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September 15, 1993

Dear Brian,

I was happy to hear from you. You did not need to send the copies of the depositions back. I thought I had told you that. It seems like we got them on disc for you anyway if I remember right. Oh well, it was good to get your letter anyway. I tried to call you about a month ago when I was in Salt Lake but you were not home. I meant to call back but didn't get around to it. I did get a hold of Don Bradley though when I was up there. He had some interesting things to tell me about something he had read in John Carlisle's diary. I want to try and get it if I can.

What you say about the Fundamentalists not being Fundamental is very interesting to me. I have come to understand that to be the truth for some time now. I would like to see what you have on it sometime if possible. I am also interested in the biographies of Musser, Woolley, Broadbent and Barlow. I hope you don't run out of steam as you indicate. If there is any way I can help you to do it, just let me know. I don't know if I could be of much help but would do whatever I could.

I don't know if I ever told you are not, but I have been working on a history of Short Creek and the polygamist movement here. I am now working on the fourth chapter. I'm in the 1960s era. I just don't seem to have the time I need to work on it all I would like. Maybe when winter comes maybe I'll have more time. I would like to get yours and Max's impute on it sometime. When I get to Salt Lake again I'll try and contact you then about it.

I was interested about your sister. It's not surprising that she has left the Allreds. The Polygamist Groups take the free agency from their followers. It is hard for people who have been raised outside of the groups to give up their free agency. I've seen many people come and go for that reason. I'm interested as to where she is now, or who she is following. If you think it would help her any for me to talk with her, I would like the opportunity to do so. I have seen the history of the polygamists first hand, almost from the beginning ( I was born in 1935). I knew John Barlow, Joseph Musser, Charles Zitting and of course all of Barlow's Priesthood Council. I never did know Louis Kelsch or Legrand Woolley though I knew about them as they were talked about quite a bit here. They did not participate in the united order movements, and did not associate with the people much, especially after John Barlow called his own Council.

The Judge in the Federal Court dismissed the lawsuit on grounds of there being no Federal issues. We have filed it over in State Court. I don't know how either side

could claim a victory as, like you say, it has just been sent to another Court. I know the other side claimed victory. They have been saying the lawsuit is over. I don't see how we could claim any victory at this time, it is only just being drug out longer. I'll be happy when it's over, however it comes out. I don't think I'll wait much longer before I start to build a new house. I do have the property now to build on here. And It won't belong to any United Effort Plan.

I don't know if you have heard or not but Annie has finally been baptized. It took a struggle, but it finally happened. We had to go to Salt Lake for an interview with Elder Faust before she was approved. It seemed odd to me that they would not approve her but did me as soon as they did. She was far more worthy than I. Things are going quit well for us now. We are quit active in the Church and are enjoying it. I didn't know there was so much difference between the Fundamentalists and the Church as there is. Like I said earlier, the Church isn't as eager to take away the free agency of their followers as the Polygamists are.

I don't know anything to tell you about a fireside in the area. Since the General Authorities have stopped the meetings here, things have pretty much came to a stop so far as any missionary work is concerned.

Well, it was good to hear from you. I will try and call again the next time I get up there. I guess I'll close for now. See you soon, Ben.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ben".

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