

LENA MARIE AUGUSTA DAHLMAN NICKLE
(1892-1971)

Lena excelled in many things in life, but if it was necessary to use one word for her it would be “Noble.” She was an outstanding wife to Dan, mother of 9 children, grandmother of 21, great grandmother of 76, and great-great grandmother of 36 (as of Jan. 2006).

Lena loved babies and would be her happiest at cuddling her children and grand children. She was idolized by her family and was thought to be the most talented, knowledgeable, and influential person in their lives. Years after her death, one of her great-grandson’s (quoting his mother) told some friends that his Grandma Nickle was the most noble woman in the world. She would have smiled at that – especially knowing that her patriarchal blessing received in 1940 stated “...your children shall honor your name to the latest generation of time and you will rejoice in their faithfulness.”

Being the mother of 7 daughters (her two sons having passed away at age 6 months and 5 years) Lena first goal was to make sure they had the proper religious training, and then she would strive to teach them to become ladies. She often taught what ladies did and ladies did not do, and when her daughters were called real ladies by others, she was most happy. She often made their clothes (sewing late into the evening) and they can all attest that they were among the very best dressed in their schools because of her great talent.

Lena, even though limited in education, self-taught herself by reading. Her daughters would find her at home when they came from school, being properly dressed (hose and heels every day) and sitting in her lovely living room, dinner prepared for the evening and the house work all done, reading a book or Church lesson. Besides her accomplishments at home (she was honored and respected by her neighbors and the mothers of our little friends), she excelled in her callings in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served as a the first district Relief Society President and branch Relief Society President and was a leader among women. She was often called upon to speak, teach and lead many – which was difficult for such a modest, shy woman.

Yes, “a noble, faithful, compassionate, talented, artistic, giving woman.” She was called “sophisticated” for her period of time and during her life time and all the years since, her name is and will be honored.

(Compiled 2006 by her daughter, W. Nadyne Nickle)