

Notes on the Children of David Hay and Jane née Kinnear

Married: 11 October 1871, Oamaru, Otago, NZ.

Children: Thomas William, born 18 January 1873, Oamaru.

David, born 12 July 1874, Oamaru.

Jane, born 17 October 1875, Oamaru.

Effie, born 13 April 1877, Oamaru.

*Francis, born 28 May 1879, Oamaru.

Elizabeth, born 29 September 1881, Oamaru.

Andrew, born 23 November 1882, Oamaru.

*Grandfather of Daphne, Laurence, Glenys and Lynette Hay

Thomas William Hay

David and Jane Hay's first child, Thomas William, was born in Oamaru on 18 January 1873. David at this time was employed as a storeman by one of the grain merchants or flour millers of the town. The family lived in Tyne Street. Thomas was enrolled in Oamaru South School on 7 February 1881 and passed the examinations for Standard 1 in September 1882. In December 1887 Thomas was placed 1st in the Standard 5 class at Maheno School.

Thomas married **Helen Swallow** on 11 October 1897. The notice in the *Oamaru Mail* of 28 October read:

On 11 October at the Manse, Clyde St, Dunedin, by Rev. A.B. Todd, Thomas William Hay, miller, Maheno, to Nellie, fifth daughter of Henry Swallow, farmer, Herbert.

Thomas fathered **David Henry**, whose birth was registered in 1899, **Margaret Jane** born on 13 December 1903 and **Dora Gladys**, birth registered in 1907.

The Oamaru electoral roll for 1896 has Thomas William listed as a miller living at Reidston, with his voting qualification given as 'residential'. Exactly when Thomas moved to Invercargill is not clear but the first listing of 'Hay, Thos Wm' in Stone's directory (the 1899 issue) describes him as 'miller, Bowmont St, I[nvercargill]'. The directory for the next year has him at Tiviot Street in that city. Stone's 1905 issue lists him as 'flourmill mgr, Winton', but by the 1910 issue Thomas William, journeyman miller, is back in Invercargill, residing at Conon Street.

At some point (possibly 1925) the family moved to 161 Dalrymple Road, Invercargill, and it was here on 21 February 1935 that Thomas died, aged 62. He is buried with his wife (who died on 4 October 1944) and daughter Margaret in the Eastern Cemetery, Block 24, Plot 176. In the application for probate of his will Thomas's occupation is given as 'flourmiller'.

When Thomas died the kirk session of First Presbyterian Church, Invercargill, recorded a minute expressing gratitude for 'the life and work of the late Mr. T.W. Hay', who is described as 'one of our most valued elders'. The minute goes on to say, in part:

Although Mr. Hay's connection with First Church was only of ten years' standing he came into our midst with a record of faithful service as an Elder, Sunday School Teacher and earnest Christian Worker in Sister

congregations. Immediately after connecting himself and family with this Communion he volunteered for duty in the Sunday School and proved himself a most efficient and dependable teacher – never absent from his post. On the 6th June, 1926, he was inducted into the Eldership where he threw himself wholeheartedly into the advancement of the whole spiritual life of the Congregation. In both these offices he continued zealously to labour until his demise. He was of a quiet, retiring nature but lived a life of humble dependence on God and found great delight in serving his Lord and Master. His scholars and fellow-teachers in the Sunday School miss him, and we his Minister and Brother Elders miss him greatly, but rejoice that with him all is well.

David Hay Jnr

David and Jane Hay's second child, a son named after his father, was born on 12 July 1874 in Oamaru. David Jnr began his education at Oamaru South School, later transferring to Maheno; then from 1 October 1888 he returned to Oamaru South, concluding his formal education on 10 June the following year, destination: 'home'; he was almost 15 years of age. At this time the family was living in Tees Street, Oamaru.

The 1896 electoral roll lists David Hay Jnr as a miller living in Reidston, where his miller brother Thomas also lived. His voting qualification is given as 'residential'.

In 1916 David married Louisa Margaret Adeline Fearn, and by 1922 they were living at 52 Lune Street, Oamaru, David still working as a miller. David and Margaret had at least one child: a daughter, Jean (who married Nicholas Ian Cameron). The 1925 electoral roll shows the family at 84 Tees Street, and the 1935 roll as having moved to 75 Tees Street where they remained until at least 1941. On David's retirement the couple shifted to Invercargill.

David died on 15 July 1947, three days after his 73rd birthday. His address at the time of his death was 37 Melbourne Street, Invercargill. He is buried in the Eastern Cemetery, Invercargill, Block 30, Plot 22. His wife Margaret lived until 1963, and is buried with her husband. Their daughter Jean, son-in-law Nicholas Cameron, and grandson Peter Donald Cameron are interred in the grave with David and Margaret.

Jane Hay

David and Jane Hay's third child was a girl born on 17 October 1875 and named after her mother. Jane was admitted to Oamaru South School in September 1881, a month before her sixth birthday, then in January 1886 moved with her family to Maheno, before returning to Oamaru South in October 1888 at the age of 13; it is likely that her formal education ended in December of that year.

Jane never married, and lived with her parents until the death of her mother in 1912. Jane died in 1944 and is buried with her parents in Oamaru Cemetery.

Effie Hay

David and Jane's fourth child, Effie, was born on 13 April 1877 in Oamaru, and named after her paternal grandmother, Effie (aka Euphemia) Shaw. Effie was enrolled in the Oamaru South School on 6 April 1882. In January 1886 she moved with her family to Maheno, then enrolled again in Oamaru South on 11 September 1888. She left school on 25 January 1891, aged 13 years 10 months, and, according to the school record, returned to Maheno.

Effie seems to have entered enthusiastically into the life of the little community in which she lived. The *North Otago Times* of 29 June 1896 identified her as the secretary of the Maheno Christian Endeavor Society who presented 'excellent reports' to the society's annual meeting. It would have been in this role that she met and admired Robert Fraser Elder, son of local farmer J.R. Elder who, according to W.H. Scotter in his *Run, Estate and Farm* (1948), was 'a power in all local affairs'. Robert had had his primary education at Maheno School, possibly when Effie was there, and then attended Waitaki Boys' High School. At the previous year's annual meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society, Robert had been presented with 'a handsome dressing-case as a token of the esteem in which he was held by his friends' prior to his departure for London to attend Spurgeon's College to study for the Baptist ministry.

Effie Hay was an active member of the Oamaru Baptist Church, serving on tables and as a saleswoman at annual soirees in 1888 to 1891. At these soirees, Effie also sang solos, played the harmonium and organ and accompanied vocal items.

Robert Elder returned to New Zealand in 1900 before sailing for Argentina. In January 1900, it was reported that Rev. R. Elder, 'missionary designate to South America', preached in Oxford Terrace and Spreydon Baptist Churches, Christchurch, and in February that he had conducted a week of evangelistic services in the Baptist Church, Severn Street, Oamaru. In April of that year it was noted that

The Rev. Robert Elder, of Maheno, is remaining among us another month owing to his boat for South Africa being chartered for the Transvaal [*i.e. to carry troops to the Boer War*], and he is spending the time conducting mission meetings in the district. During this and the coming week he will be at Ngapara, as shewn by advertisement, and will take the morning and evening services on Sunday and meetings on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, all in the church, at 7 p.m. This method is commended to the prayerful attention of all in the neighborhood in the hope of their hearty co-operation.

Probably during this period Effie accepted a proposal of marriage from Robert, as the 24 May 1900 issue of the *Oamaru Mail* informed its readers that 'Miss Hay, an active worker in all departments of Church work, has recently left for Victoria, in order to receive fuller equipment for missionary work in South America.'

Effie married Robert Elder in Argentina. The following notice appeared in the *Oamaru Mail* of 18 January 1902 (p.2, col.4):

ELDER-HAY. On 30 Oct 1901 at the American Church, Buenos Aires, by Rev. A.M. Milne assisted by Rev Geo. Smith, Rev. Robert F., eldest son of Mr J.R. Elder, Maheno, to Effie, 2nd daughter of Mr David Hay, Oamaru.

Together Robert and Effie spent the rest of their lives in Christian mission in that country. Justice C. Anderson in his 2005 book *An Evangelical Saga* has this to say of Robert Elder:

Other valuable elements entered Baptist ranks [*in Argentina*] during this period [*i.e. the early years of the 20th century*]. Robert Elder, a young missionary from New Zealand, was working in Argentina under the auspices of the Regions Beyond Missionary Society.... During his first year of study in London, [*Elder had*] attended a chapel service and was greatly impressed by the message of a Welsh pastor who had formerly pastored a Baptist church in the Welsh settlements of the Patagonia. Elder traced his missionary calling to the inspiration of that message.

Several prosperous laymen in Spurgeon's church formed a new missionary society called Regions Beyond. Elder became one of the first missionaries sent out.... When he arrived [*in Argentina*] in 1900, he worked in Las Flores... for a short time, but soon moved to Tres Arroyos, B.A., where he organised a church in 1904. Soon afterwards, the Regions Beyond Mission united with some Canadian missionaries which gave birth to a new interdenominational society called the Evangelical Union of South America. The union later became a stalwart denomination of Argentine evangelicals, very similar in polity to the Baptists.

.... Baptists in Argentina owe a great deal to the Union and the Alianza for furnishing some of its premier leaders.... [*Robert Elder being one of the four named.*]

In his address to an Oamaru audience in 1907, Robert Elder gave further information about the source of his call to Argentina, explaining that

[h]e knew that it had puzzled a number of his friends to know why he had decided to go to the Argentina, and he himself was unable at the time to understand the call which had come to him. But since going he had found out why it had been necessary for him to go there.... When they arrived at the city of Tres Arroyos they came upon some Dutch Christians who told a sad story. They had come out [*to Argentina*] some years before to form a Dutch colony. Some of their sons had given way to drink, and their daughters had fallen, and these Christians had been praying that a missionary might come to settle amongst them. He knew now when he connected these two things together the reason of that inexplicable longing of his heart during his college days, and he attributed that longing to the prayers of these Christians in Argentina.

During furlough in New Zealand in 1907-08, Rev Robert Elder gave illustrated lectures in Oamaru, Gisborne, Nelson, Wellington and Dunedin, and probably elsewhere, some of which were fully reported in local newspapers. On 13 September 1907 Robert and Effie spoke to a meeting of friends and supporters in Oamaru. As reported in the *Oamaru Mail*, Effie spoke of her work in Argentina as follows:

When she arrived at Argentina, one of the first things she noticed was the sad looks on the faces of the women, and she prayed to God that He would use her for the work amongst the women. Mrs Elder then went on to detail the particular work she herself engaged in, how she arranged meetings, which entailed a good deal of work in preparing addresses in the language, and for which she was well repaid.... On their return they would go to Buenos Aires, and would extend the work there by having a nursing home for women.... Their desire was to win these women for Christ, and while attending to their physical needs they hoped to bring joy and gladness to their lives. While thanking all for their prayers and practical sympathy, she asked for a furtherance of co-operation in the great work of winning souls and thus extending Christ's work in Argentina.

The *Poverty Bay Herald* of 20 November 1907 includes in its report the information that 'Mrs Elder was carrying on a grand work amongst the women [*of Tres Arroyos*], and a 'Dorcas' Society had been formed, which was doing very practical work'.

A notice in the *North Otago Times* of 14 January 1908 reads:

So much is being heard about Argentina as New Zealand's great competitor in frozen meat, wheat, and dairying, and so little is known about its inner life,

and customs, that the lecture to be given by the Rev. Robt. F. Elder at Ngapara on Wednesday, and at Maheno on Thursday, should attract large audiences. The lecture is brimful of interesting information, which is presented in an entertaining manner by Mr Elder, and illustrated by very fine lantern slides. The fact that Mr Elder was so well known as a boy in both districts adds additional interest to these two gatherings.

In a notice published the previous day it had been stated that the lecture 'has attracted large audiences throughout Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand'!

The Elders were farewelled on 10 September 1908 to return to Argentina. During their time in New Zealand Effie had given birth to her fourth child, the family eventually totalling ten children. (Much of the following information has been taken from records compiled by a Mormon researcher, with no sources specified.)

- **Isabel Jean**, born 14 May 1903 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; died 23 February 1906.
- **Robert Owen**, born 31 May 1904 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; anaesthetist; died 27 August 1969.
- **Lily**, born 22 February 1906 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; died 2 June 1970.
- **James Robertson**, born 12 July 1908 in Christchurch, New Zealand; accountant and chicken farmer in Buenos Aires, Argentina; died 2 October 1981.
- **Bertha**
- **David Hay**, born 23 November 1911 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; married Nora Violet Crease, 24 September 1938 in Buenos Aires, Argentina; accountant and chicken farmer in Buenos Aires; died 5 May 1971.
- **Arthur**, born 1914; married Kathleen; missionary to China.
- **Effie**, born 5 December 1915 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; married Isaac Newton Edwards, 12 November 1941 in Buenos Aires, Argentina; died 3 August 1984. In 1990 their six children were living in Sydney, Australia.
- **Frank Hercus**, born 20 March 1918 in Hassocks, Sussex, England; married Dorothy 1943; was an architect in London, with an office in Gray's Inn; retired to Walnut Tree Cottage, Luxted Rd, Downe, Kent; died 4 January 2002. Their two children are Sarah Frances and Alison.
- **Andrew Fraser**, born 17 November 1920 in Tres Arroyos, Argentina; died 29 January 1963.

All six of the sons were educated in England at Eltham College, Mottingham, south-east London (the London Missionary Society's boarding school for the sons of missionaries), and all but Frank returned to Buenos Aires. The three girls attended the LMS girls' school, Walthamstow Hall, in Sevenoaks, Kent.

Rev. Robert Fraser Elder died at his home in Llavallol, Argentina, on 7 July 1947. Effie Elder née Hay died in Buenos Aires on 23 January 1967.

In 1963 a biography of Robert Elder was written in Spanish by Teresa Pluis, *El Pastor del Corazón Bondadoso: Vida de Roberto Elder*, Buenos Aires, Junta Bautista de Publicaciones; it has not been translated into English.

Francis Hay

Francis was born on 28 May 1879 in Oamaru. He married Edith Baker in 1902, and died, a widower, on 21 February 1961 in Christchurch. [For further information see Notes on Francis Hay and Edith née Baker.]

Elizabeth Hay

Elizabeth, born 29 September 1881, Oamaru, died on 13 February 1882, aged 19 weeks.

Andrew Hay

Andrew, David and Jane's seventh and last child, was born on 23 November 1882 in Oamaru. His schooling was, as with other Hay children, somewhat disjointed, moving between Maheno and Oamaru South schools. He was admitted to Oamaru South on 28 January 1889 at the age of 6 years 2 months, passed the first standard in September 1892, aged almost 10, and Standard 6 in March 1898, leaving school then, at the age of 15 years 4 months, for Dunedin and (presumably) paid employment. However, by 1900 he was back in Oamaru and had obtained a Pitman's shorthand/typing speed certificate for 90 words per minute. Andrew appears first in electoral rolls in 1905 as a clerk living in Tees Street.

On 31 May 1909, so the *Oamaru Mail* of 1 June reports, Andrew Hay and May Lewis were the honoured guests at a social held in the Baptist church hall:

A very pleasant and largely attended social was held at the Baptist Hall last evening, the occasion being the approaching marriage of Miss Lewis, organist of the church, with Mr Andrew Hay. Both the prospective bride and bridegroom have been connected with the church from childhood, and for years have been earnest and faithful workers in all its activities. The Rev. F. G. Buckingham occupied the chair. Congratulatory and eulogistic speeches were delivered.... All bore testimony to the sterling work of the guests of the evening, and the high estimation in which they are held by the church for their splendid Christian character and faithful services. The Chairman, in the name of the church, then presented them with a handsome marble clock, and in doing so referred to the excellent services which Miss Lewis had rendered during the last five years in her capacity of church organist.

So, on 3 June 1909 Andrew married Maria (May) Lewis, and in 1911 the couple were living in Gardiner Street, North Road, Andrew still working as a clerk; by 1914 they had moved to Avon Street.

A year or so after his marriage Andrew launched into a business venture as a 'Land, Stock, Grain and General Commission Agent', in partnership with a George Stringer, trading as Stringer and Hay, first mentioned in the *Oamaru Mail* of 24 April 1911.

About this time Andrew was involved in an accident as reported in the *Oamaru Mail* of 3 January 1914:

Mr Andrew Hay, of Avon Street, was riding a cycle when he was run into by a motor car and thrown violently to the ground. His collar-bone was broken and he was severely bruised about the ribs and suffered at first from concussion of the brain. He was picked up and taken home by Dr Scott, and treated by Dr Orbell. He was much recovered this morning, and is reported to be progressing well. It is not thought probable that dangerous consequences will follow his mishap. He does not remember the approach of the car, which it appears did not stop to determine the extent of his hurts.

Possibly the business did not do well or maybe 'dangerous consequences' did indeed follow from Andrew's 'mishap' but, for whatever reason, on 8 August 1914 Andrew and wife sold their home, described as follows in the *Oamaru Mail*:

W A L T E R S U M P T E R has received instructions from Mr. ANDREW HAY, who is leaving Oamaru, to sell – His VALUABLE FREEHOLD PROPERTY, being Part Section 14, Block 29, Avon street, Oamaru, together with six-roomed House, bathroom, h. and c. water, gas, etc.

There is a magnificent view of the harbor from the house, and the property can be thoroughly recommended to anyone in search of a comfortable home.

Their household goods followed in an auction held on 29 August 1914.

Not for another five months was the fate of Stringer and Hay revealed to the waiting public. The *Oamaru Mail* again tells the story:

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

THE PARTNERSHIP existing between GEORGE STRINGER and ANDREW HAY, trading under the name of STRINGER and HAY, Land, Grain, and General Commission Agents, HAS BEEN DISSOLVED by mutual consent. All moneys due to the firm must be paid at once to David Hay, whose receipt will be sufficient discharge, and all accounts owing by the said firm will be paid by him.

So by September 1914 Andrew and May had moved from Oamaru; where they again set up house has not been ascertained. They had no children of their own but adopted Sylvia Mavis Stewart.

Andrew, 'retired clerk', died in Levin on 9 July 1959; May had died in 1957, aged 71. Their ashes are interred together in the Hay family grave in the Oamaru Cemetery (Block 6, plots 1 and 2).