

EDWIN JOHN LONGHURST**EDWIN JOHN LONGHURST-ALSO KNOWN AS
TED OR TEDDY**

Our thanks to Dora L. Perry for sharing what she knows about him. Since little is known of him by anyone presently living, it is felt advisable to give a brief account of his parents and family prior to his birth so one might better understand the circumstances at the time of his birth. The information about the family is recorded in their histories in more detail, but this may help tie it together.

Uncle "Ted", as most of us know him by, was the ninth child of William Henry and Ann Preston Longhurst. His parents were converts to the LDS Church in England. His mother, Ann, was baptized 6 June 1849 and his father 30 June 1849. At this time they had two daughters, Amelia, not quite two and a half, and Clara about six months.



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Their dream was to come to Zion (Utah) to be with the Saints, but this was not to happen soon. They were continually being persecuted-may have been partly because his father had been a Methodist Preacher prior to joining the LDS Church.

In any case they worked and struggled to save for their passage on the boat. His father was a shipwright by trade, and his mother opened a shop in the haberdasher line. It didn't seem to answer as she would have liked so she added sweet meats and toys. This too did not answer so she bought and sold clothing. Unfortunately, this did not work out either, so she resolved with her husband to give up shop keeping and commenced keeping a school. During this time her father, Richard Weekley Preston, was staying with them. In April of 1850 she, with other sisters, at the proposal of Elder Griffiths, took tracts from house to house on a volunteer basis.

After saving for some time, their money was stolen and they had to start over, eventually selling a prized painting of Joan of Arc in order to have enough for their passage-42 pounds or about \$200.

Finally fifteen years later and eight children, they with others (about 900 Saints altogether) boarded the ship "Hudson" 1 June 1864 to come to America.

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Persecution and trials didn't cease however, as they were followed down the Thames river to the English Channel by a tug boat, with a Mr Pardo and another man in, trying to stop them, but they couldn't catch them.

The journey across the Ocean wasn't easy either, because measles broke out among the children and many died and had to be buried at sea. The baby, Joseph (2 years old), had them very bad, but survived, as did the rest of the family. They had to do their own cooking. The food was rationed and poor as well.

About a week out of New York, they were stopped by a Confederate Man-of-War, the "Georgia", as the Civil War was in progress. After being satisfied that they were not the enemy, they were allowed to go on. The trip took six weeks and three days.

When they arrived in New York they were inspected and directed to the railroad which would take them to the frontier. Traveling was slow because bridges were out and tracks torn up by the Confederate Armies. They spent two weeks preparing wagons and getting ready then were finally on their way. There were 120 wagons in two sections. Longhursts were in the first section with Captain Warren Snow in charge. (There seem to be two versions about who was the Captain.) Some accounts say Captain Hyde was in charge. Could it be that he was the Captain over all? They traveled only 5-10 miles a day. Food was scarce and the Saints were often hungry and cold. Buffalo Chips were used to make fires. Many walked most of the way across the plains. (It is said that Amelia, the oldest child in the family, walked all the way except for crossing the rivers.)

Winter was upon them and when they got to Fort Bridger, Wyo. They were marooned by 18 inches of snow. There was no food for the oxen, so they were unable to travel further, as well as food for the people. We understand that this is one group that President Young sent wagons and supplies to bring into the valley.

It was on 2 Nov 1864, five months and one day after leaving England that they arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the eighth ward square—where the City and County building now stands. Here they made a dug-out where the family of ten lived for five months. In this dug-out on 22 Jan 1865, his father's 48th birthday, that Ted was born.

Can you imagine going through all the trials and hardships that Ann did while expecting a baby, then to have him born during the winter in a dug-out? When Ted was about 10 days old, the roof fell and the ridge-pole fell across the

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bed, but didn't hit the baby. During this same time his father was ill with Mountain Fever.

This was a hard time for them—food was very costly. Flour was \$26. per cwt, tea \$5.00 per lb, and sugar 25¢ a lb. His father had a few jobs, but there wasn't a lot for a shipwright to do, and that was the only thing he knew how to do. His brother Bill got a job at Fort Douglas with Sergeant Wingate, who gave him the food that the soldiers didn't eat to take home to the family. This really helped them to stay alive.

In March of 1865 the family moved to Bountiful, Utah where they had built a little log home. His father and brother Tom (Mormon) helped build the fence on the tabernacle grounds, and in 1869 he went to work in Echo Canyon helping to build the first railroad in Utah. While living in Bountiful their 10th child, Warren was born.

When Ted was five years old his father along with some other men were asked to go help settle Woodruff, Utah. About a year later he moved his family there. Their home was just north of where the Woodruff Ward Chapel was built. They had a little store, but when his mother, Ann, became ill they sold it to ZCMI. She passed away 11 Dec 1873 and was the first woman buried in the Woodruff Cemetery.

Ted was 8 years old at the time of his Mothers death, and his brother Warren was 5. The two older girls, Amelia and Clara, were married so this left the other sister, Marantha, to care for her father and seven brothers. However, her brother Bill helped her. When Marantha married and moved to Garden City in 1879, they took Ted and Warren with them.

It isn't known exactly when, but their father went to Arizona where Clara lived and was helping build the town of Snowflake. In 1879 he returned to Woodruff and found that his family had moved to the Bear Lake Area. So he went to Garden City and stayed with them.

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By this time Ted was fourteen years old and had attended school in Garden City - and presumably in Woodruff before that. But we have no knowledge as to how much schooling he had. He likely did what he should to help. Sometime, though he became interested in mining. Surely he went to Church as well, as it appears he was active in his declining years.

While living in the Bear Lake Area he met and courted a lovely lady by the name of Adeline Pope. All Dora remembers about her is hearing her parents, Albert and Effa Longhurst talk about her.



Adeline Pope

Ted's older brother Bill hadn't married as yet because he was working in different places and helping to take care of the family. When he came to Woodruff, for whatever reason, he found a beautiful girl by the name of Betsy Jane Dean. They decided to get married. So it was that they and Ted, who was only 19, and Adeline Pope went to Logan and were married 2 Oct 1884 in the temple.

Ted must have had a real interest in mining because he was continually searching for ore and gold. After their marriage he and Adeline moved to Vernal, Utah where he continued to search.

Dora says she remembers seeing him for the first time when she was 10 years old and he came to Woodruff to his brother Bill's (who was her grandfather also) funeral. She remembers Gr Aunt Marantha and Gr Uncle Charley being there also, although she had seen them before. They seemed to all stand so tall and straight and how they impressed her so that she has never forgotten them.

Her sister, Nilda Mae, remembers Uncle Ted coming to Woodruff and staying at their father, Albert's place. While he was there he found a hill at Monta Christo where he knew there was gold. He dug and dug, but no gold—and the hole is still there.

He and Adeline had no children. If they had I'm sure much more would be known about him. Adeline passed away 9 Aug 1930 at Vernal and is buried there. He continued living there, but we don't know for how long since he passed away in Salt Lake.

In 1935 Dora and her husband Chester Perry went to Vernal and looked him up. She says: "We found his log cabin, then him just as he was leaving Church,

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which wasn't very far from his home. We were invited in and found the neatest, cleanest home. There were lace covers on the furniture, the cleanest neat bed. He invited us to have dinner with him—it was delicious. When he came to Provo he would come and stay with us."

"What brought him to Salt Lake or when we aren't sure, but he passed away there 5 Mar 1946 at age 81. My husband and I went there to his funeral service. There were many people there and everyone seemed to love him. They sang 'Rock of Ages'. Willard Longhurst seemed to be in charge. We knew no one else. He was buried in Vernal beside his wife,"

As they were looking through her parents book (genealogy record?) they found his obituary, newspaper clipping, no doubt, which follows:

OBITUARY-OLDTIME UTAH PROSPECTOR DIES AT 81

Edwin John Longhurst 81 of 1330 South West Temple, one of the West's oldtimers who searched for more than 60 years to find a rich ore lode, "That is in this country somewhere", died in Salt Lake hospital Tuesday at 5:30 am of cause incident to age.

A colorful figure in mining circles, Mr. Longhurst was born in Salt Lake City January 22, 1865 and was an authority on mining history of Utah. He was shift boss for Dwyer Mine at the time of the "Glory Hole" strike in 1900. He lived in Vernal 50 years. Although he was an ardent believer in the "Seek and Find" school of prospectors, he cast his eye on the modern science of prospecting in 1940 and purchased what he called his "Indicator", an instrument utilizing the theory of radar to locate ore bodies.

In the fall of 1944 he made his last trip into the hills, looking for the "Rich Lode" he never found. His wife Mrs. Adeline P. Longhurst died in 1931. He is survived by a brother Warren Longhurst, Mexico, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be conducted at 2 pm at 344 East 1st South, where friends may call Thursday prior to services. Burial will be Friday at 2:30 pm in Vernal Cemetery.