ADOLPH BRYANT HOFFMAN
1873-1922

Adolph Bryant Hoffman was born in Malmo, Sweden, 1 Nov. 1873, the son of Herman Hendrik Martin and Christina Maria Frelander Hoffman. His mother joined the church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints in 1873. Although her husband gave his consent for her baptism, he never joined the church and became very intolerant of her association with the Mormons. So she decided to come to Utah with her children.

She worked and finally saved enough money to send her 17 year old son, Axel, to America. In 1881 he came alone and worked hard to earn enough money so she could bring his 4 half sisters, one at a time, to Salt Lake. Here they lived with various families they had known in Sweden.

While his brother was driving a herd of cattle to Idaho, he met a man who loaned him enough money for his mother and Adolph to come to the United States. Upon their arrival in Utah, they settled in Salt Lake City where times were very hard for them. So, at the age of 14, Adolph came to Lewisville and spent his early years working and living with the various families in this area. He worked for the W. W. Selck and Edward B. Hunter families in Lewisville and the Orrin Clifford family in Grant. He grew to manhood in Lewisville area where he met his future wife.

On 2 March 1895 he married Clara Cornelia Ellsworth in Salt Lake City. She was born 31 Oct. 1874 at West Weber, Utah, the daughter of Edmund and Ellen Cornelia Blair Ellsworth, also early settlers of Lewisville. Together they were the parents of 8 children: Ellsworth V. Born 7 Oct. 1896 in Salt Lake, married #1 Beatrice Merle Ellis and #2 Jennie Barrett Johnson; #2 Afton Hilma born 27 July 1898 in Salt Lake, married 4 Aug. 1918 Frank Ulysses Stone; #3 Zee Josephine born 20 June 1900 at Lewisville, died 1 April 1901; #4 Seth Wallace born 11 Nov. 1902 at Lewisville, married Arvilla Woolf 23 Sep. 1923, #5 Frank Richard born 21 Nov. 1906 at Lewisville, married 3 May 1937 Elva Jones; #6 DeEsta May born 27 Nov. 1908 at Lewisville, married #1 Lavell Kemp and #2 Robert McKinley Bramlett; #7 Leland Stanford born 23 Feb. 1915 at Lewisville, married 28 Nov. 1936 Katharine Walters; #8 Victor Blair born 1 June 1917 at Lewisville, married Mary Helen Cherry.

Adolph worked as manager of the Mountain States Telephone Co. When their main office was in Blackfoot. Then he worked for the railroad company, moving the family to Lima, Montana. He started as a lineman, advanced to a brakeman, and finally was promoted to be a special agent for the railroad company. He held this job for many years.

When he retired from the railroad, he returned to Lewisville and purchased 40 acres from Edmund Ellsworth. Here the family lived in the fine old rock home that went with the place. This home was located on the North side of the canal where Leland and Elva Ball lived for many years.

Adolph contacted pneumonia and, after being ill only 3 days, died 16 March 1922. His wife died 24 April 1952 at Pocatello and both are buried in the Lewisville Cemetery. To many he was known as “Dolph”. He was a tall, handsome, well-built man who was immaculate in his person and dress.

Information from Lewisville Centennial Book 1882-1982 page 96
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