

# Kansas Memory



## Martha Farnsworth diary

### Section 3, Pages 61 - 90

Martha Farnsworth, a Topeka, Kansas resident, kept a personal diary from 1882 through 1922 with only a few gaps. This particular volume covers the years 1910 through 1912. Martha's diary entries not only reveal her values and the activities in her life, but also provide a picture of Topeka at that time. Some of the notable aspects of Martha's life include her participation in social reform movements, membership in social clubs and activities, and her deep religious convictions.

Creator: Farnsworth, Martha, 1867-1924

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## Martha Farnsworth diary

August 1910

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Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Washed and ironed and worked on my Sunday School lessons - warming up again.

Tues. 2 Still working on my Sunday School lessons.

Wed. 3 More Sunday School work, but am getting my work prepared ahead, to have it out of way of my fruit canning. Warm days.

Thurs. 4 Made Crab Apple jelly and Butter. Spent all the morning down town with Mrs. Armstrong, shopping. A pretty warm day.

Fri. 5 Fred, Mrs. Armstrong and I, drove out to Major Scudder's this evening for apples.

Sat. 6 Baked some dandy bread today, and canned fine Maiden Blush Apples. Rained and is quite cool. Warren Remington and Dewey Goddard, two little neighbor boys, spent afternoon with us. We like children and children like us.

Sun. 7 Walked to Sunday School & Church and rode most of way home with Mrs. L. C. Bailey, who also took in her buggy, Mrs. Will Shaffer, Mrs. S. A. Swanson and Mrs. Pardee Lowe. Warren Remington and Dewey Goddard spent evening with us.

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August 1910

Mon. 8 Rained almost all day, yet between, showers  
the sun shone hot enough to dry my clothes  
enough for me to iron, so I ironed this  
afternoon; delightfully cool.

Tues. 9 Rained most all night last night and is  
A } so cool and nice today. Canned Apples  
Short } all day. Our neighbor, Harry Dunlap, who  
} married in June, came home this evening  
Honey } to find his wife gone - has left him.  
I did not see her go, nor did I not know  
M } she thought of such a thing, but I do know  
N } he has not taken good care of her - goes  
out almost every night and leaves her  
home and does not provide well for her.  
She had to "borrow" almost every day from me.

Wed. 10 Killed a chicken and took to neighbor Wilcox  
who was very seriously hurt in a run-  
away recently. Called in at Dr. Schwartz  
then came home and Canned Apples.  
Called this afternoon on "Jonesie" (Mrs. A. E. Jones)

Thurs. 11 Canning corn all day; awfully warm too.

Fri. 12 Stayed at M.H. Strickler's this afternoon with baby  
Herbert while his Mama went to Hospital to see  
her mother, then called on Mrs. Remington. Mrs. Remington  
Warren Remington. Fred & I went swimming this evening.

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Sat. 13 Awfully warm day, but cloudy and we may get a rain. Baked such lovely bread today. Wish could go swimming again tonight for I so enjoyed my swim last night; Oh! it was fine and I came out all aglow, tho' the water was very cold.

Sun. 14 Walked to and from Sunday School - did not stay for church, as it is so torn up and crowded during remodeling. Awfully hot. Mr. C.W. guild took Fred for ride this evening. Glorious moon.

Mon. 15 Did my usual washing and ironing, and washed fruit jars all afternoon. Our neighbor, Harry Gunlap, came home this morning with his run-away wife: it seems now, that her mother compelled her to leave him and the poor child is in a bad way with nervous "break-down". Mrs. Otto L. found her unconscious at 11 o'clock this morning and called me: we worked with her an hour and could not bring her to consciousness then called Dr. Sams, who thinks she has been given poison: she remained unconscious until 5 o'clock this evening.

Tues. 16 Canned a Bu. of Peaches, and this evening, Fred, Mrs. Armstrong and I, drove out to Hesston and got 2 Bu. more of Peaches. Awfully warm day.

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August 1910

### Busy Times. Fruit CANNING.

Wed. 17

An awfully hard rain this morning, which lasted until almost noon. Canning Peaches and tomatoes all day and I am rather weary tonight

Thurs. 18 Had veterinarian out to see the cow this morning. He thinks she has swallowed a nail or needle and its working thru, making an abscess and I'm "swamped" with Peaches and Tomatoes. We staid up with cow until 11 o'clock this evening.

Fri. 19

Fred home, to take care of cow - put hot clothes on, every hour - while I do my canning: this is one day of his vacation. I made four and a half gallon of Peach butter two gallon of Peach preserves and two gallon of Chili-sauce and pared a bushel of Peaches to can tomorrow and had no help but I'm dead tired tonight.

Sat. 20

Finished Canning and got a wee bit of rest. Uncle George and aunt Samantha Van Gorder spent afternoon with me. Fred home till noon.

Sun. 21

Took car to Ed from Sunday School. Awfully hot.

Mon. 22

washed & ironed then laid down and rested an awfully hot day - so much humidity.

Tues. 23

Canning Peaches from our own trees, today. Lovely, large Elbertas. Q but it's a hot day.

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Wed. 24 A very hard rain <sup>and lots</sup> of lightning last night.  
Another hot day <sup>rd</sup> I have Canned Peaches and Tomatoes all day, and many times interrupted by Callers of various sorts, and the Telephone. I had a most pleasant call this afternoon from some little girls, Leonora <sup>nd</sup> Mildred Carey, of San Bernardino, Calif. and little Leonise Small of North Tapetea - all such sweet children.

Thurs. 25 Cool wave, hit us during night - thermometer went down to 50° and <sup>Ch.</sup> its blessedly cool - so cool, had to have fire. Mrs. Frank <sup>nd</sup> Carey, and two little daughters, Mildred 12, and Leonie 7 yrs. came this morning to spend the day and night with us. We were mighty glad to see them: its a delight to have such visitors. They live in San <sup>Nar.</sup> Bernardino Calif.

Fri 26 Our Carey friends, left this morning to visit other friends. Still very cool - fire all day. Mrs. Otto Gunlap <sup>nd</sup> Mrs. Harry Bair called this afternoon - Preparing grapes, to can.

Sat. 27 Canned 2 Bushel of Grapes and a Bu. of Peaches today but had to stay up until almost midnight. Been warm again, today or rather this afternoon and I am quite tired tonight: hard work but so nice to have the fruit.

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August 1910

Sun. 28 Walked to and from Sunday School - did not stay for church. Was introduced to Mr. Robert Hopkins of Kentucky, the great Sunday School man, who visited our Sunday School this morning. Came over into my corner and watched my class of boys at their work and complimented them.

Mon. 29 Rained until almost noon, but afternoon was fine. We went to the Grand Opera house this evening, to see Harry Bulger in "The Flirting Princess" and we enjoyed it, tho' I've seen better things.

Tues. 30 Another shower early this morning and its gloriously cool again. Canning Tomatoes.

Wed. 31 Rained most of day and very hard this morning. Went over helped Mrs. M. H. Strickler, do up her work this morning as she was pretty well "snowed under". Canning Peaches and getting ready for the doctors who were coming at noon, to operate on her mother's hand, for blood poisoning. Little Sunny Jim (Herbert) came over and staid with me until after the operation. He is the dearest sweetest boy and "smart as a whip".

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September 1910 63  
2200 W-10-st. Topeka, Ks.

Thurs. 1. Rained awfully hard most of forenoon and showered most all afternoon: lots of lightning, but I love to hear it, & I'd watch it. Catching up my "Correspondence" today.

Fri. 2 Hardest rain of all, this forenoon, but sun broke thru this afternoon and we got a little sunshine, but O, the mud. Well anyway "the old swimmin' hole" will be filled with nice fresh water<sup>nd</sup> and there will be a few more good swims before the frost is on the pond.

Sat. 3 Well we had a few "sprinkles" of rain this morning, but no down pour. We went to "Eastern Star" this evening at Masonic Temple. Mrs. W.P. Armstrong took us down - came home at "recess" on car: first meeting of the year and it was pleasant to meet old friends again.

Sun. 4 Walked down to Sunday School - stayed to church, but so many big hats in front of me I could not see brother Finch, during any of the Sermon, so I shall not stay again until church is finished in remodeling. So hot and I was tired, so took car home. Our church is looking fine.

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### SHOW HOUSES OPEN.

"Flirting Princess" at Grand—"Man on the Box" at Majestic.

The weather man slipped across a hot night as part of the bill for the opening of the Grand theater for the season 1910-11, but nevertheless a large audience was present to see "The Flirting Princess." This is a Mort H. Singer production here from a successful run at Chicago. The program promised everything a theatergoer could ask for and Mr. Singer has entrusted the play to a first class company and given his players the best stage properties and costumes he had in his shop with magic light effects for good measure.

Harry Bulger, the headliner in the cast, is a real comedian and he "got 'em going" early in the evening and kept them to the end. His song, "He Was a Soldier, Too," was a distinct hit and he had to come back and sing all the original verses and then make up a few.

Eulalie Jansen, playing the princess, had everything that a princess is supposed to have in looks and pose, but she lacked one essential of a prima donna in musical comedy, and that is a voice. Miss Emery, little and charming, danced like a fairy, and Miss Dale Fuller, playing comedy, has talent.

The Vampire dance, in which the princess and Charles Morgan played the part of "The Woman Who Did Not Care," and her victim, was up to the advance notices, and that is saying a good deal. It was grousing and terrible, and it was a great relief when Bulger came on the stage and took the vampire away much like a Dutch miller would carry off a sack of corn.

The Apache dance presented by Miss Emery and Frank Carter was very good.

These mentioned features of the play supported by a good chorus and first class stage effects and the class of comedy furnished by the Bulger, were the features which commanded attention. "The Flirting Princess" claimed to be different, and it was.

The music is by Joseph E. Howard. It is tuneful and is the kind that the youthful people in the audience whistle as they leave the theater. "I've Been Kissed in San Francisco" is the title of the song hit of the piece.

The people apparently liked "The Flirting Princess." It amused and a large majority prefer to be amused rather than enlightened when they go to the opera house. It is easy to understand why this musical comedy has been a success. It furnishes a delightful relaxation from the cares of life.

September 1910 63  
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down to Sunday School - stayed to but so many big hats in front of me I did not see brother Finch during any of the Sermon, so I shall not stay again until church is finished in remodeling. So hot and I was tired so took car home. Our church is looking fine.

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Martha Farnsworth diary

Murx or Alfred Benjamin  
Co.'s \$30.00 Spring &  
Summer Suits for.....

**That's half Price**  
Spring Weight Suits are  
good for Fall as for Spr

**Fall Ha**

The best we ever had, led by 100 ne  
In this line you will find "The Stetson  
edge telescope, the season's smartest  
in all the new shades and is found on  
\$3.50. The only store in town where  
side by side and make certain you are  
to you, face, figure, head and pocket.  
Knapp Felt Hats.....\$4.00  
Knapp Felt De Luxe Hats.....\$6.00

**Your Last Chan  
Below**

After this week you can not buy  
\$2.50 and \$2.00 Manhattan, E. & W.  
in now and get at least a half dozen at  
ridiculously low price of.....

**Sale of Uni**

The surplus stock of the Superior M  
can save almost 50 per cent by buying  
\$1.00 Union Suits.....69c  
\$1.50 Union Suits.....98c  
\$2.00 Union Suits.....\$1.50

Final clean up Auerbach  
H. S. & M. \$5 to \$8 \$4.00  
pants.. 

#### STANDING OF TEAMS.

##### Western League.

Clubs—	Won	Lost	Pct.
Sioux City.....	.85	.47	.644
Denver .....	.77	.53	.592
Lincoln .....	.76	.53	.589
Wichita .....	.69	.62	.526
Omaha .....	.62	.67	.481
St. Joseph.....	.57	.70	.449
Des Moines.....	.59	.73	.447
Topeka .....	.33	.93	.290

September 1910

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2200 W-10-st. Topeka, Ks.

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September 1910

Mon. 5 Rained hard last night and a good part of today, "Labor Day" and Fred had half Holiday and "cut the lawn" and it looks fine.

Tues. 6 Making me a new calico dress. We spent the evening with Mr. & Mrs. John Runyon in their new home 1213 Garfield Ave in Elmhurst, where they have just bought and have a beautiful home.

Wed. 7 Cleaning house and sewing and most awfully busy.

Thurs. 8 Fred home for a few days vacation and is cementing the cellar.

Fri. 9. Fred home and working on cellar and I am working on my dress. Ida Harper of Kansas City and Mrs. Grosch spent the day with me.

Sat. 10 We both "took the afternoon off" and played. I took my class of Sunday School Boys out to Gages Lake to swim and have a picnic supper. Oh! we had a fine time, but only five of my boys came, because it was so cold.

Ralph Davidson, Ronald McCord, Lyman King, Warren Remington and William Jackson. Fred went with us, but he would not "go in" because so cold & my boys only in short time but I swam 40 minutes.

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September 1910

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Sun. 11 Took car to Sunday School but walked home. We saw the Airship this evening - cold and strong wind so it flew from Fair Grounds to 9<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln and did not go to State House as expected. Called at uncle Charlie Havards, coming home from Sunday School.

Mon. 12 Fred home today still at work on cellar. Awfully cool. Almost rain.

Tues. 13 Fred went to work this morning and I canned Peaches. "Fair Week" and every thing closed today for Topeka Day so it gave Fred a half Holiday and we went to the Fair and stayed for the Fireworks getting in carriage with Mr. & Mrs. G. P. Pollard in evening. Horses and cattle were more than grand: I would give every one of them the first prize: and the whole Fair was good

Wed. 14 A fine day: finishing my dress today.

Thurs. 15 Every morning threatens rain, but the day grows fine and I'm glad, on account of the Fair, so no one will be disappointed.

Fri. 16 Spent the afternoon down town shopping. Oh! dear, everything is so high.

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September 1915

Sat. 17 Another fine day, but getting warm. Fred  
is cementing the cellar by "degrees," a  
little each evening. Our old Guinea  
hen, has hatched 15 young Guineas and  
they are the dearest little things.

Wedding in our neighborhood today.

Glas. Tullock and Mabel Niccum.  
he is an inveterate smoker and half  
dead with catarri - a great gruff sort  
of boy and she a dainty little thing,  
which makes it seem an unsuitable  
match, but they are all fine people.

Sun. 18 Took a car to and from Sunday School  
this morning. Awfully warm.  
Soon be this remodeling the church.

Mon. 19 Washed today and took up some carpet.

Tues. 20 Ironed and took up more carpet - worked  
hard all day - house cleaning in earnest.

Wed. 21 Fine sunny weather for my carpets.  
went to St. Francis Hosp. afternoon with Mrs. Strifler to see her mother.

Thurs. 22 Spent the forenoon down town shopping with  
Mrs. W. P. Armstrong. Gained a crate of blue  
Plums and half bushel tomatoes this afternoon.

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Fri. 23 House cleaning some more <sup>and</sup> awful busy.

Sat. 24 Baking and cleaning. Fred has sore throat.

Sun. 25 Took car to and from Sunday School as didn't feel extra well.

Mon. 26 Very cool night; rained some today.

I put matting down and cleaned two rooms upstairs today; worked like a trojan.

Tues. 27 Canned half bushel tomatoes and cleaned two more rooms upstairs.

Wed. 28 Cleaned Parlor and put carpet down and canned a bushel of Beans and made two and half gallons of mixed mustard pickles and got Sitting-room most cleaned.

Thurs. 29 Fred home today to see Dr. Menniger about a sort of tumorous growth on his right breast. I finished Sittingroom, Dining-room Hall and stairs today.

Fri. 30 Fred home and doctoring: I blacked two heating stones and put them up and done more cleaning. We went to our Christian Church tonight to Pipe Organ Installation: Grand Grand.

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October 1910

Sat. 1 Fred to see Dr. Munninger again<sup>2d</sup> says Fred must not work and must poultice his breast every hour. I painted the whole kitchen today; had a hard day's work and have had a mighty hard week for have had no help whatever.

Sun. 2 Fred and I walked to Sunday School<sup>2d</sup> Church but took car home so hot. Oh! the church is beautiful since it is remodeled and our ten thousand dollar Pipe Organ splendidly grand.

Mon. 3 Washed, ironed and continued more cleaning Raining some too. Fred went down to see Dr. Munninger who cut out the tumor, a small, puerus affair. Glad Fred is not compelled to work.

Tues. 4 Another busy day - hardly time to think.

Wed. 5 Fred still at home - hauling kindling from Christian Church - material left from the remodeling and my there is a mountain of it.

Thurs. 6 A fine day<sup>and</sup> more than busy: on arising Fred went to work today and I went shopping afternoons. This morning we found our <sup>7</sup> Teepee II cow with a little black calf and we are very glad - now we will have milk.

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October 1910

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Fri. 7 Our old cow has milk fever and was almost dead when Dr. Knisely got here this morning, but he soon got her in good shape and she is quite herself tonight. We sold her calf for a dollar lest it starve. Called at Mrs. Stricklers.

Sat. 8 A most busy day, canning Pears and preserving, and baking, looking after cow etc., etc - hardly time to breathe.

Sun. 9 Went to Sunday School, but so tired and its so hot didn't stay for church; came home to go to work arranging my bed-rooms for Convention next week. I've had so many callers and been so busy I could not get my work done. Mr. and Mrs. McTernay and daughter, and Mrs. Parsons and daughter called this afternoon.

Mon. 10 Washed & ironed today, cleared every lamp in house and put finishing touches to my house-cleaning (and everything looks lovely) At 6:30 I had only my dusting to do and was so tired I was nearly sick, but went to the barn to milk when an Automobile drove up to the gate and we found the occupants to be Rev. J. W. Sapp and wife of Nevada Neb. cousins of mine whom I had never seen.

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October 1910.  
"Convention Days" Disciples of Christ.

Tues. 11 A most beautiful day. The opening day of the International Convention of Christian Church. Baked bread & cake. Cousin Ollie and I went to the Auditorium this evening - every bit of the program was splendid - we found cousin John at close of services, to come home with us. I feel, as if I had known cousins John and Ollie always - they have gone plumb to the bottom of my heart and fit in fine.

Wed. 12 Another grand day and cousin John, Ollie and I went for an Auto ride this morning - we first went to the State House and looked at some of the exhibits and we drove into the grounds in the Auto which is forbidden and were arrested, but let go, when found John was a stranger here. We then went to a Garage at 7<sup>th</sup> Quincy for Gasoline, then Quincy to 2<sup>nd</sup> St. 2<sup>nd</sup> to Top Ave and on Top Ave to Fair Grounds and around the track then to First Cong. Church where I showed them thro' the Church and introduced them to Rev. Chas. M. Sheldon; we then drove out past the Governor's Mansion, down thru Potwin, Auburndale, thru the Asylum grounds, thru Gage Park and home to dinner. Then we attended services at Auditorium this afternoon and stay home tonight to rest. I enjoy my cousins immensely.

*Port Henderson, here making our  
Storm kitchen a little larger: he is  
a dandy carpenter.*

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October 19<sup>th</sup> 1910 2200 W-10-st. 71  
Happy Days. Topeka, Ks.

Thurs. 13 Fred home today getting some more vacation. He, Ollie & I went to Convention at the Auditorium - John went down early this morning and did not return for dinner or supper and we were too tired to go back after supper. Fred went to Depot (Santa Fe) at 8 o'clock to meet cousin Emma Weber-Adams from Winfield, Ks. Her mother, John's mother and my mother, were sisters. We talked till nearly mid-night - such good times.

Fri. 14 <sup>Fred home</sup> The days are so beautiful. We have had such a happy visit together, today, and all went to the Auditorium together this evening: fine Program but too long.

Sat. 15 Another beautiful, Autumn day, but was really too hot for comfort. Had an early dinner, for today is one of the big days of the Convention - Mens Parade. Cousin John took Ollie and I down to the State House, then went back for Emma. The North steps of the State House was the re-viewing stand: There were close to two thousand Bible Class men in the Parade, headed by our Governor Stubbs. My good Teddy was in the Parade. Got home late this evening.

*Fred home today against  
or vacation.*

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October 1910

"Communion day"

Sun. 16 As beautiful a day, as any summer day and very warm. All, up early and all but Emma (who is in very poor health) attended Sunday School at the Auditorium. And what a great Sunday School it was; Almost four thousand present when the doors closed at 9:30 for opening exercises and more than four thousand counting tardy ones. At the close, we had a splendid sermon by J. E. Pounds of Ohio. Then home for a hurried dinner, then back to the State House, where was held a most impressive, Communion Service on the lawn, on North Side: there was an estimated attendance of eight thousand. And I think we all thought of Christ feeding the five thousand, by the sea of Galilee. After this service Fred & I came home to do the evening work, then met John, Ollie & Emma at First Christian Church for a Missionary Rally, and listened to splendid talks, by Mrs. Garsh, Mrs. M. B. Madden Japan, Mr. Eldred (I think) from Africa, Miss Edwards of California, Dr. Martha Smith of India, Miss Crozier of India, Mrs. Linton, South America and a gentleman from Mexico. And the whole day has been a feast of good things, but we are tired tonight very.

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Mon. 17 Another fine day and the closing one of the Convention and cousins John and Ellie thought they could not stay for the last day, but must go home while the weather was fine, so left about 8 o'clock in their Automobile and it brought the tears to see them go. Oh, they are so lovely and we enjoyed them so much. Cousin Emma Adams is still with us and she and I have visited hard all day. She tells me she is a Spiritualist and Medium: I wish she would let it alone - I believe it to be wrong. I know that on my mother's side we have a gift of "Mediumship" and that I have strong Mediumistic powers and Clairvoyant too, but I will not develope it or have anything to do with it, because my Bible teaches me not so - that it is all wrong. My good hubby had to go back to work this morning.

Tues. 18 The day has looked much like rain but failed to make a go of it. I walked to <sup>2d</sup> from Bible Glass this afternoon, at Mrs. M. Sheldon's Church, Mrs. W. H. Holmes of Kansas City, teacher.  
Our cow is off again.

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Wed. 19 Putting hot clothes on the cow every hour all day - Veterinary thinks she has swallowed a nail or sack needle in her food <sup>nd</sup> an abscess is forming where it will come thro, just in front of the udder. Mrs. Armstrong <sup>and</sup> I drove up to Washburn's for Apples <sup>nd</sup> cider to make Apple Butter. I got four Bu. Apples <sup>nd</sup> five Gal. cider. Rained quite a shower.

Thurs. 20 Emma <sup>nd</sup> I went to town shopping this morning - quite cold too: bought material to make us some hats. Emma is lovely. <sup>nd</sup> a poor little cripple from childhood: walks with a crutch, due her mother thinks to a spanking her father gave her when a wee child and dislocated her hip, only its within very recent years that they knew it was caused by a dislocated hip. Osteopathy made the discovery.

Fri. 21 A beautiful day <sup>nd</sup> Emma is making our hats <sup>nd</sup> I am poulticing the cow and making apple Butter.

Sat. 22 Beautiful day. We all went to the Grand to night to see Lyman H. Howe's moving picture, and they were very fine: enjoyed them much.

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Sun. 23 Ideal days and weather but a frost this morning or really yesterday evening killed the tomatoes. Emma went with me to Sunday School this morning, then we went to the First Methodist to hear Mr. Loveland's morning sermon and it was very fine - also his daughter's singing.

Mon. 24 A grand day - Mrs. Armstrong took Emma and I over to Shorey this afternoon to call on my uncle George Van Gossel. So warm did not need wraps. Enjoying every moment of Emma's visit.

Tues. 25 I seem to spend most of my time at the barn, since I must put hot cloths on cow, every hour. I'm making the most fine butter and getting 33¢ per pound - also selling milk; get 4 gal. per day.

Wed. 26 Uncle George and aunt Samantha van Gossel spent the day with us, and they brought me, apples, turnips, beans, a fine big Pumpkin and crook-neck squash.

Thurs. 27 Clear and cold and few snow-flakes fell at noon from almost cloudless sky. Took Emma for street-car-ride to Oakland and to shop a little.

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October 1910

Fri. 28 Beautiful sunshine but awfully, cold wind blowing. I took Emma up to Silver Lake on U.P. 10:30 A.M. train. Uncle Marian met us at Kiro. We had such a lovely visit and came home on 5 o'clock train, after an all day visit at Uncle Marian and Fred's. Aunt Kate gave us a most delicious dinner.

Sat. 29 Cousin Emma left today at 1:25 P.M. train over Santa Fe to visit her sister in Kansas City. We both went to depot, with her and Fred got the afternoon off - the last of his vacation for this year.

Sun. 30 Fred a day at home, so he went to church. I took car to Sunday School & we walked home this morning together, from church. Really a hot day.

Mon. 31 An ideal day and I washed an awfully large washing, beside keeping the hot clothes, on the cow. She is such a fine cow, but I am afraid her usefulness is over, and only 6 yrs. old. So much has gone against this year, this we also have been wonderfully blessed. But I so hate to lose the cow; a hundred dollars won't replace her.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

November 1910.

77

Tues. 1<sup>st</sup> Walked to and from Bible Class this afternoon at Cent. Cong. Church. Dr. Knisely vet. was out this afternoon <sup>nd</sup> opened abscess on cow <sup>nd</sup> it was so terrible, thinks its a problem whether she ever gets well <sup>nd</sup> we can't use the milk - says if she gets well, it will take 3 weeks. Oh! I could cry over it, but I won't; it could be worse.

Wed. 2 Ironed this morning, with Mrs. W. Armstrong in to hinder me - she is lovely, but the kind of neighbor, who neglects her own work <sup>nd</sup> is always running <sup>in</sup> so you can't half do yours. I walked down to my church at 1 o'clock, to Teachers meeting, <sup>nd</sup> prayer-meeting: came home on car.

Thurs. 3 A most beautiful day <sup>nd</sup> I made me a wash bench and wood-box <sup>nd</sup> cleaned up the storm kitchen. Cousin Frank vanGradol here for dinner <sup>nd</sup> Fred gave him our cow if she ever gets well, he will have a mighty fine cow, and will have earned her. I simply could not take care of her any longer. I am worn out, and know when I have reached my limit, but it broke my heart to lose so valuable a cow.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

78

November 1910

Fri. 4 Getting colder. Baked some lovely bread and walked down to the church this afternoon to G.W.B.M. meeting. Mrs. Clinton a Missionary among the Chiragous Indians of South America, gave us an intensely interesting talk about her work. Went up town to do some shopping after the meeting and Fred beat me home.

Sat. 5 Another grand day and I have been taking things easy all day.

Sun. 6 Took a car to and from Sunday School not feeling well enough to stay to church. Mrs. Strickler called this afternoon.

Mon. 7 Such a beautiful Autumn day, and Fred is home to do some much needed work about the yard, before cold weather sets in.

Tues. 8 Another fine day and I have been repotting some of my plants for the house.

Wed. 9 Cousin Maude Howard-Kieswender, phoned me this evening, that they had just received a telegram, saying Uncle Will Van Cordon died this morning in Lincolnside Hospital, Spokane Washington, his home for some time.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

November 1910

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Thurs. 10 Such beautiful weather! Old sunny Kansas, certainly hands out ideal Autumn weather. Our friends the Joneses spent the evening with us, and I felt busy.

Fri. 11 We continue to have glorious weather and I spent a good part of afternoon piling kindling in the barn-yard. Fred and I both worked by moonlight.

Sat. 12 Word came to the Howard's, that uncle Will, died of Pneumonia and was only sick a few days. Uncle had never married. I baked lovely bread today, also ginger-bread, mince pies Boston-brown bread and Baked Beans. Spent most of afternoon at the kindling pile and Fred & I, both worked after supper.

Sun. 13 Fred's day at home, so he went to Sunday-School and Church with me: we walked a beautiful day. Rev. Fitts preached for us today in an exchange of pulpits. We spent evening with our Jones' friends, 1152 Washburn, tho' I felt too tired to go anywhere; but one has duties.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

80

November 1910

Mon. 14

Beautiful sunshine of a Kansas Autumn, but a cold North-West wind. I washed a large washing, then "piled kindling" all afternoon and this evening Fred had but little to do. Mrs. Strickler came over this afternoon and told me, that her mother, Mrs. W.H. Niccum, died yesterday of diabetes.

Tues. 15

Ironed, churned (we buy milk enough now to have cream for churning) and after dinner walked to Bible Class at Cent. Cong. Church, calling at Mrs. J. Ruyens on my way. After came home, I went at the "knitting-pile" again and finished it up, so we had no work out door, after supper and it seemed good to stay in and read.

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Wed. 16

Another fine day and a most beautiful Eclipse (total) of the Moon this evening, first at sunset and as the Moon was full, we had a lovely view of it in the East.

An ideal moonlight night, after the Eclipse and we went to Grace Cathedral to the Wedding of Miss Anna Troutman and Mr. Warwick Updegraff; a lovely wedding.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

November 1910  
2200 W- 10-st. 81

Thurs. 17 An ideal day. This afternoon, I went up to "Janesies" and Mr. Janes took she and I to Good Government Club at Judge Foster's, 1408 Buchanan st. A splendid program and much fun during the Parliamentary drill conducted by Lilla Gay-Monroe. We walked home this evening.

"Sunny Jim" Strickler ate dinner with us today - he is the dearest baby.

Fri. 18 Another "Good old Summertime" day in November! I went to a meeting of my Section of C.W.B.M., this afternoon at Mrs. Steith Wilson's 215 Hunton St and we had such a splendid meeting, after which I walked down town to do a little shopping, with Mrs. Will Sheafor, Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. L.C. Bailey: took car home.

Sat. 19 Awfully busy day and a most beautiful one. We went to Eastern Star this evening - Worthy Matron's night. Had Initiation too - big crowd and good time.

Sun. 20 Raining when got up this morning, but the day turned out fine. I took car to Sunday School and Church but walked home. Bro. Finch preached finest sermon this morning.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

82

November 1910

Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> Another "Sunny Kansas" day - glorious.

I did my washing, then worked on my Sunday School lessons. Finished reading "The Right of Way" and don't like the book. I don't see the good, such a book, will accomplish, or at least enough to pray for its writing.

Tues. 22 Really too warm, today for comfort.

I walked to and from Bible Class this afternoon at Cent. Cong. Church with out wraps; on way home, stopped in to see Mrs. Harry Bair.

Wed. 23 Another fine day and I have nearly wasted it! I should have spent the whole day on my Sunday School lessons, but spent almost half the day reading, "The Price of the Prairie" Mrs. McGarter's new Book. I am glad to have the Authoress for an acquaintance and fellow Club member.

Thurs. 24 "Thanksgiving Day" and such a fine one - too warm for wraps. We went to the Second Christian Church (colored) and bought our dinners and got a mighty fine dinner for a quarter. Working in yard all afternoon.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

November 1910

83

Fri. 25 Another glorious day - Kansas is well named "sunny". Went over to see neighbor Armstrong this morning and went in to Mrs. Remington's this afternoon; she was not home but I had a nice little visit with Gertrude<sup>rd</sup> Jennie.

Sat. 26 Bright and sunny, but entirely too warm; such weather is a "weather breeder" and tomorrow is sure to be colder. I am reading aloud, the "Price of the Prairie" and it is so intensely interesting we could not give it up, this evening and so sat up until after midnight and "finished" it. Oh! it's a book worth while and worth reading again.

Sun. 27 A mighty cold wind has blown all day out of the North-West, but the sun shines<sup>nd</sup> we are thankful there is no snow with the icy wind. Fred's day at home<sup>nd</sup> he went to Sunday School and Church, with me we walking both ways. "Jessie" walked home with us. I put in all afternoon preparing next Sunday's, Sunday School Lesson, <sup>nd</sup> feel a little tired.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Martha Farnsworth diary

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November 1915.

Mon. 28 A most beautiful day, tho' cold enough to partially freeze the clothes, when I hung out my washing, this morning. After got this washing and scrubbing, I ran over to Mrs. Lizzie Remington's and took "Orice of the Prairie," for them to read, for it is so splendid.

Tues. 29 "Awfully, awful" cold, and tried to snow all forenoon, but guess had run out of "snowflakes," before getting here, and could only sift down a very few, along with a little sleet; the afternoon was bright and sunny, for Kansas can not frown, long at a time, and I went to Bible Class at Cent. Cong., going by for Mrs. John Rumper and also stopped and visited awhile with her, when we came home. Fred went to meeting of Royal Arch Masons, tonight.

Wed. 30. Busy mending and doing little easy things, today and making out my "Christmas-list" for my "gift" shopping must soon begin.