THE HISTORY OF COLLEGE AND YOUNG WARDS,
CACHE COUNTY, UTAH
by
John A. Hansen

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree
of
MASTER OF SCIENCE
in
History

Approved:

Major Professor

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I express sincere gratitude to S. George Ellsworth who was the chairman of my graduate committee, and for his review of my thesis. My appreciation is also extended to other members of my graduate committee.

I would like to thank the many good people who were so kind as to let me borrow and read their precious family diaries. To those few who took the time with me to review the history of College and Young Wards, to separate truth from fable, and to those who shared with me their personal knowledge by way of interview, I give a special thanks.

Finally to my wife, Sharon, for her encouragement and help in typing, and to my sister, Gayle, who read the manuscript, painstakingly going over every line, making numerous and helpful suggestions--to them I owe an unpayable debt.

John A. Hansen
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ABSTRACT

The History of College and Young Wards,

Cache County, Utah

by

John A. Hansen, Master of Science

Utah State University, 1968

Major Professor: S. George Ellsworth
Department: History

The two communities treated in this thesis, College Ward and Young Ward, are located in the southern section of Cache Valley, Utah, in an area originally known as the L.D.S. Church Farm. In 1877, Mormon President Brigham Young gave the Church Farm as an endowment to help build and maintain the newly-created Brigham Young College, and the land was leased, and later sold, to interested settlers.

Although late in settlement, these wards have a history of occupation and development similar to most local Mormon farm communities, and almost without exception have been populated by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

In 1936 College Ward, which had included Young Ward until this time, was divided. This division resulted primarily from internal problems arising over locations of church and school buildings. The names for both the College and Young wards came from the Mormon school, the Brigham Young College.

This thesis is principally concerned with the early period of settlement, and the life of the people.

(191 pages)
Location of College and Young Wards in Cache Valley

To Preston

Logan

Providence

MILville

Nibley

Blacksmith Fork River

Logan River

Little Bear River

Mendon

Wellsville

Wellsville Mountains
Brigham Young College Farm

Cache County, Utah

Original Boundary—Boundary of lands yet unsold

November 1895

E.N.
CHAPTER I

Physical Description

When Peter Maughan and his party entered Cache Valley in 1856 they were favorably impressed as they looked down into the valley from the Wellsville Mountain Range. Part of what they could see was the grazing area for the Mormon Church livestock, known as the Elk Horn Ranch. In 1891 most of this area was organized into College Ward.¹

An early College Ward settler recorded the following in 1873:

When we came out of Wellsville Canyon and I first saw Cache Valley it looked like a big Prairie, no trees only small shade trees in the settlements, and the willows along the muddy, and Blacksmith Fork and Logan rivers. The church farm was fenced and much farming was done close to the settlements. Indians we could see every day.²

The topographic surveys of the valley made in 1913 and 1916 give bench mark elevations which show Mendon, one of the lowest points of the valley, which borders Young Ward and is located approximately four miles west of College Ward, to have an elevation of 4,435 feet above sea level.³ The College and Young wards would then be about 4,500 feet above sea level.

¹College Ward included the area now known as Young Ward until 1936 when College Ward was divided.

²James D. Nuttall, Diary 1872-1898, August 3, 1873.

The two wards are located in the south end of Cache Valley between the Bear River Mountain Range on the east and the Wellsville Range on the west. Thus they are roughly centered in the southern end of Cache Valley.

The Blacksmith Fork River comes into College Ward from the southeast, then junctions with the Logan River and runs west, forming the northern boundary of the ward. Bordering on the east of College Ward is Nibley, on the south Wellsville, and on the west Young Ward.

Young Ward is bordered on the west by Mendon, on the south by Wellsville, on the north by the Logan River, and on the east by College Ward.

Cache Valley was at one time under water, covered by ancient Lake Bonneville. This would mean that the areas now known as the College and Young wards were, for a good many years, the floor of Lake Bonneville.

The climate of the area is regarded as moderate. Extreme temperatures have been as high as 95 degrees in the summer and as low as 20 degrees below zero in the winter.

Logan, which is located to the north, had, over a 50-year period, an average annual rainfall of 16.25 inches a year. Millville, to the east, had an average annual rainfall of 17.31 inches over a 25-year period.4

Cache Valley has an average safe growing season of 120 days, with longer safe growing periods on the benches and near the mouths of the canyons.

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4Ibid., 15.
The water supply for College Ward comes from the Blacksmith Fork and Logan rivers, creeks, numerous springs, and flowing wells. In order to serve all of College Ward, four irrigation companies were organized: (1) the Nibley-Blacksmith Fork Company which serves the south part of College Ward; (2) the College Irrigation Company which takes water out at the Nibley Bridge to serve the center area of the ward; (3) the Spring Creek Irrigation Company which is utilized by the north and west sections of College Ward; and (4) the Logan and Blacksmith Fork River Company which irrigates lower College Ward.  

Young Ward is irrigated primarily by water from the Logan-Blacksmith Fork River and the Spring Creek. In addition, a small area in the southern end of Young Ward gets water from Hyrum Dam, an area in the western section gets water from the Little Bear River, and another area utilizes the Pelican Pond.

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5Interview with Glen H. Hansen, College Ward, May 7, 1967.
CHAPTER II

Before Settlement

In the winter of 1824 and 1825 a party of Rocky Mountain Men, among them Jim Bridger, came down the Bear River. While they trapped, the 20-year-old Bridger went down the river to the Great Salt Lake.\(^1\)

In 1826 the annual rendezvous of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company was held in southern Cache Valley. Later, Peter Skene Ogden led a group of British trappers into Cache Valley. It was reported that he found rich grasses for his horses and saw herds of buffalo as far south as the present site of Paradise. Traders of the American Fur Trading Company, in addition to trapping in the streams of the valley in the 1830's, wintered cattle and horses in the area. They praised the richness of the soil and the beauty of the region.\(^2\)

Late in August of 1843, the explorer John C. Fremont and his men traveled through the north end of the region which he described as "the broad and fertile Cache Valley." Captain Stansbury surveyed the area in 1849 as a possible site for an army post. He praised the natural advantages of the area as a place for settlement, emphasizing the grazing and irrigation possibilities. Captain Stansbury, Moses "Black" Harris, and explorers that Brigham Young sent to Cache

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\(^2\) Ibid.
Valley\(^3\) all told him of the possibilities and desirability of the valley for cattle and ranching purposes.\(^4\)

In 1855 a devastating drought in the region around Salt Lake City and southward brought the settlers' cattle to the verge of starvation and Brigham Young sought additional grazing areas in the northern ranges. He organized a company to drive about 2,500 head of cattle owned by the Mormon Church, in addition to some of his personal stock, into the northern valleys where grass and water were reported to be plentiful. In 1855 the Territorial Legislature granted Cache Valley to Brigham Young for herding purposes.\(^5\) He did not keep the whole region for himself, but did reserve a choice tract of about 9,500 acres south of Logan.\(^6\) From then until 1877 the present College-Young area was used mainly for ranching and grazing purposes.

On July 20, 1855, the first group of men and cattle entered Cache Valley. Bryant Stringham, the captain, was in charge of the Mormon Church's cattle, and Andrew Moffat took care of Brigham Young's stock. For three days they camped near the Haw Bush Springs, just north of where the town of Wellsville now stands, while a scouting party was sent out to find a suitable camp site. They selected a spot near some large springs about one block north and west of the

\(^3\)The valley received its name when two French-Canadian trappers were killed by the cave-in of the bank of a fur cache. (See letter written by Dr. LeRoy R. Hafen in Appendix.)


\(^5\)Ibid., 8.

\(^6\)Ricks, ed., *The History of a Valley*, 80.
home of the late Joseph Nelson of Nibley, in what is now College Ward. A field of 100 acres was selected and fenced.\(^7\) (See Map.)

Ten days later they were joined by a second group with additional cattle. In this group was a young man by the name of John C. Dowdle who was a good carpenter. He had been sent, along with Martin Luther Ensign, to build the houses and corrals which would be needed. The many cottonwood trees which lined the Blacksmith Fork River provided the needed lumber. Part of the land was fenced, a large elk head fastened above the gate to the main corral, and the place christened "The Elk Horn Ranch."\(^8\) The brand for the Church's cattle was a cross.\(^9\)

What is considered to have been the first log cabin in Cache Valley was built at the Elk Horn Ranch, in the area presently known as College Ward.

In his diary for this period, Mr. Dowdle wrote that Martin Ensign had charge of the hewing of the house logs and got them prepared for use. Dowdle did the scoring of the logs for the hewers. Dowdle and William Garr put the house logs in place under the direction of Martin Ensign. In a short time the cabin was finished and was no doubt the first log cabin ever built in the valley.\(^10\)

Two women spent the winter of 1855 at the Elk Horn Ranch and claim to have been the first white women to winter in Cache Valley. Thus College Ward could claim this distinction also.

\(^7\)Ricks, *The Beginnings of Settlement in Cache Valley*, 8.

\(^8\)Ricks, ed., *The History of A Valley*, 29-30.

\(^9\)Record of Marks and Brands, Salt Lake City, 1849-1884, on microfilm in Utah State University Special Collections Library, Logan, Utah.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Warner and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stolworthy, immigrants who had arrived in Salt Lake City from England during the summer, were sent to Cache Valley by Brigham Young to assist with the cattle herd. They arrived in Cache Valley in the fall and occupied one of the cabins. In her diary Mrs. Warner says that she and Mrs. Stolworthy were the first white women to winter in Cache Valley.

The winter of 1855-1856 was very severe, and a number of the men, including John C. Dowdle and William Garr, left the ranch to drive part of the cattle into the Box Elder and Weber valleys where feed was more plentiful, since the cattle were starving at Elk Horn. Many of the cattle froze to death while going through the canyon towards Brigham City. About the middle of January, 1856, Dowdle and Garr were sent back to see how the people at the Elk Horn Ranch were getting along. They had a very difficult time getting back, making their way on snowshoes from Brigham City to the ranch. They found provisions very low, both for the few cattle that were left and for the people who were there. Two of the men owned small rifles, and one day the men had been fortunate enough to kill 280 wild chickens. These were brought to the cabin, cleaned thoroughly, and placed in "cold storage," adding greatly to their food supply. A large box, belonging to the church, had been left at the ranch by Captain Stringham; when the people became extremely hungry, they decided to open the box and see if there was anything in it that could be used for food. They found a bushel of wheat, which they ground in a coffee mill and made into cakes; a bushel of seed peas, which they added to their

\[11\] Ibid., 30.
chicken soup; and some ammunition, with which they procured more wild game.12

Although about half of the 2,500 head of cattle perished either in Cache Valley or while being driven southward, spring brought relief and supplies to those who had remained at the Elk Horn Ranch. Mrs. Warner records in her diary that she and her husband left the valley in July and went to Ogden. The Stolworthys also left the valley in 1856 to go to Iron County. Prior to their departure from the Elk Horn Ranch, Mrs. Stolworthy, on July 19, gave birth to a girl who they named Eliza Cache. This is reputed to be the first white child born in the valley.13 Little Eliza Cache Stolworthy only lived to be 15 months old.14

During the summer of 1856 others came, work was resumed, and the ranch fenced. The Church Farm was later included in the land grant to the Brigham Young College.

Before the Church Farm lands were given as an endowment by Brigham Young for a college, a certain amount of wild hay was grown along the bottom of the Muddy River, which is located west of the present Young Ward. This was allotted to needy families. However, on August 7, 1865, Brigham Young drove through the Church Farm and noticed that people had been herding their stock on the farm and cutting the hay, so he wrote a letter to President Ezra T. Benson and Bishop Peter

13Ibid., 14.
14Ibid., 17.
Maughan concerning it. He requested that if previous arrangements had not been made for the grazing of stock and cutting of hay on the Church Farm, the trespassers be required to pay for the privileges. He further stated that he wanted the Church Farm fenced, and inquired into the costs of the different kinds of fencing. (See copy of original letter in Appendix.)

In 1877, just a month before his death, President Brigham Young (trustee-in-trust for the Mormon Church) deeded 9,642.07 acres of land as an endowment to establish and help maintain the Brigham Young College at Logan. This included all of the present College and Young precincts and parts of West Millville, Providence, and Wellsville.

In the spring of 1874, after an inspection of the Church Farm, President Young expressed his ideas on how he felt the land should be used:

On and by the use of this tract of land we will establish a free educational institution to accommodate from 500 to 1000 young people where they can spend all their time for a period of from four to six years in acquiring a liberal and scientific education as complete as can be found in any part of the world.

But besides that, every young man must learn a trade, such as blacksmithing, carpentry, wheelwright, masonry, etc., and also scientific farming and stock raising. Every young woman must learn to spin, weave, cut, sew, dairying, poultry raising, flower gardening, etc. About one-third of the time of each student should be given to the institution in actual work on the farm, in dairying or shops for its maintenance.

The Gospel, true theology, must be taught and practiced by all, both students and teachers. Any young men or women of good moral character should be admitted, whether members of the Church or not, but while there must live the lives of good Latter-Day saints. They must keep the Word of Wisdom, no intoxicating liquor or tobacco will be kept, sold or used in the institution.

After graduation each student should be equipped free with a set of tools for his particular trade, a
team and wagon, farming implements made at the institution, worth about $500 so he could start right out producing results....

Now Brethren I shall not live in the flesh to see this accomplished but you are younger than I and I shall expect you to hew to this line and live to see it all accomplished.15

Apparently, it was later decided that Logan would be preferable as a building site for the new Brigham Young College, as it was constructed there. Also, some of the ideas Brigham Young had proposed were not used.

Settlement

College Ward was at one time part of West Millville. The families who lived in that area went to Millville for their schooling, church services, socials, and other activities until a branch was organized in 1882. At that time George O. Pitkin was bishop of Millville. Among those early families were William Nuttall, James D. Nuttall, Joseph Campbell, John C. Dowdle, John Anderson, S. Perry, and the Burris families. These families were homesteading just south of the Church Farm, and in 1873-1874 built the first houses along and near the present highway which extends west of Nibley and connects with College Ward.16

When the Church Farm was set aside as an endowment to be leased, people became interested and asked to lease the land. The best land was leased for $2.00 per acre per year. At first the people did not

16 Hovey, "An Early History of Cache County," 119.
make many improvements because they did not know whether they would eventually be able to purchase the land. A number of families, considered the first real settlers on the Church Farm lands, signed the leases for certain tracts of land in December, 1878. They plowed that fall so they would have the land ready for their crops the next spring. The first families who settled on these leased lands the next spring (1879) were James Chantrill, C. C. Bindrup, J. A. Jensen, and Lars Sorenson, and they began to build their homes. George Wood, T. R. Leavitt, S. F. Hall, and the Wyatt brothers were already located in the field towards Wellsville. John, Julius, and Michael Johnson of Hyrum also leased some of the land in the west portion. James Olsen, H. Hansen, C. Hansen, "Peg Leg" Hansen, J. N. Christensen, Joseph Peterson, William Bigelow, N. Anderson, J. Nielson, G. P. Ward, William Williams, F. and A. Crabtree, and others came within the next few years. 17

Summary

Although the present College and Young Ward area was the first land in Cache Valley to be occupied by the Mormons, it was kept by President Brigham Young, trustee-in-trust for the Mormon Church, as a church ranch and grazing area. In 1877, just one month before his death, President Young deeded the Church Farm as an endowment to establish and help maintain the Brigham Young College in Logan. The land was made available for leasing, and the first real settlers signed leases in the fall of 1878 and moved onto the land early in 1879.

17 Ibid.
CHAPTER III

Religion

Religion has always meant a great deal to the people of the College and Young wards, who have, with very few exceptions, belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Prior to 1877 the College and Young Ward area was still owned by the L.D.S. Church and was being used as grazing grounds. In 1873, there were a few homesteading families who lived south of the present highway which extends west of Nibley and connects with College Ward. These families were attending church services, school, socials, and other functions in Millville where George O. Pitkin was bishop. Then in 1877, when the Mormon president, Brigham Young, deeded the Church Farm as an endowment to establish and help maintain the Brigham Young College at Logan, the people who began leasing these lands were considered the first real settlers of College Ward. The lands were leased for 14 years for $1.00, $1.50, or $2.00 per acre per year.¹

By 1882 the number of families had increased sufficiently to organize a branch of the L.D.S. Church, so on November 20, 1882, William B. Preston, the Cache Stake President, appointed James Chantrill as Presiding Elder. The branch was known as the Farmers' Branch, and later referred to by some as West Millville. Meetings, as well as socials and dances, were held in the C. C. Bindrup home for a year or more with

¹C. C. Bindrup, Jr., School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 170.
Bishop Pitkin of Millville taking charge of some of the meetings. The funeral of Anne Arrup, who was 87 years of age, was also held in the Bindrup home. This was the first funeral held in the branch.\(^2\)

The C. C. Bindrup home was standing until 1967 when Deloy Zilles bought the land it was on. It was subsequently burned down to clear the corner lot.

In 1883 a combination church and school house, which consisted of one room, was built of rough lumber and the walls were filled with sawdust. Following is a list of some of the contributors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. C. Dowdle</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. P. Ward</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Jenson</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. P. Hall</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Wood</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>George O. Pitkin</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>C. Peterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Hansen</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Nelson</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Jones</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Chantrill</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Holt</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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</table>

The contributions from the branch totaled $171.27 in cash. In addition, William B. Preston, the stake president, gave $25.00 from the tithing fund, for a total of $196.27. With the labor contributed, this made construction of the building possible.\(^3\)

The foundation for this building was dug March 1, 1883, by James Olsen, Jr., C. C. Bindrup, Jr., James Chantrill, John C. Dowdle, and James Wray. In his journal, Mr. Bindrup said that "all came and put it up in a month so it could be used."\(^4\) It was located east of the present

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\(^3\) C. C. Bindrup, Jr., School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 295.

\(^4\) Ibid., 297.
Highway 91, opposite the present College Ward church house. This building was dedicated by Samuel Roskelley at a "Sunday meeting at 1 p.m." on August 16, 1884. Later it was purchased by the school trustees and after the new church house was finished in 1897 it was used solely for a school. It was subsequently purchased by Charles Welch Dunn and converted into a dwelling. He later sold it to James D. Nuttall, and is presently owned by John L. Green.

On April 17, 1887, C. C. Bindrup was made Presiding Elder of the Farmers' Branch, replacing James Chantrill. He held this position until June 28, 1891, when the branch was organized into a ward.

Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association

The Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association was organized Sunday, December 30, 1883, in a meeting held in the Farmers' Branch meeting house. The stake president, William B. Preston, was present to help organize the new YMMIA, along with the Cache Stake YMMIA superintendent, Lyman R. Martineau, and the assistant superintendent, Seth A. Laughton. Counsel and instructions were given by these visitors, and then officers for the organization were elected by those present. James Olsen, Sr., was chosen president, with Lars Sorensen as first counselor, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., as second counselor, Joseph H. Olsen as secretary, and C. C. Bindrup, Sr., as treasurer. Superintendent Martineau told them that "for the present the young men and young ladies can meet conjointly on account of your scattered condition, but the young men will always preside."

The young women were to take part in the programs to "make the meetings

\[^{5}\text{Ibid.}\]
interesting." They were also instructed to meet weekly on Sunday evenings and to seek the counsel of the bishop in all things in carrying out the program. There were 33 young men and 13 young women enrolled at the beginning (1883-1884).6

The meetings consisted of a song, prayer, reading and approval of the previous week's minutes, and roll call. Then the "programme" would be rendered, which varied from week to week. Sometimes one of the returned missionaries would tell about the people and customs of the lands he had visited, or special guests would be invited to speak. However, the program usually consisted of several of the young men discussing doctrinal questions, relating incidents from early L.D.S. church history, giving Bible or Book of Mormon stories, or reciting dialogues. The young ladies generally added variety to the programs by giving "select readings" or vocal renditions. They began using M.I.A. manuals in the early 1890's.7

Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association

On October 20, 1889, a meeting of the young ladies of the Farmers' Branch was held with Carrie Smith, the Cache Stake Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association president in attendance. She talked about the purposes and benefits of the association, then a vote was taken to see if the young ladies were in favor of organizing. The vote was unanimous, so officers were chosen. Annie Nelson was the first president, with

6West Millville Y.M.M.I.A. Minute Book, 1883-1885, 2, 4, 94-95.
7Record Book of the Y.M.M.I.A., College Ward, December 30, 1883 to October 21, 1894.
Hannah Dowdle as first counselor, Mary Ann Jensen as second counselor, and Martha Bindrup as secretary. At their first meeting, held October 27, 1889, Alice Wood was sustained as assistant secretary, and Eliza Dowdle, Louisa Leavitt, and Alice Wood were chosen as the program committee. There were 13 enrolled in the YLMIA during the year of 1889-1890. By the next year the enrollment had increased to 22.

The meetings were varied. At one meeting, held October 31, 1889, the program consisted of Mary Ann Jensen reading a chapter from the Bible, Hannah Dowdle reading a selection from the Juvenile Instructor entitled "How Maida Saw the Devil," Elsie Jensen giving a recitation, and Alice Wood reading a piece entitled "Wander Eyes." Then Mary Ann Dowdle spoke for a short time, and the meeting was concluded with remarks by the president, Annie Nelson.\(^8\)

The young ladies still met conjointly with the young men for many of their meetings. On March 23, 1894, a party was given to raise money for the purchase of coal oil for lights for Mutual night meetings.\(^9\)

**Sunday School**

The Farmers' Branch Sunday School was organized April 30, 1883, with 13 officers and teachers and 41 members. John C. Dowdle was the first superintendent, with Thomas R. Leavitt as first assistant, Lars Sorensen

\(^8\)College Ward Y.L.M.I.A. Minute Book, 1889-1893.

as second assistant, James Olsen as secretary, and C. C. Bindrup as assistant secretary.10

Nettie Schenk Abrams recalls when Sacrament meetings were held on Sunday afternoons. Some families would bring their lunch and remain at the church until the afternoon meeting was over. Some of the youngsters would visit Bishop Dunn's gooseberry patch following Sunday School, where they would fill their pockets and handkerchiefs with sour gooseberries. These would either be eaten during the afternoon meeting or silently flipped across the room at some unsuspecting victim.11

Primary

The Farmers' Branch Primary was organized October 18, 1885, by President Jane Molen of the Cache Stake. Mary Ann Dowdle was the first president, with Sophia Sorensen and Ann Leavitt as counselors and Hannah Dowdle as secretary. William R. Dowdle was assistant secretary and Eliza R. Dowdle was treasurer.

Primary was held weekly on Fridays. Lessons were given, and the children were taught to bear their testimonies. They all had turns taking part on the weekly programs. At one meeting Freddie Schenk recited "Little Jack Horner Sat in a Corner," and Oscar Dunn and Reuben Nuttall sang a song entitled "Found a Peanut." At work meetings the girls were taught to sew carpet rags and to quilt blocks. Lula Schenk remembers the president, Mary Ann Dowdle, bringing horse hairs and helping

10 "Abridged History of the College East and/or College Ward Sunday School," from 1900 to the present, Foreword.
11 Interview with Nettie Schenk Abrams, College Ward, January 15, 1968.
the children thread beads on them to make jewelry. On occasion the children were asked to bring a few eggs to Primary to help pay the traveling expenses of the General Board.

The Primary did much toward the development of the children, both spiritually and temporally. A harmonica band was organized among the boys. A fair was held, displaying the singing, marching, and playing talents of the children. The parents were very interested in the meetings and activities, and it was not unusual for the men to attend some of the Primary meetings.

The children learned to march well, and when the stake Primary president came for her annual visit, the children would march out to meet her. They would then march, or trudge, back to the church house to hear her message of admiration and admonition.

At this time there was little money available, and often a man would take several sacks of grain, eggs or other produce when going to the store to exchange for goods. This was also true in the case of tithing and other donations paid to the L.D.S. Church. In his diary for this period, James D. Nuttall notes: "Thursday, October 7, 1886 Me and my wife went to fast meeting, took 34 lbs. of flour for fast offering." In December of the same year he mentions taking some wheat and meat for tithing and a piece of meat for fast offerings.

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12 Interview with Lula Schenk Dunn, Logan, Utah, February 20, 1968.
14 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1886-1888.
15 Ibid.
Organization of College Ward

In 1890 President Wilford Woodruff, Brigham Young's successor, changed the policy regarding the lands under the Brigham Young College endowment. He said the lands could now be sold, and the settlers immediately bought the land they had been leasing and began making permanent improvements on it. President Woodruff's decision made a decided difference in the growth and development of the settlement and by 1891 it had grown sufficiently to warrant the organization of a ward. On June 28, 1891, President Orson Smith of the Cache Stake (which then included most of Cache Valley) and his counselors, Issac Smith and Simpson B. Molen, along with Bishop George O. Pitkin and Martin Woolf of the Millville Ward, attended a special meeting held in the settlement. Charles Oscar Dunn, a young man then living in the western part of Millville, was called to move to the new ward and preside as the first bishop.

Simpson B. Molen, a member of the stake presidency, suggested that the new ward be given the name of College Ward, since the proceeds from the sale of the lands of the Church Farm were being used to build and sustain the Brigham Young College in Logan. The members voted on the suggestion, and the vote carried. Bishop Dunn chose John C. Dowdle and James Olsen, Sr., as his counselors. John C. Dowdle also acted as the first ward clerk.16

In his diary, Bishop Charles O. Dunn tells how he had homesteaded a quarter section of land in Clarkston in the early part of 1891, and on March 14 had moved his first wife, Letitia, onto it. Then in June

16 Eva Dunn Snow, "History of the Settling of College Ward."
he was called to be the bishop of College Ward. In order to keep the
land in Clarkston he had to live on it for 15 months and then make a
cash entry and pay $2.50 per acre. So his first year and a half as
bishop of College Ward was quite difficult, but he said he visited the
ward as often as he could. Then in 1893 he sold his home in Millville
and bought a farm close to the College Ward meeting house, where he
built two homes, one for each of his wives. 17

The people living in the new ward were asked to obtain recommends
from their former wards, and present them for membership in the College
Ward. This was gradually taken care of and the records made complete.
About this time, the ward was called upon to raise $250.00 to help repair
the tabernacle in Logan, which they were able to do.

On November 8, 1891, a letter was received from the First Presidency
of the L.D.S. Church, admonishing the members of the ward to subscribe
to the Deseret News, as that paper was the organ of the church. 18

Some of the ward members were converts from foreign countries, and
occasionally they would hold a meeting in which their native language
was spoken. C. C. Bindrup thought it would be nice to hold a Danish
meeting, so one was called. Mr. Bindrup was asked to offer the opening
prayer, and after two or three unsuccessful attempts, he stammered,
"Damn it bishop, I can't pray in Danish." Neither could the bishop,
nor anyone else present, so the meeting was conducted in English. 19

19 Ibid., 17.
Trustees were appointed by the district court to hold titles to real estate belonging to the ward, and consisted of C. C. Bindrup, Jr., James Nelson, and James Olsen, Jr. John C. Dowdle was appointed to act as representative of the people in petitioning the Brigham Young College for the privilege of purchasing public land. Prior to this time, John C. Dowdle, and perhaps others, purchased land in behalf of the Farmers' Branch. On March 4, 1891, he recorded:

While at Logan yesterday, bought ten acres of land from the B. Y. Collage, for public purposes, the buisness done with the understanding the said land should be used by the public of West Millville Branch of Millville Ward, the papers to be held by the president of the Millville Eclesiastical association of that Ward till such time as we should be organized in to a Ward then the said land to be deeded to that Ward.

Relief Society

John C. Dowdle, in his journal on April 4, 1892, said, "Mary Ann wishes me to write in my journal an account of the organization of the College Ward Relief Society which took place December 13, 1891." (Mary Ann was his wife.) Mr. Dowdle then went on to say that Adeline H. Barber and Lucy Cardon of the Cache Stake Relief Society presidency were present at a meeting held December 13, 1891, and they proceeded to organize the association with Maria Olsen as president, Mary Ann Dowdle as first counselor, Mary Hansen as second counselor, Elizabeth Jeppsen as secretary, and Hannah E. Dowdle as treasurer. Each member

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20 Ibid., 4.
of the new presidency was then set apart, followed by addresses by Sisters Barber and Cardon, and also by Elder Cardon. 22

Apparently, Relief Society was held on Thursdays at first. In Dowdle's journals between 1892 and 1907, he repeatedly mentions in his Thursday entries that his wife has gone to Relief Society. In 1893 the Relief Society meetings were held monthly. One of the major projects was that of gathering and storing wheat. The women also gleaned pieces of wool from the fences after the sheep had passed under them, and the wool was prepared and used for quilts. By collecting "Sunday eggs" and other means, the College Ward Relief Society donated $66.44 towards the new church house between 1894 and when it was completed in 1897. 23

Another entry in John C. Dowdle's journal regarding the Relief Society is of interest. On Thursday, April 11, 1895, he writes:

The Relief Society sent in a petition for to have the artical granting Woman Suffrage embodied in the State Constitution that was now being framed by the Constitutional Convention now in session at Salt Lake City. There was none of us that felt disposed to sign it. 24

In the spring of 1906, John C. Dowdle, along with John Schenk, C. L. Olsen, James D. Nuttall, and others, began work on a Relief Society granary. Perhaps it was not completed that spring, because

22 Ibid., 97.

23 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., Secretary, "College Ward Meeting House Book," December 2, 1893, to February 21, 1897 (a record book dealing with the building of the 1897 College Ward church house), 6.

in February of 1907, Dowdle again recorded working on it, along with 15 of the ward brethren and they got the roof on and the floor joist ready for the floor. This granary was purchased by James D. Nuttall in November of 1916 for $40.00. Then on February 28, 1917, Mr. Nuttall and several friends raised it onto skids so it could be moved. A couple of days later he got some teams, and the Relief Society granary was moved to the Nuttall farm.

College Ward Choir

Music was very important to the early members of College Ward. The people enjoyed brass bands, dance orchestras, and the vocal selections rendered in various meetings and at socials. A ward choir was organized on June 25, 1893, just two years after the organization of the ward, with Joseph Bindrup as director. The choir consisted of the following members: Joseph Bindrup, Joseph H. Olsen, Lovenus Olsen, Elsie Jensen, Annie Bindrup, Francetta Leavitt, Sam Dowdle, Will Dowdle, Hannah Dowdle, Christina Larson, Martha Bindrup, Maria Jensen, Chris Bindrup, James Olsen, Jr., Mary Hansen, Annie Schenk, Elizabeth Nuttall, and Maria E. Olsen. Later, when an organ was purchased, Nettie Larson Hall became the first organist.

On May 27, 1900, in the Sunday afternoon Sacrament meeting, a visitor named Professor Otta gave the people some "good instructions and singing," and they arranged to have him teach the College Ward choir.

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25 Ibid., 254-255, 300.
26 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1916-1919.
choir for one year, for which he was to be paid one cow and two loads of hay. 28

On December 17, 1893, C. C. Bindrup was appointed doorkeeper to keep order in the church meetings. 29

The fast and testimony meetings were held on Thursdays for some time. Thursday, March 25, 1893, was set as a church-wide day of fasting and prayer by the First Presidency of the L.D.S. Church. The people were told to settle all differences before going to the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple, to be held early in April. Time was given in the meeting for the people to confess their sins and ask forgiveness of one another, which all did. The meeting began at 11 a.m. and lasted for over three hours. It was recorded that a good feeling of love and forgiveness pervaded. Hans Sorenson, James Olsen, Jr., and John C. Dowdle from College Ward were among those attending the temple dedicatory services. 30

It is interesting to note, in going through some of the old diaries and journals kept by early College Ward settlers, that even some of the most faithful and dedicated of them were not always too strict in their observance of the "Word of Wisdom." One of the members of the first bishopric recorded in his journal on July 27, 1894:

2 p.m. Our neighbor, Niels Andersen, came with a four-gallon keg of beer to fulfill an agreement that he had previously made that if he got a plough as a premium at the county fair he would put up the beer. So we had a splendid time. 31

28 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 220.
30 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., "Journal No. 18," 16.
31 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 143.
However, a couple of months later, on September 17, he recorded: "Mary Ann and I started this morning to leave off drinking tea."  

Religion Class

A Religion Class was organized on November 22, 1893 (the first to be held in College Ward), with C. C. Bindrup, Jr., as the teacher. Apparently he had had some kind of prior preparation, or interview, because on the inside cover of one of his journals is glued a "license" issued by the General Board of Education of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, permitting him to "act as an instructor" in the religion classes in College Ward. This license was issued February 12, 1894, and signed by Wilford Woodruff, President, George Reynolds, Secretary, and Dr. Karl G. Maesar, Chairman of the Board of Examiners.  

These religion classes appear to have been almost a combination of the present L.D.S. seminaries and primaries. Since the seminary system had not yet been organized, perhaps the religion classes helped reach some of the young men and young ladies who were still in school, but were too old to attend Primary. 

The course of study consisted of such things as learning how to pray, the different kinds of prayers, the Articles of Faith, the Ten Commandments, hearing Bible and Book of Mormon stories, and learning about kindness, self-control, chastity, honesty, industry, repentance, profanity, respect to parents, and other related subjects.

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32 Ibid., 153.
33 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., School Notebook and Personal Record Book, glued on the inside cover.
The Religion Class was taught on Thursdays after school, and all
of the pupils in the eight grades of the district school were invited
to stay and attend. Some years the class was divided into a primary
department and an intermediate department, and other years an advanced
department was added. The first year, 1893-1894, there were 53 pupils
enrolled in the class. The roll book, kept by C. C. Bindrup, Jr.,
listed the pupil's name, age, and father or guardian. The ages varied
from 5 to 25 years of age. There were three boys who were in their
twenties, but they only attended one class. The Religion Class was
held concurrently with the public school, and generally went from the
first part of November until some time in April.

John Schenk became superintendent of the Religion Class in 1895.
There were 65 enrolled during 1895-1896, in addition to the superinten-
dent and 2 other teachers. During 1897-1898, the enrollment reached
its high point with 75 members and 4 teachers. The attendance was very
good. Several pupils had 100 per cent attendance, while the majority
had few absences.

John Schenk served as superintendent and teacher from 1895 until
1902, when George D. Cardon became superintendent. Mr. Cardon was also
the school teacher at that time. He served for one year and in 1903
Ammon Satterfield became superintendent, this position he held for
two years.

The last entries in the "Record Book of the Religion Class of
College Ward" appear in 1908, but just the roll for one meeting is
given, and there are no minutes. Charles Welch Dunn and Emily Olsen
were the school teachers, and since their names appear on the roll,
they were probably in charge of the class. It is likely that the Religion Class was stopped at this time or shortly after.

It is hard to imagine a seasoned pioneer like John Clark Dowdle sitting at a sewing machine sewing curtains for the Sunday School, but he recorded it himself. From his journal we learn that the school house was still being used for church meetings in 1895, as the new church was not finished until 1897. He recorded that on Wednesday, February 27, 1895, he and his son, Amos, went to Logan to get some material. The next day he noted:

Amos and I working at the sewing machine, preparing the division curtains for the dividing of the school house for Sabbath School conveniences, and also to be used this evening for the Sabbath School concert at 7:30 p.m. Then on March 9, 1895, he mentioned that he went to the school house to arrange the curtains that he had made into four "departments" to make it more convenient for the various Sunday School classes.

Building the 1897 College Ward Church House

When College Ward was organized on June 28, 1891, the members were meeting in the small one-room school and church house combination which they had built in 1883. A few months after the ward organization, John C. Dowdle, a member of the bishopric, began preparing some estimates for a new church house. On December 12, 1891, the priesthood bearers of College


35 Dowdle, Journal 1844-1908,"171.

36 Ibid., 173.
Ward met to hear these estimates, and also to discuss the advisability of selling their present building to the school district.\(^{37}\) Two weeks later, another meeting was held and a vote taken, and it was unanimously decided to sell the building to the school trustees of the district.\(^{38}\)

There is very little recorded about the proposed new church until December 2, 1893. At a meeting held on this date, in which nearly all of the priesthood bearers of the ward were present, the building of a meeting house was discussed and decided upon. The following day Bishop C. O. Dunn appointed a committee with himself as chairman. The other members, in their order of appointment, were: John C. Dowdle, James Olsen, Sr., treasurer, J. A. Anderson, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., secretary, Michael Johnson, Maria Olsen (the Relief Society president), and H. P. Nielsen.\(^{39}\)

On December 17, 1893, the committee met to decide on a plan for the new church. John C. Dowdle presented a plan which was unanimously accepted. It showed a "gallery in the one end in form of a quarter circle, and elevated choir seats in the other." The proposed building was to be 25 feet wide, 45 feet long, and 18 feet high.\(^{40}\)

On December 12, 1893, Bishop Charles O. Dunn and John C. Dowdle went to Hyrum and completed the purchase of some land for the College Ward church from Christian Jensen.\(^{41}\)

\(^{37}\)Ibid., 87.

\(^{38}\)Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 80.


\(^{40}\)Ibid., 108.

The committee met on December 31, 1893, to choose the site for the new church house. The location was agreed upon, and it was decided that the stake presidency should be shown the plans and informed that they were commencing to build a church. A committee to purchase lumber was also appointed, made up of Bishop Dunn and his two counselors, Olsen and Dowdle.

The stake presidency, when visited, encouraged them to build the church of brick rather than lumber, as they had previously planned. This change was agreed upon. The stake presidency also felt the plan was rather small. So on April 8, 1894, the committee met with the brethren of the ward and it was unanimously decided to enlarge the plans from 25 feet by 45 feet to 30 feet by 55 feet. There were 19 present at this meeting. The next day, April 8, 1894, ground was broken for the foundation of the new church by Bishop Charles O. Dunn.

On May 25, 1894, the committee met and discussed the thickness of the walls and also set the following prices for labor:

- Digging rocks per day (of about 8 hours) $1.00
- Hauling rocks per day (one load) 1.25
- Digging foundation per day (10¢ per hour) 1.00
- Hauling sand (per load) 1.00

Bishop Dunn was chosen Superintendent of Construction by the unanimous vote of the committee on May 27, 1894.

A week later, the committee met to discuss the suggestions and bids of several masons in regard to walls for the new church. Mason Somers felt a 12-inch wall with 8 inch by 2 foot wide pillars (or buttresses)

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43 Ibid., 111.
was strong enough. His bid for all the masonry work was $260.00. He thought pillars would be cheaper than a plain 16-inch wall and figured the 12-inch wall with pillars and the 30 foot by 55 foot by 18 foot dimensions of the house would take 71,000 bricks.

Mason Erickson was more in favor of a plain 16-inch wall, although he felt the other would be all right. His bid for the masonry work was "$2.25 per M bricks" and $47.00 for the foundation work, or a total of about $206.00.

The report from architect Barrett was, "Lay the walls and roof good and a 12-inch wall with pillars will do."

Mason Thomas Priday's bid was $259.50. This would include laying the foundation and brick, dressing the rock for the window sills (and furnishing lath, hair, and nails for same), and doing all the plastering. He, like the other bidders, said he would take one-third of the pay in farmers' products at merchants' prices.

The committee decided upon a 12-inch wall with pillars, the only dissenting vote being cast by Olsen, who preferred a 16-inch wall. None of the bids were accepted at that time, but Priday's bid of $259.50 was later accepted. 44

On a Sunday evening, June 10, 1894, the grounds for the new church house were dedicated by John C. Dowdle. The following line, taken from Dowdle's dedicatory prayer, probably echoed the thoughts of most of those in attendance that night when he said, "Let our efforts be crowned with success for we are not overburdened with means." 45

44 Ibid., 114.
On June 12, 1894, the foundation was dug and the first rocks were laid June 14 by Thomas Priday, the mason.

At the July 8, 1894 committee meeting, it was decided to write a letter to President Wilford Woodruff, petitioning some assistance from the L.D.S. Church. John C. Dowdle was instructed to write the letter, and the amount to be requested was set as $1,000.00. They also discussed securing the deed to the grounds from Christian Jensen. 46

On July 20, 1894, the committee's minutes show that C. C. Bindrup, Jr., was to furnish "Sized up Lumber for bottom floor to am't of 1484 ft." Then four days later, the floor "being put on sleepers," a 24th of July dance was held with Christian Christiansen of Logan being the musician. There was a large attendance. Referring to this in his journal, John C. Dowdle said, "The boys attended a ball on the sub-floor of the new meeting house." 47 Another dance was held on the "open-air" dance floor on August 10, 1894.

In reply to the letter sent to the First Presidency requesting funds to help pay for the church, a letter dated August 3, 1894, was received. It advised the ward not to build that year, whereupon work was suspended until the following spring. On February 20, 1895, the committee again met and made plans to continue building. The proposition of James Okaman of Hyrum to furnish 75,000 bricks was discussed. He would take as pay "35 cords at least, and up to 50 cords of pine wood @$4.00 per cord, on yard, $100.00 cash, and $150.00 balance in Z.C.M.I. orders. Total $450.00."

46 Ibid., 116.

47 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 143.
These bricks were to be ready as soon as the ward got the wood to burn them with. The following week the offer was accepted. 48

On May 26, 1895, the committee decided to have four windows in each side and two in the east end, the size of the glass to be 10 inches by 20 inches. 49

The order from the First Presidency of the L.D.S. Church, giving $600.00 in produce and labor on the new meeting house, was dated October 12, 1895. It was signed by George Reynolds, secretary, and the check on the Bishop's Storehouse was signed by William B. Preston. 50

On December 5, 1896, a new contract for masonry was signed by masons Thomas Priday and J. L. Burnham. They agreed to have the walls up, ready for the roof, by May 1, 1896.

On March 10, 1896, the building committee decided to have a 6 foot by 12 foot, two-roomed outhouse, with partitions, also to put a date stone and circular window in the gable. 51

An article appeared in the Logan Journal on March 10, 1896, which said:

The people of College Ward are erecting a fine new meeting house, the foundation being completed and other preliminaries arranged. The hall will be large and airy and will accommodate the people of College and all who desire to visit them. 52

49 Ibid., 81.
50 Ibid., 83.
51 Ibid., 84.
The committee, on November 22, 1896, decided to make the benches "three tiers, center 10 ft long and side each 6 ft long." It was also decided to have a stand 18 inches high and 12 feet wide running clear across the floor, except for 5 feet in the corner, which would be left for a door.53

In his diary, Bishop Charles O. Dunn recorded that the College Ward church house was paid for and ready for dedication by the time it was finished, although there were just 24 families in the ward at that time.54

On February 16, 1897, a final committee meeting was held for the purpose of "fixing up accounts of meeting house in general," and then on February 21, 1897, the new church house was dedicated by William B. Preston.55

Several sources list the total cost of the church at a rounded-off figure of $3,000.00. The "College Ward Meeting House Book, Dec. 2, 1893 to Feb. 21, 1897," which lists all contributions, both labor and cash, and all committee meeting minutes, gives an itemized list of all expenses, including labor, and the total comes to $2,790.52.56

It was the unquestioned custom for the men to take their places on the north side of the church house, while the women all sat on the south side. Eva Dunn Snow remembers the enlarged, framed pictures of the

56Ibid., 10-11.
bishopric which adorned the church house walls, the old-fashioned tall black stove, and the dim coal-oil lamps. The old black stove must have been quite temperamental. On March 10, 1907, John C. Dowdle recorded the following in his journal:

I attended meeting today. ... The stoves work rather poorly. The people were literally smoked out. Immediately after the sacrament was administered the meeting adjourned on account of the smoke.57

Up until 1901 Cache Stake included nearly all of Cache Valley. At a Cache Stake quarterly conference held in the Logan Tabernacle on April 30, 1901, the stake was divided into three stakes: Cache, Benson, and Hyrum. College Ward was placed in the newly-organized Hyrum Stake, along with the Millville, Hyrum, Avon, Paradise, Wellsville, Mendon, and Mt. Sterling wards. William C. Parkinson was chosen as president of Hyrum Stake, with George O. Pitkin and I. C. Thoreson as counselors. Logan Stake was organized in 1920, and College Ward became a part of it at this time.58

College West Sunday School

Due to the scattered condition of the members of the ward, a meeting was held at the West College Ward school house (located in what is now Young Ward) on June 15, 1902, for the purpose of organizing a branch Sunday School. Bishop Charles O. Dunn and his counselors, John C. Dowdle and John Schenk, were present, along with Superintendent C. R. Dailey of the Stake Sunday School Board. Each of them made a few remarks, then C. L. Olsen presented the name of Charles R. Jeppsen for superintendent.

57 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 302.
58 Ricks, ed., The History of a Valley, 282.
of the College West Sunday School. He was sustained, along with C. L. Olsen as first assistant, Anton Kohler as second assistant, and Hyrum Olsen as secretary and treasurer, with Elizabeth Jeppsen as Hyrum's assistant. Joseph Jensen was sustained as librarian and Leno Olsen as chorister.\(^5\)

On the Annual Statistical and Financial Report for the College West Sunday School for the year ending December 31, 1902, it was noted:

Owing to very small and scattered condition of population, difficulty has been experienced in securing attendance. On this account only two Depts. were organized.\(^6\)

The report also noted that during 1902 there were 13 officers and teachers enrolled, with an average attendance of 7. There were 29 pupils enrolled, with an average attendance of 18. During 1903 there were 42 Sunday Schools held, and in 1904 there were 39.

At the time the College West Sunday School was organized, the College West area had been holding their own school in the "Little Blue School" for about four years. They had also begun a Religion Class similar to the one held in "upper" College Ward. This class was held primarily for the older boys and girls, and Charlie Jeppsen was the first teacher.\(^6\)

A Primary was also organized in the College West area. Lena Olsen was the first president, with Elsie Olsen as first counselor, Lucy Dowdle as second counselor, and Ollie Johnson as secretary. Primary was also held in the school house.\(^6\)

\(^5\)"College West Sunday School Minute Book, 1902-1905."

\(^6\)Annual Statistical and Financial Report for the College West Sunday School, 1902.

\(^6\)Interview with Bert W. Olsen, Young Ward, March 27, 1968.

On Sunday, June 24, 1906, at the suggestion of President Parkinson of Hyrum Stake, the Sunday afternoon Sacrament Meeting in College Ward was changed from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. (The College West section of College Ward continued to go to "upper" College Ward for their Sacrament meetings, MIA, and Priesthood meetings until 1936.)

College Ward had sent out 26 missionaries prior to 1913. The ward always tried to help the prospective missionaries out financially with donations. For example, when Michael Johnson left for the Southern States mission in 1906, the ward "made up a purse of $56.70." 64

Charles O. Dunn served as bishop of College Ward from the time of its organization on June 28, 1891, until July 20, 1912, a little over 21 years. While he was bishop, in 1905, one of his legs began troubling him, causing him a great deal of pain although it had been 20 years since the leg had been diseased. Finally, on January 1, 1907, he went to the L.D.S. Hospital in Salt Lake City where an operation was performed and all the marrow was cleaned out of the bone between the knee and the ankle. After a month another operation was necessary. After being in the hospital for several months, he returned home on April 14, 1907, but the leg grew worse. At a ward reunion held in July, the ward members presented him with $70.00 to help with medical expenses. On August 29, Dr. Frank Cutler of Logan came to Bishop Dunn's home, placed him on the dining table and amputated the offending limb, which his older boys buried in the southeast part of his lot.

63 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 265.
64 Ibid., 277.
After the amputation, Bishop Dunn found he couldn't get around as well as before, and thought he should resign from his job as bishop. However, the stake president felt he should continue, which he did until 1912. Then in 1913, he sold his farm to Andrew Nelson and moved to Logan with his two wives. 65

Charles Welch Dunn was sustained as bishop of College Ward on July 20, 1912, when his father, Charles O. Dunn, was released. He was just 26 years of age at the time. In the history of his life, written in 1935, he tells of the rather cool reception he received when he was sustained:

Young Patriarch Hyrum G. Smith was charged with the duty of releasing my father and installing me. It was his first call to perform such a duty, he having been but recently chosen as Presiding Patriarch to the Church. He was as diffident and scared as I was myself, but finally my father was out and I was in.

All the folks didn't vote to sustain me. Quite a few let their hands rest idly in their laps and looked a little disgusted to have the young smart-aleck school teacher thrust upon them. Old Anton Kohler, a mulish Dutchman, just returned from a misspent mission to the old Fatherland, trotted down to the door, and turning around, shouted at the top of his broken German, "Dat is a hell uf a Bishop," then bounded out of the door and off for home, and I imagined his sentiments echoed in the crestfallen hearts of quite a few in the audience, without the brass and courage of old Kohler. Sometime later this paragon missionary went back to his native land and married the girl he had disgraced while on his mission and died out of the church.

Another old German, disgruntled like his countryman, delivered himself of this effusion after the meeting was over, "Vell de young man has sheated the old man out of his job." 66

66 Charles Welch Dunn, "An Apology For My Life."
However, the young new bishop rapidly made friends with old and young alike. He served for just one year, and then moved to Logan, necessitating his release. He jokingly said that at the reorganization of the bishopric the ward folks gave vent to their pent-up emotions by singing with much feeling, "Long Have We Been Led in Darkness," and "The Reign of Satan Now is O're."

By the early 1900's, College Ward was having two separate Sunday Schools, one held in the College West school house, which had been built in 1898 (near the location of the present Young Ward chapel), and one held in the College Ward church house, along the present Highway 91, a little south of the present church. There were also two separate Primaries being held, but the priesthood meetings, MIA meetings, and Sacrament meetings were still held jointly in the College Ward church house. Relief Society was also held jointly, and the meetings were generally held in one of the member's homes, although occasionally in either the College Ward church or the College West school house.

Sunday School was held on Sunday mornings, Sacrament meeting on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m., and MIA on Sunday evenings. Priesthood meetings were held on Monday evenings until the beginning of 1928.

Apparently, priesthood meetings were not held as regularly as they are now. On Monday, April 25, 1927, David L. Olsen went to priesthood meeting and then recorded in his diary that this was the last meeting to be held "until next Fall." In some of his diary entries in 1916 and 1917, Mr. Olsen mentioned going to priesthood meetings on Monday evenings. Then on Monday, December 19, 1927, he recorded that this was to be the last Monday night priesthood meeting, as the church was just coming out with a new plan where the priesthood meetings would be held in connection
with Sunday School. He mentioned that the new plan was meeting some opposition, although he felt it was a good idea. Then on Sunday, January 1, 1928, he noted that on this date they began holding their priesthood meetings on Sunday mornings.  

Occasionally church meetings were suspended because of sickness. On Sunday, June 27, 1907, James D. Nuttall reported that there were no meetings held on account of scarlet fever in the ward. On January 22, 1928, David L. Olsen reported that there was no Sunday School held in the College West area because of sickness.  

Apparently a new organ was purchased for the College Ward church house sometime in 1910, because James D. Nuttall records on January 7, 1911, "I went to Logan and paid for the ward $20.00 on the organ." Then on March 29, 1911, "Me and wife went to Logan and got more paint and I paid $20.00 more on the meeting house organ."  

The first organ for the College West Sunday School and Primary, which met in the College West school house, was acquired on Wednesday, March 21, 1917. This was the old Tabernacle organ, and was purchased from the Thatcher Music Company for $67.50. The people were quite astonished to see foot pedals along with the keyboards.  

The Logan L.D.S. Temple was built at the top of a hill, and the north, west, and south sides sloped very abruptly to a lower level.

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67 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.  
68 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1909-1912.  
69 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.  
70 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1909-1912.  
71 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.
When the grounds were first landscaped, it was terraced at regular intervals to keep the dirt from sliding down the hill, giving it the appearance of a giant stairway. The terrace walls were made of rocks and mortar.

As the years passed, the L.D.S. Church decided to re-landscape the temple grounds. The new plans called for removing all the terraces and leveling or grading the surface. The crew consisted of four persons and three teams of horses. William Peterson was the foreman, and he hired a Mr. Cooper, Parley Hall, and Orville E. Nelson, along with their teams. Mr. Nelson was a lifetime resident of College Ward. For six weeks they walked up and down the hill with tongue scrapers until all the terraces were removed and all the low places filled. Mr. Nelson recorded that the work was tedious and tiresome, but that it paid $5.00 a day.72

In 1929, shortly after John H. Schenk was put in as bishop of College Ward, he and his two counselors, Alma Olsen and Wesley Nelson, were called by the Logan Stake President, O. H. Budge, to a meeting. After instructing them as to their duties for about an hour and a half, President Budge said that one of the main projects the new bishopric would be responsible for would be the building of a new church house in College Ward. Bishop Schenk asked where it was to be built, and President Baugh replied, "Right where the other one stands." Bishop Schenk then asked the stake president if he would tell that to the people, and President Budge replied that he would. So a meeting was called about a week later for all the people of College Ward, and they were told by the stake

72 Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
president where the new church house should be built. A vote was taken which was almost unanimous in favor of the location, at least there was no opposition voiced at that time.\textsuperscript{73}

The bishopric went ahead, making the preliminary plans for building a church. Toward the end of that year, Bishop Schenk received a letter from J. D. C. Young of the architectural department of the L.D.S. Church, dated December 24, 1929. Included with the letter were two blueprints, one showing the main floor plan and the other the basement plan for the proposed new church.

The plans called for the main chapel to be located about 30 feet south of the church they were occupying at that time. The chapel was to seat 250 with an overflow of 50, making a total capacity of 300. A section for the choir, which would seat 20, was to be located on the left side. The pulpit was to be in the center, with a section for the bishopric and guests directly behind it, seating 12. The sacrament table was to be located on the right with 12 seats for the priesthood.

Apparently, in these first blueprints, they were planning to utilize the old church house. The new chapel was to be 30 feet by 62 feet with a front pavilion 10 feet by 22 feet. The same size pavilion was to be built on the front of their present church, "making the general appearance of the two buildings pretty much the same." Each pavilion was to contain a "hat and coat" room.

The connecting corridor would contain the main stairs to the basement, the bishop's office with a vault, and a closet for the "sacrament set" and the choir books. The plans also called for a flight of stairs

\textsuperscript{73}Wesley, Nelson, Statement written June 22, 1966.
leading to the stage, and then on up to "three class rooms in the attic or a prayer circle room and a connecting dressing room."

The cost was estimated at $25,000.00, with an additional $3,000.00 or $4,000.00 for furnishings and decorating, although the cost could be reduced by eliminating the two front pavilions and reducing the size of the connecting corridor.  

Although the stake president had designated the location for the new church, during the next few years there began to be some opposition in the ward concerning the location. This opposition principally came from the ward members living in the "College West" area who felt it was unjust to have the church built in one corner of the ward rather than in a more centralized location. There were also some of the "upper College Ward" members, primarily those living along the Hansen Road, who opposed the location which Stake President Budge had designated. They, along with the opposition from the western sector of the ward, said they would support a church anywhere along the Hansen Road.

One location they discussed was along this road, near the present Bill and Chloe H. Jordan home. Another was a little farther to the north, where Harvard Hansen's home now stands. Also considered as a possible site was a ten-acre piece of land located in the northwest corner of John George's property. Some of those in the western part of the

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74 Letter from J. D. C. Young of the Architectural Department of the L.D.S. Church to Bishop John H. Schenk, December 24, 1929.

75 The road running west from Highway 91, commencing between the homes presently owned by Wilford J. Albiston and Ernest Speth, was known as the Hansen Road, since much of the land bordering it was owned by Hyrum Hansen or his children. This is the principal road between College Ward and Young Ward.
ward especially favored this location. They said the water pressure was excellent, eliminating the need for digging a well, and that there would be room here for a church, a school, and a baseball field. Since baseball and softball have always been an important part of the life of the people in this area, the idea of a centralized ball field was extremely appealing to many.

Feelings intensified when the earthquake of 1934 damaged the foundation of the College Ward school to the extent that the Cache County Board of Education condemned it and sent the children to Wellsville to school. The following year the College West school was closed by the Board, and the children from this section were also sent to Wellsville. (See Chapter V.) During this time the Board of Education decided to build a new school, consolidating the College Ward and College West schools, and here again, the question of a location arose.

It is hard to tell whether the dissension which arose over choosing a school location carried over into the church location controversy, which had been, up until this time, just low murmurings of discontent; or whether the discontent concerning the church location brought on the dissension over the school location. Some felt that the church location controversy came first, but others felt the school dissension precipitated the church dispute.

Regardless of which came first, the controversies became intertwined, and when the Board of Education made the definite decision to build the consolidated school adjacent to the old College Ward church, rather than

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76 Interview with Bert W. Olsen, Young Ward, March 27, 1968.
in a more centralized location, feelings intensified. Church attendance was low and relationships were strained.

Apostle Melvin J. Ballard came up from Salt Lake City and attended a special meeting held in the College Ward church on March 8, 1936. The minutes of this meeting, recorded by ward clerk David L. Olsen, read as follows:

Special meeting held in College Ward Chapel, March 8, 1936, 2 p.m. Sung 127, "The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning." Prayer by Joseph H. Olsen. Present at this meeting was stake president A. E. Andersen, C. W. Dunn, and O. H. Budge, also stake clerk John A. Olsen and Apostle Ballard. The meeting was given over to the stake authority. Bro. M. J. Ballard sang the song, "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go Dear Lord." Then he spoke upon the subject of Early History of College, also related some early history of the church, also talked about Joseph Smith's enemies when our church was in its infancy.

Bro. Ballard then read from the Doc. and Cov., Sec. 107 also from 3rd Nephi to show us that the Lord will protect and sustain his people if they will do his will. He said that the greatest calamity that could come to us is trouble that comes within our Fold. Advised us to keep the spirit of fault finding out of our hearts and out of our homes, out of our lives. Said that the church had never divided a ward or a stake, that but what it has grown in number, then said the time has come in the judgment of the stake president when College Ward should be divided. Said it would be for our good. The line for a division was suggested. (To go west 1/2 mile to Salt Lake meridian thence north 1 3/8 miles to Spring Creek, thence east 1/2 mile to road, thence north about 1 3/4 miles to Logan River including Moses Olsen and Melvin Sorenson in College Ward.) Said also a new name was needed and the name of Young Ward was suggested and voted upon by the people in College West. 77

Then counselors Alma L. Olsen and Wesley Nelson, and clerk David L. Olsen were released. V. Allen Olsen was sustained as the first bishop of Young Ward, with H. G. Hughes and Reeder Thatcher as counselors, and David L. Olsen as ward clerk. John H. Schenk was retained as the bishop of

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77 College Ward Historical Record Book, 1934-1941, L.D.S. Church Historians' Office Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, 111-112.
College Ward, and was sustained, along with Wesley Nelson and George Abrams as counselors. All of the members of the new bishoprics were then asked to bear their testimonies, which they did. The meeting adjourned by singing, "We Thank Thee, Oh God, For a Prophet," and the benediction was given by C. W. Dunn. Thus the ward was divided.\textsuperscript{78}

John H. Schenk was the bishop at this time, and a central figure throughout the controversy. He was disliked by many in the Young Ward area who felt that he had somehow influenced the decisions of the stake president and the school board as to where the new church and school should be built. However, most of the people in the College Ward area regarded him as a great man and a dynamic leader. He served as bishop of College Ward for 13 years, during years of turmoil, division, and building—a job not many would envy. He served as the first president of the Cache Valley Dairy Association. He ran on the Democratic ticket for the Utah State Senate. He was president of the Utah Farm Bureau, and later served as the national president of the Farm Bureau, which position he held at the time of his death in 1954.

After the ward was divided, each ward now began holding its own MIA, Relief Society, Priesthood meetings and Sacrament meetings. Primary and Sunday School had been held separately from the early 1900's.

One example of an organizational separation was the Y.L.M.I.A. Prior to the ward division, Violet Olsen had been the president, with Libby Green and Chloe Anderson as counselors. Two months after the ward division, on June 7, 1936, Chloe Anderson became the College Ward

\textsuperscript{78}\textit{Ibid.}
president, and Violet Olsen became president of the Young Ward organization. 79

Following the ward division, each ward began to make plans for building a chapel. Young Ward had previously been holding Sunday School and Primary in the College West school, and now that it was vacated and the children were going to Wellsville to school pending the completion of the new school in College Ward, a committee from Young Ward met with the Board of Education on April 1, 1936, along with Logan Stake President A. E. Andersen. They expressed a desire to purchase the College West school building at a price considerably below that asked by the Board. The Board met in an executive session and decided to accept the Young Ward offer of $450.00 for the building and grounds. 80

This building was then used by the newly-formed Young Ward for all its meetings. About a year later a building committee was chosen at a bishop's meeting held on March 9, 1937, in Young Ward. Dewey Olsen was appointed as chairman, with E. H. Bench, Joseph Olsen, Jr., Ray E. Olsen, Alma Olsen, and George Speth as committee members. Later, on March 29, 1942, the ward reported that they had $7,176.92 in their building fund. 81

Work commenced on the Young Ward church during the summer of 1950. It was completed the following year and dedicated by LeGrande Richards on September 26, 1951. 82 Young Ward was disappointed that the L.D.S.

79 Interview with Chloe A. Affleck, College Ward, March 26, 1968.
80 Minute Book I, Cache County Board of Education, July 3, 1929 to July 29, 1937, located in the Cache County Board of Education offices, North Logan, Utah, April 1, 1936, 403.
81 Young Ward Historical Record Book, L.D.S. Church Historians' Office Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.
82 Interview with Floyd V. Israelsen, Young Ward, March 24, 1968.
Church leaders had felt their ward would not experience much growth and had consequently cut down the size of the plans for their church. The small, but attractive, red-brick structure had scarcely been completed before it began "bulging at the seams."

A 10-acre ward farm along the Mendon Road was purchased in 1958 by Young Ward. Ross Olsen was the bishop at this time. 83

College Ward began building their new church in 1936. The plan was quite different from that proposed in 1929. The foundation was poured in 1936. Floyd Zollinger recalls going with his father to inspect the new foundation of the church on his return from a mission in the fall of 1936. 84

The ward members began holding meetings in the school house on January 10, 1937, because the demolition of the old chapel had begun. This demolition was necessary to clear the site for the new church, since it was to be built just north of the old one and because some of the materials from the old church were to be used in the new building. 85

The church house was built of yellow brick, with a flat roof. The ward members had wanted a hip roof, but Bishop Richards of the L.D.S. Church building committee, would not consent. A few years later the roof began leaking. Bishop Richards came up and inspected it and consequently the roof was satisfactorily repaired with the L.D.S. Church paying the total cost. 86

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83 Many of the wards in the L.D.S. Church rent or buy a ward farm to raise money to pay their welfare assessments. The labor on a ward farm is donated by ward members.

84 Interview with Floyd A. Zolliner, College Ward, March 24, 1968.

85 Interview with Wesley Nelson, College Ward, March 27, 1968.

86 Interview with George F. Abrams, College Ward, March 21, 1968.
The construction company for the College Ward church was Johnson and Mickelson. Subsequently Johnson pulled out. The cost was approximately $33,000.00, with a great deal of labor being donated by ward members.  

Records indicate that Sacrament meeting was held in the new chapel for the first time in December of 1940. Although the College Ward church was completed in 1940, it was not dedicated until March 2, 1952, by Presiding Bishop Joseph L. Worthlin. Prior to the dedication, the chapel was remodeled and "shined up" to meet the approval of the L.D.S. Church authorities. During this period of renovation, church meetings were again held in the adjacent College Ward school.

College Ward purchased a 28-acre ward farm on February 17, 1957, from Mrs. Ruby Ward for $11,200.00. The ward made a down payment of $2,800.00. The rest was borrowed from the L.D.S. Church and has been repaid. Prior to this purchase, the Roy Zollinger farm had been rented as a ward farm.

In 1966 the College and Young wards were asked if they were interested in a building consolidation program. A meeting was called in August of that year by the Logan Stake President, Lloyd R. Hunsaker, for the priesthood leaders of the two wards and was held in the Logan Stake Center. Those present from College Ward were Bishop Milford Jenson and his counselors, Elgo Anderson and Rex Zilles, High Priest President Eugene Zollinger, Seventies President Duane Cox, and Elders President John A. Hansen. The Young Ward delegation consisted of Bishop Charles Schenk

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87 Ibid.
88 Program for the dedication of the College Ward Church house.
89 College Ward Quarterly Historical Record Book.
and his counselors, Niel Jensen and Craig Pinder, High Priest President Lee Olsen, Seventies President Norman Lloyd, and Elders President Evan Olsen.

President Hunsaker asked each man in turn to voice his opinion on the proposed consolidation program. The feeling of all the brethren from College Ward was that a consolidation program would be the solution to the building needs of both the College and Young wards. As to the reaction of the Young Ward group, with the exception of one, all were lukewarm in regard to the project. They said if problems could be worked out they might be interested. The one exception was High Priest President Lee Olsen, who said he was not interested in a consolidation program. His reasons were: (1) they had money for the Young Ward project and were ready to go ahead; (2) the consolidation program would necessitate travel by the Young Ward people; (3) the Young Ward church would be left as an eyesore; and, perhaps the most telling point, (4) it would revive the old bitterness and hard feelings of the 1936 controversy.

On Sunday, August 29, 1966, two separate priesthood meetings were held, one in Young Ward under the direction of President Lloyd R. Hunsaker, and the other in College Ward under the direction of President E. G. Earl. The consolidation program was discussed, especially in regard to building location and cost.

President Earl found that consolidation was met with semi-enthusiasm by the priesthood members in College Ward. However, the members indicated they would support the proposed program if the details could be worked out.

President Hunsaker found the feeling of the Young Ward group to be one of mixed emotions concerning the consolidation program. Some said
their present chapel would become an eyesore if it were vacated. Others pointed out that the bulk of the children in Young Ward were already in Sunday School and that the birth rate was sharply declining.

Logan Stake Conference was coming up, so it was decided to have Bishop John Vandenberg come up from Salt Lake City with current information on the church building program. The plan was to have him discuss the proposed consolidation of the College and Young wards.

Conference was held September 12, 1966. Following the afternoon session, a special meeting was called for all priesthood holders of the College and Young wards. It was under the direction of Bishop Vandenberg, and was held in the Logan Stake Center. Bishop Vandenberg talked first about his experiences with ward building programs and said that on one occasion, before he was on the church building committee, he had had a question about a building project while serving in a church position in Colorado. He related that he was told that the brethren in the church that study these problems and receive inspiration are there because the Lord wants them there. After carefully building up to his point, Bishop Vandenberg asked for a vote by the show of hands, and much to his surprise, about one-third of the Young Ward delegation voted contrary to the proposed consolidation program. Bishop Vandenberg then said he wanted a standing vote. From the vantage point of this author, all of the College Ward priesthood members in attendance voted by standing in favor of the church's outlined program. When Bishop Vandenberg asked for those to stand who were opposed to the consolidation program, approximately one-third of those from Young Ward again voted, this time by standing. At this point in the meeting the atmosphere was a little chilly. Bishop Vandenberg seemed shocked and a little unnerved with the infamous result
of the voting. He said, "I'll so report to the brethren on your feelings on this proposition. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen." The meeting was then dismissed.90

The proposed site for this consolidated church was on the Horton George land, located almost on the border between the two wards. It had been rumored that if the wards decided to build a "common" or consolidated church, Logan Stake would build a new stake ball park next to the church. However, apparently even this was not enough.

The feeling of the two wards is the same today. Most of the people in College Ward are still in favor of building a centralized church house to be utilized by both wards, but many of the members of Young Ward want to go ahead with their own separate building program. In 1967 Bishop Charles Schenk of Young Ward was released, and Craig Pinder was sustained as the new bishop.

Summary

The first settlers in the College-Young area attended church meetings and socials in the Millville Ward. Within a few years there were enough families in the area for a branch, and the Farmers' Branch was organized on November 20, 1882. By April of 1883 a one-room combination church and school house had been constructed at a cash outlay of $196.27 and a great deal of labor.

In 1890 President Wilford Woodruff changed the policy regarding the lands under the Brigham Young College endowment, and the settlers were able to purchase the lands they had been leasing. President Woodruff's

decision made a decided difference in the growth and development of the settlement. Within a year (on June 28, 1891) the Farmers' Branch was organized into the College Ward. Shortly after, plans began for a new church house, which was completed in 1897 and dedicated in 1898.

Due to the scattered condition of the ward, a Sunday School, Primary and Religion Class were organized and held in the western section of College Ward around the turn of the century, although MIA, Relief Society, Priesthood meetings and Sacrament meetings were held jointly until the ward division in 1936. The division was brought about mainly by heated controversies over the location of a new church house and also a consolidated school. Finally on March 8, 1936, after several years of bitterness, College Ward was divided and Young Ward was formed from the western section.

Following the division, each ward began plans for a new church. Young Ward's church was completed in 1950 and dedicated September 26, 1951. College Ward's church was completed in 1940. It was remodeled in the early 1950's and dedicated March 2, 1952.

In 1966 a building consolidation program was proposed to the College and Young wards. Almost all of the College Ward priesthood bearers were favorable to the idea of a centralized church to be utilized by both wards, but many of the Young Ward members felt they would rather build independently. A stalemate was reached which still exists.
CHAPTER IV

Polygamy

The Mormon doctrine of celestial marriage and the practice of plurality of wives (polygamy) was publicly announced in 1852 and accompanied the pioneers who came to Cache Valley. From 1852 until 1890, plural marriage was actively preached as part of the official dogma of the church. In 1860, according to the census, 39, or over 7 per cent, of the 510 families in Cache Valley were polygamous. Almost without exception the polygamist had just two wives. The number of polygamists increased along with the increasing population, and remained at approximately 7 per cent. By 1880, out of 2,367 families, about 160 were polygamous.¹

Federal legislation against the Mormons began in 1862 with the passage of the Anti-Bigamy Act, but the law was poorly written and its enforcement almost impossible. The Edmunds Act of March 22, 1882, defined polygamy more exactly, and set fines and punishments. It also declared practicing polygamists of either sex ineligible for public office. An example of this is the "Oath of Office" which Christian C. Bindrup, Jr. signed on July 16, 1890, when he became a school trustee for the West Millville school district (which became the College Ward school district the following year). It read, in part:

... I will not directly or indirectly aid or abet, counsel or advise any other person to commit any of said crimes defined by acts of Congress, as polygamy, bigamy, unlawful cohabitation, incest, adultery, and fornication;

¹Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 111.
and I further swear that I am not a bigamist, and that I have not been convicted of any crime under the act of Congress entitled "An Act to amend Section 5352 of the revised Statutes of the United States in reference to bigamy and for other purposes," approved March 22, 1882, nor under the act amendatory thereof, of March 3, 1887, and that I do not associate or cohabit polygamously with persons of the other sex; and I further swear that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of School Trustee in and for West Millville School District in Cache County, Utah Territory.  

It is obvious that the oath was much more concerned with polygamy than whether the person would agree to faithfully perform the duties of his new office, since 13 of the 14 lines of the oath pertain to polygamy.  

The anti-polygamy prosecutions which began in 1882 increased in intensity in 1885 when the act was upheld as constitutional. Prosecutions were especially heavy in Cache Valley in 1886, 1887, and 1888. The harsh Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887 was aimed at smashing polygamy and through it the power of the church. The U. S. marshals and their deputies combed the Mormon settlements in the intermountain area searching for "polygs." There were several polygamist families in College Ward, among them Charles O. Dunn and John C. Dowdle, but Dowdle's first wife died in the spring of 1882, and so he was never bothered by the deputies, or "deps," as they were called. However, in his journal, especially during the late 1880's, he made references to "hiding out" various polygamists. On March 28, 1886, he recorded:

Bro. Thos. R. Leavitt caled and spent the most of the day with us to avoid being seen by the U. S. Martials, as he was liable to arest for unlawful cohabitation or living with his wives.  

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2 Oath of Office, Territory of Utah, County of Cache, 1890.  
3 Ibid.  
4 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 35.
On January 23, 1887, Bishop George Facer of Hillard came to "sojourn" with them to avoid the marshals. The next day the marshals searched many of the homes in Hillard trying to locate him. Bishop Facer stayed with the Dowdle's for three weeks, then on February 12, John Dowdle took him and Bishop Perry Green Taylor, who had also been hiding out, on a "by-road" out of the valley. Bishop Facer came again in April to spend several weeks.5

For some, the trials of trying to live polygamy became so great that they left the country. On April 3, 1887, Thomas R. Leavitt and his family (of the Farmer's Branch) and John Anderson of Millville, left for Cardston, Alberta, Canada, to avoid being apprehended by the U. S. marshals. Two of John C. Dowdle's daughters, Eliza and Harriet, had married Leavitt boys and also went to Canada to live. In later journal entries he mentions that they were living in "Leavitt Ward, Alberta, Canada," and it is likely that the ward was named after Thomas R. Leavitt, who had been one of the first settlers on the Church Farm, which later became College Ward.6

On February 8, 1887, John C. Dowdle mentions having dinner in Millville with Bishop Pitkin, where several "undergrounders" were present.7

In attempts to avoid arrest, some homes were equipped with special hiding places, men were called on missions to foreign lands, or on special church missions which would keep them out of the state for long periods of time. Some maintained distant farms, while for others the mountains

5Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 68.
6Ibid., 234.
7Ibid., 68.
provided good protection and shelter. Sudden raids by the U. S. marshals were aimed at capturing polygamists, convicting them in the courts, and imprisoning them according to the law.

Charles Welch Dunn, the second bishop of College Ward, recorded his vivid memories of polygamy in his life story. He says:

> Among the men who had two wives was my father, and he came in for his full share of the torment inflicted by the Deps. My mother, at that time, had two little children, myself and my oldest sister, and we knew the curse of these hell-hounds to the fullest extent.\(^8\)

His mother was the second wife, and it was her family that was moved around so much. They first lived in Millville, then western Box Elder, then Hyde Park, and then Smithfield. From there they went to Logan, then Hyrum, then Paradise, and later back to Millville. They then moved to College Ward, and from there went to Clarkston, then to Weston, Idaho, and finally back to College Ward "to escape the human wolves."

He said it was a "nightmare of a time, and one that will never be forgotten."

When he was just four, Charles W. Dunn, with his mother, Janie, and his sister went to live for a while with his uncle, Allen Hunsaker, who lived out on the lonely Malad River in the sagebrush. There were no other houses or buildings for miles on either side. Allen Hunsaker also had two wives, and so he always kept one of his older boys up on the shed with a spyglass to watch for the "deps." Then, when warned, he would have time to run out into the sagebrush wilds, where he had made a special hole that he could crawl into and pull a camouflaged covering over the opening. One day one of his sons bellowed the warning, "The deps are coming!" but he

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\(^8\) Dunn, "An Apology For My Life."
was a little late because the officers, Steele and Whetstone, coming at a gallop were almost there. "Uncle Al" ran like a scared antelope, jumped into the Malad River and swam through the mush ice to the farther shore. Out through the sage he galloped, amid the shouts of the deps to "stop or we'll shoot." And shoot they did, over his head to scare him, but he soon vanished into his concealed hiding place. All afternoon he hid there in his wet clothes with the marshals stomping around him, sometimes so close he could almost have touched them. At nightfall his family was afraid he would freeze, since it was extremely cold and he was in his wet clothes, so they went to get him and the officers immediately hauled him away.

Whetstone, Steele, McClellan, and Goodwin came to be family names, spoken with a hiss in Cache Valley in those hectic times. There were also the despised "stool pigeons" in almost every community who would betray their brethren for pieces of silver.

One night when Charles W. Dunn, his mother, and his sister were living in an old home in Paradise, they were awakened near midnight by a loud pounding on the door and the drunken clamor of the deputies. His mother asked who was there, and Goldsberry, the "spotter," shouted, "The Deputies, and we want Mr. Dunn. Open this door mighty quick or we'll break it down."

Mother hastily drew on part of her clothes and opened the door and in came the mob, hell bent. They tore up the rag carpet and part of the floor, and ripped the wainscot off the ceiling, and scattered the furniture about in confusion, while we shrank in mortal fear in the corner. How my blood boiled, 0 to be a man! so that I could lay these fiends out and protect my poor mother. Not finding the object of their search, they finally left the place in terrible confusion ... and their drunken zeal went unrewarded, at least for the time.9

9Ibid.
Charles O. Dunn was finally caught while working in the potatoes with his wife, Janie, by marshals Steele, Whetstone, and C. C. Goodwin, and arrested. This was in October of 1887, and he was permitted to get his crops in and prepare for winter before going to Ogden to be sentenced on December 10. In court he was told if he would "put away" his second wife and children he could go home free. He refused, and consequently was fined $150.00, court costs, and six months in the Utah State Penitentiary, where he was taken that night.

He arrived at 9 p.m. and was taken to bunk house No. 1, where he entered under the gaze of 75 prisoners and their welcome shout of "fresh fish!" All the bunks were full, so he had to sleep in the center of the room on the bare ground, as there was no floor, and keep his face well covered to keep the "toughs" from spitting tobacco juice in his face. The next morning he located quite a few of his friends there. In his diary he gives a detailed and interesting account of his prison stay. He returned on June 10, 1888, to a grand reception that the people of the ward had arranged for him.¹⁰

On May 19, 1890, the United States Supreme Court upheld the Edmunds-Tucker Act abolishing the "late corporation" of the Mormon church. The church was rapidly facing bankruptcy, loss of economic status and power, and now political status and power. It seemed the church was being destroyed on the issue of polygamy. At this time President Wilford Woodruff issued the Manifesto, declaring his intention to abide by the law of the land and publicly advising all Latter-day Saints to do likewise, thus relieving the church members of further obligation to sustain the principle of polygamy.

The Manifesto was published in the Deseret News on September 25, 1890, and in the Logan Journal two days later. It was approved on October 6, 1890, by the general conference as the position of the church. In Cache Valley, at stake conferences, in wards, and in the press, the Manifesto was discussed and supported by the people, thus terminating polygamy as an official practice of the church.  

Summary

Although there were only a few polygamist families in early College Ward, percentage-wise the ward was typical of Cache Valley as a whole. The local polygamists were community leaders, which was also typical of the early settlements in the valley. Some were persecuted, while others offered their homes as a "hiding-out" place for polygamists from other areas who were being sought by the deputies. Some of the local people escaped persecution by moving to Canada. When the Manifesto was issued, it was supported by the people in the area.

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Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 116-117.
CHAPTER V

Education

Early education in Utah and Cache Valley cannot be separated from the influence of the Mormon Church. The early pioneers in Utah have been justly praised for their educational efforts. Generally the early communities established a school during their first year, although classes were often held in a private home until a building could be erected. Especially in the rural areas, the schools were generally a combination church and school house, consisting of one large room with a pot-bellied stove in the center or at one end. Generally this building was also used as a community center for dances, theatricals, speeches, and various meetings.

The money for the early schools came from tuition fees, and was used almost solely to pay the teachers' meager salaries. Beginning in 1874, the Territorial Assembly began annual appropriations to aid the district schools; and in 1878 the county courts were allowed to levy property taxes, not in excess of six mills, for special purposes. Cache County used much of this money to support education. The county and territorial apportionment monies, alloted on a per pupil basis, soon became the chief source of financial support.¹

Superintendent E. W. Green's memorandum book lists the various schools' apportonments from the county and territorial funds. During the 1891-1892

¹John Clifton Moffit, The History of Public Education In Utah (Salt Lake City: Desert News Press, 1946), 134.
school year, the College school district had 54 pupils and received $395.87, of which $100.98 came from county funds and $294.89 from territorial funds. In 1892-1893, there were 61 pupils, and the total amount received was $366.23. Of this amount, $208.01 was received from the territory on a basis of $3.41 per capita. ²

In 1890 the first "free school" law was passed by the Territorial Assembly, requiring schools to admit students between the ages of 6 and 18 without charge, and also requiring parents to send their children for at least 20 weeks a year. The public schools were made entirely dependent on taxation for support, and a territorial school tax levy of three mills was fixed by the legislature. The various school units were authorized to issue bonds or levy a special tax for the purpose of purchasing sites, erecting schoolhouses and purchasing equipment. ³

The first school to be held in the area now known as College Ward was held in the home of Thomas R. Leavitt, and C. C. Shaw of Hyrum was the first teacher. ⁴ Later, on November 20, 1882, this area was organized into the Farmers' Branch, and by March 1, 1883, work had begun on a one-room combination school and church house. This building was erected at a cost of $196.27, plus a great deal of labor, and was quickly finished and put to use. (See Chapter III.)

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Ten years later, in 1892, this building was purchased by the school trustees. It was remodeled and on October 1, 1892, a sign bearing the inscription "College School District 1892" was put up by two of the school trustees, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., and James Olsen, Jr. ⁵ Just prior to this, on December 26, 1891, a school meeting had been held for the purpose of voting for a tax "for the purchase or building of a school." The vote was unanimous in favor of a tax of five mills. ⁶ It was apparently decided that College Ward, newly organized on June 28, 1891, would soon be building a new church house, so the building that had served as a combination church and school house was sold to the College School District for $522.13. ⁷ However, church meetings continued to be held in this building until the new church was completed in 1897.

Graduating from the district school, with its eight grades, was quite an accomplishment in the early days. Some of the boys and girls, needed at home to work, were unable to attend school at all; others attended for only a few weeks during the winter months. The commencement for the district school was held in Logan. On June 15, 1895, John C. Dowdle recorded:

A part of the family went to Logan to attend the Commencement day of the County District Schools. They spent a very pleasant day at the Thatcher Oppery House. ⁸

Some of those who graduated from the College Ward school went to the Brigham Young College in Logan for further study. C. C. Bindrup, Jr., was

⁵ Bindrup, "Journal #18," 83.
⁶ Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 81.
⁸ Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 186.
one of the earliest to do so. In reference to this, on April 1, 1890, he recorded paying $25.75 for "expenses of attending school for one term and books, etc."^9

The Brigham Young College was established and maintained by the rent, and later sale, of the lands comprising the Church Farm (which consisted mainly of the present College and Young Hard area). Although the college was not built on the Church Farm, as President Young had suggested (See Chapter II), his ideas on the high moral standards that should be required were used. This is evidenced by the following "Rules and Regulations for Pupils in the Brigham Young College" which each student was required to sign when J. A. Stewart was president, agreeing to honor and sustain the rules of the college:

1. I will not use tobacco.
2. I will not mark or deface in any way, any College furniture, building, fence or tree.
3. I will not visit places of amusement nor leave school without permission.
4. I will not play nor be noisy in any of the school rooms between school hours, nor be disorderly in school.
5. I will not visit saloons or places of bad reputation while I am a pupil of the College.
6. I will faithfully try to prepare my lessons, and to set a good example at all times.
7. I will be clean and tidy in person and dress, and kind and courteous to my teachers and fellow students.
8. I will take good care of my health.
9. I will try to be obedient to my Parents and Teachers.
10. I will try to do to others as I would like to be done by at all times, and mind my own business.^10

Teachers

In Cache Valley, as in other areas, teachers were sometimes poorly qualified, some having little more education than the pupils they were

^10Ricks, Ed., The History of A Valley, 352.
teaching. Others managed to do a very creditable job—considering the
fact that they often taught eight or nine grades, had few books or teaching
aids, had all the pupils in one room on uncomfortable, backless, slab
benches, and received very little compensation for their work.

In 1883, a year after the Farmers' Branch was organized, the average
male school teacher in Utah earned $41.80 a month, and the average female
received only $28.31 a month.¹¹

Early teachers were chosen by the local school trustees. The superin-
tendent tried to evaluate and certify the teachers, but he could do little
more than make suggestions to the trustees. Superintendent E. W. Green
spent from September 29 to November 11, 1891, in visiting the various
schools in Cache County. The notes he recorded in his memorandum book
after his visits indicate that the teachers varied considerably in their
ability. Following are some of the notations:

October 6, 1891
Visited Miss Lucy Parkinson's school in Hyrum. Miss
Parkinson is a first class primary grade teacher.

October 7, 1891
Visited Mr. Joshua Homer's school in Clarkston. Mr.
Homer is in no way fitted for school room work. He spells
simple words incorrectly and does not understand the use
of simple appliances.

October 13, 1891
Visited Mr. Jno. J. James school at Newton. Mr. James
keeps good order and is doing the best he can. He is not
particularly bright.

October 17, 1891
Visited Miss Cynthia Burnham's school in Trenton. Miss
Burnham is an excellent teacher and should be in a larger
school.¹²

¹¹Moffit, The History of Public Education in Utah, 118.
In October of 1891 the superintendent visited the school in the College Ward area (which was known as the West Millville School until 1892). Miss Mercy R. Baker of Mendon was the teacher at that time and had been for some years. He recorded:

October 21, 1891

Visited Miss Mercy R. Baker's school in West Millville. Miss Baker is hardly fitted for the work, but is doing the best she can. 13

In spite of the superintendent's opinion, Miss Baker was highly regarded by many in College Ward.

Apparently there had also been some dissatisfaction with a teacher in 1884, because John C. Dowdle, who had never been to school, recorded the following in one of his journals:

December 22, 1884--began teaching school at home for the purpose of teaching our children as our public school did not go to suit men. We continued this labor during the winter with very satisfactory results. 14

Although the county superintendent made recommendations to the trustees, the hiring of teachers was purely a local matter, with wary trustees pitted against prospective teachers in salary negotiations. Charles W. Dunn, College Ward's second bishop, taught school for three years--one in Cache Junction and two in College Ward--before going on to get a law degree. He tells of his first encounter with school trustees in 1905 as follows:

Nearly all the graduates in the old days made their first wages in the schoolroom, and like the rest I sent out my applications, modestly crying my wares, and proclaiming my great qualifications as a guide for youth. I had two or three nibbles and finally a real bite, and so I packed off to Cache Junction to meet the trustees and clinch the contract.

13Ibid., 201.

They sat around an old scarred table, three rusty old farmers who had come up through first-hand contact with life and had graduated in the School of Experience. The chairman was a hardboiled, bald-headed sponsor of the old Deestrict School, with no frills or flourishes. Readin', writin' and 'rithmetic was his forte, and he knew what he wanted in a teacher. Proudly I unrolled my Diploma and laid the red ribbon along the table, looking sidewise, meanwhile, to see what impression I was making.

"You see I am a Graduate and this is my Diploma." It seemed they were not so profoundly impressed as I had hoped. The old Chairman looked doubtful and a little disgusted, and delivered himself thusly: "We don't want any more damn graduates. We had one last year and he nearly ruined our kids. What we want is a schoolteacher."

With a shamed face and a red countenance I wrapped up the prized diploma and wound the red ribbon around it, and with an air of apology I tucked it away, and have never exhibited it since.

I got the school in spite of the Diploma, and taught the nine grades with twenty pupils in all that first winter. I got $50.00 a month as teacher and $5.00 more for sweeping the floor and dusting the benches.15

Some of the early teachers in the College school district were:

C. C. Shaw of Hyrum; Mercy R. Baker of Mendon, from 1887 (perhaps earlier) to 1892; Mary Whitney, 1893-1894; George S. Obrey, 1894-1895; Joseph Campbell of Providence, 1895-1896; Caroline Larsen, 1896-1897; C. T. Hirst; Willard Israelson; Joseph Peterson; George D. Cardon of Logan, 1901-1903; Eva Williamson of Wellsville, 1903-1904; Rose Plant; Hyrum Campbell of Providence, 1904-1905; J. W. Seamons of Hyde Park, 1905-1906; Miss Jennie Edwards from England, 1906 (they were now in the new two-room school); Charles W. Dunn of College Ward, 1906-1908; Elsie Olsen, 1907-1908; Walter M. Jones of Wellsville, 1908-1909; Naoma Law; Florence James; William P. Leatham; Laura Sorenson; Harry Olsen; Hattie Dunn and others.16

15 Dunn, "An Apology For My Life."
A few of the first teachers in the Young school district were: Charlie Jeppsen, Maud Williamson, Riley Dixon, Willard Israelson (who taught at both schools), Laura Leishman, Mary Ann Larson of Newton in 1903, Edward Edwards, 1905-1906; Bessie Hill, 1907; Adeline Anderson, Miss Campbell of Providence in 1908, Miss Bybee of Lewiston in 1908 (Miss Campbell became ill on January 13, 1908 and when it was found that she would not be able to return, Miss Bybee arrived to take her place on March 10, 1908). 17

Some of the early teachers found conditions far from ideal with 8 grades of students, varying from 5 to around 18 years of age, all crowded into one room. Boyish pranks were not unknown, as the following example illustrates:

Mr. Campbell will be remembered by me as a man with a rough, low, curt voice and reminded you of a strict disciplinarian. He must of had an accident with his left hand because it was open and stiff, ready to slap your ears if you misbehaved.

One day Will Dunn slipped quietly to the back of the room where the pot-bellied stove stood and heated a nail. When he returned to his seat he began rolling this nail up and down his desk. The noise annoyed Mr. Campbell who came down the aisle to Will's desk. He held out his stiff hand and said in a gruff voice, "Give me that nail." Will, being obliging, maneuvered the nail across the desk and into his outstretched hand. Something must have happened, but I have forgotten what. 18

Sometimes a short temper would combine with other conditions and cause a teacher to completely lose his temper:

My last teacher in this first school was Mr. J. H. Seamons. This man would ride from Hyde Park each day in


18 Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
a horse-drawn cart, or on horse back if the road was muddy. He was a very fine man, by and large, but on occasion had a short-fused temper. One day the bell called us in from recess play. Cyrus Anderson was a little late in arriving. Mr. Seamons came to Cy's seat to inquire why. I was sitting very near by, but I couldn't hear Cy's answer. However, I could see a playful grin on his face. The grin, or the answer, or both, lit the short fuse. Time after time Cy was struck on the top of his head with the sharp edge of a ruler which Mr. Seamons held in his hand. Blood began to flow and the whole affair became nauseating to me. Teachers sometimes do foolish things.19

Most of the early teachers came from surrounding communities, and often they would board with a family living near the school. John C. Dowdle reported that Edward Edwards was boarding with their family while teaching in the Young district school in 1906, and a Miss Hill boarded with the Amos Dowdle family in 1907.20 The C. C. Bindrups had Alice Jensen staying with them in 1910 and Hilda Olsen in 1911 for $2.00 per month.21 As late as 1920 James D. Nuttall recorded that a Miss Hyde of Hyde Park was boarding with their family.22

School Trustees

A law was passed by the Territorial Legislature in 1852 which brought the small school district to Utah and determined the pattern of school management and supervision until 1915. It provided that the county courts should divide the county into school districts, each to be governed by three trustees, elected by the people. These trustees were to superintend

19Ibid.
20Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 238, 259, 296.
21C. C. Bindrup, Jr., Journal of Newspaper Clippings and Writings.
22James D. Nuttall, Diary 1919-1921.
the schools in their district, erect new school buildings, furnish maintenance and supplies, and see that the schools operated in a satisfactory manner. 23

James D. Nuttall was a school trustee in College Ward for many years. His 1899-1904 diary is full of notations concerning the schools, and these entries give a good idea of what "furnishing maintenance" involved.

August 8, 1899
This afternoon I met with the other trustees at the lower school house and we decided to have an artician well dug and to fence the lot, and to buy a map of the U.S.

October 13, 1899
My wife and girls are cleaning out the School House.

October 16, 1899
I took Alice and Media to School, and I nailed the desks down and saw the School Commense again.

January 23, 1900
I went to help the other Trustees to put posts around the West-School lot.

July 26, 1900
I went to Logan with Will Dowdle to engage some lumber for the School House floor.

December 3, 1900
Visited Schools today, and drew up contracts with the teachers.

March 27, 1901
Me and Will Dowdle is fixing gate and fence and windows at the lower school house.

March 28, 1901
I went to the lower School House again and helped plant 37 trees. 24

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23 Bagley, 6-7.

24 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904.
C. C. Bindrup, Jr., James Olsen, Jr., and John Schenk were the College school district trustees in 1892, and from 1893 until 1895. James Olsen, James D. Nuttall, and John Schenk were the trustees. 25

For the 1896-1897 school year, James D. Nuttall was chairman, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., was secretary, and John Schenk was treasurer of the College school district trustees. 26 In a ledger, Mr. Bindrup listed the following expenses for the College school district for the 1896-1897 school year: "Stamps, paper, and envelopes, 10¢; 1/2 ton lump coal, $2.50; two window lights, 10 inches by 16 inches, 30¢; screws, nails, etc., 95¢." 27

The 1898 Young School

In the latter part of 1897, the people in the western section of College Ward decided that they wanted their own school, as they felt it was too far to take their children up to the College school. Plans were started, and on July 18, 1898, the following announcement appeared in the Logan Nation:

Bids will be accepted for building a frame school house in College school district by the undersigned on or before Aug. 18, '98, 12 o'clock a.m., when said bids will be opened for building same. Contractor to furnish all materials and be completed by a specified time. For plans and specifications see trustees. The right to reject any and all bids reserved.

It was signed by Michael Johnson, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., and James Olsen, Jr., the trustees. 28


26 Ibid., 272.


The Young school, or the "Little Blue School," as it was often called, was located a short distance south of the present Young Ward church house, near the present Floyd Olsen home. John C. Dowdle, who lived in the Young area, dedicated it. 29

The school was painted blue and had white trim around the windows. There was a well, which is still there, in the southeast corner of the lot, and a small coal house just behind the school. "His" and "hers" outhouses were located to the north and south of the school, one on each side. The school building consisted of one large room about 30 feet by 40 feet, with a pot-bellied stove for heat. One teacher, whose desk was in the west end, taught all eight grades. The students all sat facing the west wall, which had no windows; instead, blackboards ran the entire length of the wall. There were windows on the north and south walls. At first there were just steps leading up to the school, but later a small entrance was added. 30

On November 18, 1902, a meeting was held in Logan to discuss dividing the College school district. 31 In 1903 the district was divided, and the Young school district officially came into being. The 1903 trustees for the new district were Hyrum Olsen, C. L. Olsen, and C. R. Jeppsen. 32

The first recorded appropriation for the Young school district was

29 Bindrup, School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 297.
30 Interview with Bert W. Olsen, Young Ward, April 26, 1968
31 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904, November 18, 1902.
32 Bindrup, School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 297.
made on December 1, 1903, and was for $49.00. On the same date the College school district received $124.23, indicating that there were probably less than half as many students in the Young district as the College district, if the money was allotted on a per-pupil basis.

In the early 1900's College Ward was divided into two school districts; the College district, which met in the school house built in 1883 (which is now the John Green home), and the Young district which met in the Little Blue School, built in 1898.

The 1905 College School

Around 1903 the people in the College school district decided a new school house was needed to replace their small, one-room, 20-year-old school. A "taxpayers" meeting was held on January 5, 1903, to decide on a location for the new school building, and it was decided to build it where the old one was. The decision was short-lived, and brought on the first, but not the last, controversy over a school house location in College Ward.

The people living in the southern section of the College school district wanted the school built close to the new church (which had been finished in 1897). Those living in the northeast section wanted it somewhere on the Hyrum Anderson property (along the present Highway 91) near the present Q. W. (Bill) Hansen home. And a third group, those living

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33 Book of Receipts for the Cache County Superintendent of the District Schools, Receipt #1599, Special Collections Library, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

34 Ibid., Receipt #1609.

35 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904, January 5, 1903.
in the northwest section of the College school district, wanted it on the lower road, on the property where the Rex Zilles home now stands. 36

James D. Nuttall and the other trustees met with the architects in Logan on January 12, 1904, for talks. Mr. Nuttall recorded going to Logan again on February 7 and February 11 of 1904, "to the court house on business about the school house site." 37

Apparently the arguing and debating went on for another year. On May 20, 1905, a "school site election" was held, 38 but no decision was reached. N. P. Nielsen, Joseph Bindrup, and Hyrum Hansen were the College school trustees at this time. 39

On July 10, 1905, there was another school election held, and the people in the northeast section compromised with the people in the northwest section and agreed on the lower road site in order to keep the school from being built on the southern site near the church. 40 Erastus Olsen of the northern section claimed to have cast the deciding vote in the final election. 41 So the school was constructed on the lower road, where Rex Zilles' home now stands. As one person recorded:

Our new building, located one-half mile north of the College Ward meeting house, in a region at least a half mile from the nearest home, was a two room brick structure with a spacious hallway between. This location was a mistake, but

36 Interview with Wesley Nelson, College Ward, April 19, 1968.
38 Ibid.
39 Bindrup, School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 297.
40 Interview with Wesley Nelson, College Ward, April 19, 1968.
41 Interview with Mrs. Emma S. Olsen, College Ward, February 7, 1962.
by hook or crook, when the decision was made by balloting, some votes on the right side failed to show up. So here we were, a long way from anybody in the middle of a real mud hole in wet weather.42

At the time the school house was built, the present Highway 91 and the lower road were both dirt roads. However, in 1909 Highway 91 was graveled.43 This road improvement made the school site seem even more of a mistake. Generally, especially when the spring thaw began, teachers and students alike would wear boots and carry their shoes in their hands as they walked to school.

The move to the new red-brick school came in the middle of the 1905-1906 school year. Probably many of the boys and girls hated to see the move to the new isolated school because it took them away from the little store that had been close to their former school. Referring to the first little school, one person recalls:

...Popular was the boy or girl who could bring an egg to spend at the store at recess, for candy or gum--and how lucky the kids who marched out of the school house first, and found room to drape themselves on the old whirl-y-gig gate, to be pushed around and around by the ones who didn't run fast enough.44

On occasion the early schools were closed because of illness. On December 17, 1901, it was recorded that the school teacher, Mr. Cardon, had gone home until after the Christmas Holidays, and that there would be "no school this week on account of diphtheria at Andersons."45

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42 Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.

43 In an interview with Wesley Nelson, College Ward, April 19, 1968, he stated that his father, James Nelson, returned from a mission during the summer of 1909 and got a job that fall helping scatter gravel along the road.


45 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904, December 17, 1901.
May 4, 1908, John C. Dowdle reported that the Young district school was "discontinued until further notice" because of mumps.46

The 1914 Young School

In 1914 the Young school district built a new school house, replacing the one-roomed Little Blue School, which was purchased by Alma Olsen who tore it down and used the materials in various farm buildings.47 The new school was built on the same lot as the present Young Ward church. The entrance was on the south side of the building, and the school consisted of two large rooms with a wide hall down the center, and a very small kitchen in the north end. Originally the entrance had been in the northeast corner of the building, but it was later changed to provide room for the small kitchen. There was a pot-bellied stove in each of the large rooms for heat.48

Transportation

Transportation to and from the early schools was the responsibility of the parents. Some of the pupils walked, some rode horses, and others were taken to school in buggys or sleighs, depending on the weather and the distance to be traveled. John C. Dowdle, on February 9, 1891, recorded:

The boys sent to school. William being sick did not go to school. The team got loose from the boys at school and came home. Willey and Samey took them back at the close of the

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46 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 335.
47 Bindrup, School Notebook and Personal Record Book, 297.
48 Interview with Bert W. Olsen, Young Ward, April 26, 1968.
school. The snow is about twelve inches deep hear, the weather clear and cold, but no wind blowing.49

In 1913 the Cache County Board of Education decided that all pupils living six or more miles away from any high school were to be allowed 40 cents per day for transportation.50

In 1921 David L. Olsen and his brother, Lee Olsen, were taking an average of 10 high school pupils from the Young school district to Hyrum to school every day. They had purchased a Dodge car for this purpose and had made it into a truck. They charged 40 cents per day per pupil—the amount allotted by the school board. For about two months in the winter a sleigh was used, and sometimes four horses were needed in order to get through the snow. During the time that the Olsen brothers drove the students to school, they also had a milk route. They would alternate each week, with one hauling milk one week and students the next.51

The College school district high school students were being taken to Hyrum by Leland Hansen. Mr. Hansen felt there were not enough students to warrant two loads going to Hyrum, so he requested the Olsen brothers to let him take over their route.

Mr. Hansen then purchased a bus to accommodate the students from the two school districts. The bus was green with a bench along each side. There were curtains in place of glass windows in the sides, and Mr. Hansen replaced the curtain in the back of the bus with a door. During the winter the snow was so deep that the bus could not get through, so he fixed

49 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 52.
50 Ricks, Ed., The History of A Valley, 332.
51 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.
a covered sleigh with canvas over the top, a door in the back, and an oil stove in the middle to keep the students warm. Four horses were used to pull the sleigh. The wages still consisted of 40 cents per pupil per day that was authorized in 1913. The bus and sleigh were provided by Mr. Hansen at his own expense.

In 1924 Mr. Hansen purchased a blue school bus for $3,000.00. This bus had glass windows in it. During this period the bus was also hired for extra-curricular activities, such as field trips and athletic competition. In 1924 the high school students put on an opera, and the bus was used to take the cast to Paradise, Wellsville, Providence, Lewiston and other communities to present the production.52

By late 1927 Cache County began purchasing school-owned trucks and busses.53 The first bus to be purchased was used in the College and Young Ward areas, and Merrill V. Hansen was the bus driver. Merrill, who replaced his brother, Leland, drove the bus for one year. He was followed by Earl A. Hansen.54

The College-Young School Controversy

At 7:28 a.m., April 14, 1934, there was an earthquake which originated to the west of Cache Valley in Hansel Valley. Although its center was quite some distance away, the earthquake was severe enough to sway the tower of Utah State University's "Old Main." Since it occurred before the Richter scale was formulated, there was no accurate way to

52Interview with Leland Hansen, College Ward, April 16, 1968.
53Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 332.
54Interview with Merrill V. Hansen, College Ward, May 29, 1968.
measure its exact intensity. However, it was more severe than the earthquake which occurred in Cache Valley in 1962, which registered about 3.7 on the Richter scale.\textsuperscript{55}

Because of the intensity of the 1934 earthquake, the College school was damaged to the extent that it was condemned by the Cache County Board of Education. The Young school was not damaged.

The parents in the College school district reacted immediately when they learned that the school board wanted to send their children to Wellsville to school. Recorded in the minutes of the Cache County Board of Education meeting on April 16, 1934 (two days after the earthquake) is the following statement:

The mothers expressed their views as being absolutely opposed to being moved to Wellsville and stated that they absolutely would not send their students to Wellsville.\textsuperscript{56}

Then the delegation from College Ward requested that the Board repair their school so it could be used until a new school could be built. Two architects, Mr. Schaub and Mr. Adams, were consulted. Their recommendation was not to repair the College school because it would never be safe for the children.\textsuperscript{57} So the children from the College school were integrated into the Wellsville elementary school in spite of bitter protests.

However, the citizens of College Ward were not to give up without a fight. On July 19, 1934, a committee from the College district, consisting

\textsuperscript{55} Telephone interview with Clyde Hardy, Professor of Geology, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, March 26, 1968; telephone interview with J. Stewart Williams, Professor of Geology, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, April 25, 1968.

\textsuperscript{56} Minute Book I, Cache County Board of Education, April 16, 1934, 249.

\textsuperscript{57} Ibid., June 18, 1934, 255.
of John H. Schenk and Merrill V. Hansen, met with the Board. Mr. Schenk expressed their attitude in regard to the closing of the College school, stating that the people were 100 per cent opposed to being without a school in their section. He also stated that he thought the people would cooperate by sending their children to Wellsville for a few years, providing the Board of Education would give the College district a binding agreement to build the centralized school that the Board had previously mentioned as soon as conditions permitted. President McCann pointed out that he thought the Board's moral obligation was really worth more to the people than the binding obligation referred to by Mr. Schenk. Mr. Schenk stated that their experience in the past had not built up a very strong faith in the Board's moral obligations or promises. He went on to propose that the Board consider setting aside a definite amount each year for a few years to be used only for a building at College Ward. Mr. Schenk also stated that the College Ward people had asked a contractor to investigate the College school foundation, and the contractor had reported that $300.00 would put the building back into a condition satisfactory enough to pass inspection.58

The Board agreed to send a committee to College Ward, including an architect and a contractor, to meet with the people of the district at the school to inspect it and determine definitely what disposition to make of the building.

Because of the statement made by the Board that they were going to consolidate the College and Young schools, the citizens living in the

58 Ibid., July 19, 1934, 262.
Young district were very much concerned about the rumored location for the new consolidated school. With this rumor spreading, it did not take the people of the Young district long to act.

On March 7, 1935, a committee from Young consisting of Ray Jensen, Dewey Olsen, Lee Olsen, Bert Olsen, and Orson Thatcher, along with the P.T.A. president Edward Olsen, met with the Board and registered a protest to the location adjacent to the College Ward church which had tentatively been selected by the Board. Their objections were: (1) that it was dangerous due to its being close to the state highway, and also because of the service station across the highway; and (2) that it was too far from the people living in the western section of the ward to be serviceable to them for community activities. They suggested a location three-fourths of a mile west of Hyrum Hansen's residence. They asserted that five-eighths of the people favored the location which they proposed.

It was moved by Board Member Olsen, and seconded by Member Hendry, that at the earliest possible date the Board, with the superintendent and clerk, would visit the College-Young area to inspect possible locations and then decide definitely on the site for the building. The motion carried.

True to their word, on March 11, 1935, the Board of Education met in College Ward at 11 a.m. to look over possible sites for the new school

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59 The reader should keep in mind that the College and Young schools were both located in College Ward and that at this same time there was dissension in the ward about a church house that was to be built. (See Chapter III.)

60 Minute Book I, Cache County Board of Education, March 7, 1935, 323-324.
building. Mr. Nephi Nielson represented the College district, and Ray Jensen represented the Young district. Mr. Nielson was arguing for the site the Board had tentatively agreed upon, adjacent to the College Ward L.D.S. church house. 61 His first point in favor of this site was that it would be cheaper to transport the children to school. Ray Jensen then voiced his argument, pointing out the danger of having the elementary school located on a busy highway, with the added danger of a service station that sold confections located on the east side of the highway. He felt that a better site for the building would be somewhere on the Hansen Road, preferably west of Hyrum Hansen's home.

President McCann pointed out to the committee that it was not the desire of the Board to make the selection of the site for the College school. He made it very plain to the committee that in view of the fact that the Board was being forced to make the selection, the people of College and Young would be expected to get together and be satisfied with it. The two gentlemen assured the Board members that they would still be brethren regardless of the Board's decision. The Board then took a secret ballot on the two proposed locations, which resulted in a unanimous vote in favor of the location adjacent to the College Ward church. 62

The Board felt this would end the controversy, but the fight had just begun. From March 20, 1935, until the school was constructed, there was an almost continuous parade of citizens going to visit the Board of

61 This was the 1897 church, located west of the present Highway 91, the same location as the present College Ward church.

Education, either in support of the Board's decision, or attacking the Board's decision.

A committee from Young consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Orson Thatcher, Mr. Lee Olsen, Mr. Dewey Olsen, Mr. Bert Olsen, Mr. Ray Jensen, Mrs. Dave Olsen, and Mrs. Joseph H. Olsen, along with Mrs. Merrill Hansen of College, met with the Board. Mrs. Thatcher was the spokesman for the group. She asked to Board for an explanation of its reasons for the selection of the site adjacent to the College Ward meeting house. President McCann pointed out the following reasons: (1) the closeness of the site to the church house, for use in connection with the church as a community center; (2) the population increase in the vicinity of the church house, more than in the other sections; (3) the economy and convenience in transportation; (4) the desirability of the site itself, and the possibilities of beautification and drainage; and (5) its accessibility from the highway.

Mrs. Thatcher then pointed out the danger of the highway for the children and the fact that on the site favored by the Young district on the lower Hansen Road (the John George site), water would not have to be pumped because of the high water pressure. It was also the feeling of the Young group that the location selected by the Board was not a central location for a consolidated school that was supposed to serve both areas. Also, they disagreed with the Board's statement that the area around the College Ward church house was growing faster than the areas north and west. Mrs. Thatcher further stated that when the church house was built in 1896 the families were located about equally around it, while now there were 4 families less south, and 50 families more to the north and west. The delegation then displayed a petition showing
that 67 children from 6 to 18 years of age favored the lower school site.

This ferocious frontal attack by the Young delegation was too much for the frustrated superintendent to take. He stated that his concern was for the welfare of the ward, and it seemed evident that the Board's selection was going to break up the ward; therefore, the Board would reconsider.63

It was then decided to bring in a delegation from upper College Ward to meet with the Board and present their views on the selected site. So the next day a committee from upper College Ward consisting of Nephi Nielson, Jacob Zollinger, Theadore Zilles, Wesley Nelson, Erastus Olsen, and Edward Olsen met with the Board. Melpi Nielson acted as spokesman for the committee. The problem of a location for the new school was discussed. President McCann stated that he had told the Young delegation to get the signatures of all the people who were in favor of selecting a site on the Hyrum Hansen property (as the Board had found the John George property, which had been the first choice of the Young group, unacceptable). The Board also brought some problems relating to the building site adjacent to the church house to the attention of the College delegation. Board Member Olsen reported that he had investigated the title and legal status of the Willis Anderson property, which had been the Board's choice as a building site, and had found it heavily encumbered with Federal loans and unpaid taxes. Therefore, a question was raised as to the advisability of this site. Mr. Theadore Zilles stated that he was familiar with that

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63 Ibid., March 20, 1935, 328.
piece of land, and it was his understanding that the interest and back taxes had been paid up to date.64

At this point, it looked as if no progress had been made even though several meetings had been held with various delegations. A stalemate had developed in the selection of a site for the new consolidated elementary school.

At a Board of Education meeting held on May 1, 1935, it was reported by Board Member Hendry that after an investigation of the upper College school site in regard to unpaid taxes and interest, he found said property to be free from involvement, and in his opinion, the title to the property could be cleared in a short time. He, therefore, felt that the site adjacent to the College Ward church was still the best location for the new school.

It was then moved by Board Member Pond, and seconded by Member Olsen, that the superintendent and the clerk drive to College Ward and contact Mr. Hyrum Hansen to inform him that they wanted a release of any claim he might have with the Board in relation to the five acres of land that had been discussed as a tentative building site for the school. (Apparently negotiations had been carried out to some extent in building the school on the Hansen Road.)65

Between May and June, 1935, the people in the Young district became very unhappy and upset with the final decision of the Board, and consequently started to boycott church meetings and other ward functions. As

64 Ibid., March 21, 1935, 329.
65 Ibid., May 1, 1935, 337-338.
one man said, Sunday became not a day of worship, but a day of contention and debate.

With this problem on the mind of Bishop John H. Schenk of College Ward, he, along with other members of the ward, visited the Board on June 28, 1935. They told of their efforts in attempting to get together with the people in the Young district, but stated that it was impossible to unite on a building site. Bishop Schenk then presented the following petition, which he claimed represented 65 per cent of the school patrons of the College and Young districts, which were both a part of College Ward:

We the undersigned school patrons of the College Ward request the School Board to go ahead and build a school house in College Ward, and we will not protest your selection of a site. 66

Fifty-four signatures appeared on the petition. The committee then expressed the desire of going on record as wanting to have the agitation cease. They sincerely felt that the upper site was the best, but rather than split the ward and possibly lose the school altogether, they would be willing to concede to the lower group and accept a building in the Young district.

The Board by this time was exasperated and vowed they would settle this problem themselves. After some deliberation, they informed both districts that they had decided to locate the new school on the upper site, adjacent to the College Ward church. 67 This was the second time the Board

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66 Ibid., June 28, 1935, 345.
67 Ibid.
had felt the problem was at last and forever settled, but this was not to be the case.

About this time, the Board decided to close the Young School and send the children to Wellsville for the 1935-36 school year. This news reached the people in the Young area and on July 29, 1935, they wrote to the Board and entered a "vigorous protest" against any such action. The protest was signed by 27 people.68

A couple of weeks later a committee of several from the Young area met with the Board to ask if they were going to close the school, and if so, what the reasons were. The superintendent explained that the school was to be closed because the Board felt it would be for the betterment of the school program. The committee stated that they "protested the closing of the school to the extent that they would not send their children to Wellsville."69

When school started, the parents did keep their children out of school for a time, and some even retained a teacher in the Young school for the students. Eventually they gave in and the children were integrated into the Wellsville elementary school, along with the students from the College school who had been at Wellsville since the earthquake in April, 1934.

After this turn of events, the people in the Young area were very anxious to get the site selected for the consolidated school so they could get their children back closer to home. On September 19, 1935, a committee from the Young district once again came to meet with the Board of Education,

68 Ibid., August 1, 1935, 364.
this time with a petition favoring the Hyrum Hansen site. They said they still wanted the new consolidated school located in their area by their school, but they would settle on a compromise site on the Hansen Road. They stated that the people of upper College Ward refused to sign the petition because they opposed any compromise on the building site.

Once again the Board focused its attention on the College-Young controversy. This time the idea was conceived of holding a secret ballot concerning the site for the new consolidated school house, with the balloting being between the site by the church house in upper College Ward, and the site by the Young school. The Board was now opposed to the site on the Hansen Road offered by the Young group as a compromise site. The method of conducting the voting was to be as follows: Each group was to select a man, and these two men would select a disinterested party, forming a balloting committee of three. This committee was to visit each home and secure a secret ballot from each patron of the school system who they determined to be eligible to vote.70

Letters were written to the leaders of each district instructing them as to how they should conduct the secret ballot, but on October 31, 1935, it was recorded in the Board of Education minutes that the vote was never taken.71

By this time the Cache County Board of Education had run out of patience. On December 19, 1935, at the Board meeting, the superintendent introduced the question of determining a site for the proposed College Ward

70Ibid., September 19, 1935, 376.
71Ibid., October 31, 1935, 376.
school. It was moved by Board Member Pond, and seconded by Member Olsen, that the Board vote by secret ballot on the location of the building, voting for either the site adjacent to the College Ward church, or for the Young school site. The vote resulted in a unanimous, and final, ballot for the College district site. Hence the great war was over. 72

It is of interest to note that when the College-Young School was built in 1936, Cache County, as well as the rest of the nation, was struggling through a very serious depression. Hence, when the bids were let on the new school, it was advertised to the contractors that this was to be a P.W.A. project, and all work contemplated thereunder must be done in accordance with the rules and regulations of the National Industrial Recovery Act. The Cache County Board of Education also stated:

No bid will be considered unless accompanied by the bidder's certificate of compliance, U.S. Government Form P.W.A. 61, revised March 1934, to the effect that the bidder is complying with and will continue to comply with each applicable code of fair competition, or, in the absence of such code or codes, with the President's Re-employment Agreement. Specific attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum wage rates prescribed by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works must be paid on this project. 73

So after all the fighting and bickering, the College-Young Elementary School was finally built. It was completed in time for the beginning of the 1936-37 school year.

Because of the new consolidated school, both the College school and the Young school buildings were left vacant. The Board of Education decided to sell the old College Ward school, located on what is now Rex Zilles' lot,

72 Ibid., December 19, 1935, 386.
73 Ibid., May 1, 1935, 336-338.
to the highest bidder. This proved to be Wesley Nelson, and his bid of $416,000 was accepted by the Board for the school building and the grounds. 74

On April 1, 1936, a committee from Young Ward (College Ward had been divided on March 8, 1936, forming Young Ward) consisting of Bishop Allen Olsen, H. G. Hughes, Reeder Thatcher, and Logan Stake President A. E. Anderson, met with the Board and asked about the possibility of buying the Young school building. Bishop Allen Olsen stated that Young Ward wanted to buy, and very much needed, the old school to be used as their meeting house. However, the Young Ward people felt the price asked was too high, and requested that the Board consider lowering it. The Board, after a short deliberation, passed a motion to sell the Young school building to the newly-organized Young Ward for a church house. The Board agreed to accept $450.00 for the school. 75

Consolidation

Consolidation, and people fighting against it, has been a part of the history of the College and Young Ward areas since the early 1900's.

In 1896 there were 55 small schools in Cache County—all one-teacher schools. The trustees in each district exercised a great deal of authority and often disregarded the recommendations of the county superintendent. 76

In the 1890's when laws were passed by the Territorial Assembly requiring district consolidation in cities of the first and second class, a territory-wide movement for district consolidation began. A law was passed

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74 Ibid., January 16, 1936, 390.
75 Ibid., April, 1936, 403.
76 Bagley, 36.
in 1905 allowing county-wide consolidation, and talk of consolidation began almost immediately in Cache County. In February of 1907, Superintendent J. L. McCarrey sent a letter to all of the school trustees in the county urging them to consider consolidation. Reaction from the districts was almost uniformly unfavorable.\textsuperscript{77}

However, among professional educators in the county, sentiment in favor of consolidation continued to grow. On March 1, 1908, a meeting of delegates from all the districts was called by the county commissioners. In spite of bad weather, 21 school districts were represented, among them the Young school district. The College district, along with four others, had no delegates present. After heated discussion, a vote was taken on the question of consolidation. A majority of the delegates were opposed, including all of those from the Young school district.\textsuperscript{78}

Despite the vote, the Cache County schools were consolidated by the unanimous vote of the county commissioners on March 23, 1908. The new Cache County School District was divided into five precincts. The College and Young districts were placed in Precinct Two, along with Mt. Sterling, Providence, and part of Wellsville.\textsuperscript{79}

The consolidating of the College and Young schools in 1936 also brought on controversy and dissension, as has been seen. Following this, the people in the College-Young area had a brief reprieve from the ranks of the protestor until June of 1956, when the Board of Education called a multi-million

\textsuperscript{77}The Logan Journal, February 4, 1907.

\textsuperscript{78}Bagley, 51.

\textsuperscript{79}Ibid., 56.
dollar bond election with the announced purpose of consolidating South Cache and North Cache high schools and converting the existing high schools into junior highs. This issue was defeated by a two-to-one margin on June 5, 1956, and rested until it was again brought to a vote in 1959, when it was defeated a second time. 80

In the 1956 election, there were 132 who voted from the College-Young school district, 16 for consolidation and 116 against. In the 1959 election there were 121 who voted; this time 55 were for consolidation and 66 against. 81

Even though the second bond was also defeated, the Cache County Board of Education approved consolidation and ordered work to begin on the new county high school in Smithfield. In 1961 a third bond election was held, which passed by a margin of less than 100 votes. There were 141 from the College-Young area who voted in 1961, with 27 being for consolidation and 114 against. Of 17 voting precincts in the 1961 election, College-Young was one of 10 precincts which voted against consolidation. 82

The new Sky View High School opened in 1963 for all of Cache County's high school students, while junior high students attended South Cache, North Cache, or Lewiston.

In 1960, while the Sky View debate was in full swing, this headline appeared in the Herald Journal on February 9: "'Twister' Rips Roof from School in College-Young." The caption under an accompanying picture read:

81 Ibid.
82 Ibid.
Beams and rafters jut into the dark sky following the heavy winds that tore the roof from parts of the College-Young school. The building was heavily damaged by the wind, and litter from the wrecked school was scattered over a large area. The mishap occurred at 7:30 p.m. on February 8, 1960, and the winds tossed lumber as far as 150 yards away. Damage was estimated at $24,000.00.

And so, in a short 24 years, the school that had caused the small rural communities of College and Young such distress was now, to a large extent, destroyed by Mother Nature. No one was in the school at the time of the calamity, and as Superintendent Ballam reported, the students of the College-Young School missed only one day of school before being integrated into the Floradell School in Wellsville.

A study was made on April 6, 1960, by the Hoffman-Hughes Company of Salt Lake City, who were hired by the insurance company to determine the cost of restoring the building, which had been built as a P.W.A. project in 1936 at a value of $74,482.00. Hofman and Hughes sent a letter to the superintendent, dated April 18, 1960. In it they said they had made a study of the original 1936 designs and architectural drawings and compared them to the finished structure to determine if any deficiencies in construction existed in violation to the original design. They also said they had made a study of the wind failure to determine its cause and what could be done to bring the structure to such a condition that similar failure could not occur again. They then pointed out numerous structural deficiencies, and included photographs

84 Minute Book 17, Cache County Board of Education, March 3, 1960 to March 9, 1961, located in the Cache County Board of Education offices, North Logan, Utah, March 16, 1960, 8.
to illustrate the deficiencies. Their conclusions and recommendations were as follows:

To repair the present roof structure in an attempt to bring it to its original condition before the wind failure occurred would be inadequate. If this were done, then similar failure could and probably would occur again. The deficiencies in the original design, together with the substitution and general faulty construction, in addition to the added weakness caused by the recent failure, would result in a dangerous structure. It is recommended that if an attempt were made to reconstruct this building the presently remaining roof system be removed and the entire structure rebuilt and anchored in such a manner as to properly resist any further horizontal forces such as those which caused this failure.85

The College and Young wards were quick to organize into a committee to keep their school. The superintendent explained that a decision concerning rebuilding the school could not be made yet, because the State Board of Education had not yet decided whether the school would be continued as a special school if it were rebuilt.86 The College and Young Ward people were not to be put off, so they had the superintendent arrange a meeting with the State Board of Education for them. Board Member Alder, along with Bert Olsen, Ross Olsen, Bert Russell, and Superintendent Ballam met with the State Board of Education concerning the special classroom unit for the

85Ibid., 21.

86The average daily attendance at the College-Young School at this time was not high enough to legally qualify for State financial aid because the school was so small. However, it had been permitted to operate because of its geographical and somewhat isolated location, and given State funds. When the roof blew off, however, the State felt it was not worth rebuilding for continuance as a special school. Also, the law read that if there was a larger school within five miles on a hard-surfaced road, the students should be integrated into it, and the Wellsville elementary school fell into this category. Therefore, the State denied the request to rebuild the College-Young School as a special school. (Interview with former Superintendent Oral L. Ballam, April 29, 1968.)
College-Young School. But the State Board denied the group's request, saying that if the building were rebuilt, it could not continue to receive State aid as a special school.

Still the valiant men and women of the College-Young area would not admit defeat. They marched on the Cache County Courthouse, to meet face to face with the Board of Education. They were over 60 strong, and they demanded, as their fathers had before them, "Give us back our school." But the die was cast. The elementary students were to remain at the Hells-ville elementary school, and the College-Young School was abandoned.

To pacify the College and Young wards, the people were offered the wind-ravaged school, or what was left of it, to tear down and sell. But neither ward was interested, so the building was sold to Bernard Nelson and Mark Scabelund for $430.00. The building was dismantled in 1961. Today the former school site is used as a ball diamond.

Summary

The first students in the College and Young Ward areas went to Mill-ville to school, then in 1883 the Farmers' Branch was organized and shortly after, a combination church and school house was constructed. In 1898 the people in the western section of College Ward felt their children had to travel too far to school, so they built the Little Blue School, thus dividing the College school district in two. In 1905 a new two-room brick school was constructed in the College school district, and in 1914 a new school was built in the Young school district.

87Minute Book 17, Cache County Board of Education, September 8, 1960, 64.
In 1934 an earthquake damaged the College school to the extent that it was condemned. The students were transported to Wellsville and integrated into the elementary school there, with the promise that a new consolidated school would soon be built in the College-Young area. The following year the Board of Education closed the Young school, and the students from the Young area also went to Wellsville, while the debate went on as to a location for the proposed consolidated school.

After heated controversy, a combined College-Young School was built in 1936 in College Ward. In 1960 the roof of this school was blown off, causing extensive damages. It was decided by the Board of Education to abandon the school and transport the elementary students to Wellsville permanently.

At present the elementary students from the College and Young wards attend school in the old Wellsville Junior High building, and the junior high students go to Hyrum to the South Cache Junior High School. The high school students are transported to Smithfield to the new consolidated Sky View High School, thus completing the 6-3-3 arrangement.
Life was hard in the early settlements in Cache Valley, and College Ward was no exception. In fact, College Ward, being a small community, found itself even more isolated than some of the more populated areas. However, the early settlers found time and energy for social and recreational activities. Dancing, singing, instrumental music, amateur theatricals, community socials, and sports all made their contribution toward a more enjoyable life in College Ward during its early history.

Dancing was one of the favorite forms of recreation in pioneer days. The people danced in their log houses, often with dirt floors, and they danced in their log churches. The College Ward church house, dedicated in 1897, was considered to have had one of the best dance floors in the valley.

Following the admonition of Brigham Young, the Mormons attempted to prohibit "round dances" and substitute square dances, quadrilles, reels, or anything else that kept the dancers at a distance. In a talk given by John C. Dowdle in Sacrament meeting on one occasion, he said:

My advice was to the young folks to try and learn to deny themselves of many things that they thought was pleasant, such as round dancing and to try and observe the word of Wisdom. Let tobacco, whiskey and such harmful things alone. ¹

In some communities round dances were entirely eliminated; in others, only two an evening were allowed. College Ward, being 100 per cent Mormon,

¹Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," January 6, 1894, 163.
followed Young's edict, but permitted one "round dance" during the evening. This delighted the young people, although the older folks knew it would be the "ruination of them all."²

Dances were very important to the young people. On April 5, 1892, John C. Dowdle recorded in his journal that his son, Amos, was "putting in the time mopping the floor today to pay for his dance tickets."³

Some of the music for the first dances in College Ward was provided by Nephi Bindrup and his fiddle, James Muttall's band, or by Chris Fiddler, Sammy Dowdle, and Harvey Johnson. Later, musicians came from Millville or Wellsville.⁴

As time went by, the dances in Wellsville began attracting many of the teenagers from College Ward.

We graduated from College Ward dances and moved over to Wellsville for our dancing entertainment, where we had become friendly with the younger set. Transportation was always by horse and buggy. One night in February we became stuck in the mud on the road east of the square in Wellsville. One wheel of the buggy dropped into the axle, and the little bay mare was not strong enough to move it. So Edward Olsen and I stepped down into the soft mud and helped to push it out. We attended many dances in the pavilion at Wellsville during our middle teen years.⁵

Another College Ward resident recalls that they often wore boots and carried a pair of shoes to be worn at the dance. After the dance, they would put the boots back on for the drive home.⁶

³Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 91.
⁵Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
⁶Interview with Wesley Nelson, College Ward, May 7, 1967.
Sports have always played an important part in College Ward's recreational life. Baseball (and more recently softball) has been one of the favorite sports, providing the team and ward members with some interesting social contacts with other communities of the valley, as well as some heated rivalry. Many championship teams have been produced by College Ward. The baseball teams during the years 1913-1916 were especially good.7

Horse racing was also very popular, and much attention was given to producing and training racing stock. Cache Valley was noted for its good race horses, and horesmen from all parts of the state came here to race.

In 1881 a fairly good circular half-mile race track was constructed on the Church Farm (in what is now College Ward). It was the first public circular race course in northern Utah, and the general public for miles around was well entertained by the races, especially on holidays.

Several of the horses were quite outstanding. One of the best-known harness horses at the time was L. C. Lee, a brown stallion owned by Willard Richards of Mendon. He was the first real harness horse produced in the valley and finally "went west and made a mark of 2:12." Dr. O. C. Ormsby owned one of the best and finest matched driving teams ever driven in the valley--King and Darby, a pair of bays who could "trot together at a 2:50 gait." They attracted a great deal of attention and won many premiums at state and other fairs. Coley, owned by the Garr boys of Millville, was really the first fast running horse in the valley, and was well-known for a number of years. Jewel, a sorrell mare owned by

7 Ibid.
Moses Thatcher, Sr., was perhaps the most outstanding and spectacular performer among the running horses. She had an exceptionally fast getaway and was never beaten in a race. Her owners claimed that if she had been crowded she could have run the half-mile track in 49 seconds.8

The Hyrum slough was the scene of many happy hours—swimming in the summer, and skating and coasting down the banks in the winter. The young boys liked to swim in Spring Creek after Sunday School, and there were two swimming holes—one named Big Boys' Sunday and the other named Little Boys' Sunday. The boys felt very grown-up when they could join their older brothers in the deep hole, even though they were often subjected to rough treatment.9

As the summer days grew shorter and fall drew near, it was a familiar sight for those who lived on the main road (the present Highway 91) to see the caravans of white covered wagons loaded with peaches, tomatoes, grapes, and melons wind their way slowly from Brigham City orchards to the Logan markets. Many loads were lightened as the delicious fruit was quietly handed down by a boy riding on the rear of the wagon to those running along behind, and many of the boys and girls learned to know the sweet taste of stolen fruit.10

Halloween pranks often included taking gates off hinges and hiding them in tall weeds, behind buildings, or in the deep ditches; changing wagon wheels from front to rear; or even dolling up Hans Sorenson's cows

8Hovey, "An Early History of Cache County," 155-156.
10Ibid., 19.
with the horses' harnesses.\textsuperscript{11}

Winters were long and severe, but there never seemed to be too much ice or snow for the children because of the fun they had skating and sleigh riding. For weeks the only means of transportation besides walking would be bob sleds.\textsuperscript{12}

In the early 1900's, one of the red-letter days for the youngsters in College Ward was the coming of a circus. The days preceding were filled with expectation and anticipation until the eventful day finally arrived. The night before was spent out of doors under the stars, usually on top of a straw-roofed shed, or some handy hay pile. Sleep didn't matter; it was the sound of the train coming up the tracks from Mendon to Logan in the pre-dawn hours for which they waited. As soon as they heard it they would get dressed and hurry toward Logan, on foot, or any other way they could get there.\textsuperscript{13}

The older people enjoyed a circus as much as the youngsters. James D. Nuttall recorded on August 7, 1903, that they "all went to see the Ringling Circus." He spoke of going to the circus on several other occasions. On August 15, 1902, Mr. Nuttall noted that they all went to Logan to see Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. And many times he mentioned going to see shows in the Thatcher Opera House in Logan.\textsuperscript{14}

The church, of course, provided or sponsored many of the activities in the community. In one of his diaries, James D. Nuttall mentioned the good

\textsuperscript{11}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{12}Ibid., 11.
\textsuperscript{13}Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
\textsuperscript{14}James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904.
time they had at the Sunday School Jubilee. These "jubilees" were mentioned by many of the early settlers who kept diaries.

The MIA also provided enjoyment for the early College Harders. On January 7, 1904, Mr. Nuttall recorded: "Tonight we went to a character ball at the meeting house and Media and Alice Ann and Rueben each took a character and Media got a prize."16

Some of the wedding receptions in College Ward were quite elaborate. The custom was to invite in friends and relatives, and a full-course wedding supper would be served to all by the bride's family. When William Dowdle married Lucy Almond, the father of the groom recorded:

We had a grand reception in the evening. A sumptuous supper was prepared at which there was nearly 60 persons partook, the most of whome were kindred. After supper was over the entire night was spent in games, plays, dancing, and fun making. There were many usefull presents given by those that attended, such as is usefull to housekeeping, etc.17

The next day he added: "All sleepy, tired and dumpish. Weather cold and stormey. Sam went to Logan to take some of our visiting friends home."18

The Fourth and Twenty-fourth of July celebrations were anxiously awaited. Long before daylight the shooting of guns and the loud explosion of cannons were heard on the eastern foothills. The families, often each numbering ten or more, would arrive at the church house in big whitetops or ludlows.

15James D. Nuttall, Diary 1886-1888, January 14, 1887.
16Dorothy Nuttall, "A Sketch of James Dennis Nuttall's Life."
18Ibid., February 23, 1893.
An article written by a resident of College Ward appeared in the Logan Nation on July 8, 1893.

Independence day was duly celebrated by our patriotic people by raising the stars and stripes, firing of B M. Young's pioneer cannon, and at 10:30 o'clock a.m. they met under a bowery and listened to a very creditable program, after which the Hyrum Brass band under the leadership of Mr. Charlie Green paid us a visit, and discoursed some fine selections.19

The afternoon's activities consisted of horse and foot racing, diving for nickles, cracker-racing, a picnic lunch brought from home, pink lemonade, and home-make lemon or vanilla ice cream. The day ended with a big dance in the evening, with sandwiches and cake or pie being passed around in big white dish pans during intermission.20

The crowning event of the year was always the Christmas celebration. A large, beautiful tree would be cut by some of the young men and placed in the northwest corner of the church house. A committee of young people would decorate it with tinsel, strings of pop corn, and colored paper chains. It was an evening of fun for them to pile in an old bob sleigh, if there was plenty of snow, and if not, in a big lumber wagon, and go from house to house gathering up presents. These would be hung on the community tree, ready for distribution by Santa Claus during the evening's program.

The Christmas morning program often consisted of Lena Olsen and her sister Eliza singing and yodeling. Charlie Jeppsen could be depended upon to recite "The broken-hearted Dutchman who didn't know whether he was Hans


what was livin' or Yakob what's dead," and Lorenzo Olsen would entertain
with music from his music box. The program would be followed by a lunch
hour, when all would enjoy the lunch they had brought from home—salmon
sandwiches, gooseberry pie, cake with jelly topping, and whatever else
was available. A children's dance followed in the afternoon, but the
grand climax came Christmas night when the grown-ups would enjoy them-
selves in dancing and eating.21

Tragedy, sickness, and sorrow were no strangers to the early set-
tlers of College Ward, as can be seen by the following article which
appeared in the Logan Nation, August 25, 1893:

It was a child of Hans Sorensen which died at College Ward
last Monday of diptheria. ... Within eight months three child-
ren of the Sorensen's family have died of that dreadful disease--
diptheria—and at present two more are ill. ...22

Just a month before, on July 10, 1893, the home of Lars Sorensen had
been completely destroyed by fire, leaving him, his wife, and six small
children without a home. The loss was placed at $700.00, without any
insurance. He had built the house two years before, in addition to having
bought the land from the Brigham Young College. The fire had started at
2 a.m. in a temporary cook house near the home. It was supposed that the
fire started from sparks from the stove, since a fire had been left in it
when the family retired for the night about 11 p.m. The temporary cook
house burned down before anyone saw the fire, and from there a strong wind
quickly spread the flames to the house. The house was almost completely
destroyed before the family was awakened or any neighbors could reach it.

21 Ibid., 20.

All efforts to check the fire were in vain, and soon everything, with the exception of a few pieces of household furniture, was a complete loss. 23 Sister Sorensen was a Primary officer at the time, and the Primary children brought pennies, nickles, and eggs for her to assist in her loss. 24

Hans Hansen was working with his boys cutting trees in Logan canyon in 1881 when a log rolled down the hill, struck a boulder, and swung around and hit Hans and crushed his right leg. He was taken to Logan in a lumber wagon and after three weeks of intense suffering the leg became infected, necessitating its amputation. The doctor laid him on the kitchen table, cut away the bad flesh, and sawed off the sharp edges of bone just below the knee. Hans was not given enough anesthetic to "put him off" and it was reported he could be heard a block away. After a full recovery he made a peg leg for himself, which he learned to use very well. From then on he was known as "Peg Leg" Hansen. 25

There were many others in College Ward who suffered. Luella Hansen and her father, Pete, both died of diabetes within a short time of each other. Fred Schenk died of typhoid fever, and his daughter, Nettie Schenk, had pneumonia and was nursed "night and day for a long time, after which she was healed by the power of the priesthood." The James A. Anderson family lost two children from diptheria, Ezra Sorensen was struck and killed by lightning while fishing, a child of the Orson Thatchers drowned, and many, many others laid their loved ones away. 26

23 Ibid., July 11, 1893.
25 Amy Welch Larsen, "A Sketch of the Life of Anna Helena Mariager Hansen."
One form of recreation which was sometimes quite profitable was trapping muskrats. Orville E. Nelson, one of the early residents of College Ward, especially enjoyed it. When he was about 10 years old he began trapping muskrats in the ponds on his father's farm. The few pelts that he collected were sold to Mr. Eli Bell, who operated a tannery just south of the Logan River bridge on the west side of the road. He received 5 or 10 cents per pelt.

As he grew a little older, he also trapped in Spring Creek, Hyrum Slough, Clear Creek, and the canals, ditches, ponds and springs in the College and Young Ward area. He caught hundreds of muskrats and claimed he could skin one in about three minutes.

One year the game warden closed the trapping season, and the following season the muskrats were so numerous that they were a pest in canals and ditches, digging holes through the banks and wasting the water. When the trapping season was re-opened Orville set out two lines of traps. In the morning before day-light he would set out on foot to visit the line on Spring Creek. He carried the animals in a sack for lack of time to pelt them; this was done in the evening after school. His second line of traps was along the canal and in the marshes near the school house. After school was over and the building cleaned (he was the student janitor), he followed this second line, gathering and pelting the muskrats. For about 10 days it took all of his spare time and half the night to keep up to the "business." In one month's time the money made from this hobby was enough to buy him a pure-bred heifer about 15 months old.27

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27 Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
Some of the boys in the Young Ward area also trapped for furs, since fur-bearing animals were plentiful in that area. Ray Jensen recalls that one season he trapped 2,000 muskrats. In addition to trapping muskrats, he trapped coyotes, ermine, and mink. He began trapping when he was young, and continued for almost 20 years.28

Summary

The early settlers in College Ward worked very hard, but also took the time for sports and fun. Dancing and baseball were especially popular. As was true of most of the small Mormon settlements, most of the community's activities centered around the church.

28 Interview with Ray Jensen, Young Ward, June 9, 1968.
CHAPTER VII

Political Life

Since the lives of the early settlers were very much determined and conditioned by Mormon theocracy, it is almost impossible to discuss the early political developments in College Ward without also discussing the early religious developments.

The Mormon Church's program answered not only the religious but social, economic, and political requirements as well. Even though the church organization could serve political needs, civil government (fully staffed by Mormons) was established along traditional American lines soon after arrival in Salt Lake Valley. The Mormons sought statehood in the Union in order to insure the continuation of this form of home rule, because as a territory they remained under the jurisdiction of federally-appointed executive and judicial officers who were frequently antagonistic to Mormons and their customs. Therefore, for nearly half a century Mormon political energies were directed toward statehood.¹

Prior to the 1860's when the Gentiles emerged as a significant body in Utah, political parties played no role in Mormon civil government. Even then parties did not organize along national lines, but divided into two factions--Mormon and non- or anti-Mormon. The Gentiles and a few dissenting Mormons, the "Godbeites," joined hands and formed the Liberal party at Corinne, just west of Cache Valley, on February 9, 1870. The Mormons

¹Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 109-110.
countered with the People's party, formed at the same time as the Liberal party. The People's party was the organ of political expression for the Mormon Church, the defense of its political position. Since there were few non-Mormons in Cache Valley the Liberal party exercised little influence.²

After years of attempting to gain statehood, the Mormons were required to make certain concessions before the Federal government would grant it: polygamy must go, the church must give up political action through the People's party, and the church must cease directing a cooperative economic life for its community and open the door for free competition.³

The church, in an expression of good faith, took steps to disband the powerful People's party and to encourage the Saints to follow national party lines. The church authorities felt that if the matter was left to the Saints individually, however, it would just result in a continued Democratic vote (since the Mormons' traditions made them sympathetic to the Democratic party), so the Saints were requested to divide politically. To encourage this division, church leaders themselves took up the Republican standard. Families (very often local church leaders) were called to vote Republican--enough so that there would be a balance between Republicans and Democrats.⁴

On July 20, 1894, the New York Daily Tribune ran an article entitled "Long Struggle Ended" which told some of the events which brought about

²Ibid., 110-111.
³Ibid., 115.
⁴Ibid., 118.
President Cleveland's approval of the act enabling Utah to adopt a constitution and become a state. One of the main items mentioned was the fact that the Mormon People's party, which had been so powerful, was being disintegrated and the people of the territory were dividing themselves along national two-party lines and on questions of national policy.  

Regarding the ratification, John C. Dowdle recorded:

August the 1st--We all made preparations to go to Logan to attend the great Utah Day. A day set apart for the ratification of Utah's being admitted into the union as a State. All most the entire people of the county was out. There was a great program prepared for the occasion. A grand procession was formed at 9 a.m. The assembly met at the pervilion at 10:30 to listen to addresses, to be delivered for the occasion. The Honorable C. H. Penros, and John H. Smith of Salt Lake were the speakers. They delivered able discourses, showing that all should be glad and rejoice at the event of Statehood.  

In October, 1890, a meeting was called to instruct the people of the Farmers' Branch (which a year later became College Ward) in politics. The two-party system was explained, and all were asked to become affiliated with one party or the other. A subscription was taken to obtain money to defray the expenses of a political campaign. Nine men each paid 25 cents, making a total of $2.25 collected for that purpose.  

After the two-party system was adopted, some communities became quite strongly Republican. College Ward was one of them. The records show that it has voted Republican 20 times and Democratic 9 times.  

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6 Dowdle, Journal 1844-1908, August 1, 1894, 144.  
8 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 132.
Ward was organized out of College Ward in 1936, it has voted primarily for the Democratic ticket.

Mrs. Eva Dunn Snow recorded that early political rallies in College Ward were a source of entertainment; the children could literally make the air ring when they vigorously joined in singing, "If I lived in a hole in the ground, I'd be a Democrat too." ⁹

At this time the local elections in College Ward became very spirited, and political feelings ran high. In 1892 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., recorded:

On Nov 8 1892 I was run for Justice of the Peace on the Republican ticket of College Precinct to succeed myself, but was defeated by J. C. Dowdle the Democratic candidate he getting 16 votes to my 13. Jas Nelson was also run for constable against Frank Leavitt both receiving the same number of votes respectively Nelson 13 and Leavitt 16. A great deal of abuse and bad talk were indulged in by both sides on election day more especially by Democrats to the disgust of all respectable people. ¹⁰

Also referring to the 1892 elections, John C. Dowdle recorded on November 10, that all of his family attended a "ratification meeting in Logan in honor of the great success of the Democratic party." He said that the city was full of enthusiastic people, torch-light processions, bon fires, songs, speeches, and cheers. The speeches were made from the balcony of the Thatcher Brothers' Bank by the honorable Moses Thatcher, C. Powers, C. H. Hart, George Barber, D. D. W. Fullmer, and Edgar Hansen—all of Logan.

Two days later Dowdle recorded that he and his wife went to Logan and while there witnessed "a very laughable scene." There had been an agreement

¹⁰ Bindrup, "Journal #18," 83-84.
between two men from Hyrum that the losing party would wheel his winning friend from Hyrum to Logan in a wheelbarrow. The loser, a Mr. Bevins, fulfilled his agreement to the winner, Mr. Olvison, and they reached Logan at 3 p.m., led by the Hyrum Democratic and Republican band, and followed by a large procession of citizens under great cheers from both political parties. 11

Another example of the spirited elections and high political feelings in College Ward is shown by the following newspaper articles which appeared in the Logan Nation. The first one appeared on October 5, 1894, with the heading, "More Democratic Work: Report of Two Republicans Who Were Refused Registration."

A report of dishonest registration comes from College, a small settlement near Logan. It is said that on Saturday last he refused to register two men. One was named Brigham Green and had been transferred from Wellsville to College. For some reason best known to himself the deputy registrar refused to accept the transfer and refused to register Mr. Green. The other gentleman is named James Sparrow. He is an old resident, having lived in the valley some twenty years, and in College precinct for sixty days. Yet we are informed he was refused registration on account of being a nonresident. Of course the deputy registrar is a democrat, and of course the gentlemen he refused to register are Republicans, which tells the whole story. Such is the way the democrats intend carrying on an "honest" campaign. 12


EDITOR NATION Sir: - in reading your paper of Oct 5th, I find an artical headed "More Democratic Work." I trust Mr. Editor you will give the other Side of the dishonest registration which took place in that little Settlement near Logan called College Ward. The truth is this Mr. Editor, in the first place,

11 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 118.

Brigham is not a resident of College precinct, he owns neither home nor property in College precinct. In regard to the transfer business. Mr. Green came to Mee on Saturday Sept 29th with a receipt from the registration officer of Wellsville precinct, stating that he was registered there. This was all done after My office was closed. In regard to Mr. Sparrow's case. True that Gentleman has resided in College precinct since it was organized, his home is in Hyrum ward, taking his own word for it, true he been doing work in College precinct. for Some time past, just as he could catch an odd job. Now Mr. Editor I understand that the man that is sworn to do his duty faithfully, Should try and prevent crime and not encourage it. Will you please tell us which is dishonest man, the one that hunts men up from other Settlements, and trys to have them register unlawfully or the man that trys to prevent unlawful proceedings. The article refered to in your paper says these two men are Republicans if so it can't be Democrats that is doing this hearing business. So will you please tell us who is doing the dishonest work. Such is the way the Republicans or trying to carry on their campaign work.

The article was signed "John C. Dowdle, Deputy Registration officer for College precinct." Directly beneath the article was a note from the editor which said:

Before Mr. Dowdle left our office he demanded a promise of us, which we gave, to print his letter exactly as he handed it in. True to our promise, we did so and hope he is satisfied. Our informant, however, informs us he was in the right, and we shall endeavor to produce the proofs later on.14

By a decision of the County Court on May 23, 1859, each precinct in Cache County was also to be a school district. To oversee school affairs, each school district elected three school trustees. When College Ward became a precinct in 1892, they naturally fell under this ruling.15 Young Ward, created out of College Ward in 1936, became a precinct on May 18, 1938.16

13 Ibid., October 12, 1894.
14 Ibid.
15 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 127.
16 Cache County Book "L," located in the Hall of Justice, Logan, Utah, 36.
Copies of some of the early ballots show that often the same man would run on both tickets. For example, in the November 8, 1892, election for school trustees for the College School District, J. D. Nuttall, Lars Sorensen, and John Schenk were the candidates on the Republican ticket. On the Democratic ticket were James Olson, John Schenk, and Jas. D. Nuttall. Two of these men were running on both tickets.¹⁷ (See Appendix for sample ballot.)

On September 20, 1900, James D. Nuttall recorded "going to the Tabernacle to hear Roosevelt speak on Republicanism."¹⁸

Soon after College Ward was organized, the people desired to have their own post office and in 1893 a "Post Office Committee" was formed:

In connection with the Post Office Committee Namely myself, H. J. Jeppson, and James Nelson (who were appointed by the unanimous vote of the brethren of this ward March 7th 1893 to procure a post office for College Ward) we commenced to have a petition drawn up by Bro. W. W. Maughan this date April 1st, 1893.¹⁹

In a newspaper article entitled, "A Pleasant Surprise: A New Meeting House and Post Office for College," it said:

During last summer a petition was forwarded by our people to the post office department at Washington, asking for the post office, and which through the assistance of Attorney W. W. Maughan and Utah's delegate Hon. J. L. Rawlins, has been favorably considered and such office named College has been established with James A. Anderson as postmaster.²⁰

The post office was set up in James A. Anderson's home, in one of the rooms. A curtain divided it from the rest of the house. The Anderson

¹⁷ Bindrup, Journal of Newspaper Clippings and Writings.
¹⁸ James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904.
¹⁹ Bindrup, "Journal #18," 16-17.
²⁰ Logan Nation, January 23, 1894.
home, which has been torn down, was located just west of the present Willis Anderson home.21

Mr. C. C. Bindrup, Jr. of College Ward recorded that the College post office opened on February 12, 1894, and he claimed to have been the first one to mail a letter from it. He said it was sent to Z. W. Israelson, b.Y.A., Provo, Utah. On February 14, 1894, he received a letter from H. P. Hansen who was in Denmark, and he claimed this was the first letter "received out of the post office." 22

James D. Nuttall of College Ward was the first and only mail carrier to carry mail from Logan to College Ward. His wife was a substitute, and carried the mail a great deal. They made two trips a week for mail, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, until November 30, 1904. On December 1, 1904, rural free delivery was started. 23

Just prior to rural free delivery, the post office was located in the southwest corner of the store owned by Bishop C. O. Dunn. Post office equipment had been installed and when the mail was brought (usually by Mrs. Nuttall in a buggy), Jennie Dunn would dispense it into the boxes. 24

The setting up of secular government failed to destroy the predominance of the Mormon Church in Cache Valley politics. The church leaders merely became political leaders also, and gave their sanction to those who met their approval for political office. No evidence has been found to

21Interview with Nettie Schenk Abrams, College Ward, January 15, 1968.
22Bindrup, "Journal #18," 86.
23Dorothy Nuttall, "A Sketch of James Dennis Nuttall's Life."
24Interview with Eva Dunn Snow, Nibley, Utah, June 3, 1968.
indicate that there was ever any wide-spread disapproval of this state of affairs. On the contrary, the mass of the people seemed to accept the guidance of their religious leaders without question.

This was the case in College Ward. The bishop, as the religious leader of the community, came quite inevitably to assume the responsibility of governing in the absence of established secular authority. And, since the communities of College and Young Ward have never incorporated, the bishops have maintained this authority. Several examples will help illustrate this point.

In 1895 the farmers in College Ward decided to form an agricultural organization in order to help them solve some of the difficulties they were encountering with insects, weeds, and so on, in their farming. The bishop at this time, C. O. Dunn, called a meeting and brought in three speakers to explain the purposes and benefits of such an organization, and a motion to organize was made and unanimously passed. Then officers for the new organization were elected. Bishop Dunn was elected as president, receiving 17 votes as compared to 4 votes for Michael Johnson and 1 vote for John Schenk. 25

The following year, on Saturday, February 1, 1896, the Agricultural Society met with Bishop Dunn presiding. Elections for the ensuing year were held and Bishop Dunn was again elected as president. 26

In 1938, Bishop John H. Schenk appointed Jacob Zollinger and Edward Olsen to investigate the benefits and requirements necessary prior to town

25 Notebook containing the minutes of the College Ward Agricultural Society, 1895-1896.
26 Ibid.
incorporation. They consulted attorney Melvin Harris, called a meeting of the ward members, and had Mr. Harris come out and explained it. A petition was circulated and a majority of the people of College Ward were in favor of incorporation. This petition was presented to Mr. Harris, who began work on it. However, the bishop was persuaded by a few of the people to call off the proceedings because they feared losing rural free delivery.

Again in 1963 an attempt was made to incorporate. Bishop Leon J. Zollinger appointed a committee consisting of Merrill V. Hansen, Melvin Ward, and Edward Olsen. A meeting was called, and Mr. Harris again came out and explained incorporation. A petition was passed around the ward and 71 per cent were in favor. Then the bishop, when approached by two outspoken members of the minority, felt it better to discontinue the incorporation attempt rather than disrupt ward unity.27

Summary

Just a few months before the organization of College Ward, the people in the Farmers' Branch were asked to divide politically, with about half becoming Republicans and half Democrats. The organ of the Mormon Church, the powerful People's Party, was being disbanded to give the Utah Territory a better chance at statehood. Thus from the very beginning, College Ward has had two political parties. It is interesting to note that College Ward has been quite strongly Republican, although Young Ward (created out of College Ward in 1936) has been primarily Democratic.

27Interview with Edward Olsen, College Ward, April 9, 1967.
Early elections were very spirited, with political feelings running high. Today the people in the College and Young wards still have strong political views, but since neither community has incorporated, there are no local officials to elect, and the ward bishops have come quite inevitably to assume the responsibility of leadership.
CHAPTER VIII

Economics

Cache Valley is one of the most intensively farmed and densely populated agricultural areas in the Mountain West. Most of the land is under irrigation, and in most respects this rich agricultural valley is well developed. In 1956 it was estimated that agriculture provided direct support for approximately 33 per cent of the valley's population, while manufacturing supported about 8 per cent, construction 6 per cent, and the rest was supported by Utah State University, a variety of supply and service industries, and occupations based mainly on agriculture.¹ The situation today is much the same.

Dairying is the largest source of farm income in the valley and is largely dependent on forage crops. Almost all of the commercial dairy cattle in Cache Valley are Holsteins. In 1954 cows were milked on about 2,895 of the 3,249 farms in the valley. Forty per cent of the farms reported from five to nine cows each.² Thus dairying is a supplemental source of income to many farmers, and also wage-earners, rather than being big businesses to a few families.

Cache Valley's principal crops are alfalfa and other hay, grains, canning crops (peas, beans, and corn), sugar beets, fruits and berries, potatoes, and specialty crops. The poultry industry and fur farming have also developed in the past few decades.

¹Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 247-248.
²Ibid., 251.
Farming meant life itself to the early settlers in the College and Young Ward area. Until around 1950, almost without exception, the people relied on the land for their livelihood.

Dairying

With excellent ranges, it was inevitable that Cache Valley dairy herds should be increased as soon as the valley was prepared to go beyond simple subsistence agriculture. Brigham Young pioneered in this field by establishing the Church Farm south of Logan, on the present College and Young Ward lands. In the years of its operation under Brigham Young's tutelage, the Church Farm initiated Cache Valley's valuable dairy industry.³

Almost all of the early settlers had cows, and those who produced more milk than their family required could sell it to one of the early creameries or condenseries. The first commercial creamery and cheese factory in Cache Valley was established by Lorenzo Hansen at Wellsville in 1889. At first he ran into resistance from farmers who preferred to make their own butter rather than sell their milk, but soon he was buying more and more milk. He enlarged the Wellsville plant in 1891, and built a second plant in Millville in 1892. Three years later he built a third plant in Logan, so by 1895 College Ward farmers⁴ who wished to sell milk had a choice of three plants located in Wellsville, Millville, and Logan. These plants operated until 1904 when the Cache Valley Condensed Milk Company was organized by Mr. Hansen and others, and a condensery was built

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³Ibid., 211-212.
⁴Keep in mind that College Ward included Young Ward until 1936.
in Logan. From 1904 until 1931 the farmers from College Ward had a choice of selling their milk to the Wellsville plant, which Mr. Hansen had sold to the Western Milk Company or to the Logan plant, which became the property of the Borden Company in 1912 and was operated until 1952.

In 1931 the Cache County Farm Bureau Dairy Cooperative Association was organized by approximately 1,000 Cache Valley dairymen in order to bargain with the large milk processing companies in Wellsville, Logan and Richmond. The Association later incorporated as the Cache Valley Dairy Association and bought the sugar factory at Amalga in 1941 and converted it into a cheese plant. The enterprise was successful from the start and by 1952 was processing almost half of the milk produced in Cache Valley. After the organization of the Cache Valley Dairy Association, almost all of the farmers in the College and Young wards sent their milk to Amalga.

Irrigation

Though they faced many problems and untold hours of labor, the early pioneers turned the semi-arid Cache Valley into one of the best-watered valleys in the west.

Settlers signed the leases for the lands comprising the Church Farm (this area later became the College and Young wards) in the fall of 1878, and moved onto the land in the spring of 1879. A canal, beginning near

5Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 216.

6The name was later changed to Morning Milk Company. In 1946, the Carnation Milk Company bought the plant. It was subsequently sold to the Clearfield Cheese Company.

7Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 253-254.
the present Utah By-Products Company, was built that same spring by 43 men.8

It took a great deal of hard work with the teams and much hard labor to dig the canal. In addition, some rather large and long flumes had to be constructed. It was difficult to stop the leaks and get the flumes placed and braced properly. This canal watered the land in the north part of the settlement, but water was also needed for the central area and some of the southern section. The head of another canal was located near the bridge over the Blacksmith Fork River in Hibley. This canal also took a great deal of effort to dig. The settlers in the southern section obtained irrigation water from the West Millville ditch. Later, flowing wells were dug and excellent water was available for culinary purposes, and this greatly aided the settlers.9

College Ward Agricultural Society

Farming during the late 19th century and the early 20th century seemed to offer more than the usual amount of challenges and hardships in trying to combat the uncertainties of Mother Nature. In one of his journals, John C. Dowdle recorded:

Stock not doing well. The spring came very dry, and continued so most of the year. Much of the seed grain molded in the ground, causing great loss to crops. We lost at least 50% of our crop this season on this account.10

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8 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., Spring Creek Irrigation District Watermaster's Record Book, 1895-1896.

9 Laveta Wallace, compiler, "History of Cache County," Special Collections Library, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, 77.

10 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," January 1, 1890, 51.
To better understand their problems and to try to find solutions, the farmers organized the College Ward Agricultural Society on March 8, 1895. The farmers met in the school in College Ward. After an opening song and prayer, Bishop Charles O. Dunn spoke about the purposes for organizing an agricultural society, then introduced Professor A. A. Mills, J. E. Price, and Richard Jessop, who each spoke concerning the benefits derived from such societies. These men were apparently very convincing, because a motion was made and unanimously carried that an agricultural society be organized in the ward. Professor Mills then took charge of the meeting and took charge of the election of officers. C. C. Bindrup was elected as secretary, Bishop C. O. Dunn as president, Michael Johnson as vice president, and John Schenk as treasurer. The first members of the executive committee were James Nielson, Christina Larson, James Olsen, Sr., and John C. Dowdle. The newly-elected president, C. O. Dunn, then stated that he felt the new organization would be of great help in solving the problems common to the local farmers. Professor Mills then gave notice of the Cache County Agricultural Society Convention in Logan on March 9, 1895, and a letter was read on the State of Utah constitutional proposition concerning water rights. It was announced that the next meeting would be March 16, 1895. A vote of thanks was extended to the visitors, and the meeting was closed with a song and a prayer by Joseph Bastow. So recorded C. C. Bindrup, Jr., secretary.¹¹

¹¹Minutes of the College Ward Agricultural Society.

Some of the farmers in the College and Young areas have continued to be interested in groups that further the interests of the farmer. Some belong to the Farm Bureau, while others are affiliated with the Farmers' Union.
Today the size of the College and Young Ward farms seems to be following the trend creeping across the United States; that is, get enough land to make your farming operation large enough to justify the cost of the equipment necessary for your work, or sell your small farm. This is hard for many in the College-Young area to do because they were raised on the farm, their philosophy is basically conservative, and they feel more secure with their small share of the old family homestead. A few of the farmers are buying more land, but most feel they are too old to be expanding, so they try to earn a living with what they have, or get another job and try to run their farm on the side. There are also some who sell eggs, while a few have gone into fur farming. However, today as in the past, the communities of College and Young wards are very much dependent on farming for their bread and butter.

The Sugar Industry

Shortly after arriving in Utah the Mormons wanted to develop their own sugar industry because of the high cost of imported sugar, which varied from 60¢ to $1.00 per pound. John Taylor was sent to Europe to investigate the possibilities, and through his efforts machinery for manufacturing sugar was sent to Utah. The machinery cost $12,500.00 and was designed in England. It was sent to New Orleans in April of 1852, and then on to Fort Leavenworth by river barge. The new equipment was loaded onto wagons drawn by 52 teams of oxen for the painful journey to Utah. The machinery was installed in a large building on the outskirts of Salt Lake City, and this area was later known as "Sugarhouse."

It turned out to be a very disappointing investment because instead of the pure white crystalline sugar they had hoped for, they were rewarded with
a syrup so strong that it would "take off the end of your tongue."

After this experience, the pioneers waited nearly 40 years for a successful sugar factory. In 1891, when there were less than half a dozen sugar beet factories operating in the United States, a factory was constructed at Lehi, Utah. During this same period the United States government was doing extensive research on the raising of sugar beets. Beets were planted in selected sites and sent to the government experiment stations for testing. In 1897 Cache Valley farms were tested, and the results gave indication that sugar beets would do well in the valley. Because of this report, the people of Cache Valley took much greater interest in the sugar beet industry.12

Wilford Nielson recorded in his diary some interesting observations on early beet raising in College Ward. He said, "It seemed that as the children became old enough to work, thinning sugar beets was where they started." He also recorded that two years before the sugar factory was built in College Ward his father was hauling his sugar beets to Logan to be shipped to Ogden.13

The first sugar factory in Cache Valley was built just south of the Blacksmith Fork River, west of the present Highway 91, in College Ward. David Eccles and C. W. Nibley, owners of the Ogden sugar factory, realized the possibilities of a sugar factory in Cache Valley and came to look for a site. The possible building locations were gradually eliminated until only two remained, one at Lewiston and the other in College Ward. After a great

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13 J. Wilford Nielsen, Personal History.
deal of controversy it was decided to build in College Ward, on the Mark Fletcher farm south of Logan.

By January, 1901, the blue prints were ready and bids were let. The factory was to be completed that summer in time for the fall crop with an opening date scheduled for the first of November. Early figures indicated that the factory would produce upwards of 500,000 pounds of sugar that season. The plant did not begin operations as planned, but did open at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning, November 12, and according to the workmen "not a hitch or a jar of any kind occurred." In the beginning, the plant operators hoped to run through 350 tons of beets daily. The first season proved to be very successful, with production totaling 45,000 bags of sugar weighing 100 pounds each. The factory closed for the season on January 26, 1902. 14

The new sugar factory was of paramount importance to the farmers in the College and Young area. The local farmers planted as much as half of their farms into sugar beets. Not only was the sugar factory an outlet for the sale of a cash crop and a place for many of the men to find employment during the slack winter season, but as David L. Olsen records in his diary, many cattle buyers would meet the seller at the sugar factory to take advantage of the scales to weigh the animal and thus conduct the business in a very exact manner. Because of the extremely muddy conditions in the spring of the year, many farmers would go to the sugar factory to get cinders to be used in the mud holes to keep from sinking in the excess mire. 15

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14 Price, "The Sugar Beet Industry in Cache Valley."
15 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.
In the 1920's an infestation of nematode in Cache Valley began a decline in sugar beet culture that has never been halted. In order to carry out a program to arrest the disease, it was recommended that not more than 25 per cent of the land be planted in beets at any one time. A survey of lands in Cache Valley in 1943 showed only 36,000 acres of land suitable for the raising of sugar beets. The peak of production came in 1920 with a total of 25,897 acres. Acreage began declining during the 1920's, and production dropped from the peak of 25,897 harvested acres in 1920 to a low of 2,874 harvested acres in 1951.

The sugar factory in College Ward, opened and operated by the Amalgamated Sugar Company, was built in 1901, closed in 1926, and remained idle until 1936 when it was dismantled and sold as junk. However, the factory has continued to serve as a storage depot for beets until they could be hauled to the Lewiston factory, and as an outlet where beet pulp and syrup can be purchased. During the 25 years of the operation, the Logan plant handled 1,500,000 bags of sugar of 100 pounds each.

At one time, there were five sugar factories in Cache Valley, with four operating at the same time. Now there is one, located at Lewiston and owned by the Amalgamated Sugar Company.

Wilford Nielsen of College Ward worked at several different jobs at the local sugar factory, and he described several of them. At his job in the boiler room, long-handled shovels were used to remove the ashes from the furnace and place them in large wheel barrows. They were then wheeled

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16 Price, "The Sugar Beet Industry in Cache Valley."
17 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 255.
up a plank to the top of the ash pile and dumped. At that job he also passed coal to the firemen.

From there he went to firing. It was a hot job and very tiring. During his 12-hour shift he shoveled 22 to 24 tons of coal. One of the duties of the firemen was to "pull" the fires two to five times a day to get the clinkers out of the fire. As one man would rake the clinkers out, another man was waiting with a water hose to cool them down. As the water hit the hot coals the men had to keep out of the way of the hot steam that would shoot up from them.

Occasionally a man would go to the factory seeking a few hours of work. One time when Wilford tried this, he was given an 18-hour shift of passing coal. He said it wasn't so bad when the pile of coal in the boiler room was large, because it would then cover most of the floor and they could shovel it directly to the firemen. But as the pile wore down they had to shovel the coal into wheelbarrows and wheel it across the room to the firemen. He said it was especially bad when there were only two men for a three-man job.18

During the summer of 1967 it was rumored by some in College Ward that the sugar factory in Lewiston might close unless more people would raise sugar beets. Mr. Theadore Zilles, in a priesthood meeting in College Ward, expressed a real concern that the valley might lose its only remaining sugar factory if more beets were not raised. Mr. Q. W. (Bill) Hansen of College Ward, an employee of the Lewiston sugar factor, has indicated some apprehension about the future of the company.19

18 J. Wilford Nielsen, Personal History.
19 Interview with Q. W. Hansen, College Ward, March 29, 1968.
The Williams' Store

Since Logan was only a few miles away, most of the early College Warders did their trading and shopping in Logan. However, in the late 1800's William Williams, a Mormon convert from West Virginia, moved into College Ward and built a small store. It was located between the present homes of John L. Green and George F. Abrams. Since the Green home served as a school house from 1883 until 1905, the store was a handy place for the boy or girl who might have an egg to spend for candy during recess.

Mr. Williams' daughter, Helena, and her husband, Ezra Buchanan, later ran the store. It was subsequently sold to Bishop Charles O. Dunn, and his daughter Jennie ran it for awhile. During the time the Dunns owned the store, the post office was located in the southwest corner of the store. Post office equipment was installed, and when Mrs. Elizabeth Nuttall brought the mail from Logan (twice weekly), Jennie Dunn would sort it into the boxes.

When Bishop Dunn's son, Levi, got married the store was fixed up as a house for him (in 1904), and he lived there a short time. Afterwards, Japanese farm workers lived in the building. Later, John Miles, a friend of the Dunns, lived there. Eventually the building was torn down.

Hansen Livestock Company

Shortly after the sugar factory was built in College Ward in 1901, the Hansen Livestock Company, owned by Lars Hansen, moved into the area just west of the sugar factory. The attraction for the livestock company was the availability of free beet pulp. This cattle operation grew rapidly and became very successful. At its peak there were 4,500 head of cattle,

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20 Interview with Eva Dunn Snow, Nibley, Utah, June 3, 1968.
which were enclosed in 12 big fenced corrals. Twenty head of horses were used in feeding the cattle. Some of the hired men lived in bunk houses.

This cattle company became a real asset to the farmers in the College-Young area. Not only was the company a convenient buyer for their cattle, but it provided jobs for some of the men in the off-season, hauling straw and beet pulp, often for $1.00 per day. Many farmers would cut wild hay to be hauled and sold to the livestock company during the winter months. The livestock company left the area around 1915.21

Slaughter House

In the early 1900's a slaughter house was built in College Ward by Steven Hailstone. It was one of the first to be built in Cache Valley, and was located on the west side of the present Highway 91, across the road from the present Utah By-Products Company. The business was later owned by Bill Gibbons. Bill Gibbons' son, Virgil, recalls working with his father in the slaughter house. They had the facilities to kill to beef (or other animal) and then store the meat and keep it cold. Ice was used at first, and later ammonia, to keep the meat cold. Mr. Gibbons claims that they were the first in this area to use ammonia cooling.

The building is still standing, although the original building was torn down when the present one was built. Close inspection will reveal heavy logs filled with saw dust to help insulate the cooler room. The slaughter house is no longer in use and the building is now used as a farm building.22

22 Interview with Virgil Gibbons, Nibley, Utah, January 24, 1968.
Service Stations

Though small, College Ward has had three service stations. Because Highway 91 runs through College Ward, the stations were able to maintain themselves with local and tourist trade.

To the people of College Ward the term "service station" has meant many things. To a farmer it meant gasoline and oil to operate his tractor and farm machinery. To the housewife it meant a place to buy a loaf of bread to tide her over until she made a trip to Logan. To the children it meant a place for ice cream, soda pop, and bubble gum. One of the most important functions of the service stations was to lend itself to the men in the ward as a sounding board for their political views. Because College and Young wards have never been incorporated, they have no town boards; hence, many political and civic discussions were held in the service stations. Young Ward had no service station, so the people came up to the Mother settlement for some of the cultural advantages. For many residents of the ward the stations were fix-it shops, and everything from bikes to trucks was brought in.

The first service station built in College Ward was a joint effort between Delno Olsen and Merrill V. Hansen. It was called the "College Service," and was built in 1923 at the head of the Spring Creek on the west side of Highway 91. It was started in March and was open for business the latter part of May. The following year, 1924, Merrill V. Hansen was called on a mission for the L.D.S. Church, and during his stay in the mission field his father bought out Delno Olsen's share and ran the station himself. When Merrill came back from the mission field, he bought the station from his father. Under his proprietorship the service station became a successful business. In 1967, on Labor Day, he closed the station and retired.
Subsequently he sold the establishment to Deloy Zilles of College Ward and Courtney Jensen of Young Ward, who plan to continue to operate the station and, in addition, sell snow mobiles. 23

Andrew Nelson, with encouragement from his wife, built a service station in the southern section of the ward. It was built by his home, on the east side of Highway 91, opposite the present College Ward church house.

This station was originally a one-room building used for the purpose of selling gasoline and homemade ice cream. In the early 1930's Mr. Nelson added a mechanic's garage to the one-room service station. 24

Various men ran the station, and then in January of 1950 Clifford Hansen bought it. Mr. Hansen, as others before him, sold gasoline, confections, and groceries, and offered his mechanical services to his customers. He closed the station in 1967 and it is still closed. 25

A third service station was built in College Ward by Bert G. Russell in 1963. It is located where the Nibley-College Ward road joins Highway 91. In 1967 Mr. Russell sold the station to Owen R. Yeates. 26

Pea Viner

A pea viner was constructed in 1929 on the lower College Ward road, west of Highway 91, which runs from the College Ward church house to the present Duane Cox home. The farmers were encouraged to raise peas to support the local industry, and a great many of them did, as peas were a

23 Interview with Merrill V. Hansen, College Ward, May 28, 1968.
24 Interview with Lillie A. Zilles, College Ward, February 3, 1968
25 Interview with Clifford Hansen, College Ward, May 21, 1968.
cash crop and there was a handy pea viner. The viner also provided jobs for some of the local men and boys.

In the late 1940's, growing peas began to decline. The local farmers found that our area was too flat and that sometimes when the peas were irrigated, the water would stand on them too long, get hot, and scald the peas. They also felt there was not much money in peas. In addition, the College Ward pea viner closed around 1950 and so the peas had to be hauled elsewhere. In the early 1950's, Glen H. Hansen bought the pea viner and converted it into a cattle shed.

Today those in Cache Valley who still raise peas take advantage of the new portable pea viners. However, raising peas has become almost a thing of the past in the College-Young area. 27

Utah By-Products Company

In 1931 the Utah By-Products Company was established in College Ward for the purpose of buying "dead and useless animals." They located on the east side of the present Highway 91, on the south side of the Blacksmith Fork River. The establishment is still in operation. 28

Draper Egg Route

In 1936 George F. Abrams of College Ward began hauling eggs for the Draper Egg Company. At first he would pick up eggs from this area on Mondays, take them to Draper, Utah, and bring back chicken feed. The

27 Interviews with LaRue Jardine, Smithfield, Utah, March 18, 1968; and Glen H. Hansen, College Ward, June 3, 1968

number of pick-ups and also the area covered were later increased. Mr. Abrams built a large garage for storing the chicken feed and also for his truck. About 1956 he sold out to two of his sons, Dean and LaVar. 29

**Jensen Brothers' Herefords**

In 1936 Ray Jensen of Young Ward and two of his sons, Marriner and Van, formed a partnership which dealt in purebred hereford cattle. The Jensen Brothers' bulls have become famous and they have won many championship ribbons. The bulls have been sold all over the Intermountain area, and as far east as South Dakota. On one occasion, in 1952, the Jensens sold a bull at Red Bluffs, California, for $11,500.00. This was the highest amount ever paid at the Red Bluffs auction for one bull.

The partnership now includes Ray Jensen and his sons Van, Neil, and Gail. Marriner has his own cattle operation near Montpelier, Idaho. 30

**Central Potato Growers' Association**

On June 19, 1941, a meeting was held at the Owen Jenson home for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of organizing a potato co-op. Those attending the meeting were: Hyrum Gibbons, Bert W. Olsen, Dwight Z. Ward, Owen Jenson, Gilbert Saunders, Ernest Speth, and David L. Olsen. They felt that the building of a potato pit would mean an economic advantage to the members, and that by organizing they could make more money when selling their potatoes, and also save money on seed.

After some discussion, it was agreed that in constructing the cellar $6.00 per day would be paid for a man and four horses. The charter

29 Interview with George F. Abrams, College Ward, March 21, 1968.
members also agreed that anyone wanting membership in the association would be required to present a written application for membership, which would need to be approved by the board. Each member was assessed $1.00 to buy a record book and other necessary items.\textsuperscript{31}

On August 18, 1941, the members (who were primarily from the College and Young wards) met again at the home of Owen Jenson. They decided to get poles for the building of the cellar from the west hills in Cache Valley. It was decided to pay stockholders $4.50 per day when working in the mountains. For trucking it was agreed to pay $4.50 per day, plus 5\textcent{} per mile.\textsuperscript{32}

A meeting was held at the home of Owen Jenson on November 19, 1941, and it was decided to call the new organization the Central Potato Growers' Association of Cache Valley. At this meeting Hyrum Gibbons read the laws of the incorporation and they were approved by the stockholders. The board members thought it was advisable to dig a well for the cellar, since one would be needed in the washing operation of the potatoes.\textsuperscript{33}

The cellar was built during the summer of 1942 and open for storage of the 1942 potato crop. This venture proved highly successful and not only did it provide a bargaining agent for higher prices for the potatoes, but it provided work for anyone that needed a job in the winter, preparing the potatoes for selling. At the writing of this paper the Central Potato Organization is still in operation, but seems to be slowly dying.

\textsuperscript{31}Central Potato Growers' Association Minute Book.
\textsuperscript{32}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{33}Ibid.
Spring Creek Drive-In

In 1947 Dwain Johnson, a resident of College Ward, built a small hamburger stand to serve the people of the College and Young wards, as well as tourists and others traveling along Highway 91. This investment proved so successful that in 1949 Mr. Johnson expanded his operation into a drive-in with four booths and six stools at the counter. The drive-in theater that opened in the spring of 1948 made the Spring Creek Drive-In even more popular.

The drive-in was a real boon to the area, and good food could always be obtained, in addition to groceries and other items. It also became a social gathering place for the old as well as the young.

Mrs. Rachel Olsen of College Ward was employed at the drive-in during most of its existence. She got the autograph of Tex Ritter on one occasion when he stopped at the drive-in and also met other well-known people.

The new four-lane divided highway, constructed in 1957, was one of the factors that killed the drive-in's business. The highway was raised three feet, leaving the drive-in almost in a hole, which was very difficult to get out of and back up onto the highway in the winter. Also, it was illegal for cars to cross over the division of the highway. In addition, the drive-in theater closed about this time, and this cut business even further, and eventually the Spring Creek Drive-In closed for good. 34

Logan Drive-In Theater

This author remembers when a representative for the Harris-Voeller Theaters came to College Ward looking for a possible building site for a

34 Interview with Dwain Johnson, College Ward, February 3, 1968.
drive-in theater. He stopped at the Glen H. Hansen farm and offered $100.00 to someone who would help him find a building site for a theater. Dell (Brownie) Hansen, Glen's brother, was there and took the man up on his offer. The land finally decided upon was owned primarily by Gilbert Saunders, while a small part was owned by Nephi Nielson. It was located east of Highway 91, about two and one half miles south of Logan. This land was purchased in June and July of 1947, and the Logan Drive-In Theater opened in the spring of 1948.35

The drive-in theater was very successful for some time, perhaps because it was new to the area, and the only one around. For the people of the College-Young area it provided a near-by theater and some good entertainment. Many of the young boys would go almost nightly to the drive-in. They would sneak in the back way and enjoy a good movie. If the weather was cold the young trespassers would crawl into their warm sleeping bags.

In the late 1950's the drive-in theater closed, and in 1963 it was sold to an auto wrecking company.

South West Auto Parts

An auto wreckage business was established by Nate Wybold in College Ward in the mid-1950's, just north of the potato cellar, and on the east side of the road that runs from College Ward to the Twelfth Ward. The Logan-Blacksmith Fork River formed the northern border of the wreckage establishment, which was named the South West Auto Parts.

In 1963 Mr. Wybold bought the Logan Drive-In Theater and moved his

auto wrecking business to the new location. Today the South West Auto Parts is still operating, but under new management.

Utah State University Animal Science Farm

In 1961 Utah State University purchased about 235 acres of land in College Ward, at $500.00 per acre, to be used as an animal science farm. The land was purchased from Melvin Z. Ward, Dwight Z. Ward, Theadore Zilles, Lee Capener, and Ronald Dee Jenson. Mr. Zilles' records indicate the sale was made on September 27, 1961.

The farm is used for experimentation with farm animals and also as a place where university animal husbandry students can gain practical experience in working with animals.

Summary

The first settlers in the College and Young Ward area relied almost exclusively on farming and dairying for their livelihood. Today many of the people live in the communities and hold jobs elsewhere, but the majority are still tied partially or wholly to the land. There have been a few small businesses in College Ward, but most have been short-lived.

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36 Assessor's Office, Cache County Courthouse, Logan, Utah, Assessment Roll Ledger.
CHAPTER IX

Life of the People

The life of the people during the period of College Ward's early history was very different than life as we know it today. Money was quite scarce, and "trading" was often done with goods rather than cash. James D. Nuttall, in his 1886-1888 diary, frequently recorded going to town with a sack or two of wheat, a "piece of butter," a "dressed chicken," a "dressed pig," or eggs to trade. Bills were often paid in produce. On one occasion Mr. Nuttall mentioned taking a sack of wheat to pay the blacksmith. Another time he recorded helping Will Webb haul manure for two and a half days for which he received a "pair of blankets for pay." And on May 27, 1887, he got 100 feet of lumber for two pigs from Walter Humphreys.

The stores apparently kept a running account, and the customers would pay as quickly as they could, either in cash or produce, or both. On November 11, 1886, Mr. Nuttall recorded:

I took my wife to Providence to do some trading. I took 3 sacks of oats. We got 1 pair of Boots for Thomas, a pair of blankets, etc. Run in debt 6.50 which I expect to pay in about a week.3

In the November 27, 1897, issue of The Logan Nation, John H. Anderson, proprietor of the People's Store, ran this advertisement: "Cheapest Store In the Country. Call and be Convinced." The ad told of the large assortment

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1James D. Nuttall, Diary 1886-1888, November 27, 1886.
2Ibid., November 16-18, 1886.
3Ibid., November 11, 1886.
of shoes, hats, lamps, glassware, dry goods, boys' clothing, and also all kinds of fish that the store carried. It concluded with: "Highest price paid for Eggs, Butter, and Beeswax." 4

Not all of the shopping took place in stores. John C. Dowdle mentioned various peddlers in his journals. On February 1, 1898, he recorded that James Lewis, the "trinket pedler," came in the evening, and they purchased "some small articals" from him. 5 On another occasion he recorded that Mr. Neal, the grocery driver, and his partner came. They wanted supper and lodging, so the Dowdles boarded them for the night. 6 Staying with various families was apparently quite common among the peddlers and salesmen. Mr. Roberts, the sewing machine agent, boarded with the Dowdles for a week in 1887, 7 and on June 21, 1907, Dowdle recorded, "Mr. Simerson the Spice Padler came this evening on his Sercit. He stoped over night with us." 8

Even eyeglasses could be obtained at home. Dr. Jones of Logan, the "oculust," called on the Dowdles one evening, and it was later recorded, "Ma traded him out of a pair of glasses by trading in some old ones." 9

Books, although expensive, were also occasionally purchased from peddlers. The Dowdles purchased a three-volume set of the "Encicloped of the

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4 Bindrup, Journal of Newspaper Clippings and Writings.
5 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 194.
6 Ibid., May 18, 1906, 260.
7 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," March 21-25, 1887, 46.
8 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 311.
9 Ibid., September 10, 1907, 276.
Bible for $14.75 from a book salesman, Mr. Carroll, in 1906. Another College Ward resident paid $7.00 for a Dot-Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary. Items such as sewing machines and organs were highly prized possessions in the late 1800's. Dowdle, Bindrup, and Nuttall all recorded owning sewing machines, and the Nuttall and Dowdle families were each the proud possessors of an organ.

It is interesting to compare some of the prices paid for goods in the late 1800's with our present prices. On February 8, 1887, James D. Nuttall sold a dressed pig for 44¢ per pound. The pig weighed 167 pounds, making the total price $7.51. On November 7, 1902, he purchased potatoes for 20¢ per bushel.

Following are some of the prices that were prevalent in 1891: ducks, per pound, 10¢; chicken, per pound, 20¢; eggs, per dozen, 18¢; butter, per pound, 18¢; one bushel of carrots, 30¢; 60 pounds of cabbage, 30¢; 2 pigs, $3.00; one calf, $5.00.

C. C. Bindrup, Jr., gave his father a suit of clothes in 1889 as a Christmas gift, the total cost being $14.00. He bought both a hat and a shirt for $1.25 on May 8, 1890, and a new cart for $25.00 with a harness for $12.00 on July 1, 1890. A carriage lap robe cost him $1.00, and on

10 Ibid., May 24, 1906, 261.
12 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1886-1888.
13 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1899-1904.
October 11, 1890, he recorded paying $13.75 for a "coffin and shoes for Joe."  

Land prices varied then, of course, as they do now. Mr. Bindrup recorded paying $22.50 per acre for some land purchased on November 25, 1890, while he paid $37.50 per acre for a 14-acre piece of land a month later. On November 24, 1891, he paid $4.25 in taxes on a 10-acre piece of land.  

A ton of hay was valued at about $5.00 in 1891, while the price of wheat was around 65¢ per bushel and oats $1.50 per bushel. In 1890 a ton of coal cost $6.60.  

Interest rates paid by Mr. Bindrup in the early 1890's were generally 12 to 12½ per cent. He expressed pleasure at one time, after making an interest payment, that the interest from then on was "only to be 12%."  

In 1891, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., paid 25¢ a month for a total of $3.00 per year, for his share of the "Defense Fund." He recorded paying for the Defense Fund in 1892 also.

Medical Services  
The early settlers in Utah generally relied on prayer, in addition to home remedies, to cure their ills. A definite prejudice against physicians, who often obtained their titles by paying a few dollars for a diploma, was often expressed by high L.D.S. Church authorities in open meetings. On

16 Ibid., 11, 12, 20.
17 Ibid., 12-13, 25.
18 C. C. Bindrup, Jr., "Miscellaneous Book," December 17, 1892, 12.
January 3, 1858, Mormon President Brigham Young said, "I would send for the Elders for I do not believe in the doctors. I would rather call upon the Lord." On another occasion he said, "There is a class of people here that do not believe in sustaining professional doctors. I am one of them." 20

And on September 8, 1862, an article in the Deseret News stated:

Two physicians have moved to one of the more distant settlements and gone to farming. Three have taken to traveling and exploring the country. Three have gone to California to dig gold, and one has gone to distilling. Those few who remained have very little practice and soon will have less, we hope. 21

From the foregoing it is obvious that the early citizens of Utah received a very inferior type of medical service. Brigham Young finally saw the deplorable condition and financed several men and women to some of the best medical schools in the country. Unfortunately, the first of these did not return to practice until 1871. 22

Very little is recorded about the early medical services in Cache Valley. Those who treated the sick made their own medications and salves using herbs, rhubarb, senna bark, wild cherry, calomel, quinine, and lobelia. An early advertisement for lobelia stated: "Lobelia, so much like intelligence, you need not inquire of the patient where or what the nature of his complaints, give Lobelia and it will find the disease." 23

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21 Ibid., 122.

22 Ibid., 123.

23 Ibid., 125.
cough syrup was a mixture of a pint of vinegar and molasses, while honey, red pepper, and butter was prescribed for sore throat.

Dr. Hughes, who began practice in Mendon about 1862, was an herb doctor, and all of his services were free. In 1872, Dr. C. C. Ormsby, M.D., started practice in Logan, and with D. T. Riter opened the first drug store in Cache Valley.24

By the turn of the century, the people in Cache Valley began having more faith and respect for those practicing the art of healing. Various types of operations were undertaken although there were no hospitals at this time. A room in the home was used with the kitchen table serving as the operating table. This was the case when Bishop Charles O. Dunn's leg was amputated in 1907, as was mentioned in Chapter III. He was placed on the dining table and Dr. Frank Cutler of Logan amputated the offending limb, which the older Dunn boys buried in the southeast part of their lot.25

In preparation for these early operations, a room in the home was generally made ready by washing the walls with bichloride, then the room was sprayed with a weak solution of carbolic acid, the sheets boiled, rinsed in a bichloride solution, wrung out, and the patient draped with wet sheets. Chloroform was the most commonly used anesthetic, although spinal anesthesia was used in some cases as early as 1903.26

The first hospital in Logan was started in 1903 by Dr. D. C. Budge and Dr. Calderwood. It was located on the corner of Second West and

24Ibid., 126.
26Budge, "Early History of Medicine in Utah and Cache Valley," 128.
Center Street, with seven beds and one operating room.  

The people in College Ward, as elsewhere, had their own favorite remedies for various sicknesses. James D. Nuttall took a "dose of mustard" and had a mustard plaster on his back and chest for an ailment he had. Another time he recorded taking some eggs to town to trade for "some honey for LeRoy's cough." On various occasions he reported going to town for "a bottle of humbug oil for the children." In August of 1886, 1887, and 1888 he told of going to get hops and chokecherries. However, perhaps the resulting product was for purposes other than medicinal.

Diptheria was a much dreaded disease. John C. Dowdle recorded the following "Receipts for Diptheria" in one of his journals:

No. 1

Allum burned. Saltpetre, powdered sulphur, loaf sugar. Mixed in equal parts (dry). Powder each one separately as fine as it is possible to get them. Then mix all together.

Directions for useing. Press down the tong with the handle of a spoon. So that you are able to get at the tonsils of the throat. Then sprinkle on the throat, freely of the powder. By putting a little on the handle of another spoon and shake it on the tonsils.

No. 2

Copper as (green unslacked). Burn on a stove lid or something like that. Then pulverize powdered sulphur, burnt allum, take of these equal parts, put them in a half pint of warm water, with one tea cup full of white sugar. Bottle tightly. Shake well before using.

Directions for useing. Give of the liquid one fourth of a teaspoonful every hour. Wet the outside of the throat with saltpetre water to keep down fever. Change these cloths every 2 or 3 minutes. (Use cold)

27 Ibid., 129.
28 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1886-1888, April 24, 1886.
29 Ibid., April 23, 1887.
To Prevent Diptheria. Take of the above liquid, one teaspoonful, once a week or oftener if thought best.30

Midwives rendered an invaluable service during the early period of College Ward's history and up through the early part of the 1900's. Some of the earliest midwives were Letitia Dunn, Christina Larson, Elizabeth Nuttall, Alice H. Olsen, and Mary Ann Dowdle. These women were kind and capable, and in addition to caring for the mother and baby at birth, more often than not they would take the place of a hired girl for a week, doing the housework, preparing and serving the meals, and assisting the older children in the family.31 Edward Olsen recalls that his mother, Alice Hansen Olsen, helped to deliver 92 babies, and "never lost one." Her first delivery was when she was 24 years old, and was one of two deliveries she made alone.32

When death did occur in the ward, the mens' bodies were prepared for burial by the brethren in the ward, while the ladies' and childrens' bodies were prepared by the sisters. The coffins were home-made. John C. Dowdle recorded helping make the coffin for his sister-in-law, Janet Dowdle, when she died on April 26, 1892.33

C. C. Bindrup, Jr., paid $6.00 for a headstone when his infant daughter died in 1912, and also $7.00 for "coffin cedar."34

In February of 1865, a great many years before his death, John C. Dowdle wrote in his journal what he wanted to have at his funeral. It gives an

33Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 129.
34Bindrup, "Petty Ledger," 78.
interesting insight into the funeral preparations at that time.

I heare wish to state what I would wish to have done at my Funeral. I would be greatly pleased, in the first place, for my kindred and friends to be positive that my spirit has left my body, or that I am dead.

Directions for my burial. Have my coffin made at home and that out of the best Tuck pine lumber and lined in side with clean white muslin and covered out side with some sort of cloth or some sort of natural paint that is white and see that it is kept clean and neet--cherry or Rose wood.

The preparation of my body. See that it is washed clean and that it is dressed in my temple clothing providing that I am found worthy of them. See that there is plenty of holes in the bottom of my coffin so that there is plenty of opportunity for it to leak.

In regard to the funeral servasses. In this matter let the priesthood dictate. To please me would be to speak of me as I have lived. It seems that I would be greatly pleased, if there would be no weeping over me with either kindred and friends. Pleas dont sing any solame funeral hymns, but you may sing all the beautiful songs of Zion that you wish, let all be cherfull. But lay me down in peace and ask the slan-derer to let my "Ashs alone."

Erect no great monument to my memmory but a simple slab will anser, put on such an epataff as you think suitable.35

Mr. Dowdle then went on to admonish his family, kindred, and friends to live good, righteous lives and to train their children likewise. He further ad-monished them to give their children as good an education as their circum-stances would permit, and to have their children "make their mark high and live to it." He concluded by saying: "If it is canvenant, I wish to be buried in my Burying Ground at Willard City, Boxelder Co, Utah. If I should be too far away it will not matter."36

35Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 50.
36Ibid., 51.
Dentistry

Teeth were also sometimes a problem. On January 16, 1889, Mr. Dowdle recorded:

Repored the sled tong. Had Corn cake and milk for dinner. This was very pleasing to me. Weather for the past few days has been very stormy. Snow falling about six inches. Very pleasant in the afternoon. Mah singing and knitting all day. Eliza having a good rub over the old wash tub. Han sniveling over the naughty tooth ache. 37

The next day Hannah went to Logan and had three offending teeth "drawn."

There must have been someone in College Ward who gave haircuts, probably in their home, because it was recorded that Sam Dowdle went to the "College Ward barber shop" on December 21, 1894. 38 However, most of the boys probably got their haircuts at home in the early days. James D. Nuttall recorded "shingling" three of his boys on January 27, 1888. 39

Perhaps the following was also a noteworthy event: "I went to the slough this afternoon. Had a fine cold water bath." 40

Photographs were important to the early settlers. On May 22, 1893, Dowdle recorded: "Mary Ann and I went to Logan with Eliza and Frank to have their likenesses taken." 41 Frank and Eliza D. Leavitt left the next day to make their home in Canada. On January 17, 1906, a Sister Nestley visited the Dowdle family and "took a snap shot at our parlor, with her snap jack arrangement." 42

37 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," 51.
38 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 161.
40 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1894," July 22, 1892, 112.
41 Ibid., May 22, 1893, 131.
42 Dowdle, "Journal 1844-1908," 239.
Small things brought a great deal of pleasure to some of these seasoned pioneers. On Valentine's Day in 1906, John C. Dowdle recorded how pleased he was with the valentines his grandchildren had made for him. He also mentioned receiving a beautiful valentine from his older brother, Robert, "consisting of his foto, and a part of his family and his residence, all in one group." He was "very much pleased" with his valentines. 43

On Mr. Dowdle's wife's 44th birthday he recorded:

Mary Ann was presented on this event with a very fine watch (Time piece) by myself. She seemed very much pleased with it as much so as a 3 year old girl would be with a doll baby. 44

Sugar Beets

Sugar beets were a popular crop in the College Ward area after the sugar factory was started. In his diary, Orville E. Nelson gave a detailed description of how he used to help cultivate sugar beets. He and his brother, Wilford, would hitch Minnie, their gray mare, to the cultivator. The horse was led between two shafts and the harness tugs fastened to a single-tree. Behind was fastened some machinery designed to fit across two rows of beets. To this part of the cultivator was attached two wooden handles. When the beets were young, parts called knives were used which would fit close to the weeds and loosen the ground. As the beets grew, parts called diggers were attached to help keep the ground soft at a greater depth. When the beets were ready for water, parts called shovels were used which made a furrow between each row. Mr. Nelson recalled:

43Ibid., February 14, 1906, 244.
My part in the whole process was to walk behind holding to the handles and to guide the machine so no beets would be destroyed and at the same time bear down with the weight of my body to keep the cultivator in the ground. I recall very vividly how tired my arms would get before the end of the row was reached. All this was done at what might be called a snail's pace. This process was repeated about a half dozen times a summer over ten to twenty acres of beets.45

Just after the turn of the century there were several Japanese families who came into College Ward seeking employment in the sugar beets. One College Ward resident recalls that he used to thin beets by measuring the distance between beets with an eight-inch stick, and then pulling out the doubles by hand. The Japanese taught him to use a short-handled beet-thinning hoe.

Two Japanese families, the George Washikies and the Frank Euadas, eventually purchased land and farmed in College Ward for a few years. When they left, Nephi Nielsen purchased most of their land. They were not Mormons, although they were very well liked and accepted by the ward members. At least two Buddist funerals were conducted in the College Ward chapel. One new-born Japanese baby boy was named College.46

Roads

In 1852 the Legislative Assembly of the State of Deseret passed an act providing that each able-bodied man over 18 years of age should pay a poll tax of one day's labor each year on the roads or highways.47 The journals of John C. Dowdle, C. C. Bindrup, Jr., and James D. Nuttall all

45 Orville E. Nelson, Personal History.
47 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 90-91.
make many mentions of "working the Poll Tax."

On 1861, part of the poll tax was to be used for the making of a road from the Church Farm (mainly the present College and Young areas) to Wellsville. 48

Early roads were very different from the roads we have today. The main road through College Ward was the present Highway 91, which was, and is, the principal road between Logan and Brigham City or Salt Lake City.

In June of 1892 C. C. Bindrup, James Anderson, Julius Johnson, and John C. Dowdle went prospecting for a "country road" through the College and Mendon wards. Dowdle recorded that they found no great difficulty that would hinder a good road being made all across the valley. They also found the people they talked to quite willing to let the county have the right-of-way through their land. 49 This road was later made and was known as the Mendon Road.

The main road through College Ward, the present Highway 91, was graveled in 1909. Prior to this time it had been dusty, muddy, or snow-packed, depending on the weather.

The real impetus to road building came in 1914 when the Federal government took most of the burden of road financing from the shoulders of local and county governments. 50

During December of 1921 the county graveled the road past the Young school, making a complete circle from Logan. It was graveled from the

48 Ibid., 92.
50 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 265.
"cement at the head of Spring Creek 2½ miles west," then north past the Young school to the Mendon Road, and then back to Logan. The next summer the graveling of the Mendon Road, which had been graded in 1916 was completed. 51

Hard-surfaced roads came later, and then in 1957 the widening of Highway 91, which runs through College Ward, was completed, turning it into a modern four-lane highway. A natural gas line running along the highway to Logan was also completed at this time, adding the service of natural gas to anyone living along the highway who desired it. 52

Telephone

The telephone was introduced in Utah in 1878. The first conversation was very plainly heard; it was said that the ticking of a watch sounded as loud as the ticking of a clock. When you consider that the first complete sentence ever heard over a telephone was on March 1, 1876, and that the telephone had only recently been invented when it was exhibited at the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876, its successful use in Salt Lake City in 1878 is all the more astonishing. 53

A telephone exchange was opened in Logan on February 1, 1883, with a switchboard, 1 operator, 3 residence telephones and 14 business telephones. No other Cache Valley towns were served by telephone exchanges until 1903, when an exchange was opened in Preston. Other exchanges were opened within the next several years. 54

51 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.
52 Interview with Rex A. Zilles, College Ward, June 11, 1968.
53 Ricks, ed., The History of A Valley, 225.
54 Ibid., 225-226.
John C. Dowdle, who resided in the present Young Ward area, recorded on April 30, 1906, that the Bell Telephone Company was finally having the telephone wires put up, after they had waited for about six months. A couple of weeks later, on May 17, 1906, Dowdle reported:

Mr. Hogan came this afternoon, and put in our telephone instrument, and made the connection with the central office. Ma christened it with the first message, sent to sister Lena Olsen announcing the relief society to be held in the Hyrum stake house Saturday, May the 19th, 1906.56

Electricity

The first electric lights were brought to Cache Valley through the efforts of two pioneer operators of a planing mill on the banks of the Logan River, Gustave Lundberg and Christian Garff. In 1880 they built what is considered to be the first incandescent electric light plant in Utah. This plant came within one year of the first successful demonstration of the electrical incandescent lamp in 1879 by Thomas A. Edison. On January 25, 1886, the Logan city commissioners, together with Lundberg and Garff, organized the Logan Electric Light and Power Company. This pioneer plant was not very efficient and could not satisfy the needs of a growing town. It was finally closed down and dismantled in 1896. However, other plants were organized which competed until they either consolidated or one sold out. By 1913 the Utah Power and Light Company had acquired control of the Telluride Power Company and other independent companies.57
Eva Dunn Snow recalls that as a young girl living in College Ward, she would often look toward Logan at night and admire the "bright lights" and long for the time that they could have electric lights and good roads to replace the coal oil lamps and deep sticky mud. 58

James D. Nuttall of College Ward recorded that on March 20, 1918, their electric lights were put in. 59 Probably most of College Ward acquired electricity at about this same time.

Cutting and Selling Ice

David L. Olsen recorded cutting ice and hauling it to Hyrum for Lester Miller many times during the winter of 1927-1928, along with his brothers, Lee, Harvey, Bert, and Allen, and his brother-in-law, Arthur Hansen. On January 28, 1928, he recorded receiving a total of $126.00 for 36 loads of ice, which was to be divided between the six of them. 60

To get the ice, they would drive their horses and sleighs right out onto the Pelican Pond. The ice was about 18 inches thick and they would cut it into squares about 18 inches by 18 inches. 61

Dave Olsen also told how he moved a house that he bought from Ray Jensen. His brothers, Lee, Harvey, Bert, and Allen, along with Ray Jensen, came to help him. They put poles under the house and with the help of 12 head of horses had the house moved in an hour and a half. Mr. Olsen

59 James D. Nuttall, Diary 1916-1919.
60 David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.
61 Interview with Lee Olsen, Young Ward, May 14, 1968.
reported that "everything went fine."\textsuperscript{62}

Horses

Around 1914, in the fall of the year, Orson Thatcher was hauling a load of sugar beets. His team was pulling the wagon, and he had a third horse chained on to help pull. They were crossing a narrow, steep bridge near Mr. Thatcher's home (in the Young Ward area) when the third horse got nervous and crowded over against the other two, pushing both of the horses and the wagon into the creek. The tongue of the wagon held the horses under the water. Mr. Thatcher jumped into the water and tried to cut them loose with his pocketknife, but the horses had panicked and were thrashing around wildly and he was unable to do anything for them, and they drowned. Annie Schenk loaned her team to Mr. Thatcher to finish his fall work, and the people in the ward pitched in to help him.\textsuperscript{63}

Serge J. Olsen of Young Ward, along with his teams of horses, has been a popular attraction in the various parades held around Cache Valley for the past 20 years. He has also appeared in parades in Idaho and several times in Salt Lake City. He usually uses four head of horses, and sometimes six when he appears in parades. On occasion his teams pull floats, and other times they pull his water wagon or two-wheeled cart. He also used to have an express wagon which he used in some of the parades.

In 1960, the year of the Pony Express Centennial Celebration, Serge appeared in parades in Providence, Paradise, Millville, Hyrum, and Logan. He was also asked by Horace Sorenson to pull the float for South East

\textsuperscript{62}David L. Olsen, Personal Diary.

\textsuperscript{63}Interview with Serge J. Olsen, Young Ward, May 14, 1968.
Furniture for the 24th of July parade in Salt Lake City, which he did. He recalls that the parade began when a pony express rider, who had been sent from California, rode into Salt Lake City.

Serge has had three or four different teams over the years, and at one time he had about 12 horses. Almost all of his horses have come from his original stock, and are a Clydesdale-Shire cross. The mare who had most of his horses is now 24 years old, but Serge still works her. He presently has four horses.

In addition to appearing in parades, Serge has delighted many of the youngsters in College and Young Ward in the winter by hitching his horses to a sleigh and taking them for rides. 64

Beards

Many famous beards have been grown by men in the College and Young Wards. In 1924 the Jim Bridger centennial celebration was held in Cache Valley, and a beard contest was held in conjunction with it. There were several different categories, and prizes were given. Three of the first place prizes went to men from the College-Young area, while another local man won a second-place prize:

| 1st place | Best Full Beard | Wilford Nielson |
| 1st place | Novelty Beard   | Serge Olsen     |
| 1st place | Man with the Most Sons with Beards | Christian Lorenzo Olsen |
| 2nd place | Best Mustache   | Lovenus Olsen   |

Later, in 1947, Serge J. Olsen of Young Ward won an all-church beard contest sponsored by the Mormon Chruch in commemoration of the 100 years since the first Mormon pioneers had entered the valley. The prize was

64 Ibid., June 2, 1968; June 12, 1968.
to have been $1,000.00, but he was later awarded prizes instead. 64 In 1956 Bert W. Olsen of Young Ward won the first prize of 100 silver dollars in the Cache County Centennial beard contest. He still has some of the silver dollars. 65

Ideas of C. C. Bindrup, Jr.

C. C. Bindrup, Jr., of College Ward was quite an enterprising man. He wrote a letter to the local newspaper in which he suggested the construction of a tunnel connecting Wellsville to Brigham City, which would be open year around, eliminating the climb over Sardine and the necessity of battling snow and ice in the winter. He also made a trip to Salt Lake City to the office of the state road commission to explain his ideas to them. He got his ideas from a mountain tunnel that was being constructed at Ephraim, which was to convey water from the opposite side of the mountain 7,280 feet away. Thirty men were employed at Ephraim and had progressed 1,200 feet into the interior of the earth. 66

Mr. Bindrup also claimed to have discovered a fur cache of some of the early trappers. An article had appeared in the Herald Journal offering $25.00 reward to the person or persons locating the spot where the early trappers cached their furs in Cache Valley. Some of the early pioneers claimed it was just south of Smithfield, while an equal number of others insisted it was located about a mile south of Hyrum.

64 Ibid., June 2, 1968; June 12, 1968.
65 Interview with Bert W. Olsen, Young Ward, March 27, 1968.
66 Bindrup, Journal of Newspaper Clippings and Writings, N.D.
Mr. Bindrup wrote to the newspaper and said that he felt he knew where the cave was that had been used as a fur cache. He said he had known of the cave, which was located on a side-hill about a mile south of Hyrum, and had played in it as a child. In his article Mr. Bindrup listed seven reasons as proof of his theory. His picture, pointing out the cave, appeared in the Herald Journal on April 23, 1933.

In addition, he wrote to Dr. Howard R. Driggs, president of the Oregon Trail Memorial Association. Dr. Driggs answered his letter, and also referred it to LeRoy R. Hafen and W. H. Jackson, who both replied. The letter from Dr. Hafen (See Appendix) referred to a little of the history surrounding the incident which is believed to have given Cache Valley its name, when two French-Canadians were killed by the cave-in of the bank of a cache. However, Dr. Hafen indicated that, at this late date, it was doubtful if the exact location of the cache could be determined.

Mt. View Riders

A group of men from the College and Young wards met at the Young Ward church house on March 31, 1950, to organize a riding club. After a discussion of aims and purposes, the first matter of business was the election of a secretary. The man elected was Dewey Olsen. Serge J. Olsen was then elected president, with Nick Johnson as vice president. It was decided a board of directors would be necessary and Lorin Coburn, Rex Zilles, Ray Olsen, and Bert Olsen were elected. The president, vice president, and secretary were also to be on the board of directors, thus making a total of seven. Serge Olsen was the captain in charge of drills.

Membership fees were to be $1.00 for men and 50¢ for women and boys under 18 years of age. It was decided to give a prize of $2.50 to the
person submitting the winning name for the club. This prize went to Mildred Israelsen for the name Mt. View Riders.

It was decided that the club would meet every two weeks on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. The board of directors was to meet once a month, and an annual meeting of all the members was to be held.

The club later had matching shirts and printed membership cards. In 1950 they won $20.00 competing with other clubs at the county fair. In addition to competition, many enjoyable rides and socials were held by the club. The membership varied from 11 to 28 members. No activities were held in 1957 and the club died completely in 1958.67

College Ward Lions' Club

A Lions' Club was organized in College Ward in May of 1951 with 22 charter members.68 The Wellsville Lions' Club, under the direction of Rulon Maughan, was instrumental in getting it started. One of the purposes of organizing was to help the community by putting in sidewalks, stop signs, and other things, since the ward was not incorporated with tax monies of its own. The club built a large rock fireplace in back of the church house. However, although the club enjoyed parties and other social functions, the members were unable to do many of the civic projects they had hoped to do because they had no way to tax and no effective channels to go through to raise money. So one of the reasons for the club's organization was also one of the reasons for its downfall. Interest diminished, and the College Ward Lions' Club held its final meeting on January 18, 1956.


68 College Ward Lions' Club Plaque.
Merrill V. Hansen was the first president of the Lions' Club, followed by Gilbert Saunders, George Abrams, Leon Zollinger, Edward Olsen and Clifford Hansen. During the six years of its existence, the club had two different secretaries, Melvin Ward and Ernest Speth.  

**Threshing Bee**

In June of 1967, what was claimed to be the first threshing bee organization in the state of Utah was formed, called the Cache Valley Threshing Bee and Antique Show. Floyd Zollinger of College Ward was chosen as the president of the organization, with Bert Olsen of Young Ward as secretary. These two men, along with Leon, Melvin, and Eugene Zollinger of College Ward, Lee and Serge Olsen of Young Ward, and Virgil Jensen of Fairview, made up the board of directors.

The first threshing bee took place on September 9, 1967, on a grain field on Melvin and Leon Zollinger's farm in College Ward. It attracted approximately 1,000 people during the day.

First of all some grain was cut with a self-binder, then hauled in with a 1914 Pierce-Arrow truck and threshed with a steam thresher. The straw was then baled with an antique power baler. Then a second load of grain was cut, and this was threshed by a horse-powered threshing machine pulled by six teams of horses. The straw was then baled with a horse-powered baler pulled by one horse. This routine was followed throughout the day, while an antique Edison phonograph (which used rollers) provided background music. A loud-speaking system was used to explain the various procedures, and hamburger and ice cream stands had been set up.

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The equipment for the threshing bee is owned by Floyd Zollinger and was purchased primarily in Idaho. The horses were provided by various men in Cache Valley. The threshing bee is to become an annual event.  

Summary

The early life of the people in the College-Young area was much the same as that of the people in other small Mormon communities. The people traded in the stores, often with produce, or purchased needed items from various peddlers. Early medical services were poor, and prayer and home remedies were generally relied on. The local midwives performed an invaluable service to the community. However, by the turn of the century the doctors were better qualified and the people had gained confidence in them.

Since College Ward was a small outlying community, electricity, telephones, and good roads seemed slow in coming, and were greatly appreciated when they finally were made available.

The College-Young area has produced outstanding men in many fields. Some are well-known in the local area, and some have gained prominence on a national level in various vocational fields and farm organizations.

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70 Interview with Floyd Zollinger, College Ward, May 15, 1968.
CONCLUSIONS

The present College and Young Ward area was the first land in Cache Valley to be occupied by the Mormons, though it was not settled until 1879 (when it became available for leasing) because it had been reserved theretofore as a Mormon Church ranch and grazing area. As the settlers moved onto the land there was no premeditated effort to build in a village pattern, settlers arrived and located indiscriminately.

From the beginning the people in the College-Young area were Mormons, almost without exception. Typical of most other early Mormon settlements, almost all of the community's social and recreational activities centered around the church. The responsibilities of leadership in the ward, both spiritual and temporal, came to rest on the bishop in the absence of any community government, and there was never any widespread disapproval of this condition. From the organization of College Ward until the present, the priesthood meetings served in lieu of a town council in both the College and Young wards, and many decisions of a political nature were reached. The growth of the communities and the increasingly complex problems they are facing have made it extremely difficult for the bishops to get involved in community affairs without jeopardizing their positions as the spiritual leaders in the wards. This was forcefully illustrated during the controversy over a location for a consolidated school in the early 1930's. The bishop was severely criticized by some members of the ward because of his active involvement in the controversy.

Early education in College Ward was typical of other small Mormon communities, in that one teacher taught eight grades in a small one-roomed
School consolidation has been consistently and bitterly fought. Prior to the construction of the College-Young School in 1936, even though most of the people in the ward were interrelated, the bitterness became so great that it caused a ward division. In the early 1960's wind destruction caused the closing and demolition of the College-Young School, which was the last school remaining in either community.

The first settlers in the College-Young area relied almost exclusively on farming and dairying for their livelihood. Even today the majority are tied partially or wholly to the land. There have been a few small businesses in College Ward, centered mainly around the agrarian, but most have been short-lived.

The communities of College and Young wards have experienced a great deal of growth in the past few years. Many new homes have been constructed, mainly by young people. Indications are that this pattern of growth will continue, necessitating the need for some type of community government in place of the present local church leadership.

The College-Young area has produced outstanding men in many fields. Some are well-known in the local areas, and some have gained prominence on a national level in various vocational fields and farm organizations.
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Newspapers


January 23, 1934.

Mr. C. Bindrop
R. F. D. No. 1
Logan, Utah.

Dear Mr. Bindrop:

Your letter to Dr. Driggs was forwarded to me by W. H. Jackson of the Oregon Trail Association.

I am much interested in the trapper period but find that the material is very scant for the early years in and about Cache Valley. J. P. Beckworth, who was poisoned by the Crows in the Wyoming country in 1867, gives about the only account of the incident which probably gave rise to the name of the Valley—the death of the two French Canadians by the cave-in of the bank of the Cache. Beckworth doubtless had a number of half-breed children, but none of them, I think, are known to history. Beckworth did not keep a diary and his story was purely reminiscences with considerable exaggeration. I doubt if at this late day the exact location of that Cache can be determined. There might possibly be some record in the Missouri Historical Society fur trade papers which would throw some light on the question, but even this is doubtful. Professor Dale's book, The Ashley-Smith Exploration, and Chittenden's, The American Fur Trade, are, as you perhaps know, the chief sources of information on the trapper period.

If, in my reading, I discover any additional leads I shall be glad to apprise you of them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Historian and Curator of History.
Willisville, Cache Co.

August 7th, 1865.

President Ezra T. Benson and
Bishop Peter Maughan,
Logan, Cache Co.

Dear Brethren:

In passing over my
farm to day I noticed that Sheep and
other Stock were being herded on the place,
and also that there were men cutting and
hauling off hay from the land. There may
have been some satisfactory arrangements
made by you with parties having herds
of Sheep and other Stock which they have
wished to herd on that farm, and also
with parties wishing to cut hay there; if so,
all right, but if not, there should be ar-
rangements made; for as you are aware, there
was a law passed last Winter which required
owners of Stock to take care of their Stock,
and making them responsible for any injury it
might inflict, even when the land upon which
Stock should trespass should be unowned.

If Sheep or other Stock be herded
on any of that land, the owners should be
willing to pay for the privilege, and so also with
the cutting of hay; they who cut hay should not
object to pay a certain share for the privilege. This would be deemed just if the land were owned by any person but myself, and why not when owned by me?

I expect that whatever hay has been cut off my place should be paid for, and that the bending which has been done there should also be paid for. Will you please see that it is done?

I would like to have you visit my place, and I will pay for it. Before commencing it, however, I would like you to make estimates of the cost of the different kinds of fencing and inform me in relation to them. I want to have it fenced by the sales of land, and I can pay it into the Llithing Office.

Your Brother,

[Signature]
Republican Ticket,
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1892

FOR DELEGATE TO CONGRESS.
FRANK J. CANNON
OF WEBER COUNTY
Commissioner to Locate University Lands
JAMES M. PETERSON
of Sevier County,
JOSEPH D. JONES
of Utah County,
JOSEPH HOWELL
of Cache County.

CACHE COUNTY OFFICERS.
For Clerk of the County Court
WILLIAM H. MAUGHAN, JR.
For County Recorder
CHARLES E. THORSTENSEN.
For Sheriff
BRIGHAM A. HENDRICKS.
JAMES JENSEN, JR.
THOMAS IRVINE.
For Assessor
CHARLES E. MERRILL.
For Collector
JOHN F. SQUIRES.
For County Treasurer:
MATHEW H. FARNES.
For Coroner
FRITZ A. JACOBSEN.
For County Prosecuting Attorney
WILLIAM H. SNELLING.
For Sheriff
JAMES H. ROSEKELLY.
For Surveyor
D. W. ELLIS.
For Superintendent of District Schools:
WILLIAM H. APPELLEY.

Republican Ticket.

College School District.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1892.

For Tax Collector for one year
J. D. NUTTALL.
LARS SORENSON.
JOHN SCHENCK.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET

College School District.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1892.

For Tax Collector for one year
JAMES OLSON.
JOHN SCHENCK.
J. D. NUTTALL.
The combination church and school built in 1883.

The College Ward church house built between 1894-1897 and dedicated on February 21, 1897.
The "Little Blue School" built in the College West area in 1898.
The Young Ward church house built in 1950 and dedicated September 26, 1951.

The College Ward church house built during the period 1936-1940, dedicated March 2, 1952.
The College-Young School built in 1936.
Bishops of College Ward

Charles Oscar Dunn 1891-1912
Charles Welch Dunn 1912-1913
Joseph H. Olsen 1913-1929
John H. Schenk 1929-1942
Wesley Nelson 1942-1947
Floyd A. Zollinger 1947-1952
George F. Abrams 1952-1961
Leon J. Zollinger 1961-1964
Milford Jenson 1964 to present

Bishops of Young Ward

V. Allen Olsen 1936-1946
Floyd V. Israelsen 1946-1954
Ross D. Olsen 1954-1959
Charles E. Schenk 1959-1967
Craig L. Pinder 1967 to present
VITA
John A. Hansen
Candidate for the Degree of
Master of Science in History

Thesis: The History of College and Young Hards, Cache County, Utah

Major Field: History

Biographical Information:


Education: Attended elementary school in College Ward, Utah; graduated from South Cache High School in 1956; received the Bachelor of Science degree from Utah State University, with a double major in History and Education, in 1963. Started graduate program at Utah State University, in 1966 attended N.D.E.A. American History Institute, completed requirements for the Master of Science degree in History, at Utah State University in 1968.