"I desire no future which will break the ties of the past."
— George Elliot.

In our traditional "Cannon Chronicle" we have written largely about our ancestry. Though realizing we inevitably will miss many, we would like first to focus on some current younger members who are admirably carrying on the ideals of our cherished past.

First comes to mind Paul Cannon Pollei, son of Emily Cannon Pollei, daughter of Dr. William T. Cannon and his adopted sister, Ada, who brought into the family the musical strain of the Croxalls. Paul first gained national prominence when the first "Meet the Mormons" week was held in Tallahassee, Florida, in 1974. He has since had international prominence in Japan, Taiwan and Indonesia. He is now located in Provo at the BYU, where he recently directed the Gina Bachauer International Summer Festival.

Judge David K. Winder, 47 years old, is the youngest man to be federal judge in Utah. He is the son of Edwin K. Winder and the late Alma Cannon Winder, daughter of William T. and Ada Cannon.

Members of the Cannon family continue to play a strong supporting role in the Church. In October, 1978, the General Board of the Young Women’s organization of the Church was reorganized with Elaine Anderson Cannon (wife of D. James Cannon, George Q. family, who last June was named President of the National Association of Consulting Engineers Council Executives) as General President. Assisting her as members of the General Board are Margery Sorensen Cannon (wife of William W. Cannon) and Winifred Cannon Jardine (wife of Stuart B. Jardine), both from the George Q. branch. Their daughters Merilee Cannon and Ann Jardine are serving in an advisory capacity.
Dr. Jeffrey R. Holland is serving as Commissioner of Education for the Church. He is over all the Church colleges, institutes and seminaries. He is a great grandson of Leonora Cannon Gardner.


Too often in speaking of our Cannon Family, we refer only to the six children of Ann Quayle. We are located so we have not had as much contact with the children of the lovely daughter Elizabeth, posthumous child of George Cannon and the kind, young Welsh woman, Mary Edwards White who had been helpful with his children on the voyage from Liverpool when they lost their mother Ann Quayle, and again on the bitter cold trip up the Mississippi to Nauvoo.

Only recently have we been aware that the beautiful, talented Joan Ottley, who is the outstanding soloist with the Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir, is a South, a part of the Elizabeth Cannon Piggott family of Randolph in northern Utah. Joan is the wife of Jerrold Ottley, conductor of the choir. They studied music together in Germany on Fulbright scholarships. She is so tall, gracefully poised and beautiful, it is almost as enjoyable to watch as to listen to her sing.

Marge Cannon Pingree (who is both of the Angus M. and George Q. Cannon families) has three fine sons. Among them is John who is Director of the Utah Transit Authority, while George is a prominent eye surgeon in Salt Lake City.

Nora Stewart Snow of the Angus M. Cannon family has three fine young people who are doers. Christopher Snow is with the United States Foreign Service. During the revolution in Iran, Chris was Director of the Iran-American Society in Tehran; he and his wife Cameron experienced extreme mental and physical trauma before their safe evacuation in April, 1979. They are now in London where Chris serves as Cultural Attache to the United States Embassy there. After being public relations consultant for the Urban League and director of the American Bankers Association in Washington, D.C., Leonora Snow Cross is Director of the Editorial and Publications Management Divi-
sion of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Lee and her husband, John M. Cross, have one daughter, Anne Leonora. Nicholas J. Snow, formerly associate Business Editor of the Deseret News, is now Managing Editor of the Oil Daily, a nationally distributed newspaper published by the Whitney Enterprises. Nick's wife, Robbie, formerly a reporter for the Salt Lake Tribune, is Editor of the Women's Political Times.

Janet Cannon Randall, daughter of Collins Telle and Ida Mae Burton Cannon (George Q. Cannon family) has been appointed to the Institutional Council of Utah State University in Logan, Utah.

Dr. Collins Phillip Cannon, son of Collins B. Cannon and grandson of Collins Telle Cannon, has received a United States patent for his detector which monitors the level of neutron activity inside a nuclear reactor. Phillip, a senior scientist at Westinghouse Hanford Co., is a co-inventor of the self-powered detector, which can be used to monitor the neutron flux in commercial power reactors.

Angus Robert (Bob) Cannon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Steffenson Cannon, is currently consultant in physics with the BDM Corporation in Monterey, California. He has served as physicist on the team to track and observe space flights at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in the Goldstone Desert. He has had worldwide recognition and service since 1972 when he presented his paper before the space research scientists of the world in Madrid, Spain.

Ted (Edwin Q. Jr. of the George Q. Cannon family) and Janeth Russell Cannon have just returned from one year in Ghana and Nigeria where they were called as special representatives of the International Mission of the Church in those countries. Ted and his brother Bill are working on a spot at their Salt Lake Stamp Co. to give to the Cannon family to store family records so they will be accessible to family members. Keep in touch for its opening.

Winfield Q. Cannon has also been serving as mission president in Singapore and India for the past year or so. Winfield is a son of the late Sylvester Q. Cannon and grandson of George Q. Cannon.

Honors continue to come to David C. Evans, son of David W. and Beatrice Cannon Evans (Angus M. family). He has been elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering, one of the highest
professional honors in engineering. His father, David W. Evans received an honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree from Utah State University in Logan.

Glen Badger Cannon, president of the George Q. Cannon Family Association and son of Spencer Croxall and Nancy Badger Cannon, was elected Mayor of Draper, Utah in the recent election.

Charles N. Cannon, son of George M. Cannon, Jr. (Angus M. family), is president of Fluor Engineers and Constructors, Inc. of Fluor Corporation. Fluor Corporation provides engineering, construction, and management of oil, gasoline and other energy sources. This large company serves worldwide areas including South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Asia, Latin America, Australia, and Europe, as well as the United States. The work is of vital importance in the present world circumstances of short energy supply. Charles, married to Margie Moore, is the father of daughters Martha (Mrs. William Manning), and Carol (Mrs. Lawrence Jones), and grandson Morgan Jones. He resides in Corona del Mar, California.

Our present president of the George Cannon Family Association, Orin R. (Bud) Woodbury, though not a Cannon in name, is more Cannon than any of our past presidents with the Cannon name. He represents two of the stalwart women of the first generation of our Cannon ancestors in America: Mary Alice Cannon Lambert, oldest daughter of George and Ann Quayle Cannon, who largely mothered the younger orphaned children of our immigrant converts, as well as bearing 14 children of her own. Bud is also descended from the second daughter, Ann, who is the ancestor of our Woodbury line. Orin operates two businesses, is on the Church Coordinating Committee and is a guide at Temple Square, often entertaining visitors at his home. He is ably aided by his lovely wife, Imogene Randall.

Though we could go on indefinitely with youth, let us now turn to the older generations.

In our last Chronicle, 1977, we told of Theresa (Aunt Tris) Cannon Huntsman at 92 as being the oldest living woman in the Cannon family. She died June 20, 1979 at her home in Enterprise. She was completely blind and had been for some time. She was so pleasant and keen in her mind, it was a treat to visit her.
George Piggott, 93 in June next, is believed to be our oldest member. He is not only alive, but young and lively, traveling to Bloomington (Idaho) in the summer and Kanab for the winters.

Glen Bennion Cannon, son of Angus M. and Maria Bennion Cannon, died April 22, 1979. He was the last living child of Angus M. Cannon. It was said at the time of his death that he still taught a Sunday School class of young people which crowded the chapel.

On December 31, 1978, Wilhelmina Ardella (Del) Fagergren, 90, died. She was the daughter of Wilhelmina Cannon and her cousin Abram H. Cannon. Del is survived by 5 children, 29 grandchildren and 53 great grandchildren.

Vice Admiral Ray Cannon Needham, son of Ray B. and Lillian Cannon Needham (George Q. family) passed away October 29, 1979 at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Ray attained the highest rank of any U.S. Naval officer from Utah.

Traditionally, the Cannons were specifically taught to raise, not lower the quality of their family in choosing mates. Quite generally, they seem to have done so, beginning with Ann Quayle, who was the heroine at our start. Ramona Wilcox Cannon was a good example of an achiever. She took on the children of her husband’s (Joseph J. Cannon, George Q. family) first wife who died, as well as having a family of her own. Ramona was best known by her newspaper column under her pen name “Mary Marker” which appeared in the Deseret News from 1947 to 1974. It dispensed advice and sympathy to the troubled and distressed. It was most remarkable she did not begin her newspaper career until she was 60, after a full life of travel, writing, teaching and raising a remarkable family. In addition to her newspaper column, she authored more than 400 pieces, including dramas, pageants, poems, stories and reviews appearing in other publications. She received many awards, including the University of Utah’s Distinguished Alumnus award in 1975. But most of all to her was a special “Honor Mother” award presented at the “Mother of the Year” contest in 1978. She died early in 1979 as the result of a fall.

Clara Cannon Burgess, 88, is the oldest living child of David H. Cannon. Until this year, she has always kept up her beautiful corner lot
with rose garden, vegetable garden, fruit trees and lawn by herself. When she had been married just six weeks, her husband, Milton Burgess, left for a 27-month mission to the Southern States. For 14 years, Clara served as a stake missionary, and following her husband’s death in 1951, she served a full time mission in California. She has been a visiting teacher for more than 50 years. She has been an ordinance worker in the St. George Temple for 25 years. Eighty-two descendants were present on the occasion of her 88th birthday. She presented each one with a hand embroidered article.

The genealogist for the Cannon Family for many years, Margaret Cannon Clayton passed away two years ago, just two days before the last reunion, but after the Chronicle had been printed and mailed. Following is the eulogy given by Beatrice Cannon Evans at that reunion:

“Before learning of Margaret Cannon Clayton’s sudden death (at the age of 91 years) on Saturday last (Dec. 3, 1977), I had, with her family’s approval, planned to announce here her room number at the Hillhaven nursing home where she would appreciate visits from the family. Everyone would be given a lift by her optimistic interest in life and people. My husband and I will miss the lift she invariably gave us as we called on her weekly. Her mind was as sharp as a tack, and her smooth skin barely showed the suggestion of a wrinkle.

“Some years ago when we received our first supply of microfilms from our homeland, the Isle of Man, it was necessary to have a good family association genealogist. Anne M. Cannon was chairman of the George Cannon Family Historical and Genealogical Committee. She thought of people with time and money to spare but did not feel satisfied.

“At last, one morning she called and said, ‘Bea, I know who our genealogist should be. It’s Margaret Cannon Clayton. It came to me in the night.’

“Margaret at the time already had needed part-time paying work at the Church Membership and Tithing office. But she took the appointment, working at it much at nights. But she had the spirit.

“By the time The Cannon Family Historical Treasury was published in 1967, ten years ago, 7,414 persons had received vicarious
baptisms, endowments and sealing blessings through Margaret’s work.”

As a postscript to her remarks, Bea added, “I correspond regularly with Canon Charles Albert Cannan, now 87 years old, one of our relatives. He addresses me as ‘Dear Cousin’ and signs, ‘Affectionately yours, Albert.’ He is one of the last Cannons in the Isle of Man. He has said to me, ‘How richly have your people been rewarded for their long, hard trek to their promised land.’”

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Canon Cannan last February at the age of 88 years. He was born in Kirk Michael at Coolshellagh. He later became Vicar of his native parish and served in that capacity for 33 years. He was a keen student of the Manx language and was one of the few in the island who could speak the Manx language and who could preach a sermon in his native language. Most members of the family who have visited the Island have enjoyed a visit with Canon Cannan. Our hearts go out to his daughter Pauline, and we extend an invitation to her to visit the branch of the family in America.

1979 has been a history-making year for the Isle of Man. This has been the millenial anniversary of Tynwald, the open-air parliament of the Island. It is the oldest continuous democracy in the world and only open-air assembly. Each year, on the morning of July 5 (Old Midsummer Day), the people of the Island gather at Tynwald Hill. A service is held first in St. John’s Chapel. At the close of the service, the Governor, preceded by the Sword of State and accompanied by a fanfare of trumpets, leads the procession out of the west door of the chapel and down the rush-strewn Ceremonial Way to Tynwald Hill. He is followed by the Legislative Council, House of Keys and other governmental and civic and church representatives. During the ceremony at the Tynwald Hill, the new officers of the six Sheadings (like counties) are sworn in. Then a summary of all the laws passed in the Island during the past year are read to the people both in English and Manx. By ancient right, any Manxman may petition the Court on Tynwald Day for the redress of grievances. The rest of the morning is taken over by the Tynwald Fair. This day is the highlight of the year, but in this millenial year, there have been special events planned throughout the entire year, and a number of family members have made the journey back to their fatherland during this commemorative year.
One of the special things done in the Island during the Millenial year as the organization, last January, of the Family History Society of the Isle of Man, which meets each month on the last Friday evening. They publish a quarterly Journal which is sent airmail to members all over the world. They are organizing a Pedigree Referral Index for members, and belong to the Federation of Family History Societies. The genealogist of the Society, Nigel Crowe, is our cousin through six different lines and has done considerable genealogical research for our family association. The Society is undertaking projects of recording and indexing and cataloging records in cooperation with the library at the Manx Museum, as well as transcribing tombstone inscriptions which are deteriorating rapidly. If any of you are interested in joining this Society, the membership fee is six pounds (check with a bank for the current exchange rate). It should be sent to:

Isle of Man
Family History Society
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. I. E. Lyle
The Old Manse
Kirk Michael, Isle of Man
British Isles

Due to limitations of space and postage costs, we have had to pick out some of the highlights of family activities and accomplishments. We realize that there are many, many others of the family who are accomplishing worthwhile things and achieving recognition in their fields. We wish there were room to include everyone. To help us keep in touch with family members and their accomplishments, especially those who are away from Salt Lake City and Utah, we encourage you to drop us a line, or a newspaper clipping, letting us know about noteworthy events in your branch of the family. These should be sent to the George Cannon Family Association, c/o Salt Lake Stamp Co., P.O. Box 2399, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110.