EVOLUTION OF DUP LESSON BOOKS

Kate B. Carter, former President of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, will be forever linked to the voluminous pioneer histories she compiled. The idea for the impressive collection of books was born in 1926, when as a new DUP member Kate attended DUP meetings in Salt Lake City. She wrote, "We heard pioneer after pioneer tell his (her) own story and no one was even taking notes or thinking that such history should be preserved that future generations might value some of the lessons they taught. Soon the challenge came to me. . . . Have a course of study so that at



the end of the year they (DUP Daughters) could say that they had received a knowledge that would benefit them, or that would be lasting, and that all living pioneers would be asked to present their records; and members to write the histories of those who have passed away... The Daughters of Utah Pioneers could become a great history-saving organization."

As lesson committee members gathered pioneer histories, Kate B. Carter tirelessly edited and compiled them. She would say, "I do not pretend in any way to be a scholarly writer. I do say I am a good researcher. It has always been my aim to verify the facts and dates to make sure the truth is published." Following Kate B. Carter's leadership, the Daughters of Utah Pioneers organization has now completed 78 hard-bound books filled with Utah pioneer histories.

Beginning in 1936, single subject pamphlets were written. These pamphlets were then compiled into hardbound books, comprising the first several book volumes of the initial series entitled *Heart Throbs of the West*. Twelve volumes of this series ran from 1940 to 1951. From 1952 to 1957, *Treasures of Pioneer History*, made-up a six-volume series. The largest series, with twenty volumes, is *Our Pioneer Heritage*, compiled from 1958 to 1977. *An Enduring Legacy*, ran from 1978 to 1989, with twelve volumes. Eight volumes of *Chronicles of Courage*, followed from 1990 to 1997. The green book series, *Pioneer Pathways*, comprised eleven volumes of locality histories compiled during the year 1998 to 2008. The seventh series, *Museum Memories*, was completed in May 2017, the series running from 2009 to 2017 with nine volumes. The new series, *Tales of Triumph*, begins with the 2017 September lesson. Most of the more recent lesson books can be purchased through the DUP organization. Many of the past 78 DUP lessons books are now becoming valuable collector's items, and with luck may be found and purchased from many used book dealers.

[The new series, *Tales of Triumph* should not be confused with the book *Tales of a Triumphant People: A History of Salt Lake County, Utah 1847-1900* sold in our DUP Museum lobby or online.]