

19 July 1983

Excerpts from Life of Dorothy Smith Clark

① JBS history. Our parents were blessed with great faith and fortitude and studiously prepared for the future in the face of financial uncertainties.

Each took turns leaving home for further ^{career} Chiropractic training at considerable inconvenience. ^{first} But the family was never neglected. I was fortunate to be ^{Early in 1921, when Mother started a long sojourn in Chicago, she took 9-month-old Dorothy on a 3-day train trip to Chicago,} when in the winter (Feb?) of 1921 Mother made a 3-day train trip to Chicago, she had a 14-month-old baby (Lia) and took along 4-year-old Dorothy as day-nurse for little sister, leaving 3-year-old and 4-year-old sons in the care of a dear Irish lady and former patient "Aunt Mary" (Mother's ^{at home with 3 7/8 and 11 1/2} ^{father and} ^a ^{former patient} ^{from Magrath.} ^{fondly known, to be as Aunt Margaret Watson.} ^{It would be late July} ^{before they returned.}

Accompanying June was a lovely young woman from Hillspring, Mary Payne, who was embarking on a career in Chiropractic and ^{who} shared our lodgings in Chicago.

This provided some evening care for the children while June pursued studies in psychology to broaden her effectiveness in the health field.

CHICAGO HIGHLIGHTS FIRST GREAT ADVENTURE
Dorothy relished the new experiences that came her way, from the long train ride with sleeping accommodations by ^{each held a special fascination.} trip, to the noise and excitement of the big city, with the huge department stores with their wide escalators; ^{There were} the beautiful parks, ^{at the lakeside} and museums, and, quite suddenly, ^{the} first contact with the negro race.

Sunday meetings were attended at Logan Square branch which was reached by elevated railway, ^{that started} and was a considerable distance away, which was several blocks from our apartment, in a large tenement building.

^{This yellow} Our apartment ^{on main floor of a large tenement bldg was} No ^{of necessity} lodged close to the school, (National College of Chiropractic) allowing Mother to be home at lunch time for family check-ups. And then was one address change possibly a safety measure, after a stranger (male) had inquired at the door "if my mother was home." I was thence coached to ^{always} reply that she was expected momentarily.

JBS Altho I never had serious concerns at the time, I realized ^{later} now, the courage and faith necessary for a mother to pursue a course with such obvious risks.

The small park at our doorstep provided good outdoor activity and fresh air in warmer months. I could push Lia in her cart and entertain her ^{there} in a safe baby swing. Meantime I was picking up pointers on 'cartwheel' and 'hand stands' from some 'black'

Excerpts from Life of Dorothy Smith Clark, cont.

(3) Growing up with three brothers closest in age was never a bore. I welcomed the chance to play pirates, climb trees, and go on hikes to the coulees with them. (3) Later, ice skating, swimming, and practicing field sports, baseball, and basketball. Other recreating included canoeing, ice skating, and roller skating. Playing musical instruments were somewhat neglected as neither of these were taught in schools and my time was well filled with child care. Mother's professional skills as a tailor and milliner kept the girls in the family well dressed and there was help from out-of-town girls who boarded with us.

(4) In my home town of Lethbridge, many religious denominations flourished, but members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were in a minority. In this cultural center of 15,000, most of our neighbors were non-LDS. We had many fine school mates however among the Presbyterian, Methodist, Anglican, Greek Catholic and other sects. Most importantly, our main activities were centered in our thriving ward of some 500 members. There was expert leadership and opportunity to serve and develop talents. As teenagers we had the best of companions and LDS youth were prominent in all fields of achievement in the community. Skating, sleighing, and dancing parties, candy pulls, carding, etc.

(5) Hobbies & Occupations (Art) Having shown an interest in drawing in the 5th grade and starting to win prizes in the 6th, I was given a chance for further study in the classes of Miss E.F. Kirk, an outstanding watercolorist in the Dominion. These were followed by a correspondence course from Washington School of Art, which broadened my knowledge of various art mediums. No instruction was offered past the ninth grade in High School. Original Christmas cards became an evening hobby with in collaboration with a new friend and ward member, Bill Russell, who excelled in lettering. Our mutual interest as students of different correspondence schools afforded us many pleasant evenings with our sketchboards and later also with our musical hobbies. We seemed to have little competition in town and both helped with High School Yearbook illustrations.

(6) Music) Music was a close runner-up for leisure time indulgence - or probably a favorite. The leader at first. Piano studies with Viola Elton and then Leo M. Coombs from

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④ (HOBBIES) Excerpts - Dorothy S. Clark - cont.
Activities in MUSIC & DANCE
about my ^{eleventh} year. led to playing for Primary dances, and later
delightful "jam sessions of popular music with ^{my} brother Marvin ^{and four friends}
and ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~gangs~~ ^{gangs} and ukelele skills increased (self-taught) after we
helped to ~~bring~~ ^{bring} ~~long~~ ^{long} ~~into~~ ^{into} ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~house~~ ^{house}

acquired a phonograph and some jazz records. He could also
play piano and had had training in violin. The Russell brothers, Warren,
Austin and Bill joined us with guitars and ukeleles to 'raise the roof' on
long winter evenings. Bill loaned me his guitar ^{and} taught me 2 Spanish songs. ^{also played}

Our small ^{ear-phone} ~~Atwater Kent~~ ^{radio} brought much excitement to in
our late teen years. PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

When Marvin and I were about 13 and 11 we travelled with a group from
"The Alberta Conservatory of Music" under Leo McCoombs to several surrounding
communities. Billed as the "Lethbridge Kiddies" in Easter in Fairland.

our offering included, ^{with narrative,} piano, ^{and arrangements,} violin, dances & humorous readings from
characters dressed as Rain, Snow, Clouds, and various flowers. My role
as a pink hyacinth included a short piano number after which, in a
later scene, I joined in a ^{dancing} group of four in a blue ruffled costume.

Despite the novelty and excitement of being 'on the road', the
stage never held any real attraction for me, even after some ^{pleasant} ~~fun~~ times
in dancing choruses, thru the years of M.I.A. road shows.
(Lethbridge and S.L.S.)

Mother's ^{talent} ~~gift~~ for costume making won for me more than
one prize. First as a gold-dust twin ^{(black) girls of a cleanser label} with Gola Brown at a
Primary dance & later as a Spanish dancer with Orisa Green
dressed as my ^{male} partner was well ^{at 17} ~~as~~ ^{well as} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~my~~ ^{my} ~~dad~~ ^{dad} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~herself~~ ^{herself} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~costume~~ ^{costume} ~~making~~ ^{making}

— Employment —

I was 18 and hadn't ^{yet} anticipated finding work in the public
market place. But now there was a ^{few} ~~missionary~~ ^{missionary} to support, and
~~someone~~ ^{must have been watching over looking out for} ~~was looking after us.~~ Mother urged me to answer an ad
for a male sign painter after repeated appearances ^{in the} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~press~~ ^{press} ~~newspapers~~ ^{newspapers}. No one could
have been more ^{surprised} ~~shocked~~ ^{surprised} than I when they ^{management} ~~grabbed~~ ^{welcomed} me with
open arms and put me immediately to work. This was for
the Dominion-wide merchant chain of T. Eaton Co. currently ^{going} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~months~~ ^{months}