

A MOTHER'S TRIBUTE TO HER CHILDREN

By Mary Ann Lee Hansen

I should like to pay tribute to my five children who are living.

A mother has a special place in her heart for the first child, be it boy or girl. And I find there is a special thought for Ruby. I am thankful for the many talents the Lord blessed her with, and how she is using them. I do feel humbly grateful for the Genealogical work she is so ably carrying both for Father's family and on her Mother's line. I am proud of her family, and their attainments. Also for the fine intelligent and perfectly formed bodies of her grand-children. I ask God's choicest blessings on them all. And thanks to her husband, who is ably helping her in everything she undertakes.

Breta, my second daughter. What a tiny baby, so easy to care for, and who has, since her childhood suffered many pains, as few have for so long. Does she worry about it? If she does, no one knows about it. She has been a life saver to me, many times because of her unfailing sense of humor. Her life has been filled with disappointments, but she has a husband who is patient, and willing to do what is right. He is honored as a good neighbor and really lives that teaching, do unto others as you would be done by. Breta's family is one to be proud of her sons and daughters are devoted to her, and they are proving through the years, the value of their mother and fathers training.

Marie my third daughter, honored us by being born on our fifth wedding anniversary. She, like the other two girls have wonderful talents, or should we say, natural ability. She has served double duty for many years, that of house keeper, home maker, and store keeper. She and her husband were very successful in mercantile business. Marie has one fault that keeps her from doing many things she would like to do. That is the lack of self confidence. When she overcomes that complex, she will be able to do all of the things she has dreamed of. She has three fine children, who are being successful in their chosen life work, also being parents, and helping to make the world a better place in which to live. She loves her home, her family, and such hobbies, as her health will permit her to do. When her health has returned, she should be able to again be active in civic and religious affairs.

Leroy my only living son, has been a special blessing to me. I have watched him grow from rather a frail boy, into young manhood, fulfill an honorable mission in

Germany, and return to take his place as a progressive young church leader. His development has been steady until now he holds one of the most responsible positions in the church. He has a wife who is an ideal mother and also an ideal Bishop's wife. They have a fine family of boys, who are learning as they grow into manhood to be self supporting, that honest labor is one of the finest qualities a man can possess. They are all talented, and are learning to use those talents properly. His oldest son is fulfilling a mission in New Zealand and the other boys are anxiously waiting their turn. I would say that they have all the blessings of life, and few of the trials sent to some.

Beth, my youngest daughter, who will always be the baby girl as I look back on my life, has a very rich portion of the good things of life. She will be able, as she becomes older, to fulfill all her early ambitions. She also has plenty of natural ability to act in any field she chooses. The raising of a family takes all of her time now, but when they become older her dreams can all be fulfilled through them. Her children have perfect bodies, fine minds and exceptional personalities. Her husband has the highest of ideals and will see that they are carried out. They both have what money cannot buy, home, family, ambition and a love for their fellow man. Their later years will be a great fulfillment of early dreams.

I cannot close without a word about my foster daughter Consello Sayenz. She came to us as a frightened little girl. Her mother had died of childbirth, leaving the father, four brothers and the one little girl. I was president of the Relief Society at the time and the father asked if I would care for her as one of the family until he had a home for her. This wasn't hard to do, she was such a sweet child. Most obedient, kind loving and I believe, happy. She remained with me until she graduated from grammar school. Then her father moved to Los Angeles, married again, and wanted her to come with them. Her cousin, living next door was near Connie's age, so she went to Los Angeles, attended high school there and took a sec. job with an insurance co. She was able to talk to many of the clients, because of her being able to speak Spanish. She is now happily married to Al Theal. That have a baby boy born June 2, 1956. We have kept our family relationship alive. I visited with her last winter and she still calls me Mother.