Alice Woolf, the 4th child of Absalom and Harriet Wood Woolf, was born at Hyde Park, Utah, 3 Sep. 1866. His father, Absalom, had married both Harriet Wood and Lucy Hambleton in a double ceremony in the Endowment House 19 April 1857. From these 2 marriages, Alice had 9 brothers and sisters and 12 half brothers and sisters. A large majority of these 22 children were reared within a few blocks of each other, so Alice had the experience of sharing with her many brothers and sisters.

At an early age, Alice learned to sew, cook, and do many farm chores. She was a talented seamstress and could design dresses and coats without a pattern. She spent many hours caring for the sick. Later, during World War I, she was a Red Cross Director and taught women to sew and knit items of clothing for the soldiers. Alice was fortunate to have a well-educated mother. Alice loved to read and had an education commensurate with the times. She attended Brigham Young Academy at Logan.

Just a few weeks after her 20th birthday, on 15 Oct. 1886, Alice married George Lyon, the youngest son of Mary Lyon, who lived just west of Alice’s Grandma’s home. George was 8 years older than Alice, but being “next door neighbors,” they knew each other well. George and Alice were married with 2 other Hyde Park couples—all 6 friends—in the Logan Temple 15 Oct. 1887, carrying their chairs from room to room because the temple, though completed, was not yet finished.

Alice and George began their married life on a homestead near Hyde Park. A spring on the property gave them the opportunity to raise a garden and fruit trees. They were the parents of 9 girls and 2 boys. Alice had her first 5 daughters on the homestead near Hyde Park, all delivered by Grandma Lucy, the other wife in her father’s plural marriage.

Alice could best be described as a “family mother”. She taught her 9 daughters to sew, cook, share and to love and respect all their relatives and friends. No sacrifice was too great for her. When her sister, Hattie Cranney, died in childbirth, Alice took the baby, Leslie, and reared him for 6 years. Alice then had 3 babies to care for under 20 months of age. Alice’s children loved their little cousin and he became a real part of the family.

Alice was very adept in knitting, crocheting, making quilts, braiding rugs, and preserving food for her ever-growing family. She was also very interested in politics, and went all out for her mother when Grandma Harriet ran for the school board.

George, who was always intent on improving his financial position to better the living conditions of his family, sold his homestead and rented the Duce home just north of Grandma Harriet’s. In this home, their son, George Budd, was born. Later, George purchased a very large lot and small home across from the Church square. He also bought ten acres of farm land and 30 acres of dry land above the canal. He built a large barn on the lot and had cows and many other farm animals.

On 19 April 1907, Alice and her many sisters and brothers gave their parents a Golden Wedding reception in the town hall. 15 of their 22 children were present and 136 grandchildren.

Alice’s family had now grown to 10 with Denece’s arrival. George had decided that his Hyde Park property was not sufficient, so he sold it and the family moved to Benson. They had a lovely 4 bedroom home with parlor, kitchen, and 40 acres of farm land with a 30 acre pasture.
In 1909, after living for 2 years on the new place, the youngest daughter, Ruth, was born; the children then numbered 11. She was born in Hyde Park at her grandmother’s home.

In the early spring of 1911, George heard about a new project in northern Elko, Nevada, where land was plentiful and rich, and provided a chance to expand his present holdings. John Woolf, Alice’s cousin, persuaded him to see the project, which was some 10 miles north of Wells, Nevada. He came back with high praise for the tall sagebrush, and actual grains and fruits taken from a ranch there called the “U7”. Alice was not happy to leave her large home for this new country, where at that time only one house was built. But George put the property up for sale and it sold in 30 days. He bought a nice home in Smithfield for the family and decided to take his son, George Budd, with him to the new project.

George had promised to buy one section (640) acres of dry land for $15 per acre, 40 acres of irrigated land at $75 per acre, and 3 city lots in the township, later named Metropolis. George used the money from the Benson property to buy more horses and farm equipment. On 10 July 1911, George and George Budd, along with Ima Thurston and his son, Arvin, loaded 2 cars at Logan—one with 16 horses and the other with farm machinery—and began their journey. They unloaded the horses at Ogden for feeding and ate supper someplace on 25 Street in Ogden. The next morning they arose at 5:30 a.m. to load the horses, then went across the Lucien track across the Great Salt Lake with the wind blowing the waves over the track and the horses unruly. They unloaded at Wells and found the camp established by John and Hazel 10 days before, which locked very desolate after leaving the green fields of Utah.

On April 19th they heard that Grandmother Harriet had passed away. Following the funeral, Doris went back to Metropolis with her father and brother to cook for them.

The next year, 1913, Alice and the remainder of her family that was not married, moved to Metropolis, where George had built a small home on the irrigated 40 acre farm. The family had as many conveniences as most of the people there, but it was a hard life. The schools, church, and social activities were good, and a high degree of happiness prevailed even though income was low. Alice was happy to see her children getting a high school and college education.

In 1919, when George Budd was called on a mission, it became a real hardship for his parents to support him; yet when his mission president asked if he might stay an additional 6 months, Alice said, “Yes by all means he can stay. Some way will be found for the additional expense.” George and 4 sisters later became school teachers.

By 1933, all the family was married except Devoe, Denece, and Ruth. Alice became very ill while visiting Orpha at Lee, Nevada. She was rushed to Salt Lake where they learned that an enlarged heart would not let her live 6 months. This was a shock to her family inasmuch as she had never had poor health.

Alice passed away in early June 1933. She was buried in the Smithfield, Utah Cemetery, where her third daughter, Doris, was buried, and where, later, her 5th daughter, Wilda, was buried.

Alice was a typical LDS mother. She would not complain, but make the best of a situation for the sake of her family. She experienced hard times in Nevada for some 21 years. She found great joy in seeing her family good companions and bless her with many grandchildren. All of her descendants and friends loved her for her kindness and understanding. Her husband, George passed away 5 years later and was buried by her side in Smithfield.

George Budd Lyon, son