

WILLIAM WIDDISON

William Widdison, the son of William Livingston Widdison and Mary Alice Wilding, was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, 15 December 1873.

William was blessed and baptized in Salt Lake City. He attended the elementary schools in Salt Lake City.

In the fall of 1888, the family moved from Salt Lake City, to Rexburg and settled on a farm, on what was then Teton Island, but is now Hibbard. The farm was homesteaded under the timber act and a certain number of trees had to be planted. For years, what was known as "The Grove" grew on the corner of the land now occupied by Ervin Widdison. Balm of Gilead trees were the fastest growing so they were the trees used the most, but for years, a row of tall poplars grew along the road for a quarter of a mile.

He attended the first and second year of High School at Ricks Academy in Rexburg, Idaho, graduating from the two year school in 1895. He was a member of the Faculty of Ricks Academy in 1895 and 1896. He was Ward Clerk for a time to Bishop Hibbard. He was also Secretary of the first Sunday School.

On June 9, 1897, in the Logan Temple at Logan, Cache County, Utah, he was married to Anna Rozina Knapp, eldest daughter of Justine Abraham Knapp and Anna Eliza Lemmon. She was born at Richmond, Cache County, Utah.

Seven days later he left to fill a mission in the Northwestern States Mission, laboring most of his time in Montana. He had just finished his second year of training in speech.

After his return from the Mission Field, their first son was born 23 January 1900. He was named William Ervin. Ervin's mother didn't live long to enjoy her baby. She passed away May 11, 1900.

William taught school in Idaho also in Salt Lake City. He graduated from the L.D.S. Business School the 29th of May 1902. He received Diplomas later also from University of Utah, Dansville Correspondence School of New York, Intermountain Correspondent School (Normal) of Salt Lake City and LaSalle Extension University of Chicago, Illinois. Of all his occupations, he loved teaching the best.

He married Rebekah Edwards in the Salt Lake Temple, the 17th of June 1903. For a number of years he resided in Salt Lake City. He was Bookkeeper, Auditor, Public Accountant, and Office Manager for Auerbach's Company in Salt Lake City.

To the second union were born eleven children. The family moved back to Hibbard in 1919 and William taught the Teacher Training Group at Ricks Normal College that winter. He taught the Parents Class in Sunday School and the Advanced Senior Group in the M.I.A. until he moved to Plano in 1924, where he bought a farm and had a herd of dairy cows.

He was interested in Genealogy and helped others in their work. At the time of his death he had over 1800 names in his temple book that he had done research and Temple work for.