fast that day. It was just day. I turned down an invitation to eat dinner with two fellows who live here where I do. I was glad I did and that I fasted. When I had talked with her I felt much better.

I found out how Ruth Ann felt about me. I had my thoughts verified. She liked me - she liked me so much in fact that when her folks told her she could not go to Idaho with me she had gotten really upset. They told her they might go to California that same weekend to visit their married son down there since it would be their only chance before school started.

When I had left for California Ruth said to her folks - "you'll not go to California" - they didn't either. She ~~moped~~ moped around the house for days after I left. Finally her dad took her to a movie to get her out of the house.

Well it came out - her folks told her she was very foolish to get interested in someone so much older than she. She thought about it a lot and decided they were right I guess. Also I know her father especially wants her to complete college (2-3 years more to go with all of the new requirements the ByU keeps adding).

So after talking with her mother I finally got to see Ruth Ann. She was polite, friendly and nice but just not the same - I guess she figures there's



anything up until Dec. 31st without additional cost - so I'll wait a few months -

no use being hurt more perhaps by getting better acquainted. And if she is going to follow their advice then she just as well forget it now entirely.

I finally sent for transfer of registration on the two mares. Mr. Hart sent inquiries corrected papers to me last week. Also I sent for registration of the horse colt at the same time. I can register this Silly

I'm not convinced that it is definitely the Lord's will. It seems at the time with all the fasting and prayer of all of us. Surely it must have worked out as best for the time being at least. But is it over - is there no hope. Should I just give up - I told her mother - anything really worth while is worth working for and waiting for. I could just give up if I feel that things could work out. Age is a consideration but there are many other things - many more important things in eternal marriage. Well I can't forget her. I don't have the anxiety I did have. I was glad to know why she changed her mind. But it does really hurt more in a way knowing that she did really like me anyway and then gave up. Although I do feel she was humble and prayerful and if she felt following her parents' advice was the thing to do then I should be unselfish enough and have enough faith in her faith to believe she ~~can~~ done the right thing. But now as I look back and think about it I see where things could easily have been so much different had her folks not intervened.

But now I must take a closer look at myself.



If I was not worthy of her. I wouldn't be  
worthy of any other girl worth taking to the temple  
either. What have I done more? How long will it  
take me to get close enough to the Lord to know?  
to know what I should do? If I should go on? If  
I should hope to again find her pleasure? Or another?  
How earnest should I search for another after this great  
disappointment? <sup>many a happy or sad moment was</sup>  
<sup>one that I never - of them are</sup>

I just don't know? <sup>Thank you for your confidence - I am not at all sure</sup>

You'll be glad to know - this - the bishop  
talked with me Sunday and said he will interview  
me the following Sunday (next). He said he has a job  
he feels I will enjoy - He said he knows my teaching  
in the evening school keeps me from being active in  
evening activities such as M.I.A. So I don't know  
what I will be called to do.

I am going to pray for his confidence and the Lord's  
confidence - If I possibly can I want to take this  
position and do all I can. I need this so badly.

Like the old story - sorry Lord tomorrow perhaps - today I'm  
busy. I delayed my mission call that way - I was glad when  
it came. I can't imagine a finer mission than mine - yet  
most missionaries say that. I really can't compare mine  
with any other - what blessings might I have lost because  
of this delay.

What have I lost because of being inactive in this  
Bye word except for tithing up until now -

So when I get back into things the way I should I  
hope the Lord will forgive me and help me. If it is his  
will maybe Ruth Ann will even one day change back  
as she once was - ~~Or~~ Or any other worthy girl with  
whom the Lord has prepared for me.

Bernard

I send my love to all



B. Knapp  
137 E 600 N  
Provo, Utah



J. W. Knapp  
347 Cleveland St.  
Idaho Falls,  
Idaho

(Keep)



Dear Folks,

Hi! Well it was nice to talk with you. The operator just told me that it was \$1.20 so that wasn't bad. When I came in from calling and turned onto KSL the choir was singing "One Sweetly Solemn thought" Our mission song.

I have seen Louise about every week-end for some time. Three weeks ago she went to Idaho however.

I called Ruth Ann twice about one week ago and had quite a talk with her. But her mind is set. She won't change as far as I can see. I now pray that I can just have such a feeling toward Louise.

With Ruth Ann I was so completely captivated and entertained and satisfied that I never paid any attention to any other girl. I didn't want too.

With Louise it's different. I've never felt quite the same. Perhaps it will come but slower. If I could develop a feeling toward her so that I felt that there was no mistake



(2)

as to whether it was the right thing  
it would seem good.

The more I am around her - the  
more I find that we have very much  
in common. She is really genuine.

She doesn't put on any airs. Everyone  
I know who has met her - Barry -  
Lynn Ray etc. some Chinese fellows all  
feel she is really okay.

Last week we looked at the  
acreages that I have told you ~~of~~ about.  
I think Louise may like the one with  
the old house and barn out on the Chem  
bench quite well too. After all that I  
look at I keep coming back to it.  
It is nice.

I have just found some river bottom  
land below and just across the street  
from it. If I could lease or buy a  
few acres there for pasture then I'd  
buy the old house and a small acreage  
and the pasture below. That way when  
the new houses and subdivision go  
in I could still have the pasture below  
to keep the animals.

I did make an offer on 18 acres at  
\$1000 - per acre. But I think it was a  
blessing that it turned out like it did.  
The owner lives in Wyoming. He is a big  
wheel in Geneva Steel Company.



He was transferred there from Orem. I guess he is a sort of an ~~old~~ old grouch and a scrouge. So I'm lucky he didn't accept my offer. He accepted over the phone - ~~so~~ I learned the next day from the realtor. But then I got my loan already to go through and the next thing I knew the realtor said the man had called back and made certain demands. He wanted higher monthly payments. He wanted a higher interest rate on the contract, he didn't want to ~~see~~ release ~~even~~ a title to even one acre for two - three years.

and he wanted to keep a 30 foot right-of-way the length of the place. He would not let me have all of the shores of water that he held for the ground. So I figured it was a good place to get out of. The location wasn't bad. The land - soil was excellent. If it had been so that I could have paid for it for an investment in a few years the land here is raising each year in value. It would be a good investment. But to get tied down to paying a high interest rate over a period of time. Even with value raising plus taxes etc. you wouldn't be very much ahead.



4

I found where a fellow has a 2 acre piece rented. He pays \$75 each year. He has two mares. He feeds hay all winter and leaves them turned out. They stay fat all winter & summer.

So I figured I look for something similar. But it is hard to find.

I want to get the colts moved out from where they are sooner the better.

If weather lines at J. C.'s this summer maybe I'll arrange to bring the three colts home and ~~down~~ dump them in Island Park for the summer. If things work out I may be arranging to build myself.

And I can see unless I do get a pretty good place that the colts will just be in the road. I'll even postpone breaking Lennie and start on her in the fall perhaps.

I tried some of the other worm powder Bp Allen sold me. The results from the veterinary lab show no worms so I guess it is good stuff. They are fat now. I'm getting low on hay. The grass is clipped really short in the pasture where they are now.

My truck is in the school shop now with the engine completely disassembled. So I may have to borrow an outfit to haul some hay or to



5

move the colts if I get a pasture. I kind of have a feeling that by the end of this week or else by the 2nd week of April I'll know whether things are such that I can take this acreage on the hill or not. If I can get the river bottom ground I will get some water with it I feel. This I would like. If I can do that I can use the water from the pasture on the other place also since there is the same canal. The acreage however has no water ~~right~~ right. I noticed today however that there is some water for rent in that same canal.

So I hope I'll be able to know what to do. I hope things will work out as it is best they should.

What if the opportunity came to get married. I feel I should be careful not to get so tied up I could not move or have freedom or means to provide for a home.

An acreage and pasture isn't that important to a young couple. Louise likes horses but she doesn't need to feel she comes second. She ~~now~~ never shall. Horses are a hobby - Marriage is a commandment.

I figure I should have the freedom to begin building a home if I get an acreage. If I could rent a pasture -



I could simply rent a small apartment. If I could build - I'd need to get a loan. I'd like to build enough to suitably provide for a place to live and then add on as I would like to do and do most of the work myself.

If I got married I think I could easily part with the colts this summer if Warren had a place for them to run out with him.

Last week ~~was~~ I took Louise to Salt Lake on Saturday mite. She invited me to a Chinese dinner at the apartment of some Chinese girls here at school.

Afterward one Chinese girl who is very friendly ~~with~~ with Louise - her best friend I guess - went with us. We were going to attend the Felon Fallice at the point-of-the-mountain. It was supposed to be really good according to the fellow who ~~lived next to~~ teacher across the hall from me. He's a good guy. He's bishop of the Goshen Ward.

He's always kidding me about Morgans and I kid him about quarter horses. Anyway the limit of visitors was reached by the time we reach there and the highway patrol was waving all come to go on by.

So we went on to Salt Lake. •



A real good movie - "My Fair Lady" was playing. All tickets were sold out. But after a while the reserved tickets not picked up 10-15 minutes before starting time were placed on sale so we got tickets after all.

It was a really fine movie. So many movies now days are filled with filth.

The next day I went to Manti and attend church with Louise with her sister's family living there. She has a nice family and a very fine husband. Boy - that country is really desert and desolate. It would make Randolph look pretty good.

Last night Louise went out to look at some ground with Lynn Asay, Barry & I. Then she and I went to a basketball game where we met her brother and his date - her roommate and a friend of his brother. Afterward we just visited a bit in the BYU snack bar.

The more I am around Louise the more I realize how much we have in common. If I just could know if it was the right thing - the right one.

I got to talking with her in Chinese last night and I think that she is feeling quite serious toward me. I'm almost certain now too that she is ready to quit teaching and



become a housewife. Well time will tell. I again pray for your faith and prayers in my behalf. I know I have a lot of blessings because of your faith and prayers. I especially hope you'll remember me now and Louise. I appreciated your letter. I was thrilled to hear you say you had felt good about Louise.

I feel better week by week as I have a chance to become better acquainted with her. I asked her the other night if she would be prayerful concerning our association. I told her I had faith in her faith. And that there came a time in every man's life when he had to make a major decision. I felt it couldn't be decided without thought and prayer. Then she said - asked - When you ask me use Chinese okay? Isn't that something?

If I can just get an assurance that I am doing the right thing. She is really nice.

Well I'll sign off - tell everyone hello for me. I am going to watch for a time when I can get away and go get up home one of these week-ends - Well I'll sign off

Love - Bernice



137 E 600 N.  
Provo, Utah



J. W. Knapp  
347 Cleveland St.  
Idaho Falls,  
Idaho

From Dodge  
5-22-3944

Keep

19X29-30-30US.



Dear Folks -

Monday Mar 29<sup>th</sup>

1965

Hi! Well I appreciate almost beyond words your interest, faith-prayers in my behalf. I've known for a long time that many many more blessings than I have ever deserved came to me because of your faith-feelings, and prayers.

Now this - one of the greatest blessings that can come to anyone has come to me. Things have just worked out it seems -

I've been doubtful - I've held back - not assured that things were right. I guess I told you I had a long talk with Ruth Ann - She hasn't changed - Her mind is set. It will never change now.

I expected to have the same feeling toward Louise that I had toward Ruth. It never came. But logically I felt we had more in common. Her brother and sister (the ones I have met) also have more in common than Ruth's family would have ever had. I was continually fascinated by Ruth.

But I have prayed too that the same feelings would develop toward Louise. They have been slow arising - but a sort of quiet assurance has seemed to build up inside of me.

The week before last when I saw



good night to Ruth - (she stayed over the night) Saturday with cousins and friends in one of the dormitories) I started talking with her. I told her how I felt - and that I felt doubtful and not assured - she took it well - joked a little - winked and said when you do decide to ask me please use Chinese okay?

Well I further explained that I had a great deal of faith in her faith too - And I appreciate her prayerful consideration. I kissed her goodnight - She said in Chinese this is the first time in my life.

Last week end I took 3 Chinese girls from Plover here to Sh. City to attend a Chinese ~~New Year~~ Dinner - they helped prepare it for a state m. men - Cleaner group. Several returned missionaries (girls that worked with Louise were there. We had a really good dinner. ~~the three~~ ~~two of the~~ girls stayed with ~~her~~ at Louise's place - she lived with a widow and 3-4 other girls - they all teach or work - they were all away for the week-end. I slept in a basement room her land lady has for guests.

After everyone else had gone to bed I visited quite late with Louise. I still felt uncertain - I told her so. Then she told me something - She said she was set apart by Brother Gordon B. Hinckley



for her mission. Her parents were there. She was promised her righteous ~~desired~~ desire throughout her mission - and that when she returned home ~~if~~ her ~~desire~~ desire and ~~per~~ pursuits ~~it~~ in life would be pleasurable and her life full. Her desire when returning was to marry.

She said she went with a returned missionary for a while but it just didn't seem he was attractive to her.

Then she said that the first time she saw me in the store in Pocatello on Christmas Eve as soon as I spoke to Sister Li' in Chinese she knew that there was something about me she liked. From that moment on she had her eye on me - well I slept with that thought in mind, and early the next morning I laid awake with the same thought going thru my brain.

She came down to see if I wanted to get up. She came to the bedside and we talked some - I couldn't really wait then I finally got around to asking in the usual awkward manner what I wanted to say. She said there was no question in her mind - but she said she knew her folks would feel much better if we could go home and meet them first.

So we will be coming to Idaho to meet you and meet her folks - perhaps



the 3rd week of April. She has ~~two~~<sup>2</sup> days off from school then - I shall also take a couple of days then also.

So now all the real estate business is over - forgotten for the present time. I know where I want to spend my time - and money for a while. Things look good. I think I shall be able to spend some time with getting a pasture. It looks good. A two acre piece with a creek running through the year round. Also if things work out I'll maybe get Warren to take the colts to the mill for the summer.

So there's no announcements yet til ~~we~~ after we get home. So keep it a secret if you can. She is trying too. She had to call the BYU and cancel an interview. She had been chosen for a position to live in a house of girls and manage the house. She would have been working on a Master's degree in home-making - the Home management house would be a house belonging to BYU and the girls would all have been undergraduates in that field. She would have been training them. That was the only way she could have afforded to go to school.

If she took the offer after being accepted she would have needed to promise to stay on for a year. That didn't seem very good - I guess that's one thing too that



sort of helped to jar me loose. So she is not planning to go there with that.

We haven't discussed any date. It will be some time at least - she will finish her present teaching job the first week of June I should imagine.

So now after a trip to Idaho I'll want to figure a way to surprise her with a ring somehow. She knows she will get one I suppose. We'll tell the folks all hello for me. I guess I had better get started for school again. It's nearly 3:00.

I got your letter when I got home last night. I left Friday and stayed in Salt Lake - Friday & Sat nights - came back to Provo Sunday night.

I marvelled at your letter. For what little writing I've done recently - it sort of amazed me that you seem to feel and know what's going on. I guess this won't really be much of a surprise in a way. I think your faith is strong enough to let you feel what's being prayed for is taking place. On the other hand I can't imagine any family that would be more shocked at such news than mine. I really don't care if you wish to hint to Al & Lois - But - May will have an inkling because Barry was with Louise & I last week -



My landlord called me in today to answer his getting moved in mid-April. Will move away to her house. He wants me to take this house - live upstairs in his home - keep furniture dishes and all intact and be responsible to rent the basement 3 rooms. He hasn't decided on a rental price - but wants me to bring furniture in and check with her and see if she would be interested.

And then he was home this week-end so <sup>Marjorie</sup> wouldn't be too surprised.

Barney was pretty surprised I think - I guess he just couldn't really believe it.

Ha Ha! I have to keep pinching myself - to see if I'm really awake -

the bishop asked where I was yesterday - and when they said they hadn't seen me for all week end he said well he's probably "hit the dust".

Well I've got to leave -  
thanks again.

Oh I had a good physical by a highly recommended doctor - he said I seem to be just plenty healthy -

So bye again - thanks again too -  
for much concern - love - and  
devoted prayers -  
my love I send  
Bernie



Bernard Knapp  
132 E 600 N  
Provo, Utah

W 32

20 X 20

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Mar-20



J. W. Knapp  
347 Cleveland St.  
Idaho Falls,  
Idaho

Keep



Thanks for the medicine - was the \$10.00 enough. At first I thought it would be more than enough - then I realized it maybe wasn't. So I'll owe you for the last phone call.

Dear Falke,

Hi! Well it's nearly time for me to go to work this morning - this is a tiring schedule. Each morning early and I don't usually get home and to bed before 10:00 - or 11:00.

It's a good thing Louise is in Salt Lake except week-ends. It's <sup>surely</sup> amazing how many people ask <sup>where</sup> ~~if~~ she is going to teach next year - and how many are surprised when I say she isn't. But I'm glad she isn't. And I'm glad I'm glad. I know why I'm glad. I am grateful for your faith & prayers in my behalf. I feel your prayers & faith are much stronger than mine & had much more to do with this wonderful blessing that has come to me than I myself.

Well I surely appreciate your letters. Our deadline was 10<sup>th</sup> of May. All of our parttime drivers (helpers) were finished on time. I was left with only one class to teach until June 1<sup>st</sup>. then a fiasco came out in the paper. A special program came on T.V. and the state attorney general ruled the effective date for changing the licensing age was not until July 1<sup>st</sup>. So now we will be pushing hard again to meet another deadline. Now busy we will be after July 1<sup>st</sup> I don't



Know yet - but I will have my two weeks vacation coming this summer. ~~Do~~ We decided to work things out if we could for a July 22 wedding in the temple with a reception on July 23rd in Luke. Her mother will check and see about scheduling their ward meeting house that date. It is a Friday. If it is unavailable then perhaps it will be necessary to make it a week later for those accommodations - If it doesn't have to be within a few days of the wedding date. I'd like our get together at home to be about 1 week later. So we'll think about that and I liked Doug's suggestion.

Well I'll sign off. I need to get to work. I have students coming to drive this morning at 6:30. I left my alarm set same as yesterday when the kids came at 6:00 am. So I had a little time to just drop a line.

I appreciate your kind letter. Hope both of you can keep well and comfortable. Hope all is going well with the rest of the family. If we decide to build a home we may arrange before too long to buy some ground.

Well bye again - thanks for so much happiness and help.  
To tell you hello. Love Bernard

Oh - by the way mother - what measurements will you need for Louise?   
She asked, Her mother isn't able to get her robe down it is so she wouldn't be happy that you had wanted to see the other one - on top of my head - her sister will make her wedding dress.   
Louise always



Dear Folks,

Hi! Well I hope that you won't feel that because I've been slow in writing that it is because of anything you have done. Because it certainly hasn't been that. I feel like from reading your letters that you feel that way.

I hope you keep well. This damn weather has been cold here for quite a while. A few weeks ago we had about 8 inches of snow dumped down. I guess it's colder there. We had a really bad couple of weeks of fog. People ran off the roads. They had to get out of their cars to find the road. All of the missionaries got together the Sunday evening of the 1st Sunday of this month in Salt Lake. I rode up with another missionary. There were over 50 came counting friends and wives. That was pretty good considering the fog.

Well I'm pretty good. I feel like maybe I'm trying to catch a cold this morning. I've been up pretty late a couple of nights.

I've spent a lot of time (too) much maybe with this missionary-Chinese New Year. I was called by long-distance from Salt Lake and asked to contact all of the missionaries down here and find out how many could go to Salt Lake. They wanted to know so that they could make a fairly close estimate to a Chinese restaurant on the food which was especially prepared for us.



We had a long room set up banquet style for us. It was nice but I think everything would have been better had they waited and concentrated on coming down to Provo, on Friday (following) and supported the Chinese Club New Year Party <sup>here</sup>. Well I have been interested <sup>in</sup> ~~in~~ this program and I have been on a couple of ~~committees come comit committees~~ here.

committees here. They were having a hard time selling tickets so I said I'd help since I knew most of the missionaries.

I was able to sell 67 and contacted at least a dozen more that probably bought tickets at the door. Then there were still others that had obtained their tickets elsewhere.

There is a great work to do among the Chinese people here in Provo. The school lacks something for them.

It is sad to see them inactive, yet under the ~~our~~ circumstances it is pretty easy to see how and why it is as it is.

For one example, I know a Chinese boy who came to the B.Y.U. last year. He arrived in Jan. He had known one elder in Hong Kong and they seemed to be special friends.

The elder wrote his mother, a widow who lives near the school and works in the school. The Chinese boy, Peter, was a real convert to the church. He was to all of the functions. <sup>when he first came here last year</sup> He often dropped into the office and met and talked with ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> lady, Mrs. Porter. Well she invited him to dinner a lot. She introduced him around. I am ~~sure~~ <sup>sure</sup> she was sincere and didn't mean any thing except sincerity.



Well now - he attended the new by "homecoming" reports of missionaries when he was invited. He was a very enthusiastic person. He ~~was~~ <sup>is a</sup> very handsome boy also. He seemed to ~~be~~ <sup>is</sup> just and get along well and had many friends. Many of the Chinese kids do have many friends here. I know also he dated just a bit with American girls. It's surprising how ~~now~~ many girls here run after them.

I guess when there are about 3 girls to every boy in the school that it isn't unusual to expect girls to become rather interested (not seriously) where they can get some attention.

Well now this elder returned from Hong Kong. Peter expected to find the same closeness that he had known in H. K. But it did not turn out like that. The elder was always out with his old friends here. I guess he hasn't spent any time with his friend. In his own busy social life he's completely neglected him. He never has attended a Chinese Club meeting. And he's not alone. Well you can't expect the elders ~~no~~ to give up their life here and I'm sure that they shouldn't but they could retain some interest and put in a little time. Well this example is not typical in a way. Most Chinese men as close to the elders as this boy Peter was to his friend. And all of the missionary men that extreme either but

Now, when such events happen and they write home and say "the elders change when they get home. They just aren't the same people here as we knew them in H. K. This is greatly disappointing." <sup>too many are, too much that way.</sup>

Again this boy has changed. He didn't come to the assembly when Elder Peterson spoke - he went on home that morning. A year ago I think he would have attended. I learned from some girls that he moved to another apartment with Chinese <sup>boys</sup> and other foreign students who were



non-members. Here he began to go to the pool halls and to bowl on Sundays.

The apartment is filled with smoke. After hearing Elden Harris give his report last year in Ogden - a man came up to Beta and asked about when he would return to China - or how long will you be in the states? a firm reply - I wish that I could go back to the mainland of China ~~from~~<sup>to</sup> Shanghai where I came from and teach my family and friends there the gospel.

Well now he has left B.Y.U. He's gone to the state of Illinois to attend college. He has two brothers there and friends. How much will the church help him there? - More than here I hope but maybe not. Will they even know he's there? What will the standards of his non-member friends there do for him?

Will he still want more than anything else to preach the gospel to ~~his~~ his brothers, to his friends -? to return to China for that reason and desire -?

Pres. Heaton had a wonderful philosophy. "There isn't any use of baptizing people if after they are members they are neglected and left to become apostates. Our first responsibility is to our members!"

Well more later -



lack of understanding and sending stake missionaries out to them who do not understand them. Several Chinese students left here <sup>this</sup> last semester to go other places to school. Some are converted here. Seems to me if they are going to gain the experience that are to make them leaders they should get the opportunities to have jobs and responsibilities here in this part of the church while they are here.

And I think they should be able to work among and with their own people here too, with a Chinese branch every member would have a responsibility. The purpose of the branch would not be to keep the elders active among the Chinese - but to give the Chinese activities among themselves possibly supervised by some of the missionaries in much the same way as the new branches are in Taiwan. Where an elder is advisor to the branch presidency, Sunday school, and M.I.A.

Quite a few elders have recently returned home and are attending school here now. Elder Hales left for the Army Sunday for 6 mo. Two others will leave this month. I will likely go to Toole in 2 weeks to hear a missionary report his mission - Tom Tate.

Then I'll try to get my lessons caught up so that I can get home on a week-end maybe following that.

I talked to Sister Donna Thomas, she's the one who brought to girls home from Hong Kong. Sister Romell told me Roger had written to them about a girl in H.K. Her name is Helen (something) I don't know Cantonese. Anyway I guess they are seriously considering sponsoring her to come over for school. So they wanted to find out all the dope from Donna. I gave her their address inasmuch as she didn't get around to going to D.F. for the New Year season and see them - I think that they will hear from her before too long.

I ate dinner Sunday at Franconie. Their other son just went into the service for 6 mo. When he gets home he'll be ready to go on a mission. They certainly are a very nice family. I've been out to Touki's place a few times. They seem all right. All well. Finnie said she would get a history typed up that you

Bye for now  
the roads are.  
I'll try to get home in a couple of weeks.  
Well let me know how the roads are.  
I can get caught up I'll try to get home in a couple of weeks.  
swanted mother.  
It I can get caught up I'll try to get home in a couple of weeks.



My handwriting is getting worse and worse it seems like.

There is quite a lot of feeling here about the Chinese. Some of the missionaries feel that a Chinese branch would be helpful. I believe it would also. At least the present situation seems to be failing and is apparently inadequate.

One of the missionaries talked to Bro. Hinckley in his office in Salt Lake recently just prior to his leaving to visit the Far Eastern missions again.

When he returns it is believed that he will do something about it. Dr. Ballif and a Dr. Hyer (fulfilled a mission to Japan) and now they are the advisors to the foreign students and the Chinese Club respectively are strongly opposed to separating the Chinese into their own branch. Well true - it is too bad we have to do it. But in a school this large there are so many students who push themselves ahead into everything that any person especially a foreign student is soon lost to obscurity in the background.

Some of the better adjusted students find that they attend church, they are smiled at, shake hands with a few, sit down by other college students and don't have a chance to speak or take part or are talked to the rest of the meeting. Well under that kind of brotherhood in the church only those who are really converted are strong enough to remain active and continue to come back to church.

I've written to Pres. Heaton recently about this. I'd like to hear his point of view and his ideas. I know he has talked with the First Presidency about it. If enough of us here see the problem and make mention of it I think it will stir the thing up to where the BYC advisors will find the leaders above them prescribing some action that will bring a change and results. Also very little has been accomplished with bringing newly arrived non-LDS Chinese into the gospel. This stems from



Our Chinese Party was well attended by the missionaries.

It should have been better advertised among parents of missionaries in this area. There were some elders in Salt Lake who were not notified either I guess, and in Logan.

The BYU faculty had a large banquet the same evening. This hurt the attendance by 50-100 people probably ~~also~~ since many of the faculty members would have enjoyed coming.

Well we really had an excellent program. I spent a lot of time helping even after it was over and sewing tables during the banquet.

But I was glad to help, I'm glad it's over too.

Just today I heard about the floods in Idaho. Sounds ~~bad~~ in some areas - roads out.

I was glad that your up high & dry. Hope David's place is okay. It isn't too high but without a basement he should be alright I guess.

Well I'll tell you more about our Chinese Party program when I see you.

It was so very good -

I will likely get home after a while.

I ~~don't~~ may decide to go to summer school this year. If Pres. Heaton comes here to ~~teach~~ <sup>teach</sup> I'd like to. I'll have to borrow a little money from you if I do maybe, okay?

But I think I can get by until then.

Well I may get cut off from my S.I. money. Nothing's been said but I'm taking a couple of classes that are not specified ~~for~~ among my required courses. They may not like it and ~~may not~~ accept it. But I have decided to take them and if I need to I'll just go on my own. I want to take them and if I go summer I can back in the fall without much trouble I'm quite sure.



My grades last semester were lower than any time I've been in school I think, I'm taking one class over again. I guess that that will make the Vet. Admin. wonder too.

But I'm determined to do better this time. For one thing the courses are interesting and you feel like you're learning something at least.

For this reason I will be rather busy during weekends preparing for the next week. I'll just have to do so to keep up.

I got into one class - (driver's education) which I didn't know what it was. It turns out I'll be assigned a student and 3 hours each week I'll take her out and teach her to drive in (a new driver's training car which belongs to the school) a Chevy - too bad it isn't a Volkswagen!

So that may prove to be an interesting class - who knows - ?

Well bye now, Hope the mail still gets through.

the picture shows two of our Chinese club members doing a dance in (Lion Dance) for New Years.

Well don't worry about me huh?

I am getting along okay - better than I've been all year - I hope I can still improve. There's sure lots of room for it.

This last letter from Taiwan was real choice. I'll copy it and send it to you. I've passed it around among some of the missionaries. It's really faith promoting - about a Chinese sister-lady missionary who died.

Sincerely  
Love Bernie

Well bye now and keep well  
and take care of yourself. Tell all bells for me -

Costume