

APPLICATION BLANK FOR ADMISSION

Original

1 DATE OF APPLICATION. *Aug-20-1928*
 2 PARENT OR GUARDIAN. *Mother*
 3 NAME. *Lelah (Mason) Cissel*
 4 ADDRESS. *Washington Grove Md.*
 5 PHONE. *Mr Houghton-*
 6 REASONS FOR MAKING APPLICATION. *Mrs Cissel is widow left with 3 children.*
 7 NEAREST LIVING RELATIVES, NEXT TO PARENTS.
 8 BUSINESS AND INCOME. *Fur repairs at Woodward + Lottrop*
 9 REFERENCES. *Rev. Perkins Mrs A. Osborne W. Grove, Mrs W. Hill Wash. Grove Md.*
 10 CHURCH AFFILIATIONS. *Washington Grace M.E. Ch.*

\$10.
 11 APPLICANT OR APPLICANTS
 NAMES AGES
 1 *Ruth Virginia Cissel 4 yrs old.*
 2
 3
 4
 SIGNATURE *Lelah Cissel*

RECORD BLANK

1 Name of Child *Ruth Virginia Cissel*
 Birth Year *1924* Month *Jan* Day *24*
 Birthplace *Sandy Spring Md.*
 2 Date of admission *Sept 16-1928*
 3 Parents:—Mother's (full name) *Lelah Mason Cissel Virginia*
 Living or dead? *yes* If dead, cause of death
 Address
 Father's full name *Eugene Ernest Cissel*
 Living or dead? *Dead* If dead, cause of death *Paralysis*
 Address
 Guardian's name Address
 Baptized *No.* By whom?
 4 Physical report Vaccinated successfully? *yes, Sept 16/28*
 When? By whom?
 5 Previous diseases
 6 Physical defects

8-28-05

The Life of Ruth

Let's start at my earliest memories. I remember a tall man with a mustache standing beside me at church singing "The Old Rugged Cross", with my mother on my other side. This tall man was my father. Another time I remember eating in the dining room with Chinese red walls and window boxes with gold Chinese lettering on them. (Of course at the time I didn't know it was Chinese, just decorations). My mother had a large mirror on the opposite side where I sat and I kept making faces in the mirror and my father scolded me. Since my father died of a stroke at age 56. He was 30 years older than mother. I was 4 years old when he died. I remember living in a frame house with a large lot with trees, as we would pile up the leaves and play in them. Another memory was - There was a park with large boulders I could climb on and then take small stones & rub them on the boulder & it made a powder which I put on my face to play "grown up."

My mind next goes to the Children's Methodist Home where I stayed from age 4 to 6. As mother lost the home and she

she had no trade, she sent my sister to live with my mother's mother, Sue Mason in Woodville, Va. + my brother Bernard went to my Cousin George's farm in Pearsville, Md. His full name was George Remsburg. at the time he had two bachelor brothers name Sam + Jesse. My sister was 12 + Bernard 14.

Mother found a job as a seamstress in Heck's dept store.

She was only allowed to come see me at the children's home every other week. It was a very structured environment, but kind, I think I was really molded during this time.

I remember about 10 or 20 beds in a dorm, but don't remember much of any special children. I remember the dorm lady as when mother was not able to come, she took me with her on a week-end and since it was so hot, I got heat stroke + they had to call a doctor.

Another time people from the church would come + take me home for dinner + I remember they had ginseng on their walk way.

When I left the home I was 6. Mother had gotten an apartment and Dorothy, Bernard + I were all together again. It was in the down town area East buildings. I started school and got lost the first day. We lived about 10 blocks from the school. I would play in the park of the East buildings. At 8mas I got a pair of roller skates from a friend of my mother. It was the greatest joy. I learned to skate + was always on them. I had only one friend and now I don't remember her name.

We then moved to a little house in Md. Greater Capital Heights, which mother rode the bus to work. I had a cat which slept with me, but when mother came to bed she would swipe the cat out.

By then my brother was working for a apt store + was able to purchase furn for the house.

To continue almost 2 yrs. later!
 By age 6 to 12 yrs. was a normal one, going to school (which I loved), as it gave ^{me} time to be with school friends and enjoy learning. I always wanted to work in an office. By age 12 my sister, Dot got married at age 19 and my brother was dating + having fun.

5-2-07

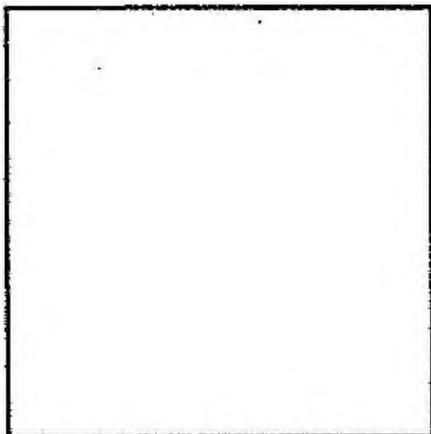
Let's talk about my mother. She was about 5' 6" tall & a plump mom. She was a worrier about everything, especially about "where the next meal was coming from". She was a workaholic, working a day job at a local department store doing alterations, then come home & sew for someone to make ends meet. She finally got to work in the fur dept. and learned the business, so she went into the alteration fur business at home. At first she would sew the fur pieces together by hand. Finally she got a fur machine and then she was able to alterate Senators & etc. furs. She was fabulous at it. She was the kind of mother who never said "no", but for me ^{to} think it over & let her know my decision. It made me think about the situation.

Now back to when I was 12. My mother had a nervous breakdown and was put in a sanatorium. It was really hard. My sister was married & my brother was never home for me. So Dad made arrangements for me to go live with the parents of her friend who lived in Maryland. I lived with this family for 2 years, from 12 to 14 years, when my mother proved her sanity & was released. During this 2 yrs. my sister paid \$5.00 per week from her salary of 14.00 a week.

Ruth Virginia Johnson Holcomb

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Ruth Virginia Cissel Johnson Holcomb, 90 of Corpus Christi, passed away Monday, June 16, 2014 at a hospital in Bryan, Tx. She was born January 24, 1924 in Olney, Md. to Ernest Eugene Cissel and Lelah Mae Mason Cissel Harrel. Ruth was a personnel manager for Sears and retired in 1984 after 32 years of service. She was a member of Carousel and Revelaires Dance Clubs for many years and an active member of Sparklers.



She is preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, James E. Johnson who together had four children, and by her second husband, Paul N. Holcomb.

She is survived by two daughters, Vicki (George) Evans of University City, Texas and Judy Johnson of Jourdanton, Texas; two sons, Gary (Mary) Johnson of Navasota, Texas and Greg Johnson of Nampa, Idaho, eight grandchildren; nine great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice Brazos Valley, 502 West 26th St. Bryan, Texas 77803.

Final memorial service will be private.