

THE WAY WE LIVED

The story of my life during the depression and thereafter.

Written by,
Reba (Holland) Hall, born 9/13/1924

Dedicated to my Daughters,
Linda Darlene (Hall) Brown
and
Karen Yvonne (Hall) Pohl

WRITTEN IN

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By:
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(b. 1924 – d. 2007)

[Transcribed just as Reba typed it on her typewriter by Linda (Hall) Brown - elldabee@prodigy.net. She wanted me to leave all of her errors intact. I asked why she didn't want me to make corrections and she answered, "Because that's me!"]

THE WAY WE LIVED

Since Linda and Karen wants to know more about the way we lived in Arkansas, when I was young and before, maybe I can write enough about it to make them understand about how we lived. Starting where Amos BLYTHE finished his story in the BLYTHE/HOLLAND family tree book written by Pat BRIGANCE in 1994, Volume no. 1.

Cordia BLANKENSHIP, who is the daughter of Cora (HOLLAND) BUTTRY said that Aunt Cora was born in Kansas in 1887. She was the daughter of Lemual and Mary HOLLAND or BLYTHE. So they must have homesteaded their property in Arkansas sometime after that.

This property was located about 3 or 4 miles South of Lake Weddington and about four miles East of Cincinnatti. They homesteaded about one hundred acres of land and built their home on the side of a hill. There was so much slate on that hill we called it slate hill. The finished raising their children there under the name of HOLLAND. Grandma Mary HOLLAND died there with some kind of bowel problem. They thought it was cancer. They say she was sick for a long time.

A few years later Granpa Lemual's heart was bothering him so he and uncle Jim moved in with his daughter Delia MENCH, and her family. Later Grandpa Lemua died suddenly while riding in the buggy with Delia or Dr. ROBINSON driving the buggy. I was just a baby when he died.

Uncle David HOLLAND and Aunt Ollie also lived in a house on Grandpa and Grandma's property before and after Grandpa and Grandma died. When I was about three or four years old they cam to calif. and raised their family by the name of HOLLAND.

Uncle Tom, Uncle Lemual, Uncle Jake, all moved to Boonville Ark. earlier and Uncle Dan. They all went by the name of BLYTHE and raised their families by that name. Later after Grandpa passed on Uncle Jim also moved to Boonville or close by, and raised his family by the name of BLYTHE. My Father Cleveland, he later ended up living in this area, where he was born and raising his family be the name of HOLLAND. All the girls got married, so Tess ENGLAND, Matt SMYTHE, Cora BUTTRY, Delia MENSCH, all lived with in four miles, and closer to the old home place where they were raised and raised all their children there, and died there. Minnie BEACH, her and her family came to Acampo Ca. when I was about ten years old. That would have been in 1934. She and her husband finished raising their family there. It was real hard for people to get enough money to live on at this time, and I understand that they couldn't keep the taxes payed up on their old home place. And that this man named I. L. MATIER, payed their taxes, and got the property. But in later years my cousin and her husband, Vernon, and Minnie GHIER, bought this property and still own it. Minnie GHIER is my Aunt Tes ENGLAND's daughter.

Any way I will get on with our immediate family. My mother was born in Pea ridge Arkansas. That's about one hundred miles from where my daddy was born. My mother's Mother died when she was only two weeks old. At that time women just stayed in bed and rested for two weeks, after giving birth to a child. Her mother got up and did the laundry after staying in bed for two weeks, and got pnemonia, and died. As you know in those days they did their laundry on a wash board, and usually did it outside.

My mother's aunt Donia BUTTRY, gave birth to a baby boy out of wed lock. She named him Mitchel. With Donia's help my mother's grandparents raised her and Uncle Mitchel, almost like brothers and sister, Later another one of my mother's aunts died, and left a little girl named Hattie, They also finished raising her, she later married John PURCELL. She was the one that I wrote to for years. But she passed on a few years ago.

Euna HALL, my sister, said that after mom, Josie A Della DAY, and Uncle Mitchel BUTTRY, grew up that Aunt Matt, and Uncle Charley SMYTHE moved to Pearidge to find work. After they moved there, my father, Grover Cleveland HOLLAND, and his sister, Cora HOLLAND went to visit them and that's how they met Mom and Uncle Mitchel. So Aunt Cora married Uncle Mitchell BUTTRY and Cleveland HOLLAND married Della DAY. So that's how my Mom and Dad met, Mom was nineteen and Dad was only seventeen.

I guess Mom and Dad, lived in Pearidge Ark. until after Eula, and Euna, were born. They must have had a lot of sorrow duirng their life. They had thier first baby and named her Lena, mom said she was so tiny they had to carry her around on a pillow. One of their relatives who had the whooping cough, came to visit them, Lena caught the whooping cough and died, I think she was six weeks old.

Then they had Lester, and he got polio, and he almost died. Then Olin (Billy) and Nolin, were born, and Nolin was still born. Billy only weighed 3-1/2 lbs. Then Cloe was born, after that Euna and Eula were born.

Then Dad went back to his Fathers and Mothers house to see if he could find work. He got a job working for a man named Dang GHRIER. He picked and peddled apples among other things. So Mom got on the train with her children and went to join him. Dan GHRIER gave dad lumber to build him and his family a two or three room house on his property to live in. Dad then got typhoid fever, he was sick for some time, and Mom couldn't care for him and all the children, so Uncle Dave, and Aunt Ollie, took Euna, and Eula, home with them and cared for them, until Dad got well, I guess Grover was born there, Euna said they moved close to this school called Renick, and that I was born there.

Then when I was about two years old, We moved back within about a half mile from where Dad was raised. About half a mile from a school called Walnut Corner, later called choke rag. That house was a big two story farm house, with a barn , a chicken house, and a smoke house to keep our salted down pork, and our potatoes, and canned fruit in. the boys would sleep out there on cold nights and keep a fire going to keep our potatoes, and fruit from freezing. I guess there was about a hundred acres of farm land, and pasture there.

I cant remember us having more than one or two cows at a time when we lived there. I remember when we only had one cow, and dad and I were standing in the door watching it rain one day , and we saw the lightening strike our cow under a tree, and kill her. Euna said that one of our neighbors loaned us one of their cows. so we would have milk.

We had horses to farm the land with, and to ride, also hogs to butcher, for our meat, also chickens, for our eggs and to eat, We also set our hens, and raised baby chickens. Then when they got largenough they would sell them to help buy food. But usually we kept part of the hens .

We always had a big garden, where we raised our vegetables, to eat during the summer, and to can, to eat on in the winter, But we always seemed to run out of food, before the other crops got ready to harvest. We always had potatoes, and beans, or blackeyed peas, and corn bread and biscuits, most of the time. I remember that Dad would buy groceries on credit, from Mary DANFORTH's little store, and paying her by cutting wood for her, and hauling it to her in the wagon. Seem like we were hungry a lot for the kind of food we didn't have. But Mom would cook three big meals a day. When Dad had to go to work early, Mom would get us all up and make us all eat at the same time, and some of the time that would be at four or five o'clock in the morning. So we would get awfully hungry by dinner time, which was at twelve o'clock noon. Then we would have to wait for Dad to get home before we could eat supper. Some times we would have to wait until eight or nine o'clock.

Dad would kill a hog or two every winter, they would salt it down in the smoke house, to preserve it for the winter, And put big bins of potatoes, sweet potatoes, and Irish potatoes, in the smoke house. Sometimes he would put a bushel of apples away for us to eat during the winter, They were called Arkansas Blacks, and keep better than the other apples.

Dad owned a model-T Ford, not too many people had cars at that time, they depended on horse and buggies or wagons.

Dad would go to work I think he was still peddling apples at that time. Some times he would tell mom to have all the neighbors to mix up milk, for ice cream, and be there when he got home. He would bring a hundred pound of ice home, and we would have a ice cream supper. There was only about two ice cream freezers in our neighborhood, So they put ice in wash tubs, and turned gallon buckets by their bails, in the ice, until the milk made ice cream. That was delicious, something to remember, because we seldom ever had ice cream.

We had no electricity, no running water, no bath rooms, no one delivered ice to our house. They had to put buckets of milk down in the well on a rope to keep it cold. We had to depend on wood stoves, and fire places to keep warm. And wood stoves to cook on.

I remember when Retha was born, I was almost four years old then. She had a bad heart. They said she was a blue baby. I remember when Retha got real sick, they put Grover and I in the back seat of the car, and them and Retha were in the front seat of course. Euna said Mom sent them to Uncle Mitchel's house, her and Eula of course. Mom was blowing in Retha's face, trying to keep her alive all the way to Cincinnati, and Retha was vomiting a lot. But when we got to the Doctor, they laid her on the bed and said that she was gone. We were real poor and didn't have any money. Euna said she thought that Loyd LUGIANBUEL, our undertaker gave Mom, and Dad, a little white casket, to bury Retha in. I remember that they kept Retha's body in our back room over night, and a lot of people sat up with her, and Mom would take me in to see her. She had black hair.

I guess it was just after that, that Dad got rheumatism in his hip, and couldn't walk. They boys had to do all the farm work then. We didn't have tractors then, Everything had to be done, with horses plows, and wagons, and what ever.

Then soon after that we all got the measles. Mom, Billy, and Grover, all got pneumonia, when we still had the measles, and Grover just almost died. After we all got over the measles, Dad still had his bad hip, and couldn't walk.

(Back to Retha, she was only three months old when she passed on).

My Daddys, cousins wife Martha HOLLAND, she came to our house one day. She said she was going to cure dads hip. I watched her beat up mustard seed, and mix it with hog lard, then she made a poltice out of it, and put it on my Daddys hip, He yelled and cried, and said he never had anything burn so bad, but he left it on his hip, and was soon up on crutches, and his hip got well. It left his leg about one inch shorter than the other. but I don't remember him ever having any more problems with it.

I remember that when Mom, had to go out in the field to work she would take me, put me on a quilt, and tell me to stay on the quilt, while she worked. One day when the whole family was clearing some land, you know cutting sprouts, and trees, and piling them up and burning them, so they could farm the land. That day I decided to walk off that quilt, and see what I could see in a stump near by. I saw something in there that was real pretty, and shiny. I told Mama to come and see the prettys. She looked in the stump and saw a diamond rattle snake, and her babies. She called Dad and he had every one to pile brush on top of the stump, and then he set it on fire. I guess I remember all these things that happened when I was so young, because I was frightened.

Euna said her and Eula rode a horse four miles to pick strawberries, so they could buy their clothes, when they were about twelve or thirteen.

Dad and the boys raised cane, and they took it to a neighbors farm where they crushed the cane, to get the syrup out of it. Then they cooked it in these big pans until it turned into molasses. Then they put it in five gallon cans. I got to watch Mom and Dad make them.

And I watched them make hominy. They made their own lye with ashes, and water. Then they put corn in the lye water, and let it sit there until the corn was all puffed up. Then they washed the corn a lot. Then they canned it. (Sorry! after they cooked it of course.)

Long about this time in my life, I think I was about six years old. Lester, My oldest brother, decided he wanted to go to Oklahoma, to work in the harvest, Euna said that our cousins from Boonville Ark. came after him and took him with them. Their names were Amos, Duard, and their sister, Jessie Elizabeth BLYTHE. Since they were going by the name of BLYTHE, Lester went by that name too. He didn't write to Mom so it was a long time before they could find him. Euna said Mom just walked the floor and cried. Any way I remember when he came home. He brought this man with him by the name of Houston GUTHRIE, he looked just like Pretty Boy Floyds, picture. So every one thought he was Pretty Boy. But he wasn't, he had been in jail, but I don't know why. When he was in jail he had wrote all but the last verse of the song "The Midnight Special," and my Brother LESTER, helped him write the last verse. Now they sing it a lot and don't know who wrote it. And Houston, stayed with us for awhile. He would lie down under a shade tree on our front lawn, in the after noon. Grover and I would tie strings on his toes, so he would talk in his sleep. He talked but I think he just pretended he was asleep.

Dad wouldn't send me to school until I was seven. I got Pneumonia the next day after I started to School. I was real sick the Doctor wanted to put me in the hospital, and put a drainage tube in my back but they didn't have the money, to put me in the hospital. So ever since then I have had lung problems.

I remember when I was about seven or eight years old we went to our cousins ,house.I think they lived in Oklahoma.That was Liss and Martha,HOLLAND,They had possum, and sweet potatoes,they were delicious.I think thats the only time that I ever ate poss-um um. They had some of the most beautiful chickens I had ever saw. They were red rhodialns. So Martha,gave me one of them,so we took it home.From then on when my hen would set,Mom would put sixteen eggs under her ,when they would hatch,I had to care for them.when they got to be fryers,they would sell the roosters, and let me have the money to buy school clothes.They would give me the catalog,and let me pick out my shoes,and material,to make me a couple of dresses.or what ever.That hen lived for years.

I remember,Dad robbing a bee hive in atree,and getting a whole lot of honey, and sharing it with our neighbors whom were our relatives.Ithink I was eight then.

I remember when I was about five years old.that our family, had planted a big field of corn,and our neighbors chickens got into our corn field .They were digging up our corn ,and eating it, Dad sent one of the boys out to shoot over their heads to scare them way.I also remember that it was raining.My brother accidentaly shot two of the neighbors chickens.Boy did those chickens ,tase good.I think it was my brother Cloe.

About this time ,my cousin Fred ENGLAND,he moved in with us. Their pasture didn't have enough grass for his cows.So he had to put his cows in our pasture,and stay there to care for them for awhile.In later years ,he bought the propery we had lived on and lived there until he died.I hear now that his son tore the old house down,and built him a new home there.

After we killed our hogs,Mom would render out their skin and make lard.What was left was called cracklins.She would put that in a pot with a can of lye ,and boil it until it turned to soap.we had to stireit all the time it was cooking.so we had to take turns. After it got done,Mom would pour it in pans,an d let it cool,then cut it into bars of soap,to do our laundry with.

We made our own butter by shaking cream in a half gallon jar.until it made butter.when we took the butter out ,we would also have a half gallon of butter milk.

We also would go out in the woods in the fall and pick up hickory nuts,and chenka pins,Mom would toast the chenka pins, in the oven to keep them from getting worms in them.and most of the places where we lived we would have a big black walnut tree.

Not many people had telephones then ,so people just dropped in to see each other unexpected,usually around dinner time,So mom would have to kill a chicken,or what ever,and do the best she could. We tried to have some dessert cooked on Saturday in case som one dropped in on Sunday.After I got old enough to make a cake, Grover would watch me and say he wasn't going to eatit that I was a dirty cook.But after Igot frosting on it,and put it in the safe for sunday dinner.He would slip in the kitchen and eat a big chunk of it.

In those days ,practically every one in Mom,and Dads generation ,either chewed tobacco,or dipped snuff,Mom chewed tobacco,Dad, chewed tomacco,and also smoked a pipe.So he raised his tobacco , some times,I remember him storing it upstairs,and letting it dry out.Then making it into twist ,tobacco.

It didn't seem to be as important for people to go to school, in those days as it is now. They probably figured we would spend our lives on the farm any way. Everyone had to buy their own books, and every thing they used. So a lot of people couldn't afford to go to school. The state started furnishing books when I was in about the fourth grade. Dad didn't go to school much, all he could do was sign his name. but he was real smart, and could work out any problem in his head. Mom went through the eighth grade. Lester and I both went through the eighth grade, but the rest didn't make it that far. It was also hard to have enough clothes to wear to school. We did well just to have a change of clothes. any kind of clothes. Even though we raised food to eat, people would steal our potatoes, and meat or what ever they could get to. Some one stole five gallons of molasses out of the room Euna, and Eula, were sleeping in one night. Dad knew who was stealing from us but couldn't do anything about it.

No we didn't steal, we went to Sunday School when we could, Every once a preacher would hold a revival in our school house and we would go every night. We would have a big pie supper to make up money to pay him. As you know this was during the depression years. Mom had to make all our slips, and under wear out of flour sacks.

We moved onto another farm, when I was eight years old. We moved about two miles from Cincinnati, they had a mill there where we took our wheat to be ground into flour, and our corn that we sat around the fire and shelled at night, ground into corn meal. There was a filling station, and a store there where we could buy groceries, and material, to make our clothes. And I saw my first movie there. Some one put up a tent and showed a country western movie. Dad took all of us girls and Mom, and Grover, to see the movie. but he didn't go in himself, I guess he couldn't afford it.

So I had to start to a new school, I didn't know any one. There was thirty five children. One teacher taught all of them, from primer through the eighth grade. And she was a mean teacher. She would beat the children, with a big switch for nothing, some of them right across the back, just for being a little late getting to school. So we really had to toe the mark. And every body in school had some kind of itch. So Grover and I caught it, so all our family caught it. I think all our neighbors already had it when we moved there. We had an awful time getting rid of it. DR. ROBINSON gave us salve, it didn't do much good, so some one told us to use sulphur, and grease on the itch, I guess that eventually cured it. They finally decided it was chalk exema.

Grover, he didn't get to go to school at Eureka very long he got pneumonia again, and quit school, he got real skinny, and coughed up blood a lot. Dad took him to another Doctor, Dr. MOCK and Dr. BAGGET, in Prairie Grove, they thought that he had T.B. But decided later that wasn't it. I think now that he had broncheactises. Any way they gave him medication, that made him eat better, and he was soon feeling better, but he had problems with his lungs all of his life. but worked and lived a pretty normal life, in the short time he had to live.

Billy got a job on a farm about twenty miles from where we lived, so he moved in with some people by the name of KELLEY. They had three boys, plus two other children whom her mother had had. from another marriage. Their names were Imojene HOLDEN, and Wesley HOLDEN. Billy and I Imojene, soon fell in love and got married. and a year or so later, they had a beautiful baby daughter, and named her Evelyn Sue. Imojene's mother also had a baby boy a few weeks later.

Any way Billy didn't get to go to school very much. They would send him to school it was only a half mile from home, and he would get lost coming home. So they took him out of school. But he got ok. and they never did know what was wrong with him.

When we moved to Eureka School, I only had one dress that was fit to wear to school. So the neighbor across the road from us gave me two real nice dresses, that she had outgrown. A red one and a black one, So mom cut them down for me. I was so proud of them dresses, especially the red one.

The next spring after we moved there, this family had a real big strawberry patch, so all of us got to pick strawberries, and buy us a few clothes. I was only eight years old, The strawberry carriers .held six, and four, quarts of strawberries. Those were too heavy for me, so Grover made me a two quart carrier. When we would go home for lunch they would give mom two quarts of culls. When we got home she would make a big strawberry short cake, and that would be our lunch. That was the best short cakes I ever ate.

About this time Cloe and Lester, decided to go to the harvest fields in Kansas, to work. so that left Dad with no help with the plowing. But he managed some how. Bob PETTY and Dad, decided to share their farm work, so they did ok. But the boys always helped when they were home. as we all did, we had to drop corn by hand. while some one followed us, covering it with a horse and plow. also set out tomatoes by hand, Dropped peas, and beans, by hand.

We raised tomato and beans, to sell to the cannery, at Summers Ark. That was about ten miles from us. Lester and Cloe, and Euna, and Eula, all got jobs there, to work through the season. I think Euna, and Eula, bought lenolium for our two front rooms. We had just had wood floors before that. and Mom would scrub them with a broom, and lye water to make them white.

When I was nine years old, my feet started swelling real bad. They didn't know what caused it. Dr. ROBINSON had me taking epsom salts every day. all that did was make me lose weight. which I couldn't afford to lose. It was edema. and I've lived with that problem all my life, and I am seventy years old now. Any way soon after that. I got eriseplase on my leg, I was real sick, with chills and a high fever. and my leg from my knee down, was swollen real bad, and a dark red. Dad put me on a horse and led the horse with me on it, two miles to the doctor. He gave me medication. mom had to put it on my leg with a sterilized feather. so she wouldn't catch it. The medication burnt the skin on my leg she had to put it on there for weeks, about two or three, times a day. It would burn so bad I could hardly stand it. After the skin got burnt and started cracking, Mom would have to put vasoline on my leg. until all the skin peeled off. I wouldn't be able to walk for six weeks. I got that every fall for six years, the last time I had got it I got it on my leg and face. and my doctor, and neighbor, caught it from me they both got it on their faces. Now they tell me that they give antibiotics for it, and it clears up right away.

After Grover got better, he set traps, and caught animals and sold their skin, mostly possums, and skunks. He caught a fox a few times. He raised enough money to buy him a few clothes, and a second hand bike. Then he got him a job peddling papers, to make him a little money. But that was too hard on his health, so I don't think he worked at that very long.

We had some neighbors, by the name of George, and Lilly HOLLAND. THEY wasn't related

to us, but made us call them , Uncle George and Aunt Lilly. They had all kinds of animals , and fowels, They were so nice to us.

Dad would work for them some during the harvest, some time they would have so many people working for them that , Aunt Lilly would have to call on Mom to help her cook dinner for them. Mom would always take me with her .so I had to beat egg whites, for pies, and any other thing that Aunt Lilly could find for me to do. But I would get all that I could eat for dinner.

Mom would make all of Aunt Lillies clothes for her, on Aunt Lillys sewing machine. So Aunt Lilly would let mom use her sewing machine to make my clothes, and her clothes. Euna and Eula , were old enough to make thier own clothes by this time.

Any way Uncle George, gave Grover a little billy goat, We would get down and butt heads with him, and play with him, we had a lot of fun with him when he was small. But when he grew up, boy was he a problem. Every time he saw any one. stooping over, he would but them right in the seat, and over they would go. By that time he had horns too. He would climb on top of our house and walk around, and he would pull the clothes off our lines. So Uncle George traded Grover ananny goat , for his billy goat. So Grover and I had all the goat milk we could drink.

About this time , some of our cousins, from Boonville Ark, decided to come and stay with us and work at the cannery. I think it was uncle Lems children. It was Bernice. BLYTHE and his family, AND his brother Omer, and I think his brother in law Lel KIMES. I had never seen them before. We didn't have room for them so they moved into a little two room house, across the road from us. and lived there until the cannery shut down. OUR cousin Odell he came to our house at that time also, and bought a big truck load of tomatoes from dad. That was the only time that I ever saw him.

Mom got to keep a little girl while her mother worked at the cannery . She paid Mom one dollar a week, Mom was really glad to get it. Material was only six, or eight cents a yard then. So she got to buy material. for her and I, some dresses, plus other things. Mom just loved flowers. When we lived there she got a lot of flower seed, some one must have gave them to her. She had a row of flowers all the way across her big vegetable garden, all kinds that could ge planted from seed. Every one had to go out and see her flowers.

We had square dances in our house, people would come from all over . Someone would bring the music usually fiddles, and guitars. Mom usually had a big pot of beans sitting on the back of the stove, in case any body was hungry. Every body had alot of fun, except me I wasn't old enough to dance.

This farm we lived on had a big spring down in the pasture. then we went about a fourth mile farther , and there was this big creek. There was lots of dew berries in that area. Mom and Dad invited all the neighbors to pick all the berries they wanted. and we picked and canned alot of berrys too. But we would get chiggers, on us. boy could they make welp. and so tiny you could hardley see them. and we had to watch for snakes, and ticks, but we could jump in the creek and go swimming after we picked berries if we wanted to, that got rid of some of the chiggers. And we would go swimming just about every week end during the summer. Some times some of our neighbors would join us. We didn't have bathing suits, so we went swimming in our overalls. One day our neighbor went fishing in our swimming hold. he was trying

to catch fish by hand ,and he got hold a cotton mouth snake instead,and it bit him on the back of the hand.He almost died.so we didn't go swimming anymore. But that was ok .since our place sold ,and we had to move the next year.

When I was ten years old, Our neighbor had a beautiful little baby boy .their names were Spence, and Violine SPEARS,they named thier baby Donald Dee.Since she had lost two babies before at birth.Violene was afraid to leave him alone even for a minute. So she ask me to come over and sit with him every after noon, while she did her outside chores.that took her about an hour.She would make me sit and hold him during that time.That made me feel so proud that she trusted me with anything so precious, I would go and play with other peoples children,sometimes ,when they were busy.So they all liked me Ithink.

We always had a big christmas program,at our ,schools.A beautiful big tree ,and we all drew names ,and bought gifts for those whos names we drew,so tht way every one got agift. THEN Santa clause ,would hand out the gifts,Our teacher would give each one of us a gift also,And we would get abag of candy with an apple and an orange in it.that was about the only time that we would get an orange.I couldn't wait to eat that orange. Any way Iwanted a dolls so bad since I had only got one doll during my life.that was atiny baby that my teacher had gave me when I was in the primer.When they handed out the gifts there was a doll for me from Momand Dad, After I got home,someone knocked on our door and when I opened the door there stood one of our neighbors,with this box,he gave itto me and said this is from Santa clause.When I opened it I found the most beautiful doll that I had ever seen.It had blond hair and blue eyes,like me, It was dressed in acotton dress,with a fur coat and cap and muff. My neighbors were poor like us .But they had all chipped in and bought this dollfor me.Would you believe I still have both of those dolls,and theone they gave me still has her same clothes that she came in.

And would you believe I had a very good considerate teacher the last two years I went to school there,Her name was Mary GARDESSER.She found that I was artistic,and helped me,with that sometimes at recess.The schools had these contest,so i got second prize in art .and Igot second prize in arithmetic.that made me feel that I had accomplished something.I think the problem we worked ,was long division.

We had two dogs ,when we lived at Eukeka,One was a large white dog he belonged to Grover, The other dog belonged to cloe He was a red dog with awhite wring around his neck,so his name was Ring,The white dog,also had black spots ,so his name was spot.We had a lot of fun with spot ,but We just loved Ring. When Dad got up in the morning he would let ring in the house he would tell Ring to go wake up the boys.Then Dad would tell him to go wake the girls,and he would then crawl under the cover,with Euna ,and Eula and I,and wake us up,this would happen every morning.Oh yes all three of us girls slept in a average size bed ,together,and I always had to sleep in the middle. One night a dog came by and had a fight with our dogs, Dad knew he had bit Ring ,but he didn't know if he had bit spot. He was afraid that the dog might have had rabies ,so he locked Ring up .About two weeks later, Ring got rabies.And Dad had to shoot him.They didn't give rabies shots then.About two days later Mom,and I, was standing by this window,and spot made abig howl and stood up on his hind feet between us,Ilooked at him,his eyes were all red, and slobbers running out of his mouth,Mom grabbed an old chair,and put it between her and old spot .and I ran around the house as fast as I could.our

porch had a chicken wire fence about three or four feet hi to keep the chickens off our porch. Grover Was on the porch, and yelled at spot .Thatmade Spot slow down enough that he didn't catch me, I ran all the way around the house and into the front door, And Spot ran under the house. So Dad got the shot gun and killed him. Seemed that every ones dogs got rabies after that. We were almost afraid to go outside. Our neighbors, said they could hear me screaming , every breath when spot was chasing me. But I didn't know that I was screaming.

A few nights later cloe decided to walk to a dance I think it was about two miles from where we lived, It was real dark. He was all dressed up in his necktie , and suit. When he was walking home he herd a flogging sound, He thought it was a rabid dog chasing him, So he ran, he ran until he was so tired he couldn't run any more And when he stopped, the noise stopped. So he then realized that it was his necktie flopping behind him. I remember him telling us the next day, and laughing.

There was a spring across the road, from our house, it had a spring branch running away from it. There was a this little spring house , built over the spring branch. It ws cool in there, and thats where we kept our milk and butter, to keep it cold. Some times I would go sit in there where it was cool. Other times I would go out in the pasture and get this dark red clay, and take it out to my play house under the trees. and mold animals and things out of it. You see we couldn't afford to buy toys then, So we played with what ever we could find to play with.

I think that I was twelve years old, when my brother Lester and , my brother Cloe met Dorothy and Hazel KIRK, and dated tehm for some time, and Dorothy, and Lester got married.

This farm sold that we lived on, and we had to move. the people that bought it made a hog ranch out of it. In later years one of my cousins. Green Berry ENGLAND and wife Leota, bought this Property , and Uncle George , AND aunt LILLYs property, and lived there until he died. I think that his son takes care of that property now.

When we were so short of money, It was hard to buy flour, so Dad would be shorts, for Mama too make our bread with, Shorts was what was left of the wheat, after they had ground the wheat, and sifted the flour out, at the mill. It was more of a mixture of bran and flour, It didn't make very good biscuits, but certainly made good cookies, and didn't cost very much.

Some times when I got home from school I would be hungry, and I could usually find corn bread and milk to eat, some time when the weather was nice Mom would say take it outside and eat it. We let our chickens run loose, when they saw food they wanted to eat it, So I would climb up on top of the chicken house and eat . I would climb up on top of the chicken house and eat . I loved onions, some time I would take my onions and salt up on the top of the chicken house, and eat that.

After the house sold that we lived in, Dad decided that he would go build a house on the property where he was raised. and live there, So he rented that property. But in the mean time we had to move into another. house, until he could get it built. so this rich old maid , Her name was Minnie JILES, she was a real nice lady, she told Dad that we could live in her rent house and work for her until he got our house built.

So we moved into her house. It was a big two story house. Cloe was still home, so his friend Earl LANGWORLY, also moved in with us. So Dad, Cloe, and Earl, all worked for Miss Minnie, plus working on the house. We found out this house we lived in was haunted. We would hear some one walking up, on the porch, the door knob would turn and the door would come open, and no one would be there and the door that went up stairs wouldn't stay closed. Miss Minnie said that had been happening ever since her father, had passed away. Mom and I would go to her house to get some milk everyday, and the door to the room where her daddy had died wouldn't stay closed. So every few minutes while we were there, she would ask me to close that door. We went back to Ark. in nineteen eighty two, and one of my cousins, said that they had found Indian burial grounds, next to that house.

Our neighbors and relatives, had a house raising and helped Dad build our log house. They build one big room. and Dad built another room on the back out of lumber, for our kitchen. and we had an upstairs. It was large enough for three beds. Lester, Dorothy, and Cloe, went to Calif. So Grover slept in one end of the room, and Euna, Eula, and I in the other end. And finally I got to sleep by myself. Any way I got to go back to the Walnut Corner school, where I had gone when I was in the Primer. And I had cousins going there too. That was great. But we had to carry our drinking water, about a quarter of a mile. That was rough. But dad would haul a big barrel of water on the wagon, for us to do dishes, and laundry in.

We still lived on a farm so life went on as usual, We picked Strawberrys, and beans, to get extra money. Euna, and Eula, went to viney Grove, and worked in the cannery through the tomatoes, they stayed with our brother Billy (Olin) and his family. Grover got phemonia, real bad again. Mom didn't seem to feel as well after we moved there.

One night Dad went out side after dark, and ran into a limb It stuck in his eye and put his eye out. That was horrible they had to keep hot poltices, on his eye for weeks, and keep the room dark, he was in horrible pain. His eye finally got well, but it left him blind in one eye.

Euna had been writing to this guy, by the name of Ralph HALL. He was originally from Lincoln Arkansas, but was in California working. So he came back home to Lincoln, He and Euna, started dating. Then he brought this guy down to meet Eula, his name was Fred COATS, Fred Was a mechanick, and also fixed radios, and delivered ice, in Lincoln. So him and Ralph, would come down every sunday to see EUNA and Eula. and fred would bring ice, and we would have ice cream. That was great. And wouldn't you no he would help me with my home work. We liked him and Ralph. Any way Eula, and Fred, fell in love and got married. Then Cloe, Lester, and Dorothy, came back to Ark from California, and Cloe married Hazel KIRK. Mom was sick during that time, she just stayed in bed for weeks. I never did know what was wrong with her. She complained with her side hurting. Later on that year, Euna and ralph got married, So that just Left MOM, Dad, Grover, and I, at home, I think that I was fourteen then. Fred fixed up an old radio for us. we had never had a radio before. Very few people had radios where we lived, we still didn't have electricity. So every time Fred, and Eula came to see us he would bring a freshly charred battery. Our neighbors would come to listen to the radio, almost every night. So we had plenty of company. During that summer, Lester, and Dorothy had

a baby ,boy and they named him,Ragil Virgil HOLLAND.They decided to stay in Ark.for awhile and work for thins,family named MATHEWS.Grover managed to get him a car and fix it up.Ithink he painted it all colors,he got to work in the garage with Fred some,and some time I would go stay a week with EULA and Fred. That was pretty nice since I had always lived in the country.

Then next Eula, and Fred had Abeautiful baby girl.THEY named her Eva Mae.It think this was about the time that EUNA and Ralph took me to Mr .and Mrs .HALLs house,with them.that was the first time I saw Baker.But only for a minute ,he looked real shy and left.

Long about this time ,I think that I was fifteen years old G rover ,wanted a guitar.Dad borrowed money to buy a cow,so he borried an extra ten dollars,and gave it to Grover to buy him a guitar.He probably paid dad back later,He ordered him a guitar, but he didn't like it so he sold it for twelve dollars,and bought him another one."Incedentally my sister in law Mildred HOLLAND his wife .who lives in Prarie Grove, Arkansas still has that guitar." Any way he and I both learned to play it.That was fun we could play and sing with our friends.And I had finally graduated ,through the eight grade.We had quite a few friends living up on the mountain.Usually on Wednesday nights we would all go to wlanut corner school and play the piano and sing.And to anything that went on there.Or we would go to Rock Springs,school,to what ever. they had going on.

The state ,decided to furnish material ,for every family to make two matryreses and a quilt.but we had to make them ourselves So every one got together at our schools ,and made the mattresses.Mom was sick and couldn't help.So Dad and I and part of the time Grover ,helped.They were so hard to make sewing them by hand.Then when we got them done ,Mom and Dad ,got one mattress and Grover got the other one,I still had to sleep on a straw mattress. I was really upset about that.

Lester and Dorothy,and Euna ,Ralph .and Grover,and Ragil. all came to california.Grover and Ralph both got phemonia, they were in the hospital.Thats when Grover found out that he had a bad heart.

Dorothy, and ,Lester,had a baby boy ,and named him,Ronald Lester HOLLAND. Not too long after that, Eula, and Fred had a baby girl,and named her,Betty Sue COATS.She was a beautiful blond haired baby.

I was finally sixteen,and Mom had a bad heart attack,There was only Dad and I to care for her ,and dothe work too.So we were so busy.Mom wasn't even allowed to sit up for a couple of weeks. we were so afraid we would lose her.I had to stay right with her most of the time.So I didn't get to work,so I could buy my clothes. All their children who were in california,came back to see about MOM,that was the first time we saw Ronnie,he was so cute,They all staid a week,then left for california ,again except ,Grover he stayed. Mom finally after six weeks was able to get up ,and get around a little.Our neighbor Mrs. True Love BAXTER.She got canser. in the lining that held up her intestins.She suffered terrible. There was just her and her husband,and he had to take care of the farm.the neighbors ,didn't seem to want to help them much,at that time they thought that canser was catching.I would go over and cook thier dinner,enough to last them through supper.Then Iwould go home and cook for us Then go sit with Mrs. BAXTER for awhile in the after noon.Mom was getting better ,and able to do

some of the light house work.I had to do ,MRS. BAXTERS laundry for her also.I guess she was afraid cancer was catching also, because she would make me boil all of her clothes,on top of=the wood stove in a tub of water before I washed them ,her bed clothes also.Then I scrubbed them on the board.I had to draw all that water out of a well.And hang them on the line.She insisted on paying me a quarter for doing the laundry.Her son finally came from ,Kansas and took them home with him.She only lived a little while.But she gave me her sewing machine ,before she left .so I would have that to make my clothes on.That was nice.

We got so tired of carrying our water ,a quarter.of a mile. we had to go down across the pasture,it seemed I would see a snake about every time I went down there.I killed a lot of them.Then I would drag them back to the house for the family to see.

One day Dad said Reba there's this big blue racer snake he keeps trying to, chase me,and I can't kill him.So next time I went to get water.I heard a sound ,I looked down and there was this big blue racer snake,all coiled up like he was ready to strike but I knew they didn't bite so I saw this rock on the other side of me ,and I picked it up and dropped it on his head.Dad was really surprised when I drag this blue racer home for him to see.

When I was seventeen, every thing changed.Imogene ,Billy' and Evelyn Sue ,they came to California.Pearl harbor was bombed. so that was the start of world war two,seemed like all the boys we knew ,were either drafted or joined the service.Us girls tried to write,to all of them that we could,especially after they were sent overseas.Ralph HALL he was drafted into the Army ,So Euna came home, She followed him part of the time,and stayed with us part of the time.Grover didn't have to go into the service,because of his health.

Soon after Billy and Imogene,came to California,they got a divorce.

Then Dad decided to come to California,We had tried everything on that farm,and nothing turned out right.we had a drought that burnt up every thing.He sold all but two cows,and two mules. and our chickens.I don't know why he kept those mules.they were nothing but trouble.Dad rented a farm two miles out of Lincoln. So Mom,Euna and I lived there,while he came to California,to work for the summer.We had an awful time with those mules jumping the fence.seemed like we were forever,chasing those mules.

Dad left his car with Fred,So he would pick us up every Saturday,and take us to Lincoln,so we could do our shopping. and go to the movies.Dad worked out here during the summer and saved five hundred dollars.He then came back to ,Arkansas, and bought ten acres of land ,with a four room house on it.So we covered it with brick siding,and trimmed it in green, It looked real nice.And we had a well right in our back door,that was ,great we didn't have to carry water Grover came home for the winter.I can't remember if Billy came home that winter or not.

Euna was with Ralph where ever he was stationed.And CLOE and Hazel came back to Arkansas.Cloe joined civil service. they sent him to pearl harbor,to help clean things up over there,he wasn't there very long until he joined the Navy.Ralph got sent overseas.So Euna came home ,she was pregnant,and had to stay in bed a lot in order to carry Bobby.Hazel Cloe's wife was also pregnant,and she moved in with us.So Dad sold his mules, and then,him,grover, and Billy,went back to California.And left us women there.We were a mile and a half from Lincoln.

I got a job working, in the factory peeling tomatoes , for about six weeks. Sometimes I had to walk to work , other times I was lucky enough, to get a ride with neighbor. I finally gave up the last two week and, stayed with Eula and Fred, and worked since they only lived a block from the cannery. That was the most money, I had ever had to spend, I even had my teeth filled. That was great. I had also had a problem with my hearing, all my life. So I finally went to a ear specialist. He found that my ears was full of wax. IT was just like cement, I thought he would never get that wax out, and boy did that hurt.

Hazel, finally had a baby girl, she was a beautiful baby. She named her Shirley May.

Just after that Dad came home, from California, and a couple of weeks later, Euna had a baby boy. He was a beautiful baby also. And had a lot of red hair. Mom was so busy washing diapers, I was worried that she might have another heart attack, but she did o, k. Euna named her baby Bobby Ferrel HALL.

This was in nineteen and fourty four I was twenty years old, at this time.

Grover, and Billy, came home and Hazel moved in with her folks. After that, Euna and Bobby moved in with her inlaws. Mr. and Mrs . HALL, to wait for Ralph, to come back home. We all decided to rent the house out and come to California.

We hired this guy named Delton ARNOLD to bring us out here. At that time it was hard to get enough gas stamps, to buy enough gas to travel. So i guess Billy sold his car and let Delton have his stamps.

We moved on to this ranch owned by Eddie PIPPO, Lester and Dorothy, and thier boys already lived there. Dad , Billy. and Grover had worked there before. We went to work right away, except Mom. This Was in February nineteen and forty five. We cut spinach in the mornings. and washed it cold running water, and packed it in the after noon. Eddie PIPPO , and Jimmy HANNUM, was running the ranch and were nice bosses.

Well Grover suprired us, He married Mildred CUSHION whom he had been dating for five years. and brought her out to Eddies ranch. She was one of my best friend s. That was great, I thought I would be lonely out here away from my friends. And my brother. Billy, he wanted me to go with him to the show, or where ever he went, so that was nice. Mildreds, brother came to california. and worked with us for awhile. We picked peas up in the hills , alot of them, and packed corn.

Eddie and Jimmy, decided to hire a forman, so they brought this guy in that had only been working there a short time and hired him . Since Lester had been working there for years, he quit Eddie, ' and got a job as foreman at Emilue GHEGGERIs, ranch. So we all quit E ddie. and moved to Byron. Lester and family soon moved onto Emilues ranch. Dad worked on Emilues, ranch also.

Billy, and I, and Grover, and Mildred, all went to work at the B.G. packing shed. When we wasn't working there. we would work for Emilue. But Grover and Mildred, and some times Billy, still worked for Eddie , some time.

Ralph finally got out of service, since the war had ended. and they moved to Byron. and Baker got out of service, and he came to live with Ralph and Euna, and Bobby. so Ralph , and Baker. both went to work for Emilue. Euna was pregnant, and had

a beautiful little girl.They named her wanda Lou.She had red hair like herbrother Bobby,and her Mom.

Baker was the shyiest perison I had ever met my Daddy said that I was the only person that could make him talk.any way Baker didn't stay around here very long,he went back to Arkansas.to his parents.Ralph and euna, and children they soon moved to L.A.and ended up buying a home in Norwalk,Ca .and raised thier childrenthere.

Cloe finally got out of service.he went back to see Hazel, and Shirley.But he came back out here ,and they soon got a divorce. I think Cloe worked, at the steel mill for awhile,and at Emilues. Then went to Ontario CA. and married,Wilma PEARSON.Then he went to Guam to help clean up over there.He had joined civil service.

Mom had been doing pretty good since we had been out here. justtaking care of the house,and doing some of the shopping. while we were at work,and just being there for Evelyn Sue.when she needed her,through the summer.since Billy had custody of her during the summer.But I always helped her do the laundry. when I had a day off. I didnt get to work very much during the winter.But I helped buy our food,and some times I would pay the rent.Since Billy lived next door,mom just automaticallycooked enough for him ,and Evelyn Sue,when she was there.

, In nineteen fourty six,Mom had these skin cansers,on her face.She had one in her temple,that looked like a cyst,that we were worried about.Lester and Dorothy,and boys,took Mom and Dad, back to Arkansas,on a vacation with them.They stayed about two weeks.While they were there,mom went to Dr.BAGGET and had radium treatments.all the cansers healed ,except the one in her temple it looked better for a long time.In the mean time. Billy and I went backto Ark. and stayed amonth or so ,with Eula and Fred, We got to see our old friends .and relatives.We really had a lot of fun.

After we got back out here,and it was time for us to go to work again Mom got a blood clot in her leg,At that time they didnt.save to many people ,with blood clots.So I had to stay home and take care of Mom.She had to lie in bed with her foot elevated for about six seeks.Ihad to keep her leg rapped in towels that I wring ,out of real hot epsom salts water,day and night.for two weeks.Dad would help me part of the night,since he had to work during the day.Then we slackened off to every other hour,and so on.So she finally got well.But I had lost two months work.

Later on the the canser in her temple ,got worse, so she rode back to Arkansas,with Mr. and Mrs .KIRK,and stayed at Eula. and Freds,and took radium treatments again.She got worse,So Dad and I went back to Arkansas.and we moved back into our home.I think that was about November, Dr. said she might live through February.But she lived until August.Euna came back to Ark with Bobby, and Wanda, and helped all she could.and Eula ,and Fred did what they could also.Mom wouldn't let any one dress her head except me.So I had to be there just about all the time.And she got to a point where that she ,wouldn't let any one give her ,medication ,except Dad and I,WE had to give her morphine.Then I soon had to give her morphine,shots.That hurt me so bad to give her those shots,and dress her head ,it just looked so horrible.

After she passed away,Euna,and children,and I rode back out here with Cloe and

Grover. And Dad stayed back there to take care of selling our house. Any way he sold the house. And bought head stones, for his and Moms, graves. and for grandpa, and Grandma HOLLAND s, graves ,and also for Rethas, grave. He had only got fourteen hundred dollars. for our home.

Soon as I got back to California ,I got real sick, I was I was hemmorraging from my lungs. So Cloe put me in the County hospital. They had to collapse part of my lungs ,to stop me from hemmoriging. That is when I found out that I had broncheactisis.

I was in the hospital for seven seeks.

During the time tha Mom was sick. Wilma had a baby boy and named him ,Dale leon. Cloe got back from Guam, so she brought him back to see Mom. and Grover , and Mildred ,had a beautiful Daughter and named her Janet Pauline. And they brought her to see Mom. Billy surprised us by coming back to Ark. on a visit and married Dorothy SNODGRASS.

When we came back to californnia, Cloe and Wilma ,were living. in the house that we had been living in before, so they moved a few houses up the street, and let us have our house back. Grover and Mildred only lived two houses from us. And Billy had moved to Brentwood.

Every thing was going pretty good, but six months after Mom passed away ,Dad had a heart attack. The Doctor told Dad that if he wiuld just rest and not work, for six months ,that he would be ok. But he went back to work soon as he felt well again. He ahd another heart attack six months later and died.

Just before Dad died Grover and Mildred had moved a few blocks from us ,and Eula, Fred and girls, had came out here, and moved into the house that Grover and Mildred, had lived in,

I couldn't stand to live in the house where Dad had died to I stayed with Eula and Fred, part of the time, and Cloe and Wilma part of the time ,until the house next door got empty. then I moved in there. By that time ,My job had finished at the packing shed. And I had gone to work in a cafe.

Just six weeks ,before Dad had died, Cloe and Wilma ,had a baby boy. and named him Donald ,Alvon. they had now found out that he had a bad heart.

And earlier in the year Billy and Dorothy, and a beautiful baby girl and they had named her Sharron Violene.

Baker, had came back to California, and him ,Cloe and Grover, had been working, helping build this canal, Between Byron and Tracy. The DELTA_MENDOTA canal.

Every thing was going pretty smooth during Nine teen and fifty .Baker and I had started dating. But later in the year, Baker, Cloe, and Grover, finished thier jobs, at the canal. Baker , got a job working at port chicago ,naval base. So a little later. We got married ,and bought us a small trailor to live in, and a forty seven Ford. and set up house keeping, in port chicago.

Cloe got a job working on the road for the county .And Grover ended up getting a

job in Georgia. So him , Mildred and Janet. moved to Georgia.

Donnie, Cloe, and Willmas, baby passed Away, from his heart condition. This was in nineteen and fifty one. After that they moved to , Oregon, Darrel , was born there, in Nineteen fifty two. Years 1 later , they moved to Locrecenta, Calif. Cloe died there a few years later. with burgers disease, and a heart attack. He was only 46 yrs. old. Wilma , moved to her fathers home in Ontario, Calif. and finished raising her boys there. Then after Darrel got married, him his wife, and Wilma, moved to Portland Oregon. Wilma later died with collon cansor. Darrel still lives in Portland , oregon. We dont know what happened to Dale wehaven't herd from him in years.

Grover, Mildred , and Janet, came back to Calif. in nineteen fifty two for awhile. and we took them to oregon to see Cloe and family. after that they went back to Arkansas, and bought a shoe shop in Lincoln.

Mildred went to work, and Grover ran the shoe shop. Later they sold the shoe shop. and bought one in Fayetteville Arkansas. Grovers heart got to bad for him to run the shop, so he sold it and they build them a nice home in Prairie Grove , Ark. Grover passed away some time after that. He was only forty three.

Mildred and Jannet both worked, Janet grew up and married Jerry Don REED. They had a son and named him Marty. They still live there.

Later My brother , Lester and his wife Dorothy, got a divorce. Lester, ended up moving to Acampo, Calif. after his children was grown and married. He maried June GASKINS, They had two children. They named them , Tina and Edward. Lester passed away with a heart attack, and lung canser. when he was sixty nine years old. He was a foreman, over a big ranch. Where they raised mostly grapes. June soon moved from where they lived. and we could never find them.

Dorothy , continued to live in Brentwood until the boys grew up . They both got married and moved to Salinas, Ca. So she moved there also. She died there a few years ago, with cansor of the spine. Ronnie and family, still live there. Ragil and family now live in Orange Vale calif. close to Sacramento.

Billy and Dorothy , Seperated, hey wer seperated for years . Then Billy passed away with a heart atack, when he wa only . Fifty five years old. Dorothy, married Jess FLANNERY, they live here in Brentwood. Sharron, got married and had two sons. she got a divorce, Ithnk she now lives in Manteca, Ca.

Evelyn Sue , She had got married year a go To Bill CRANE and Had three children. Named Danny, Debby, and Donna. And they gotta divorce, all of her children, are married and have their familys. and live in the area. Evelyn Sue still lives in her home in Antioch.

Lois Married Ron KUCHARYSKI. They got a divorce. They had a daughter , and named her , Charlene. Lois and Charlene now live in Oakley CALIF.

Incidently, Sharron was married to Jerry BELL, and her childrens names are Jerry, and Steve, BELL. Sharron has changed her name back to HOLLAND.

Fred and Eula got a divorce ,when they were in thier late fifties.Eula lived in Oakley for some time.then she moved to Lincoln Calif. SHE then moved to San RAMon,in the house with her daughter .Bety Sue.She passed away in a rest home later.With a stroke,we think.She was seventy three years old.

Fred continued to live around Tracy,and Manteca ,Calif. he developed throat cansor ,and died when he was sixty five years old.

Eve Mae,married Dick McCORD,They had four children ,Named Richard,Susan ,Jacky,and Cindy.They got a divorce also.Eva May is now married again and living in Manteca.Idont know where her children are living.

Betty Sue was married to Chuck MICHELS,they had two boys. Thier names.are Ricky.and steve, Betty and Chuck, got A divorce, Both of thier boys have been married.They all live in redding ,Ca.

Euna,and Ralph ,got a divorce ,Ralph married Ruth THOMAS.and Made his home in Oklahoma,and died therefrom a stroke.

Euna,Has made her home in Redding ,Calif.Wanda ,was Married, and and had ,a son named RogerDale.and a daughter named MISTY, and a son named Timmy.Incidentally her husband name was Chet ADKINS.

Eunas son Bobby ,was murdered when he was twenty eight years old.They never did find out who murdered him or why.

Finally Baker,andI (Reba). We lived in our trailor ,for eight months.Then we sold it ,and moved into the Knox park housing project, in port Chicago.In Feb,20,1952.we had a beautiful baby boy,But he was stillborn,from a prolapse cord.That was such a horrible experiance for us,He had red hair,He looked like he weighed about eight lbs.We never got to hold him,our hear him cry, I guess we never get over something ,like that.

Igot pregnant ,about three months later,and tried to hard to keep from having a miscarriage,that I got peratonatis,and almost lost my own life.

We lived there until late 52.then Baker,decided port Chicago was to dangerous a place to work,so he quit.

HE was fortunate enough to soon get a job working at,San Jauquin,Fiber board in Antioch.

We then moved to BRENTWOOD,CA. and on June 7,1954,we had A beautiful baby girs,and named her,Linda Darlene HALL.I guess that was about the happiest time in our lives, to finally have a healthy Baby.She was adorable.Billy,and,Dorothy,had adorable Lois,

Things went pretty smooth for a while,and we decided,to have another child.Soon after I got pregnant, I started having problems with my ear.And when I was four months pregnant,they found that I had A mastroid tumor ,that had completely filled up my right ear.Dr. FOGELHUT said that Iwould have to have surgery right away,that the tumor might get to my brain.But I said no. Because I wanted to wait until our baby was born first.They said that if I had the surgery, that I would no dought have a miscarriage.So he said the only thing he could do would be to

burn a hole through my tomor.for five months.He couldn't give me anything for pain,since I was pregnant.All during this time Dr. BOYSEN was standing by.He was our family Dr.he kept saying,we would make it, and giving me moral support.Two weeks before the due date,for my baby.Dr.FOGEL HUT .said we couldn't wait any longer,that they wou=ld have to put me in the hospital.and induce labor.But Dr. BOYSEN said ,no, that the baby wouldn't make it.Ithink it was a month later when,we had our other beautiful daughter ,but the cord was wrapped around her rist,and had cut off her blood supply.she wouldn't breathe.They put this thing on my mouth ,and on her mouth.and told me to get short ,quick breaths .and soon I herd her cry.That was a happy sound.She was real blue for two weeks.We named herKaren Yvonne.

Dorothy ,who had been married to my brother Lester ,and my sister Eula, cared for our children,for two weeks,while I was in the hospital,to have my surgery,Ihad surgery when Karen was one week old.

Euna,my other sister came down from L.a. and cared for me for two weeks,and the babies,after I came home.Her daughter wanda came with heralso.She was ten years old at the time.Then Eula and her girls would come over and do my heavy work in the after noon ,for some time. Ithought my ear would never heal.I kept getting scar tissue,and having to go back to the hospital,for Dr ,FOGELHUT,to burn that out. It did heal eventually.but left me with a deaf ear.Dr.BOYSEN said that I only had a structor of bone left in there to hold up my brain.

Every thing went o.k.for us for afew years.We visited.The childrens Grandparents,Mr.and Mrs.HALL in Arkansas,and my brother, and family,and my parents graves,every year .plus going to L,A. and visiting relatives,and seeing the sightsthere every year,plus Disney Land.

WHEN Linda was seven years old ,and Karen was five years old when I had a hemmoridge from my lungs,and that time I had to have lung surgery.ThankGod I lived through that and recovered. with out any complications.I had the lower lobe of my left lung removed .That was very painful. I was so thankful that now I could live to help Baker raise our Daughters.

Every thing went smooth for us,every thing went as usual. But my brother,Grover,died in 1963,arather strange thing happened about that.I couldn't go back to his funeral,It hadn't been to long since we had been back to see them.But we went back a few months later after he had passed away.and when I WAS standing by his grave crying,I looked up and saw him standing at the foot of his grave smiling.He was dressed in light color clothing,tan color.and a short sleeve shirt.I know not very many people believe this.But our undertaker soon came by afer we got back to Mr.HALLs house. His name was Loyd LOUGINBUEL.He ask me if I had beento see Grovers grave,and what happened ,When I told him what happened.He said that he had ,had other people,tell him of other simular experances. that they had,had.when they hadn't been able to attend their relatives funerals,then went back later.

Any way Mr.HALL got sick ,and we went back to Ark.and took care of him ,or helped Granny take care of him for two weeks.Thenwe went to see Dodge City Kansas.We had to see that, since we had been watching gun smoke.And we came back through Colorada,and drove a cross the Royal Gorge.that was some expierance,in itself,since it was a swinging bridge.That was the last time we took you girls back to Ark.

Mr. HALL passed away in 1964. Granny Mrs HALL moved in to the house, with her daughter Grace, in Manhattan Beach, Ca. Close to L.A. She came and stayed a few weeks with us different times, and we still went to see relatives, around L.A. often Granny in later years, ended up in a rest home, and lived to be almost ninety five years old.

In the nineteen sixties, Baker had mastoid surgery, on his left ear. and lost his hearing in that ear, He later had a ruptured appendix. and got gang green, and we almost lost him. But he did recover thank God.

We've Been lucky, with two healthy daughters. About the only time they were sick, was when they had measles, and chicken pox, and did both have to have their tonsils, removed.

Anyway Linda graduated from high school, and went to college, She got a job at Silveral Lumber Co. and worked there for eighteen years, During that time, she married Jack BROWN, (he is a construction electrician.) And they had a beautiful daughter. and named her Heather Dawn. Linda now works for P.G. and E. in San Francisco Ca. Jack, Linda, and Heather, have a nice home in Antioch Ca.

Karen got married to Jim HETZLER, when she was seventeen years old. After two years, they got a divorce. And she went to college, four and a half years. In the meantime she married Chris POHL. They had two beautiful daughters. Their names are Melissa Renee. and Jennifer Emily. They have a real nice home in Union City, Ca. Chirst works in Dionicks, in Sunny Vale Ca. I think he has seven inventions.

Baker, and I, still live here in Brentwood, Calif. in a home that we bought, in 1967. We have been married for forty four Yrs. Baker is seventy five years old, and I, am seventy years old.

Euna said that when Grandma HOLLAND, died that she was there. and that Grandma, said look at all the Angels, they are so beautiful. and Heaven is so beautiful, I wish that I could take all of you with me. Euna was six years old at that time. She was born in 1916, and Grandma died in 1922.

About two weeks before Mama passed away, she started talking about children running around her bed. We thought she was talking about the children she had lost. And talking to people who had passed on before her. Especially Aunt Cora BUTTRY. A minister came to see Mom, just about every day, and he kept her supplied with flowers, gladiolas flowers. Mom would keep saying, Cora why do you keep sitting there with all those flowers on your hat.

Mom was saved and baptised when she was twelve years old into the Baptist church.

Dad was a big cut up, He told me that he had a pain in his chest, he had been to the Dr. that day he was supposedly recovering from a heart attack, but had felt worse that morning, when I went to work. Eula was watching him during the day. and her and Wilma had took him to the DR, so I wanted him to let me call the Doctor for him he said no that when he died he wanted to die at home. So he wouldn't let me leave him to call the Doctor. When Fred and Eula, came home from shopping He told me to call Fred over there. Dad was sitting up in the bed. Fred sat in a chair beside his bed. and Dad was talking and cutting up with Fred, and fell over in Fred's lap dead. So he was laughing when he died.

Grover lay down across the bed and went to sleep, and they found him dead the next morning.

Bill, had a heart attack, and was in the hospital, Dr. DUFFY was examining him to see if he was able to go home, and he died.

Lester was in the hospital with his heart problem. The nurse was sitting by him while he was reading the paper, she thought he had gone to sleep, but soon realized that he was dead.

Eula was in the rest home, they thought she died from a stroke. They said she died from slow bleeding in her brain.

Euna is in good health, other than tremors that she has had for years, and she doesn't know what causes them. She has lived longer than any of our immediate family.'

I (Reba), have quite a few things wrong with my health, I have Ulcerative Colitis, another name for it is, Irritable Bowel Disease. At this time, this affects 3-1/2 ft. of my colon. They tell me this might be inherited, but I don't know of any one else in our family who has it. I also have fibrocitis, another name for that is, Fibromyalgia. This is very painful, it works on the muscles. THEY say this might be inherited also. I take Prednizone steroid hormones, in order to tolerate these two diseases. I hope none of my family ever inherits these. I also have Diverticulitis, Hiatal hernia, Bronchiectasis. and Edema. But still live a pretty normal life.

I guess Baker my husband is pretty healthy. He only has Diverticulitis, and a Hiatal hernia.

This is my life story.
Written and typed by,
REBA LEONA HOLLAND HALL

(next pg please)

When I was sixteen ,Dad decided to build me a bed room on our' house.so he cut down some trees and took them to the saw mill, and had them sawed into lumber.So he started building my room, Some one gave him a roof off an old house that they had tore down,so he put that on top of my room.But he didn't have shingles to go on top of the roof, where it went together and didn't yet have anything to Seal the house with,My birthday was coming up so I wanted that room finished,I bought wall paper,and had to put it up with carpet tax,since it wouldn't stick to the wood with paste. Dod couldn't buy a window as yet to go in my window ,so he nailed a screen on my window.One night it was real dark and I herd some one walking in my room.When my Momgot sick at night,Dad would wake me to cook breakfast,but I thought it was strange that he hadn't lit the lamp.So I yelled Dad is that you up ,and he said no i'm not up.Then I didn't hear any more foot steps,and when we got up the next morning ,the whole screen was tore off my window. We never did find out who did that.

MOM and Dad gave me a birthday party on my seventeenth birth day ,so even tho my room wasn't finished,it still came in handy.A few months later ,when I was sleeping in my room,I thought it was awfully cold in my bed,for me to have so much cover,It was daylight already but Iwas keeping my head covered,in the meantime Billy had come to see us.He opened my door and my whole bed was covered with snow.Dad still hadn't fixed the crack in top of the roof.

A neighbor boy who lived across the pasture from us,he had gone to Fayetteville,and bought his mom a beautiful cut glass cake dish.he showed it to Mom ,she thought it was so pretty,he told her ,I will go get you one if you will give me Reba.It was thirty miles or more to Fayetteville,he hitchiked back to Fayetteville, and brought Mom the cake dish,then gave it to her and said ,here is your cake dish,where is Reba.I said no way.After all who would want to change their name,from HOLLAND to HICKOMBOCKOM? When Billy and Dorothy, got married Billy got that plate,Dorothy kept that plate for years.but doesn't remember now what she did with it.

Every spring we would go out in the woods,and pick wild greens,especially polk salad.Then we would have,corn bread and salad greens.

When we went to asquare dance ,some times we would walk twoor three miles,Dad would go with us and carry the lantern so we could see where we were going,He would walk so fast us young people could hardly keep us with him,after dancing half the night.

I remember when I was very young and in a high chair our cat was acting strange in our living room,Euna ,Eula,and Grover. and I were there alone,I was sitting in the high chair in front of the fire place,they all got scared of the cat and ran into the kitchen ,leaving me in the high chair,Itried to get out of the chair ,and it turned over into the fire place.Grover, came back and got me out of the fireplace.I only got one small burn on my hand. "Thanks to my brother Grover."

THIS IS SOME THINGS ,THAT I REMEMBERED ,AFTER I GOT THE STORY WROTE.THATS WHY IT IS IN THE BACK OF THE BOOK.

REBA.

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