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Provenance: Courtesy of Carol Nielson of North

Salt Lake

Category: Volume

Person: Date:

water over the bridge, but we could go around that on the highway.

President Mendenhall came to the project and stayed until it was complete. He helped ram-rod the whole thing and people began to think the college too would be complete for dedication time.

The brickies, of course, had to finish their work quite a while before the buildings were complete. This we did, then while the others were finishing nearly all the buildings at once, we were building what seemed like miles of walls around the property, along the highway, etc. The temple was finally finished by the appointed day (by working till after midnight) for the open house. There were approximately 75,000 people came to the temple for the open house.

The sign in front of the office kept changing. Every day, one less day to go.

Finally, as if by magic, on the way home from work on April 19, 1958, the sign read "0 days to go. Have you worked hard today?" It was all over and the buildings were all complete.

President McKay and the authorities were there. On April 20 the temple, then followed the "college," were dedicated. Of course we went to the dedication. Also a second time. I was in the choir for that song. After dedication we attended a few sessions.

The school faculty were there. Enrollment in the "college" began.

We were all released from our mission. We had a month to do as we pleased and get ready and

packed for home. On May 24 a truck and forklift came to the motel. They lifted our packed boxes on the truck. The sight gave me a turn. After 32 months we were on our way.

About three months before we were to leave, a car dealer came to the college. He bought our car, as well as others. We got \$1890 for our six year-old Studebaker Champion, and we could use it until we left. We drove it to the dock in Auckland and I called the dealer and he came and got it.

We boarded the Madsen liner Monterey and sailed with the evening. Our daughter Cherry left about six months ahead of us so she could go to school.

On May 27 we arrived at Suvea early, went ashore and visited the magnificent hill where the tin shack was 2 1/2 years ago. A beautiful chapel, with plenty of room and all the amenities now occupies the place. We were informed that there were about 150 members there compared with 27 when we were there before.

We left in the afternoon for Samoa, beautiful Pago Pago harbour. I was here May, 19, 1919. On that voyage there were a half dozen sailors shipped there from San Francisco and Honolulu. There was at that time a naval station there. When we returned August 15, 1921, we picked up three of those same sailors, one was under guard, the other two were his guards, taking him to Honolulu for court martial: twenty-seven months on that little island with only three miles of road. They had left a couple of times on naval exercises.

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