

# Who was Pearl Clawson Bennett?



Pearl Clawson Bennett was a granddaughter of Mormon pioneers, Joseph Lee Robinson on her mother's side and George Washington Clawson on her father's side. She lived most of her fifty-one years in southeastern Idaho and western Montana where she and her husband farmed.

Pearl's daughter, Vilate, described her mother having brown eyes, brown hair and standing about five feet in height. Pearl served as a midwife and taught school at the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho. She loved to read, loved poetry, music, drama and dance. She gave dramatic readings and directed plays. She liked to involve herself in community events wherever she lived. She loved being with people and was fond of attending plays and movies. She saw herself as a friend to everyone and a daughter of God with a mission to fulfill.

## **The Pearl Bennett CD Project**

My name is Marcile Whitehead Stettler. Pearl Bennett was also my maternal grandmother. I never had the chance to meet her

but when I came across Pearl's diaries and later her notebooks and photos—I knew I had to share them with the rest of the family. Kevin Merrell and I have launched on a project to digitize her diaries, notebooks and photos and to compile her life story, then release the finished project on CD-ROM. If you're interested in receiving a Pearl Bennett CD, contact me and we'll put you on our list. We appreciate Dave Nielsen including some of our files on his web site. Thanks Dave! This is an on-going research project. If you have stories about Pearl Bennett or have photos or memorabilia that belonged to her, consider sharing them with us. After scanning your materials we would return them unharmed within one week. Please contact me: Marcile Stettler · [bwstettler@prodigy.net](mailto:bwstettler@prodigy.net)

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## A Pearl Bennett Timeline

**1887** Pearl Clawson is born in Farmington, Utah.

**1899** The Clawsons move to Shelley, Idaho.

**1903–1904** Pearl attends Ricks Academy in Rexburg, ID.

**1905** Pearl marries Stephen Nathaniel Bennett in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**1906** Pearl's and Stephen's first child, Blanche, is born in Raymond, Alberta, Canada. Stephen serves as branch president of the local Mormon group.

**1908** The Bennett's second child, Maude, is born in Raymond, Canada.

**1911** On a Christmas visit to Pearl's parents, the Bennett's third child, Stephen R. is born in Ucon, Idaho.

**1913** The Bennett's fourth child, Pearl "Vilate" is born in Raymond, Canada.

**1917** The Bennett's fifth child, Clawson, is born in Shelley, Idaho.

**1920** Pearl teaches at the Indian School on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho.

**1928** The Bennett's sixth child, Bryant, is born in Charlo, Montana. Stephen serves as the branch president in Charlo.

**1932–1936** Pearl keeps her Five Year Diary in Charlo.

**1936** The Bennett's move to Los Angeles, California.

**1937** Pearl keeps her 1937 Diary in Los Angeles.

**1938** At the age of fifty-one Pearl Clawson Bennett passes away from cancer in Los Angeles.

