

Because of the urging of my dear wife and other good friends I am now on November 15, 1938 attempting to write down some of the things that I can remember during my life. I have no records at hand to specify dates so will have to depend on my memory which may be now at the age of 77½ years somewhat faulty, and my penmanship is not what I would like it to be nor is it what it was in by gone times when both my memory and penmanship were better.

My father was George Wahington Johnson and my mother was Eveline Burdick Johnson. I was born on April 8, 1861 at Santaguin, Utah County, Utah in a double log house with one flue in the partition that served for a fireplace in both rooms. In 1863 my parents moved to Spring Lake Villa and I well remember some things which happened while we lived there. Especially do I remember that when my father returned from Council Bluffs and brought the first cook stove (a charter oak) and a Seth Thomas clock that my Mother had ever owned. My next recollection of a house was at Spanish Fork where we remained a short time and we then moved to Fountain Green where I remember we had a very hard winter and my father lost several head of team horses and all of his cows. The snow was so deep and drifted that the snow was level with the top of the house. In 1866 our family moved to Willow Creek afterwards named Mona where my Father built the first house on the town lots after a town was surveyed.

So in 1866 when I was five years old I had lived and could remember well having lived in Santaguin, Spring Lake, Spanish Fork, Fountain Green and Mona. My early life in Mona was like all other boys of pioneer families, I remember that the Indians who thought a great deal of my father sometimes camped so close around our house that it was difficult to get around without coming in contact with them and I had plenty of paupoose playmates and they were always friendly with my father and his family.

My father engaged in gardening and fruit raising and taught us the method of planting and caring for vegetables, how to bud and graft trees. He also had a Carpenter shop, a shoe shop and blacksmith shop, so I learned in early life the use of tools and while I could peg the soles on a pair of shoes, could use the carpenter tools to some advantage, I liked the blacksmith tools best and in later life was considered a good blacksmith a trade I have followed at intervals ever since.

During the early days of our stay at Mona and before our house was all completed one day Apostle George A Smith drove up to our yard and called my Father, he went out and I followed him and I heard the following conversation. Apostle Smith said, "President Young sent me to tell you that he wanted you to go to a certain place (I cannot say now where) and start a new settlement there." Father answered "Brother Smith I have obeyed the call of President Young ever since I arrived in the valleys and have helped to establish towns at Santaguin, in Iron County, at Springville, Fountain Green, Spring Lake and now I am here with a large family that have had no school privileges, my house not yet complete, and there is some chances that there may be a school here in the near future and I do not think it fair to call me now at my age to pull up and move again, but if the President insists I will do as he wishes." The call was never repeated so our house was finished and in 1867 Father was appointed Post Master of Mona.

The winter of 1870 the Johnson family had a reunion at St. George and my Father had two teams to take his family there and in company with many of the relatives from the Northern part of the State the journey was made in early October of that year. There was Joel H. Johnson, & Benjamin F., George W. and William D. brothers and one sister Ester LeBaron with their families gathered at St. George nearly all winter. President Brigham Young, George A. Smith and some more of the Church Authorities there that winter and at a general meeting of the family and friends George A. Smith was speaking and during his remarks he said "I have known the Johnson family since the early rise of the Church and have never known one of them to raise their voice or heard against any principle of the Gospel or against one of the Authorities in the Church."

On our return to Mona in the spring of 1871 there was a great excitement about mines being discovered on Mt. Nebo and my folks started keeping boarders and our house was always full of miners and prospectors who seemed to take delight in teasing me and learning me the use of bad language and tobacco which of was kept as much as possible from my parents, with all the bad things they taught me some of them taught me the use of a pen so that when I was twelve years old I could write a very nice hand.

In those days if a man thought he could teach school he would go into a community and if he could get pupils enough to justify at one dollar per head a month he would teach school for three months. My parents seemed to think they could see a spark of intelligence in me so they invested \$3.00 thinking perhaps by giving me an education I might develop into something useful as up to date I had proved hopeless for any useful occupation.

Well I started to school taught by a nice old gentleman and I caused him no end of trouble and soon learned that his method of teaching school did not confirm to my ideas and after about two weeks I expressed a thought of leaving school, so with the teachers knowledge, consent and request I quit so that ended my schooling.

From that time until I was about fourteen years old my occupation was like that of all boys at that time, helping at house and general roust about.

Sometime in 1875 I went to live with my oldest sister Mellie and her husband, Orris Newell and made that my home whenever in town, but was away most of the time, Sometimes driving team hauling cord wood to Hamonville in Tintic or with my brothers Horace and George delivering mining timbers to the Northern Spy mine in Tintic, until work on the UtahSouthern Railroad was started I then drove team grading railroad track in several places along the Seviere River and near Desert and on what was called Beaver bottoms I also drove team grading on the railroad that went to the Tintic Mines.

I was working on the construction of the railroad from Juab to Frisco and was in the spiking crew when the last rail was laid in Frisco Utah. Was engaged in making ties for the railroad from timber on Mt. Nebo and then went to work for my brother-in-law Stephen Jones working in the timber making ties in Spanish Fork canyon and remember well that I was there on April 8, 1882 my 21st birthday.

In the eight years from the time I left home until I was 21 I had spent most of my time in woodcamps, railroad camps, construction camps, and timber camps, and while my time was well taken up in labor there was always some idle time which I always tried to use in getting some phase of an

education so without a teacher I began to realize that if I should ever get a spattering of an education I would have to work it out myself.

Making ties cutting telephone and telegraph poles and other timber work was my occupation until S. S. Jones and Stephen Jones put a saw mill in the canyon. I was then given the job of bookkeeper and care of the commissary where a general supply of groceries were kept. My duties in this job was to scale all logs brought to the mill give proper credit to the logger, measure all lumber that was hauled away keep the time of the workman and tend the commissary, while my time was well taken up there was occasionally a chance to improve my penmanship and learn the use of figures which I used to some advantage.

In the first days of October 1883 I quit and joined my Brothers Horace, George and brother-in-law Orris Newell, with Andrew Somerville, George W. McConkie with their families, myself, Mother and sister Winnie when we started from Mona on October 9, 1883 to go to New Mexico hoping to find good opportunities for making homes.

Our travels were slow and tedious but in due time we arrived at Aztec New Mexico, on the Animas river, and was very much disappointed as that country did not measure up to what had been reported to us. The company scattered out from there and each got quarters for the winter, I with Mother and sister rented a log cabin twelve miles above Aztec on the Animas river. I worked at odd jobs in that neighborhood for a short time and then moved to Olla or Burnham on the San Juan river, where a colony of L.D.S. had settled there I remained and used my time riding after stock hauling wool from Farmington, New Mexico to Durango Colo. and hauling lumber from Lightner creek Canyon to Durango. On August 4, 1884 the company all started back for Utah, I was quite sick and so weak that I could not harness my Horses but could manage to sit up and drive a four horse team, I have thought since then that my trouble was Mountain Fever. As we traveled I got better until we arrived at Moab when I was back to my normal health.

My brother Horace, Orris Newell, Andrew Somerville and G. W. McConkie decided to remain here.

Myself, Mother and sister with George and his family continued on as far as Huntington, Utah where many of our relatives had settled here, George remained and I with Mother and sister continued our journey to Mona landing there on October 9, 1884 just one year from the day we had left there, and in figuring the miles we had traveled and the money it had cost amounted to one thousand miles and the cost in cash one thousand dollars. I had kept a daily diary of our travels and the cost.

Shortly after our return to Mona I rented a house for Mother and sister to live in and I went to Tintic and hauled cord wood and Iron ore and worked for a short time as section foreman on the railroad, but did not like that kind of employment so engaged in any work that was profitable until the late summer of 1885 when I started back to Moab alone as Mother and sister did not want to go back there, then for the first time in my life I felt that I was alone in the world.

On arriving at Huntington where I found many relatives I remained to visit with them, but on securing employment as clerk in a store and getting acquainted with young people of the town who were very agreeable companions

I decided to remain there a while. Finding that clerking and keeping up a four horse team that was earning nothing was unprofitable, I went into Price canyon and other places making and delivering ties to the railroad D & R G.

During this time I bought a city lot in Huntington and built a log cabin and on May 2, 1886 was baptised by Thomas G. Wakefield. Up to that time I had taken very little interest in any religion except to adhere to the teachings of my father to always respect things held sacred by others, to be honest in deal, tell the truth, honor the aged, and pity the simple minded.

While living at Huntington I took an active part in theatricals and played parts in several dramas, which was a great help to me in learning the use of English and how to express my thoughts.

On December 30, 1886 I was married to Martha Emmeline Hill. Bishop Charles Pulcifer saying the ceremony. We lived at my fathers house a short time until our own log cabin was completed then we lived there the rest of the winter and in early spring we went to the mountains and I worked at making ties hauling them and hauling lumber from a saw mill at the head of Huntington canyon.

We camped and worked in the timber summers and I clerked in my brother Milas's store winters until April 9, 1888 when our first baby a boy was born we named him David Almon.

In 1889 October 13th I was ordained an Elder in the Manti and received endowments and sealings with wife.

We remained at Huntington until December 1889 when we moved to Moab, arriving there January 1, 1890. We then went to what was called Poverty Flat 7 miles south of Moab and rented a farm where on July 21, 1890 our second son Laurance Marin was born. We farmed and rode after stock for two years then we traded some range horses for six acres of land in Moab. We traded another horse for a two room log cabin that was on Poverty Flat which I moved onto the land we had secured in Moab, while making this move we rented a room in Moab where on August 16, 1892 our third son Milton Edwin was born.

About this time I was appointed and sustained Ward Clerk, and Ward Teacher. In 1894, I was appointed road supervisor and the next year was elected School trustee, and in the years following I was elected County Attorney for two years, worked for farmers clerked in stores, and tended my own little home and garden. On August 17, 1894 our fourth boy Jerrold Ellis was born.

On April 28, 1897 I was ordained a High Priest and Bishop of the Moab Ward by Apostles John Henry Smith and Reed Smoot, with A. P. Sorenson and J. A. Huff counselors.

On January 8, 1897 our fifth boy Aaron Floyd was born. At this time with some cattle I had brought to Moab I had accumulated a very nice start intending to try stock raising, but Apostle Smith advised me to sell the cattle and build a good home as an inducement for other members of the ward to do the same. I sold the cattle and put the money received for them in the Desert National Bank of Salt Lake City. I then worked in an adobie yard and earned sufficient of them for my needs, hauled them to my building site and covered them to protect them from storms then hauled the rock required

for the foundation, then went to Salt Lake City and purchased from Morris Merrill & Co. the lumber, shingles, doors, windows and hardware, had it shipped by rail to Thompson, hauled it myself to Moab, I then helped a carpenter to pay him to do the carpenter work on my house. So when our home of four rooms was completed it was considered the best home in Moab.

During the time I was building my own home I chopped hauled and laid the logs for a real nice log house for my father who had come to Moab to end his days where he died surrounded by seven of his sons on January 22, 1900.

On February 27, 1898 I was clerking and keeping books for Hammond & Sons the largest store in town, when I had just entered the store to start the days work a messenger rushed in and informed me that my little boy Aaron Floyd was badly burned, I rushed home and found the poor dear so badly burned that he lived less than two hours, his clothes had caught on fire from a fire outside the house. About this time I was elected County Commissioner and had charge of all road work in the County, during the two years that I was Commissioner I supervised the building of a large ferry boat at Moab crossing of the Grand river and also a boat similar at Dewey, supervised the construction of the lower dugway in the canyon and with Judge L.B. Bartlett and J. F. Loveridge surveyed the road from the head of the canyon to Thompson the same as was afterwards accepted by the State and is the route now used. I supervised the erection of the old stone Court house, and also the first central school building, both of which have been torn down to make room for the modern buildings now in use.

On June 17, 1899 our sixth son Junius Homer was born, the first of our children born in our new home. My time from then was well taken up in the store attending to the many duties of a Bishop and supervising the road work within the County.

All during the year 1900 there was nothing that I can remember or have any record of that was different from the usual activities of a person in the position that I was in.

Was called many times to administer to the sick, baptize new members to officiate at weddings and help bury the dead. Will here copy a part of an article published in the Times Independent. "Also about Al Johnson and his good wife, how they ministered amongst the sick, night and day, in any kind of weather, and if any died they were the first to close their eyes and comfort the bereaved".

There is one of many things that came to my lot that I was thankful for and that was the fact that most all Mothers requested that I should bless and name their babies, so there is many people now grown in Moab that I have helped to born, bless, and baptise, some I have helped to bury. Another thing I am proud of is the fact that the young people of that day were my most loyal supporters and now that they are all loved and respected citizens and some hold places of responsibilities in the Church, the City, County, State and Nation.

December 30 being our wedding day we always observed January 1 as such it being the day we started housekeeping together. January 1, 1901 our relatives and friends namely, R. U. Stewart, O Newell, D. B. Farnsworth, George W. Johnson, W. A. Shafer, C Berry, J.P. Miller with their families and Mother. Brother C. E. and all of our nieces and nephews met at our home to celebrate the 11th anniversary of our Wedding day.

January 10, 1901 with J. P. Miller I spent three days locating roads in the canyon from Moab to Thompson on a route through Salt Valley we reported unfavorably on such a route.

At this time I was administrator of the Jesse Tyler Estate, he was the Grand County Sheriff that was killed by fugitives from Arizona.

From January 10 to February 10 was helping nearly every day on an addition to the meeting house.

Was busy these days hauling coal from Thompson and other team work such as hauling wood and other things that kept me busy, Also besides my own place to care for I rented a farm to cultivate. Was watermaster this season which took much of my time.

1901 the month of February I was busy helping in building an addition to the meeting house, hauling wood and caring for the irrogation system. During the month of March according to my diary my time was well taken up in superintending and building irrogation ditches, putting in head gates and building bridges, making garden and planting fruit trees together with many Church duties.

April 6, received \$366.74 from the Pinkerton Detective agency on the capture of George Gurry a notted outlaw.

April 8 my 10th birthday was busy barning and taking care of irrogation system and the rest of the month I was busy taking care of my farming as with my own I had another farm rented which kept me hustling.

1901 May 8 our baby girl was born we named her Mary Emeline.

May 27 went to the Wilson Mesa to make ditch for irrogating 160 acres of land I had filed on before the water to be taken from the head of Mill Creek.

1901 June most of my time I was repairing School equipment and taking School census and making school reports and helped several farmers in the hay field.

July A.P. Sorenson, J.P. Larsen and self with our families went to the river and had picnic, ice cream and all the fixins.

July 8 School election I was defeated after ten years service as trustee and was allowed \$125.00 as compensation.

July 11 went to Green River and Thompson taking School enumeration.

July 19 gave keys of trustees desk to Mark Walker and drewed my salary and expenses as trustee \$152.90.

The balance of my time during July 1901 was occupied in performing the work that would come to me as watermaster and duties as Bishop. The month of August was also spent the same way until August 28 when I left home at 7 AM with a load of people going to conference at Monticello and arrived at Monticello at 6 PM on August 29.

August 31, 1901 Conference convened at 10:00 AM. Apostle Brigham Young, President Plat D. Lyman and many members of the Stake Organization in attendance, at the 2:00 meeting I offered the invocation.

September just busy preforming the labor and duties common to the people of those days. October during the Month I shipped one car load of coal and one car load of flour to Thompson and sold them to neighbors.

The rest of the year 1901 I was on the road most of the time hauling from Thompson and getting a supply of wood for winter.

1902 January 1 Wednesday, this being the day we always observed as our wedding day some of our neighbors viz. W.A. Shafer, and wife, Sarah Stewart, O.W. Warner and wife, John Tangreen and wife, Jane Peterson. A.P.Sorenson and wife, J.P. Larsen and wife, J.C. Thompson and wife, Henry Holyoak and wife, H. J. Holyoak and wife, F.M. Shafer and wife, Frank Hammond and wife, F.B. Hammond, Joseph H. Hammond and wife and Sister Nix all came and had dinner with us.

The rest of the month was busy settling tithing, visiting the sick and other duties that comes to a bishop, Hauled several loads of wood, some of them for widows.

February 1, was at Thompson for a load of coal when I was taken very sick and was hardly able to stand the trip home and remained quite sick for several days. The rest of the month was occupied in the general labors of that time, freighting, preparing ground for gardens and general repairs around home.

April 11, 1902 word came that my brother Horace had lost a son with diptheria, I went to his home on the flat and assisted in burying the boy, and another son died that same day. Stayed there several days helping care for other sick children.

April 19 word came that another child Josie had died, myself and Orris Newell went up and got her for burial.

April 26, Apostles John Henry Smith and Reed Smoot came and stayed with us until the 28th.

July 18, 1902 Apostles John Henry Smith and Reed Smoot came on the mail and stayed at our home again trying to settle some troubles between Mons Peterson and A.P.Sorenson.

The above concludes all of the life story written by D.A. Johnson. The following was written by Milton E. Johnson to complete his life story.

After reading our Fathers life story compiled in his own hand writing, I feel to add these few lines.

On November 25, 1903 another boy was born into the family and was named Don Franklin.

On June 5, 1910 their 8th boy was born and he was named Ernest Lincoln. On the 26th of June 1910 Jerold Ellis was drowned in the Colorado River near where the drain ditch emptied in the river. His body was recovered by Wash Johnson and Russell McConkie.

On March 12, 1932 our Mother was taken by death and was buried on March 15th. I will now include the following which was recorded in my Father's Diary of 1932 also written in his own hand.

March 12, 1932 Mother passed away at 6:30 P.M. March 15, 1932. Mothers funeral at the L.D.S. Church at 2:00 P.M. Opening prayer by T.O. Wakefield. The speakers were John F. Wakefield, Bishop Ray Johnson, W.R. McConkie and Bishop W.D.Hammond. During the service Mrs. Carol Meador sang, "I lay my head Beneath the Rose." The benediction was by George Newell and the dedicatory prayer by Bert Allred.

August 9, 1932 at 8:30 P.M. myself and Margaret Rowley were married by W.R. McConkie at the home of Marg. Myers. Stella Taylor, Kate Nielson and Alice Ellis were the witnesses.

November 27, 1932 at conference in Blanding, Apostle R.R. Lyman was there. November 28, 1932 from Nov. 28 to Jan. 9, 1933 I went to Castle Dale with the basket ball team and then to the funeral of J.T. Wakefield with Bert and George Newell and Stella Taylor at Huntington.

January 9, 1933 went to Blanding with Horace Allred was there for Margarets birthday party on January 10th.

February 20, 1933 went to Blanding with Edwin Stevens. February 26th came home with Edson Black, got home in time for the first Stake Conference Meeting at Moab. From February 26th to March 6th worked around home and recorded Patriarchal Blessings for Alexander Jameson Patriarch.

March 18, 1933 Ida May had a birthday party here at our home. (Wilton's Daughter)

March 28th Calcimined front bedroom and March 30th calcimined kitchen and bedroom. Ida May and Martha came and helped.

April 6, 1933 bought stove at Coop for \$75.00 to be paid for \$5.00 per month. April 7th Mothers Birthday set up stove in kitchen.

April 8, 1933 my birthday, 72 years old was able to do all kinds of work and was real healthy and strong. April 9th Daves birthday I ate supper at Daves.

May 3, 1933 was appointed Justice of the Peace for Moab. No. one precinct. Gave bonds and received Certificate of Appointment.

May 6th had first case one Civil and one Criminal. Signed complaints and Warrants in both cases.

May 19, 1933 a social homecoming party at home for Margaret and Sammy about 100 friends present, had a very enjoyable time.

July 5th Margaret and I went to Price and back with Sheriff J.B. Skewes to take C.W. Medlin to the Price Jail for safe keeping. We returned him for trial July 13th.

August 11, 1933 Margaret and I went to Verdue with Bishop W.D. Hammond to attend a High Priest reunion of the San Juan Stake, there was eleven in all that went from Moab. Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Hammond, Mr. & Mrs Hiram Allen, A.J. Young, Mrs Holyoak and Mr. Dunn, Sarah McConkie, Elizabeth Higgins, and Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Johnson. We had a real enjoyable time.

Tuesday August 29, 1933 Horace, Lottie, Bert, George, Stella, Elma, Dave, Addie, Genevieve, Margaret and myself went to Huntington to attend Brother Niclas E. Johnson's funeral, he having died on August 26 at 12:10 A.M.

Margaret came from Blanding that morning.

November 3, 1933 I filed the deed for record in the County recorders office, made an appointment with Hammond to meet with him Monday November 6 to formulate a complaint in my divorce case.

November 11, 1933 F.B. Hammond got the complaint ready and signed it for divorce from Margaret.

November 13, 1933 Monday Court set at 2:00 P.M. I went on the witness stand at 2:10 P.M. gave my testimony and at 2:20 P.M. Judge Woolley gave me a decree of divorce from Margaret. The divorce decree becomes final in six months from this date. May 13, 1934.

December 7, 1933 was suffering with a sore finger that I had cut with a rusty stove pipe ten days ago and went to have Dr. Allen treat it, he lanced the sore and got from it a piece of iron or steel the size of a small navy bean, it was a very painful operation.

December 17, 1933 went to Sunday School and Meeting, ordained Ernest and Morris Priests.

December 23, 1933 went to Miltons to the wedding of LaVell Palmer and Ida Mae Johnson. I said the ceremony. There was present all of Milton and Ruths family, Mr. & Mrs. Edson Palmer, Miss Ardell and Lela Palmer from Blanding. In the evening a crowd of young folks gathered here for a Charivari party, had a lively time.

March 14, 1934 the school bell tolled nearly all day the last time in the old Central School, a wrecking crew started to tear the old building down. Will Shafer, Dick Westwood and myself put the bell up in 1898.

March 11, 1935 Nora and I saw President Taylor for his signature to her Temple Reccommend. Went to the Court house in Provo and got our Marriage License. March 13, 1933 at 7:40 A.M. went to Salt Lake Temple and was married to Lillian Elnora Reynolds at 11:00 A.M. by Elder Hiram Taylor. Witnesses Israll Call and Andreeas J. Birkeland. Eat dinner with Mrs. Dr. Ellis R. Shipp, Ellis S. Neusser and Maud Christiansen. Then went to a show and then to the Orem Depot where Bishop Hammond, Bert Allred, Elsie Hammond and Mrs. Andrews met us and showered us with rice and congratulations. Arrived in Provo at 8:15 P.M. met by Levi Sr. and Levi Jr. On getting home found Mother, Gee, Pearl, and Darlene, Augusta and Clara waiting. Ellis and Catherine with a splendid supper.

It was a beautiful day and a fitting climax for Nora's 68th Birthday. June 27, 1935 Nora and I went to Vivian Park to an Old Folks reunion. We rode up there with Care Bentwich, We received the prize for being the oldest couple and latest married. There was 500 people there.

April 8, 1937 my birthday. Milton, Lawrence, Ernest, Asa Reynolds, Homer and their families came for a birthday party. Several neighbors joined in the gathering.

February 5, 1939 Asa and Guste Reynolds from Mt. Pleasant. Levi Reynolds of Provo, Elnora and myself went to Salt Lake to attend the funeral of Dr. Ellis R. Ship who was 92 years old. She was a sister to the Reynolds boys and Elnora.

Elnora and I had dinner with Lois and the kindred family at 1345 South 14th East Street, Salt Lake City, We all came home together on the Orem bus. This completes the Diary written in his own hand.

The following is taken from the Provo Herald July 25, 1940

D.A. Johnson of Provo, a Pioneer resident of Moab, has been seriously ill the past week, suffering from a heart ailment. Many of his children and grandchildren have visited him the past few days. Those visiting Mr. Johnson included the following, Mr. & Mrs. Milton E. Johnson, Moab, Ernest and Lawrence Johnson, Salt Lake City; Homer Johnson and children, Marin and Lloyd Johnson, Preston, Idaho; Mr. & Mrs. Lou Gryman, Castle Dale. At last reports Mr. Johnson's condition was much improved.

The following is a conclusion by Milton E. Johnson of the life story of David Almon Johnson.

Our Father David Almon Johnson had spent a life time making his home beautiful with flowers. The last home in which he lived was a show place of roses most of which he started himself from clippings off other roses.

He always had a good garden where ever he lived and took delight in sharing flowers, fruits, and vegetables with others.

His wife Elnora was a nurse and they lived in her sister home in Provo and both of them took care of Clara, who was a complete invalid for several years.

Then when Father got sick Elnora's brother Asa and wife came in and took care of the home and Clara.

To those he loved he could not do too much for. He loved his wives and children and was very tender toward them.

He passed away at his home in Provo on October 2, 1940 and a funeral was held there as he had made many friends there. He belonged to the Sons of the Pioneers at that place.

We the Sons and Daughter of our Father returned his body back to Moab where another funeral was held and laid him to rest in his place beside our Mother on October 8, 1940.

The following was taken from the Times Independent October 10, 1940.
D. A. JOHNSON, EARLY MOAB PIONEER, OFFICIAL, FORMER BISHOP AND POSTMASTER
DIES AT PROVO:

David Almon Johnson 79, Moab Pioneer, former L.D.S. Bishop and Postmaster, died last Wednesday at his home in Provo, of heart disease. The body was brought to Moab for burial, and funeral services were held at the L.D.S. chapel here Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Johnson who moved to Provo from Moab in 1935 had been in ill health for the past six months.

Funeral services were held Saturday Afternoon from the L.D.S. Church, presided over by Bishop W. R. McConkie. The speakers were Bishop McConkie and Howard Lance, who reviewed Mr. Johnson's life and paid a tribute to his record. The opening prayer was given by Hyrum Allen and the closing prayer by Bert Dalton. Musical numbers were rendered by Mrs. Tom Taylor, Mrs. Max Somerville, Mrs. Blanche Mellintin and Mrs. Lloyd Somerville, with Mrs. V.P. Walker as accompanist. At the cemetery a hymn was sung by the Ladies quartet, and the dedicatory prayer was offered by Bishop McConkie.

Mr. Johnson moved to Moab in 1884 and during his 51 years of residence here he took a very active part in public and church affairs. He held many offices of trust, including Bishop of the Moab ward (he was the third Bishop of the local ward), Postmaster, member of the town board, Justice of the Peace, and an active member of the L.D.S. Church.

Surviving besides his widow are six sons & a daughter, two sisters, 26 Grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. He was one of Moab's prominent pioneer citizens, He took an active part in upbuilding, gave freely of his time. He is sincerely mourned in all Moab homes.