

all of her good ideas, she replies, "They come to me while I'm taking long hot baths" (pp. 190-91).

The collection has come full circle, then, back to Pat Holland's earlier realization that until she told herself it was all right *not* to sew, she had to suppress the

urge to tear out all the handsewn pleats in the pinafores of six little girls, trouping ahead of their mother down the church aisle, the mother in her own handsewn immaculate outfit.

The diversity of voices in *A Heritage of Faith* in itself speaks in favor of diversity.

BRIEF NOTICES

A Small Light in the Darkness and Other Stories by Jack Weyland. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1987, 202 pp., \$9.95.

A COLLECTION OF SIXTEEN STORIES by this popular Mormon adolescent fiction writer, most have been reprinted from the *New Era* or are scheduled for publication therein. With humor and a genial style these stories illustrate contemporary concerns of teenage Mormons, notably outside the Wasatch Front. The young characters face inner temptations against integrity, sexual morality, and keeping the Word of Wisdom; they are challenged by others' indifference, prejudice, and hostility toward their religious beliefs. While battle lines between Mormons and "the world" are clearly drawn, the characterizations of Mormon youth are vivid and clever, and there are many twists in what could be predictable formula fiction.

A Love That Endures by Barbara Elliott Snedecor (Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, Inc., 1987), 132 pp., \$7.95.

CHRISTIANA SADLER has, at age twenty-one, moved from the family farm in Idaho to, not Rexburg, not even Utah, but New York City—seeking a career in writing. Her previous successes at BYU did not prepare her, she finds, for the competitive business world of New York; her naivete, it seems, carries her through an otherwise hostile environment. As she tells her story, however, it becomes clear that this coming

of age story has more to offer than Chris's romance with her Jewish architect friend, David; more than a handsome, spurned Mormon suitor; and more than simple success or failure in her writing career. This story weaves together the underlying strength of family support, the uncertainty of living alone, and the self-discovery of a year-long chapter in a young woman's life. Snedecor's first novel, at first glance suited for the romantic fiction market, is in fact a graceful and reflective work, with serious questions and no simple answers.

Ezra Taft Benson: A Biography by Sheri L. Dew (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1987), 565 pp., index, notes, \$17.95.

A DETAILED AND ANNOTATED BIOGRAPHY of the thirteenth president of the LDS Church by the former editor of *This People* magazine, this book is readable, accessible, and informative. With access to many sources—Benson's personal journals, family records, journals, and interviews, published and unpublished writings, speeches, and interviews with other General Authorities—Dew has traced Ezra Taft Benson's life from farm beginnings to his government work, national farm cooperative positions, and as a cabinet member under Eisenhower and apostle of the Church. While the research was seemingly exhaustive, the author comments of her work, "As Nephi explained in his writing, I have not told everything, but what I have told is true" (p. ix), suggesting a noncritical approach to the work.