

## David Jensen: First Settler in Preston, Idaho

The Herald Journal, Logan, Utah, August 27, 1969

On Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 1) it will be 100 years since David Jensen became the first man to move his family out of Franklin, Idaho and homestead the Worm Creek Flat area east of the town now known as Preston.

Tracing the life of this early pioneer, it is learned that he married Bertha Seren[a] Peterson Aug 20, 1859 in Oslo, Norway and came to this country in 1863. With them came his wife's sister, Julia Kontance Peterson, whom he also married Nov. 18, 1868, in Salt lake City. <sup>10</sup>

Mr. Jensen had 11 children by Bertha and 12 by Julia but just 13 of the 23 grew to full maturity. One died at the age of 24 of typhoid fever, two died of diptheria, one was buried in Norway, one on the plains on the banks of the Platt River, one in Utah, and five died in infancy. <sup>11</sup>

The 13 children who lived to become adults were:

- Sarah Jensen Alder, [Serena]
- Hyrum D. Jensen, [Serena]
- David Oscar Jensen, [Serena]
- Nora Jensen Smart, [Serena]
- Anthone H. Jensen, [Serena]
- Fredrick C. Jensen, [Serena]
- Joseph W. Jensen, [Serena]
- Richard N. Jensen, [Julia]
- Samual D. Jensen, [Julia]
- Christina Jensen Shaffer, [[Julia]
- Junius C.[Charles] Jensen, [Julia]
- Wilford L. Jensen, [Julia]
- Elmer L. Jensen. [Julia]

The only living son is Elmer L. Jensen of Lorenzo, Idaho.

David L Jensen was born April 5, 1835, in Toten, Norway, son of a miller <sup>12</sup> who also operated a small water power mill on the river that runs through the central part of Toten. He worked in the flour mill owned and operated by Jim Howeworth on the Cub River north of Franklin after coming to this country.

As a young man, David went to Oslo, Norway where he worked on [the] docks unloading and loading ships. This was where he met and married Bertha Serena Peterson. They were both baptized Feb. 24, 1862 into the LDS Church and from that time they began to prepare for thier trip to America. It was

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<sup>10</sup> For the wives pictures see the previous brief history of David Jensen.

<sup>11</sup> Peter Simon died at 24; Diptheria was probably Netti and Bertha Rosella; Buried in Norway was Julius Segvard; Josphine was buried on the plains; Naham Richard may be the Utah one; the infants were as follows: Serena's Children—David Henry; Julia's children—Annie, Jeremiah, Arthur Parley, and Edith

<sup>12</sup> Jens Johannesen [17 Feb 1773] was his father and Gulline Olsen [6 Jun 1798] was his mother.