

Kansas Memory



Martha Farnsworth diary

Section 8, Pages 211 - 240

Martha Farnsworth kept a personal diary from 1882 through 1922 with only a few gaps. The diary describes her daily activities, her first unhappy marriage to Johnny Shaw, her second happy marriage, and her involvement in social and community affairs, primarily in Topeka. Both of Martha's husbands worked for the Post Office. Martha and Fred, (sometimes called Teddy) taught a class of boys at the First Christian Church in Topeka. They continued to teach the same class as the boys grew up and these young men and the girlfriends became a surrogate family. This particular volume covers the years 1917 and 1918 during which a number of the boys in the Sunday School class served in the Army. They frequently gathered at the Farnsworth house and the class took an annual camping trip. There are emotional statements about the "enemy" as well as constant concern about "her boys." Martha did not show her diary to anyone during her lifetime so many of the entries are personal and show her emotions. She, at times, is judgmental of others. Martha was an avid amateur photographer and this diary included references to taking and printing pictures. She also makes reference to traveling by car, meaning a street car. She generally makes a distinction if she is traveling by automobile. A searchable transcription is available under Text Version below. Thanks to volunteer Erica Hare for preparing the transcription.

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Tues. 18 Another "sizzling" day. I went to town this morning to pay the usual Bills - Water, Light etc did a bit of shopping ^{and} got home in time to get dinner. Johnny Miller with Bernie Rosenthal called in late afternoon - I took their pictures.

Wed. 19 Every day a "sizzler". Cleaned the whole house today - wrote letters to my "war boys" and "too busy to breathe" all day. This evening Teddy and I went out to Sage Lake for a swim - it was glorious only, so many in, could not take a good long swim in any direction, and we had to stand in line almost an hour before we could get to the locker desk to get waited on, but our swim was worth it; just after we got home again, Robt. Simpson and Johnny Miller came and just as they left Edna Stewart and her new or latest "sweetheart" Mr. Arthur Lee called, it being after 10 o'clock P.M. Edna seems to have found the right one at last. We liked his appearance very much - they seem quite "devoted".

Thurs. 20 Today has been more "sizzling" than ever! And I entertained the Good Government Club and some "Mayola oil" demonstrators. To bed at 11:30 last night, up at 5:30 this morning and flew into the work, then ran over to Mrs. Coddington's

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and Mrs. Strickler's, to ask them over for the demonstration. The Club folks came at 10 o'clock with their lunches. Mrs. McIntyre, Mrs. Lilla Day-Marroe, Mrs. J. D. McFarland, Mrs. Emma Sells-Marshall, Mrs. H. W. Foster, Miss Daisy Neil, Journal Reporter, Miss Grace Overmyer, Capital Reporter. Teddy came home to lunch. Miss Shumard and Miss Katherine McFarland came about 1:30 P.M. to demonstrate Mayola Oil. Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Ada Covert, Mrs. J. Bettis and Mrs. C. W. Schwartz came in to see the demonstration.

The girls made lovely salad dressing, and cake with the oil and served us Pineapple salad, and cocoanut cake and made a lovely cake for me. Altogether the hot day, with all its work, was a very happy and profitable one. Every one was so congenial. We almost completed a Hospital blanket to send ^{overseas.} Mora Wiede and LaLa McGaw called this evening.

Fri. 21 Fine and cool all day - a fire would almost have felt comfortable. Mora Wiede, LaLa McGaw and Miss Myers came in awhile this evening - all nurses from Christ Hospital. Mora is lonely since Charlie ^{Mr. Carter Davis} took our car to O. E. Wilkins this morning and ^{and} ^{again} ^{left.}

Sat. 22 Cool and pleasant, this warming up. Very busy all day - just can't get my work caught up. Killed two young chickens, my first "frys" only I "creamed" them, instead of frying them. Gardens are burning up - need rain badly.

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Sun. 23 We took a car to S.S. and Church this morning. For the first time in nearly, eleven years, I did not have a boy in Class. All have volunteered and gone to War except the "slackers" who were angry because of what I said about "slackers" at the Party. And I am glad, for this, day. I do not want to teach "slackers". Poor Edwin Jones was discharged because of physical disability, Cutler Davis could not get in, because of physical disability, and if the others are not slackers, what are they?

Ronald McCord (21 on 25 of May) Bob Simpson, Ernest Shelden, (21 next Oct.) John Keating, Carl Swanson each 20 yrs. Merle Allton, John Miller each 19. None of them with any excuse for not volunteering - they will regret all rest of their lives, that they did not volunteer, when rest of the "Bunch" did. Why, Harry Davis, had earned and was promoted to Sergeant, when only 19 yrs. old. I am more than proud of my volunteers - 21 of them.

When we came out of church, it was raining - a gentle, heavy, steady, down-pour which continued, til middle of afternoon.

Bob Simpson called in early evening - our only caller and since my beloved boys have gone away to War, there are not many left, to call, and we miss them.

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Mon. 24 Another day of scorching heat - 0 for rain.
I washed and ironed both, today, as usual.
This evening Mora Wiede, Frances Scott, Cala McGaw
came in - Christ Hospital Nurses. We are glad our
girl friends come - but both the girls and we
miss our lovely boys who are away to war. And
pray every day for their victory and safe returning.

Tues. 25 Hot! Hotter!! Hottest!!! How the thermometer
hangs around 100° and over, as if trying to burn
up this old earth. Been writing letters today
mostly to relatives, tho' I have 20 soldier Boys to
write too - my blessed and much beloved S.S. Boys.
Mora Wiede and Frances Scott were out this evening.
We received an "safe arrival" card today, from Clarence
Byrd 89 Div. A most splendid young man.

Wed. 26 The hottest ever! - yet nights are cool, so
we sleep fine. Have written letters all day,
to my dear Sunday School, Soldier boys.

Thurs. 27 Hot and more hot! And I worked hard in the
garden among the weeds and "chiggers" all morning.
These busy war times, I don't know what work
to do first. Mrs. Covall came out for supper ^{and} the evening.
26 years today my "wee girlie" died - Mrs. Covall dressed her for
her last "sleep". O how my heart has hungered thro' the

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Fri. 28 Not so hot today - Worked all forenoon at Pelletiers in the Red Cross rooms, making large "wound-pads". Frances Firney went down with me her step-father, Mr. Kelley took us down in auto. Good Government Club, had almost a long table full of workers). Mrs. Hamilton, in charge became quite insulted at Dr. Longshore, who understood her to say "call a meeting" (call me) if she needed any instruction, and Dr. Longshore replied "I'd rather call a lady." how a bit of misunderstanding causes such a lot of trouble - and this trouble was not yet settled when I came home at noon: poor Doctor &.

Sat. 29 So scorching hot, it brought a fine rain this evening and fine cool weather. Very busy with various duties all day.

Sun. 30 A most splendid day - almost cool enough for a wrap. We went to Sun. School and preaching up to Cowman Methodist ^{T. S. S. Superintendent.} this morning. War has taken my Glass, so I shall visit awhile - we know so many at Cowman Church that we were most cordially received - they have a fine church and Rev. Houltier preached a splendid Patriotic sermon. Beginners Dept. of S.S. fine - Dut. Boys, very noisy. This afternoon, Bob Symons, Edwin Jones, John Keating, Merle Atton, Johnnie Miller and Roger McKiddy came out. Carrie Wiede this eve.

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Mon. 1st Still cool, but warmer. I washed and ironed. Mail heavy, so Fred not home to dinner, and I worked without waiting to eat dinner - doesn't hurt one to "fast" a little.

Tues. 2 Quite warm. I went to town this morning to pay Bills and do some Shopping. Was shocked and grieved when Mrs. Wiede called me this morning and told me that Mrs. E. P. Pollard died at 5 o'clock this morning at St. Francis Hosp. leaving a baby son, but few hours old. But this wife, a few years ago supplanted the first wife before her death and the law of retribution seems to be at work - this dear, little, woman, I believe, was innocent but he was not and yet thinks his fate hard.

Wed. 3 Very warm day - and I worked all morning in the garden and got "Ciggeritis" again, pesky things. We went to Orpheum this evening to see Will Hart in the "Tiger man" - He was good, the Play, was good, but I don't like so much "Blood and Thunder" in a Play.

"Fourth Of July."

Thurs. 4 Fine morning - hot afternoon and this evening a most blessed rain. Maria Wiede, Miss Madderne and Miss Boissey & Mr. Guther Davis came out this morning. At 10 o'clock Guther took us to Mrs. Pollard's funeral - very sad - little Virginia, heart broken, he went among Guests "shaking hands." A wealth of flowers, big funeral & fine one. We stopped at Isenhauer's coming home and got 4 doz. Celery plants.

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Fri. 5 Rained all the morning, a fine, gentle, rain and smothering warm. I swept and cleaned and mended and "pressed," until nearly 5 o'clock did not stop even to eat my dinner since mail was so heavy. Teddy did not come home at noon.

Cella Lyon spent good part of afternoon with me and this evening Mora Weide and Cella Magan came in for the evening - Johnnie Miller and Bob Simpson, came out, with Fred Ganger, to call too, this evening. Fred who was in the Draft ^{and} is at "Funston" is having short furl - a handsome fellow always, but makes a more handsome soldier. I took a picture of him. A splendid fellow.

Sat. 6 Melting hot all day. I baked, apple pie custard pie, ginger-bread, and did such a lot of work.

Mr. Ikenhauer came over this morning and measured our downstairs rooms - are going to get him to do some papering for us. Wrote some letters too.

Sun. 7 A fine day. We went to Sun. School at First Congregational Church this morning - ^{Attorney Fred Jackson, Superintendent.} only 86 present. Had pretty Birthday Service in Primary Dept. We went around the corner to our own church to preaching big congregation too. Luther Davis, Frances Dolan, Ethel Gaster, Isabel Smith and Katherine Bauerlein here during afternoon - I took pictures of the girls. We alone tonight.

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Mon. 8 Very cool all day - I both washed and ironed.
and this evening we repaired chicken fence.
W. C. Powell, St. Paul Minn., died today - my 3rd Cousin.

Tues. 9 Another fine day. I wrote letters all day
to my beloved Sun School boys away to war. And we
again worked on fence this evening. I also cooked up
a half bu. of our Wild Goose Plums today.

Wed. 10 And still its fine and cool. Writing letters all
day; Melvern Pribble with his parents and his
wife, came out to tell me "Good bye" for Melvern has
enlisted and leaves tomorrow for Ft. Myers, Virginia.
He is only 19, so would not have to go - but he is
no slacker - goes into Ammunition Train as Motor Truck
driver - I'm so glad for him. ~~Mrs. Wiede & Calla Magan~~
Came over for the evening - we only have girls nowdays.

Thurs. 11 Another fine day. very busy writing letters.
Mr. Miller here this evening helping Fred move our
hen house - I gave Mr. Miller a Peck of Plums.

Fri. 12 Getting warm. I worked with Plums all day
Canned the juice and made jam. Jack Miller,
one of my boys, came in awhile this morning.
Fred and I finished up the Hen House
work this evening. And so 10: oclock getting
to bed, which is not sleep enough for working people.

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Sat. 13 A pretty fair day, as to temperature. I did "oddles" of work today of all kinds, the best of which was to bake some most excellent bread using much "substitute": in first place, all our flour is adulterated, then I used more than a pint each, of corn meal scalded, mashed potato and of cooked oatmeal; bread was not very white but mighty good eating: made three big loaves and a pair of big biscuits - two of the large biscuits, I took, hot, to neighbor Bettis, for their dinner. This evening Fred and I went to the Orpheum to see Enid Bennett in "Naughty, Naughty" a comedy, "screened" at Florence, Kansas; Best we have seen in a long time - the "after" comedy, verged on vulgarity. Why, will screen people act vulgarity, for sake of money? I would be clean.
Got Andy Letter, today from Harry Davis, in France - Med. Dept., 130 F.A.

Sun. 14 A sprightly sort of day, with a very warm afternoon. We went to the Central Park, Christian Church this morning, to S.S. and Church. We were put in a mixed class, taught by Rev. Rash, who uses the "lecture method" as I did, with my young men, before they all went to war. Was 161 at Sun. School - two boys classes have no teachers and would be glad if I would attend there and teach, but I have been 30 years at First Church, and so hard to pull away, beside have been teaching almost eleven years, one bunch of boys and need a rest. Every one most cordial. Gutter Davis, came out this afternoon.

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Mon. 15 A very warm, sticky day: "sprinkled" two-thirds of the day, then cleared and my clothes dried so that I ironed them before evening. Fred did not get home to dinner, because of a heavy mail. I feel bnum.

Tues. 16 Rather pleasant day - few sprinkles of rain and cooler. I went over to North Topeka this afternoon and bought wall paper to paper the three rooms downstairs - an oatmeal paper, because cheaper, but cost me \$18.⁰⁰ for the three rooms.

Wed. 17 Fine, cool, and a good shower this forenoon, with a heavy downpour, about 5 o'clock. I worked and cleaned all forenoon - this afternoon the Ondis Aux. to Etter Carriers, #82, met with me, not many came I suppose because of the "threatening" weather! Mr. Chas. Boat Res., was here, as also Mrs. Botter and Elizabeth, Mrs. Chas. Summers, Mrs. d'Ungap, Mrs. John Keller, Mrs. Ernest Pridde, Mrs. W. Kirkard, Mrs. Moly, Mrs. Blank, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. John Bauer and Mrs. George Supple. I served, pink & white, brick, ice cream and vanilla ^{cupcake}.

Thurs. 18 ^{Jennie Remington} came over at noon and took my picture withing the ^{the} Cow. Fine day of medium temperature and I made Plum sauce for jam and 8 large glasses of jelly from our own trees. Mrs. Wiede, Miss Madsen and Miss Voissey came out for the evening. Ma told me Mel Ribble had gotten a girl in trouble and her parents, gave him choice of going to the Pen or to war and so he enlisted - a boy 19, with already a wife soon to be a mother. But no one will know, he is subnormal because his parents are own cousins who is guilty.

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Fri. 19 Another pleasant sort of day. Been very busy all day. Received an "over-seas, safe arrival" card today from Scott Brown - he went to Ireland on the U.S.S. Demosthenes. Edwin Jones, Betty Harmon, Ernest Sheldon, Helen Williams, John Steating and Katherine Harmon, came out for the evening.

Ernest, John and Katherine were ate tomatoes. I had brought in, almost a half bushel of fine big Borderoses, just before they came - gathered from our own garden. Jennie Remington took picture of me today.

Sat. 20 Got pretty warm today. I had a mighty lot to do today, baking, cleaning, mending - made some good apple pies ginger cake, killed a chicken, made plum jam etc. Johnny Miller was out awhile this morning - is going in auto to Yellowstone Park.

Fred and I went to Orpheum this evening to see Dorothy D'Alton in Tyrant of Fear. She is splendid but I did not like the picture, neither did Fred - too rough.

Sun. 21 Cool morning - hot afternoon. We went to S.S. at First Baptist Church this morning - small number on time - perhaps three doz. or as many as fifty, but good crowd by Glass time - Mr. Knapp ^{Q.} Sept. all announcements, song by Mrs. Berning, recitation by little girl (McDonald) blames before Glass time - many Classes, adopted a Thrift Card to buy War Saving Stamps, this morning - they did not re-assemble after Glasses. I would

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judge they had two hundred, at Sun. School this morning. We were in the Berean Class taught by Mrs. Whitaker who seemed to be a very capable teacher - she taught by what I would call, a conversational method. We went over to our own church on Topeka Ave., to preaching and Bro. W.W. Burkes, announced he was to leave us and go to France for "Y." work - he deserves the honor.

Robert Simpson came for a call, in late afternoon. Thelma Houston and Sicily Allison came out, in the early evening, in Thelma's car and we had a lovely visit - they are two very sweet, pretty girls and of course we could only talk of War and our Soldier Boys. And score unmercifully the Slackers - in my Bunch of boys, there is Ronald McCord, Robert Simpson, John Keating, Fred Brackett, Carl Swanson, Merle Allton, John Miller and Ernest Shelden, none of whom will enlist, until they have to - 'til 21 yrs. old and Draft gets them! if they were not Slackers they would be in the army, like the twenty-four others of my Bunch, who volunteered, long ago and many of whom are in France now. And not many have any love for Slackers - I knew I had a few Slackers, for they were also Sunday School Slackers, but I was surprised to find quite so many.

Thelma took us for a little "joyride," to Davis' 1012 Polk nd by her home. She sure is some, "speediest!" I got my picture in "Morning Capital" with my old cow.

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Tues. 22 A very warm day. I washed a very large washing this morning and did my ironing this afternoon without stopping for lunch. Fred's mail heavy and he did not get home at noon. Mr. & Dennis came over this evening to show us a picture of the camp where Arthur is, or was, at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. Arthur is at Camp Mills, now enroute to France. Johnny Miller came in too, this evening and brought Helen Kelley and we had a very happy little visit. We miss our boys.

Tues. 23 Another warm day - canning some very fine tomatoes. Fred and I went to Orpheum this evening to see Leo. Cohan in "Hit the Trail Holiday" and it was "great." We enjoyed it immensely, comedy and all.

Wed. 24 A wee bit cooler after a very heavy rain about 1 o'clock last night. Uncle George Van Crodol came over to see me this morning, he is mighty spry for 81 yrs, yet seemed tired this morning. Sweet, pretty, Thelma Houston, ran in a moment about 5 o'clock this afternoon. I love all the Boys' girls.

Thurs. 25 Hot and sticky tho' cool nights, thank goodness. Been writing letters all day, busy every moment.

Fri. 26 Hot and hotter. Baked rotter bread today have to use so much substitute and flour bad

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Sat. 27 Q today has been a hot one, and I canned tomatoes and made Crabapple jelly and jam - and too tired tonight to go for a swim ^{and that means some} ~~tired~~.

Sun. 28 The day has been hotter than any words can express - unbearably hot - scorching, as tho' from the furnaces of Gehenna. We went to the United Presbyterian Sunday School this morning, at 8^a and ~~St. Peter's Ave.~~. The first ones there then came their Pastor & wife - young folks and most pleasing - his first Pastorate - and we liked them, very much. A small S.S. - of teachers, officers and pupils present, less than one hundred - but wide awake & up to date. Mr. Ramsey Sept. we were in a "mixed" adult class, taught by Mr. Thompson in the absence of Dr. Stewart, its regular teacher: we were most cordially received and felt quite at home, because of a number of acquaintances there and altogether was so favorably impressed we hated to leave after S.S. to go to our own church for preaching, but felt it our duty, since Bro. Burkes was preaching his last sermon, before leaving ^{for} France to do "Y." work in war. And it was a good sermon on "Cups of blessing". Bro. Burkes came here to a church, torn to pieces - a flock without a Shepherd for nearly a year: thro' agonizing hardship, he has us on our feet - built up a good congregation, fills the church on the hottest Sundays; no other minister ever did it, and at his going, we will fall again. But our boys over there need him and he deserves to go ^{and may God bless his going.}

Mon. Wiede & Francis Scott called this evening - Also a good, snappy thunder storm which cooled us to coldness.

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Mon. 29 Cool and fine after our snappy little thunder storm last night - almost a wind storm too - broke many branches on trees & finished blowing down our old peach tree on north side of house. Melvern Pribble and his mother called this afternoon and I took pictures of them - Melvern is home on furlough to see his new baby son, born July 27 - he makes a handsome soldier & said he was going to make a good soldier - I hope he does. Fred and I went to Orpheum, this evening to see Dorothy Dalton in "Love me" - good - also war pictures were good, especially the U.S. Navy at Great Lakes. After the regular picture, instead of "Comic" there was a Troupe music of which was excellent - dancing, rotten. From Orpheum we went to "Y.M." to Farewell Reception for Bro. W.W. Burkes - a pleasant time, but "Goodbyes" are not pleasant. After Reception Mr. & Mrs. S.J. Hodgins brought us home in their car, and it was almost mid-night, after a hard day's work for I both washed and ironed today and Fred's mail as heavy not home to dinner.

Tues. 30 Very fine cool day - And a busy day too. I baked a lovely cake, made ham sandwiches and went this evening to Gage Park to Picnic, given by we wives for our Mail Carrier husbands - about 80 present and good time. The Commissars, brought us home in their car. Uncle Marian Van Oordt was here to dinner today and most of afternoon. Carl Saverson called too.

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Wed. 31 Pleasant day, but warming up. Busy with all sorts of work, today. Mrs. W. Amos came in this morning with some of her husband's "Campaign Cards," for me to use in soliciting "votes." And this evening Mr. & Mrs. Boyd came with some of his, asking me to give him my support. I'm so tired of Politics, but folks wanting "Office" give me no rest at Election time, because at one time I was "somewhat" of a worker, but too hard work, I'm quitting it.

- August -

Thurs. 1 Hot, O, my! just, burning, scorching!! fierce!!! I spent most of morning, trimming and tying up, my tomato vines - cut-worms are bad, but my "ponderosa's" are a wonder - we ate one for supper last night weighing 2 lbs ^{3rd} 2 oz. They average about a pound each. I canned a half bushel this morning. Heavy mail so Fred not home at noon.

Fri. 2 Yesterday was hot, but today, O, my! 102° with a blistering hot wind from the South. Cleaned the whole house and baked some "fair" bread. Our flour is all so full of "substitute" and we have to use so much more that one never can make good bread any more. If Hoar did not think it necessary for him to be trotting around over Europe just now at expense of the Government, I would write him in protest against the millers filling the flour with substitutes - it is a very unfair deal. But our Big men (?) all feel they must take a peek at the war.
John Keating, Katherine Warner, Ed Jones & Betty Warner here this evening.

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August 1918

Sat. 3 August? Yes! August redhot and sizzling 109° today, and a burning, blistering wind with it - burning up a magnificent corn crop all over the State; everything is burning up.

I did my usual baking and preparations for, "keeping the Sabbath Day Holy." very busy all day. We wanted to go for a swim this eve, but too hot.

Sun. 4 Almost as hot as yesterday with same burning wind. We visited the English Lutheran Sun. School this morning at 5th & Harrison - Have a woman Superintendent and she puts things thru with a vim - no drag - no drowsiness.

A small S.S. but very earnest, very businesslike most cordial - even brought their little children up and introduced them and each was very sweet and gracious in acknowledging, with a hand shake, the introduction. Mrs. Maggart the Pastor's wife, taught the matron's class and is a good teacher: in this class, every Sunday they take up a "penny Flower collection" and a "penny Missionary collection." I liked their songs very much - were very musical, and everyone sang - use the Pentecostal Hymns #5+6. We knew several of the members but all were so cordial, made us want to stay with them.

We went to our own church for preaching and heard a good sermon by Rev. Percy Atkins. Bob Simpson called this evening. Roger McKiddy this afternoon.

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Hot August 1918 Hot

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Mon. 5 A fierce day - hot air, hot wind, blowing and turning everything up. I washed this forenoon ironed this afternoon - mail heavy and Teddy not home to dinner. Got four letters from War today from Harry Davis, always jolly and looking on the best side, from Frank and Earl Bunce and Chas. Clements. Frank sent me his picture and told of Ketchum being hurt and I'll bet he is wounded - all seem happy and are glad they are "Over there".

Tues. 6 And still the wind blows hot as from the furnaces of the devil, himself - the sun shines down hot from a cloudless sky and we can hardly live thro' it, but we are thankful for cool nights so we can sleep and rest. Cousin Frank Van Fredol called a moment this morning in his new Car - "Oakland six." Mr. Washburn came after dinner and took me and neighbor Bettie to the Primaries to vote - on W-6th Hartscock. Got word today, our Ketchum shot in right hand - shrapnel.

Wed. 7 Still, hot and hot winds - can't work. Wrote letters all day to my Soldier boys.

Thurs. 8 Very hot and very windy - last night our first hot night - did not sleep well. Every day good news from the War front - got Germans on the run thank goodness.

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Fri. 9 My! My!! My!!! Will Winter never send his "a bit of a cool breathe in advance" I canned a half Bush. of tomatoes, this morning from our vines. And I put in a full day of work and wrote a few letters to my beloved Soldier Boys, across the Sea; & this awful War!

Sat. 10 And still the days burn one up - burn, ! scorch, !! blister!!! 'til one can scarcely endure

I went to town this morning to pay our regular monthly Bills. Bought seven yards of "shirting" to make Fred some new shirtwaists and had to pay 35¢ per yard - before the war I got better material for 12½¢ Some day the war will end - every day, now comes good news from the Battle front, in France.

Sun. 11 Another extremely hot day. Fred stayed home to rest. I went to S.S. and Church, at the little "Anti-Organ", Christian Church, out near 6th & Polk St. I was the first one there, and as I stepped inside the little, cool, quiet, church, it seemed like a place of real worship - a place where one seemed to actually feel the presence of Christ. There were but three S.S. classes - children, young folk and older people - all mixed classes. Singing was excellent led by young Mr. Rousch. Mr. Bailey acted as Sup't. Mr. Draper is Pastor & fairly good - no "fuss or feathers". Fred & I alone today and evening so very hot.

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Mon. 12 Another very hot day. I washed and ironed as usual - Fred came home to dinner - our cow is "off feed" and giving no milk - been feeding her too heavy, of "Rabbit" Alfalfa, for such hot weather!

Tues. 13 Very, very hot. Cut out some new shirts today for Fred. We went to the Orpheum, this evening to see the pictures and Fairbanks in

All good and we enjoyed it all very much. When we got home, we found Ralph Davidson and wife had been here and left, for us, one of their Bridal pictures.

Wed. 14 Very hot - making Fred new shirtwaist, Uncle Marian Van Oordt, came out this evening to supper and to stay over night - Had good chaser this evening. Had a splendid letter, this evening from Scott Brown Queenstown Ireland; and we had been hungry to hear from him. He was a favorite with us all.

Thurs. 15 Most awfully hot. Very busy, sewing, finished one of Fred's shirtwaists. Old Cow alright again, thank goodness.

Fri. 16 another very hot day. Still sewing on shirtwaists. Uncle Marian Van, came this evening to stay over night. Jennie Remington came in for the evening.

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Aug. 17 Q but the days are hot - seems almost as if I could not endure another hot day - fierce Almost every day of August, has been above 100°. Uncle Marian went home this morning. I baked some "fair" bread - killed a chicken and cleaned up the house for Sunday. This evening we went to the Orpheum to see "Leslie Hayakawa" in The Whitebons Lovers. We enjoyed the Picture and also the Comic, a Senett. Then we got some "ice-cream". And met Hazel Sillix and husband Dr. Wyatt a fine looking and very pleasing appearing young soldier. We enjoyed our evening down town, Mrs. Jessie Henderson died this evening - 1017 Brooks.

Sun. 18 Another "boiling hot" day, and my good husband, I commanded to stay home, out of the heat, and just stay in bed and rest. I got up, fed chickens & coal, milked, got my Breakfast then walked over to the Westminster Church to S.S. Visited the "mixed" class of Mr. Fischer whom I liked, tho he taught more like a man, preaching a sermon - 14 in Class - 12 women, two men. 176 present in whole Sun. School - no young men - few old ones - two, very small Classes, of junior boys, taught by men. A service flag showed where 45 fellows were. Mr. Fischer introduced me to his class, who was very cordial in greeting Hazel Colvin, told me at noon, that Ernest Shelden and Helen Williams were married last night - this afternoon they came out to see us and I took pictures of them. Have known Ernest

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ever since he was born - saw him when only a few hours old. Helen is very beautiful but she a tiny thing, I wonder how she can be a "helpmeet". Florence Penwell, Mira Atchison, Edith, Cecil and Mrs. Shelden, also came in this afternoon.

Mon. 19 Scorching hot, but half the forenoon was cloudy, so cooler - I washed and ironed as I always do on Monday. Mail heavy and Fred not home to dinner. Received a letter from one of my boys, Otis Young, "somewhere in France". Mr. Jesse Henderson came up at noon to ask Fred to be a Pall bearer for Mrs. Henderson who died Saturday evening of Cancer of Stomach - only in bed two weeks, the poor health for several years.

Tues. 20 An extremely hot day. Fred home, having a day of vacation to act as Pall bearer at funeral of Mrs. Jesse Henderson, an old neighbor, and a most excellent woman. We went to the funeral at 9:30 A.M. at Bowman Church. Fred and I went to town this afternoon to do a bit of shopping.

Mr. Dennis, father of Arthur, came over this evening bringing a letter from Arthur, who is in Paris, France and later, Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Davis with Louise and some friends, drove out, bringing some lovely letters from Harry, also from his Chaplain and an excellent picture, for us to see.

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Wed. 21 Every day a scorcher, and I have "scoreched" today more than any time, for a month. This evening Frances Dolan and Ethel Caster, two mighty sweet girls, called, and later Mr. L.M. Benner and Florence, and Mrs. Gustavson, came out and took us for a car ride in a fine big Auto. Went out to Mission Orange - Full Moon - Beautiful evening and enjoyed the lovely ride. Home at 10:30

Thurs. 22 Most awfully hot, yet I wrote letters most all day. Had a good rain or shower this afternoon and a big rain this evening, for which we are most thankful, tho too late to help crops any.

Fri. 23 Fine and cool today - at least compared with all the days for a month past - for weeks never below 100°. I printed pictures, all morning and went to Mrs. H. Benner's, 702 Lincoln, this afternoon to G.W.B.M. Aux. Div. #1, of which I am treasurer. This evening, Mina Wiede and Frances Scott of Christ Hospital, Carrie Wiede and Mrs. Marie McDonald came in for the evening. Boys all away to war, we have only girls now, but they are just as dear.

Sat. 24 The day has been pretty warm, but not hot very busy all day, with my usual Sat. chow, work and mending, cleaning, and "odds and ends" of work.

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Sun. 25 A fine morning, but hot day. I left Teddy in bed to sleep and rest. I milked cow, fed, took care of chickens, got my breakfast, dressed and walked over to Cent. Cong. Church to S.S. and preaching service. Mr. Goldsmith the Pastor acted as Sup't. 281 at S.S. I was in the old ladies class, taught by Mrs. Wise. Lesson was not much touched on - was more of a discussion of War, Patriotism and a sermon last Sun. eve by Harvey Phillips, returned missionary who preached most indiscreetly and is under arrest, for disloyalty - most of the women in class were for Phillips, saying newspapers misconstrued his meaning and anyway, sounded very differently as he preached it. This afternoon Edwin Jones and John Keating came out and this evening came Miss Carrie Mise & Ed Dorothy Reddick.

Mon. 26 A cooler day. I washed and ironed as usual. Teddy's mail heavy and he did not get home at noon. Cousin Eugene Van Oordol & wife of Herington, came for a call at noon - I had never seen her before, But liked her very much.

Tues. 27 Another fine day but warming up. Edwin Jones, Betty Harmon, John Keating & Katherine Harmon came out for the evening to talk up a trip to Paxico for "Labor Day". Since so many boys have gone to war we can't have our usual Camp this year!

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Wed. 28 Cooler yet its awfully hot. I wrote letters all day to my "Sunday School Soldier Boys", who are "some where in France". My beloved boys, too brave to be "slackers". Jack Miller, just home from a trip to Yellowstone Park, called this morning and Carl Hanson called this afternoon - both boys of 19, who, come in the "18 to 45" Draft; Fine boys too. Fred and I went to Orpheum this evening to see War pictures and "All Wives for Her", which teaches a good lesson, yet seems to uphold divorce. so I don't see the good of such a picture - I have read the Book, which is "nasty" - wouldn't have it in house.

Thurs. 29 Hot and very windy - I went to town this morning, shopping. We plan to go to Paxico for two days, if Mr. Strong will let us in, on the old Camp grounds. Just two or three ~~boys~~ ^{John Keating, Edwin Jones & Jack Miller} and a few girls to stay over ~~day~~ & ^{John Keating, Edwin Jones & Jack Miller out for a call and later Jack brought Catherine Harriet out for the Evening.} night.

Fri. 30 Has been another very hot day - so hot I cannot get up any ambition - my! I'll take the stove (winter) in preference to the Electric fan (summer) any time. Have been very busy all day. Called off our trip because so few cool ^{days}.

Sat. 31 Very fine and cool - very cool - sudden change. My good husband, home all day having a vacation. I baked and cleaned and very busy all day. John Keating and Edwin Jones came out this morning to talk over the "abandoned" camp trip. Got card from Mr. Strong saying because of low water, letting no one in.

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Sun. 1st A fine day, fairly cool. We visited the First Methodist S.S. this morning - a big, wide awake School with plenty of equipment. A few classes of boys, in the Intermediate Dept. but as all schools these awful days, it was mostly girls. Fred and I were taken to visit a woman's class taught by a man - Lawyer, John Marshall - S.S. opened with little ceremony: John Abrams kept. 481 present. We went over to our own church to preaching Service and Bro. Burke, (soon to go to France) preached a fine sermon. We spent evening with Mr. James Herriott 1172 Washburn - Hard rain.

Mon. 2 A fine day, tho' warming up. I washed this morning and Fred, home on vacation, moved weeds and cleared up the yard. It being "Labor Day" we went to the Matinee at the Iris, to see the war pictures and Chas. Ray in a "9 o'clock tour." And this evening we went to bed early to get a good night's rest - days are strenuous.

Tues. 3 "Showery and cool." Fred & I went to town this morning to pay "Bills" and "Shop" - I got a new pair of shoes and paid \$7.50 for them. Then we went to Dr. Gutsiger's where I had my eyes tested and glasses changed. This evening, we went thru' the rain, to the Orpheum to see William Gish ⁱⁿ Henry Watterson in The Great Love. We took Frances Phinney with us. We all enjoyed the Picture very much - the war pictures of the Play, especially Aeroplanes and Zeppelins were very very fine, and actual scenes of War. Rained very hard.

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Wed. 4 Cool, cloudy. Mr. Isenbauer came this morning to paper, for us, the Dining room, Sitting room and Parlor. About noon one of my boys, Billie Badger Kellogg or rather, Wm Pitt Kellogg II, home on 20 days Leave from Annapolis, came out to see me; He looked fine, but is same old Billy boy, despite his swell looks and I was most awfully glad to see him.

Thurs. 5 Cool, tho' warmer. Very busy in a very dirty house, which is looking fine in its new Paper dress. Mr. Isenbauer finished papering today: he "rashed" it tho', and did not do a first class job tho' house looks fine. Fred home and helping me and he is good help too.

Fri. 6 A splendid day. Fred worked most of day putting a cement floor in the Henhouse and I cleaned the three newly papered rooms and am bringing a fine "order out of chaos" - helped Fred, a wee bit, too with his job - he works hard but does not know how to plan. We both got thru' at 5 o'clock, then went to the Kelly's and drove with them, out to Brown's, North of Reform School, for Grapes. We picked them ourselves and got them for 5½ cents per lb. Lovely "Warden" grapes, very sweet. A beautiful evening and the drive in their Auto was a real treat and so restful after hard days work. We got a Bu. of Grapes. Mr. T. Sheard & Mr. Mackay called after we got home,

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Sat. 7 A fine day, but quite warm. I worked very hard, all day, cleaning, and staining the floors, and tonight at 9:30 I'm thru with "the house Beautiful." Fred went to town this morning, to buy a suit of clothes and fooled away all morning, with no result. I sent him back after supper, and he got a nice suit for \$33. ^w at Bolands; looks fine on him. I received letters from Arthur Dennis & Earl Bruce, today; two of my beloved S.S. boys, "somewhere in France," war is cruel.

Sun. 8. A fine day, really cool enough for a work. We went to our own Sun. School and church, this morning and took with us, Mrs. Hamilton of Bartlesville, Okla. here to visit her daughter, Mrs. L.C. Remington. Bro. W.W. Burkes preached for us again today, another good sermon. This afternoon we picked the grapes, from the stems, and scalded them so they would keep: not "Sunday work" but was afraid they would sour before tomorrow. Billy Stellotte was at Sun. School this morning and since I have no class I took him and visited Mrs. King's class of girls. Lucille Maguire came out for a call, in the late afternoon - a mighty sweet, pretty, girl.

Mon. 9 Fine and cool. I washed, ironed, made grape marmalade and canned grape juice. Fred went to work this morning after a week's vacation. I sure "earned my salt" today.

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Tues. 10 A fine day. We awakened this morning to find Uncle Marian Van Oordt had slept all night on our front Porch - he had come down from Manhattan and attended the Fair, came out to the house about midnight and finding the couch and rugs on porch, slept on them rather than awaken us. He went to the Fair again after Breakfast and came back this evening to stay all night. Fred's mail heavy and not home to dinner. I worked so hard yesterday, could not do much today. Had quite a rain this evening. We bought a load of Alfalfa today from Harry Eddy for \$25. a Ton.

Wed. 11 A splendid day. I baked some splendid bread today and had a busy forenoon but did not feel well, so laid down all afternoon.

Thurs. 12 A great big fine day, tho' got pretty warm. I have been very busy all day. Uncle Marian came out this evening to stay all night with us. All business closed today, and everybody went to the Fair, except the Mail Carriers - Postmaster Rigby refused to let them off this afternoon, so they could go, but he went - he would not work, but made the carriers work: he is a brutal, selfish, conceited taskmaster and some day, will most surely reap the hardship and trouble he causes others!

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Fri. 13 Another nice day. Am busy all the time. Cleaned the whole house - baked two fine, "lemon cream" cakes, made a new Service Flag and an "Honor Roll" with all my boys' pictures, and put them up on the wall, today and tonight gave a "Good-bye Party" for midshipman, William Pitt Kellogg II, whom we used to call "Billy Badger". Billy has been in school at Annapolis for 16 months - is home on "Leave" and returns Sunday. We had a jolly, little, Party tonight, but there were not many here, as most of the boys are away to war, and no one has any "Pep" for Parties, these dreadful times. Keerie Saxon, brought Florence Pennell, Edwin Jones, Robert Simpson, and Billy Kellogg came without girls - Sicily Allison, & Nancy Boone came together, Miss Atchison came alone, Margaret Rust and Lucille Crane-Haass, came together. Mona Wiede and Frances Scott came together from Christ Hospital and only stayed a short time. The whole affair was very sad to me - I wanted to cry all evening and there was such a lump of tears in my throat I could not take any of the refreshments: I could only remember my other beloved boys away to war.

Sat. 14 Very busy all day, cleaning up the house and doing my usual "Sat. Sun." work. The Papers are full of good reports of the War!