

A History of Susie Hind Meikle¹

Susie Hind Meikle was born in Smithfield, Utah, on August 10, 1877. She was the fifth child of Hanna Platt Hind.

Sylvia Lowe Jensen used to play with Susie when they were children. One day they both ate some toadstools and became very ill, but fortunately they were soon well.

The first tomato she had tasted was when she was but a child. At that time she lived in a two-room log cabin. Her Aunt Betty Blake had just been married. She and her husband came to visit and brought some tomatoes from Salt Lake City. She liked the tomatoes and has liked them since.

When but a girl they used to homestead land on the hill. She used to walk to Sunday school and primary. She also used to pick gooseberries along the way.

Susie was teacher's pet in Harmen Price's and Will Raymond's classes. At one time during recess, Susie, Matt Hatfield, Donnie Done, Silve McSmith and several others locked themselves in the school room and the other children were locked out. Much

¹ This life history was originally written in pencil on notebook paper. It was written sometime after August of 1937, based on the statement that Susie Hind Meikle had 11 living children and one dead. I suspect it was written by Dessa Meikle, or perhaps by Mary Meikle.

It was in a book of remembrance that Dessa Meikle had at the time of her death, along with histories of Mary Susan Bollinger and Susie Hind Meikle in similar handwriting and paper. Dessa Meikle's son Tad Cannon gave the book to Don Meikle, who gave it to Ted Meikle. As of October 2000, the original is in the possession of Ted S. Meikle, 10900 38th Avenue North, Plymouth, Minnesota 55441.

This typescript was prepared by Ted Meikle October 2000. He made minor corrections to spelling and grammar. Substantial changes were footnoted.

trouble was caused through this, but all was forgiven.

Susie went to school where the city park now is. The only time Susie sluffed school was when she and five others left school and went after watercress. They arrived home at 6:00 o'clock. Their folks were glad to receive such good watercress.

At the age of twelve, Susie tended a small boy, Jimmy Thomas, whose father was a butcher. She took care of him after school. With the money she received she bought her clothes. The Thomas family moved to Butte, Montana. They frequently sent gifts to Susie such as ribbons and embroidered aprons.

Susie knit her own stockings from the sheep wool they had. They were usually black or red and sometimes striped. They took their wool up to a mill in Franklin Canyon and had it made into linseed cloth. The cloth was made into petticoats, sheets or underwear.

R.V. Larsen, a boy, used to enjoy going with Susie and her friend. Each would bring something with which they would make ice cream.

When Susie and her friends went to Mutual they were usually followed by boys. One evening she took pepper and when the boys came around she threw pepper in their eyes. The two boys were J.W. Kirkbride, now principal of Cache County School, and Tom Chambers.

One Sunday after Sunday School on her way home, a boy, Harper P. Noble, pinched her arm. She had been pinched by him several other times, so she pushed him in the creek.

She used to go to dances at the old Smithfield meeting house and also to picnic dances. They had square dances and round

dances, which were enjoyed by all the dance halls were above Douglas's store and Abe Smith's store, which stand there today.

Susie attended school until 16 years old. She then worked doing housework.

Susie had always wanted to be a baker and had the opportunity to learn, but in those days it wasn't the kind of work for a lady. Her mother disagreed to let her become a baker.

In 1896 she met Henry Meikle, who moved to Teton, and on December 10, 1899 she had a daughter which she called Mary. While her husband was working in the mines she took care of the home and family.

In 1910 they moved to Smithfield where they settled. There were now 7 children in the family.² She had taken care of a few chickens and a garden ever since she came here and she always has flowers in the summer.

She has always taken part in church affairs. When she was 16 she became secretary of Mutual which lasted for three years.

She has been a member of the Relief Society for many years. Susie has 11 living children and one dead. She has 15 living grandchildren and one dead.

² Original says 8 children.