

Notes on Charles Henry Bassett II

Charles H. Bassett II came from Salt Lake City. His wife, Mary Lee, came from Tooele, Utah. They came to Lago in the spring of 1877. Don Henry was born that December. Mary was sixteen years old.

Charles full brothers were Julius, Fred and Frank. Frank took up the place that later became Don's. He left it and Jens Swensen filed on it. His wife died and he married a widow with two girls a year later. After his death she sold the place to Charlie Bassett.

Charlie Bassett worked for the railroad. He lived at Beaver Canyon (now Spencer) and worked on up to Montana. Charlie and his brothers ran a stage line for five years from June to October from Beaver Canyon to Yellowstone. Molly Bassett ran a halfway station for three years on the South Fork of the Snake River. The stage changed horses there. The mosquitoes were terrific. Idaho Falls was called Eagle Rock in those days.

Ben Clegg came from Tooele and knew Molly there. He was a bouncer. After he came up here, some of the boys put the saddle backwards on his horse and other incidents to tease him. Some of the boys stuffed a sack in the church house chimney. Pete Anderson was the janitor. Harold Bassett and Howard Rodeback took the bell off the Presbyterian Church. Someone also put a buggy on the roof.

Charles and Molly built a large house in Lago in 1887, the year Madge was born. Charles and family lived in Pocatello, Idaho the winters of 1893, 1894, and 1895 while he was assessor. He was the first Bannock County assessor. He was Country treasurer for one term and county commissioner for many years. Fred and Willis were born in Pocatello. Don attended 6, 7, and 8th grades there. Don and Hattie went to the Agricultural College in Logan, Utah in the fall of 1896. It was mostly a review of the 8th grade. They came home in February of 1897 for their parent's 20th wedding anniversary. They went from Logan to Richmond, Utah on the Interurban. Roe Harris, brother of McGee Harris, brought them the rest of the way to Lago in a sleigh. The snow was so deep where the Lago cemetery is now that they could barely get through. They were homesick and did not go back to school. Harold went to Logan to school at some time also.

One winter most of Charlie's stock starved because there was so much snow and no feed.

William Henry (Charles's half brother) and Charles Henry each filed on 160 acres of dry farm on the Bench and gave it to Don and Harold around 1900. This was before Don and Harold were married.

Don and Amanda Meacham were married in May of 1902 instead of June, as they had planned, so that Joe and Hyrum Swensen could attend the wedding before taking their cattle out North.

I (Stan Hansen) can remember peeking through the window and seeing CH sitting in his old chair in the house across the street. Sometimes he would call me in and give me a stick of chewing gum.

There is no author or date on the original. The original appears to be a random set of notes. The author does say in two instances "The history mentioned" but gives no clue about what history is being referred to.

The notes were arranged in date sequence, corrected for spelling and phrasing where necessary, and placed in digital format by Stanley D. Hansen in March of 2008.