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Biography of Hyrum Don Carlos Clark by Owen Morrell Clark

Mother developed in her children a love and respect for father. This loving and prideful acceptance was enhanced by father's character as we came to know it and by his public reputation. We children were proud to be known as - and seemed to be respected for being - the children of H. D. Clark. We believed and accepted him to be a righteous and honorable man. Father was indeed a man of stalwart and principled character. His conduct was guided by principle. He was self disciplined and richly endowed with determination and perseverance.

This self-discipline was exhibited even in his eating habits. He would stop eating at a meal when he could enjoy eating more food. And although we were taught to eat all the food we had on our plates, occasionally father would finish up some food that a child was unable to eat. Combined with an active life, father therefore did not gain excessive weight when he reached middle age and beyond.

I recall that father and I in adulthood were the same height and he found it difficult to accept his being a bit shorter than I when he was nearing 80 years of age. He insisted that we measure and re-measure several times. He of course was not reckoning with the fact that persons do lose height in their later years.

Father apparently did single me out for some personal recognition when I was on my mission in Great Britain. As he learned of my mission activities including those associated with serving as a district president under the leadership of President Widtsoe, he came to see me with some real poten-

tial. He considered that one day I would be called to some high position, such as an apostle, in the Church. Such is yet another instance of the faith and expectation of a loving father for his son.

The two younger members of our family of five children were particularly fortunate in living at home with father when he and mother were settled in Farmington, the birthplace of each of them. Father, apparently seasoned and tenderized in his advanced years, was provided the opportunity to become lovingly acquainted with those at home on a one-to-one basis. My younger brother has reported to me a choice, loving and mutually respecting working and family-living relationship he had never before known. He came to know father as a warm, fair, friendly, and exciting personality; and to recognize him as a truly outstanding and great man.

Father stood up well under extreme adversity, being reduced to poverty from a status of relative wealth - by over extension of credit, though in good faith, to members of his own family. This tenuous credit situation was exacerbated by a period of adverse economic conditions nation-wide. Accustomed to owning and managing rich farm lands and a successful dairy in Davis County, large and well stocked cattle and hay ranches in Star Valley, houses in Farmington, Logan and Star Valley, he found himself at an advanced age stripped of all properties except an old family home in Farmington and reduced to