



## **INGA HEGSTED SHURTLEFF**

### **1872-1948**

On 28 June 1872, Inga Hegsted Shurtleff was born in Huntsville, Weber County, Utah to early settlers from Denmark, Hans Christian and Maren Borglund Hegsted. Three years later her family moved to West Harrisville (Farr West). This is where Inga grew up in a large family of brothers and sisters. Her father had three wives and all were trained dressmakers.

Inga's first school teacher was Mr. Woodberry who taught in a little building that was later moved to the home of Thomas Brown as part payment for his work on the new brick school house. Ephriam Bird was her next school teacher. He fell in love with Ann Wilson, a beautiful Harrisville girl, and they married while he was teaching. The children liked to wait and watch for their teacher to kiss Ann goodbye after he was through with his lunch. Madeline Dye, Josephine Whitten McEntire, Riley G. Dixon and Levi J. Taylor were also teachers that Inga remembered. She went on to further her education by graduating from the Weber Academy.

In the spring of 1889, the Harrisville school trustees asked Inga to teach school at West Harrisville. She accepted and taught in West Harrisville while her sister, Hannah, taught school at East Harrisville. Inga taught school for six years. Each summer she attended summer school at Smith's College. During the summer of 1895, she attended summer school at the University of Utah, which at that time was located where West High School is now located in Salt Lake City.

On 23 June 1897, Inga was married to Horace L. Shurtleff in the Salt Lake L.D.S. Temple. They spent their honeymoon and the next fifteen months at Sumpter, Oregon, where Horace continued to work as a ticket agent for the Sumpter Valley Railroad. This was a branch railroad built by David Eccles, Francis Shurtleff, and Joseph A. West. The town of Sumpter was situated on the sloping foot of the mountain. The home where they lived was situated amid the pine trees.

On 14 May 1898, Horace received a call to go on a mission for the LDS Church to the Southern United States. Their first child, Horace Walter, was born 14 June 1898. In answer to his mission call, Horace left his job, sold their furniture, cancelled the building of their home, and sold their building lot. They even had friends raffle Inga's bicycle for \$50. They left Sumpter, Oregon, and returned to Ogden on 8 October 1898. He left on his mission soon after. Horace served for 26 months. While he was gone, Inga taught school part of the time, one year in Harrisville and part of a year in Salem, Idaho.

Immediately after Horace returned, David Eccles, President of the Sumpter Railroad, asked Horace to return as ticket-agent. This time he was located at Barker City, Oregon.

On 1 June 1901, his work took them to Whitney, Oregon. Whitney resembled what Inga thought the Garden of Eden must have looked like. To get to the two-room log cabin where they lived, they had to cross a meadow which was always a mass of flowers. The cabin was surrounded by tall trees that seemed to be reaching upward to the moon. There was a cold water spring nearby where they kept their meat and vegetables. The water was so cold they had to let it stand a while before they could even drink it.

Before the expected snowfall of winter came, they moved from this place and bought a lot near the depot to be closer to Horace's work. They had a four-room house built on the lot, and moved into the home 1 October 1901. Their second child, Cornelia Lucile, was born there 23 December 1901. The trains were not running that day so the doctor had to come 27 miles by sleigh in the deep snow.

On 29 March 1901, they received word that Inga's mother had died of a heart attack in Salem, Idaho. Horace and Inga took their two children and left with her sister Hannah and Mrs. E. J. Metzler on the first train for Idaho. Their delayed train kept the funeral services waiting for three hours. Before they left Idaho, Inga's brother, Victor, and his partner in business, Chris Jenson, offered Horace a position of management of their store, The Hegsted Jenson Store, at Lyman Idaho. They returned to Oregon to settle their affairs, and 6 June 1902, arrived at Victor's in Idaho. They moved to Lyman one week later and lived there for four years. While there, Inga taught Sunday School.

Their son Milton Hegsted was born in Lyman on 29 November 1903, and daughter Helen Virginia was born 29 July 1906. In the autumn of 1905, they moved their family to Rexburg, Idaho where Horace had employment in the Hegsted Jenson Store. He remained with this company three years, and then he left to be assistant manager of the Henry J. Flamm Company Store. While in Rexburg, Inga was president of the Y.M.M.I.A for three years and on the M.I.A Stake Board.

They moved to Harrisville, Weber County, Utah on 1 April 1910, and settled on the original Noah L. Shurtleff homestead where Horace had been born 39 years earlier. Three more children were born: Marjorie Fern, 7 October 1907, Victor DeGray, 4 July 1909, and Leland Mark, 3 May 1911. Mark died from complications from measles 16 February 1918. Carlyle Hegsted was born to them 21 March 1915, and another baby boy, William Hegsted born 12 September 1916, completed the family.

While Horace served as a member of the Harrisville Ward Bishopric for twenty one years, Inga was superintendent of the Religion Class, president and counselor of the YMIA and was on the Relief Society Stake Board where she served as a special representative from the North Weber Stake. She was chosen to receive special instruction for six weeks in social science to aid in welfare work. Inga was an active member and officer of the Pioneer Camp #30 (Daughters of the Utah Pioneers) which was organized in Harrisville 28 October 1920. She served as teacher for ten years.

The threatening clouds of war hung over the world in 1938 and 1939. Their oldest son, Horace, a World War I veteran, was in the army reserve when called into World War II in November 1940. Their son Carlyle was inducted next, and then William was taken into the army in June 1942. Victor was inducted into the army in April 1943. When the war ended in 1945, Inga experienced the great joy of having her sons return safely home in time to celebrate Christmas. She also had grandsons that served in that war. While the boys were gone, Milton helped keep the farm going with the help of son-in-law Harold L. Larson.

Horace preceded her in death on 20 January 1948. She died 30 October 1948, in an Ogden Hospital at the age of 76 following a brief illness. They are buried in the Ogden City Cemetery.

**SOURCE:**

Shurtleff, Inga Hegsted. "Autobiography of Inga Hegsted Shurtleff." *Daughters of the Utah Pioneers*. nd.

*Ogden Standard Examiner*. "Inga Hegsted Shurtleff." Obituary. n.d.

Bird, Ephriam	Shurtleff, Carlyle Hegsted
Brown, Thomas	Shurtleff, Francis
Dixon, Riley G.	Shurtleff, Horace L.
Dye, Madeline	Shurtleff, Horace Walter
Eccles, David	Shurtleff, Leland Mark
Hegsted Maren Borglund	Shurtleff, Marjorie Fern
Hegsted, Hannan	Shurtleff, Noah L.
Hegsted, Hans Christian	Shurtleff, Victor
Henry J. Flamm Company Store	Shurtleff, Victor DeGray
Jenson, Chris Hegsted Jenson	Shurtleff, William Hegsted
Store	Taylor, Levi J.
Larson, Harold L.	West, Joseph A
McEntire, Josephine Whitten	Wilson, Ann
Metzler, Mrs. E. J.	Woodberry, Mr.
Shurtleff, Cornelia Lucile	