

James Simon Hull

William Gibson Hull married Eliza Galloway Lowe, a daughter of Thomas and Eliza Lowe, on December 24, 1864 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. William and Eliza Hull were parents of nine boys, three of whom died as babies (also two stillborn): Thomas B., Willard, James S., Robert, John H., and Joseph A., who passed away in November, 1918. William, Peter and Arthur died as children. James Simon Hull was born March 29, 1874 in Hooper, Weber, Utah.



William Gibson Hull Family, Front row-L to R: Joseph A, William Gibson, Eliza, Thomas B, Back row-L to R: John Henry, James S, Willard, Robert.

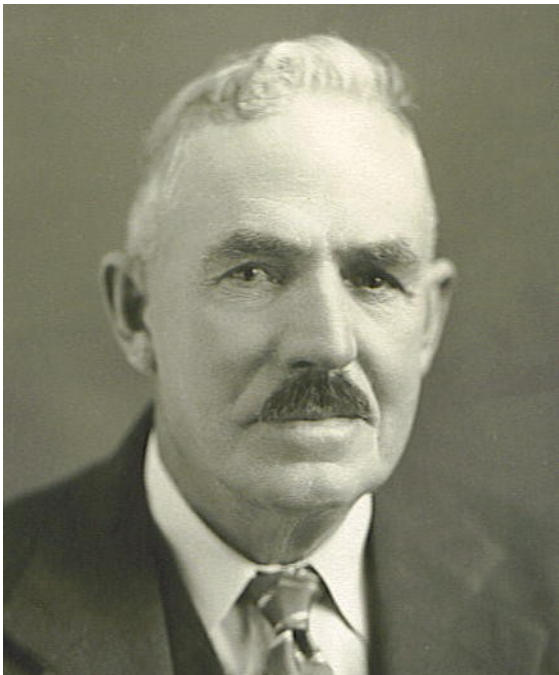
In 1870 William and Eliza and two little boys, Thomas B. and Willard, moved to Hooper, Utah. They homesteaded land and bought other land from the railroad company and concentrated attention upon general farming and stock raising. In 1876, after her foster mother died, the couple adopted the only surviving baby Indian girl of the Battle of Bear River and raised her as their own child. Her Indian name was Pasoats. After her adoption, she was given the name Jannie¹. One of his earliest recollections was when James was six years old and became very ill. It was thought sometimes that in his scurried condition he might succumb. His illness had been diagnosed as a bad case of stomach worms. A man passing through that part of the country fed him herbs which were believed to have cured him.

Like many other pioneer people Jim's schooling was limited. Once he was fortunate enough to attend all winter. After that, however, it was just a series of short exposures to education. He is still impressed by the rugged days

of his early school life. The school house was a little log cabin with hard benches to sit on and a rough and rugged old school teacher by the name of Rogers. It was not an uncommon thing for Rogers to throw his cane at some mischievous student. This usually ended up in a fight, and school would be dismissed for the day. The school teachers' would come and go. A few books were about the only materials they had to work with.

The school room was not the only place where "cain" was raised. Cane also was Jim's father's only crop for some time. Cane that was raised on the rich fertile lands near Hooper was manufactured into molasses and was often hauled as far as Franklin, Idaho, for sale.

Jim worked closely with his father until he was 20 years of age – then he got married. James married Mary Ellen Russell on October 24, 1894 in the Salt Lake City Temple. At that time he came into possession of 12 acres of land near Hooper, and with a span of mules, a few cows, and meager tools, he began to make his own living. By purchasing and trading, he soon became the owner of about 100 head of cattle, which he grazed during the summer time on rented pasture land and on grazing land in the mountains which is now known as Lost Creek.



James S. Hull



Mary Ellen Russell Hull

In due time, they were blessed with seven children, four boys and three girls. In order they were: James Russell, Gladys, William Roy, Thelma, Archie Vilan, Ellen Irene, and Francis Irving.

James moved his small family from Hooper to Roy in 1900. During this time he had his own herd of cattle. In 1903, he and Thomas Benson moved with their families to Taber, Alberta Canada to homestead.

In summary, the families shipped their cattle and horses by way of rail, and settled near Crow's Nest Peak in Alberta, Canada. Here they took up a homestead and began farming operations. The next two years, heavy winters destroyed much of the livestock, and the new migrants were very discouraged. However, due to the fact that they had settled near the railway, Jim was able to take advantage of the opportunities it offered. With the \$78 he had left he was able to buy merchandise for a small store. Railway crews from nearby traded at his store. There was a quick turnover, so he replenished his stock, added to it, and soon had a thriving business, hotel, general merchandise store, and bar.

Jim became his own Chamber of Commerce and sent letters out to many parts of the country. He also became the postmaster. Men seeking new homes came from many parts of the country, and so, the town of Taber became a thriving community. In 1906, patriotism for the United States got the better of him, so James and his family left Canada and returned to Utah.

On a visit to Salt Lake City he happened to visit the State Fish Hatchery at Murray, and had a long talk with Mr. Walker, the hatchery superintendent. He was fired up with the ambition of owning a fish hatchery and raising fish for the market. On his return to Brigham City he purchased what is now the Maple Creek Trout Farm in Mantua, Utah and established a new enterprise. "They laughed at me and thought I was crazy when I paid \$75.00 an acre for land near Mantua with the idea of raising fish there."

He became a game warden for the Fish and Game Department where he served for many years. During this time he had the opportunity of helping in pioneering the building of manmade marshes. Once while traveling over the Bear River Delta, his superior, David H. Madsen, who was then the Commissioner of the Fish and Game Department, asked him, "What are we doing to do with this area (referring to the Duckville Gun Club)?" It was drying up, and botulism had already infected the birds and was killing them by the thousands. Jim's answer was forthcoming, "I will tell you what let's do. Let's go out here and build long dike lines and make big water impoundments. Let's build canal lines and irrigate the river deltas. This will rebuild the homes of birds that have been destroyed since we began to divert the waters in the earlier days for irrigation."

Evidently, Jim's suggestions sounded good to David Madsen for immediately he went to work, and it was not long until the survey crew was there and Federal money was provided to pay for what is now known as the granddaddy of all man-made duck marshes—the Bear River



THE OUTDOORSMAN

By BERT STRAND

Oldtimers Like James S. Hull Improved Area Outdoor Scene

BRIGHAM CITY — Thousands of area sportsmen, present and future can be grateful to a grizzled outdoorsman here.

He is James S. Hull, former fish and game officer, Canadian pioneer and a visionary but practical man of 93.

Now taking a well earned rest, a local nursing home, "Jim" is recalled with amazing accuracy events of 79 years ago.

That's when the young man had to bag five dozen a week.

FOUNDED CITY

and waterfowl came to figure prominently in the life of the nation's son who founded the city of Ber, Can., but returned to his homeland as it was so close to heart.

Jim was instrumental in the

when a telegram arrived informing them the federal government had given \$300,000 for the project.

FIRST TO START

Jim's name is recorded in national records in Washington D. C. as the first man to start a waterfowl refuge in the United States.

After the Bear River Bay Refuge was finished, Jim became interested in an area west of Corinne known then as Moley's Stocking Ridge.

He envisioned dikes being three or four good sized lakes.

He discussed the matter with Mr. Madsen, but the latter failed to see the point for the first year or so.

Then Mr. Madsen agreed and Jim hired a number of teams and scrapers as a deputy game warden. They came from Penrose, Thatcher and Brigham City.

It took three summers to create the three lakes. One was named Hill lake and today is a popular waterfowl shooting spot on what is now the Public Shooting Grounds.

STILL STANDS

Jim built a 12 by 20 foot cabin on the grounds which still stands. On the first day shoot-

ing was opened on the new refuge, Jim registered 100 hunters into the area.

Locomotive Springs, now a waterfowl and trout fishing area south of Snowville, also was created due to the far-sightedness of the game warden called Jim.

The springs and a log cabin were purchased and Jim was sent by Newell Cook of the state fish and game commission to supervise the building of dikes.

The project took two months. It included creating both shallow and deep lakes. The deep lakes for trout and the shallow for waterfowl.

Jim stayed at the springs as caretaker for three summers. He hooked live largemouth bass from Howell Reservoir at Bone Creek and put them in the ponds.

He made three trips planting about 100 bass. The last summer he was at the springs he took four-pound bass out of

the Pond, "at any time."

Since then, most of the bass have been killed by treatment projects to remove trash fish. Rainbow trout have been planted regularly and now furnish most of the sport fishing at the springs.

Both geese and most species of ducks using the Pacific fly-away are found at the springs and the hunters who visit the area generally do well.

Born in Hooper, Jim raised cattle in Hoy during 1900, then got the "pioneering fever," and homesteaded in T. A. B. C., during 1903 and 1906.

He became a game warden on his return to Utah. He settled in Mantua four times, building a trout hatchery on Maple Creek.

A crack shot, Jim recalls bagging 50 ducks without a single miss. There are those who say he was the greatest goose hunter the state has ever seen.



READING OUTDOOR news is one of the favorite pastimes of James S. (Jim) Hull, retired Canadian pioneer, game warden and all around outdoorsman now 93 who has made a big contribution to Northern Utah fishing and waterfowl hunting.