

I was born on June first nineteen hundred and twelve at the home of (Aunt) Sahara Poulson in Magrath. Mother and dad were living twenty two miles north east of Taber, at the time so mother went to Magrath to stay with her mother and two sisters until I was born. Imagine mother's relief when she delivered a rally poly twelve pound girl. Mother was forty five years old and three months before I was born ^{lost} their little son Mark with pneumonia so you can realize what mother went through living on the farm with very few conveniences - travelling by horse and buggy and doing all the work farm life required cooking and washing for a large family.

At the age of five we left the farm and moved into Taber. Things were somewhat easier for my parents. We now were close to the church and school. While on the farm I can remember being going to school with the neighbors in a buggy.

One or two experiences I remember on the farm. One day I remember going down to the river and seeing huge blocks of ice all jammed together as I remember they were piled high as a (small) house. Some of the family climbed up on the blocks and had their pictures taken. Eddie still has the pictures some where in his boxes.

While we were still on the farm at our front door we had a large wooden porch only the height of a two by four off the ground. One day mother came out and found me sitting at a large rattle snake with a stick the snake had come from under the porch.

In my early teen years we had a group of girls called the "P" gang one girl was Peggy one Polly one Picks. Ervan Hall often came around with his "International" truck and we would pile in and go down to the river. We would dance around & have a bon fire. Occasionally while the girls were at church the boys would go find a chicken and have it cleaned ready to fry when we got home from church. One particular night (when mother was away) we were in our kitchen frying chicken when a loud knock came on the door. Boy did that chicken disappear some one opened the door and there stood one of the girls (Pita). She had crawled out the bed room window & come to the door.

I wonder why we were so scart maybe our conscience were bothering us.

When Earl was away working a few times I had to go home ^{to church} to milk the cows and couldn't go with the crowd that sure made me unhappy

When I was in the Bee Hive class Hazel Hammer (Price) was our teacher all the girls and two other teachers went to Cardston to do baptisms in the temple. We left Taber early in the morning on the train and arrived in Cardston after dark. We went to different homes to sleep then all went to the temple the next morning. Money was scarce then so the girls put on an afternoon lunch to raise money for their tickets. The third ^{morning} day we started home. Needless to say it was a thrilling experience.
 Today - Nov 11 - 1984

As I sat in church this morning the speakers subject was on wars and the sacrifices so many made.

I couldn't help but think of Henry in about 1916 when he left for the 1st world war. Mother, Dean + I took the train to Medicine Hat to see Henry off. We were standing on the platform at the station and the soldiers were marching down the tracks. Mother had a parcel for Henry + Dean ran out and gave it to him. I still have a picture book and card Henry sent me from France. I remember Henry and several mormon boys from Taber were given a blessing and promised if they lived their religion they would all return home. During the war one of the boys (Leslie Biglow)

was taken a prisoner. I can remember my dad saying he wished Leslie could have some of our food. but he and all our boys returned home safely

Some of the boys were Hershel Van Arman, Archib Bennett, Henry, Leslie Biglow

Its about time to start another phase of my life

When I was staying with my brother
Eddy & his wife Hazel I met my sweetheart
We were married in Taber at Bishop T.W. Harviss ^{home}
on Dec. 22-33. Alberta Bullock & Jeanna Russell
That night there was a church dance ^{were with us} at the
social hall so we all went to that. We
spent our first night at the Palace Hotel then
had to walk about a mile home the next
morning. It was terrible cold and I think
that was the only time I ever froze my legs.
Money was very scarce at that time but I
was lucky and got an eight dollar wedding ring.
We stayed at mother's for a while & then went
to Raymond.

Herb was able to get a little work & we
rented two rooms in Erickson's. Then our
little Darrell was born. Sister Betsy Heardon
was my midwife (nurse) Our next move was
into Meldrum's basement. Herb had got
steady work at the factory. At this time they
started the Picture Bottle factory so we moved
to P.B. for the summer in Sept we moved
back to Meldrum's basement & Herb worked
campaign.

In Aug we had another little daughter
La Rita Ann

In December 1988 we decided to have our 55 anniversary party & Christmas party together. Each couple was to write a ~~letter~~^{letter & picture}. We received some very nice ~~poems~~ letters & pictures.

In ~~my~~ writing my journal I decided to use my poem telling about each one of the family - and ~~then~~ not writing pages on each one. To me that was one of the best family parties ever but now things have changed. On May 19 '89 Leral had a massive heart attack and was taken home. Words cannot tell how I miss him, but I know he is better off & doing missionary work with loved ones over there. I hope our family parties continue so we can keep close to each other.