

of Hübener's execution" (document 62) with the Nazi's grizzly insistence on exactness and detail.

The book contains 102 pages of notes on the text and 32 pages of index. *When Truth Was Treason* will become the official story of the Helmuth Hübener Group and will remain so for some time to come.

—Garold N. Davis

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*The MTC: Set Apart*, by Benson Y. Parkinson (Aspen Books, 1995)

This engaging novel of missionary life at the Missionary Training Center (MTC) in Provo is written for a faithful, educated LDS audience. Parkinson's purpose is to describe missionary life both realistically and artistically through the actions, conversations, and reminiscences of four elders at the MTC: Harvey Wilberg, a bumbling but good-natured teller of childish jokes, an Iowan with a childlike heart; Cordell (Corry) Anthon, an athlete from Salt Lake City, a natural leader with the power to draw people to him or push them away; Malan Rignell, a quietly witty peacemaker from a ranch in New Mexico, clumsy in company but a calming center for others; and Phil Jeppsen, an Australian convert of one year, a scholar and thinker, one who has a great love for the rigors of the MTC but shies away from interacting with others. These four elders have been set apart for their missions. But will they be able to come together at the MTC? With a tone of gentle parody, Parkinson makes fun of his

missionaries, who often do not see clearly (one nearly leaves the MTC; another is almost sent home), but he doesn't condemn them. The novel assumes an audience that appreciates rich language, symbolism (a compelling discourse about the Provo Temple on Independence Day), and allusion (a subtle retelling of the stories of Jonah, Corianton, and Jacob). The novel demands a sequel, and Parkinson is at work on it now, the second in a planned trilogy describing the whole mission experience.

—Robert M. Hogge

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*A Flood Cannot Happen Here: The Story of Lower Goose Creek Reservoir, Oakley, Idaho, 1984*, by Kathleen Hedberg (Magic Valley Publishers, 1993)

Natural disasters and the destruction that follows in their wake have always been headline news items. Overlooked for lack of a sensational headline, however, were the herculean effort and personal sacrifices of the residents of two small communities who worked together to avoid a natural disaster—a flood that could have devastated a large farming area of south-central Idaho. Basing her work on meticulous grass-roots research, Kathleen Hedberg tells the story of these rural communities summoning all their resources to avert a tragedy.

In the spring of 1984, the Lower Goose Creek Reservoir threatened to overflow. A flood was inevitable. Thousands of acres of farmland and at least two towns,

Oakley and Burley, Idaho, would be inundated. Local officials devised a plan to divert the water from the dam by widening and extending an existing canal nineteen miles and by digging twenty-four miles of new canal in three days through existing farmland to divert the floodwater to Murtaugh Lake and the Snake River. For nearly twenty days, a torrent of water several feet deep and up to seventy feet wide rushed through the Snake River canal, while volunteers sandbagged and patrolled the banks, sometimes twenty-four hours a day.

Hedberg chronicles the painful decision of the farmers along the canal routes to sacrifice crops and land to save their neighbors from the flood. She tells a story of cooperative spirit as churches, civic organizations, and individuals worked together for the community good. Because the area is predominantly Mormon (Oakley, 86 percent; Burley, 50 percent), the efficient organization of the LDS Church played a major role in organizing the massive effort to divert the floodwaters.

One volunteer reported, "Off to the side we could see the water flowing to Murtaugh Lake. In front of us was the canal to the Snake River. It hit me for the first time—the vastness of what had been done. 'We did it,' I remember thinking. 'We built those canals and saved our valley'" (199). Terry Bingham, Cassia County Deputy Sheriff and a volunteer civil defense director, commented, "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Normally in my job as Deputy Sheriff I see the dark side of people. That project gave me a confirma-

tion of the positive side of the human spirit that is enough to last a lifetime" (276).

Kathleen Hedberg's book is a splendid tribute, worthy of that spirit.

—Nancy R. Lund