

THE DIARIES OF MARIAM DAVIS SIDEBOTTOM HOUCHENS

VOLUME 7

MAY 15, 1948-JUNE 9, 1957

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PREFACE VOLUME 7

This is the last volume of the diaries of Mariam Davis Sidebottom Houchens and covers the period from May 1948-June 1957. Some passages are not included in this volume but are included in the original diaries which are housed at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY.

During the period covered in this volume, Mariam's father died in 1951 and her mother died in 1953. Jane started to college at Vanderbilt University in 1953 and graduated in 1957 and David started to college at Stetson University in 1955.

Mariam continued to do substitute teaching and also conducted surveys for the University of Michigan in the Louisville area.

The busy pace of daily life is recorded. As in the earlier volumes of the diaries Mariam and her family made trips. In this period they travel to New York and the East coast, Texas and Yellowstone National Park.

Mariam lived for many years after the time of these diaries and died on July 19, 1986 at the age of 82. She was buried in the IOOF cemetery in Owenton, Kentucky. John died on October 1, 1993 at the age of 89 and is also buried in the IOOF cemetery.

These diaries serve as a legacy not only to Mariam's family but to anyone who is interested in family life in the early to mid-20th century.

David P. Houchens
Columbus, Ohio
2015

Book 69- May 15, 1948-July 7, 1948

Saturday, May 15, 1948

David went to gym and paid his deposit for camp. Jane was with me until near noon, when she left to go to Patricia's for club meeting.

John and I worked hard this afternoon. He trimmed the edge with the electric clippers, cut down a lot of shrubbery by the dining room window, took the trailer home. I cleaned the dining room windows on the outside (framework too) then got more screens ready.

I am still depressed.

Sunday, May 16, 1948

S.S. and church. I talked to Miss Watkins and cried.

Home for dinner. Pork roast wasn't done. David had to eat a sandwich (cheese) and go on, as Johnny Walker wanted to go to the ballgame with him.

I went over to the church at 5 o'clock to a library meeting.

Monday, May 17, 1948

I washed a large washing (5 pairs curtains), cleaned some upstairs windows inside and out, and ironed one pair of curtains and some other things.

Jane and Ann went to the church to arrange flowers with the Jr. Garden Club. Jane got two thirds. Ann one second.

John went to a Cub committee meeting up there. We went by Mrs. Corson's and on to the church to the show. The Tritts came by here for Ann's snapshots (recital).

Tuesday, May 18, 1948

Toto's puppies came this morning-five (three males and two females). They came very quickly.

John came home for lunch.

Knottie came and ironed curtains for me. Stella came and finished a large part of the back porch.

Tonight-a terrific headache.

Wednesday, May 19, 1948

Another headache this morning. In bed a lot. Katherine here. Stella here working on porch this afternoon.

Mrs. Vanderhaar came over at one and took me to Steiden's. She and the children were back at four bringing me an African violet.

Thursday, May 20, 1948

Someone is praying hard for me- probably Mother- for I feel much better tonight.

We are gradually getting things done here.

I took John to school and came back by the grocery stores- going first to Claudine's, since the groceries weren't open.

I didn't do too much here - went over to Mrs. Roberts (She has a beautiful kitchen) and went to the Telephone Building with the Girl Scouts -taking my two children. Coming back we picked up D.P.'s shoes at the shoe shop and a wheelchair (collapsible) for Papa at Reid's -then got John.

Tonight we went to the Pendennis (ed. - club) after dinner. The dinner was \$3.00.

Friday, May 21, 1948

I was alone again this morning, and didn't want John to leave me, but there was a lot to be done before the folks came, and I got busy. I made a charlotte russe. Mr. Ware came over and brought us some books.

I didn't go to the eighth grade graduation, as I was expecting the folks around two. They arrived at 2:10. I was cleaning the window on the landing with Glass Wax.

We took the chair out to the car, and brought Papa up the side steps. Stella came up, barefooted and in blue jeans, to help us bring him in, but the best we could do was let him sit up the steps. After that he was all right, and was able to go on the front porch. Ermine had to start home, but finally agreed to drive out to school to see the children. We brought Jane home, but David had ridden his bike and she waited for him.

We had fish for dinner. Tonight was A.I.E.E. annual dinner, but we didn't go. Jane went to the final teenage party at school (for summer), wearing my red taffeta formal. John took her, Ann

Klusmeier and Ann Ora then took David, Johnnie Walker and Bruce Skaggs to the Knothole game. We went to bed. He brought the boys home about ten, and went after Jane about eleven.

Papa slept on Uta Cobb's bed, Mother on the davenport.

Saturday, May 22, 1948

Carl came for David and they went to the Y. I left Jane with Papa and Mother, and I went to town on the bus to buy a gift for Ann (halter), a gift for the Craig's baby (which I didn't get), a shower gift for Miss Weldon (blue vase), hose for myself, and some embroidered edging for Jane's pink chambray.

I was home at 12:30, and we cooked wieners and made potato salad out of potatoes mother had boiled.

We all worked hard this afternoon (even Mother), including the children. Mother and I did go to the grocery store first.

Thelma called tonight wanting Papa and Mother to come down there, but they cannot go, Mother thinks.

I should have mentioned that Papa went upstairs this afternoon it was hard work for him, but he had to sit up on the stairs, but he managed it.

We got some things up in the attic tonight.

Papa and Mother both seem to like the house.

Sunday, May 23, 1948

I had another bad time this morning, as I had yesterday morning. Mother fussed at me so Friday afternoon when she came that I felt better, but the wave comes back in the morning.

We had waffles for breakfast. The children went to S.S.-we also-but didn't stay for church. The children were invited to Ann's for birthday dinner. They took her the halter and a book, "The Year Without a Summer". She had wanted them to go to a movie with her, but I had arranged for them to come home since Cousin Ray and Mary were coming, and the Fifes. However they finally went to a movie (Bard) with Ann, Sallie and Judy.

We all rested. Cousin Ray, Mary and the baby (Sandy's) (one in December) came between 3:30 and 4. We listened to John on the radio. Cousin Ray brought Papa some wine. The Fifes came. They all seemed much impressed with the house.

Cousin Ray and Mary finally had to go. The Fifes stayed until after the children got home.

John and I went over to see Mr. and Mrs. Ware and tell them good-bye. They are leaving for Florida tomorrow.

Monday, May 24, 1948

Stella came early to speak to the folks.

I started washing, but blew a fuse -- called John from Stella's (his line was busy). She came up here. We put in another fuse, but blew it -- found it was the washer cord. Stella put an end on for me, and I was able to wash. I had been to Wise's earlier for flour, etc. Mrs. Cockrell called, and I talked to Uta Cobb twice about coming over here. In between I made rolls, cake for strawberry shortcake -- and Mother fixed the strawberries.

The Wares got away about eleven. Miss Weber, down on the corner, wept to see them go, but not until they had actually gone.

I had invited several Teal Road neighbors for lunch to see Papa and Mother, Knottie and her mother, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Williams. After Knottie had to take Mrs. Corson to town, I had her stop too, and there were eight of us. I had potato chips, spaghetti, tossed salad, coffee, and hot rolls, and strawberry shortcake. Mrs. Tritt and Mrs. Williams washed the dishes.

After they left, I potted some petunias which Stella had brought.

Tonight we drove out to cousin Ray's -- didn't get out of the car. Billy's family was there, Paul Stewart's wife, and Sandy, her husband and child.

Papa was very tired when we got home. I got Jane some leg make-up at Walgreens.

Tuesday, May 25, 1948

I did some work in the yard (next to hedge) and planted some flower seeds. Stella brought us some more petunias.

Mother made two quarts (boxes) of strawberry preserves, and I made 2 quarts (boxes).

The children came home shortly after eleven -- do not have to go a full day anymore.

This afternoon Jane went over to Claudine's to the Scout meeting -- to make favors for the Court of Awards.

Mother and I walked over on Teal and saw the Seeders and Mrs. Tritt's house.

Tonight the Trues came. John had to go over to school and work. Thelma brought Jane a cake.

Jane washed her hair. I helped a little, but she did most of it.

Wednesday, May 26, 1948

Jane's room went on a picnic. I was supposed to drive, so took the car out there, but they had enough ways, and I didn't have to go. I came back by Mrs. Curry's, Mrs. Hart's, and stopped at 3118 a moment. Mrs. Richardson is getting ready to have a rehearsal dinner for her brother tomorrow night.

Katherine came for half a day.

I started food for Jane's supper, ran the vacuum upstairs and down, and took the puppies to Dr. Calldemeier to have their tails clipped. When I came back Cousin Ray was here to see Papa. (D.P. had gone to Cubs). We went for Margaret, Ann and Jimmie and brought them over here to make pictures. Cousin Ray had slipped Mother out to get a gift for Jane. He had gone when we came back.

John and David took Jimmie home.

Jane had seven besides herself for supper- Ann Tritt, Ann Summerford, Ann Klusmeier, Janet, Margaret, Joan and Roberta. Jimmy had given her pink informals.[ed. note cards] Janet gave her a manicure nail polish set. Ann Klusmeier gave her a Cara Nome powder and perfume set. Margaret gave her bath salts. Roberta gave her a scarf, Joanie B. Tarkington's "Seventeen", Ann Summerford a green and white Scout T shirt, and Ann Tritt a Scout necklace.

Right after supper, I went over to Mrs. Klusmeier's for the shower for Miss Weldon (I took her a vase) -- and later Jane came to help serve. It was a nice party.

Mother is sleeping with me.

Jane also received some notepaper from Mary Sublett.

Thursday, May 27, 1948

I slept virtually none last night.

I kept the car, in order to take Papa to the doctor, as he finally agreed to go.

Mother and I went down to see Stella's flowers. She broke a record trying to play it for us.

The children were home at noon.

This afternoon we went to the doctor (at 3). It was hard to get Papa down the steps and in the car.

At the Heyburn Building, we were able to get a wheelchair and take Papa right up (while I parked in the alley opposite the Library), but it was more than an hour before Dr. Coleman saw him, and he got very restless.

His blood count was all right, and his urinalysis. His blood pressure was 120 over 80, which was good. Dr. Coleman said that his leg was more swollen than he remembered it, but seemed warm. By the hardest he got him weighed (the first time since his leg was off) and he weighed 170 ¼ . Dr. Coleman said that the extra weight was bad for him.

He took Mother's blood pressure, and it was 170. She wouldn't let him do anything else.

We came by the University for John, but he wasn't there. Later he called (he was at the barbershop), and I went for him.

After dinner we went over to Dr. Ernst's to get some magazines and newspapers out of his garage for the paper drive.

Friday, May 28, 1948

I took a sleeping capsule last night at bedtime and really slept all night.

A few drops of rain this morning, but not much.

I went to Dr. Walker at 9:30. Wednesday morning when mother and I were at the ten cent store I bought a dime's worth of gumdrops to decorate Jane's cake. I absentmindedly put one in my mouth and pulled out an inlay and a part of the tooth. Now a new inlay is going to cost \$16.00. What else that nature will happen to us? I bought my groceries and didn't get home until almost noon.

Mrs. Vanderharr came to see Papa and Mother at 1:30. I loaded paper in the car from the garage, for the paper drive.

I lay down and rested a while, while Mother was mending in Jane's room. Mrs. Kuhl and Mrs. Williams (on this street) came.

When they left, I went for John taking the little shoes which Jane and had bought yesterday for the Craig's baby. We picked up a bunch of magazines at Speed [School] for the paper drive.

Betty Lou Loring and Mrs. Davies drove home with us.

John let me out home, while he and the children delivered the paper to the Tritts.

Cousin Frank, Uta Cobb, Mariam and the baby came for dinner. We enjoyed having them. Uta Cobb will leave in two weeks for California.

The Seeders were coming, but are coming tomorrow at noon.

David went to the Knothole game with Carl.

Saturday, May 29, 1948

Mother baked a meat loaf to take home with us. I worked on Jane's pink dress some, which I had gotten cut out. The Seeders came before eleven to see Papa and Mother.

We had fish for lunch and frozen lemon pie for dessert. Jane wasn't here as she went to Carol Weller's for club lunch. The girls were going skating afterwards, but she couldn't, as we were going to Owenton.

Before we got away, the Joneses from Teal came briefly. The baby is fine now. Larry smiles and is very good-natured.

When we finally left we were really crowded as we had to deliver Papa's chair to Mr. Reid on Third Street. Papa and I sat in the front seat with John. I had the bucket of flowers on my lap. Toto and her puppies were in the back. John had to stop to see if the office was locked. It wasn't so bad after he delivered the chair, which cost us only \$2.00.

It must have been about five when we got to Owenton. Papa was very tired. I arranged the flowers while mother prepared supper. Immediately after we ate, John and I took them down. It was almost too dark to see. Ermine was there. We saw her again briefly at Mother's as she stopped there.

I did a little sewing Jane's dress.

Sunday, May 30, 2013

After breakfast we went to the cemetery, Mother going, but not Papa. When we got home, Papa asked if we had met Charlie and Esther, who had stopped to get their vases. Papa knew nothing about them, but I had used them, and proceeded back to the cemetery, Jane accompanying, to take them to them.

They came on back to Mother's. The latter was cooking dinner, but they said they couldn't stay. Jim and Birdie came shortly after and they all left together.

There was a service at the cemetery at two. We went to that, taking Aunt Sue. Papa didn't go, as he knew that he would get hot in the car.

Afterwards John Forsee made our pictures.

When we got home, Jim and Birdie were there with Papa and stayed a while.

It was hard to have to get ready to leave. I cried a good bit.

I slept almost all the way back. We stopped at Cousin Frank's and left three dozen eggs.

Mother had left part of her meatloaf for our supper.

Monday, May 31, 1948

I slept all last night too, in addition to having slept all the way home.

I washed this morning. Jane helped me hang the clothes out.

I also worked on Jane's pink dress, and have it almost finished.

Tuesday, June 1, 1948

I went to town to get patterns for my two chambray dresses. I almost bought a reduced dress at Selman's, but refrained from it. I didn't get home until 1:20.

I finished Jane's dress (pink chambray) today. It is pretty.

Jane did some ironing while I was gone.

I came home from town very depressed, but prevailed on Jane to bring Ann and stay at home, as I didn't want to be alone.

Carl is staying all night with David tonight. Previous to that, both children (and Alice Gardner) went with the Tritts to the gas plant to help fulfill the specifications for the "My Community" badge.

Jane worked late helping her daddy.

Wednesday, June 2, 1948

David and Carl were up until eleven, and although they were awake fairly early did not get up to eat breakfast when we did.

I do not have Katherine, so had Jane help me early, as she was going to Fontaine Ferry for the school picnic. I went over the house, doing everything that Katherine does including washing the front porch, gave Carl, Jane and David each a sandwich for lunch, talked to Mrs. Tritt and Mrs. Williams when they each came, saw Jane, Ann Klusmeier, Janet, David, Johnnie and Bobbie Walker off by bus to Fontaine Ferry, finished the ironing, and cut out my aqua chambray. However, I had a terrific headache tonight. I also went over to Mrs. Klusmeier's twice, the second time meeting her mother, Mrs. Martin.

I got locked in my room. (see Friday)

Thursday, June 3, 1948

I had to work on badges last night after my head was better. This morning I sewed on my dress.

David stayed at Carl's while we went to Scouts.

This was the Court of Awards. Three girls became First Class- Mary Becker, Anne McCord and Dorothy Lockett. Jane received a "Games" and "My Community" badge along with all the others Scouts. That makes 12 for her. Mrs. Scherr awarded the 1st class badges.

We had a tea afterwards -- with plenty of cookies.

Friday, June 4, 1948

David stayed all night with Carl. Judy, Carl and Suzie were here most of the morning playing guns (noisy for Widgeon).

I took the children to town, leaving at 2:50, and bought David shoes (\$10.50) and Jane play shoes (\$4.45). John picked us up.

The latter has been promoted to associate professor now.

D.P. has gone to the Knothole game tonight with Johnnie Walker and Carl.

Jane is at a "slumber party" at Alice Gardner's.

Note from Wednesday. Mother's letter Wednesday had enclosed in a check for \$100.00 from Papa. Even he was worried about me. I feel so unworthy. I put it in the University Credit Union.

Saturday, June 5, 1948

David went on a Y picnic.

The telephone rang at 5:30 and it was Jane. She had asthma, and John had to take her spray to her. When he came back, he said that the girls had not been asleep all night, and that Mrs. Gardner looked very tired. I got David off -- with Carl, Johnnie and Bobbie Walker to go to Iroquois Park by bus.

About ten I called to enquire about Jane. Mrs. Gardner said they were just eating -- that Jane looked bad -- that she would bring her home after they had finished eating.

When she came home I put her to bed. In the afternoon she helped John some, but when I got back Jane was asleep, and slept from about 3:30 until 6.

Tonight she was supposed to stay with Uta Cobb's children. Uta Cobb came for her about eight.

Mrs. Harrell has broken her ankle.

Sunday, June 6, 1948

Uta Cobb brought Jane home before we went to S.S. She not only came after, brought her home, bought her and Mariam popsicles last night and gave her her breakfast, but also paid her 75 cents.

We went to S.S. and church. Home for a fish dinner. Last night we had chop suey. I should have mentioned that David went to the Cozy last night with Mr. Bulluck, Jimmy and Larry.

I wrote letters to Mother, Ermine, Mrs. Harrell and Katherine (telling the letter not to come). Mother's letter yesterday told me about Mrs. Harrell. Her ankle turned, and she fell from the spillway at the lake while fishing.

Monday, June 7, 1948

I washed today, and was so tired tonight. It looked like rain, and John put a clothesline on the porch for me. However, it didn't rain, and all the things finally dried outside.

I also did some work on screens, and ironed some.

To my surprise, the William H. Day refrigerator man came back, unsolicited, to check on the refrigerator. It has been terribly noisy. He discovered that the belt was bad, put a new one in (\$1.65), and now it runs smoothly and comparatively quietly. He made no additional charge except the belt. I told him that he had restored my faith in human nature.

Mrs. Tritt brought Ann by to spend the night with us. I was so tired that I didn't know what I was doing -- went to bed ahead of the girls. I made nut bread and tapioca this afternoon.

Tuesday, June 8, 1948

Stella came before the children were and I felt really bad when I discovered that it is her birthday.

Mrs. Wohlfort was having a PTA board members picnic at Hogan's Fountain -- four members and their children. I sent the children on with Mrs. Echols at 10:30 -- also with the lunch -- while Mrs. Kuhl and I went to Mrs. Ruley's to the circle meeting. I left just before lunch and went to the drugstore to get Stella a package of fudge royal ice cream. I went by home, got some ice, and reached the picnic before they got through eating. I made some pictures.

David, Bill Echols, Jimmy Blanchar and another boy went to Big Rock. Jane went around with Joy Brands. I took a sunbath on Mrs. Ash's blanket along with her, Mrs. Echols and Mrs. Grimes.

We left in time for me to go by home before going to Dr. Walker at 3:30. I left the children with instructions to try to get some grass to cut.

I went on for John. When I got home, Jane had cut the Pingle's frontyard and received 50 cents for it.

Wednesday, June 9, 1948

Today was the Girl Scout picnic at Hogan's Fountain. David was supposed to go, but Mrs. Vanderhaar and Jimmie invited him to go to see "Unconquered", so he went with them. We were to pick the girls up at the Presbyterian Church at 12. I went by Cream Top Creamery to see ice cream.

After eating, the girls, Mrs. Tritt and Claudine went on a hike, but Mrs. Becker and I didn't go. Later they played Dodge Ball.

I went on to Dr. Walker's at 3:30. Mrs. Cockrell took my group home.

I picked up John brought him home.

Thursday, June 10, 1948

The puppies are very cute now. Jane loves a little black-faced one.

John had me keep the car to have the thermostat taken out of the heating system at the Prestonia Garage. Jane went over to school with John help him file. D.P. stayed on Teal.

I got a gift for the Brecher wedding -- picked up my shoes, and many other errands. I came back by school for John -- then went by Mr. McComas' and got all three of our watches which had been on the shelf for months, fixed for 50 cents.

Carl was at home with David when we got there. Suzy has the mumps.

I made frozen lemon pie for dessert -- went to the grocery store and stocked up on dog and cat food. John was very busy, but I went and got him, as we had steaks for supper. (I sent Mrs. Kuhl some of the dessert).

Immediately after we ate, we took Toto and puppies to Mrs. Neals's near Jeffersontown. She is a Negro woman -- has very nice kennels there. There were about 11 dogs there, and it was bedlam when we arrived. Toto went in her cage all right, but I am worried about the puppies.

John went on back to school when he got home. I worked until late, finally washing my hair.

Friday, June 11, 1948

John was so busy yesterday that he forgot to get any money, so had to wait for the business office to open. Also, we forgot to get Jane's Asthma-Nefrin.

I had everything ready (excluding lunch) and we were waiting for John when Mrs. Neal called to say that Toto would not let her go near the puppies. She was afraid of being bitten. This makes a problem, as she can feed Toto, but not the puppies. I gave her Mrs. Tritt's and Thelma's numbers, and then talk to both of them.

We finally left at 10:20. The speedometer said 65447.7 we forgot the Asthma-Nefrin after all, but were able to get it at Shively.

I sent Bowling Green as the place to eat, but the family was so starved that we finally ate at a picnic table about 10 miles before we got Bowling Green.

The early afternoon driving was hot and uneventful. We stopped to see Donelson Military Park at Dover, Tennessee.

John bought us some cokes -- our first expense. We had dinner at a café on the outskirts of Humboldt, and are staying all night at Colonia Court, Brownsville, Tennessee (\$5.00 for cabin for four).

I hope that Tote and the puppies are all right.

Saturday, June 12, 1948

Our cottage at Brownsville was fine. We left there at 6:30 and drove to Memphis for breakfast. We had ham, sausage, bacon, eggs and biscuits. I wrote an airmail, special delivery card to Knottie about the puppies. We found the post office, mailed it and got some stamps.

Crossing the Mississippi and Arkansas, we were immediately impressed with the reason why Arkansas' license plates are so true -- the land of opportunity -- for there is certainly much opportunity for improvement. Cotton fields, poor looking tenet houses with no shade, Negroes sprawled across chairs and front stoops. Finally we started seeing irrigated rice patties, and one Cypress swamp.

We ate lunch in Little Rock. It was so hot that the thermometer which Jane had brought to measure the temperature of Claudette's home state burst while we were away from the car. Jane was distressed because she had shorts on.

We went to see the capitol, and made some pictures.

The afternoon driving to Texarkana was hot, terribly. I drove 35 miles. At Hope, Arkansas we had watermelon slices -- ice cold -- at 25 cents each. Before that we had bought peaches at 75 cents.

At Texarkana I bought some bacon, eggs and milk with a plan for cooking breakfast out in the morning. We also bought a birthday card and sent it airmail to Jimmy Curry.

We ate some 6 miles out of Texarkana. John had a fish sandwich dinner -- and such good fish -- and the children and I had hamburgers. We drove on to Atlanta (Arkansas) and got the last cabin at Pruett Courts, but it doesn't compare to last night's cottage. Jane had asthma last night.

Sunday, June 13, 1948

Our cottage at Atlanta was only fair. The screens didn't fit, and some mosquitoes got in, I think.

We had decided to cook breakfast out, so found a nice roadside park where we cooked half a pound of bacon, four scrambled eggs, instant coffee (but the milk and cream had soured).

We drove through rather monotonous country -- the valleys along the highway were planted with crepe myrtle trees.

We ate dinner at Palestine, and had a very good one. I had ham, the children steak. It was delightfully cool.

As we drove on toward Austin it was dreadfully hot. Finally Jane said that she had to have a coke. We pulled up at a Sinclair station at Hearn, Texas and bought cokes. When we were ready to start, the fan belt flew off. We had been having a clicking noise all along which the filling station attendants could not locate.

Well, we decided that was where the children and I were staying while John went on by bus. The young man tried unsuccessfully to locate a Chevrolet garage man. Finally John with the help of the boy and his wrenches was able to insert a piece of wire sufficiently to make the threads on the generator to catch.

We were only 90 miles from Austin, but there were sometimes 25 mile stretches between towns, and we almost held our breath all the way to Austin.

We finally reached Austin about five, and although tired and hot, proceeded to the A.S.E.E. registration headquarters at the University. There John found that they had reserved a cottage for us at the Austin Motel, which we had been seeing advertised for a long time, and which I had hoped to see.

The motel was some distance from the University -- across the Colorado River, in fact.

We were delighted with our cottage. It is Spanish type, air conditioned, garage adjoining, and only \$5.00 a night.

After getting bathed and dressed, we went to a nearby seafood place to eat. While we were waiting for our order, John placed a call for Mother for me. I could hear her well. She said that they were both all right. The call came to \$1.55.

After eating we went up to the University -- talked to one of the faculty members until about ten.

I was feeling tired. John went out to get me some Ex-Lax (which I decided I needed) and was gone so long that I was worried about him. He didn't find a drug store open.

Monday, June 14, 1948

John got up early as he had a lot to do. The sleeping was cool, but the days are hot here. He brought me some Epson salts. He had eaten breakfast over in town. The children and I drove across the bridge and had breakfast for 25 cents each.

John was reading his paper over while we ate. We went back for him, got his suit which been pressed, and took him to the University. We then went to the Tower Building (University) but found that it was closed every other Monday morning. We then went to the State Capitol -- saw the Senate and House, and then climbed to the dome -- right up under the pedestal -- going up to the fourth floor by elevator and proceeding up 278 steps the rest of the way (most spiral). A nice couple from East Texas accompanied us.

Back at the University Student Union Building we met John and ate at the cafeteria (all of us for \$1.79).

We had a little time after one and we went to Sears Roebuck's where we bought a re-built generator for the car for \$12.05.

We took him back to the University to read his paper. [ed. make a presentation]

We went to the Tower (27 stories) and went up, then went to the motel, got our swimming suits, and went to Barton Springs. It is a spring-fed swimming pool, lovely. We saw two Kentucky cars-one from Fayette and the other from Danville-the only ones, with exception of one, that we have seen.

David got lost, but we found him.

The concrete was so hot that we could barely stand to walk on it, and yet the water was icy. We dipped in several times, and took sun baths, but we were in general too much fraidy cats of the cold. We didn't stay long, but went back to the motel, got dressed and went to the University to see John. He was having a dinner, so we dined downstairs alone -- then went to the Paramount to see "The Bride Goes Wild." We went back to the University to wait for him -- talked to Dean H's wife from the University of Illinois while we waited.

Tuesday, June 15, 1948

John was up at 6:30, and it was 85 (degrees) then. He had the generator put in the car, but it wouldn't charge right.

We ate breakfast close by while the service people worked on it.

When the car wouldn't work right, we went to a Chevrolet garage. John left us there with the car. A Negro attendant drove down to the University (via Sears, to trade in our generator).

It was 11:30 before the children and I got away from the garage. Before that we had walked to the Chamber of Commerce, but got little help there.

When we left the garage we went to the Museum for a brief look (Its hours 10-12). I should mention that our horn was blowing when we turned -- without any pushing.

We met John, saw Dean Wilkinson, and went to lunch downstairs. John was going to attend a meeting (co-op) at two -- told us to be back by three. We went by Sears Roebuck's, got \$3.00 back on the generator which had been defective, and went to the motel to pack.

It was 3:05 when we got back to the University, but we rushed over for a quick look-see at the rare books collection on the fourth floor of the Tower Building.

John was just coming from his meeting when we got back. We got in the car (our parking meter time had expired, but hadn't been noticed, and got away about four) --3:40 to be exact.

We decided to backtrack to Palestine. We bought gasoline at Hearn, and had supper at the Old Mill at Palestine. The hamburger was not good. John had fish. There were nice cottages nearby, but we ate first, and they were all gone. We finally got a cottage at Cascade Courts -- a terrible place. I am afraid I was pretty unfair with John about the whole episode.

Wednesday, June 16, 1948

We drove to Rusk, Texas and had breakfast in the hotel coffee shop. I mailed our last Texas cards from a small village near the Louisiana line.

Our horn was causing us so much embarrassment. We stopped in Ruston, Louisiana (where Jean and Betsy used to live) and ate lunch. John finally took the car to the Chevrolet place there and had the horn fixed.

When we came to the Mississippi, lo and behold the bridge toll was \$1.70. It had been free at Memphis.

We took a sweep through the Vicksburg National Park and drove to the Hydraulic project, but it was after 4:30, and they were stopping work so shortly that they wouldn't take us through, but let us drive up to see the project.

We were scorching, it was so hot. We found a Walgreen's and had cooling lemonades and limeades. Fortunately as we drove from Vicksburg a rain came (the first we had had) and cooled the atmosphere considerably.

From here we drove through the rich Mississippi Delta region. There were thousands of acres of cotton, with little Negro shacks in the middle, cotton planted right up to the doors, no shade, often no gardens, even the cows tied to graze on the roadside.

One plantation was particularly apart from the others having the Mound horse farm on one side, and a colonial type restaurant overlooking the plantation.

We had dinner in the coffee shop of the hotel at Leland, Mississippi. John had to change his shirt before we could go in. A man there was very talkative (a kind of proprietor). He had spent considerable time in Louisville.

We drove on after dinner to Cleveland, Mississippi where we got a cottage but it was dirty. There was a new cottage court further in the town that we were afraid to risk trying to find it -- that is, before all the cottages were gone. Then the one remaining one where we were would have been gone.

Thursday, June 17, 1948

We had breakfast at a hotel coffee shop in Clarksdale.

When we got to Memphis we were to change routes and get on U.S. 51, as we wanted to come up to Dyersburg. We found 51, but the morning was cloudy after yesterday's rain, and we struck out on the highway in a seemingly northeast direction. We were sailing along 12 miles out of Memphis when a huge sign greeted us - "Mississippi" We hope you have enjoyed your visit in Tennessee. We had turned around and headed south again on U.S. 51. Imagine our chagrin! We had to turn around, drive 12 miles back, and go all the way through Memphis again. It used up at least one hour of our time.

Even so, we reached Dyersburg in time for lunch at the coffee shop (or grill) of a very old hotel. We had roast beef sandwiches.

From Dyersburg we decided to go up through Hopkinsville and by the Jefferson Davis Monument. The children and I went to the top, but John having been up before, waited below for us. We had Cokes and drove on.

The driving was hard but we reached Cave City about seven and went in the Dixie Hotel Coffee Shop to eat. It was forty five minutes before we got waited on. The children and I had ham but John had to take sausage. The waitress gave us an excuse for her slowness that she had burned her hand, but we finally labeled it plain inefficiency.

Instead of coming in home by Shively, we finally came by Boston and Shepherdsville and I personally liked it better.

It was between 1030 and 10 of 11 when we got here -- too late to call Mrs. Neal to see if she still has the puppies.

Puss showed up after we got home, and seemed glad to see us. There was a letter from Mother, written yesterday. They are all right.

Friday, June 18, 1948

I called Mrs. Neal at six o'clock this morning. She had Toto and the puppies and they were all right. She said that after a day or so Toto got all right, and would sit up for her to feed her. She said when we came, not to let Toto see us first, as she wanted us to see her. I told her we would be out there soon.

We had breakfast (eggs and pancakes, having no bread -- John rounded up a milkman and got some milk) and were out there at 7:25. In spite of our caution, Toto saw Jane immediately and was so excited that she wouldn't do anything for Mrs. Neal. The puppies seemed fine. One had fallen out of the kennel onto the runway, but wasn't hurt.

They have grown, and don't stay in their box all the time now.

We came home and took it fairly easy today, putting things away. I didn't wash, as I was tired. I never could get Thelma.

Jane stayed all night with Ann.

Saturday, June 19, 1948

David went to the Y. I went to the grocery store, and was gone almost all morning putting in supplies.

John put up my new aluminum clothes line this afternoon. A roofing man, Mr. Neal (Geoghegan Roofing) who was here yesterday, came back today. A new roof would cost about \$286.00.

Chop suey for supper -- also cherry cobbler made from pancake flour.

Sunday, June 20, 1948

Late for S.S. and church. We had pork chops, ice cream and cake for dinner. I scrubbed the back porch, as the puppies had gotten on it some. We have a pen arrangement for them in the corner of the porch, and John has almost made one of the screens back of the arbor.

I invited the Fifes to come over and eat supper with us, but Sam had gone to school, and they couldn't.

Monday, June 21, 1948

I washed two wool blankets and some Luxed [ed. washed in Lux, a gentle soap product] articles early, then rushed in to Byck's to see some red Red Cross shoes (waited 45 minutes to be waited on -- (talked to Alla Deane Huddle) -- didn't buy. Bought shower gift for Ruth Pettrigrew -- attractive gray pottery fawn. I bought myself two hats at Stewart's at fifty cents each.

I got home after the children (They started to Bible School this morning) and they were locked out, sitting on the front porch.

I had to do the major portion of my laundry this afternoon. Getting a late start, having so much, and then having a sprinkle come up. Kept most of the clothes from getting dry, and I had to string them over the back porch.

I was exhausted after I had written Mother, after supper. While John was mailing my letter, I went to sleep. The Fifes and Barbara come to see the puppies.

Tuesday, June 22, 1948

I went out to Shantituck to a Girl Scout board meeting today, taking Mrs. Will with me. Registration for camp is way down. We took nosebag lunches. It was hot and uncomfortable.

I left the house open so the children could get in.

I have ironed some.

Wednesday, June 23, 1948

More ironing. Jane brought Alberta Romans home with her for lunch (Ada Burress' niece).

At 2:30 I went to Mrs. Hunter's to a shower for Ruth Pettigrew.

Stella bought Tubby, the biggest puppy for somebody that she plays Bingo with. She brought \$5.00 yesterday, will bring the other five tomorrow.

The painters at the Robert's house -- one of them -- is interested in the puppies, with purchase in mind. He seemed to like Specs. In the meantime Dr. Calldemeier called and engaged the two males at \$10.00 each.

The shower was nice. Mr. and Mrs. Render brought me home.

Stella took Tubby when she left at three. She was going to take him to Bingo tonight.

Thursday, June 24, 1948

I have caught up on some things this afternoon and today -- putting things away etc.

Stella came this morning to tell me what a sensation Tubby was at Bingo.

Little Bill was here this afternoon -- said he knew we lived in this house, but didn't know how much nicer it was than are other one before.

We had a small rain this morning. It didn't do much good. I had to put the puppies in the garage.

Dewey received the nomination for president tonight.

Friday, June 25, 1948

Gov. Warren of California received a nomination for vice-president this morning.

I have cleaned today. Stella came up and cleaned the kitchen and back porch floors. She talked with the people who got Tubby. He cried so much the first night that the University student who got him took him in bed with him last night.

Suzanne worries Jane, playing with the puppies as she does.

Suzy was unkind to her houseguest, Marilyn, over here today. It worries me that Jane is so rude to Suzy.

John and D.P. have gone to the baseball game tonight.

Saturday is the six 1948

I took John to school in order to have the car. The children slept late. I came back by Mrs. Williams', and found her much incensed about Jane, and the way she treats Suzie.

When I came home I went on to town to look at shoes, and get more paint for David's room. I am buying Texolite, which is running high, because I want an emerald green for the walls, and am having to buy deep green by the quart at \$1.95 and mix it with deep blue and black.

John did the ceiling this afternoon, with a little assistance from Mrs. Tritt. We had a drippy mess for a while, but have it under control now.

Thelma called me late this afternoon to say that she has to go to the hospital for an operation on Wednesday. She has a tumor which both doctors fear may be malignant. This is distressing news, and I hope that the trouble can be caught in time. Thelma is a good person.

Sunday, June 7, 1948

We had the two female puppies advertised today. However nobody called. Jane said the Joneses (D.D.) said tonight that they want the white one (Pretty Face).

We went to S.S. and church, but I didn't stay for the latter because of the ad.

This afternoon we sat in the backyard, and the puppies played.

Monday, June 28, 1948

I washed a large washing -- two wool blankets, etc. -- let the puppies play in the yard.

We were to take Scuffles and Specs to Dr. Calldemeier, as he wanted two male puppies for two customers. Jane had loved Scuffles all along particularly -- has carried him around and said that he looked like a little bear. He did have an adorable sawed-off look.

When Jane and David got home from Bible School, Jane tried to think of every possible delay before taking Scuffles to Dr. Calldemeier. She had me measure him from stem to stern. He weighed 3 lbs. 10 oz.- And Specs weighted 4 lbs. 10 oz.

We finally started, going by Ann's for her to see them, and coming home to get Princess (Pretty Face) and Lady (Fanny) to take along, in case we could talk Dr. Calldemeier into taking Pretty Face -- but we couldn't. I really felt sorry for Jane.

A rain was coming up and I called Ann Klusmeier to take my blankets down and put them on the back porch.

We went up to the Frances Flower Shoppe and I bought a small pottery girl for Stella -- to be delivered.

Tonight we took Ann and Judy to the Drive-In to see "Call Northside 777". It was interesting to us but probably not to them. One the way out we stopped to see Cousin Frank. John fixed his iron. He had me read a letter from Uta Cobb.

Tuesday, June 29, 1948

I put one coat of Texolite on David's room today plus one wall of second coat. It is truly green, but I wanted it that way. Mixing must have taken more than an hour. I put blue and black in the green.

The Courier failed to put our phone number in the ad -- said they were corrected in the afternoon paper, but we didn't get it, so do not know.

Mrs. Jones called and said that they are not going to take Pretty Face, who has the best markings of them all.

Jane spent the afternoon at Ada Burress' with Alberta and had supper there.

John, David and I made some church calls (Manning Road, Nichols and Wilsons) and then went to the hospital to see Thelma. She seemed cheerful enough.

Wednesday, June 30, 1948

After no calls on my dog ad from Sunday until today, we had 4 or 5 today and one couple- Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins -- here to see the puppies late this evening. However, Mr. Hawkins decided that they did not want a female. The two are not sold yet.

Thelma had her operation this morning. Peggy stayed with us. They brought her back after eight. She was good -- played with the puppies, with David's garage, and read comics until Jane and David got home from Bible School.

I finished the second coat of Kem-Tone (rather Texolite) this afternoon.

It rained again. Our drought seems to be at last broken.

We went over to church for supper. This was Dr. Pettigrew's birthday, and they were trying to get all the deacons there. Afterwards, I went to Miss Hollis' department meeting, and then we went to the hospital to take Peggy.

Thursday, July 1, 1948

Thelma felt better this morning, but her temperature came up some this afternoon. Her father and mother took Peggy home with them.

I washed my Kem-Tone buckets, rags, etc., washed a couple of dresses, aired some clothes (found moths in some of Jane's sweaters), ironed, cut out my gray chambray and got some work done on it. The children stayed at Bible School to help Miss Hollis, and didn't get home until 3:30. Judy was here.

I went with John tonight to make some church calls.

I had a letter from one man about the puppies, but we haven't sold them.

Friday, July 2, 1948

I took John to school in order to have the car. I went to the grocery store after Stella came and did the floors. The children came home about one and I gave them their lunch.

I wanted to go to town to get my gray chambray buttons, and Jane wanted to work at church again. I took her back.

I got a reduced dress at Selman's -- pink rayon gabardine (for \$5.00). I had seen a similar one in blue before we went to Texas for \$7.00. This was an additional reduction. I have to have it cleaned though.

I bought a red pair and a white pair of shoes in the Boston basement for \$2.99 each. They are really no bargain, as they have very high heels, which I don't like.

David stayed at home -- was asleep when we got back. He said that one woman had called about the puppies.

We had to get back to church for Bible School closing exercises at 7 o'clock.

Saturday, July 3, 1948

I cleaned this morning. Both puppies were here, but a woman from Buechel called. I priced "Pretty Face (Princess)" at \$7.50. Before noon she called back to say they would be there about one to see them.

Jane had her club for lunch. They all came -- Carol, Roberta, Patricia, Alice, Margaret, Jane and Ann Tritt, who came direct from swimming. Between their main course and their dessert, Mrs. Powell and two other women came. They were carried away with Pretty Face and took her. I think they would have paid ten just as easily. Mrs. Powell lives right across from Resthaven Cemetery.

I had arranged with Mrs. Brizadine to come to see "Fanny" (her husband had been in touch with John -- when a Mrs. Smith called. She promised to come about 6:30 to see whether the Brizadines took Fanny.

I made a flying trip to town to get my buttons (Bryant's gave me the wrong package yesterday) and a table at War Surplus -- also some hose. I was back by the time the Brizadines came. They took Fanny at five. Toto has lots of milk. She has really been nursing these last two puppies.

Jane's club went to see "The Emperor's Waltz". They wouldn't let David go along, so he and Jimmy Bulluck went to see it.

Mrs. Smith called but of course we had no dog.

Sunday, July 4, 1948

We went to S.S. John also taught in the Junior Department today -- Mr. Bates' class. We left afterwards, went home, got Tote and our bags and headed for Owenton. We stopped in St. Matthews and ate sandwiches and malted milks as we were going to be so late getting to Mother's. When we got there, Mother had dinner ready (It was around two) but we ate only ice cream and cake, and told her to keep the main dinner until night.

Cousin Ray and Mary came (They had been to Lexington and Berea). After they left we drove to Williamstown to see Mrs. Harrell. She does not look too good. Ermine is having a hard time, for she does everything, including the nursing. Their house looks lovely.

I talked to Cousin Linnie about Thelma, as we had stopped at the hospital as we left this morning.

We drove down to A.J.'s about 8:30, as David had a few fireworks. A storm seems imminent, but the rain didn't come until after they arrived from Church at 9:15, and we were able to shoot the things.

Monday, July 5, 1948

John, the children and I went blackberry picking with Mr. McPherron as a guide. We went on Mrs. Ford's farm and got about 2 gallons.

The day has been pretty hot. John took a nap this afternoon. We went to see Cousin Ola, then he was going by Aunt Sue's, then by Martha's and home.

Evelyn Nixon came over tonight for a while.

Tuesday, July 6, 1948

I made 12 glasses of jelly from the blackberries we got yesterday.

Tom Hale and Hubert came for a while. I hadn't seen Huber for years. He lives in Pottsville, Pennsylvania.

A boy brought me another gallon of lovely big blackberries for fifty cents. I canned those this afternoon.

Jane took a long nap (David had one yesterday). I went to see Aunt Sue and Thomas. The latter was sick last week -- with symptoms of appendicitis. I saw Lelia as she was leaving. Owen has had chickenpox.

Tonight I finished a long letter to Mrs. Stakle.

Wednesday, July 7, 1948

John's letter encloses one from a mother in Indiana who had seen our puppy ad. Her two sons' dog had been killed on the highway the day before and they were inconsolable.

The day has been cooler but no one picked blackberries for us. I worked on my gray chambray.

Jane and David played together and giggled all day.

Cousin Ruth came this afternoon. Tonight Mary and Jim Bob were here. He is as smart as he can be, but bad.

I got shoe polish on my dress yesterday (aqua chambray), and Jane scorched her green old-fashioned girl one tonight. She also got ink on her shirt and shoes.

Jane is reading some of my books --“Daddy’s Girl” and “Little Mother to the Others.” David read “Sam’s Chance” and is now reading “Hector’s Inheritance” (Brother’s books).

Book 70- July 8-September 8, 1948

Thursday, July 8, 1948 (in Owenton, KY)

Jane, David, Mr. McPherron and I went blackberry picking -- out Beck Ridge behind Uncle Boy's down the hollow. At first we didn't find many, but then found a good patch where big luscious ones grew -- all mixed up with raspberries and wild grapes. There were gullies and blackberry thorns. We got about 3 gallons altogether. I paid Mr. McPherron 75 cents for his gallon and a half when we got home.

Toto went with us. We were gone from about eight until a quarter of eleven. We got 25 ticks off of Tote after we got home.

I worked on my dress some more - -have it almost finished.

Tonight I went to see Mrs. Cubbage. When I got home, Mother had extracted my juice for my jelly. The children played at Alice's this afternoon. Tonight they went to the movie with her.

Friday, July 9, 1948

I made my jelly this morning, and ran the vacuum. Mother put the hem in my new grey dress.

This afternoon Cousin Ola, Nell and Kay came. They were going to Lexington tonight and invited the children to go. I didn't let them go, to Jane's disappointment. They were going with Dr. Arnold. He and Marjorie were going to the Oilers-U.of K. game.

Adeline and I walked down to see the Redding's new funeral home, which is in the process of being re-constructed.

Adeline bought Jane a "Calling All Girls" and David a comic.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of Saturday July 10 to Saturday July 17, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Sunday, July 18, 1948 (in Louisville, KY)

We got up and went to Sunday School and church. About 25 people joined. We went to the Blue Boar for dinner. Coming home, we came by the Williams' to get Carl, but no one was

there. Coming on home, we called Mrs. Schroeder, and she said that the Williams were taking both Carl and Suzy out. (ed. – to camp)

David was so excited that he could hardly wait for me to make his list. We put their things in the car, took Tote with us and started for Piomingo.

John went across Johnson Lane, but it proved time-consuming so looked for the right country roads. We didn't reach Piomingo until after three. The Williams were already there.

We registered David, turned in his money, and met his assistant counselor (Mr. Ferguson,) his main one was coming on the train. [We] went to his cabin which is No. 27. They have one counselor for each seven boys (four boys in one cabin, three boys and a counselor in the other). There is a counselor in David's and Carl's cabin. The third boy had not arrived -- was coming on the train.

Jane and Suzy were anxious to get going. We turned from the Dixie Highway onto 44 at a pink building, proceeded to Shepherdsville, and then to Camp Shantituck. . The Williams were behind us. We reached there just at five. We met the Fifes, and they said that Jane was to be in Cross Creek Unit.

We registered her and Suzy, turn the money in and had them check in with the nurse.

Then a man and John carried Jane's luggage to Cross Creek. It was like Old Home Week. Jane, Ann Tritt, Roberta Jones and Sallie Ann Daugherty are in the same tent. Across from them is Margaret, Janet, Barbara and Mary Becker. Only Carol of the troop got put in Knobs Unit.

We met Barney, Jane's counselor, who has worked in a veteran's office and had much to talk to John about.

When we left, rain was imminent. We saw Natalie's trip campers digging trenches around their little pup tents.

We also saw Suzy as we left. She is in the Ledges Unit.

It was raining hard by the time we got home.

We ate a bite, then went to church. I was very sleepy and tired. Ruth Pettigrew invited us to the reception following her wedding Friday.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of Monday, July 19 to Friday, July 30, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, July 31, 1948

This is Betsy's birthday, and I failed to get a birthday letter off to her.

Well, today was given over to getting the children home. Jane was very anxious for her daddy to come too, so he went to school first to open the office then came home and we went after Jane about 9:30, taking Tote. The Fifes were just ahead of us, and we met the Tritts leaving with Ann. Jane was in white shorts and shirt, and looked very brown and pretty.

We went to the Lodge to see Nancy Brigham ("Brig" they called her) who was their camp aide, and was helping clean the Lodge.

Then we came back and made a picture of Jacky, one of her counselors. All Jane's luggage was up, and we didn't have to go over to her unit.

Carol Weller was in Knobs, and not in the Cross Creek unit.

We decided to bring Janet as well as Roberta home. We stopped at Okolona to call Janet's mother. We took John to school, then brought Roberta, then Janet. Jane thought that the house looked strange.

After unpacking her laundry bag (the things all smelled very musty), we went on to the University, got John, and went after David at the 10th Street Depot. The train was due at 12:15, but was about 15 minutes late.

He too looked brown and sunburned, and his hair looked somewhat bleached. I made [a picture of] him and Carl with Bill Ferguson, their counselor.

They even brought David's fishing pole back on the baggage car. We collected his and Carl's things, and brought them home. They were all full of stories about camp.

Jane's hike was really something. Her unit left Shantituck Tuesday morning, hiked 20 miles to a quarry, stayed there all day Wednesday and hiked back Thursday. Jane even had sunburned. She doesn't usually do so. The quarry was at Bardstown Junction. They slept on the ground both nights without pup tents. The first night it rained, and they finished up in the barn.

David told us about how the boys had to get under the table if they talked with food in their mouths, etc. If they didn't do as they should, they got no dessert. If they did something extra they got two desserts. They had been to Morgan's Cave and walked through water that was ice cold.

He took only two showers while he was there. He is peeling off from the sunburn he got the day they went fishing.

After lunch we got ready and went to see the Freedom Train at the State Fairgrounds. It took us two hours standing in line. We started way back by the Horse Show Building. It was worthwhile to see the documents, but we didn't have as much time as we would have liked.

We were so tired when we got home that we wouldn't have considered going to the Kosair Picnic if we had wanted to. Mrs. Williams, Carl and Suzy came over, and Carl and David sang some camp songs.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of Sunday, August 1 to Monday September 6, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Tuesday, September 7, 1948 Brother's Birthday

Brother would be 57 today.

This was the first day of school. I took the children out and made one picture at them. They didn't much want me to.

There was confusion -- terrible confusion -- at school. Neither of the new steel buildings is finished. David is in the sixth grade. There are three new sixth grade teachers. Those grades were to be housed in the new building. As it is, they have no place to put them. They didn't let the children draw this year. [ed. -- "draw" refers to pulling a name of your teacher so as to be placed in a class]

After I came home, I had to go to town to a Girl Scout steering committee meeting, and came back by the Haymarket.

Jane helped her daddy this afternoon. D.P. stayed on Teal [Road.]. I came home on the bus leaving the car for John.

Mrs. Tritt was here this afternoon and then Mrs. Williams.

Wednesday, September 8, 1948

I finished my house coat, pressing it, this morning, pressed my gray dress, ironed Jane's small embroidered dress and her apple pinafore. I went by the University to get my mats for my pictures (John had cut them) and didn't get to the State Fair until 11:30. The deadline for entry was 12 noon. I had to wait in line, but got my things entered -- one glass of blackberry jelly, 3 pictures (Puss in the tree, children at 5 and 3 -- used on Christmas card in 1940, and children in chair-used on last year's Christmas card), my gray dress with red-lined cape, my new cotton house coat, Jane's little white dotted Swiss dress with embroidery, her apple pinafore.

I washed this afternoon. Jane helped her daddy after school.

Mrs. Merritt called upset about the letter I had written to the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and I had to take time to talk to her.

John and I ate at Worker's Council tonight and stayed for prayer meeting. They voted on tenure of deacons -- motion was defeated.

Book 71- September 9-December 11, 1948

Thursday, September 9, 1948

I took time this morning to write a long letter of explanation to Mrs. Merritt.

In the afternoon, I went over to Mrs. Nagel's on Eagle Pass (walking) as she had called me about a gift subscription. I then went by Mrs. Williams' to leave some cantaloupes, to Mrs. Vanderhaar's, to Mrs. Seeders', to Mrs. Jones' (they are going to New York tomorrow) and to Mrs. Tritt's.

Friday, September 10, 1948

I kept the car, took John, got the groceries on the way home, was home late, straightened things in the P.M., collected money from a woman in Fincastle, Mrs. Van Hoose on Greenleaf, Bertha Miller. Tonight I went out on Phillip's Lane and collected a dollar (ed.- she was collecting for subscriptions of Reader's Digest).

Tonight I made cookies for the State Fair, and called my S.S. class and invited them out here Sunday afternoon.

Saturday, September 11, 1948

David Paul went to gym. Jane and I took my cookies (sugar in shapes, and oatmeal) to the State Fair.

We saw Tony – the white puppy with one black spot – from Tote's 2nd litter as we came back along Algonquin Parkway.

We went to a wedding at St. Agnes Church at 12 – one of John's fraternity boys and a Dages girl. There was no mass.

Jane's club was having lunch at Patricia's and going to see "Date with Judy." She was too late for lunch, but went with the girls to the movie.

I cleaned this afternoon.

John may go to Washington Tuesday.

Sunday, September 12, 1948

We got to S.S. and church very early, as I had to put some typed permission blanks in the invitations Mrs. Remey had made.

We came home, had dinner, and Shirley Scott, Frances McGuffey and Patsy Damron came out on the bus. I drove them around, and we served them ice cream and cookies.

At 4:30 we took them home, so that we could go to the State Fair. David didn't have to pay, and the rest of us had half price tickets.

First of all we went to the Woman's Department. There was my gray dress with a red ribbon on it -- also my house coat. Jane's dress and pinafore got nothing. We had expected Puss' picture to have a chance, but it won nothing -- but the picture of the children made in 1940 got a red ribbon.

Over on the culinary side we discovered my oatmeal cookies with a blue ribbon.

We saw part of the Dog Show in the Horse Show Arena, the poultry building, and Jane and David rode the Tilt-a-Whirl and almost got their necks dislocated.

We came on back to church.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 13, 1948 to December 5, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, December 6, 1948

I washed this morning as I wanted to get if off of hand, not knowing when I might have to substitute.

David had an appointment at Dr. Coleman's at 4. We went in on the bus, and John came for us. David weighed 72 3/4 . His blood pressure was all right, his heart and lungs, but Dr. C. said that his weight was considerably under, and his blood count was a little low. He wants him to take liver and iron. He also wants him to have a blood calcium test on Saturday morning.

I had a P.T.A. board meeting at school tonight. John had a deacon's meeting. Mrs. Reimers and Mrs. Hansen brought me home.

Tuesday, December 7, 1948

I ironed some today, washed a living room rug, washed and tried to take the color from the living room door curtains, started some cleaning in the basement. When John got home with the car, I went up to check on the Dorton's.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 8, 1948 to December 9, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, December 10, 1948

I worked hard on Jane's dress this afternoon (brown plaid taffeta) and got it ready for her to wear tonight, but it is the hardest thing I've ever made, I think. She wore it without buttons -- to Teen Age Club.

Saturday, December 11, 1948

I worked out at school all morning with Adele, Mrs. Merritt and Mrs. Echols, sorting clothes for the Welfare families. I came home, sent Jane on to town to meet D.P., went by Mrs. Tolls to get the candy, etc., went to Ethel Lovell's to get some clothes for Mrs. Northrop's (and to Mrs. Allgeier's for the same), picked up John, went with him to look at silver for Christmas, came back by the grocery store, vacuumed all of the house (the children had arrived home -- they have been doing their Christmas shopping), went out to school tonight for the Girl Scout square dance. Mr. Gettler called. He was late coming, and I was worried.

Book 72- December 12, 1948- January 26, 1948

Sunday, December 12, 1948

We got to S.S. on time, stayed for church, and ate at the Blue Boar.

In the afternoon the family and I delivered eight boxes of clothing to eight families. Immediately after, I went to church to meet some of my S.S. girls to practice a play. I was home after dark.

John went back to church tonight but the children and I did not.

Jane and I wrapped gifts.

Monday, December 13, 1948

I went to town and bought myself a dress at Durand's for \$14.99 (supposedly reduced from \$29.95). I also bought some shirts and other things. I got home exhausted but washed, including the six pairs of organdy curtains from Jane's and our rooms (I have looked without success for the right paper draperies for Jane's room).

We had dinner before I washed. John went to a Personnel meeting.

Tuesday, December 14, 1948

I kept the car and went to the church for the missionary program (Dr. Mueller) at one. I ate warmed-over vegetable soup at home, not realizing that they were having chicken salad, homemade cake and such a church.

From church I went by Orphans' Home to leave play parts I had typed this morning for four girls. I had Mrs. Kuhl with me, and gave Mrs. Oliver a ride.

I let them out and went on to P.T.A. (in the new auditorium). Dean Witter talked. Jane was there to try to sell Girl Scout cards for some of the others.

From there I dashed out to Mrs. Hagan's to a tea which she gave for her daughter-in-law. A number of deacons' wives were there.

It was pouring when the tea was over. I brought Mrs. Ruley. We went by the University to get John and come back by the new Steiden's which had its opening yesterday. Mr. Doyle is manager. Such a magnificent grocery store I never saw. Even the meat is wrapped for self-service.

At home tonight, ironing, and washing rug.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 15, 1948 to December 21, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, December 22, 1948

School closed today. I stayed up until midnight and was up at four making cookies for the children to take to school. I made the batter after school yesterday.

Last night we had the Junior Department Christmas program at church. David read Eugene Field's "Jest Fore Christmas". Jane took part in a play when one of the Home girls couldn't be there.

Eddie Black had a Christmas party at five. David was supposed to go caroling with the Junior Department, but wanted to go to Eddie's party.

Jane and I went caroling with the Scouts, taking John to church first. We met at school and caroled for Mrs. Nichols, who was struck by a car. Winnie was sick and couldn't come. Janet and her father were with us at the Nichols', but went on to a basketball game.

We then been caroled at the Home for Incurables, leaving homemade candy and bookmarks for each patient. It meant more to the girls than it had in previous years, I think, because they talked with some of the patients, particularly one who had been there 31 years, another who had both legs off and still another who was totally blind.

We came on back to Roberta's for a party. I picked up David before going to Roberta's. He said that this was his third party today.

Thursday, December 23, 1948

John's promotion to Registrar was announced on the radio last night, was in the red flash Times, was on the radio this morning and in this mornings' Courier.

I was busy with ironing and cards. Stella was here today instead of tomorrow.

Friday, December 24, 1948

John has had many notes of congratulation and clippings already. He received a call from Martha last night.

There was snow this morning (our first) and the children played out with Janet and others.

John and I went to the grocery store after noon (it was crowded, and transportation was really slowed because of so much traffic).

We left home in time to reach Mother's in time for supper.

Papa's foot looks bad and we are much worried. He is having lots of pain with it. Mother herself is almost down. She had Dr. McBee see Papa's foot, and he said that he probably had had a clot. Mother had seen Dr. Tanner about herself.

Saturday, December 25, 1948

I hung the children stockings on the mantle, but we didn't bring their gifts in the living room until this morning.

John and I didn't sleep well -- possibly because of Papa's foot.

Gifts:

Papa- from us- a shirt (white)

- “ “ – bottle of whiskey (recommended by Dr. Coleman)
- “ “ – Prince Albert smoking tobacco
- “ Jane- candy
- “ D.P. – pipe
- “ Cousin Linnie- pipe and tobacco

Mother – from us- gown

- “ me- apron
- “ us- clothes drier
- “ “ – sink guard
- “ Jane- pin
- “ D.P.- cologne
- “ Cousin Linnie- crocheted scarf
- “ Cousin Bertie-candy

John- from Papa and Mother- 2 shirts

- “ me- muffler and tie (Pi Phi)
- “ me- sport shirt
- “ Jane- belt
- “ D.P.- tie

I- from Papa and Mother-money and dress

- “ John- sterling silverware (Gorham)
- “ Jane and D.P.- lovely black purse
- “ Eloise- scarf
- “ Granny Bennett-desk calendar

Jane- from Papa and Mother- angora mittens

- “ us- formal
- “ “ -taffeta party dress
- “ D.P- socks with angora tops
- “ us-white nylon sweater
- “ “ - pink wool sweater
- “ “ - plaid skirt
- “ “ - plastic umbrella
- “ “ - silk scarf (sodas, etc.)
- “ me – two books
- “ Roberta Willbie- Devonshire violet perfume (Eng)
- “ Sylvie Stakle- beautiful hand-knitted mittens

and many other things.

David- from Papa and Mother- a pretty shirt

- “ Jane- socks, 2 comics, a subscription to Walt Disney comics
- “ us- chemistry set
- “ “- basket ball
- “ “ - basket ball goal
- “ “ - Wide World game
- “ “ - helmet
- “ me- two books
- “ Sylvia Stakle- Latvian necktie

and many other things.

We had a quite Christmas day. I used a heat lamp on Papa's foot and leg.

John and the children drove down to Ruth's tonight in spite of the cold.

Sunday, December 26, 1948

Papa had much pain last night, and neither he nor Mother got much sleep. John is convinced that he and Mother should go home with us, and he is at last willing to go.

Our family went over to Uncle Will's for dinner today as all his family was there.

Monday, December 27, 1948

We were very busy all morning getting ready to go to Louisville. John and David, also Jane, had helped Mother carry her canned goods to the basement.

Ermine had agreed to drive the folks. Different people came in during the day to see them. Gypsy, Betty Lou, Cousin Ola, Nell, the McPherrons, Cousin Ruth Smither, Mrs. Simpson and so on.

Ermine didn't come until about 3:30. We came right on, Papa, Mother and Jane in Ermine's car. Papa was exhausted when we got here. Mr. Pingel helped John carry him in. We put him on the daybed in the den until we can get a bed moved down there for him.

Papa was in such pain that John had to go to Walgreens after ten to get something for pain which Dr. Coleman had filled there.

Tuesday, December 28, 1948

Dr. Coleman came this morning. He said nothing about sending Papa to the hospital, which pleased him, I think.

He sent three prescriptions. One is tablets, taken three times a day, one is a hypodermic injection for pain, one is a hypodermic injection for dilating the blood vessels. He also wants the heat lamp used four times a day, 25 minutes at a time.

I talked to the insurance company about Papa's accident insurance, which they let lapse.

Jane went to Neighborhood House to a Girl Scout campers' party this afternoon.

I have a bad day, went to bed right after supper.

Wednesday, December 29, 1948

Mrs. Klusmeier came over this morning, and Mrs. Tritt was here this afternoon. I am doctoring my cold with Groves' cold tablets.

John got the bed moved down yesterday afternoon after he came home.

Mrs. Klusmeier sent over a rocking chair and some grape juice.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 30, 1948 to December 31, 1948 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, January 1, 1949

Papa was rather confused last night. John and considered going to Owenton today with the trailer for a bed but we decided not to have him go.

There was a light skiff of snow this morning. Dr. Coleman came. John of course was at home. Dr. Coleman said that Papa's foot was no better. He wants Dr. Hagan to see him.

The Fifes came by this afternoon, but stayed only a moment after they discovered that Mother has a cold. Dr. C. said for Mother to take Emperin.

We had pork chops for New Year's dinner.

Jane went to Roberta's to a party this afternoon.

Carl and Suzanne were here with David but had a fight and Carl went home.

Cousin Kay and Mary were here this A.M.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 2, 1949 to January 3, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, January 4, 1949

Miss Watson couldn't go back today, and I agreed to go, although it didn't suit, since the doctors finally won their point on taking Papa to the hospital for a week. Also, Bertha Burton, the new maid John engaged for me, was coming today for the first time. Also we were expecting the bed.

Classes were rather hard to manage today. Miss Watson's two low classes.

I had the car today (John took me yesterday, and came directly home. John called as I came in the door. The ambulance was coming at 4:15 for Papa. I went for John. We got back just before the Yellow Cab ambulance arrived.

When we got there (Mr. Atkins was one of the ambulance drivers) they took Papa to room 465 (new west wing). We had forgotten his whiskey and other medicine, so came on home shortly, and John took it back to him.

Tonight it was raining hard, but we went to the Armory to see the Oilers-U. of L. game. U. of L. held them to 54 - 50.

We came back by the hospital, and John went out to see about Papa.

Wednesday, January 5, 1949

I was sick this morning and had to go back to bed -- a headache. Mother went on to the hospital with John. I stayed in bed until noon. I felt better this afternoon and got some things done.

Tonight after early supper John and I went to the hospital to see Papa and get Mother.

Papa had the first Novocaine injection today. They take him to the operating room and inject it along his spinal column. Mother said that he was very restless and irrational afterwards, but he was quieter tonight.

Mother ate in the Coffee Shop today.

John and I went down to the chapel and tried to view the television but it wasn't on tonight.

The bed came today.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 6, 1946 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, January 7, 1949

John took Mother to the hospital early this morning. I was busy here, but broke my right glasses lens the first thing, called Southern Optical, and they agreed to put it in today if I would have my glasses there by three. That meant that I had to hurry, as I wanted to wash the basement before leaving home at 2:30.

Stella was here this morning, telling me about a new anxiety that she has.

The basement floor had never been scrubbed since we moved here. I scrubbed it with soap and a broom, then ran the hose on it. It really looks much better.

Jane went to the Teen Age Club with Jean Fraley and his mother. John, David and I went to the hospital after Mother.

Papa had another novocaine injection today which again kept him very restless until about five. Mother thought that he was better this morning, but I couldn't see it tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 8, 1949 to January 11, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, January 12, 1949

I meant to teach today but decided that with so much at stake for Papa, I should go to the consultation, particularly after I talked to Dr. Coleman and he said they preferred that I be there. I called Mr. Bell and told him I couldn't go.[ed. – go to substitute teach]

John came for me at 9:45, but the doctors were late. There were Dr. Hagan, his son, Dr. Coleman, John, Mother and I. As Papa had told us Dr. Hagan and Dr. Coleman didn't agree. Dr. C. didn't say much, but he is for amputation. Dr. Hagan is opposed, and wants to wait. However, evidence of definite gangrene is now evident in one toe (next to the little one). It was finally agreed to wait until this weekend before making a decision.

I have stayed with Papa and Mother all day. John is coming from church for me at 8:15.

I have written letters to Mrs. Stakle and Betsy today.

Thursday, January 13, 1949

I went to town today and bought myself some shoes (\$9.95) at Besten's. I also bought John a book for his birthday at W.K. Stewart's.

Tonight John and I went up to the hospital. Mother told John on the phone early this morning that after seeing Papa suffer as he did last night, she was willing to see the operation, although she still did not approve of it. She said that perspiration popped out on him, and he asked her if he could get on the floor and roll.

Today he was more quiet but is still completely confused about everything except his foot. Stella was there when we arrived. She had taken them some ice cream.

Friday, January 14, 1949

We gave John "Biographies of Famous Statesman" at breakfast time. We talked to Mother. Papa didn't suffer as much as the night before, but she thinks his toe looks a little worse.

Stella was here. I had taken John to school in order to have the car and went up to the hospital after doing some machine work on a facing on my black and white skirt for Jane.

Mother said that Dr. Hagan had spoken of letting nature take its course. Mother put in Jane's hem.

Dr. Coleman came. He said that we would decide something about Papa in about two days.

On the fifth floor, saw Mrs. Petersen, who has a new daughter.

I went down in the lunch room for soup and coffee, then left at one.

I went to Lavenia Nichols' taking her a book, came back by the old Steiden's, left Margie Vanderhaar's book (birthday) and Ann Tritt's gloves.

For John's birthday dinner I had chuck roast, potatoes, lima beans, fruit salad, hot rolls, coffee, and cherry pie à la mode.

We went back up to the hospital. Jessie and a girl friend were there. Mother said that Papa had taken his pajamas off twice.

We didn't stay long, as John had an A.I.E.E. meeting. He is going back up there tonight.

Ermine called before supper -- offered to come and stay tomorrow and Sunday night. I told her to wait until we call her.

Mrs. True is also in bad condition.

Saturday, January 15, 1949

I was at home this morning. I called Ermine and arranged for her to come tomorrow to stay tomorrow night. I washed my hair preparatory to Knottie giving me a Toni tonight. [ed. -- "Toni" is a home permanent to curl hair]

At one John took me to the hospital and took Mother home to sleep. Papa was about as usual -- dozing occasionally, but usually restless.

After he had eaten, I went down and had a hamburger and coffee. John came about 6:30. I took the car and went home.

Lo and behold, John had taken David to the pet shop and gotten him two mice -- a white one and a gray one. Tote and Puss are much interested.

I went over to Knottie's and she gave me my permanent. I didn't get away until 11:15.

Mother had slept all afternoon, but was still awake when I got home.

Sunday, January 16, 1949

We went to the hospital, getting there by 9:10. John and the children went on to S.S.

Dr. Coleman was in. John said that Papa's first shot didn't quiet him, and that they gave him another within two hours.

When Dr. Hagan came, after church, he told Mother that with her consent he would operate, the sooner the better, possibly Tuesday. Mother still didn't approve but acceded rather than see Papa suffer. She had thought that he might go into a coma and not suffer at the last, but Dr. Hagan didn't seem to think so. I suppose it is the hardest decision we have ever made.

Ermine had called this morning to say that the weather was very bad there, and so I told her not to come until we call her.

We all ate in the Coffee Shop, and Mother decided to let John call Dr. Hagan.

John and the children went home. Mother lay down to take a nap, but got up when Cousin Linnie and Thelma came. Mrs. True is worse also. We were able to send word to Ermine by Cousin Linnie.

After they left, Walt Slaughter came, and we were able to send word to Owenton by him.

We saw Mrs. Steele in the Coffee Shop today.

Papa slept more this afternoon than I have seen him do. I got a malted milk for him and Mother and myself. He ate very little supper. Mother ate most of his Salisbury steak and I ate his Waldorf salad.

John came for me about 7:45. We talked to a special nurse tonight who rooms with a Miss Lusby.

John placed an order for nurses.

Mrs. Craigmyle came around to see Mother (She is in Room 469) and we went to see her.

I discovered a man on the second floor today who is having his leg (diabetic) amputated Tuesday.

John brought me home about nine. Mrs. Ruley brought us some delicious cake.

(ed.- Entry for the date of January 17, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, January 18, 1949

Mother and I got up at five, and Uncle Boy [ed.- having arrived by bus yesterday], who slept downstairs, was up very shortly. We had breakfast, and then I called the children. At 6:30 I was writing Bertha a note, who was due to come today. We were at the hospital at 7:10.

Papa's nurse was there -- Mrs. Springer -- very nice, with a dimple. Papa was restless as usual. Ermine said that he did not close his eyes all night -- nor did she. He was downright cute at times in things that he said, she said.

They took him up at 20 of 8. We did not expect him to be gone so long, but he was gone one hour and 30 minutes. It was 9:15 when they brought him back. Just as they were coming, Frances Orr stopped by the door, but we scarcely got the straight of seeing her, so concerned were we about Papa. Dr. Dollar came down with him and I think Dr. William Hagan. At least there was another doctor. They said that he was all right. Dr. Hagan, Sr. came later briefly to tell us the same. Dr. Coleman also stopped, felt Mother's pulse. Mother said that she was relieved for that to be over.

As Papa started coming to, he was in great pain and made inarticulate noises. John went on to school.

They were giving Papa glucose, and then following that, a blood transfusion. Mrs. Springer went down to lunch, and I held his arm while the blood was going in. Uncle Boy was on the other side to keep his hand from bothering his bandage. Dr. William Hagan came in to check the flow of the transfusion.

About two, Ermine and Uncle Boy left. Mother and I couldn't bear to stay in the room much as he had spasms of pain which seemed almost unbearable for him. He begged us to do something.

His nurse who came on at three arrived early. She was Miss Ochsner, a graduate of the Bethesda School of Nursing in Cincinnati. Mrs. Springer was a graduate of the Memphis hospital school. At first I didn't think I liked Miss Ochsner so well, but my admiration for her grew by leaps and bounds. She is most conscientious, thorough and understanding. Her mother is also a nurse, as was her grandmother.

John and I went home for supper. It was raining. I took Jane's Latvian gloves over to the Tritts' to put on the exhibit they were making. Then I came home and finished the summary I was making for Mrs. Scherr to read. John and I took it as we were going to the hospital.

Dr. Hagan had been in. Papa's pulse and blood pressure were fairly good, but his respiration was poor, according to the nurse. He voided naturally today. Miss Ochsner said that he was a very sick man, but a sweet patient.

We wanted Mother to go home with us, but she said that she couldn't leave him tonight, and so I went with her, to a waiting room on the first floor to help her get some chairs fixed together. The policeman was helpful.

John had wanted to go on home, but I wanted to see his eleven o'clock nurse, so we waited until eleven. She was Miss Loving, a graduate of General Hospital. She seemed all right.

John and I came on home. I was so tired that I fell into bed, and went immediately to sleep.

(ed.- Entry for the date of January 19, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, January 20, 1949
Pres. Truman's inauguration day

John didn't take Mother and me this morning. We went by bus, reaching there about 11. Papa looked better, and was rational. In fact, Miss Loving, his night nurse, told me at seven that although he had only a fair night, he was clearer this morning.

Mrs. Springer said that Papa for the first time discovered that his foot was gone. Mother talked to him about it and he asked her when they decided to do it -- Thursday? No, Tuesday, she told him. Mother said that he said he could never have used it.

He looked better today. Mrs. Springer had shaved him. The fever blister on his lip was clearing up. He slept a great deal, calmly today, not fitfully and restlessly. He had a hypo last night at two -- his last one today. He still had a spasm of pain once in a while, but was not flailing the air with his or poor hands as he did yesterday. Yesterday they gave him some coffee, fruit juice and soup, and today again gave him such.

I sat in the waiting room reading Plutarch much of the afternoon, thinking I would go to my discussion class this afternoon but John had given blood for Papa's transfusion today and was going with me when he didn't feel like it, so I didn't go.

Mrs. Springer and Miss Ochsner gave Papa an enema this afternoon with good results.

The man on the second floor who had his leg amputated the same day that Papa did was up in a wheelchair yesterday.

John came for Mother and me about five and we came home.

David went to the barber. Jane arranged with Mrs. Best to start music lessons Monday.

They had put a metal framework about Papa's bed today to help him in turning over.

Mr. Bell called me for Highland Junior High last night and Mr. Lasseter called me for Valley today, but I declined both.

(ed.- Entry for the date of January 21, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, January 22, 1949

David and Carl went to the Y. I was home putting things away when Phyllis called this morning. Eloise had come to Pewee Valley with her this morning, having attended her Aunt Grace's funeral in Owenton yesterday. It was a long awaited day when Eloise could visit me briefly. She wanted to see Papa, and so we arranged to see them at the hospital.

I finished straightening the house, we had lunch, I made a date-nut cake, and John and I went to Steiden's. When we got back he took a shower, and we went to the hospital.

Papa seemed very weak and tired. Linda was with Eloise -- a sweet little girl of 7 who looks 5. Eloise was thin, but looked the same except that she is having much trouble with her eyes.

Papa told Phyllis that he had suffered so much pain.

Mother came home with us for supper. We had steaks (minute), frozen lima beans, mashed potatoes, tomatoe salad, hot rolls (bought), ice cream and cake.

Afterwards John went to the hospital to spend the night with Papa.

Eloise and I started sleeping together and Linda with David, but had to put Linda with her mother after she coughed.

Jane went with the Fraley's to the Highland Junior High Teen-Age Club. I slept with her when she returned.

Sunday, January 23, 1949

John was here for breakfast shortly after 6:30 -- said that Papa had a fairly good night. We ate breakfast and then took Eloise and Linda to the 7th Street Station to get the 8:15 train.

We came home, got Mother, and went to the hospital. John and the children went on to church, and I stayed with Mother and Papa.

Papa doesn't have much appetite. I got him to swallow a few bites of his chicken by mixing it with a tiny speck of mashed potatoes (each bite).

I slept some this afternoon. Papa is definitely more rational than he has been. Dr. Simmons passed the door, and Mother called him in see Papa. Dr. Simmons said, "Well, I see they are still rolling you around, Mr. Sidebottom", and Papa said, "Yes, but they don't have much left to roll." He spoke in a similar joking way to Miss Jordan (nurse) who came in to see him.

John came late in the afternoon. When we left, Mother told me not to try to come to stay much until after David's birthday.

Monday, January 24, 1949

I washed this morning, quite a big washing. Afterwards I went to town to get Laura Jean Fenwick a wedding gift. I selected a pottery pitcher at Kaufman's. I came home on the Camp Taylor bus.

I called Jane from town, as this was her first day to take a piano lesson from Mrs. Best. She was in tears about it. She rode the Camp Taylor bus over there, and walked home.

Tuesday, February 25, 1949

Papa had a bad night, Mother said. I kept the car and went up there this morning (Bertha was here). Papa had to have an enema in the early morning hours and is completely irrational again. Dr. Coleman blames Mother for getting him aroused during the night -- says that he does better when John is with him.

I picked up John, we went home and I gave Bertha her lunch, then went back to the hospital. Dr. Coleman had told me that he thought it would be all right for me to go to Georgetown with John this afternoon, but I hated to leave them when he seemed worse. We left there at 2:20, were in Georgetown at 4:20.

We spent the next hour or so looking at the new chapel, which is beautiful, and inspecting Giddings and the Physics Building.

We ate in the cafeteria in Rucker Hall. Verna was there but couldn't eat with us. The Coueys and friends of theirs ate at our table.

Dr. John Hill's painting was unveiled, and he made a dedicatory speech of the new chapel. There was a huge crowd. Flowers were everywhere.

Afterwards we had some punch, and drove back. Freddie Bonawitz was the most pathetic thing I saw. He is bent with arthritis, and so aged.

We reached the hospital at 12. Papa and mother were sleeping, and we didn't disturb them. The nurses said that Papa was very restless.

Wednesday, January 26, 1949

Papa had another bad night. Mother said that he was very restless and irrational.

John went by Heitzmann's and brought David's cake out -- it is really pretty -- shades of yellow, with a cowboy on it, saying "Happy Birthday, David, 12 years." I made some pictures and then John took me to the hospital.

Mother said that Papa tore the webbing off his leg last night and threw it on the floor, then threatened to hit her when she remonstrated. He had two accidents in bed -- tore the sheet, slept scarcely at all. I told her that I would come back tonight after John got home from church.

I came home by bus, the children and I ate supper, and at 7 the following boys came to eat ice cream and cake with David:

Jim Bulluck	Jimmie Vanderhaar
Larry Allgeier	Bobbi Walker (John was sick)
Eddie Black	Jim Curry
Carl Williams	David

They played some games. Mr. Vanderhaar and Gerry came for Jimmy. John took me to the hospital.

Book 73- January 27-February 23, 1949

Thursday, January 27, 1949

John came by for me about 7:30. Papa had a better tonight than the last two. From 11 until 3:30 he didn't sleep, but slept until 7, then Mother and I both laid on the cot. She didn't get up, but I was up and down during the night.

John had his suitcase in the car. I took him to Speed School and left him, having promised him to go home and go to bed. It was raining so hard that I thought his plane flight would be canceled. It was one hour late instarting. I couldn't relax well until after his wire came saying that he had arrived O.K.

Mrs. Tritt came this afternoon to get the scrapbook and take it to Scouts for working on.

David and I went to the P.O. for stamps for Mother.

Tonight after early supper the children and I went to the hospital. Papa has slept a lot today, and Mother had slept about four hours this afternoon.

Mrs. Yancey (Lindsay) is a patient across the hall. Eunice is with her.

Nancy Nazor sent Papa lovely glads. [ed. – gladiolus flowers]

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 28 and 29, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, January 30, 1949

I went to S.S. after having missed the last two. After S.S. I went to the hospital. I saw Dr. Coleman, and he said that medically Papa could leave the hospital whenever Dr. Hagan is ready for him to come. I picked up John and the children after church, we came home and had a chicken dinner, then went back to the hospital.

Jessie was there when we got there.

Later Mr. Fenwick brought Cordelia, her married daughter and unmarried daughter and her son, Ralph Holbrook, also Mr. Cochran, brother-in-law. They stayed only until 4:30.

Soon after they left, we came on home. Mrs. Goldman (from Corydon, Indiana) is going home tomorrow.

Monday, January 31, 1949

Dr. Hagan told mother that Papa could come home when we are ready for him, so he is coming tomorrow.

I didn't go over this morning, as I had a large washing to do. This afternoon I worked in Jane's room washing book cases and straightening.

We had snow this morning. Jane had to go to her music lesson after school, but David went up right after school to the golf course. Jane got home about 4:30, and she and Janet drove over with Mrs. Vanderhaar, Maria and Jimmie to the golf course.

David waited with the sled until Jane got there, and he was almost frozen. His hands were frostbitten, and I had to work with them a little while to restore circulation.

Jane had lots of fun.

John and I went to the hospital this evening and got Mother's things as I don't plan to go tomorrow.

Tuesday, February 1, 1949

Mr. Lassiter called me at 8 from Valley wanting me to substitute today, but I couldn't go, of course.

The morning was busy. Bertha was here. I washed the Venetian blinds in Papa's room. I talked to Mother a couple of times. She said that Dr. William Hagan was to dress Papa's leg before he came.

They called a Yellow Cab ambulance and were here at a quarter of two.

Stella came over to see Papa.

The children went back to the golf course. Jane came home and started practicing, said that she was going back tonight.

John had to take David to a Scout meeting and go to a S.S. cabinet meeting. I had a P.T.A. board meeting and we felt that we simply could not let her go over there at night with no grown-ups along. There were tears and sulking.

Wednesday, February 2, 1949

Stella came over to help with Papa and we got him up without too much trouble. Mother thought of a wide board in the basement, and it works just fine between the bed and the chair. He tired very quickly though and wanted to get back in bed. However he smoked a cigar while he was up.

He is depressed, seems to think there is no reason for making much effort.

Mother slept in the dining room on the daybed last night, but he wants her nearer him tonight, he says.

The children went back to the golf course after school.

John came home for supper, then went to church on the bus. The children and I picked him up and went to the Armory for the U. of L. – Western basketball game. It was a grand game. We won.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 3 and 4, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, February 5, 1949

I went over the house again today.

John decided that he and Mother would go to Owenton this afternoon. They left at 12:30 and were back before 6:30.

David went to the Y early this morning, then to a Junior Department program at church (Dr. Pettigrew) scheduled at 10:30, but actually at 10 (He was late). He came home with Johnnie and Bobbie -- ate lunch there -- and playing over there. When he got home I forgot to tell him that Daddy and Granny were gone to Owenton. Late in the afternoon he found out -- claiming we never told him anything -- not even that Daddy brought a box of candy from Atlanta (He didn't get a bite of it, and it was good too).

Papa didn't sleep all the time the folks were gone, except for about the first 20 minutes. They had a grand afternoon, but Mother found the house damp and musty.

I washed this afternoon.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 6, 7, and 8, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, February 9, 1949

Mr. Bell called me for Halleck this morning-English. I am writing at my second period, which is free (also the fifth). My first class had in it Isabelle Clore, Betty Custis, Dennis Evans, Carl Weller and Ethel Wishnia, who is evidently a sister of David's flood confrere.

Later

Well, I didn't have that fifth period free. Some other teacher had to go home in the afternoon and they asked me to take that class during my free period. They were altogether discourteous and rude.

John went to church for supper tonight.

Dr. Hagan dressed Papa's leg.

Thursday, February, 10, 1949

No calls today -- didn't have to go back to Halleck.

It was very windy today. I went on in to the Library and to Sears Roebuck's to look at chests (no go on latter) before I met the Scouts at the Courier-Journal Building (new one). We went through .

Mrs. Keefer, Claudine, Dorothy Luckett and I came on home in the car with Knottie and Ann. The other girls rode the bus.

Stella told Mother yesterday that she has a lump on her breast and has to have an operation.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 11 through February 17, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, February 18, 1949

Papa, Mother and I had a nice surprise today. Jim Sidebottom came from Lexington about eleven, stayed for lunch with us. He brought us home-canned beans, lima beans, beets, okra, corn, soup mix, jelly, relish and asparagus.

Jane had her first "baby sitting" job tonight at Mrs. Weir's. She got paid \$1.00.

John and I went to the Speet party at the library. I took one gallon of coffee. On the way over, I stopped at St. Joseph's to see Stella. She had company -- Mrs. Hickins (?) and the "woman back of her."

Her operation has been postponed until Monday. Her blood pressure was still 205.

(ed.- Entry for the date of February 19, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, February 21, 1949

Stella's operation was scheduled for this morning. I went over to the hospital on the bus at seven. She was asleep, under a sedative. The nurses said that she was on call, which meant that she might not go up to surgery until ten or eleven. At eight, John called me to say that I had a call for Halleck. Mrs. Lang was coming to stay with Stella, and so I went on. My classes were English for Mr. Burks. I called at my free period before eleven to speak to Mrs. Lang and the nurse said that she had gone home. What about Mrs. Schmidt's operation I asked. They said that they didn't operate but the nurse didn't know why.

I went by there this afternoon, and Stella said that it was her blood pressure again.

John and I went to a Georgetown get together at the Baptist Building tonight.

Tuesday, February 22, 1949

There were no schools [open] in the city today, but county schools were open. Jane accepted a call for me last night to go to Jeffersontown. I took the car. John went by the hospital on the bus, and promised to go at noon.

Mr. Priestley is the principal at Jeffersontown. I had only three classes -- one history and two English. The students were lovely.

I came back by home. William and Ama were there. I went on to the hospital to see Stella. Mrs. Lang and Mrs. Fenwick had been there. Stella was drowsy, yawning, but remembered that they had been there, but not John. I didn't stay long.

Tonight, David went to Scouts, John going too.

Jessie and Pattie were here tonight.

Wednesday, February 23, 1949

No calls today. Knottie and Bertha came in to see Papa as they went bowling. I made welfare calls all morning, went in to Wilderness Road and to get John a check book -- came back by to see Stella, bringing her daffodils (Oh yes-I had been to see Winnie too). Mrs. Lang was with Stella. I stayed until almost 4:30 -- came by the grocery, home, and went after John as Mr. Craig had given us tickets to "Hamlet." David insisted on going to the Brown as he wanted to see "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves."

Book 74- February 24,-March 26, 1949

Thursday, February 24, 1949

I went to the Scout meeting, riding the bus up there. So many of the girls were absent that our play rehearsal did not go very well. Mrs. Tritt came in late and brought us home.

When I got home (with chop suey ingredients) Mother was already fixing sausage and other things for supper because John had to be back at six. I was fussy, to my regret.

I went with John to see Stella (He didn't get out) -- found her getting along all right. The Bullucks came to see her, and I came home with them.

Friday, February 25, 1949

I had the car in the morning -- bought groceries, but had no time to go to see Stella. I took the car to John at one, was going to ride the bus home, but Mrs. Bowman brought me all the way.

I wrote Mr. Purdy a special delivery about Stella.

Jane went to Teen-Age Club tonight wearing Ann Klusmeier's plaid skirt.

John took David to Covered Bridge (ed.-Scout camp).

(ed.- Entry for February 26, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, February 27, 1949

We went to S.S., Jane and I staying for church (David was at Covered Bridge). John coming back to the hospital to see about Stella's blood transfusion-whether he can give it in five weeks, etc.

We hurried through dinner, as John was supposed to be out at Covered Bridge at two to get the boys he took out.

Yesterday and today were sunny for camping but Friday night was very cold. When David got home he said that he slept cold Friday night. He had only his sleeping bag and one Army blanket. Last night he slept warmer as he slept in his coat and two pairs of socks, and Dr. Lovell gave him an extra blanket.

He lost only one of my old silver knives (not one of a set) and his Boy Scout knife (the latter, I later found in his sleeping bag).

We had no company all day. I told Papa that he had established a record.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 28 through March 3, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, March 4, 1949

I had to go back to Jeffersontown today. [ed. – to substitute teach]

After school I came directly home. Jane went to Teen Age Club tonight taking Jean. John took them out -- Mrs. Peterson was bringing them back.

John and I went to the Lambda Chi "sweetheart" dance as official chaperones. Before we left David went over to Billy Delph's to a movie, but was back before we left. Mrs. Williams and Suzy came to see Papa and Mother.

I wore my black taffeta and white jacket. The Lambda Chis gave me a corsage. We stood in the receiving line a long time. About 1200 were there. The dance was at the Henry Clay, and both ballrooms were used.

We stayed until after one -- stopped at the Hollywood (Bowl) on the way home for hamburgers.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 5 through March 15, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, March 16, 1949

I hadn't expected to teach today, but Mrs. Lassiter called me, and I went to Valley for social studies for Mr. Collett -- drove out.

When I came back I was expecting to go with John to look at refrigerators, but he couldn't go (ours is on the blink) and I went in to look at G.E.'s, Philcos, and the Coldspot.

John is at church tonight.

Thursday, March 17, 1949

I got a call to go to Halleck Hall for Miss Gilmore (English) this morning, but just as we had finished breakfast Mother fell and frightened us all to death.

It seems that everything turned black as she left the table, but she got to Papa's bed and then just crumpled down. Papa called and John, who was in the dining room, started to her, but didn't quite get to her before she went down. I was in the hall starting to call Barbara Steele.

Mother opened her eyes shortly -- asked for a pillow. As soon as she could, we put her on the daybed. John had called Dr. Coleman immediately, and he was here by eight. He examined her carefully, but could find no evidence of a stroke, he said. He said that she seemingly had fainted as the result of a shower of premature heart contractions. He prescribed bed rest for her for two days, and told her to take three of her heart capsules a day. She had just taken one -- thought that it had caused her to become ill -- didn't take another all day.

She did stay in bed. Papa was very quiet and worried about her.

I called Mr. Bell and told him I couldn't come. I am so thankful that I had not left.

I did go to Scout meeting after David came home, leaving David in charge. Winnie was back for the first time.

John went ahead and bought a new G.E. Refrigerator at noon- at Leonhardt Appliances (Guthrie). He got an 8-cu. Foot for \$329.00, with \$55.00 off for our old refrigerator. He wanted to get the new 2-door model, but I didn't feel that we had that much frozen stuff. They delivered it this afternoon before I started to Scouts. The old one was so heavy that they left it on the back porch until morning when a third man could be with them. It was leaking gas.

We all loved the refrigerator.

John had to make some church calls tonight. I didn't go to Great Books.

Mother said that she felt quivery afterwards, but thinks she is better tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 18 through March 22, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, March 23, 1949

I put the third and last coat of shellac on the steps today. I also went down to Ben Snyder's to get the muslin for the Scouts' aprons.

A.J. came out about four. We had meat loaf and chocolate pie for supper, then he, John and I went up to see Ruth. He stayed here tonight.

Thursday, March 24, 1949

A.J. went over to the hospital before 7:30. John and I followed almost immediately. They had taken Ruth up to surgery when we got there.

Finley Gibson III was critically injured in an automobile accident Tuesday night, and is directly across the hall from Ruth. He is unconscious, and has broken legs.

Ruth was up at surgery 1 hour, 40 minutes. After we saw that she was all right, we came on. John let me have the car. I came home and painted -- waxed steps -- then went to see Stella, who has to stay 12 more days -- before I came back to Scout meeting.

A.J. went home this afternoon. Martha and Hazel had come on the bus. Martha went home with A.J. and Hazel stayed with Ruth.

John went up there a while tonight after his church calls.

Friday, March 25, 1949

I painted all day, doing the radiator in D.P.'s room, the cabinet in upper hall -- and the risers and sides on the upper bracket of steps. I was really tired.

Tonight John and I went to see Ruth. She feels better. The Gibson boy has more encouraging signs.

Saturday, March 26, 1949

My 45th birthday

John and the children gave me two pretty rhinestone scatter pins. Mother had given me ten dollars. I met David and took him to Levy's -- brought a dark red corduroy jacket out -- but it was \$14.95, and I think it is too high -- and we believe it is too large.

I made myself a birthday cake this afternoon. Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann ate chop suey with us, also ice cream and cake.

I gave Grover a rose.

A.J. is with us again tonight. Rain.

Book 75-March 27-April 23, 1949

Sunday, March 27, 1949

Papa's and Mother's 59th Anniversary

Gladys Corley sent Papa and Mother a small potted ivy yesterday afternoon, and a camellia to Mother (red, from Grover).

I had cooked picnic ham yesterday afternoon thinking maybe A.J. and the children would be here for dinner, but they didn't come.

We had frozen lemon pie for dessert.

In the afternoon we took the children and went to see Ruth. Her parents, 4 sisters (two of their husbands), A.J., Mary Lou, John, and several assorted other people were there.

I slipped down to see Mrs. Poppell a moment.

We were afraid Ruth was having too much company.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 28 through March 30, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, March 31, 1949

Bertha Miller called me about Ann and Scouts for this afternoon. It developed that Knottie had to go to the hospital last night, and had an emergency operation at 3 A.M. this morning at St. Anthony's. She was out at school yesterday afternoon and came home and had an attack of terrible pain at five o'clock -- writhed in agony until Dr. got there at ten. He said that he must get her to the hospital right away.

They operated at three, found that adhesions from a previous operation had caught the intestines.

At 20 of 9 Mr. Lassiter called me for English (Miss Korfhage). John had the car, but came for me. I went on to Valley.

After school I went to Scouts -- at church.

John and I went up to St. Anthony's tonight -- saw Mrs. Tritt [Knottie] briefly, but did not talk to her. From there we went over to see Ruth.

Friday, April 1, 1949

No calls! I went to University Women's Club, left early, took car, went to town to see John's suit, go to Sears Roebuck's to exchange pins (one was unsoldered), etc.

Tonight John and I had dinner at church- Jr. Baraca Class. We didn't have time to go by St. Anthony's, but saw Ruth briefly.

Jane went home with Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann to Logansport this afternoon for the weekend.

Saturday, April 2, 1949

I had the Morris paper cleaners this morning. They charged \$13.00 to clean all the downstairs paper (\$3.00 for the living room, and hall, \$2.00 each for dining room, den and kitchen.

I have been busy cleaning all day -- the mess they made.

John went to the hospital this afternoon to see A.J. and Ruth before they started home. He stopped to see Mrs. Tritt. She was awfully sick -- had a nurse. He stayed with her while the nurse went down to get glucose.

I was tired tonight but John wanted to wash and did so on his own.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 3 through April 5, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, April 6, 1949

I painted today, but stopped to go out to Mrs. Malee's meeting of the Scouts at school -- practice for next Tuesday's Scout program. Mrs. Miller was there and said that Knottie is really in critical condition -- that a supervisor of nurses at St. Anthony's bowled with her today.

I came home and made a devil's food cake and sent some over to Mrs. Knott.

I bit [ed. was convinced to buy] on some moth killer today from a man who said that he was Mr. Woodall at the Milner Hotel, but, I found that he isn't even registered there.

Mr. Bell called to ask if I can go to Halleck Hall next Wednesday and Thursday for Miss Green in art.

Thursday, April 7, 1949

John called me to say that he had tried to reach Mr. Tritt, but had been told that he was not at the office -- that his wife was worse and he was at the hospital.

I took some vegetable soup over to Mrs. Knott's. Bertha Miller had just returned from the hospital. Knottie had been under an oxygen tent, is having her sixth blood transfusion today.

I came home and called Bertha, as she was evidently holding back the true picture for Mrs. Knott's sake. She said that Knottie was really worse. I painted and went to Scouts, but was heavy-hearted.

Afterwards, John picked me up and we went to the hospital. Mr. Tritt wasn't there. The nurse said that she was a little better. However she was irrational. I asked the nurse if she would like for me to stay with her while she went to supper. I sat in the room, but she was under a hypo and didn't open her eyes or see me. She was talking in her sleep, but what she said was indistinguishable.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 8 through April 10, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, April 11, 1949

John went to church last night. While he was gone, Mrs. Bulluck called to say that Mrs. Knott passed away of a heart attack at 4:00 in the afternoon. She had been to mass yesterday morning, and to the hospital to see Knottie. Her daughter from Dale and Ted were there with her when the end came very suddenly. She was such a frail little person, and had had several illnesses within the last year. It will be such a dreadful shock for Knottie. We went over to see Mr. Tritt. He has had such a week.

I had received a call from Atherton last night before Rose called -- social studies for Miss Sweeney.

I went by to give a dollar to Mrs. Bulluck on flowers for Mrs. Knott.

After school, I went to the Frances Flower Shop where I bought an Easter Lily for the Scouts to give Knottie, and a small girl [ed. pottery] for me to give her. I went by the hospital to see how she was. She saw me and beckoned to me to come in, but I dared not stay for fear that she would ask me about her mother.

Ted called tonight to say that he had told Knottie, and that she wants Ann to go to the funeral at Dale, so she cannot be on the P.T.A. program.

(ed.- Entry for the date of April 12, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, April 13, 1949

I had accepted a call last week from Mr. Bell for art (Miss Green) at Halleck. It was senior division, and very easy teaching, as the girls had their own projects.

I went into town afterwards to get some material to make Jane a gown for her Washington trip. I rushed home as Mrs. Williams, Carl and Suzy came over to eat chop suey with us for supper.

I failed to mention that Stella came back to Mr. Duncan's on Monday -- was up here that day.

(ed.- Entry for the date of April 14, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, April 15, 1949

No school in city schools today. Jane got excused early from school and went to church twice in town-with Ann Klusmeier.

I went over to Knottie's (she came home yesterday), taking her family a chocolate pie.

I went to town between 12 and 2 -- finally getting Jane's gown material (pink batiste).

We're out of coal, it is really cold, but we can keep the kitchen and Papa's room warm with the kitchen stove, and the gas heater warms the living room.

No Teen Age Club tonight because of Good Friday.

We got groceries -- ham.

(ed.- Entry for the date of April 16, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, April 17, 1949

Easter Sunday

We went to the early church service (8:30), then came home after the offering had been taken at the second service.

No one came all afternoon.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 18 and 19, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, April 20, 1949

We gave Jane another shot (ed. penicillin) last night.

Last night was the big night when the Scouts gave their play, "The Hole in the Sock". Jane was Princess Laughter, David was a page. It was very good, although there was a bad moment at the last when the record wouldn't play (Dancing with the Dolly with the Hole in her Stocking".

I was home at 20 of 9. Mother was all right.

Today was the big day. Jane went to school against our better judgment, but Mrs. Collings sent all home who were going to Washington and New York. I tried to get her to sleep, but I don't think that she ever did.

I went to the grocery store during the morning, to Woolworth's, and back by Knott's (I had the car).

We (Jane, David and I) left about 20 of 4 and went by to get Roberta and her mother. We then picked up John.

We got in a traffic jam on Broadway, and had to rush at the last. Miss Pottinger had six -- Jane, Roberta, Jo Ann Skiles, a Stowe boy, Ann Tritt and Patty Dannenfelser.

David Daulton was in the same car with them. Maleva went last year.

D.P. felt rather depressed about not going, particularly since Larry Allgeier and Jimmy Bulluck from this street went.

Most of the Prestonia youngsters went to New York. That train pulled out just ahead of the Washington train.

Jane had date-nut cake. After much discussion, she took my bag.

We brought Mrs. Jones home.

(ed.- Entry for the date of April 21, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, April 22, 1949

Beautiful day. I had started cutting out a dress for myself last night -- worked on it today, transplanted some things.

Sergeant Mike was killed this morning by a policeman on a motorcycle. He was a sweet dog. We kept him when they were waiting for their house.

I went over on Teal this afternoon (Knottie's, Richardson's-3118, Rickenbacker's and Williams'). It was the first time I had been in the house. It sent no particularly pangs through me. Mrs. Richardson gave me some plants, and Mrs. Rickenbacker some chrysanthemums.

I am "flooeey" tonight. John went to the Speed (ed. Speed School) party without me.

Saturday, April 23, 1949

We had asked Dr. Coleman to come see Papa and Mother today. I ached, and D.P. had an ingrown nail. However, D.P. got tired waiting for Dr. Coleman and went on to the Y.

Dr. Coleman saw me first -- said that there "wasn't any such animal" as something which would make me all right by tomorrow -- told me that if I would stay in bed and do nothing for three days that I could go to see Jane in the flag ceremony at P.T.A. (State Convention) Monday night. He gave me a shot of penicillin in the hip.

He told Mother that she needed vitamins, gave her a prescription.

John and D.P. went to the grocery store. I had given D.P. a note to get Mother some panties at Woolworth's, but they didn't have her size, and I later sent them up to the local five and ten. (ed. - 5 and 10 cent store).

Book 76- April 24-July 1, 1949

Sunday, April 24, 1949

This was the morning I was supposed to go to the train to meet Jane, but of course couldn't. Mrs. Kuhl taught my S.S. class.

John and David went to S.S., and then were going on to meet Jane's train at 11:10, then come back by Heitzman's to get Mother's birthday cake.

It was good to see Jane. She came in to my room bringing all the accumulation of souvenirs she had brought back -- mostly cards, pictures and booklets. She brought four little pin trays, and I told her to give two of them to Granny. She brought a small pennant also, which David wanted, and she didn't give him.

She said that they had a marvelous time. Her cold didn't bother her after she left home -- or at least after the first night. She said that the meals on the train were good, but "pukey" at the hotel. She roomed with Roberta, JoAnn Skiles and Pattey Dannenfelser. Ann Tritt was put on another floor (two floors down) with three girls she didn't know. They all stayed at the Annapolis Hotel. Jane failed to take her camera with her the first day when they went to Annapolis, but did make one roll of pictures. She said that she didn't know how to change the roll, or would have made more.

A group from Murray and Hopkinsville were with them in their sight-seeing buses.

I had asked Thelma and Harris to stop by here to eat birthday cake with Mother this evening. I finally got hold of Cousin Mary late in the afternoon and asked her and Cousin Ray to come, bringing Cousin Frank. We kept it a surprise from Mother, leaving her cake in the car.

Mother went ahead and prepared supper for the folks, not knowing about the surprise. The Trues came before they had eaten. I listened to everything from up in my room.

Cousin Ray's folks didn't come until seven. Jane made coffee and served them. David and Peggy ate in the kitchen, I think. Thelma brought Mother a box of candy.

After the surprise, David rushed to Eddie's to a movie.

None of the folks stayed very long.

Monday, April 25, 1949
Mother's 79th Birthday

I stayed in bed this morning, but came down to the davenport some. John was to go to Columbus, and came home about two. I got up to drive him to the airport. We went by school and got the children. I didn't walk much. The plane motor seemed to backfire badly. We came on home and I went back to bed.

Jane ironed her uniform as she was to carry the flag tonight in the opening session of the state P.T.A. convention. I got up to take her. The family really didn't want me to go very much. I did seem to be developing a head cold, and felt miserable accordingly. Jane carried the Christian flag and a Boy Scout named Lawrence Booth carried the American flag. He led the salute to the flag.

We slipped away while they were singing "My Old Kentucky Home".

Mother received an angel food (ed.-cake) today from Cousin Ettie in Norwood.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 26 through April 30, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, May 1, 1949

Neither John nor I went to S.S. and church.

I should remark that last night was the P.T.A. carnival at school. Mrs. Klusmeier took the children out. I took a quick look-see out there between 5:30 and 6, but didn't work between 4:30 and 8:30 in Girl Scout booth as I was supposed to. John and I drove out to get the children as I was so nervous.

The children came home on the bus -- after communion. We have all been at home all afternoon. It has been rather somber -- rained a little.

Mother talked to Jessie tonight. She had been home -- said Ermine had been over -- that everyone was disappointed because Papa and Mother did not come home.

Monday, May 2, 1949

Beautiful day! Mother and I washed again -- her things today. Miss Weber gave me some plants which I put out. In fact I worked in the yard a lot today.

Stella came over this morning. She is having a lot of indigestion -- is going back to the doctor this afternoon.

Jane had her music lesson. David played over on Dove at Brent Martin's and at the Walker's. He played with Larry tonight and when he came in said that the back of his head hurt, and his chest.

Papa has been on the front porch a whole lot today.

(ed.- Entry for the date of May 3, 1949 is not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, May 4, 1949

I awakened early. David was also awake and when he went to the bathroom developed a little chill. It was a great disappointment to me, but it was better to keep David at home and doctor him as he needed to be, particularly since he is supposed to sing tomorrow with the boys special chorus.

David couldn't come to breakfast. I was blue.

The morning was lovely though, and everything went into the car beautifully. John drove it up right in front of the steps, put the things in the trunk which Mother had packed, then had Papa get in Mrs. Klusmeier's white rocker so that he could pack his wheel chair. He took it apart and put it on the back seat of the car.

It wasn't hard to get Papa in the car. John placed the wide board we have been using for a ramp for him from the running board of the car straight across to the step it reached on a level. Then we pulled Papa backwards in Mrs. Klusmeier's chair down the steps to the board, turned him around, and he got right into the car. Mother rode in the back seat. We were able to send everything -- even the smoking stand, small table, and so on.

Papa indicated this morning that they might sell their house and come back to be with us.

They left at 25 of 9. I told David that they should be home by 10:30.

I started plying him with liquids on the hour. I worked outside a great deal -- am getting the [flower] beds in better order.

Before the day was over David was supersaturated. I rested my two hours, but didn't sleep.

About 4:30 John got home. He said the homegoing was wonderful -- at least 50 people had been in to see them, and they had a kind of pantry shower for them, probably instigated by Cousin Ola, who gave them a ham. Roy gave \$5.00, Nell a piece of shoulder. Different ones had brought sugar, coffee, eggs, canned goods.

Even the electricity and water had been connected. John didn't have as much to do as he expected. He did put the chains over Papa's bed for him himself up by.

John went to prayer meeting tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 5 and 6, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, May 7, 1949
Derby Day

Jane and I went to town -- bought her some white sandals at Byck's, bought patterns for a formal and her lavender dress.

When we got home John had finished trimming hedge -- was washing windows and putting up screens.

We all went over to the Black's to watch the running of the 75th Kentucky Derby on television (for the first time in Louisville). Ponder (Calumet Farms) won, leaving Olympia, the favorite in 6th place. The Blacks (Mr. and Mrs.) had gone to the Derby but the grandfather and Eddie were there, and the Wehrs were there -- and the Dutscke children.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 8 through May 16, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, May 17, 1949

This was the big day -- Jane's graduation. I should mention that yesterday was her last day in school at Prestonia. She was here this morning.

Bertha had come, and had a huge ironing to do.

When Jane got ready, I made two pictures of her. We took Ann Klusmeier and her aunt. I found that David could go in Jim Hart's father's place, so took his clothes to him, had him change at Betty Nichol's and go.

The girls looked lovely. They all wore pastel shades -- pinks, yellows, lavenders, whites (mostly). The boys looked nice, but were probably uncomfortable, as the day was scorching in that Quonset hut auditorium.

The Glee Club sang and were awarded pins for three years in the Glee Club, but they have really been singing for Miss McBride since they were in the fourth grade (Miss Bishop's room). Margaret played her original composition.

Rev. Schafer spoke, and gave them some very worthwhile thoughts, such as putting laziness behind them.

When it was over, the P.T.A. gave a party for them in the auditorium. John and David had gone on, as John had to go to the office. I waited for them with Mrs. Klusmeier. They received autograph books and had to get autographs.

When we got back on Widgeon, I made a picture of Janet, Ann Ora, Beverly, Shirley, Ann and Jane.

Bertha had finished all the ironing, and had gone over the house.

Piano Recital (Gladys') tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 18 through May 19, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, May 20, 1949

This was the big day of the Teen Age Club. Jane was in a stew yesterday because Preston Williamson wanted to take her to the dance. He even told her that he was sending her a corsage. By calling Don Roberts, she finally enlisted his aid to get Preston to cancel the order.

David got off to the Camporee this afternoon, John driving him and some of the boys over to the Clark County Forest at Henryville, Indiana.

Jane got in a state about her corsage, but finally wore one I made. Mrs. Klusmeier drove Jane, Ann, Janet and Ann Ora out.

When John got home we went by the flower show at a quarter of nine and then went on out to the Teen Age Club. The girls looked very pretty. I don't think Jane had as good a time as she would have had if she had invited Craig, as I wanted her to do.

Mrs. Klusmeier took them to the drug store afterwards. [ed. - drug stores had soda fountains so it was common to end an evening with a soda or ice cream treat.]

The party broke up at 10:30.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 21 through May 25, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, May 26, 1949
Jane's 14th birthday

Mother had given me money for a gift for Jane, and I bought her a raincoat. We gave her the bicycle basket. I also had a book for her (review book). By the way, I mailed my last reviews yesterday.

I had the car this morning. I shopped for a pinafore for Winnie's baby, came home and made Jane's cake.

Some girls came to eat birthday cake with her. They were Margaret, Ann Summerford, Ann Tritt, Ann Klusmeier, and Janet. We also had ice cream and ginger ale.

Afterwards I took them to the Scoop to see an Eskimo picture and "The Housekeeper's Daughter".

Tonight I went to Great Books and then to church to hear part of the Seminary choir program.

D.P. went to a Drive-in with the Bullucks.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 27 through May 28, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, May 29, 1949

We got up early and left for Owenton at eight. Papa was sitting in the yard shelling pecans when we got there. Mother looked better than she did two weeks ago. She had cooked part of her old ham in spite of my bringing a picnic ham.

After dinner, we were going to the cemetery, but people started coming. Ermine came, also Jim and Birdie and Charlie and Esther -- then Dan Morgan and Cousin Carrie.

Before Jim and Bird left (They brought Mother two chickens and a lot of other things) Ruth, Martha, Aunt Sue and children came. David went home with Johnnie to spend the night.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 30 through June 29, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, June 30, 1949

This was John's last day as co-ordinator.

I was home all day sewing (odd work) [ed. – odd meaning odds and ends, unfinished projects]/ D.P. had lunch at Jim Bulluck's.

My two hats were delivered from Stewart's. Mrs. Klusmeier came over.

A very hot week!

We went to a drive-in theatre at Hike's Lane and Bardstown Road tonight-saw Hope and Crosby in "The Road to Rio". Ann Tritt and Eddie Black -- also Tote -- went with us.

Friday, July 1, 1949

This was John's first day as registrar. He feels now, I think, that he is at last getting recognition after twenty years at the University. There are 17 girls in that office and with the two that he moves over from the Veteran's Office next week, he will have 19.

Jane went to Bible School, and on to Mrs. Nuckol's for a picnic -- D.P. went in town to a movie with Jim Bulluck.

Knottie and I went to town and arranged our window display -- very effective we thought. Lunched in Stewart's basement. I bought a gray dress at Bennet's.

Bible School commencement tonight -- Jane carried Bible.

Book 77- July 2-August 30, 1949

Saturday, July 2, 1949

We finally got started for Owenton in the late afternoon. We first decided to take Puss (against John's wishes) then left him here.

We reached home about 6:30. Mother wouldn't let us kiss her because of the heat.

She told us what they hadn't written us -- that two little girls (Mrs. Link's grandchildren) had pulled Papa's wheel chair over backwards when he was in it. Fortunately he was sitting in front of some evergreens and fell into those, but an upturned brick cut a hole in the back of his chair. He wasn't hurt.

John went uptown to Kroger's for Mother.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 3 through August 14, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, August 15, 1949

This has been a busy day. I washed the last of the things to take (ed.- trip to eastern U.S.), and then went to town to get a nylon blouse, a Courier (newspaper) for Betsy and other things.

When I got home I ironed and finished the packing.

Thelma, Harris and Peggy came after diner bringing Stella Ruscher. They didn't stay long, as it was raining and they knew that we had to take Toto to Mrs. Neal's kennel at Jeffersontown. We hated to leave Toto.

Tuesday, August 16, 1949

We wanted to get up at four, so I of course got awake at two and couldn't go back to sleep. I got up at 3:30, and we got away at 5:20.

Knowing that we had to reach Eloise's (ed.-northeast Ohio) for supper we had to push on right speedily. From Warsaw to Cincinnati we had rain. I mailed Mother a short note from Cincy. We lost an hour there (ed.- time change).

We ate our sandwiches at a roadside park before Columbus. As we neared the Cleveland area we realized that they had daylight saving time and that we had lost another hour. We went around Cleveland to avoid traffic.

At Mantua Corners, I called Eloise. We went on up 44 to Painesville, then drove about seven miles to Perry.

We could hardly wait to get there. As we had expected, they have a very big house. Teddy, Linda and Ed were there, also Mrs. Salkeld, Ed's mother.

We had a wonderful dinner -- beef roast, potatoes, corn on the cob, vegetable salad, gravy, iced tea, fresh peaches and delicious cake.

The children watched television. Eloise's father and stepmother came over to see us. We went to bed at midnight.

Wednesday, August 17, 1949

Up at 8:20, breakfast. Eloise had to go in to her shop. I went along in the truck with her. I bought her food for our picnic lunch while she worked and had a chance to make \$5.00 for her out of her change (gave a man her five, he gave me change for ten). Wasn't dishonest though -- told him. Wrote some cards.

Eloise and I went home. I looked at Mrs. Salkeld's flowers, Eloise cooked the wieners, and then we drove to the lake at North Perry beach. John, the four children and the cocker, Chipper (their cat is Tippy) went in, but Eloise, Ed and I didn't. The water was icy-- sky overcast, no sun. Eloise and I waded, froze our feet.

We came out, ate at a picnic table overlooking the lake. It was about three.

Then we drove home, made a picture of Mrs. Salkeld, packed our things in car, and departed. Eloise and Linda begged us to stay. We drove by Cousin Gus' on way, saw his wife. Ed and the children went that far.

As we drove on U.S. 20, it started raining -- rained hard. We passed acres of grapes -- went through Westfield, grape center of the world -- saw Welch and Keystone places. We bought some fresh grape juice, also peaches.

We ate at Fredonia, N.Y. but I had a stomach ache and took only a soda.

We drove on looking for a place to stay. It was pouring. We stopped at some cabins, but they wanted \$7.00 for a very inferior double cabin with no toilet (had to go to brick house). I wouldn't stay -- family down on me. Next cabins, none available. Stopped at tourist home, took only truckers -- stopped at another, found woman who took us to Methodist parsonage where family was away. We had a double bed and a cot in little girl's room. Jane, David and I slept on bed, John on cot. We paid \$4.00 (3 for bed, 1 for cot). Two young men slept downstairs. Still had stomach ache.

Thursday, August 18, 1949

We didn't get up until after eight, ate breakfast in Silver Creek, N.Y. -- table at front window.

We are taking U.S. 5 instead of 20, so that we can cross Peace Bridge into Canada and see Falls (ed.-Niagara) from Canadian side.

It was no trouble going through customs. We viewed the Canadian Falls, went in and looked at souvenirs and then took a trip down into the tunnels, putting on boots and mackintoshes and going to three progressive look-outs. At the third one, the spray was so bad that we could scarcely look. It was right under the Falls.

We went back up. I bought an English plate, some post cards and D. P. got a pennant. We then walked down to a restaurant and ate fish dinners which were flops and cost us \$3.30. We then got the car and drove down around the flower gardens, and went to see a power plant at Queenston -- very large, but equipment obsolete, John said.

We came back and took the Maid of the Mist trip, again wearing oilskin slickers.

We then drove across the Rainbow bridge to the American side, and viewed the American Falls from close at hand.

We ate at a grill in Niagara Falls -- children and I had beef sandwiches with gravy, John had veal roast.

We couldn't decide whether to drive on, but finally went back to see the Canadian Falls from the American side, and finally waited until 8:45 to see the lights on.

We stayed at a tourist home (Aubert's) on Rhode Island Avenue in Niagara Falls.

Friday, August 19, 1949

We had borrowed Mrs. Aubert's alarm clock set for 10 of 5. We left at 20 of 6, ate breakfast in Batavia. We changed routes at Geneva cutting down southeast toward N.Y. instead of going by Albany, which would have taken too long.

We had lunch at Binghamton in the Community Coffee Shop. All along the way, David had a wonderful time throwing out peaches we bought in New York and watching them splatter.

In the early afternoon we have been driving in the Catskills on Route 17.

We were amazed as we were coming into the lower foothills to come to a resort area -- at Liberty and then at Monticello -- people swarming the streets in shorts and slacks.

We decided to leave U.S. 17 and go over to Newburgh in order to come down the Hudson past West Point. Shortly after we drove off U.S. 17, we almost had a dreadful accident. The road was uneven and had been widened by a kind of hard shoulder different from the middle of the road. Our 1940 Chevrolet hit it at a fast pace and John lost control. We were weaving crazily and it seemed that nothing could keep us from hitting two white posts on the side. Thankfully John got it under control. We were all weak.

As we approached nearer to Ridgewood we became more and more excited. We went through a rural area, shady road, very pretty. When we did reach Ridgewood, we found Bogert Avenue right away. It was really fun to drive up.

Lassie was in the yard. Betsy appeared first, then Martha. Betsy hadn't changed. It was wonderful to see them. Jean hadn't yet come home, but arrived at 6:45. We had gotten there at 6:30.

We had a marvelous supper-salmon loaf, Virginia ham, green beans, peach shortcake.

Afterwards I dried the dishes for Betsy, showed pictures to her, we all looked at television, and talked and talked.

The Roberts' house is so nice, so beautifully kept. Jean and Betsy slept in the attic, John and I in their room, Jane with Martha, David in a small den.

Saturday, August 20, 1949

We had breakfast shortly after eight. The Roberts took us for a drive to Ridgewood's business section. Then we went home, and our family and Martha dove to New York. I should mention that before we left I had a letter from Mother, which relieved my mind somewhat about them, although it was written Wednesday.

We had thought that we would go first to the Statue of Liberty, but couldn't make the 12 o'clock boat, so went up in the Empire State Building first. It was a wonderfully clear day, and the visibility was 20 miles. We could see the whole layout of Manhattan Island. Three elevators are ridden to reach the top. We made some pictures and talked with a nice Englishman who said that his name was Leeming.

When we came down we waited while John went to move the car -- then went to an Automat to eat. We had sandwiches, pie and coffee. It was in the basement of Macy's.

We then went to the car and drove down to the Battery to go out to the Statue of Liberty. Our time was running out to make the three o'clock boat, but we finally found a place to park and had about two or three minutes to get over to the boat. Just as John was going to the ticket window, Jane screamed "Janet" and fell into the arms of Janet Bierbaum. The Bierbaums, on our street, left on Saturday for New York before we left on Tuesday. Jane had hoped to see Janet at Rockefeller Center -- rather at the Empire State Building -- but I had laughed at the idea. Here were all the Bierbaums, also their son Bob and his wife, all just getting off the Statue of Liberty boat. We all grinned like Cheshire cats, but had only a minute to talk, as we didn't want the boat to go without us. They are leaving Monday.

We drove about to see Wall Street, then went on out to Ridgewood, reaching there before 6:30. Betsy had a delicious roast, apple sauce with ice cream and cake, everything wonderfully good.

After dinner we looked at television, talked, and two of Martha's friends, Sally Ingram and Betty Ann _____ came over to meet Jane at Martha's invitation. They had sodas in Martha's room.

Sunday, August 21, 1949

We had breakfast shortly after eight, and then Jean drove us out and around the stables where Martha took riding lessons all spring.

When we returned we decided to drive on to New York and have dinner when we return tonight. We went by way of the George Washington Bridge and stopped at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. It is a truly impressive edifice. We were there for the conclusion of a service, and took part of a conducted tour, but because of time limitation could not finish it, since the conductor was going in every one of fourteen bays and talking about them. The jewels studding the book of contributors were beautiful.

We left there and drove on down Fifth Avenue. We went to Chinatown and the Bowery and the characters we saw to me were material for books, so colorful were they. Coming back we came through the Lincoln Tunnel and drove up the Jersey side to get the view from there of New York's skyline.

When we reached home Betsy had another delicious meal with more Smithfield ham, ending with ice cream and strawberries.

Tonight we saw a play, "Pretty Little Parlor" on television -- and talked. We never get through.

Monday, August 22, 1949

We had another wonderful breakfast, after Jean had eaten. We had decided to stay over today and take the children to Coney Island, but didn't feel that I should let Betsy prepare

another sumptuous dinner for us, so we arranged to come on back about nine or ten and eat blueberry pie with the Roberts.

We didn't take Martha as she had been to Coney Island in May.

At Betsy's suggestion we drove to the George Washington Bridge and left the car in a parking lot. We rode the bus over the bridge (10 cents each) -- toll for the car and us would have been 50 cents -- walked a block and caught a subway train at 175th Street to Times Square.

There we walked to another subway line (about a block) and took a subway train to Coney Island. It really took a long time to go. We crossed the bridge and after being in Brooklyn for a while, came on top of the ground. When we reached Coney Island, we found it not so crowded as we had expected, and soon discovered that the Steeplechase which Betsy had recommended was closed on Mondays. There were other things to ride, but they said most of them did not open until around one.

Since it was nearing twelve, we ate first, at a Howard Johnson place.

Then we walked over and Jane and David took a ride on a boat which they steered themselves in water.

Next, after much deliberation, we rode the Wonder Wheel, about which I had told them in the past. It is a gigantic Ferris wheel with cages which swing out into space as the wheel spins. Jane wanted to ride it, but John and D.P. didn't. Finally we all rode it, D.P. was sick and asked to get off after the first circuit. I was personally glad to get off too.

Next they rode (Jane and David) on a small version of a roller coaster.

From there they went to a version of a Ghost House (or wonder house). As they came out Jane saw a 20-dollar bill. The operator went to investigate, and found it was play money.

Next they each piloted a car on an electrified field. After that we went over on the Boardwalk, and D.P. spent probably a dollar in a Penny Arcade.

Then, since nothing else was open, we decided to go on back to Rockefeller Center and see a show at Radio City Music Hall.

We had gotten on the Coney Island Subway at Times Square, but knew that we wanted to go as far as 49th Street, and thought we could stay on past 42nd, but everybody got off at 42nd except us. The engineer came through and said for us to wait that they would go right back to Times Square and we could transfer to a train which would take us to 49th Street. We did this and everything worked out all right.

We had meant to go in the theater at 4:30, but spent some time in some gift shops in the RCA building. We bought Martha a small dog and cat for her collection, two feathered bird

pictures for Betsy, a mosaic bracelet from Italy for Jane, some magic tricks for D.P., and a rooster and hen pepper and salt set for myself.

The picture was Judy Garland in "In the Good Old Summertime". It was funny but the really beautiful part was the stage show. There were jugglers, etc, but the Rockettes were breathtaking. The main theme was an under-water setting, and the illusion of water and filmy moving seaweed, etc. was really fascinating.

When we came out we ate in an Automat. (D.P. got a peanut butter sandwich) and we caught the subway train -- to 66th Street, I think it was where we got an express train to 175th Street.

When we got back to the Roberts' we were all in a big way with lots to tell each other. Betsy had blueberry pie with ice cream which was food for the gods. We talked late, but finally had to go to bed.

Tuesday, August 23, 1949

We got up before Jean left for work to make some pictures. We had another good breakfast with Betsy and Martha -- then packed our things in the car. It was hard to leave them, for they were wonderful hosts. Lassie is a very smart dog. She is a Shetland sheep dog.

When we left the Roberts', we drove on down the New Jersey side. I stopped at Lyndhurst to mail some cards, including one to Betsy giving her Aunt Bessie's address for forwarding purposes in case Stella writes me about Toto.

We ate lunch at a Howard Johnson place outside Philadelphia. John and I had fried clams, the children had hamburger rolls and French fried potatoes.

In downtown Philadelphia (they are getting ready for the American Legion convention next week), we drove to Independence Hall to view the Liberty Bell. Next we went to the Betsy Ross house, really quaint, and then to Christ Church at which George Washington worshiped, and which still has Washington's, Franklin's and Betsy Ross' pews -- also that of the sons of William Penn. We next went to the grave of William Penn in a graveyard that belongs to Christ Church.

Leaving Philadelphia, we drove to Baltimore and again ate at a Howard Johnson, this time at one on the side of Baltimore next to Washington.

We stopped at a tourist cabin and I agreed to take it at \$7.00. We had already taken our things in but were assailed by such an obnoxious odor (like a toilet) and also by swarms of gnats, that we left before we had paid.

It seemed doubtful that we would get anything, but at one set of cabins which had no vacancies, they said that they would rent us a room in their house with two double beds for \$4.00, so we took that.

Wednesday, August 24, 1949

We ate breakfast at _____ and reached the Fifes' apartment in Takoma Park in mid-morning. We had all plans for getting a place to stay tonight, but they insisted that they would have room for us even though Janie was there.

Claudine, Margaret and Janie went with us, and we visited the Capitol and the Supreme Court building. Claudine took us to lunch at the Allies Inn, a charming place where we dined on the terrace.

Afterwards we went to the National Archives Building, but had to wait so long for John (Claudine had gone home on bus) that we didn't do much else except to make a picture in front of the White House and visit Lincoln Memorial.

At the Fife's we had a delicious supper, then went to the Marine band concert in front of the Capitol, and then to the Congressional Library.

The three girls improvised beds in the living room, Sam and Claudine were in cots in the dining room and John, D.P. and I slept in the one bed.

Thursday, August 25, 1949

We had a good breakfast and packed our things. Claudine and the girls went back to Washington with us. We visited the Smithsonian Institution and Museum of Natural History. David enjoyed seeing the skeletons of the dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals.

We next went in the National Gallery of Art briefly. We took leave of the Fifes there. We were next going to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving but found that they were closed from 11:30 to 2, so went over to Arlington and visited the Lee Mansion, then went up to the Chapel to see Lorena's husband, who being a sergeant stationed at Ft. Meyer, was riding a horse in a military funeral there. His name is Jimmie Payne. I made a picture of him, and was going to make more when I was warned not to do so. We waited until the captain's body was brought out, then followed the procession to the grave. It was impressive -- the gun salute and taps.

From there we drove back to Washington and the children and I just got [in] under the wire at the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. John didn't get in as he had to park, but he had been there before.

We left there immediately but stopped to eat (I fussed at the others) at a place just on the outskirts of Washington. I took only a malted milk. The children had hamburgers.

We drove to Mt. Vernon -- stayed there a fairly brief time.

We left there and drove like mad, but in spite of gaining an hour, it was 6:30 when we reached Aunt Bessie's and she and Lorena were worried. We had more or less forgotten the road.

When we were some miles from there, just turned off the hard surface road on to what was actually a dirt road, a Mrs. Bickley who came out to see us said, "It's state highway all the way".

Aunt Bessie had ham, fried chicken, hot rolls, vegetables, apple pie and sweet potato pie.

Before we were finished, Henry Houchens, his wife and one son came to see us, and also Wesley Burton.

Friday, August 26, 1949

We (our family and Aunt Bessie) drove some miles this morning to go to the graveyard where John's paternal grandparents are buried. We had to walk some distance through tall weeds, then part brambles to reach the graves. However he was able by the markers to identify both graves. I made a picture of him by his grandmother's.

We came on back to Aunt Annie's. She is really pathetic in her upstairs bedroom, screen out, flies in, not to mention mud daubers. We got her to come downstairs and I made some pictures of her with John and Aunt Bessie.

We went home for lunch then drove to Louisa. John and Jane worked in the county clerk's office, and John succeeded in running to earth another of his ancestors. Aunt Bessie and all of us then went down to where Lorena works, then drove to the cemetery to Uncle Tom's grave. I forgot to say that we also went to Aunt Sis's grave this morning.

We came on back to the house, had supper (more ham and fried chicken, with ice cream and cake for dessert), then drove to the Southern States Co-operative District meeting in Louisa. John, Lorena and the children went to meet Lorena's husband, Jimmie. We were served ice cream at the co-operative, then went home and ate a large watermelon.

Saturday, August 27, 1949

We got up and left fairly early this morning, making pictures before we left. Aunt Bessie gave me a pretty table or luncheon cloth she had made from feed sacks and received a blue ribbon on. Lorena gave Jane three feed sacks for a dress.

We drove to Charlottesville and stopped to see Mrs. Detamore, Betsy's mother. I made her picture. She seemed pleased that we stopped. We then drove to Monticello and from there back to the University of Virginia, where we stopped briefly to see the Quadrangle, Library and Serpentine wall, against D.P.'s wishes.

We ate lunch at an inn near the University before leaving Charlottesville. In the afternoon we drove to Lexington and stopped at Washington and Lee at Lee's Chapel and Tomb -- again against the wishes of D.P.

Driving on fast, we came into the mountain section, ate supper at a small place where the rest rooms were evidently bad (I didn't see them). Darkness came on, and we continued to drive because we couldn't find a place to stay. We came down Hawk's Nest Mountain, knowing that Gauley Bridge was at the foot of the mountain on the New River. We pulled up to the small hotel there to enquire about a room. A state policeman came up to the car and asked John to let him see his driver's license and car registration. He asked him to get out of the car. John was stiff from driving and he asked him if he were crippled. He told him no, and he asked if he had been drinking. John satisfied him that he had not. The policeman said that we had been driving too much in the center of the road and holding up traffic by driving too slow. He suggested that we stay there as we might be picked up if we went on. When we went in the hotel the man there said it was usually those driving too fast who were intercepted.

We got a room with 1 and $\frac{3}{4}$ beds for \$6.00 -- and a bath.

Sunday, August 28, 1949

We ate breakfast at the coffee shop adjoining the hotel, then drove toward home.

We ate lunch in Morehead at the Eagle's Nest -- very good food. We bought some strained honey there for Papa and Mother (canned at Falmouth). Texaco had us routed through Paris and Georgetown. When we reached the latter place we were only 31 miles from Owenton, so took a quick run over to see how Papa and Mother were. Mrs. Yancey was there with them. Mother had some cold. She is getting ready to have the living and dining rooms papered -- showed us her paper.

The road from Gratz to Pleasureville has been done over, and is in excellent shape. We were home by 6:30 in spite of rain and coming by Jeffersontown for Toto. She was overjoyed to see us. We discovered that fleas were leaping from her, and had to bathe her in flea soap before we could let her stay in our house.

Monday, August 29, 1949

Our 21st wedding anniversary

This has been a full day. I washed most of the day, and in addition helped the children get the grass cut, which was very high.

Tonight John and I went to Norton Infirmary to see Margaret Jack who had an operation while were gone.

I forgot to say that Puss-in-Boots showed up this morning. Such talking and purring was never heard.

Tuesday, August 30, 1949

Bertha was here, today but said that she can't come next week, as here little girl has to start to school.

I straightened things today, and wrote Betsy tonight.

Last night John and I mailed 11 rolls of film to Ray's.

Book 78- August 31, 1949-November 22, 1949

Wednesday, August 31, 1949

Jane and I went to town, primarily to select a gift for Ann for taking care of Puss and watering the flowers. We got a silk scarf. Jane brought out a green corduroy suit from Besten's but liked a wine one better, I think. She went on home ahead of me.

Thursday, September 1, 1949

Jane registered at Highland Junior High this morning. It was cool. She wore her gray chambray with white piqué jacket, but also had to wear white coat.

She is in Miss Hagan's home room. No one that she knows is in the room to her distress.

She signed up last spring for Latin, algebra, English, science and clothing. For Latin she got Miss Fort, for algebra, Miss Altes, for clothing, Miss Duncan, for English, Miss Wahlston and for science, Miss Stacy Hall. Mr. Sanders had told me that Miss Hall is a good science teacher. I am glad that she got her.

I went up to school with them, as Mrs. Klusmeier drove and I went along.

When we got home, the girls went to town. Jane took the green suit back and got the wine one.

I canned peaches this afternoon.

I wrote Claudine, wrote Lorena and Aunt Bessie.

Tonight John and I went out to see Mrs. Perkins. He dropped us off at the Tritt's then came back by there for us and came in for a while. We compared notes on our trips, and looked at their pictures.

Friday, September 2, 1949

D.P. registered this morning. I kept the car, and Jane and I went out with him. We weren't there long. Chaos reigned. Eddie went out with us.

I came home and finished the peaches.

When Mrs. Klusmeier came home, she said that D.P. got the new teacher, Mr. Browning.

They are not having departmental at Prestonia this year.

Tonight John and I went to Steidens'.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 3, 1949 to September 17, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, September 18, 1949

Toto's puppies were here this morning-five little black and white ones. Their hair isn't long yet. In fact they look like her former puppies. They are all males. She had them on the cot under the train table, in spite of having three boxes by the furnace.

I had to go to S.S. even though the folks were coming. Jane, David and I came home after S.S., but John stayed at church, as they were making the deacons' picture after church. The folks were on the front porch -- Estell's family, A.J.'s, Uncle Will and Aunt Jettie, Aunt Sue and Thomas. I made coffee, packed the things in car and we left -- Jane going with the two cars to Iroquois, the three boys with me to church after John.

It had rained during S.S., but cleared. However, it was terrifically windy, and paper plates, napkins, even potato chips, sailed everywhere.

After lunch we went to the lookout to Standiford Field, and then home. They had to leave immediately.

Tonight John and I went to church.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 19, 1949 to September 27, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, September 28, 1949

I didn't have to teach. I took Tote and the puplets to Dr. Calldemeier and had their tails clipped -- a job I dislike. I then bought David a used pup tent (\$2.50) at the Army surplus store on East Market, and registered at more furniture stores, then bought Papa some initialed handkerchiefs (six of them) for his birthday. Then I came home and washed.

D.P. set his tent up when he came home. I went to church (picking up John) to help serve a workers' council supper. We stayed for prayer meeting. The children had hamburger sandwiches and ice cream.

Thursday, September 29, 1949

I drove out to school today, left the car, and drove to Jeffersontown with Mrs. Carl Breitenstein to help the P.T. A. can pears (government surplus). There were 75 boxes of them, and they were beautiful, gorgeous fruit. I worked until between 3:30 and 4 (We had sandwiches from the school lunchroom). Tonight my wrist was really tired.

Friday, September 30, 1949
Papa's 80th birthday

Stella was here. I did not have the car, so walked up to the corner to get a check cashed to pay her.

David left at five to go to Bernheim for the Boy Scout camporee. He went out with Dr. Lovell. John, Jane and I went to the P.T.A. fish supper. I took John on to school and came back for Jane. She I went to the U. of L.-Murray football game. U. of L. won 34-14.

Sample of our supper:

Fish sandwiches	20 cents
Potato salad	15 cents
Pie	15 cents
Coffee	5 cents

D.P. took his pup tent which I bought him.

Saturday, October 1, 1949

I made a flying trip down to Sutcliffe's, was ready to go to Owenton when William and Ama came after me. Jane and her dad were to eat chili tonight which I had cooked.

William had a dreadful cold.

Papa and Mother seemed about the same. Mother's rooms look much better, but the man who did Mother's ceiling in the dining room botched it.

The day has been lovely -- leaves getting pretty.

Ham for supper. Jessie took Papa and Mother for a drive.

Sunday, October 2, 1949

Another beautiful day! Opal has a new Studebaker and it was that in which Jessie took us for a drive yesterday.

A.J. and Ruth came last night -- brought me a chicken, a pound of butter and a dozen eggs.

Uncle Boy ate dinner with us. Mother had chicken.

This afternoon, Mrs. Toole, Corinne and Mrs. Otto Roland came to see Papa and Mother shortly before we left. I came back with Opal and Jessie. John met me at Preston and Oak.

John and Jane ate at the Blue Boar today and then went to camp after D.P. He (ed.- John) is at school tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of October 3, 1949 to October 21, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, October 22, 1949

The telephone rang at seven this morning, and it was Martha to say that Ray (ed.-John's brother-in-law) was killed last night in an automobile accident. She had just heard -- knew no particulars except that he was in a truck. They were going right on with A.J. and Ruth. John planned to go right on, but finally decided that since he had to go to the office first, he would go later. He called Martha back to tell her that. She said that Mrs. Alexander had heard on the radio that Ray burned to death.

We were in a state of upset all day. Jane was scheduled to go to Pat's for a club meeting and went on (to a show). I was scheduled to work with Mrs. Besten for the [Community] Chest and did so for a few hours. When I got home, David wanted to go see Walt Disney's "Ichabod", so I let him go.

John decided to wait and go tomorrow morning so we are all going. He talked to Martha at Mary Sue's neighbor's, this afternoon.

Sunday, October 23, 1949

We got up and left fairly early. The day was nice. We took sandwiches with us and stopped in Florence to eat them, buying Cokes there. We went first to Mary Sue's. Martha, Estell, Aunt Sue and Julie were there waiting for us to take us to the funeral home.

We followed Estell and got lost, but finally got to the funeral home about 2:00 their time. They had come to Cincinnati with Ray's body about one.

He was badly burned, but really had been made to look very nice. He was 29. Jerry was there, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Ford, George, his wife and son.

We took Mary Sue on up home about 4 or a little after so that we could see Kathy and Arlene. They were cute. I made their pictures. We didn't stay to eat. George and a friend of theirs came.

We stopped at a doughnut place in Covington and ate a bite. I called Mrs. Combs. Her daughter is married now, but still in school in Richmond. John is going back for Ray's funeral. They are to take his body to Springfield tomorrow and have the funeral at nine Wednesday morning.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of October 24, 1949 to October 28, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, October 29, 1949

I gave the puppy ad to the Courier yesterday afternoon and it started running this morning.

Mrs. Kerrick, the friend and neighbor of Mrs. Powell on Bardstown Road called me this morning to say that Buttons, Toto's puppy from last year's litter, was struck and killed in front of Mrs. Powell's home on Thursday. I had talked to Mrs. Powell earlier in the week, and she had said that there was not enough money in Louisville to buy Buttons and had told me how smart she was.

Jane went in with some of the Scouts to stuff T.B. seals this morning.

A number of people called in answer to the ad. Mrs. Kerrick and Mrs. Powell came out to see the puppies, but didn't take one. Mrs. Powell wants a male if she gets one, but is so distressed that she doesn't know what she wants.

Jim Bulluck ate supper here, and then David stayed all night with him.

Sunday, October 30, 1949

I had a headache and did not go to S.S. It was fortunate that I did not as a young couple came and bought One-Spot (pretty markings) and right after they left, a Mrs. Rausch (Texas) came and bought Black-face.

After we had dinner a family named Hamilton from St. Matthews came and bought Saddle. The puppies got shy as one after another was taken.

It started raining in the afternoon and no more people came. Jane went to church for a choir audition.

John and I went out beyond Fern Creek to the Webster's open house -- modernistic, glass-walled house. They had a Siamese cat and a big tiger one.

John took Jane to B.T.U. and he came back. [ed.- BTU, Baptist Training Union]

I stopped the ad.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of October 31, 1949 to November 5, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Sunday, November 6, 1949

We ran the ad again this morning. I went to S.S. (to the Junior Philathea Class for the first time in a very long time), but came on home before church. I received a number of calls and a family finally came just before John and the children came home from church (communion Sunday). They were the Svargs. The family arrived before they had decided. They took Teddy, the old cutie pie.

Judy came almost immediately to see which one they took, and took Chipper home with her. She was back with him later, sitting on the step when Mr. Orville Harrod called me from Frankfort and asked me to hold one. John and I promised to hold Chipper until tomorrow afternoon and then things started happening. Mrs. Morton Browne had planned to come out, and was dreadfully disappointed.

Poor Judy was inconsolable, took Chipper home with her, and evidently made things rough for her parents according to later developments.

Jane went to church at four for choir practice, and stayed for B.T.U. I didn't go to church tonight.

Judy kept Chipper, and Mr. Wehr didn't bring him home until Judy had time. Toto missed him and went down to the pen looking for him. She was awfully glad when he came home and rolled him around unmercifully.

Monday, November 7, 1949

I couldn't sleep well last night for thinking about Judy. To complicate matters, Mrs. Perkson who lives at Linnet and Audubon Parkway called and said that she wanted a puppy so badly for her son's birthday that if I would only stand behind the door she would come and get him.

I was in such a state that I called Mr. Harrod. He said that tomorrow is his wife's birthday, that she had been sick a lot, and when asked what she would rather have than anything, said a

fox terrier puppy. He is on the Lawrenceburg Road about six miles from Frankfort, said that no puppy would have a better home. I felt better after talking to him.

I did start washing but was trying to get a snapshot of Chipper when John came home between eleven and twelve to see about me.

Mrs. Wehr came over in the afternoon, and I could tell that she had relented and wanted Chipper, but there was nothing I could do.

When Judy came home from school, she came over and I made pictures of her and Chip. She calls him Split-Face and Potato Chip. Then her mother called her to go to her dancing lesson.

Jane and David were here. The three of us sat in the living room with Chipper. The children had him wrapped up in my sweater. Ann came over. Mr. Harrod had said that his brother-in-law would come not later than 5:15 as he returned from the races. Sure enough he was here about five or ten after. He said as he came in that no dog would have a better home -- said that Mr. Harrod had some displaced persons with him, one a 17-year old girl, the only one who could speak English. When he asked me for instruction to get out of Audubon Park, I started crying like a goon, and then Jane did. We had put Chip in a box. I had written a letter to Mrs. Harrod.

John went to deacons' meeting tonight.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of November 8 to November 19-, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Sunday, November 20, 1949

The family went to S.S. but I stayed home and made a chocolate pie, then went to church on the bus.

This afternoon John and I went to an open house at Lambda Chi Alpha, dropped Jane off at choir practice (I tried to get David to go, but he wouldn't), went to WINN for John to be on the radio for one minute, and came on back to an open house at Theta Tau, an engineering fraternity.

D.P. went to Eddie's movie. John went to church to get Jane, and they didn't get home until about ten.

Monday, November 21, 1949

I washed this morning, got the car from the garage this afternoon, and started to town to have my hair cut, taking the laundry by en route. Due to parking complication, I was late for my appointment but got my hair cut.

I went to Baldwin's and got tickets for John, Jane and me to see "Red Shoes" tomorrow night at the Crescent.

Tuesday, November 22, 1949

This was missionary meeting day at church, but I stayed home to do some washing and ironing.

D.P. went to Scouts tonight and we went to see "The Red Shoes". Jane's teacher, Miss Wallston, was there.

Book 79- November 22, 1949-February 12, 1950

Wednesday, November 23, 1949

I went to town on the bus, going by to leave \$10.00 at the Lincoln Bank (my Courier Journal check, to open a saving account for Jane's room), leaving the food chopper at the hardware store, going by to see Miss Casada; and get her National Geographic money.

We all went to church for supper tonight (turkey -- D.P. also had turkey at school today) and then listened to the choir program (directed by the new Osbrinks). Jane sang with the new Antiphonal choir. D.P. wouldn't practice with them. Janet went with us.

Thursday, November 27, 1949

The children went to church for a Thanksgiving breakfast -- John took them at 6:45. We went on up to the Fourth Presbyterian Church for a joint service at ten of the Presbyterian, Audubon Baptist and Audubon Methodist churches. The children stopped there as they came from church.

Jane ate lunch at Ann's, and then they went to the Male-Manual game, which was a tie, 0-0. D.P. watched over at Eddie's on television.

We had our Thanksgiving dinner tonight-steak.

Friday, November 25, 1949

Jane, David, Toto and I drove to Owenton, leaving at 10:45. We drove in snow flurries. We came by Frankfort and the Lawrenceburg Road and saw Chipper, now called Deuce. He really has a grand set-up, lovely home, displaced persons employed there.

By the time we left Frankfort, it had stopped snowing thankfully.

We reached home between one and two -- ate some ham sandwiches.

We went no place, although, Jane and D.P. went to see Aunt Sue and Thomas. Mrs. Botts was here tonight.

Saturday, November 26, 1949

It has been right cold today. Papa's Courier subscription is out, so we bought one for him. I also got a Collier's and Saturday Evening Post for them.

Estell's father died early this morning. We (the children and I) saw Martha up at Aunt Sue's. John came on the bus tonight, arriving at seven.

Sunday, November 27, 1949

We didn't go to S.S. or church. Mother and I drove out to the cemetery and took what chrysanthemums Mother had.

We had a good steak dinner.

Mother had been packing the Japanese tea set (her part of it) for us to bring back, as she didn't want to leave her valuable things in the house because of danger of fire (while she and Papa are with us). We were busy with the packing and other things when Will and Verdie came -- then Ermine. We soon had to hurry away though, as we were returning by Georgetown.

Estells's father was at the Tucker Funeral Home. We went there, then drove around the cottage and finally to the Redding's, where we saw David [Redding] for the first time since he was first born. Rogers was not there.

We reached home at 8:30, tired and cold. Puss came shortly.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of November 28, 1949 to December 2, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, December 3, 1949

D.P. Went to the Y. Jane helped me. I had gotten the bridge tables set up last night.

Mattie came at one. We ate lunch (our family). She took over, making rolls, pecan pies and the cream sauce for the chicken. I had dozens of things to do including magnolia leaves, evergreen, candles, place cards, getting the games ready (a job). The prizes were already wrapped.

John went to the Y, and picked up the patty shells.

Six-thirty came before we were ready. Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann came first, then the Fifes, McIntoshes, Bennetts, Barnes, Ernsts, Lovells (last), Tritts but no Morton Walker. John called him at seven, He had forgotten, took a cab and came on. We went ahead and ate.

We played rotative games (4 of them -- chair quoits, Cootie, Celebrities, Muffin Pan penny toss). Charades proved most popular. The party was over at 11:30.

Jane, Ann K., Margaret and D.P. ate in the kitchen. Mattie was good to help.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 4, 1949 to December 17, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, December 18, 1949

I did not go to S.S., as I still had much to do preparing for Papa and Mother. Jane took magnolia leaves for the library. The children went with the Ruleys.

Papa and Mother and John were here by one. John had taken Dr. Lovell's trailer, and they really brought it back loaded with a table, rocker, washstand, even a cherry tree. I had dinner ready.

Tonight John and I went to church, as Jane's choir was singing.

Monday, December 19, 1949

We didn't know until John came back yesterday that he dropped his glasses on the bathroom floor before he left Saturday and crushed them. Today he went in for an appointment with Dr. Urton, as he really needed a new prescription.

I washed in the morning went to town in the afternoon, and at night worked on Christmas cards.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 20, 1949 to December 23, 1949 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, December 24, 1949

Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann left for Logansport this A.M.

The day has been busy with final gift wrapping. We finally got a tree for \$1.00 to use instead of Mrs. Klusmeier's.

John, Jane and I went to the Fifes' church to a midnight carol service.

We came home and I put the final packages under the tree.

Sunday, December 25, 1949

Today was a rush. We didn't get up as early as we had expected to. Before we had breakfast, we opened our gifts. Jane was delighted with her luggage (Franklin) and gave up the idea of Samsonite immediately. The record player and badminton set were surprises to them both.

Of course D. P. was expecting his locomotive and coal tender and was pleased.

Papa got a new air-foam cushion for his chair and a box of mints. Mother got an undershirt, perfume, dress and bedroom slippers. John got a shirt, tie, tie clasp and telephone list finder. I got a nylon slip, some new panties and my electric clock (alarm) for our bedroom.

Jane received a lovely silk scarf from Roberta Willbie, also a sachet from her. She had already received a silver pin from Sylvia Stakle. She got a pretty necklace from Ann Tritt, a compact from Margaret, a "coat of many colors" and hat from Janet and Ann Klusmeier, a bracelet from Margie and Maria, a costume pin from Martha Roberts and one from Johnnie and Mary Lou, D.P. gave her a Girl Scout diary.

D.P. received ten dimes from Martha and a picture of a fox terrier. From Margaret he got a bill fold, from Jimmie Vanderhaar a belt. From Eddie and Larry he received each a light for his train table, from Linda and Judy a subscription to a magazine (comic), from Jimmie Bulluck a scarf. He got books from me, a fountain pen, a rain coat from Granny and Grandad (Jane got a nylon slip from them), a game of "Sorry" -- Jane and D.P. got a box of Canasta cards too.

We all went to S.S. (I was substituting for Mrs. Gutmann), but David and I came home after S.S. (He had told me he had so much to do that he wanted to come home).

I forgot -- we gave the children the record "Ave Maria" and "Lord's Prayer". Stella also gave them two records.

Mother had started the turkey (12 pounds) early this morning. She also made the dressing, which I had ground last night. I had also made the cranberry salad last night, and cooked the potatoes.

When I got home I prepared the scalloped potatoes, made out the rolls to rise and cooked the peas (frozen).

The Trues came before one (Harris, Thelma and Peggy) and we ate by 1:30. The turkey was excellent.

The Trues had to leave early so we wouldn't let Thelma help with the dishes. After they were gone John helped me.

Jane had to go to church to practice (choir).

John and I went out to Anchorage to Dr. Taylor's to an open house (deans and administration). Present one Siamese cat, several dogs, two ducks, one son.

We came on back to church, and got Jane, who sang with the Antiphonal Choir in the choir loft. I called Mother. The Tritts had been there.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 26, 1949 to January 12, 1950 to are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, January 13, 1950

My place at Shawnee was for Mr. Elliott, the band director. I had only 4 periods and was permitted to leave at one -- got to the bank by two. I got John some socks for Mother to give him for his birthday and a collar pin for the children to give him. I have the book by Dr. Paul Houchin of Beaver Crossing, Nebraska to give him.

I went to a film place on Fifth, then met the Scouts at Sutcliffe's warehouse (611 W. Main). The river is rising in spite of newspaper reports, a man at Sutcliffe's said.

We had a meal there. I brought Claudine, Margaret, Alice, Ann Summerford and the new girl, Bunnie Smith home, let Jane, Ann, Janet and Mary come in the rain on the bus. Jane was mad and I don't blame her.

I took D.P to Teen Age Club, then joined John at church for another supper.

Stella was here today. Jane is at the Wehrs' tonight.

Saturday, January 14, 1950

Mother gave John nylon socks, the children a collar pin, and I gave him the Houchens family tree book. He liked it so much that he didn't go to school until nine.

I stayed home until late afternoon when I went to the grocery store with John. Tonight all four of us went to the U. of L. -- Washington game.

D.P. went to the Y-became a flying fish (ed.- swimming level award).

Jane went to club at Joan Skiles'-then to a movie.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 15, 1950 to January 24, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Wednesday, January 25, 1950

I was afraid I would get a call to substitute (I had told Mrs. Bell not to call me), but got no county call. I went to the Girl Scout annual luncheon at Kunz'. I was on the slate to become a member of the nominating committee, and was elected.

Afterwards I went down to the Revenue Department (Kentucky) and got some tickets for our movie.

It was so warm that we turned our furnace off night before last, and haven't turned it on.

John and I had supper at church tonight, and Dr. Pettigrew met with our library committee.

Thursday, January 26, 1950

D.P.'s Birthday

I had no calls. It rained all day -- was a good day to stay at home. I worked on D.P.'s dark red shirt -- finished it with Mother's help. At breakfast we gave him the white shirt I had bought him at Levy's (with links), a green corduroy jacket and a book (C.J.) from Jane (Myles Standish, Childhood of Famous Americans). Mother gave D.P. two dollars.

I baked him a coconut cake, and invited Diane, (whose birthday is today -- she is 12), Linda, Larry, Eddie and Jim Bulluck to eat ice cream and cake with them. We then took them to the Scoop to see two Marx Brothers pictures.

John and I came on back out to the office after we took them to the movie. I worked on a Girl Scout sign about the movie. We picked them up at 9:15. Diane gave D.P. a record (He gave her candy) and the other four each gave him a dollar.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 27, 1950 to February 10, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, February 11, 1950

I have been home all day except for going to the grocery stores this afternoon. Mother went with me, the first time she has been out since we went to the Tritts'. She went to Woolworth's to get Papa some glasses as he had broken the temple piece.

Tonight the Girl Scouts had their Valentine party up at the church. Claudine was sick and couldn't go, but Mrs. Klusmeier and Dorothy Summerford were there to help. There were the eight Scouts and ten boys.

David Loring	Albin Hayes	Richard Weston	Jim Curry
Ronnie Wohlfort	Marvin Elliott	Phil Stortz	Donald Sanders
Richard Cummins	Jerry Phelps		

They played charades, and were playing Wink (with penalties -- I was in the kitchen), to Sam's consternation when he came. Margaret and Phil "paid a penalty", and Jane and Donald.

They had two Valentine cakes, cookies the girls had made, ice cream (vanilla and strawberry).

The party was over about 10:30. We were soundly sleeping at 12:30 when the telephone rang. John answered, and it was Mrs. Hayes to speak to me. She wanted to know if I knew where Albin was. I didn't but gave her some of the names of boys who were there, including Jimmie Curry. She called there. I couldn't get Frances and called Olive. Jimmy didn't know about Albin, and Olive sent Frances off on a bum steer, calling Chase Kaye's family. I was having a chill by then, asking John to call her and ask about the Elliotts (if Albin knew them). Albin was just walking in the door as John called her. Albin had been at the Elliott's.

Sunday, February 12, 1950

I didn't go to Walnut Street Baptist. Jane rode with the Eads, but John and I went to the Fourth Presbyterian with D.P., as the Scouts were on the program. (I awakened with a severe headache, but didn't tell the folks). The program was nice.

This afternoon, Isla, Lowell and Mary Eberhard came. We had a fire in the fireplace and almost smoked them out.

Book 80- February 13, 1950-April 22, 1950

Monday, February 13, 1950

Home all day, rain, tornadoes in the southwest and Tennessee.

I cut out Jane's red corduroy jacket and started sewing it.

Tonight I went with Helen Scherr to a Girl Scout district meeting out at school.

U. of L. won over Marshall here at home tonight.

Steady rain!

Tuesday, February 14, 1950

Hard rain all night, but cooler today. Mr. Bell called at 6:30 and asked me to go to Halleck, but I declined, as I told him that I couldn't be there the last period, and so couldn't go (because of D.P. singing with the boys' chorus).

I went to Mrs. Stewart's to the circle meeting (first going to the bank), came back to school at 1:30 for a board meeting (called), went to P.T.A. The boys' chorus came before three (three songs). We had a founder's day program, and a woman who talked about the early days of Prestonia School.

D.P. (as did all the boys) wore a white shirt and a tie, with his gray trousers. They all wore white shirts.

From there (not waiting for the tea) I went over to Highland Park (to Silverman's) and got coat lining for Jane's corduroy jacket. Then I went for John, Jane and Janet.

Tonight D.P. went to Scouts, John back to school. Jane worked on her gray skirt, which she was permitted to bring home.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 15, 1950 to February 23, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Friday, February 24, 1950

This was my last day for Miss Waterstraat (ed.-for substitute teaching).

I came on out immediately to Alice's for the Scout meeting, then hurried home to prepare David's lunch and get him up to the church by five to go to Covered Bridge. It is very cold today. The prediction for tonight is 16. I don't like this winter time camping.

I drove David, Rudi Markl and Carl up to the church. D.P. went with Dr. Lovell. He took his sleeping bag (one Army blanket), a second Army blanket, and an Inidan blanket.

John didn't come home for dinner. I picked him up, and we went to church. I took my exam on the Library manual.

Jane and Ann went to Ann Summerford's for a "hen party".

Saturday, February 25, 1950

Jane and I (also Janet and Ann Summerford) went to town on the 9:30 bus. The girls went to the Library, joined me at Stewarts to look at patterns and materials, and then we all went to Selman's to a Teen Age Fashion Show. Margaret met them there. It was very nice. Cokes were served. A red Teena Paige dress was so attractive that I told Jane to get it (\$8.95).

I went to the Baptist Book Store and bought \$30+ worth of books for the Church Library. When I got home Jane was already here.

I went to the grocery store this afternoon.

Jane is "baby sitting" at the Wehrs' tonight.

While I was at the grocery store, D.P. called and John and Jane talked to him. He said that it was so cold that he and some the others were going to sleep in the lodge tonight.

Sunday, February 26, 1950

It was really cold this morning (about 18 on our back porch) and Pauline Hayes told Jane that it was 4 above on the Westport Road.

We went to Sunday School and church, but I worked in the library during S.S. I took the new books over.

When we got home, Mother had dinner all ready. We had fried chicken.

John went on immediately after D.P. When they got home D.P. looked awfully tired, but said they got along all right last night. Most of them slept in the lodge.

He went to B.T.U., but I had John go after him before church. He went to sleep almost as soon as he hit the bed, even thought he had a new "Looney Tunes and Merry Melodies" to read.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 27, 1950 to March 14, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Wednesday, March 15, 1950
Ides of March Tax day.

I left home at 8:30 in order to have a Juliette Low committee meeting at the Girl Scout office at nine. Then, all of us left the office at 10:20 and went to the Auditorium to see Mrs. Roosevelt and hear her. Dr. Brodschi had kindly given us seven tickets for a Girl Scout group. Mrs. Millet had Mrs. Hydes' Girl Scout, Deanne Craddock there and they got some pictures of Mrs. Roosevelt pinning the World pin on her. John as marshall came on the stage leading Mrs. Roosevelt. He had ordered a new cap, gown and hood which didn't come in time and he had to use a makeshift (gown left in the office, Mrs. Boulware's hood, and Dr. Homberger's mortar board). He introduced me to Mrs. Roosevelt and I shook her hand.

Mary Logan lost a cigarette lighter.

John brought me out to the office and I ate lunch with him at the cafeteria.

I got home about two and started working on answers to a questionnaire I am filling out as a housewife applicant for a place as delegate to Switzerland in September- a slim chance I would have I fear, when I consider how many applicants there probably are.

Tonight John went to church for supper.

Jane went to the concert.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 16, 1950 to March 25, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Sunday, March 26, 1950

I couldn't sleep -- haven't been able to for several nights -- got up and got in the bed with Papa and Mother.

This morning several things went wrong as usual when in a hurry. Papa was anxious for us to get underway (ed.- to go home to Owenton). We had bakery goods for breakfast which the Vanderhaars brought us yesterday morning.

Ted, Knottie and Ann came by to see us -- that is, to see Papa and Mother and tell them good-bye.

Jane and D.P. went to S.S. and church on the 9 o'clock bus. They were to have dinner with the Fifes.

We were really stowed in when we started. Mother and I started the trip both riding in the back seat with the wheel chair (taken apart), but I transferred to the front at Crestwood. Tote went with us.

We reached Owenton shortly after twelve. When we got there, Mother was very dizzy and had to take it easy.

Things were in a mess. The plaster had fallen in the room next to the McPherrons'. The kitchen roof had leaked and everything was damp and dirty in there. The water, electricity and telephone were off. We got water from the McPherrons' and got enough dishes washed for us to heat the ham and potato salad we had taken.

The refrigerator had been left closed and was mildewed inside. I cleaned it with soda water. They came and turned on the current and water and the refrigerator started freezing ice. We had put Mother's food in Mrs. McPherron's refrigerator at first.

Ermine came shortly after dinner bringing a luscious-looking coconut cake. Shortly after, Cousin Hollie and Myrt came.

Early in the afternoon, John took Mother to see if they could get Mrs. Cook (possibly). He went down to A.J.'s to get some eggs and see the folks.

We left between five and six (stopped at Aunt Sue's a moment). It was certainly hard to do.

I came on home. John went to church in time to bring Jane and D.P. home.

Papa and Mother received a telegram tonight from the Reddings and Adeline. It will be mailed out.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 27, 1950 to April 18, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Wednesday, April 19, 1950

I went to town to meet John at Stewart's at twelve. We bought a duran-covered gold chair at Kaufmans for \$55 with my census money (which I don't yet have). We also bought a small table to sit by the chair.

I ate at the Blue Boar with John -- then looked for draperies for D.P.'s room and material for two chair slip covers. I didn't get home until four.

Mrs. Harstern, our census enumerator, was here this A.M. She lives in Okolona. We had fun exchanging shop talk.

John and Jane ate supper at church tonight.

Mr. Bell called me this morning (ed.- for substitute teaching) -- I don't know for where.

Thursday, April 20, 1950

I kept the car. I washed this morning -- something of an ordeal I found. This afternoon I drove over on Claudine's street and on Wolfe Avenue on some Scout calls. I also went by Alice's, but she didn't have anything ready for the carnival.

Jane went to senior council this afternoon.

Friday, April 21, 1950

Stella has been here and cleaned Jane's room. I was all in and stayed in bed.

Our chair and table were delivered -- very pretty.

Jane went to Shantituck on an overnight. John drove her, Janet and Margaret out.

D.P. went to church tonight with Larry.

Saturday, April 22, 1950

I have felt punk all day -- stayed in bed except for washing the breakfast dishes -- this even though the men were here to clean the living and dining room (\$5.00).

Jane came back. We went out to the carnival at 4:15. I came home and rested and John and I went to the Berriger's for dinner. Jane and Janet came home from the carnival. D.P. stayed and came home with Mrs. Klusmeier late.

Book 81- April 23, 1950-June 30, 1950

Sunday, April 23, 1950

I went to S.S. today, but John brought me back helped to the Audubon Baptist Church for their dedication. Not until they got home from church did I know that D.P. had been suffering with his sinus and had to stay in the chapel during church. He didn't feel like going to our practice this afternoon.

I have been feeling better all day but was very nervous this afternoon.

Monday, April 24, 1950

David called and had to come home from school this morning having such a severe headache. John came home at noon and took him to chorus practice.

I feel bad again.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 25, 1950 to April 30, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, May 1, 1950

I went to the Board meeting -- they decided to give more to the Girl Scout drive -- \$75 altogether.

I went on to town and bought some slip cover material at the Mill End Shop -- \$18.00 worth at \$1.00 a yard for two chairs and the day bed.

I came home and ate lunch, didn't wash dishes and went upstairs to read "The Wall". D.P. came home and went up the street to play with Larry.

At 3, the telephone rang. I got up to answer, but didn't put my shoes on, God forgive me, and fell at the corner of the bed, slantwise on my hip. I thought I was hurt, but could make no one hear me. I called David repeatedly.

Finally I slid over under the window, raised myself to a sitting position from which I could open the window, and started hitting on the window with my shoe. I could hear the Koebels cutting the grass. Finally they heard me. I told them to tell David I had fallen, but they evidently didn't know where he was. Stella, next door at the Roberts' found out about it. And not knowing about David, brought the ladder over and climbed in the kitchen.

I told her David was at Larry's and she went to get him, and let Mrs. Klusmeier, Mrs Koebel and her son in. They got the registrar's office, and Mrs. Marshall brought John out. I had the car.

John, Mr. Koebel and Knottie (whom they had gotten) lifted me into the bed. I had a chill, of course.

John cooked dinner. Mrs. Seth came over to see me tonight. I had John and the children go on to the revival.

Tonight I stood up twice but couldn't put my weight on my right foot or take a step.

Tuesday, May 2, 1950

John talked to Dr. Hudson at 7:30 (he had talked to him last night) called an ambulance and took me to the Baptist Hospital. They couldn't get a room at St. Joseph's. I had to take a two-bed room.

They took me immediately to the x-ray room. The doctor tried to turn me on my side, and I went all to pieces. The pain was terrific and I screamed.

Finally they made a picture from the top side and took me down to the room to get me a hypodermic and bring me back, but it turned out that the picture they had made was sufficient. Dr. Hudson and Dr. Overstreet came in. My pelvic bone is cracked.

John left but came back at noon bringing Jane. The day dragged on endlessly. I was drowsy from pills they gave me.

In the afternoon flowers came from the registrar's staff.

Tonight Thelma came, then John and D.P. on the way to Scouts.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 3, 1950 to May 13, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, May 14, 1950

Mother's Day

I sent Mother only a note, having not even a card to send her.

The nurses didn't change my sheets this morning, since I am going home this afternoon.

We had fried chicken for dinner. I drank Mrs. Poore's milk too. She was again in great pain this morning.

John and the children ate at Gladys Corley's. The ambulance was due for me at 1:30, but was delayed, and fortunately, as Erwina brought Mrs. Nazor to see me bearing many lilies of the valley which she had cut herself. They stayed until the ambulance came.

I got home about three -- coming through the hall to see my new steps. It was good to get here. Then I felt let down.

Jane went to choir practice, and David to a movie with Jim Bulluck since it was his birthday. Mrs. Klusemeier had come in when we arrived. Later Miss Hollis came, and then the Bennetts.

John slept for a while. Tonight Mrs. Wehr brought me some lovely white flowers from their church.

A Taliaferro boy brought Jane home from church.

Jane and David gave me a telephone pad and note paper for Mother's Day.

Jane and David both sang in the Antiphonal choir this morning and I listened to them on the radio.

Mrs. Dutschke brought me some lilies-of-the-valley.

Monday, May 15, 1950

I slept well last night without a capsule.

This morning Thelma and Cousin Linnie came, and in spite of my objections, Thelma washed the clothes that were downstairs. While she was doing that, Knottie came over and gave me a bath, and I felt much better.

This afternoon the folks stayed until 10 of 2 and David was home at 2:20. Claudine came, and Mrs. Klusmeier with malted milk and Mrs. Dutschke with lilies-of-the-valley.

Tonight Jane had to work up at Janet's on the Echo (ed.-school paper). She and D.P. transplanted the flowers the Lambda Chis sent me after school.

Tuesday, May 16, 1950

I took a sleeping capsule at four-bad to do, because I lost most of the effect of it.

Mrs. Kuhl came in to see me this morning-then Mrs. Dutschke came and bathed me and insisted on doing lots of dusting and sweeping. Mrs. Gardner came to see me and went to the grocery store for me.

John had a telephone extension put in for me this morning by the bed. I was able to talk to Mrs. Poore, Mrs. Penrose, Jessie and Emma Alice (the latter had to stay in bed four weeks).

Jane worked at the Library this afternoon. David cooked the pork chops, the beans and potatoes at my long-distance instruction, going out to play in the meantime, and letting them burn only a tiny bit.

At 6:20 John, Jane, D.P and Janet went to the Cavalcade of America broadcast, came back, D.P. to Scouts, Jane to babysit at the Wehrs', John back over to school.

He talked to Dr. Coleman tonight. I have a slight infection on my back. Dr. C. is coming out in the morning.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 17, 1950 to May 18, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, May 19, 1950

Stella has been here today. She washed this morning (mostly sheets and towels -- we got the sheets straightened out), and ironed some of the things this afternoon that Thelma washed Monday. In between, she cleaned the house except for the basement.

Mrs. Wehr came in to see me this morning and wanted to make a pie for tonight, but I talked her out of it, since Jane and David were going to camp and I thought that John wouldn't be here.

D.P. went to school on his bike and got his report card -- he and Larry. Mr. Browning wrote "David has grown greatly in his capacity to do work. It is been very nice having him in class. He should have glasses".

Helen Scherr called in the afternoon and insisted on bringing a pie.

At 2:15 Jane called to tell me that she and Mary Coslow had tied for "Girl of the Month" in the "Echo" and they were going to put them both in. She wanted to go in town to have a picture

made or have Mr. McCandless make one. I asked her to come on home, and I got on the phone and started calling studios try to find one that can get a picture made up her by Monday, but had no luck. At school (Highland), Miss Walston called the paper and they told her that Jane could use the 2-year-old 8 x 10 photograph which she has. I thought that took care of it, but she got home about 3:15 in a terrible dither to go on down and have a picture made.

She couldn't possibly make it though. I had Helen Scherr (who had come in the meantime) to make a picture of her on our camera, and D.P. took the roll up. Whether she got the right things packed to take with her to Cedarmore I don't know. She finally got away on the 4 o'clock bus. After she left, I found a place downtown that promised to make a "head and shoulder", enlargement from snapshot negatives tomorrow morning.

Larry's grandfather drove them up to the church with them to go to Emeryville Indiana. John came at 20 of 5 and found me in tears. He went up to the church to see that they got off all right.

Mrs. Wehr sent my supper, and we had Mrs. Scherr's pie. John left shortly.

He is marshall tonight of the procession, etc, at Memorial Auditorium in observance of the 25th Anniversary of Speed School.

I am alone tonight, but can telephone Mrs. Wehr if I need anything.

Mrs. McCandless told me tonight they are building a house on Royal Avenue and Gladys Seeders and her husband have bought their house.

Jane called me from church and was sorry for the way she had acted.

(ed.- Mariam was in the hospital and in bed at home from May 1 to June 2, 1950 recovering from the broken pelvis).

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 20, 1950 to June 7, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, June 8, 1950

Jane's Graduation from Highland

I felt better this morning -- got ready and went to Jane's graduation. She wore her yellow organdy and white high-heeled slippers. Ann had a blue organdy, Janet also a blue.

We didn't go in at the high steps, but around at the side. David went along. We got good seats next to Mrs. Gardner. There were 307 (304, 297- I heard all three figures) (I think there were 304 in the procession) graduates. They came down the center aisle by two's. Jane had made a list for me of a lot of names -- Highland's cutest boy, etc.

Most of the girls were wearing pastel dresses.

The graduates sang one song before the speaker. Rev. Hightower-of St. Paul's Methodist Church began. He was humorous, and everybody liked him.

Then Mr. Sanders gave the certificates. The students went out one row at a time to the stage, and stood all the way across the stage. He called their names and they stepped forward. It was a good way to see who they were. I saw Arthur Friedman, Marie Jasper, Lucy Stites, Lois Klein, Paula Wolford, Ann Sherman, Ann Hosley, and many others of whom Jane had talked.

After the certificates (or before?) those who made straight A's were read out (only three of them). There were many with a B average, and Jane, Margaret, Janet and others we knew were on that list.

After that, the class sang another song and that was all. Jane cried several times. We met Lois Klein (who had on a beautiful dress). Arthur Friedman, Ann Hosley and her mother, and others. I saw Miss Walston. John made some pictures. We talked to Dr. and Mrs. Kinsman.

As we went to the car, Miss Altes came out to speak to us, said that she would like the three brains, Janet, Jane and Margaret, to go to some camp next summer in Michigan in which she is interested -- when they are 16.

Jane went with some of the girls to the Brown for lunch, and to see "Pa and Ma Kettle". That was to celebrate graduation. She and Janet cried.

We stopped for some records for Stella. This is hers and Thelma's birthday.

D.P. had to go back over to the church to work on handwork at 1:30, but before that -- Tommie Hansen and Jack Clark came and passed him on the remaining requirements for First Class Scout.

I was all in tonight after feeling good this morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayes came tonight. Jane "baby sat" at the Allgeiers.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of June 9, 1950 to June 27, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, June 28, 1950

According to the paper, the county girls are going to have to go to Halleck after all. Jane is in tears. She was having a club meeting at Ann's today.

D.P. and I went to Owenton as Harris, Thelma and Tommy left for Washington. We were supposed to meet them at Preston and Jefferson at 11:30, but they were delayed and didn't come until 12:10. The Trues had to go by Owenton because Peggy was at Cousin Linnie's and they were picking her up.

Papa and Mother were not expecting us, and were very much surprised. We ate after we got here.

David didn't have much to do during the afternoon. Tonight he went to the show.

Thursday, June 29, 1950

I have read a lot. Martha came this afternoon and brought Kathy and Arlene, who are visiting here. It has turned much cooler.

The little girls are very busy. Arlene became cross and finally went to sleep in Martha's lap, having missed her nap.

David went down to Ruth's at five to spend the night with them and go to the R.E.A. tonight -- at the Fairgrounds -- exhibitions, demonstrations, etc.

Friday, June 30, 1950

D.P. came home this morning, Johnnie with him. They ate dinner here, and went back to the Fairgrounds.

Adeline came and took Mother and me for a ride in her new car, and Margaret Jack came and brought us an angel food cake.

Later Ermine came. A man has cut down all her chrysanthemums.

D.P. went back to the show tonight.

Book 82- July 1, 1950-September 29, 1950

Saturday, July 1, 1950

D.P. went to the show again this afternoon.

I didn't know whether to look for John and Jane or not. I half expected to see Jane on the Frankfort bus, but Jessie got off it alone and knew nothing about them.

Then while Mother and I were getting dinner ready, they drove in.

I went over to see Mrs. Botts. Later John took me up to Aunt Sue's, as I hadn't been there.

Aunt Jettie was there, Ruth, Mary Lou, John and Mary Sue's children, Kathy and Arlene.

F. L. Satterwhite was married at the Baptist Church this afternoon.

Sunday, July 2, 1950

John and I didn't go to church, but Jane and David did. When they came back I asked them if they saw anyone they knew and they said no one, also that no one spoke to them. Mother was distressed about it, but later I found that they were teasing. They told me they saw Willetta (a girl they used to play with at Mrs. Craigmyle's who later moved to California). And when I asked them how they knew her, they said that she was wearing a large sign.

We had baked chicken for dinner

In the afternoon we all drove to Williamstown to see Ermine, Mrs. Harrell and Edythe. We sat in the yard, and Mrs. Harrell served us cup cakes and Cokes.

Their house is lovely inside-all freshly painted.

Papa was tired when we got home.

Monday, July 3, 1950

John repaired the screen door for Mother today.

I went over to thank Evelyn for her note today.

Jessie went back on the bus this afternoon, as the Frankfort bus doesn't run on holidays.

Cousin Ran and Ola came this afternoon.

We wanted to go see Martha, but Jane and D.P. were intent upon going to see "The Jolson Story", so we rushed over to see Estell, Martha and Bobbie and didn't stay long. Even so

Thomas didn't wait for them. They were supposed to go to the movie with him. Bobbie is taller than Jane, having outgrown D.P. He chased Jane with a small toad frog.

Tuesday, July 4, 1950

We went down to see Ruth and the children this morning. Kathy and Arlene are there. Ruth gave us some beans and squash.

We started getting ready to come home soon after dinner. I am glad that Mother is looking better. However, Papa was dizzy once while we were there.

We got home about four. Of course John went to the office.

Later we went over to the golf course for the fireworks display. Jane and David walked on over with Margaret, Janet, Alice Gardner and David G. We didn't see them over there. John and I took steamer chairs and sat by Mrs. Shore and Pat.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 5, 1950 to July 22, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Sunday, July 23, 1950

We didn't go to S.S. and church. (ed.- Mariam was in Owenton). The girls said that they would leave at twelve so Mother had dinner early, but they didn't leave until a quarter of two. They let me off at Preston and Oak. I rode a Standiford Lane bus to the Park, and called home. John, Jane, David and Toto met me at the drug store.

They were all very mysterious about a woman who called last night. She said that I had won a prize but wouldn't tell her what it was, left her number for me to call, but no one answered that number tonight.

John finished the green part of the porch yesterday-very pretty.

We all went to church tonight.

Monday, July 24, 1950

David has a bad boil on his left temple (inside the hair line). John tried to open it last night because it looked as though it was ready, but no pus came out, only a little blood. We left it alone, didn't pull or push it, but I started hot compressing it. It still isn't ready for opening. I may take him to the doctor tomorrow if it isn't open.

Well, I called the woman at 8:10, and I have actually won a Philco television set. Jane and David let out shrieks of delight when they heard. The woman said that it would be delivered around four but it hasn't come yet, to David's disappointment. It has a 12 ½ inch screen, and I think it was \$199.95. We have to pay the tax on it.

I had to tell in 25 words or less why I would like to own a Philco television set. I cut out a white shirt board in the shape of a television screen and pasted the entry in the center with a pretty woman cut from a magazine and holding it in her hand.

It was 8:15 when I talked to her, and it was a rush for me to make the 8:30 bus to go to Dr. Phelps, but I made it.

Mary Logan took me to Day Camp where I was to inspect for the Board. I had lunch with Jane's unit -- Spanish rice, apples stuffed with celery and raisins, buttered bread, and crackers with Hershey bar and coconut on them.

Mary Logan brought me home around 2:30. I was of course expecting the television set. D.P. was here, anyhow.

John came home very much worried about the Veterans' affairs -- \$20,000 spent for them when some of them had absences, or something.

D.P. had a committee meeting -- imagine it -- at Alameda's. He was on a B.T.U. nominating committee.

Jane went with the Klusmeiers and some girls.

Tuesday, July 25, 1950

I kept the car and drove for the first time since my accident -- almost three months.

D.P. was going to the Y to work on his stool so went with me. We had the car washed at the Minute Wash on My Pot o' Gold book. He then went, to the Y, and I to Mr. Nave's to have my hair cut.

From there I bought some hose and then went to church at eleven to hear Mrs. Pettigrew talk on their trip to Hawaii. She showed slides and talked. The slides were lovely. They were with the Carter Morgans, (Cousin Edgar's son) part of the time.

I left there and drove out to day camp (except that I got lost) where I made three pictures of Jane's unit.

I was home by 1:15 (had promised the television people that I would be home by one), but D.P. was already here.

I scraped paint all afternoon (on the back porch floor) and D.P. fumed and fretted because the television didn't come. Jane was supposed to play tennis after day camp, but said that it was too hot, and came on home.

John didn't come home for dinner. Finally at 6:30, the man brought the set. He had come out last night, but no one answered the door. I didn't know until this afternoon that the bell wasn't ringing.

It was almost impossible to get either of them to eat. I went after John at 7:15 for him to go to the Scout Court of Honor but D.P. begged off from going. Jim Bulluck came, Janet and Ann. They watched the Colonels play. John came home. I fixed pop corn for them all, and limeade.

The television set is truly a big event for them both.

David's boil hasn't come to a head. I have continued to hot compress it. I tried to call Dr. Coleman, but he was out of town, and I made an appointment to take him at four tomorrow.

Wednesday, July 26, 1950

Such rain descended that there was no day camp. Jane sewed on her plaid blouse, painted D.P.'s cabinet (bookshelf) and I scraped the floor.

I got a little paint on the floor, but it will need two coats.

Jane went to a meeting at Scout headquarters about going for an overnight at Spring Mill next week.

John worked until after eleven this week. It is been every night this week.

Mother is glad about the television.

David says that the days seem long now waiting for television to come on (at 5:30 PM).

I had to give Tote a bath tonight.

Only Jim Bulluck stayed through all the game tonight. Jane, Janet and Jim like the games. The rest of us are bored by them.

Thursday, July 27, 1950

I washed today, tinted the Davenport slipcover and put the first coat of enamel on the porch floor.

Took D.P. in to Dr. Coleman at 4:30 and he lanced his boil. The gland in his neck was swollen from it today. It was near his left temple, in his hair. Dr. Coleman used a scalpel. They gave him a shot of penicillin (duracillin) afterwards. He weighed 84, and I weighed 92. He has gained 4 pounds since camp. I weigh what I did before I fell.

We rode with the Robberts to the loop where John picked us up.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 28, 1950 to August 17, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Friday, August 18, 1950

(ed.- the family was leaving for Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly in North Carolina).

We wanted to leave early but didn't get away until eight. Then we had to drive in rain, left Toto at Mrs. Neal's at Jeffersontown, looking downcast.

The rain stopped. We ate at a London Hall on the outskirts of London, even though I would have liked to wait for Sander's Court at Corbin.

Outside London we were the first gasoline purchasers at a new Texaco station. I said that I would have to write it down in my little book, which amused the children, for they thought that I did not have a little book.

David got very nervous when we drove over Clinch Mountain. I was very headachy by the time we reached Sander's Court at Asheville. We ate there, although I had a bad headache. The hostess told us how to get to Ridgecrest and we went on.

When we reached Ridgecrest I went in and got us a room (325 on the third floor) with three beds in it. We were all tired. I didn't go downstairs that night, but John and Jane did. John and I took baths tonight.

Saturday, August 19, 1950

When I went in the bathroom this morning, Harriet Lemons came in, and then soon Nora Gentry from church. A Miss Lutes was in the bathtub (also from church).

We had to be at breakfast at 8:45. We had sausages and hard cold toast.

I went to the book conferences. John attended part of them. They were very worthwhile, particularly Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Waddell. We went to hear Dr. Yates at eleven -- shook his hand afterwards. He didn't recognize Jane at first.

The dinners in the dining hall are plain but nourishing.

This afternoon we drove to Chimney Rock. It was pouring when we started and we proceeded somewhat skeptically, but these mountain rains are seemingly of short duration. When we reached there it hadn't rained -- it rained a few drops while we were up there. John and Jane walked up to the Rock, David and I rode the newly installed elevator, cut through solid rock. Jane had asthma (she has been having it ever since she got here), and John was exhausted too. John, David and I walked on up to the pinnacle, but John and I fell by the wayside, and David was the only one to go to the top. John and I rode the elevator down, and Jane and David walked.

It was 4:30 when we started down, and it rushed us to get back to the dining hall by six.

Dr. Yates preached at seven, Dr. Stealey from the Seminary from 8 to 9:15, and the staff put on a religious play centering around the life of Esther. Jane and David didn't go to hear Dr. Stealey.

When John and I walked up the hall to our room, John said that he thought the Baptists were going back to Puritan days. It struck me as funny, and I laughed until I had stitches in my side.

Sunday, August 20, 1950

We went to Sunday school and church. That is, John didn't go to S.S., but joined us at 11 for church.

We had a chicken dinner -- very good.

In the afternoon there was a Youth Rally at 3, with Jackie Robinson, the Olympic basketball champion, preaching. John and I didn't go, but the children did. Every seat was filled.

John and I went for a walk back to see some cottages.

When the service was over we drove (John, David and I) to Black Mountain to get David a comic. John and Jane had gone last night to get her a crossword puzzle book to D.P.'s dissatisfaction (at not getting asked).

After supper we went to B.T.U. and then to church. Jackie Robinson preached. His story about his audience before King George was funny.

Monday, August 21, 1950

This morning I went to my conferences again and to hear Dr. Yates.

The Hills from Georgetown College arrived today.

Jane and David went swimming with the sons and wife of Rev. Burhans of the Crescent Hill Church.

I attended a discussion group from 2:45 to 3:45, then went to a tea which Harriet's recreation group was having. We were given small autographed books, and I got some interesting ones from foreign staff members.

Tonight we went to hear Dr. Yates again.

Tuesday, August 22, 1950

I attended conferences again. The Vollmers arrived today.

I wanted to make Dr. Yeats' picture after lunch with Jane and D.P., but never could find him after we ate. We think that he went out the back way.

We left at three. I would've liked to stay for the library "author's tea" and the banquet but John had called Cherokee this morning and they said that we should be at Cherokee by seven, so we left Ridgecrest at three. We let some minister ride into Ashland.

On our way we stopped at a reptile farm and saw some animals -- gave a free will 30 cents -- didn't pay extra to see the snakes, so didn't see them.

We went over a big mountain.

Reaching the reservation at six, they said that the windows didn't open until seven. We had an hour to find a place to stay. We started to Bryson City 10 miles away. About 4 miles along the road we saw a house with a vacancy (all the others had "No vacancy") and turned around to come back to it. Someone had just rented it as I started in. A man (local) in a car at the front said to follow him and he would find us a place. The tourist camp to which he took us was filled, but he said to come on. We crossed the Oconanulty River twice -- came to Whittier, North Carolina, crossed the railroad track, followed a lane, came to a meadow and at last pulled up in front of a farm house. Mrs. Ashe was the owner. She said that we could have two rooms at \$4.00 each. We were in no position to quibble, so paid her the money and unpacked our luggage.

We meant to eat on the way to the reservation but the only place was too crowded, so we went on (7 miles), thinking we would get something in the concession stand. Our tickets were \$1.80 (reserved \$2.40) and we had good seats. The setting is lovely-virgin forest and mountain. John had a headache. We ate candy bars, potato chips, pop corn, soft drinks, aspirin and coffee for him.

The production was most effective. We should be very ashamed of the white men's treatment of the Indian.

The couple next to us had driven from Greensboro, North Carolina (200 miles away). There was almost a full moon-- and Jupiter -- three stages.

After the production was over, surprisingly enough, we got back to Mrs. Ashe's all right. She was waiting up for us.

Wednesday, August 23, 1950

We had Mrs. Ashe call us at six. She made coffee for John and me. We started to Gatlinburg for breakfast. On the road down from Newfound Gap we saw two bears -- made some pictures.

Jane wanted us to eat at Howard's. We found it but it wasn't open. We ate at a café across the street-- one egg, 40 cents. We passed Zoder's.

We didn't make good progress as we stopped at Oak Ridge, Tennessee and visited the museum of Atomic Energy. It was interesting. D.P. had a dime made radioactive and put in a case.

We saw the Polings from Eagle Pass there.

We ate lunch in a drug store at Clinton, Tennessee. I drove 20 miles going to Ridgecrest and 19 returning. I didn't think that we would make it home tonight, but we ate supper in Harrodsburg and reached here in time to come by Mrs. Neal's and get Tote about 9:30. She was overjoyed.

When we reached home, Pusslet was awaiting us on the front porch.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of August 24, 1950 to September 4, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Tuesday, September 5, 1950

Jane and David both registered today -- Jane for the 10th grade at Atherton, and D.P. for the 8th at Prestonia. Jane is taking English, geometry, biology and Latin.

Jane and Ann went up to the Summerfords' tonight. They are moving to Rudy Lane, off Brownsboro Road.

Wednesday, September 6, 1950

D.P. went to school today. He is in Mrs. Carrell's room, but under the core curriculum set-up this year, he also has Mrs. Singleton and Mrs. Collings.

Stella was here today, Mrs. Kesler having her on Friday this week. I washed yesterday. Kaufman's picked up the mattress and spring set today.

Jane and Ann went to town, meeting some boys, to buy school books.

Jane and I went to prayer meeting.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 7, 1950 to September 26, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Wednesday, September 27, 1950

I have been home today. I washed and cleaned the garage. Tonight Harris and Margaret Fife were here for dinner. John and the girls went to prayer meeting. D.P. stayed at home and Harris dropped me off at the Girl Scout office for a meeting of Senior leaders. Margaret is staying here tonight.

Thursday, September 28, 1950

Jane is unhappy about the club, and scared about tomorrow night. I am to blame.

I did one fruit jar shelf in the store room, while washing as I went.

This afternoon I went to town and got Papa a shirt for his birthday.

Tonight I met with Patty Bunch and Betty Chambers, at Patty's attractive apartment.

Friday, September 29, 1950

I kept the car and went to the Haymarket -- let most of my apples roll out of the bag on the street.

Stella was here.

Jane got another invitation to a tea and a bid from Lucy Barriger's club.

Tonight she is at Mary Ann Hall's for "Hell Night", terrible name. The poor child is losing weight with worry.

D. P. started to Teen Age Club.

Book 83- September 30, 1950-January 8, 1951

Saturday, September 30, 1950
Papa's 81st birthday

We had a rush as usual. Jane went to her club meeting at Anne Sherman's. We picked her up at three and went directly to Owenton. I had told Mother that I would bring Papa a cake, but she said not to do so, that Ermine would probably bring him a coconut one. I decided today though that Ermine might not bring one since her mother was ill, and whipped up a yellow one with seven-minute icing for him.

As we started to Owenton, I was holding it, but John got sleepy and I had to drive, so passed it to Jane, but she became sleepy and David under compulsion held it. He went to sleep, and when I turned the wheel back over to John, the cake was a mess.

However, Papa had four cakes. When we got there, Mother had had the local bakery make him one, and she had bought a devil's food one. On our heels, Ermine arrived with a luscious coconut cake.

Claudine sent Papa a glass of jelly and a card. He received a number of cards. They both looked all right. I took Papa a new blue shirt.

Sunday, October 1, 1950

We got up in time to leave about 10 of 8. I was sorry for us to leave so early, but they were having Dr. Gibson day at church, endeavoring to reach the 2500 mark, and as they seemed to think that this was the last day Dr. Gibson would be in our church service, I thought that we should make a special effort to go. We reached there about 9:45.

John went to school this afternoon. I went back to church about 6:05 with Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann. The former remained for Dr. Pettigrew's Hawaiian slides.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of October 2, 1950 to November 22, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Thursday, November 23, 1950
Thanksgiving

Jane and David went to church for breakfast. John took them over.

John and I went to the community union service at the Audubon Baptist Church at 10. The children came on there. Rev. Shafer (Presbyterian) preached.

Our Thanksgiving dinner was hurried and the chicken didn't get done because Jane had to hurry to go to the Male-Manual game. D.P. didn't go. We watched television.

Tonight we all went over to the Lovells' to see the pictures they made out West during the summer. The Hansens were there, also the Clarks, the Davies, and a couple who are to be at Speed Auditorium (naturalists) tomorrow night.

Snow, ice and everything coated our windshield, and we were glad that we didn't have to go far to get home.

Friday, November 24, 1950

In spite of the terrific weather, Jane, David and I went to town on the bus. We shopped first at Levy's for D.P., getting him some corduroy trousers, a Navy coat (all the boys are wearing them) and some galoshes and cheap gloves. Then we went home (Stella was there).

Jane and I shopped for her a formal. She liked a green one at Selman's and we bought it (French room reduced) but I like an aqua one on her better.

Mother called tonight to advise us not to try to come tomorrow. It was so bad that we did not try to go to Speed School for the eagle lecture.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of November 25, 1950 to December 15, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, December 16, 1950

Jane and Ann worked all day on games and plans for the party. I only prepared the barbecued hamburger, as the girls brought the food.

There were 11 girls (all the troop) and 10 boys. The members of the troop now are Janet, Mary Becker, Margaret, Alice G., Jaen, Elizabeth Bledsoe, Ann Klusmeier, Lucy Stites, Ann Summerford, Bunny Smith and Ann McCord. The only boy who disappointed us was Bobby Lester. The boys who came were Gene Griffin, Paul Coates, Elizabeth Ann's friend, Jimmy Curry, Ronald Wohlfort, Richard Cummings, David, Carl Williams, Jerry Phelps and _____. They had a scavenger hunt first, then games. Claudine stayed until after food was finished, and then went home.

Sunday, December 17, 1950

Jane and David went to S.S. and church, but John and I went to Owenton for Papa and Mother.

We reached there about 11 or 11:15. Mother had everything packed and ready. She had even had the oil stove moved in from the kitchen in the small bedroom adjoining the dining room.

We got away about 1:30, reached home about a quarter of 4. We were pretty crowded coming back. Mr. Robberts helped us bring Papa in.

We soon had him looking at television.

John went to church after Jane and David.

Papa and mother are both sleeping in the little bed.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 18, 1950 to December 24, 1950 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, December 25, 1950

Well, I even got Tote's rubber bone and Puss' catnip mouse wrapped last night.

Jane and David gave me a nylon blouse and John gave me a student lamp for the desk. I gave Mother that Kaufman's picture of myself. David got his train transformer. He and Jane got mostly clothes, which they needed.

I had invited the Fifes for dinner. The turkey was delicious -- also Ermine's fruit cake confection from Oregon.

We watched television in the afternoon, and had a fire in the fireplace.

Tonight Jane and David went caroling with the Osbrinks and their choir. Paul Coates brought Jane home. D.P. came with one of the Taliaferros.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 26, 1950 to January 5, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Saturday, January 6, 1951

Jane had a date last night with Bob First to see the Male-Manual basketball game.

Mother became nauseated from her medicine today and we had to stop it. In fact she has heaved and vomited and been very ill all day, and has been unable to take any nourishment.

I have been here all day except that John and I went to the grocery store in the afternoon. Jane and David were here.

Jane, Ann and Janet went to Teen Club with Ann T.

Sunday, January 7, 1951

Papa slept on the day bed in the dining room last night and I slept on the davenport.

Mother was very ill all night and continued to be nauseated today. However she didn't vomit from early this morning until this evening. It snowed last night, and she decided that she could take snow to moisten her mouth, so I have been giving her that. She also has taken possible four teaspoons of Jello today, and five or six teaspoons of cream over the snow. She might not have vomited tonight if I had not given her some ice water at her request. Tonight I did manage to give her a very tiny bit of milk of magnesia in the snow.

John and the children went to S.S. and church this morning and are there tonight. Jane and David went coasting over at the golf course this afternoon. They didn't have choir rehearsal, as Mr. Osbrink was sick.

Monday, January 8, 1951

We talked to Dr. Coleman this morning and told him that Mother was still nauseated. He had the drug store send suppositories to dull the nausea reflexes (a sedative). He insisted that she have two digitalis tablets because I didn't give her one yesterday. In consequence she was very ill again this afternoon and vomited. He said that he wanted her to become digitalized.

Book 84- January 9, 1951-February 18, 1951

Tuesday, January 9, 1951

Cousin Ola called last night to ask all about Mother. I had written her Sunday. At first no one in Owenton knew that Mother was ill, but now I suppose everyone does, for I wrote Aunt Sue a letter Saturday, told Cousin Hollie and Myrt, wrote Cousin Ola Sunday, and wrote Mrs. McPherron a card tonight.

The latter part of last night Mother slept soundly and has slept all of today, but she is completely apathetic and listless -- hardly bothers to talk,-- and has such a drawn, sick look. Naturally she is very weak and dehydrated.

However, she has had some food and liquid today -- has not been nauseated. I have succeeded in getting about 3 cups of hot tea down her, about six teaspoons of oatmeal gruel, about one-half a poached egg and piece of melba toast, and two ice cream sodas (ice cream with R-C Cola over it).

She had her digitalis tablet today and it didn't upset her.

Dr. Coleman is supposed to come tomorrow to give her another injection.

Last night I went over to church to give "Hi-lights of Ridgecrest" at the library meeting. John stayed here with Mother.

Tonight he went to Dad's night at P.T.A. at Prestonia. D.P. went to Scouts. Knottie was over this afternoon.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 10, 1951 to January 18, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Friday, January 19, 1951

Mother slept well seemingly, but awakened at a quarter of six very nauseated. When I got in there she was vomiting. Before I had breakfast ready she vomited again. I called Dr. Coleman to ask him whether to leave her medicine off today. He said to do so -- to leave it off one day a week.

When I got back to her she said "Have I been sick? Did I throw up? Where am I". She asked me these things several times and couldn't remember coming to Louisville or anything about her illness. Alarmed, I called Dr. Coleman again. He said that in elderly people this often happened after an illness, that he thought it would be temporary if her arm or leg showed no evidence of a stroke. Sure enough, after she had slept, she was all right when she awakened. I took her to the bathroom.

She has slept most of the day until this evening, hasn't felt like sitting up today. Whereas, she had reached the point Wednesday and yesterday that she was liking some food, she seemed to have turned against everything again today.

Mrs. Dutschke stopped to enquire about her this afternoon. Stella was here today.

I was supposed to go to Mrs. Kornhauser's committee meeting (to select a Senior Scout to go to Oregon), but got Mrs. Hydes to go in my place.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 20, 1951 to January 22, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Tuesday, January 23, 1951

Mother had another bad night. She didn't get in terrible pain until 4:30. She just begged for ice. I rubbed her back and applied heat, but she had to sit up in bed with pillows, stacked behind her, and couldn't get easy.

At breakfast time she thought that she could eat some Cream of Wheat, but ate about one spoonful and drank about half a cup of tea.

I have strained my side and am having some trouble with hemorrhoids.

Lottie came at nine to stay with Papa while I went to the hospital with Mother. The Yellow Cab (Mr. Atkins driving) came about 9:10. It hurt Papa to see Mother leave. I rode in the ambulance with her.

They brought us to room 342 (I saw Mary Lee Jones downstairs). She is a medical technician here now.

Dr. Coleman didn't come until around 11:30, and Mother and I were both asleep. As soon as he started examining her back, he asked me if I had noticed a small breaking out there. He now thinks that she has shingles, a virus infection of the nerve ends. He says that it is not only extremely painful, but can be of long duration, that x-ray treatments are best for it. He also says that he will give Mother injections for the pain, since she tolerates medicine so badly. He thinks that the nausea of the last several days may have been caused by the shingles instead of the Digitoxin. They gave her a hypodermic injection at 11:45 from which she is still sleeping and took her to the x-ray room about one. While ago she had another electrocardiogram.

I went home with John for supper. He had to be back though at a quarter of six, so he ate cheese and couldn't wait for our stew. Mrs. Klusmeier sent some delicious bean soup.

John went to school to register until nine. I rested most of the time, as my side which I had strained lifting Mother on the bed pan hurt me.

John came to take me back over. When we walked in the nurse came with us, and said the reason for the rails on Mother's bed was that she tried to get out of the bed and fell, but was not hurt. She had promised me that she would turn her light on, but she just forgot probably when she awakened.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 24, 1951 to January 25, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY)

Friday, January 26, 1951
David Paul's 14th birthday

Although I stayed at home, I didn't sleep well. At two I got up and called the Third East desk to ask about Mother. The nurse said that she had just come from there, that Mother had used the bedpan. I stayed awake until between 3:30 and 4.

At 6:30 I called Ermine. She was just passing by, getting ice. She said that Mother was restless around two, but was resting then -- had talked to her some.

I was alone over about 8:15. Lola Dannenfelser was coming to stay with Papa. We met her at Hess Lane and Pindell as we were leaving.

Ermine said that Mother spit up some blood last night and she did again this morning. Last night I told Dr. Coleman that Mother started complaining in the afternoon of severe, jabbing pain in the right abdomen, up high, right under her rib. She was distended with gas and they used a colon tube last night.

This morning when we reported about the blood, the house doctor came. He seemed to think it was from retching. When Dr. Coleman came, he thought the same, or at least said that it might be. The house doctor came back in with him. Ermine had gone out to see Papa while the doctors were here.

I have become so alarmed about mother that I called John to come. We both talked to Dr. Coleman. He said that there was nothing encouraging about Mother's condition, said that the diabetes had complicated treatment. He said that her lungs were clear and her heart seems to be stable. He said that she was past the acute stage of shingles, but that the pain could persist for weeks. He said that the gas she had could be causing a great deal of pain. Last night he had asked her if the pain in her right side came suddenly. She told him that she had it the day before, too (Wednesday) but she is sometimes confused on time, and she certainly didn't mention the pain to me until Thursday afternoon.

Dr. Coleman ordered an enema for her.

Ermine came back out home and left shortly after twelve.

She had a hypodermic this afternoon and was slightly confused for a while. Brother Green and Mary Margaret came to see her, and right after they left, Mr. Parrent.

Then Lola came. She had been with Papa all day and he enjoyed her, I think, and she said that she had a restful day.

John bought the groceries, socks for D.P.s birthday at Woolworth's, and a cake from Heitzman's. Opel and Jessie came out to stay with Mother while I went home. We left at six, and they didn't get here until after we left, but called as soon as they were here. I hesitated to leave Mother, as she was getting glucose.

We had hamburgers for supper and David's coconut birthday cake. Diane and Jim Bulluck, with whom David was going to Teen-Age Club, stopped by and ate some ice cream and cake with him.

Jane had a date with Bob First and went to a movie.

John went back to school. I was lying down resting between 9:30 and 10 when John came for me. Opel and Jessie said that Mother had a hypodermic about 9:15

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 27, 1951 to January 31, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, February 1, 1951

Snow continued all the night and morning, and there are about 6 inches on the street. We can't get our car out of the garage, nor can Chuck get his out. All schools were dismissed, including U. of L., but John stayed over all day.

I went to the hospital on the bus. Mother is much better. She still has her pain, but abated and is eating fairly well, has her teeth back in.

Gypsy is staying on because she can't get home. Few buses (state) are running, few cabs are on the street.

I came home by Kroger's -- couldn't carry my groceries up from the corner of Widgeon and Bob First helped me.

Must get Gypsy out here tomorrow. It is expected to go to five below tonight, but the snow has stopped.

Dr. Coleman didn't get in to see mother today, but he was there last night, Gypsy said.

Bob and Betty Lou are in Lexington.

Friday, February 2, 1951

It went to 19 below at Standiford Field last night. Papa couldn't believe it, as the house was so warm.

John didn't get the car out, but went to school.

David went to a movie with Larry, and Jane to one with Ann, Janet and Alice.

I went over to the hospital on the bus, but missed Dr. Coleman. Mother said she felt better than yesterday, but Gypsy said that she was to get glucose because she was dry. I fed her lunch to her while Gypsy ate, then brought her out here to see Papa. She went back in a cab.

Tonight I went back to the hospital on the bus, came home on the new Hess Lane bus. I really didn't think Mother looked quite as good as yesterday.

Cousin Ola called tonight.

Dr. Coleman's uncle was operated on, Gypsy said.

It is cold again tonight. Chuck finally got his car out.

A card from Thelma written Wednesday noon said that they reached there and she would stay until the road cleared. She is probably still there.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 3, 1951 to February 10, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, February 11, 1951

We set the alarm for five. John drove the children to church, as the Greyhound bus was to leave at 6:10 to take the Antiphonal Choir to Northern Kentucky.

He stopped at the hospital, as he came back, to see about Mother. I went back to sleep for a while, after getting up to prepare breakfast with the children.

John didn't go to church but went to school and work. I prepared dinner.

As soon as I had the dishes washed, I drove to the hospital. Mother said that she had a catch in her chest, up near her shoulder, which Dr. Coleman said was a kind of spasm such as she had in her hand and arm Wednesday night. They gave her a hypo.

John came by about three or shortly after and drove on to the University. I went home on the bus about 4:30.

Papa started having terrific pain in his left "foot". I called John and he brought Emperin as he came, about six. Papa got temporarily easy.

John went after the children around 10, stopping first at the hospital to see Mother.

David came in first (Jane went over to Ann's) saying that she wasn't going to school tomorrow because his throat hurt. I didn't get any information out of him however, the choir sang at the Ft. Mitchell Baptist Church in the morning, the Crescent Springs Baptist Church in the afternoon, and the Baptist Church at her Verona in the evening.

Jane and Paul ate at the same home -- had meatloaf and wonderful lemon pie. Jane called Stella Rauscher and talked to her about Mother, tried to get Mary Sue but no one answered (called Mary Maline on her own -- must send money to those people, as that would have been local toll).

David and Eddie Cuhenberry ate at the same home, had ham. He said there were four daughters there.

Monday, February 12, 1951

Paul called this morning to ask Jane to go to the banquet at church with him tonight.

John stopped at the hospital to see Mother as he went over (ed.-to work).

David took five dollars to Mrs. Pope as his deposit on the K.E.A. (ed.-Kentucky Education Association) trip to New Orleans.

I left Papa alone and went on the bus to the hospital at 9:30. He continued to suffer with his foot during the night, but the pain finally stopped after I gave him two Emperins with some toddy at 6:30. He didn't get up until 6:15, and was just eating his breakfast when I left.

Mother said she didn't sleep so well last night, but was about the same this morning. She sat up about 15 or 20 minutes right after I came. I waited until 12:30 to see Dr. Coleman and he never did come, nor was his light on when I left.

Papa and I had lunch. At three, after David was home, I went with Mrs. Klusmeier and the Scouts to take Valentine candy and Valentines which Claudine had supervised their making. They had turned out well.

Carol was there. She said there is to be an opportunity for Senior Scouts to work as nurse aides at St. Joseph's.

Jane and Paul went to the banquet tonight. David didn't go. John didn't come home for dinner.

After dinner I went on the bus to the hospital. Mother said that Dr. Coleman came right after I left today. He told her that she may not go home until she can sit up as much as an hour. I had left a call for him this afternoon, but he never did call. The most that Mother has sat up so far is 20 minutes.

Stella stopped to see Mother as she went home from the Robberts'. She had gone in at 11 this morning to see about Papa while I was gone.

John came by for me. We drove Miss Clancy to her brother's out past Standiford Field, and the road (under construction) was terrible.

Paul, Harry Champion and the two Hays girls (Pauline and Barbara) came in with Jane a short time after the banquet.

Tuesday, February 13, 1951

I kept the car and went over for Lola. I waited for Dr. Coleman, but he never did come. Finally, I called Lola and she called his office, and he was already there.

So, I went on home, we had lunch, and I took Lola home.

After David got home, I went back to the hospital.

Tonight I went for John and we came back by there (ed.-hospital).

A card from Ermine today that she and her mother left Williamstown Saturday at noon for St. Petersburg. The card was mailed from Birmingham Sunday.

Wednesday, February 14, 1951

I went over to the hospital on the 10 o'clock bus, leaving Papa alone. I got to see Dr. Coleman. Mother asked him if she could come home this week-end. He didn't promise her, but told me that she might have to stay there another week. I asked him about changing her room, since 342 is a \$14 a day room. He said that it would be all right. No 2-bed room seemed to be available but I knew that 330 was and arranged to get it. It is \$11.00.

I went back over this afternoon to help move Mother into it. It is going to be much noisier, and this furniture and bed are far from nice. I am glad that she had the other comfortable room while she was so ill. She has a different desk and different nurses, even though she is close to her other room. I could have gotten her a bed in 347- a 5 bed ward at \$7.00 per day, but I didn't think I wanted Mother in there. Adele came to see her before she moved.

I meant to wash tonight but was tired and went to bed.

Thursday, February 15, 1951

I got up at 5:30 to wash. Nell Grimes came to stay with Papa. Mother was depressed when I got there -- said that she had a restless night and became nauseated when she had her enema- couldn't sit up because everything turned black.

I stayed until afternoon and she felt better this afternoon. Nell brought me back by the grocery store.

Eloise has written that she may come Sunday night.

Friday, February 16, 1951

Stella being here today, I went over to the hospital at 10:15 and stayed until about four. Mother had a pain in her chest (the kind Dr. Coleman designated as muscular) about four, and had to have a hypodermic, she said. He didn't come to see her today, although he was at the hospital.

She is coughing considerably, which worries me. Papa is also coughing tonight.

David went to Teen-Age Club. Jane went to a party at church with Paul.

I am writing an article on Puss.

Saturday, February 17, 1951

I went over to the hospital this morning. Mother is very anxious to go home tomorrow. I missed Dr. Coleman, as he had been here.

I got a chicken to have if Eloise comes tomorrow night (at Bice's).

Sunday, February 18, 1951

Jim Sidebottom called last night and said that they were coming to see Mother today, but they did not come. I went to the hospital this morning to try to see Dr. Coleman, but he never did come. I came on home about 12, and called him. He said that he wouldn't let Mother out today -- possibly Wednesday.

I called the hospital and told them to tell Mother. When I got back over there about two, Mother had just vomited, following some orange juice she took. Dr. Coleman came shortly, making his rounds and he told her to leave the orange juice off for a few days. I think he thought that nervous disappointment about not getting to come home might have had something to do with it.

Jim and Bird never did come.

Book 85- February 19, 1951-May 7, 1951

Monday, February 19, 1951

I made pear salad (congealed) and lemon chiffon pie yesterday in preparation for Eloise. I had the Cincinnati train at the Seventh Street Station paged at 10:30, but Eloise didn't come, so I drove to 10th Street for the 11:10 train. It didn't come in until 11:25, but she was on it, looking fine.

We came on back to the hospital. Mother was glad to see Eloise. After she had her lunch, we went on down to the Coffee Shop and ate.

I meant for us to come on out home (I forgot to say that I came out at 12 and gave Papa his lunch) as soon as we had seen the babies at three, but Claudine and Mrs. Klusmeier came, and we didn't get away until four. In the meantime John had called saying that he had to be back at six, so we got home at 4:30 in a mad rush (I picked him up) and I cooked a chicken, made dressing, cooked lima beans and escalloped potatoes.

Elbert and Phyllis came and drove us back over to the hospital. Phyllis brought Mother a box of candy, beautifully wrapped. They then brought us home and took Eloise home with them for the night (They had wanted her for dinner).

Tuesday, February 20, 1951

Stella came today. Rain poured. I went to Phyllis' for Eloise. She has decided to go home on the train tonight. I had to borrow an umbrella from Knottie. However, the rain had stopped (temporarily) by the time we reached the hospital.

Eloise and I ate over the Hollywood Steak House. She took the ticket from me. We had stopped at Susan's Florist and she brought Mother a pretty azalea plant.

I left Eloise at the hospital and came by home before going to P.T.A. Cousin Ray and Mary came then went on to the hospital to see Mother and Eloise.

I had told Eloise I would pick her up at four, so I left P.T.A. before it was over. When I got to the hospital, Mother said that Cousin Ray had taken Eloise out to their house. I came home made meringues and started dinner. Then I went after John. We drove in blinding rain.

John and Jane went to Atherton for the Father-Daughter dinner. Elbert and Phyllis came for Eloise at 6:30 to take her to the train. Cousin Mary had brought her back in time for dinner.

I went on to Atherton with Mrs. Klusmeier, Ann and Claudine. I met some of Jane's teachers. After the program, John and I came by the hospital and I brought the Fifes' cot home. Mother was sleeping but roused up.

Wednesday, February 21, 1951

I went over to the hospital to see Dr. Coleman and get instructions (I had the car). He came about 11:15. I came on home, bringing some plants and things as I came then went back for John at 12:30. We came on to the hospital. Mother's medicine wasn't ready and her diet list hadn't been sent up.

We finally had to wait down at the pharmacy for her medicine and didn't get away until after one. Her diet list still wasn't ready and John had to come by for it this afternoon. Mother didn't have to come in an ambulance. We brought her in the car. I had called Cotton Martin, Mrs. Klusmeier's nephew, and he helped carry her in. She was so glad to get here and Papa was so glad to see her.

Jane and David were supposed to sing in the choir at prayer meeting today- a reproduction of their northern Kentucky program. I got Lottie to stay with Papa and Mother. Jane and David went on the 6:30 bus, John on the 6:45 (to meet John Barriger) and I got Lottie at 7:30 and drove taking Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann. They came in to see Mother.

The choir did a beautiful job. We immediately came home. I am sleeping downstairs.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of February 22, 1951 to March 9, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, March 10, 1951

I was busy all morning getting ready for our Scout meeting at the church this afternoon. It was Lucy Stites' investiture, and a Juliet Low program with three foreigners -Miss Duhmer, graduate student (exchange student) at U. of L. from Germany, Mr. Davie Laverson from Denmark, and Mr. Kulkarni from India. They were very fine, and we all enjoyed the program and social hour afterward. John went for them and took them back.

While we were gone Ama came to see Papa and Mother and stayed with them quite a while.

Lola Dannenfeser stopped to see them this morning.

Sunday, March 11, 1951

Jane and David went to S.S. and church, John to school.

This afternoon Jessie and her roommate came to see Papa and Mother.

When they went back, Jane and David went with them to choir practice. I went to church tonight, going to the Post Office first to mail my outline to Miss Jones in Indianapolis. Then I stayed in the Library

Jane told me after church that she had lost her billfold. She thought it was in her purse which she left on a shelf in the choir room while they had choir rehearsal. I fussed at her terribly for being so careless with it. There were about three dollars in it.

Monday, March 12, 1951

I talked to Jessie's friend, Roy Thomas, in whose car Jessie took the children, but the billfold was not there. Right after I talked to him I received a call from a Mrs. Chelf, 1009 S. 4th Street. She said that a Negro woman living over the garage back of her had seen the billfold lying on a roof across the alley from them. Mrs. Chelf started the conversation by asking me if my daughter had lost the billfold and I described it. There was no money in it, she said, but the pictures and so on were there. John went after it and gave the honest the honest Negro woman 75 cents.

We were all relieved to get it back. It was a nice billfold which Sylvia sent Jane at Christmas.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 13, 1951 to March 25, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, March 26, 1951
My 47th birthday

The day has been uneventful so far as my birthday is concerned, although I received some cards.

Dr. Overstreet came before eight, before I had bathed Mother. He said that she is doing all right. He thinks that "Foster" is back, but I told him to continue with the case, since Mother likes him so much.

The laboratory girl came at 20 of 10.

Mother's hip hurt her this afternoon, and her temperature was 100 tonight. She had no tablet today.

Knottie and Ann came over this afternoon.

Tuesday, March 27, 1951

Mother had her tablet again this morning. She gets it ever other day.

Stella was here, and washed. I went to the board meeting (Girl Scout), taking time first to return a book to the Baptist Book Store and have my hair cut at Mr. Naves.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 28, 1951 to April 10, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, April 11, 1951

David got out of school at twelve. I had the car. We picked up John and got down to the station shortly after four, even though the train didn't go until five. The number going to New Orleans is 350, and Mrs. Pope has 23. Larry, Brent Martin, Linda Wehr, Betty Lou Malee, and many others are going. David was in great glee. He is taking his daddy's new small suitcase. We waited until the train pulled out. The rain poured.

I came home with Mrs. Malee, as John was going to a dinner at the University.

President Truman has fired MacArthur. The issue has split the country more than anything since Civil War days, one commentator said. We heard a panel discussion by senators, and Truman at 9:30. Mrs. Klusmeier and her sister came over to hear him.

Thursday, April 12, 1951

Our chair came back last night. It looks much better.

The day has been cold, rainy, raw, windy.

We had a boy, Billy Atkinson from Lebanon from the B.T.U. Convention last night.

Nothing from Jane today!

This afternoon, Estell and Martha came, bringing 6 dozen eggs.

After they left, Adeline, Margaret Jack and Mrs. Sandusky came, bringing lovely flowers to Mother.

Tonight John went after Billy. After they came home, we had another boy, Tommy Duffer, from Hodgenville. He was 10. Billy will be 14 in May.

Friday, April 13, 1951

Stella was here.

Early this morning, Nell, Gladys, Carolyn and Marjorie came.

I started Tex-o-liting D.P.'s ceiling, spilled part of the paint, had a terrible mess.

At 1:30 I went in town, was back at 3:30 -got a rug for our room (rose shaggy) at Stewart's but couldn't get a red one for Jane as they were out.

I finished the ceiling when I came home.

David's party is having their Mardi Gras party tonight.

Sheila Dutschke talked to her mother and Larry to his father last night. They had just checked in at the New Orleans Hotel, and had dinner, said that it was warm there.

Jane and Ann are meeting lots of boys. John says since that was their objective they must be having a good time.

Saturday, April 14, 1951

I painted the ceiling in our bedroom today-stopped to go over to church to stuff library lists in the Chimes and came back by the grocery store, John with me.

It took me a little while to finish the ceiling after I got home. I finished in time to take a bath and prepare dinner before Jane arrived. Mrs. Klusmeier met the train, which was due at 4:50, but didn't arrive until six. They got here about 6:45. Both girls were crying, did not want to come home. They had a wonderful time, chiefly around about five boys-Richard, Don, Bill, Ike, Johnny (Anny's cousin) and I don't know who else.

Jane had a chance to double date with Shirley Sapp, Craig Woodhouse and Carl Weller, but was too tired to go.

Sunday, April 15, 1951

John took Jane to S.S., then later went to church. They went to meet David at twelve. He came in telling about what he won at the Penny Arcade, a little alarm clock some lighter fluid for Papa, a pencil box, a piggy bank-all that before he told us about the Bellingrath Gardens, the French quarter, etc. His hotel, the Monteleone, was in the French quarter. He did not eat at Antoine's with Mrs. Pope.

He and Jane both talked about how warm it was. Jane said that everything was so green in Mississippi, and looked so awful here.

David saw Mariam at the Mardi Gras dance Friday night, but didn't dance with her.

Jane went to choir rehearsal. D.P. slept all afternoon. He didn't even go to B.T.U and church although he got up at six.

John and I went to church, stopping first at Norton to see Mr. Charlie Barthel from Owenton. He has cancer of the throat and is pathetic. He is in Room 440, Bed 1.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 16, 1951 to May 4, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, May 5, 1951

Jane and David were supposed to go to a hayride (Antiphonal Choir) last night, but they didn't have it because of rain, so Jane went to a movie with Carl Weller, and D.P. went to Teen Age Club.

I kept the car and shopped this morning as I was going to the Derby this afternoon. I wore my new dress which Mother gave me. It was the first time that John and I have ever attended a Derby, although we sat on a roof across the street to see one when we lived at Mrs. Callahan's.

Mr. Wotawa had given us passes, but they were only to the Club House grounds. However, we were on a grassy bank and were able to get right down to the fence for the actual running of the Derby.

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor were there, but we did not see them. A field horse, Count Turf, won the Derby. We didn't drink mint juleps or bet, as everybody most was doing. It was an interesting crowd to see.

Sunday, May 6, 1951

I went to S.S. but didn't stay for church. The McPherrons came out this afternoon to see Papa and Mother. Jessie brought them in Opal's car.

I had invited Jimmy Cobb out for supper but he couldn't come as he drove some friends who had been here to see the Derby back up to north Kentucky.

Monday, May 7, 1951

I left home at 8:30 to get the bus, but rode down to the Scout office with Jimmie Bulluck. We left for Mammoth Cave shortly after nine. Mary Logan, Mrs. Stetzer and I went in the staff car and Mrs. Hogier, Mrs. Hydes and Mrs. Blue in the former's car. The trip down was uneventful except for a stop at the Wigwams and a stop at a glass house where lovely reproductions are sold.

We reached Mammoth Cave in time for lunch-had a delightful meal in the dining room.

In the afternoon we had our first meetings with Miss Miller and Mrs. Beers, the former from Columbus, Indiana, the latter from Lexington.

Before we had the meeting we walked to the cave entrance.

At supper we had another good meal. Today at lunch I had creamed turkey on toast, but tonight took the meat loaf. Mrs. Blue had the country ham.

We drew for rooms. I am with Mrs. Blue. Mary Logan, Mrs. Stetzer and Mrs. Hydes are together.

Tonight in our meeting Mrs. Beers showed us slides of her year in Greece. She had me dress in a Greek costume for her.

Afterwards we sat in the lobby for a while, watching a group of young people from Michigan and Illinois dance.

Book 86- May 8, 1951-June 16, 1951

Tuesday, May 8, 1951

This was a pretty day. Mrs. Stetzer, Mrs. Blue and I went walking and I photographed a groundhog and a skunk. Breakfast was ham and eggs and hot buttermilk biscuits, good.

We were in conference on the lawn this morning, had lunch, a short session, and left early in the afternoon.

When I got home (Mary Logan brought me to the door), the family was eating on the back porch. Stella had been here today.

Wednesday, May 9, 1951

I painted the top coat on my third set of slats. In the afternoon, I went to the grocery store.

Jimmie Cobb was here for supper. We had pork chops and chocolate pie-ate on the back porch.

Afterward we went to the Fryberger Sing on the campus. David stayed here with Papa and Mother. Ann Klusmeier went with us.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 10, 1951 to May 19, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday May 20, 1951

I did not go to S.S., as John had to leave early to get D.P. (ed.-from scout camping trip). Early in the morning Jane came home, said that she had hurt her arm at camp last night-started on a walk with some girls and fell over a post. Her left elbow hurt. I started soaking it in hot Epsom salts solution.

This afternoon I went over to Ann Tritt's recital. Sam and Claudine came by to see Papa and Mother, and John gave them the cot which Mother had mended.

I went to church tonight.

Monday, May 21, 1951

Jane's arm started swelling last night, and so I kept the car, got her at 11:30 and took her to Dr. Hudson. After waiting considerably we found from x-ray that it was fractured-left arm, top bone just below the elbow. Jane doesn't remember hitting her elbow, but hitting on her hand.

We had to wait a considerable time in little cubby holes, but finally got the cast on-not such a heavy one, but from her hand up to her shoulder (almost). Dr. Hudson said that she would have to wear it four weeks.

I took Jane back to school for a portion of her last class, and came on home.

When I got here I stopped in front of the house and spoke to Papa who was sitting on the front porch. He said that he had been out there all day and had "et" his dinner out there, bless his heart.

I told him that Jane's arm was fractured but was in a cast, but did not have to be set. I told him to tell Mother.

Then I went over to Mrs. Ulferts' to try to arrange to meet her at Woolworth's to get things for the eighth grade graduation party. I couldn't find her, came back to Mrs. Bellis', and we decided to wait until Tuesday.

I came on home and sat on the porch with Papa and Mother telling them about Jane. I told them that I hoped the Blue Shield Plan, in which we have participated since January, would pay most of Jane's bill.

I then pushed Papa inside. Next I told them that I had to go after Jane. There was a Girl Scout meeting at Elizabeth Bledsoe's. I went along Audubon Parkway, saw Alice, Margaret and Janet on the bus. I let them ride to the Clubhouse, but was worried about Jane, as they said she and Ann missed a lot of buses. I came back and got Mrs. Klusmeier to wait for them at Hess Lane and Pindell. I went on to Elizabeth's. No one but Elizabeth was there and Claudine.

Soon Jane and Ann came walking and had to call Dorothy Peters and ask her to have Bill go to Oriole and tell Mrs. Klusmeier not wait longer.

We didn't get away until after five. We ate on the back porch, and had more of yesterday's ham. There was also cake left from yesterday-yellow cake with chocolate icing.

After we had eaten, David and I pushed Papa back up his ramp.

In the evening Papa watched television until ten. Mother sat up in the wing chair with him until ten-far beyond the time that she usually does-working on Jane's dressing table flounce. Papa was chuckling over something on the program, but Mother, wasn't watching and didn't even know what it was.

I was working upstairs doing I don't know what, worrying about Jane's arm.

Tuesday, Mary 22, 1951
Papa's last day on earth.

I heard Mother in the bathroom at 5:15, but didn't get up until around six as usual. When I went downstairs Mother said that Papa had called her at 5:15 and said that his stubs were hurting him above where they were cut off, that they hadn't done that before. She gave him some emperin and whiskey. I went in and asked him if they were still hurting, and he said that they were. He seemed to be in pain, but usually was when his stubs hurt. Mother thought that he would soon be feeling better from the emperin, as it always helped.

I prepared breakfast. Mr. Bell called and asked me to go to Western. I asked him to let me ask mother about going and he said all right. When I asked her about going, she said she thought Papa would be all right when the emperin and whiskey had effect, and so I told Mr. Bell that I would go, God forgive me.

When I had gone in to see Papa he was lying on his side on the daybed with his head on a pillow on the chair. Why I didn't see or realize I will never know-that he was mortally ill.

Stella came. I prepared ham sandwiches, and before I left sat on the stair step bemoaning so many things happening to us, thinking in terms of Jane's arm, when all the time my precious dad was ticking out his last minutes. I had on Jane's green ruffled skirt and my nylon blouse.

Jane and Ann were due to go to the hospital, and I told them I would put their uniforms and suitcases in the car and take them to St. Joseph's after school.

Even after going back to the car I ran back in for them, having forgot them. I didn't even tell my beloved father good-bye.

Sometimes I left without leaving my telephone number, but this morning I wrote down John's number and my number at Western. Still I had no alarm as I sometimes had on other occasions.

I reached Western and barely started a music class. A woman from the office (I had left home at 5 of 8) came to the door and asked to speak to me. Even then I had no inkling until she asked me to step into the hall. She told me that my father was ill and that the woman who worked here said that my mother thought I had better come home.

I asked her if that was all the message and she said yes, but asked me if I had the car. I told her yes. She said that someone could take me if I didn't. She asked how far I had though, and I told her Audubon Park. It was 10 of 9 when she told me, and I was home at 10 after 9. At Speed Museum a car started into my lane and I hit the curb hard but stopped short of the wall.

I feared that Papa would be gone when I got here. I stopped out front. John and Mr. Wotawa were standing on the porch. John said, "He is better now".

I went in and they had him on the bed in the den. I walked on the side of the bed next to the window and said “Papa”, and he turned his eyes in my direction and looked at me, and his lips moved but no words came. I shall always be thankful to God above that he knew me, I know. Thank thee, Lord.

John had called Dr. Chapell and Dr. Overstreet. They couldn’t locate the latter, but were sending Dr. Smith, his assistant, and Dr. Chapell was on his way.

Mother said that Papa wanted to be moved to the other bed and that Stella stood up on the day bed and lifted him on to the board and his chair and supported him to transfer him to the other bed. He did not have to exert himself. However, Mother said that he seemed tired when he got in the other bed. She asked him if he felt better and he said yes, he believed he did. He lifted himself by the overhead bar and turned toward the window.

Mother asked him if he wanted some toddy, and he said yes, not to put much water in it. She said that he did not drink much.

She then asked him if he wanted the coffee. He said, “Not now, but maybe a little later”. She said that was the last thing that he said.

She turned her back and started to the kitchen, then heard him cry out as though with extreme and terrible pain. He was in a convulsion, his stubs quivering in the air.

Stella was in the yard hanging out clothes. She had her call John and then call me. Although the woman in the office did not tell me, Stella told her not to tell me that they thought my father was dying.

It was 15 of 9 when Papa had the attack.

Shortly after I came, Dr. Chappell arrived. He looked at Papa, and thinking it was his heart, as John did (Papa had complained to Mother a little about his left arm recently but had said nothing to me about it). He called the County Police Ambulance Services to bring oxygen. Before they arrived however, he decided that Papa’s breathing was better and that he had suffered a stroke and did not need the oxygen. His blood pressure, I think he said, was 140.

When the police came, he did not let them unload the oxygen tanks. He gave Papa an injection in his left arm.

Helen Scherr stopped to enquire.

Papa had a second convulsion-crying out-but not so severe as the first-before the police came, I believe it was. Dr. Chappell called it a cerebral accident. After the second one his eyes seemed to be set as he didn’t move them when things were put before his eyes.

Next Dr. Smith came. He also thought that it was a cerebral accident. In the meantime I had called Dr. Coleman for I felt like Papa was his patient. He was in the Coffee Shop at the Baptist. I crying told him that Papa had a stroke. He came right away.

Both Dr. Coleman and Dr. Smith thought that Papa should be in the hospital. Mother thought it could do no good-that he was dying because his fingers were purple-but they said that sometimes oxygen would help get the patient over the initial shock. Dr. Coleman called St. Joseph's and finally got a room. John called the Yellow Cab ambulance.

His blood pressure was going down even before he left, and he seemed to have fluid in his lungs.

When the ambulance came and they put an oxygen inhalator on him the color came back to his fingers soon.

Mother was pathetic when he left, but said that she did not want to go, to the hospital. She didn't expect to see them come back. I had wet his lips with cotton and put that on an ashtray in the living room. It was gone that evening. Mother had kept passing the glass tube with whiskey on it across his lips.

I rode in the ambulance with him. John came in the car.

When we got to St. Joseph's, they let us take him on to room 156 and register later. It was a double room, with a young 21-year-old man who had a hernia operation that morning. Someone came immediately and asked Papa's religion. I suppose if he had been Catholic they would have sent a priest.

Before we left home John had arranged for Mrs. Wehr to bring Jane from school, and had called for David to come home from school on his bike.

They put Papa under an oxygen tent immediately. Mr. Maccoun from the laboratory had charge of the oxygen. John knew him. Dr. Smith came in, and Dr. Roth, a young resident physician whom John knew was in almost constant attendance. There were also usually three or four nurses there, and a sister.

Jane was in tears when she came, and David looked wide-eyed and white.

Papa breathed with difficulty and his blood pressure went down as low as 110. Finally they took the oxygen tent way and put a balloon device on him through which he breathed oxygen. They gave him injections and put something in his hand to try to open his arteries.

David could do nothing, so I finally sent him on to go to the barbershop.

John wanted me to eat lunch , but before David left, we went downstairs and got only cokes in a candy bar. After we came back John went down and ate something.

I called Mrs. Bellis and told her and Mrs. Ulferts to get the material for the eighth grade party.

Finally about three Jane went up to the Nursing Service. Miss Horine, her supervisor had been in several times.

I asked the nurse about him. She said that his pulse was weaker. I ask if I should call my husband (he had gone to the office briefly). She said that I had better, so I had the desk call him. I was sitting in the rockers at the end of the bed. Suddenly I noticed that the bloom was no longer going up and down. I asked Dr. Roth, "isn't he breathing?" And he said, "only once in a while". Then they took the mask off, and Dr. Roth indicated to me that the end had come. Jane came. I went and kissed him. His forehead was still warm, although his hands were cold.

They took Jane and me into the room across the hall. Then John came. Dr. Roth asked about an autopsy, since they had been debating all day as to whether it was a stroke or a heart attack.

Then the three of us went home to tell Mother. The end came at 3:15.

When we got here Mother was lying on the daybed. Mrs. Dutschke was with her. I scarcely had to tell her, as she knew, I think, when we all came in. She had had Stella call about one, and they had thought Papa's pulse was a little stronger then. During the day there had been fluid in Papa's lungs. They had to put a tongue holder in his mouth. I asked when I saw blood coming from his mouth about it, and they said it was from his stomach, since it was dark blood, and the tongue arrangement was causing the bleeding.

Mrs. Dutschke had been with Mother all day. Stella had rushed on to the hospital and got there after we left, but got to see Papa, she said.

John had called Ermine this morning. She was coming to bring Uncle Boy. As soon as we got home John called John Sherfy and tried to stop the folks, but Sherfy said that he thought they had already started. John arranged for Sherfy to come right on to the hospital and get Papa, and not bring him out here.

Different people started coming-I can't remember who all. Mrs. Klusmeier came and we gave her a list of people to call including Opal and Jessie, Cousin Ray, Miss Watkins, William and Ama. John called Cousin Frank and arranged that he would take a suit out home for Papa.

Dr. Pettigrew came. They had sent word to him to come to the hospital, but he said that he was not told that the call was an urgent one and so he did not get there in time. He prayed with us. Dr. Coleman came to see Mother. Miss Weber was here.

Cousin Ray and Paul Stewart came, and the Fifes.

Then Ermine, Uncle Boy and Gypsy came. Mrs. Kemper had sent a huge bowl of potato salad, and we had ham, and somebody made coffee, but there never seemed to be time to eat. I

had bought strawberries that morning while we were waiting on the doctors, and somebody prepared them.

John went over to St. Joseph's to meet John Sherfy. Jack and Mr. Allnutt came. He brought Jack out here in our car, as she didn't want to bring the ambulance out here.

The Ruleys and Mrs. Sibley came, Mrs. Corson (Knottie was here when Dr. Pettigrew was), Mrs. Kilgus, Jimmie, Mary and Miss Greer, Miss Watkins, Erwina, Sallie Rodgers, Pauline Goodridge, the Banks, the Graves, Mrs. Kuhl, Mrs. Dutschke (both in the kitchen), Mrs. Wehr this afternoon when Dr. Pettigrew was here, so many, I can't remember them all.

We set the funeral for Friday morning at ten at the Redding Funeral Home (ed.-in Owenton), and John gave the information to the paper.

Winnie called.

Dr. Coleman thought that Mother should stay here and rest until Thursday.

In the evening a high wind and rain storm came up. Part of a tree blew down in the Campbell's yard, a screen blew in on the back porch, a flowerpot blew off. We had to close windows.

Miss Watkins' group had to stay until things quieted down.

Wednesday, May 23, 1951

John and I left at 9:30 for Owenton. Jane went to school, since she had missed some and will miss more. D.P. went on the trip to Mammoth Cave with the graduating class, since we thought that he might as well do so.

Mrs. Tritt was here when I left, and Opal was coming this afternoon to stay tonight.

When we got to Owenton we stopped first at Sherfy's to select a casket. We selected a gray broadcloth one with a very soft, pretty lining. The cloth-covered casket somehow seemed more in keeping with Papa than the metal caskets. John Sherfy said that he would have Papa ready about five.

When we got home Martha was there preparing lunch for us. The neighbors had been in and had cleaned the house all over and placed flowers in the living room and dining room. Martha ate with us.

Uncle Boy came over, also Bob and Evelyn Nixon. Uncle Will and Aunt Jettie were here.

Nell Smith came bringing some eggs, said that she stopped at the funeral home at four and that Papa was ready and looked so nice, so we went on out.

Papa looked absolutely sweet and beautiful, so calm and at rest, with almost a smile on his face. From the side he appeared to be asleep. Right over him there may have been a slight too much fullness in his neck. His suit was dark blue, a summer weight suit-and they put a tie and shirt on him which we had given him and had never been worn. The tie was blue and white checked.

His wisp of white hair which he always combed so carefully with that little red comb was just-right looking, and no one could tell that his legs were off, as they won't be in Heaven.

John's family was there-Martha, A.J., Ruth, Uncle Will and Aunt Jettie, Aunt Sue.

We went home for supper. Willie brought us some pimento cheese and pickles, which perked up our food. We went over to Uncle Boy's and saw how nice everything looked.

We went back to the funeral home. Mr. Clay Vallandingham was there, Amey Henry, Ermine, Uncle Boy, Cora, Gypsy, Stokeley and Geneva, Lewis, Velma and Jimmie, and many others.

John talked to Jane. She said that many people were at home-Isla and Lowell, the Currys, Mrs. Drescher, Miss Stiles called, Eloise called, Cousin Frank and Uta Cobb and Suzanne, and others.

Martha invited us to go home with them, but we stayed at home.

Thursday May 24 1951

We had breakfast and went to the funeral home. We stayed there until 9:30. The first flowers that came yesterday were from James Cammack and wife. Ermine was to leave Williamstown at 10 and be there by 10:30. Ruth was also going to stay there.

John and I left at 9:30 for Louisville. When we reached here, Knottie was here with Mother, and Claudine was in the kitchen preparing lunch. David had started his bath for his graduation, going by the clock in our bedroom which had stopped.

By the hardest we got him ready, shoes polished and all, although he wasn't ready to go with the Bullucks. John took him out, then came back for Jane and me. We watched the graduates file in, although John didn't see D.P. until he was up front. We listened to a little of the talk of the minister of the Methodist Church, then John and I left. Jane stayed for the remainder of the graduation.

Paul Stewart was to take Mother and me to Owenton, John to bring the children later. We left at two. John and Claudine left at the same time.

Paul Stewart went by way of Lyndon and La Grange. Mother wanted to stop at the funeral home, and we did that, so that she could see how sweet and natural Papa looked. The flowers had come during our absence, and were still coming.

After a brief stop, Paul Stewart took us on down home, where the neighbors took over with Mother. Very shortly Paul Stewart took me back to the home.

Many friends were there. James Cammack was there, and said that he would go down to the house to see Mother. Cousin Ola was there, Nell, J.W., many others.

Shortly after six, John, Jane and David came. The latter was pale and carsick. Jane broke down at seeing Grandad, but David didn't cry openly, although I think he did inwardly.

Tonight there was a constant stream of people. We brought mother back and she sat in the room. She is walking badly and her voice sounded drugged. I can't remember all the people who were here. The register should show most of them. I do know that Adeline came tonight, and Elbert and Phyllis, particularly. Oscar and Frances were there, and so very many.

Someone finally took Mother home and put her to bed. We stayed until 10:30, when the quartet came to practice. Ermine took Mother and waited for us.

John Sherfy has another person in the next room-a Mr. Burke.

Friday, May 25, 1951

We got breakfast off of hand and tried to get to the funeral home by nine. I became worried about Stella during the night. Earlier John had said that we shouldn't ask her because she might have a stroke. Finally I called Jessie at six and asked her to call the Jennings Bakery and get Stella on the phone and see if she could come.

From nine on, people were constantly coming, relatives from far and wide. We had become concerned yesterday that the place wouldn't accommodate them, but Sherfy opened up the room and everybody had seats.

The day was beautiful and sunny. Mother had requested that "Abide with Me" be sung. Rev. Green read the 90th Psalm, and preached a wonderful sermon upon how our earthly homes never please us, but our heavenly ones do.

Claudine came with Opal and Jessie, but not Stella. The bakery boy couldn't find her, they said.

Cousin Ray, Cousin Gus Threlkeld, Arthur and Ben Wilson, Jimmie and Charlie Sidebottom were the active pallbearers.

Mother wanted the others to go out before she looked at Papa the last time, and so Sherfy had them do so.

We drove to the cemetery in Sherfy's car. Mother didn't think that she would get out, but finally did so.

Afterwards there was some exchange of conversation. Mary Sue came for the funeral and I did appreciate that.

Jane wore her yellow suit to the funeral. I wore my gray suit. Mother wore her black suit.

Papa was so anxious to get home. How he would have been glad to see his many friends who came crowding in to see him. When the Hales were here in the spring he told them that they would be coming home about May, bless his heart.

From the cemetery we went to the house and ate some of the food brought in by many kind neighbors. Mrs. Harrell had sent a large chicken pie. Birdie had sent a fried chicken and deviled eggs. We had tuna fish salad, potato salad, fruit salad, pimento cheese, several kinds of cake and pie. We made coffee.

Those who stayed were Cousin Ray, Paul Stewart, Emma Alice, Claudine, Cousin Willie, Otha (on crutches), Jimmie, Jim and Bird Sidebottom, Charles and Esther, later Gypsy and Betty Lou came over. We made some pictures.

The first to leave were Cousin Ray, Billy, Emma Alice and Claudine.

The others stayed a while.

John and the children left in the afternoon later.

Cousin Myra came to stay with mother and me. She was down at Verdie's.

Tonight Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Ingram came, and Aunt Sue and various others.

Saturday, May 26 1951
Jane's 16th birthday

Mother and I slept fairly well, but I took a sedative. We stopped Mother's last night as we decided that she was drugged.

I have been working on an article for the News-Herald. John took a picture of Papa and Mother for the New-Hearld to make a cut of- of Papa. I called this morning and arranged for them to use this one rather than the one of Papa with Mr. Fortner.

Mr. and Mrs. Randall and Harry came to see us this morning.

Opel took me up to the News-Hearld office this afternoon. I thought about the funerals in town scheduled for this afternoon, for there was bad hailstorm at 3 o'clock and we had to sit in the car and wait.

Elizabeth drove us out to see Cousin Ran. While there Chance Cobb, an insurance man, came to see me, then came on up home.

Ermine came over. There has usually been someone here, so that we do not have meals on a very regular schedule.

While I am thinking about it, I want to say that Papa did not seem to be paralyzed Tuesday. He moved his right hand, at least, and would put it to his nose or mouth. Once he yawned and Mother thought that he was better but very shortly after that he had his second convulsion.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 27, 1951 to June 14, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, June 15, 1951

As I come to the end of this book of sadness, I hope to include more memories of Papa, not only in this book but also in the one to follow.

Papa asked me if the shrub out front (it is a deutzia bush) did not get anymore bloom on it than he could see from the porch. It was in bud. I showed him a small piece to show him how it was opening out. Before it was fully bloomed out, he was gone.

He took great interest in what Mr. England was doing to the Dunkin place, and was interested when Mrs. Graves had a nest of squirrels in her chimney.

It tickled him when Mary Sue Kemper (five years old) came over and looked up his trouser legs at his stubs. She brought iris (one each) to him and Mother one day.

Lots of time Papa would say that his hands didn't need washing when we were ready to eat, but actually his wheel chair left his hands pretty dirty. Jane and David often washed Grandad's hands.

Stella was here today. She did the living room and dining room. I washed by hand, washed the front porch, cleaned the living room mirror, put in the screens in living and dining rooms. Papa had been here he could have benefited from the dining room screens.

Saturday, June 16, 1951

This has been a busy day, and a mixed up morning. I took John, then took Toto over on Greenup for a walk. A painter (really an L&N worker) from out on Preston came and painted the basement landing.

Cousin Mary came, then Mrs. Koebel. Cousin Ray and Mary are going to Michigan tomorrow.

I did get the refrigerator cleaned, dining room draperies up, went to the grocery store and Haymarket, got fender bent, varnished landing steps.

This has been a sad book.

Book 87- June 17, 1951-August 11, 1951

Sunday, June 17, 1951

I want to put other memories of Papa in this book which I did not include in the other.

Mother finished the side curtains for three kitchen windows yesterday.

D.P. packed for camp last night.

I did not go to S.S. and church.

Gladys brought some beautiful flowers-an arrangement which I placed on the living room mantel.

D,P. did not stay for church. We had ham for dinner today-for the first time since Papa left.

In the afternoon I wrote to Jimmy Finegan, who em-cees the Tuesday night wrestling for WHAS. I told him how very much Papa enjoyed it, how he would chuckle and laugh until his sides shook, bless his heart.

I brought Mrs. Klusmeier over to see Gladys' flower arrangement, as it was too lovely to miss having someone see it.

John made some pictures, including one of Jane with her cast and nurse's, or rather, hospital aide, uniform.

Paul is bring Jane home from church tonight.

John took David to camp.

The Dannenfelsers looked at Mrs. K's house.

Monday, June 18, 1951

I washed a big washing -- bedspreads, a quilt, rugs, etc. I also cleaned out part of the kitchen cabinets and ironed three sheets and a slip cover.

Jane went in and had her cast off--got sick. She wouldn't let me go in with her. She had to go to the dentist this afternoon.

We had a terrific dog fight on our front porch late this afternoon. John wasn't here. I was talking on the telephone to Mrs. Bierbaum on Teal about the zoning law in regard to the storage room Mother wants built on our garage. Jane started screaming. I tried to finish my conversation, but had to hang up. Bedlam had broken out. Smoky was trying to kill the Birtle's

dog, Henry, and the Mattimore's dog, Angus, jumped on Smoky to help Henry. Jane was beside herself thinking Henry was going to be killed, went right out, arm in sling and all, and even let Toto out. By the hardest I got Jane in, then grabbed Toto and slammed the front door. Neighbors were coming in all directions-Mr. Campbell with a hose, Jim Bulluck with a rake. Mrs. Robberts passed in tears, taking Smoky home saying that she was tired having Smoky blamed for everything. I went over to try to make amends with her. Mother was so ashamed about the whole thing.

Mrs. Bierbaum finally came over to see about the store room. We are supposed to have 3 feet easement, but he finally said that he would close his eyes on the matter.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of June 19, 1951 to July 1, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, July 2, 1951

Stella was here today. I kept the car, took Jane driving before lunch. I went to Julio Polio's this afternoon.

The Roberts arrived at the Fifes' at four. Claudine called and urged us to come for dinner with them, so I finally accepted.

I should mention that I received a letter from mother and broke down and cried when she wrote how she cried when she passed the house and went on to Uncle Boy's.

I let Jane drive to Preston when we went after John to go to the Fifes'. It was good to see the Roberts.

Claudine had a wonderful ham dinner. We all had a good time together, and got awfully confused trying to plan their time. Sam said "Thank God for Mrs. Stokes"- the only place where we knew for sure they were going -- on Wednesday for lunch.

Tuesday, July 3, 1951

I was getting ready for the open house tonight-did not have the car today. Gladys Corley is not at home, but I knew that she would not mind furnishing some flowers for the Roberts, so Tote and I went over and cut some. I also got some from Mrs. Klusmeier and Mrs. Tritt. I made oatmeal cookies yesterday. Today I made macaroons from macaroon mix, chocolate delights, brownies, baked the oatmeal cookies, made the punch, was on the telephone all day talking to Mrs. Gray.

The open house was at eight but the Roberts and Fifes were late. Everybody seemed to have a good time. Those who came were Virginia Hoertz, the Stevensons, Dr. Ernst (Sarah is out of town), the Lovells (children too), McIntoshes, Mr. Wendt, the Lorings.

At 5 of 9 Adele said they must get to the grocery, that they would be closed tomorrow. My heart missed a beat for I had planned to grocery shop for chickens tomorrow. I asked Adele to get three for me, but had visions of them all being gone. They did bring them back though- thankfully.

The Fifes and Roberts stayed for a while after the others were gone.

Wednesday, July 4, 1951

I went out to Fincastle this morning to get some ice cream, then to the Preston Street Super Market. I made meringues.

John was at home early in the morning, but finally went to school.

Jane went to the hospital and got very tired.

The Fifes and Roberts were here for dinner. Afterwards we all went over to the golf course to see the fireworks. Mrs. Klusmeier went with us.

Jane and the girls walked over with some boys- Jim Curry, Ronny Wolfort, Phil Stortz and _____.

Afterwards 11 boys (including the two Markls) came home with the girls. Mrs. Klusmeier stayed at home to watch out for them, and we went to the airport with the Roberts and Fifes.

Margaret and Martha are sleeping here. The others are coming for breakfast before they start to Mammoth Cave.

Thursday, July 5, 1951

I got up at five in order to have breakfast at six, as they wanted to leave at seven. They invited Jane to go, but she decided against it.

She did not go to the hospital today, as I did not want her to be tired all the time they were here.

I washed today.

They didn't get back from Mammoth Cave until after eight. We were invited to the Stevensons' for dessert.

Afterwards Betsy and Martha came on with us but Jane went back to the Fifes' to get his bags. They were tired after the Mammoth Cave trip and we didn't stay up so late.

I talked to Mother tonight. She has been busy all week-is ready to come home Sunday. Ermine was over there, and will bring her. I didn't know how to call her-or rather, where to call-first tried Uncle Boy's , then got hold of her at the McPherrons'. She is hoarse.

Friday, July 6, 1951

It was cool, so we ate breakfast in the dining room. We had sausage and fried apples.

The Roberts visited on Widgeon this morning. Jean went over to the University with Sam, then came back for Betsy and me. The girls stayed here as they were invited to lunch at Lucy Stites'. Jean and Betsy ate with John and me at the University. Sam drove the girls to Lucy Stites'.

Jean went for Martha early, as the Grays were coming for them. Mrs. Landrum called to talk to them, David said.

I called the Bennetts, found that they were back in town. I tried to call Sarah, but no one answered. After dinner we picked the Roberts up and drove to the Amphitheater to see "Annie Get Your Gun". The Fifes joined us there. We had \$1.20 seats. We saw Mackie Ransdall and Nannie Matthews.

The Fifes came by briefly afterwards and David Corson came to see them, joined us in eating watermelon.

Saturday, July 7, 1951

I had Mrs. Ruley's yeast rolls for breakfast- had made them up yesterday afternoon while the Roberts were with the Grays. I also had ham and eggs.

The Roberts wanted to go by the Fifes' as they left so Jane, David and I went with them. We stopped on Widgeon to speak to Mrs. Corson, Dr. Weidner and the Williams, then drove through Teal, but did not stop at the Tritts'.

The Bennetts were at the Fifes'. We made pictures, then the Roberts left. The Bennetts drove us home.

I felt let down. Then Sarah Ernst called at 11:15 and when I found that she was back in town and could have seen the Roberts, I could have cried. I had tried to call her yesterday afternoon. They came by here last night but we were at the Amphitheater and they left no note.

Jane also had a great disappointment. She found out that because of a mistake of Carl Kuhl's, the Walnut Street delegation is supposed to go to Ridgecrest next week and she cannot go because she is obligated to be a day camp aide.

Diane Dutschke is in the Baptist Hospital with something which may be a virus infection. Jane is also disappointed about that because she and Ann planned to go to see her tonight , and

John does not think it safe to go. I went up there to see Diane and Cousin Hollie who are on the same floor.

John is in a terrible state of nerves-cannot sleep.
(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 8, 1951 to August 10, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, August 11, 1951
Mother's Auction Sale

We had breakfast in the dining room, moving boxes back on the table and making way. All the meals we have eaten there! We had cantaloupe, biscuits (Ballard's), and sausage.

People were coming in all morning to see the things, most them looking for antiques of which we had none, having sent them on to Louisville.

Mrs. (Jim?) Davis came, said that it was just the kind of house she would have liked to buy.

The things were to be carried out in the yard at noon-at 12. We ate ham sandwiches, potato salad, jam cake (Mrs. McPherron made iced tea) which I prepared on plates in the kitchen and the family took to wherever they could find a chair.

The auction was called for 1:30. Conway got there right on the dot. There was a big crowd.

Mother sat in one of the wicker rockers.

Mrs. Klusmeier, Mrs. Dutschke, Mrs. Allen, Diane, David and Ann came. Later Thelma and Marjorie (True) came.

Conway started with a tale about him and F.L. going down home in the nude.

He started with what he called the "junk" in the back, and it brought next to nothing. I think that Mother's tried and true oil stove brought about \$1.50. We have a record of everything and how much it brought. Mother's little leather davenport on which we have all sat so much brought \$1.00. Her big 11 x 12 rug brought only about 6 to \$7.50 (I forgot which without consulting the book) and my 9 x 12 green broadloom brought \$5.00, I think. John and I ran my little black one up to about \$6.00. After things were bringing so little, I kept one feather bed out.

Ermine was there, of course.

Uncle Boy got the leather seated mission chair and lawn mower. Cousin John Smither got one wicker rocker. Mother kept the other.

A farmer from near Jonesville who had been burned out bought the living room furniture, the bed, springs, mattress (comfortable one) and dresser, the dining table and sideboard, the front

porch rocker. I am glad that so many of the things went to the same person, as they will be kept together.

I was sorry that I didn't bid on the refrigerator (Frigidaire) for Mrs. Massie. She wanted it, and it went surprisingly cheap.

(ed.-there were no diary entries from August 12, 1951 to November 11, 1951)

Book 88- November 11, 1951-March 23, 1952

Sunday, November 11, 1951

I went to Sunday School but did not stay for church. The children came home with the Reynolds. John missed getting his picture made with the deacons because he did not go.

John and I went to a fraternity tea at 2022 South First Street.

Tonight we went to church to hear all five choirs sing. Mother stayed alone.

I am beginning this book leaving all my notes back to Mother's auction sale on August 11 unrecorded. I hope I can catch them up and not get years behind on them as I did in two books.

This diary is a trial and tribulation. I am no Pepys (ed.-Samuel Pepys 1633-1703 England. Was famous for his diary of personal revelation and great events.) and doing this daily gets to be a weight upon me. I've been at it now since Jane was seventeen months old, and she is 16 ½ years old now.

Monday, November 12, 1951

I kept the car in order to go to the Atherton P.T.A.

WHAS-TV in conjunction with Life Magazine is having a series of programs this week called "Inside Our Schools". This morning we watched some classes at the Cochran School.

Mother is doing more now-helps with the cooking.

Tuesday, November 13, 1951

I kept the car and went to the circle meeting at Viola's, getting there in time for the program and the lunch. I brought up the matter of their writing their senators about President Truman's appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican. It is breaking a tradition of 175 years. This nation was founded on the principle of separation of church and state.

Before I left we watched the "Inside Our Schools" program-Prestonia was on-Mrs. Fontaine's seventh grade core class and Mrs. Pottinger's sixth grade. Mrs. Kemper and Mrs. Dutschke watched with Mother and me.

Late this afternoon I went after John, Jane and Ann. The latter two were at the Red Cross chapter house. I got in a terrific traffic jam at 2nd and Burnett. A car had stalled in the middle of Second Street and traffic was blocked in all directions.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of November 14, 1951 to December 23, 1951 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, December 24, 1951

The day has been busy with last minute Christmas preparations. I had a headache this morning but got over it, and finally got all my gifts wrapped.

I got fresh evergreens, cleaned the bathrooms and upstairs.

D.P. went to Larry's tonight for a gift exchange. He had Ann Campbell's name-gave her gloves. Jim Bullock gave him a tie and tie clip.

We baked the turkey 1 ½ hours tonight.

Tuesday, December 25, 1951
Christmas Day

Two years ago Harris, Thelma and Peg had dinner with us, last year the Fifes did.

Today has held memories of Papa constantly.

I had a touch of nausea this morning-no headache-thankfully. I was able to get up and carry on.

We broke a precedent of years and didn't open the gifts until after we had finished breakfast.

Mother received a gray and white rayon dress from us. D.P. gave her cologne. I gave her underwear, Jane gave her hose [ed. hosiery] and note paper. She received a lovely robe from Ermine, candy from Cousin Linnie.

Mother joined with me in giving John a raincoat. She gave me my blue jersey dress and shoes and month ago. She gave Jane taffeta for a dress, and D.P. two pairs of size 18 pajamas.

John gave me Daniel Green bedroom slippers, and the children gave me (at last) pinking shears and a pair of hose. Eloise sent me lovely handmade pillowcases and earrings.

Jane got her blue cashmere sweater (we discovered a tiny hole in it tonight) and a slip, hose, garter belt. Diary from D.P., scarf from him. D.P. got his flash bulb camera set, and has already made three pictures.

We cooked the picnic ham yesterday, cooked the turkey partly last night. Things were about ready this morning, the folks were just arriving-mother was standing by the stove making gravy, preparing the turkey gizzard. She seemed very quiet. Suddenly she said, "I think you'll have to help me to bed". John came immediately and carry her to bed. The folks (ed.-relatives) came on in. I got the Indian blanket to put over mother. After a while she felt better and was able

to talk to Aunt Sue. We ate at 12:30, and Mother was able to come to the table. She didn't eat much.

In addition to the ham and turkey we had dressing, escalloped oysters, escalloped potatoes with cheese, frozen lima beans, homemade rolls, congealed fruit salad, cranberry relish, celery, carrot stick, olives, pickles, jelly, coffee, mint and chocolate ice cream brought by Cousin Ray, fruit cake and cookies.

The children ate at a card table in the living room. Jane ate at the desk.

The folks left about 2:30 or 3. Mother went to bed after they left.

Ann and Mrs. Klusmeier came back this afternoon. They brought us some hickory nuts.

D.P. slept in his new pajamas tonight, took the "Show Boat" records the Roberts gave us up to his room.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 26, 1951 to January 25, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, January 26, 1952
D.P.'s fifteenth birthday

Mother gave David three dollars. Last year she gave him two dollars for a new shirt. That was when she was in the hospital so ill.

He went with the Scouts all day collecting coat hangers. I was very busy getting ready for his party tonight.

Jane went to an AO dinner at Canary Cottage. Arthur Markl picked her up there and took her to see "Quo Vadis".

We gave D.P. a new caboose for his train.

For his party (7:30 to 10) I invited Linda, Ann, Diane, Wanda Elliott, Rudi, Jim Bulluck and Eddie-besides D.P.-eight in all. They brought him \$3.00 in money, Ann brought him a tie, Diane a book, Rudi a bicycle light, Jim a manicure set (they said that he must stop biting his nails).

They played games first, then ate ice cream and the 4-layer birthday cake I had made. After that he opened his gifts.

Sunday, January 27, 1952

I went to the library even though I got up with a headache this morning. I came on home after Sunday School, which I didn't attend, bringing Ernie and Grattan.

Ama came over this afternoon bringing her father and mother and uncle and aunt to see Mother.

I didn't go back to church tonight.

Johnnie Major called Jane tonight-and made a date with her for tomorrow night.

Monday, January 28, 1952

Jane didn't have to go to school today-mid-term, but D.P. did.

A policeman stopped to see us Saturday about the man who kept poking Jane in the ribs on the bus.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 29, 1952 to March 18, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, March 19, 1952

The men from Stewart's came and laid the linoleum. It is exactly like what we had on Teal. They did a grand job of putting it down, but we notice the difference between it and the old linoleum, which was heavy gauge. This is standard.

Toto dug Mother's petunia seeds out this morning. They were in a box behind the stove.

I had to clean all the cabinet tops, stove, refrigerator, etc. this afternoon. The sander made a terrific amount of dust.

I washed tonight with John's help.

Thursday, March 20, 1952

I cleaned out the lower cabinets again. I had done them earlier this week, but the linoleum men took the cabinet doors off and I had to do them over.

I washed woodwork in the kitchen-all the white cabinets, part of the lower wall.

Tonight I went to the Junior Philathea class meeting.

Friday, March 21, 1952

Stella was here. In spite of the fact that the living room rugs are at the cleaners, I had Lola, Ruth Hansen and Knottie for lunch. The brainless thing that I did was to serve Italian spaghetti when it was Friday and Knottie was not supposed to eat meat.

Saturday, March 22, 1950

I took Toto to Dr. Calldemeier. There were a lot of dogs there. One sweet shepherd-like one had to be put to death (kidney stones). I felt so sorry for the family.

Toto had a false pregnancy. She is nine now, and Dr. Calldemeier says that it sometimes is hard for older dogs to get through this trouble. He gave her a hormone shot, and two kinds of pills for her to take each day.

Book 89- March 23, 1952-July 9, 1952

Sunday, March 23, 1952

I went to Sunday School, but came home afterwards-got a ride with the Reynolds.

Johnnie was sick last night. Jane forgot to invite him for dinner last night (for Wednesday night) so I tried to call him, but unsuccessfully. I wrote him a note.

Jane and David went to church to practice for the Messiah.

Mother went with us to hear them. We went early and sat on the first floor near the front. The Chancel and Antiphonal Choirs sang, and all were at the front of the church. They sang the Easter portion of "The Messiah". Miss Greer came over and spoke to Mother. Mother enjoyed the performance. She had not slept well last night, having almost fallen last night in the living room when her foot went to sleep. She didn't go to sleep until about four this morning.

Monday, March 24, 1952

I worked in the basement storeroom today. There is so very much to do in the basement that I'll never even get to the living portion of the house.

Tuesday, March 25, 1952

I went to board meeting this morning, stayed in for shopping, went to D.P.'s P.T.A. meeting this afternoon (in the library at Manly) and went back tonight to Carol Halliday's meeting and to see the silver exhibit at the Brown Hotel (Lemon's). I had to go alone, but went around with Callie and Phyllis Batts.

Toto is not much better yet.

Wednesday, March 26, 1952

My 48th birthday

I have received more birthday cards than usual-probably because the Chimes - rather the Towers- [ed. Church newsletter] is publishing birthdays.

I went on the bus down to Steiden's to get a few things, but got a ride back with Mrs. Maxwell.

After lunch Mother cut one of the hams we cured in November. Although the time hadn't been long, it was really good.

For dinner, we had Jimmie Cobb, Vera Grencevich, Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann. I finally got Johnnie Monday morning. He was ill. His brother said that Johnnie was in bed and couldn't come.

Mother gave me \$20.00 this morning for my birthday. John and the children gave me eight bamboo place mats. Jane kept the car and went to town after school to get them.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 27, 1952 to May 23, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, May 24, 1952

I took D.P. to town and got him a new brown checked sport jacket for \$18.95-at Levy's-size 19. He went to a movie, and I did some shopping.

Before we went to town, Jane went in and bought herself some little yellow shoes at Kaufman's. She said that they are our birthday gift to her. There were \$7.95, very cute.

Jane and Johnnie went to a movie tonight. She did not tell him that Monday is her birthday.

Mr. Walt Slaughter came to see Mother.

Sunday May 25, 1952

A year ago today was Papa's funeral, bless him.

Mother cut the second ham today in honor of Jane's birthday.

John did not go to S.S. Jane, David and I took Ernie and Grattan. The three of us came home after S.S. in the car with the Walkers.

There was rain this afternoon. I was supposed to go to Camp Shantituck, John also, but didn't, as it was 10 of 1 when we sat down to dinner and John was too exhausted to go.

Tonight was communion. John and I were at church.

Monday, May 26, 1952
Jane's 17th birthday

Two years ago I was in bed on Jane's birthday, and last year was the day after Papa's funeral. I wanted today to be good for her, but two things were bad. David got sick, and I inadvertently hurt Mother's feelings.

I made Jane's cake (her kind) this morning and picked up all day-did a little work on her white dress.

D.P. came home feeling slightly flu-ish-headache, backache. I gave him some aspirins. He lay down. Carl came over.

Mother gave Jane \$5.00 this morning. We gave her a black choker (to share with me) and hose with picture heels.

At school, Janet gave her a white bracelet, and Margaret gave her a little lapel basket of flowers. Ann gave her little bottle of Coty perfume.

Mother asked me if I were going to have anyone for dinner. I said no-that Jane didn't want anyone.

However, I did invite Margaret, Janet and Ann to eat ice cream and cake. I also invited Alice, but she had to work at Montgomery Ward's. It hurt Mother's feelings because I did not tell her. I should have told her.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 27, 1952 to June 5, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, June 6, 1952

Stella was here today. Sunday will be her birthday (64th, she said). I kept the car and went to town for the lamp shade (got an exact duplicate at Brecher's) and to Ben Snyder's for some material to finish Jane's bed spread (I am going to try to quilt it).

I also bought my groceries this morning.

In the afternoon, I worked around here. Jane went after John at 4:30 (D.P had gone to a meeting at Male H.S.) and we left here to pick up Opal at 5:30. Jane and Janet rode with us as they were going to a K.T.S. banquet at the Seelbach. [ed. Hotel] I wore my black and white dress with the red jacket that Mother gave me last year.

We had to wait on Opal about 20 minutes. John drove like mad. We reached Owenton at 20 of 7, let Opal out, went to the cemetery to take magnolias, came back by Aunt Sue's to leave a ramp ,which John had made for Papa, for Thomas. It was the ramp for the front door, and Papa had not used it very long. It is 4 ½ inches tall. They had made a step-off on the sidewalk by Aunty Sue's.

From there we went down to Uncle Boy's to see him, get some eggs, and leave them a magnolia. He looked bad, worse than last week. Cora said that she thinks he is going down fast-not to tell Mother. It hurts me to think about him having to suffer so.

We left there a few minutes before seven, got Opal, and completely forgot to go by Adeline's, as I had told her we would.

The alumni affair was at the old school auditorium. It was wonderful to see everybody. All eight of us did get there and it was wonderful. The only other one we attended was in 1941, the last year that Brother lived-and he and Ermine were there.

Fortunately all our class got to sit at the same table-Adeline, Opal, Oscar and Frances, Pascal and Thelma (looking so nice), John and I, Hap, Helen and Lucy, and Lavile.

Others there (in part) were as follows:

Leonard Smith, Willard Vories, James Cammack, Mary Margaret Green, Brother Green, Elizabeth Watson, Elsie Wilhoite, Floyd Gaines, Mary Kenney Shipp, Miss Katie Bryant, R.G. Nixon, Evelyn Nixon, Lucille Littrell (secretary), J. Shirfey Redding, M. Jack Redding, Phyllis Harvey, Elbert Harvey, Kate Broadus, Frank Broadus, Jean Hale, ____ Hale (his wife), Jesse Holbrook, Mrs. Holbrook.

Jesse Holbrook was the speaker and made a good one. He and his sister, Mrs. Lindsay received gifts for being members of the first class when the school was organized 50 years ago. It was the 30th anniversary of our graduation from high school.

The food was chicken salad in tomatoes, pimento cheese sandwiches, Benedictine open faced sandwiches, potato chips, carrot sticks, raw cauliflower, pickles and for dessert, lime sherbet and orange sherbet and homemade cake. The most popular item on the menu was the iced tea as it was very hot.

We made two flash bulb pictures when it was over. Someone else made them.

Afterwards we stopped at Aunt Sue's and then went by the McPherrons' a moment.

I forgot to say that ours is the first class in the history of the school alumni get togethers that every member has been present. After 30 years it was unusual that we were all alive.

Mother was asleep when we got home shortly after one.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of June 7, 1952 to July 4, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, July 5, 1952

(ed.- family leaving for Mitchell Field Air Base on Long Island, New York as John was invited as a guest)

Jane set the alarm for five o'clock. Mother was up as soon. However, it was 7:20 before we got away. The speedometer was 10,160.8. I should have mentioned that Jane and David took Toto to Mrs. Neal's at Jeffersontown last night. Karen Campbell is to feed Puss.

We stopped in Carrollton to call Martha, but the lines were busy. We finally got her from Warsaw.

In Cincinnati we stopped to call Mary Sue, but her line was busy, and we never did get her. We passed within sight of Cousin Ettie's but didn't have time to stop.

We ate in Canton, where car hops on roller skates served curb service (but we went in).

We tried to find a motel between Salem and the Turnpike to spend the night, but had no luck. I called Mother at nine. They didn't answer, but did shortly. They had been on a drive. Mother said that she had two naps today. Karen had brought her the papers.

We finally got connecting rooms for \$12 at the Tod Hotel in Youngstown.

Sunday, July 6, 1952

We got away about the same time as we left home yesterday. We got on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The last section of it has been opened only in the last year, so the eating places are not finished. We ate in a Howard Johnson place which had been opened only five days, and electricians and other workman busy all around. They served only doughnuts, sandwiches, coffee and juices. John had a sandwich. His breakfast was 40 cents, the children's and mine- 65 cents.

We continued on the Turnpike. At the midway point I made a picture of John by the car, a view of the mountains, and shortly after a picture of a tunnel.

We ate lunch (\$3.70) at a Howard Johnson place. We passed through seven tunnels on the Turnpike. We scarcely realized we were going through the mountains because the grade is never more than 3%.

At Harrisburg or near there, we left the Turnpike. We noted that houses in eastern Pennsylvania and in New Jersey after we got there were all tight closed, not a chick nor child visible, usually not even a car on a driveway, even though it was Sunday afternoon. We couldn't figure whether they all went away for the Fourth whether they just go in their houses and stayed there.

Traffic was slow as we approach New York. Jane had driven at least half of the Turnpike.

We went through the Holland Tunnel, drove across the Battery, and entered the Battery Tunnel. John had thought we could find the way to Long Island when we got in Brooklyn. We were on a high-speed parkway, and thought we would have to get off get instructions. That was a mistake. We must have landed in Flatbush. At least it was a tenement district, with clothes hanging on clothes lines high overhead. We could find no one to give us directions, John kept going around the same block past a cemetery. Jane, David and I got tickled and John got madder and madder.

Finally someone told him to ask a taxi driver, and we got on the correct Parkway. However we went miles further than we needed to following around the south shore of the island. We were so tired, and the directions we got were so confusing. We finally reached the Air Base about nine,

although John had told them we would reach there by 6. The military offices where he was to report were closed.

However they were expecting us at the Guest House, and there were four cots in our room. Mrs. Navarra said the Col. had told her to make it nice for us, she said that she couldn't make it nice, but it was clean. I was so tired that if she had said, there is a rug for you to be on, I would have been grateful.

We still hadn't eaten. Mrs. Navarra told us about several places. One proved to be a nightclub, and Jane and David didn't want to go in. We finally found a diner (\$2.30)

Monday, July 7, 1952

We ate breakfast at a different diner for \$2.70.

John had his time outlined for him by the Air Force personnel, so we left him, drove to the Hemstead station of the Long Island Railroad and went to New York on the commuter train. Our round-trip fare was \$5.58, and it cost 25 cents to park the car.

We got off at the Penn Station, walked through to the Statler Hotel. There we inquired about theater tickets-could have gotten seats for "South Pacific" for a 7 o'clock curtain, but John couldn't have gone and anyhow I couldn't see putting out \$6.00 each for theater tickets.

We asked about TV shows and got tickets for "Strike it Rich" on Wednesday.

Then we went in Gimbel's. I went up to a little man who looked like a floor walker and asked him how we could get to CBS at 485 Madison Avenue. We told him that we wanted tickets for TV shows. He told us to follow him to a telephone booth and he would find where to go-he didn't think 485 Madison Avenue was right. He talked about our interesting Southern accents, which sounded like "hogwash" to me, since we don't talk like Southerners. He took us up to the telephone booths on a mezzanine, called CBS and told them that he had some people there from Louisville, Kentucky who wanted tickets for the Gary Moore show. They told him that we could have tickets for Wednesday if we would call for them. I wanted to pay him for the telephone call but he would take no money. He said that outsiders consider New Yorkers cold and hard, uninterested in outsiders. He liked to do his little bit to dispute that. He said that his name is Mr. Pudis. He wrote it down for us. He also wrote down the "Reindeer Umbrella Company" on 33rd Street, address, etc. and the name of an eccentric person there to wait on us if we wanted an umbrella at a bargain. He said that they weren't open all the time. He also told us that he had no connection with Gimbel's.

Well, we got on a subway (after visiting Macy's, where we ate lunch-in the basement) and went to CBS. An obliging man pointed it out for us. I saw some attractive French type restaurants on 52nd Street-was sorry that we did not eat there.

Sure enough, we got five tickets (including Betsy and Martha) for the Gary Moore show on Wednesday.

Afterwards we went in Best's, but David was bored. They wanted to go to Radio City Music Hall to see the Rockettes, so we walked there. The picture was "Where's Charlie?" (Ray Bolger) and it was funny. This stage show was good- had a 4th of July finale. We left without seeing a small segment of film, as we wanted to get back to see John, who was going to a banquet.

We rode the subway to 34th Street, and got the Long Island train for Hemstead.

There was an airmail letter from Mother yesterday when we got there. John was at the Guest House getting dressed for his dinner at the Officer's Club.

Colonel Pancake came for him to take him to the Officer's Club for dinner. We also went over there on her own. I had lobster (\$1.95) and the children and chicken à la King (\$1.85)

We drove to Hempstead, mailed some cards.

I talked to Betsy tonight. This morning I had called Jean. I am to call her again tomorrow night.

Tuesday, July 8, 1952

We ate at the diner again. John was supposed to fly over New York today and go to the UN today. There was some chance he thought that D.P. might get to fly also. However that didn't materialize. D.P could have stayed with the Air Force boys (he was invited), but preferred to go with Jane and me to the UN.

Last night Mrs. Navarra told us that we should have driven to Jamaica and then could have ridden in to New York for 15 cents each. Well, we drove to Jamaica-at least Jane did. It was a very long way. We passed the Belmont Race Track. As we got into Jamaica the traffic was terrible.

We went to the Long Island station (stupidly) and bought tickets (\$3.30 round-trip). Only after we saw an elevated did I realize that the subway came there.

We got off at Penn Station, took a subway uptown, and then got a cross town bus over to the East River location of the UN. We failed to get off at the proper corner. I asked him, and he told us just to stay on. I took it that he was just going around-the-block. He tore around the corner and bore down upon a little peddler pushing a cart in the street, almost hitting him. We got off and walked about a block amid the building operations. Much has still has to be done there, but what is finished is very impressive. The tall, narrow building is breath-takingly beautiful. When we went in, a young lady was giving information. She mentioned that a limited number of reservations were sometimes given for the Delegates Dining Room. I applied at the desk and was told to dial a certain number. She said that we could have three, but when we got up there, they didn't have our name. After some delay, we were admitted. It was on the fifth floor, and we went up on an escalator.

We had a nice table by a window overlooking the East River and Welfare Island. Our chicken salad sandwiches were 75 cents. The little blue cream pitcher was cute. The waitress said that many people take them as souvenirs, even though they say nothing about the UN.

In at first we thought only tourists like ourselves were going to be there, but at 12, when the meetings evidently recessed, some interesting people came in. One woman with a big man and a young girl had spool heels and a dialect. Some other interesting people with foreign dialects were at an adjoining table.

We left there, rode the cross-town bus back after making some pictures and rode the subway to Penn Station. We were trying to get back to the Air Base by three as John had told us there would be a parade in their honor.

It was really almost 3:30 by the time we got inside over at the Air Base. There was no sign of a parade. We went back to the Guest House, and Mrs. Navarra, the hostess (who is English) served us tea. Finally John came in and said that the parade would be at five at Santini. We went to watch it. They made pictures. It started raining.

After that we went to eat, going to a new place. It had gotten much cooler.

After supper we drove to Jones Beach, which is only 12 miles from there. By that time, it was cool and rainy. A water production, "A Night in Venice", is being given there this summer, but had been canceled that night because of the weather. Only a few scattered cars were there. Jane and David went down to the beach and stood where the little waves could roll up over their toes, but it was cold and unpleasant.

Coming back we got hopelessly lost. John turned to the right when he shouldn't have, and asked a filling station attendant who put us on the wrong track. We finally got on a Parkway, and when that happens it is almost like the Turnpike. There is no getting off. I talked too much, worried John, and he turned the driving over to me. I finally got off the Parkway and got some directions. He told us to disregard "Hemstead" signs and drive until we saw Village Drive. Well, I drove miles and we never saw it. We finally turned at a Hemstead sign and got back about ten or so. John was madder than a wet hen. We had driven about 60 miles since we left for Jones Beach.

Wednesday, July 9, 1952

We had ascertained from Mrs. Navarra yesterday that what she meant was to ride the subway from Jamaica. We started out early, as we had tickets for "Strike it Rich" at 11:30. It was rainy.

Jane drove to Jamaica (to the 179th Street subway. We had to pay 50 cents to park the car (it was 25 cents the other two days), but got to ride to Manhattan for 10 cents each. Even so we got off too soon (I think) and had to ride a cross-town bus. When we got to the theater where "Strike it Rich" was on TV, there was a very long line along the sidewalk. They brought cards

for everybody to fill out telling why they wanted to strike it rich. I put down that I wanted to get money to finish Mother's antique furniture. However it is chiefly sob stories that get on there. People play up their tragedies -and I suspect that some of them make up their tales. It leaked in on the floor of the stage while we were there. We saw a pregnant girl who was supposed to go to her mother in California because her in-service husband didn't write her, as we were leaving. She was quite happy for a deserted wife.

I had planned for us to eat at a little restaurant café on 52nd Street when we left there, but Jane and David were in a dither-said that they did not want to take time to eat. The upshot was that we bought sandwiches on the corner at a retail Horne and Hardart (That isn't right but it is the company that operates the Automat) and ate them as we stood in line for the Gary Moore show. David bought a Good Humor too. We got on the first floor here (had to sit in the balcony at "Strike it Rich").

Once in the show they directed the camera at a couple in front of us. We forgot to look at the monitor to see if we were on. I had written mother that we were going to be on.

When we left there I wanted to go to Ohrbach's but we didn't have time. However, we did go down to the neighborhood of Gimbel's for the Reindeer Umbrella Company which Mr. Pudis told us about, but we couldn't find it at that address. It was most peculiar. We also went in Penn Station seeking a New York pennant for D.P., but didn't find one.

Finally we got on the subway and went to Jamaica. I should mention that a negro man accosted David on the street today and ask him about his camera-said that he was in the movies. He changed his tactics when he found that I, David's mother, was along. Yesterday as we came to the bus from the UN a man told him that he was a prize fighter and asked him to make his picture. I saw a natural yesterday for the Courier Journal photography contest-a bearded old man sitting on the doorstep in front of an old-age pension handout place. We were on the bus, and I couldn't make it.

Going from Jamaica, Jane's Confederate flag blew out the window and we had to go around the block to get it, but did so.

We stopped in Hempstead and bought Jane a white terrycloth jacket and a flower for Martha's birthday. D.P. looked for a pennant at the 10 cent store. We found John waiting for us when we got back to the Guest House.

We cut across Long Island, crossed on the Whitestone Bridge to the Bronx, ate at a Howard Johnson by the Bronx zoo. We crossed the George Washington Bridge and found our way to Ridgewood.

We reached the Roberts between 8 and 8:30. It was wonderful to see them and Lassie. They had saved their dessert to have with us, and we enjoyed a wonderful icebox cake with them, with coffee (we had eaten ice cream at Howard Johnson's, but managed the second dessert. We had much to talk about, and it was midnight before we went to bed. David made some pictures of the Roberts.

Book 90- July 10, 1952-September 7, 1952

Thursday, July 10, 1952

Martha's 16th birthday

We saw Jean off, had a leisurely breakfast, and left about 8:30. We soon got on the New Jersey Turnpike and followed it to near Philadelphia. It took at least an hour to get through Philadelphia.

Soon after that we got on the Pennsylvania Turnpike at its eastern terminus (I was asleep then) and were on it the rest of the day. Jane continued to do a lot of the driving. The Turnpike is wonderful for speed and for safety, but it is monotonous in that one does not get to see people, how they live, etc.

We ate at Brandywine, PA. I sent some cards from there, and in the nice gift shop bought an Amish couple pepper and salt for Mother, a bracelet and ring for Karen, and some candy for Mother. That was one of the nicest Howard Johnson's we ate in.

We ate at a smaller Howard Johnson's for supper.

We got off the Turnpike, thought we weren't going to find a motel, but finally stayed at the Queen's Motel near Lisbon, Ohio. Jane and I slept on a cot which they opened out for us. There was a slot radio in the room, and heard the nominating speech for Eisenhower. We have heard very little of this convention.

Friday, July 11, 1952

I called Mother last night. The telephone was not in the Bell System, and I was afraid that she couldn't hear me but she said that she could. She said that Opal and Jessie were just leaving.

We ate breakfast at the Motel. The man recommended a slightly different route back, less traveled than through Massillon. I was always wanting to make pictures, to Jane's disgust.

We ate lunch in Xenia, but it wasn't a very good place. Service was slow.

D.P. and I finally made the new ranch house in front of the 1890 vintage. We feared we had missed it. (ed.- made a picture where a new modern house had been built by the owners in front of the much older house.)

In Cincinnati, we stopped to see Cousin Dave and Ettie. There were going to Cousin Linnie's tomorrow.

We tried to call Mary Sue, but no one answered.

Coming out from Covington to Erlanger, Jane suddenly asked, "Mother, isn't that your cousin we just passed?" I looked back and saw Pluma and Cousin Jane. We let them pass us,

then followed them when they drove into the Kroger parking lot. They were surprised to see us. Lilyan's little girl was lying down on the back seat.

We reached home about seven. Jane went to Kroger's for us. I called Mother, and we arranged to get her after supper. Karen was on her way to take her News-Herald when we got there but brought them on back.

I forgot to say that we came by and got Tote. She was delighted to see us.

Puss greeted us.

Mother seemed to be just as when we left her. Mrs. Schlenk was nice to her. She, her mother and sister were all jolly, and mother had a good time. She had lots of company-Claudine, Knottie, Miss Weber, Jimmie and Mary, Opal and Jessie.

She had stayed up here Sunday night with Harris and Thelma.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 12, 1952 to September 5, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

September 6, 1952

Jane went to an AO tea today wearing her taffeta skirt and black jersey top.

I had fried chicken for supper.

Sunday, September 7, 1952

Brother's 61st birthday

We took Mother to Cousin Linnie's today. Jane stayed here for the KTS garden party, D.P. because he was on BTU. They were to eat at the Blue Boar.

We went through Owenton, taking candy to Uncle Boy, to Aunt Sue (and to Cousin Linnie). Uncle Boy looks bad. Opal was at the McPherrons, but we did not see her.

We got to the Threlkelds just at noon. They were not home from church. We went on in to their wonderful back porch and watched their tropical fish.

They came shortly. Their grandson from Detroit and his fiancée were there. Mabel (their woman of all work) came from church at Holbrook.

We had a wonderful dinner-ham, congealed salads (2 kinds), beans, corn, corn muffins, wonderful cakes.

Rev. Obie Steger's son came and ate with us too. His father was better, he thought.

We stayed until mid-afternoon, then went to Ermine's. Cousin Mary and Tom had come. There was no one at Ermine's. We stopped at Owenton to see Aunt Sue and Thomas. John called A. J.

We got home, went to church, brought the children home.

Book 91- September 8, 1952-November 30, 1952

Monday, September 8, 1952

I went to town-looked at coats again. I had a malt. The children went to the Fair, as they got in free today.

I talked to Mother tonight. [ed. She was staying at Cousin Linnie's and returned to Louisville on September 21.)

Tuesday, September 9, 1952

I was co-hostess at a circle meeting today at Mrs. Colvin's. I was not requested to take anything. I went with Mrs. Kuhl.

From there I went to a G.S. meeting-planning the international workshop.

I got a book at Kaufman's, "Ann Frank, the Diary of a Young Girl" and picked up Imogene Coca (a window display) at Cooper of Louisville.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 10, 1952 to October 9, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, October 10, 1952

Stella was here . I went down to Bacon's sale this morning. I got a sweater for Mother, but she has decided she does not need it.

D.P. has gone to Ft. Knox on a camporee. Jane has gone to a KTS slumber party tonight.

Saturday, October 11, 1952

Jane and I decided to go to Georgetown College today for Homecoming. Kitty Taylor on Kennedy Court went with us. We picked up a boy named Twister whom the girls knew and gave him a ride from St. Matthews to Frankfort.

We reached Georgetown about 10 of 12. Jane drove. She and Kitty called Harry and went to his house. I saw the Reddings-went through Pawling Hall with them.

We came back to Rucker. I showed my old rooms to the girls.

They didn't want to eat at the Alumni luncheon (\$1.25), but I of course did. I ate at the table with Dr. and Mrs. Hill and Rev. and Mrs. Enlow.

Also there were Prof. and Mrs. Jones, the Coueys, Coleman Arnold, Jack Horner, his wife and son, Zelma McCord and her husband and various others whom I knew slightly.

It turned out that Jane, Kitty and Harry went to Lexington and ate in a drugstore.

We didn't have time to see the Maskrafter play, so left for Lexington to see Uncle Boy at St. Joseph's. When we got there though, he had gone home at noon. He was on the first floor, very close to where Brother was-maybe next door to him. There were three beds in the room. Those rooms have been modernized since Brother was there.

I called Jim and talked to him, but forgot to ask about Cousin Arthur.

Jane drove home. We got ahead of the U. of K. football crowd.

When we reached home, John had only been here 15 minutes so Mother had been alone all day.

Jane had a date with Dick Lightfoot tonight. They went to a movie.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of October 12, 1952 to November 26, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, November 27, 1952
Thanksgiving Day

The children went to the Thanksgiving breakfast at church. John and I went with Ann Klusmeier and Margaret to the Union service at the Presbyterian Church at 10. Jane and David came on there.

We cut Mother's last ham for Thanksgiving dinner.

John took David to pick up Carole McDaniel at the Berkeley Hotel to take her to the game. He took her chrysanthemum to her.

Harry, Paul and his girl, Margaret came by for Jane. The score was 30 to 0 in favor of Male.

They all -- the six of them -- came here for supper.

I served chicken in patty shells, congealed salad, potato chips, milk, coffee (to Harry) and pecan pie.

After supper Jane and Harry washed the dishes.

John and I took food and magazines to William and Ama. William is at home now.

When we got home, Paul and Margaret had gone to a concert.

Friday, November 28, 1952

Stella was here. John worked here at home and spent a lot of time at the lumber companies. He is, at last building Jane's table-desk, and is going to make a similar one for David. He is also putting in a fluorescent light for Jane, and will make one for David-and is putting book shelves in his room.

I have started working on Jane's bedspread again.

Jane baby sat for the Popes tonight. David went to a choir party at church.

Saturday, November 29, 1952

David was getting ready to go to the Lincoln Trail Marathon during the morning. He left at 12 with Dick Miller (driving). Tom Hansen, Jack Clark, and one or two others. Shortly after they left it started snowing.

Rudi was supposed to take David's tent when the trucks went at 3:45, but it was so bad that they didn't go.

I found out I was supposed to make cupcakes for the Service Club (circle project).

Jane was out with Harry for a while, and he was here tonight for a date.

I sewed on the bedspread, but the machine isn't doing well.

Sunday, November 30, 1952

Just 11 years ago today- about now-Brother died at St. Joseph's. So much has happened since then! This is the second time, I think, that the 30th has fallen on Sunday. Mother has been depressed.

John, Jane and I went to church.

David didn't come all afternoon, and we were all getting worried. We made many calls-as did the Heimerdingers.

Finally they came in at 5:15. They had stayed in a cabin.

Book 92- December 1, 1952-March 14, 1953

Monday, December 1, 1952

I went to town this morning. John came home at noon, but I was not here.

I had to get my entry in for the Kroger \$10,000 contest today, but it was no good.

I received a letter from Lever Brothers that I won an RCA clock-radio in their Rinso contest. The taxes on my wins will be hard to pay.

It snowed this afternoon and evening. John went to Memphis on the train-registrar's meeting tomorrow.

Tuesday, December 2, 1952

I took the car out to go to class as the snow was off the street. Dr. Webster changed our class this week, because he was going to be out of town.

David was out late at a Marathon meeting.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 4, 1952 to December 24, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, December 25, 1952

No snow, but a pleasant Christmas. I heard bustling and hustling before I got up- discovered that John had given me a lovely fireplace screen and poker set. We had wrought iron andirons from John's mother.

Mother got a waterproof traveling case from Cousin Ray, stationery from Cousin Mary, a lavender shawl from Ermine, stationery from Cousin Linnie, a green dress from us (ready made), hose and a bird feeder from the children, name-on stationery from them.

I got a brown umbrella and a house dress from the children, a copper-bottomed pan from Eloise, a check for \$200 from Mother for a new living room rug.

John got a shirt from Mother, socks from her and from the children, a tie from me.

D.P. had already gotten his sleeping bag. In addition, he got a shirt (white) from Mother, a plaid sport shirt, a tan slip-over sweater, socks a tie, books.

Jane received a nylon slip, a new wool sweater, a white blouse, a pink necklace and bracelet. From Richard she received a pretty compact with Mississippi (map) on it, from Johnnie a pretty evening bag, from Dick an orchid. Harry did not come through with anything.

After getting the turkey cooking, John and I went down to Stella's to take a package Cousin Linnie had sent her. Living room and Christmas decorations looking nice-we saw her husband, who was just coming home from working at the post office.

We went on and took cookies to Miss Nettie Lillianfield. She was eating her Christmas dinner (Poor thing, she is blind) and was so glad that we came. I had also taken Stella cookies.

We went home and had our Christmas dinner. D.P. made a picture, and John made one.

In the afternoon we took some cookies and a book to William and Ama.

Jane sent a telegram to Johnny thanking him for the bag, since she had not sent him a gift.

Tonight she went out to Paul Coates' with Harry. While she was there she received a long distance telephone call from Richard which we relayed to her at the Coates'.

We had a very quiet Christmas around the fire, watching television. Groucho Marx is our Thursday night favorite.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of December 26, 1952 to January 19, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, January 20, 1953

This was the inauguration of President Eisenhower. Even though our television is not in good shape, I invited Miss Weber up. She ate lunch here. John came home at lunch time. It was quite a thing to see. Fred Vinson, a Kentuckian, administered the oath of office.

Kentucky had a contingent there, including Male High School's band.

Tonight we saw a part of the two inaugural balls, but they were too, too crowded to look interesting.

Jane said Miss Bohon is going on leave of absence.

Wednesday, January 21, 1953

Today's big event was seeing a robin on the bird bath.

I can think of nothing now except where Jane is going to college. If only God will hear my prayers and help us all to be led right.

Thursday, January 22, 1953

I went to a Juliette Low meeting and bought myself a brown checked rayon taffeta dress at Levy's.

John (against his will) went with me tonight to see Dorothy Clore. Jane is not one whit interested in Wellesley though.

Friday, January 23, 1953

I talked to Jane. I talked to Mrs. Baker, a Wellesley graduate, on the telephone just as Jane came back from school. Jane blew up, and Mrs. Baker heard her. I made Jane call her and apologize.

Jane and Dick had a date tonight.

Saturday, January 24, 1953

John and I were invited to Mary Sublett's for dinner. Shortly after we arrived there, Jane called to tell me that John Shirfy had called to say that Uncle Boy passed away at two this afternoon. John and I left at nine and went home, as I knew that Mother would be upset. It was a shock for her, for I don't really think that she thought he would do this quickly. He had been suffering so terribly, according to the last letters from Gypsy. There was a metastasis to his left leg.

John called John Shirfy back after we got home to order flowers for us and Mother – rather for Mother and us.

Sunday, January 25, 1953

D.P. stayed at home, as he was tired and had so much home work that I urged it. I went to S.S., but did not stay for church.

I made a mix-white cake with Jane's kind of icing for D.P.'s birthday and we had it today, since we knew that we would go to Owenton for Uncle Boy's funeral tomorrow.

Mother gave him \$25 (a check) to apply on his Jamboree Fund. We gave him a developing outfit (photo) which he wanted.

Monday January 26, 1953

Jane and David did not go with us to Owenton. However, Billy Cobb and Cousin Frank did. We picked them up around ten, and were in Owenton by 11:30.

We went first to the funeral home. Uncle Boy looked nice – did not show the suffering. I don't believe he had quite the near smile that Papa had. The flowers were very lovely. Ours were red carnations.

John and I, Jim, Bird and Charlie ate dinner at the hotel in Owenton. Billy was already there and joined us.

The funeral was at two, at the church. Brother Green preached the funeral sermon, assisted by the Lusby's Mill pastor.

Immediately after the burial service we went back to town for John to get gas, and I stopped at Redding's for Jack to give me some sausage that she wanted to send to Mother. John had to be back by six, so we went right on. Jane had not yet gone to her KTS banquet at the Canary Cottage.

D.P. got home from the library shortly afterward.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of January 17, 1953 to March 10, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, March 11, 1953

As usual (or almost as usual) I washed today.

Jane has heard nothing from Vanderbilt. I mustn't let myself worry too much.

Thursday, March 12, 1953

I went to the Philharmonic luncheon with Mrs. Glover. It was very nice-at the Unitarian Church-but got wet, having no umbrella.

John went for Jane and her KTSers when I got home. She entertained them, but there were only eight here.

Friday, March 13, 1953

Stella was here. I went to town in the P.M., saw Elizabeth Davies while I was at the pattern counter at Stewart's-had a long talk with her. She had a friend, Mrs. Gay of Winchester, with her, and an old lady, Mrs. Swain, from Parr's Rest.

Saturday, March 14, 1953

John went over to the office this morning, but did not go to his Lambda Chi initiation service, in which he usually takes part. We (he and I) went to see Hans Christian Andersen movie.

Book 93- March 15, 1953-June 8, 1953

Sunday, March 15, 1953

I did not stay for church. I came home on the bus and did not get here much before John, Jane and David. John had not gone to S.S. and went to church on the bus.

I went to a tea at the Pi Phi house. John did not feel like going, although he was invited.

I hadn't expected to go to church tonight but did go.

Jane had a date with Dick last night. They saw a movie.

D.P. was at Anne Bennett's home.

Monday, March 16, 1953

I called and reserved tickets for South Pacific. I also wrote Thelma, and cut out my gray poodle cloth cape-stole.

I finished Jane's blouse, and Mother worked the button holes.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of March 17, 1953 to April 25, 1952 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, April 25, 1953

I got candy for Mother, and hand lotion. Jane picked up her new printed stationery as she went to Dr. Alberhasky's. The stationery that I gave her at Christmas is mostly used up. One thing that Mother can do is write letters and she does enjoy her correspondence.

She received 21 birthday cards this morning – most of them from Louisville thanks to Lola dannenfelser. She has been receiving cards from Owenton for several days. There was an item in the Grant County News about her, and she received some cards from Grant County.

At three o'clock Mrs. Klusmeier took Mother up to see her house.

We had Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann eat with us, except that we had to eat before David started to work, which meant that Ann didn't get here until after work and ate alone.

D.P. went to a party after work.

I had Mother's birthday cake baked at Heitzman's. It said "Happy Birthday, Granny-83".

Jane had a date with Dick tonight.

Sunday, April 26, 1953

It was colder today, but not so much as last Sunday. I went to see Mr. Nixon again, and stopped to see Elizabeth Ann Robberts.

John and I went to Maas' Funeral Home, where Mr. Krausgill's (manager of book store) husband is.

I did not go to church tonight.

Monday, April 27, 1953

I went to town and brought two dresses out to Jane from Stewart's – one a lavender is very pretty – a voile but too big in top.

I made Jane go back with me tonight to Fleischer's to see a dress there. She didn't like it, but liked a solid blue one which she saw.

Tuesday, April 28, 1953

I went to board meeting-stayed in-looked at materials-called Mother.

An article in the Courier-Journal and Times (this morning and tonight) mentioned John's promotion to professor of co-ordination at Speed School. The night paper said that he had substantial raise in salary. It was the first he knew about it.

Wednesday, April 29, 1953

Mother said that she felt bad Monday, but didn't tell me until yesterday, saying that she felt better. Actually, I don't think she felt much better yesterday-very dizzy. I slept downstairs last night and today.

I washed today-did the davenport slip cover over.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of April 30, 1953 to June 5, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, June 6, 1953

Jane went to meet Scottie's friends about dresses for Scottie's wedding. D.P. and Larry went to Levy's to buy Jamboree equipment.

This afternoon Jane and D.P. went to work.

I had an appointment at Marcella's to get my hair done (shampooed).

Today Jane received a handkerchief from Mrs. Ingram, and glove stretchers from Gladys Cotton and her daughter. Cousin Ola sent her \$5.00 (ed.- gifts for high school graduation).

Sunday, June 7, 1953

I went to S.S., but Jane and I left Walnut Street and went to the University baccalaureate service at Columbia Auditorium at eleven. D.P. (against his wishes) stayed home during S.S. to study Latin, and then went to Walnut Street to church.

D.P. and I studied this afternoon. Jane and I went to commencement in the car (on campus). D.P. went to church for his special program.

Jane and I had reserved seats with Mrs. Wilson Wyatt, the speaker's wife (Mrs. Carter Davidson) and the governor's wife, Mrs. Lawrence Wetherby. After the exercises Jane and I got away in time to go to hear David receive his choir award and sing in the finale. John was working at the University.

Monday, June 8, 1953

Jane's Class Day (ed.- for high school graduation)

This has been a wonderful and exciting day. Jane wore her new coronation print with red jacket.

John went to school, but was back in time for us to go at 10 of 8. We kept David out of school to go.

There was a guard of honor-Junior girls in white dresses.

Prestonia really shone. Mary Becker received the Kiwanis Award, Ann McCord the athletic trophy.

Janet was valedictorian, of course. Next a blind girl, Louise Rogers, and Milton McIlheny tied for second honors. Imagine our overwhelming joy when Miss Woerner announced for third honors, Margaret Fife, Jane Houchens and Carol Minsterl. Tears came to my eyes. It was one of the wonderful moments of my life.

Afterwards there were congratulations-Mrs. Springsted's I remember. John had to go to the University and D.P. to school, so we had to leave. We took the latter first, then I dropped John off.

I had made chocolate delights for the garden party. I had them in the refrigerator, and they had gotten soft-or wet. I had to work with them while making sandwiches.

Joanie called and said that her mother needed magnolia blooms for the table after all. She came for them (and because all of the blooms were high) it took Ethel Lovell (who came to deliver cookies), Joanie and Marvin (sunbathing next door) plus two stepladders, to get three magnolia blooms.

Jane had gone to a luncheon which Lucy gave at the Pendennis.

Gifts came today from Ermine, Edythe, Jim and Bird. Ermine sent a beautiful skirt, Edythe sent a duster and pajama set, Jim and Bird a beach bag.

Jane was to go to the garden party with Alice and the girls. Claudine and I went on up to help Mrs. Giltner. Mrs. Bamber was also there.

The setting for the garden party was lovely. I made some pictures.

We didn't get away until after six. Claudine and I dashed over to the super markets before they closed. Jane had decided that she wanted a chicken for the picnic tomorrow.

Jane went on to the KTS banquet, and then was going to a slumber party.

I had to go to a library meeting at the Highland Presbyterian Church tonight.

Book 94- June 9, 1953-August 24, 1953

Tuesday, June 9, 1953

John brought my candelabra in this morning as he brought Jane home from the slumber party-a casualty of the garden party. I had loaned them to Maude Slaughter. It was my own fault though. I had them in the back seat of the car last night and didn't bring them in during the rush. Eloise gave them to me a long time ago. I think it can be mended.

I had to rush to get Jane's picnic lunch fixed. Mother fried the chicken.

I had to clean up the house today-didn't even go to Mrs. Ruley's for the circle meeting. However, I did walk up to the drug store to leave a negative.

Jane received a necklace from Granny Bennett today.

The class picnic was over at Camp Chelan. Jane and Dick doubled with Jane Springsted and Jan, Betty Roth and Ray Schnurr.

Jane came home saying it had been a wonderful day. She did not swim.

Tonight she had a date with a U. of K. boy whom Marvin got for her. They doubled.

Wednesday, June 10, 1953

Jane went to school this morning to rehearse her last day at Atherton, I suppose.

I went to town in the afternoon to get the things we were to give her. I bought a Parker 51 pen for her (\$15.00), a red umbrella at Durand's (\$5.00), a nylon tricot half slip, and then we shall give her \$15.00.

She went to the banquet (class) at the Pendennis tonight with Dick.

Cousin Ray, Mary, Barbara and the latter's two children came tonight. John had just gone, so Mother and I were the only ones here.

D.P. had his last tests today. He went to Dr. Diamond after school for his physical, typhoid vaccination and smallpox vaccination. I hope that he passed Latin.

Thursday, June 11, 1953

Jane's Graduation Day

I called Stella and had her come today as I thought she would like the excitement.

Jane went to Memorial Auditorium to rehearse and did not get home until after one.

I tried to finish cutting the grass this morning but couldn't. This afternoon I had to work on her formal, trying to get it short enough not to drag.

We kept expecting Estell and Martha, but they did not get here until about five. There were a lot of shenanigans about tickets. Jane had nine originally but Jane Nieman had given her an extra one. Then after Ermine, A.J. and Ruth couldn't come, then Bobby Traylor, the set-up was changed. It took four for Mother, John, David and me, two for Estell and Martha. We sent Mary Sublett one and in the afternoon, as I took it to her, I took one to Mrs. Vanderhaar, who had practically asked for one. They had received two tickets from John Ewing Roberts which Margie and Maria were going to use.

We still had two. One of those we finally gave to Helen Scherr (Janet also gave them one) and Ann Campbell went with us on the other one.

We ate early (between 5:30 and 6). Jane got dressed and went to the Horton's and Campbell's. A white orchid came from Dick this afternoon.

Finally we got off in time to be there by 7:10 or 7:15. We got good seats on the right hand aisle, where Jane had told us she would march.

Mother sat next to the aisle, then me, then John then Martha and Estell. David and Ann sat a couple of rows down, D.P. on the aisle so that he could make pictures. Mrs. Singleton sat in front of David, and talked to him. It was all quite exciting seeing the girls in their lovely formals with their red roses.

Miss Woerner had it all planned with the most beautiful precision. Half the class came down the right aisle, half down the left. She had them so arranged that the girls in their white dresses and red roses were massed in the center, the boys on each end.

Jane Giltner's father was the speaker.

Afterwards we didn't see many people because we had to get Mother out.

Estell and Martha went home, and we came on home. Jane and Dick were doubling with Betty Roth and Ray Schnurr.

When we got home there was a special delivery package in the door for Jane from Isla.

Jane gave me her 1 ½ dozen red roses to bring home. Dick gave her a white orchid.

Friday, June 12, 1953

The youngsters came home after the prom to change their clothes. The prom was at the Boat Club. Jane wore her new skirt that Ermine gave her. She got home at 20 of 6, having been

to about three breakfasts. I bought her a swimming cap as I came home from Walgreen's last night, but they decided not to go swimming.

She has been let down today-didn't sleep much.

Her AO banquet was tonight.

D.P. and Larry went to Wilcox Lake for their pre-Jamboree training. Mrs. Allgeier took them out.

John and I went to the Owens wedding. Jane went to a wedding at Ann's church.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of June 13, 1953 to July 11, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, July 12, 1953

I won two Amphitheatre tickets in the current contest.

I was at Sunday School by nine-started the reading club. I stayed for church. Jane went with the Barrigers for dinner at Canary Cottage, since they had a boy from Tucson, Arizona with them.

From the dinner she went on to a shower she was attending.

I went over to see Shirley's gifts.

Carl came by to see David. I made a quick coffee cake for supper.

Jane passed up an invitation to swim at the private pool of a friend of Lucy's in order to see D.P. off (ed.- to attend the 3rd National Boy Scout Jamboree at the Irvine Ranch in southern California).

We had everything packed, and we took him down to the Public Library at the proper time. The Allgeiers and Larry were there, of course, and the Litkenhouses. All the boys were tremendously excited. D.P. wore his Order of the Arrow sash but not his merit badge sash. They all wore long trousers for official uniform here. Larry's friend, Mr. Welch, made pictures. D.P. (and all the boys) had an Army duffel bag to go in the baggage car and a smaller knapsack (plus his camera bag) to take on the train.

The boys finally marched to the station. Anne Bennett was with us. We rode down with Larry's grandfather.

The wait at the station was long-until ten or after. The C.J.-Times reporter made a picture of Larry and D.P. Finally their berths were ready (Car 401?) and they were allowed to enter. We came on home.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of July 13, 1953 to July 28, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, July 29, 1953

A letter came from D.P written Saturday evening. They had been to Capistrano and Mt. Palomar that day. The day before they were deep sea fishing in the a.m. D.P became sea sick and then in the afternoon they went to an amusement park.

I washed today. In the afternoon I went over to Mrs. Mattimore's and took her "With Winds as Eagles" (from the church library). When I came home Cousin Will and Allie Keightley were here.

John and I went to the Huffman's to an outdoor supper. Jane went to a Chi O barbecue supper.

Thursday, July 30, 1953

This was Jane's last day at typing.

I received a telephone call from Grady Clay saying that he is going to use my article on septic tanks. Right afterwards the mail came with a note from Cary Robertson saying that he like my article on Peddler Black – asking for information about me.

Tony Bull called and invited Jane to a show Saturday night.

Friday, July 31, 1953

Stella was here. I cleaned the three upstairs rooms.

Mrs. Campbell, St. came over to tell us good-bye, as she leaves tomorrow as the Campbells go on their vacation up on Lake Erie. Mrs. Campbell, Jr. is not going – doctor's orders.

Saturday August 1, 1953

We were down at Union Station at 15 of 7 to greet the Jamboreers. They had lots to tell. Jane went out to Shantituck with Paula and her mother right after we got back to get Paula's sister, but Jane got back in time to hear D.P. recount much.

He had swapped for lots of things, and had many pennants, etc. He brought Jane a Jamboree scarf, John a tie, Granny a pin, me a silver paper knife from Capistrano and a pepper and salt set.

His neckerchief slides are very interesting. He bought a new Jamboree shirt out there – terry cloth.

D.P. and Larry went to the barber shop and D.P. slept some this afternoon.

Jane had her date with Tony this afternoon, and Ann with Michael. D.P. and Ann Bennett went also, D.P. driving our car.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of August 2, 1953 to August 11, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, August 12, 1953

Mother said this morning that she would like for me to go to the Haymarket to get some apples and peaches for her to make apple butter and peach preserve.

So I went and bought ½ bushel of peaches and ½ bushel of apples. Then, because I saw such beautiful corn and cucumbers, I could not resist buying one bushel of corn (Golden Bantam) and ½ bushel of cucumbers.

I came home and got into the corn. Mother started working on the peaches, two small batches.

I asked her if she was doing too much, but she said that she was sitting on a stool.

Lottie came by about the time Mother finished, bringing a dress that Pauline Williams wanted me to alter.

After Lottie had gone (She had told her she was tired.) I told her that she had better lie down – she said yes, she was tired. She asked me to bring her the evening paper. I got it for her and gave it to her. She started to her room.

I was at the sink with my back to her. Suddenly I heard a dreadful noise, and turned. Mother was falling back into the kitchen. I couldn't get to her in time.

I thought first of her hip. She looked terribly pale, and sweat popped out on her. She insisted that her hip wasn't broken. I got a pillow and put under her head, as she didn't want me to call Mrs. Horton. I called John, and it just happened that Jane and David had just gotten there to get him.

The three of them came right home, and John by himself lifted Mother to her bed. He called Dr. Overstreet, who said that he couldn't get there immediately.

Almost before Mother could begin to recover from the shock of the hard fall, Cousin Willie Kate, Norma, her husband (the latter two from Michigan) and Mrs. Gayle Prather from St. Matthews came. The others saw Mother only briefly, but Cousin Willie Kate spent the night with us, and I think it helped Mother some, although she was laboring under shock.

Dr. Overstreet came about seven. He said that she was most fortunate – that she seemed to have no broken bones, although she was bruised, particularly in the area of her ribs on her left side.

John had to go to church, and Jane to work.

Thursday, August 13, 1953

We cut one of Mother's hams for breakfast, at her suggestion, for Cousin Willie Kate.

Mother was terribly sore this morning – her left rib and her lower back. She could not get up, of course, and could scarcely be moved.

The folks came after Cousin Willie early, as she had to leave.

I worked with the corn, finished the peaches, did some cucumbers.

Friday, August 14, 1953

Stella was here. I made apple butter. I had the car and went to the grocery store.

Mother is still very sore.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of August 15, 1953 to August 22, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, August 23, 1953

I suppose Sylvia and Elga (ed.-pen pals of Jane from Latvia) left today for Kentucky.

I went to the library. D.P. stayed here. I came home, and he went to church.

In the afternoon I drove out to the Gardner's, but did not get to see them. Their house was open for inspection.

Jane went to a Theta tea.

I was at home this evening. Mrs. Miller came over.

John and the children were at church.

Monday, August 24, 1953

I was busy all day getting ready for Sylvia-went to the grocery store. Jane did not go to work for the first afternoon this summer.

Knottie, Ann, Jane and I went down in our car to meet the girls at the Greyhound Bus Station. We left here at 3:10, as their bus was due; at 4:35; CDST.

It was quite exciting. We all knew each other immediately when they arrived.

We came to the Tritts', then let Elga and Ann out, and came on home.

Jane and Sylvia went after John.

We all went to the Tritts' for a wonderful turkey dinner. One of Ann's friends was also there.

Book 95- August 25, 1953-September 17, 1953

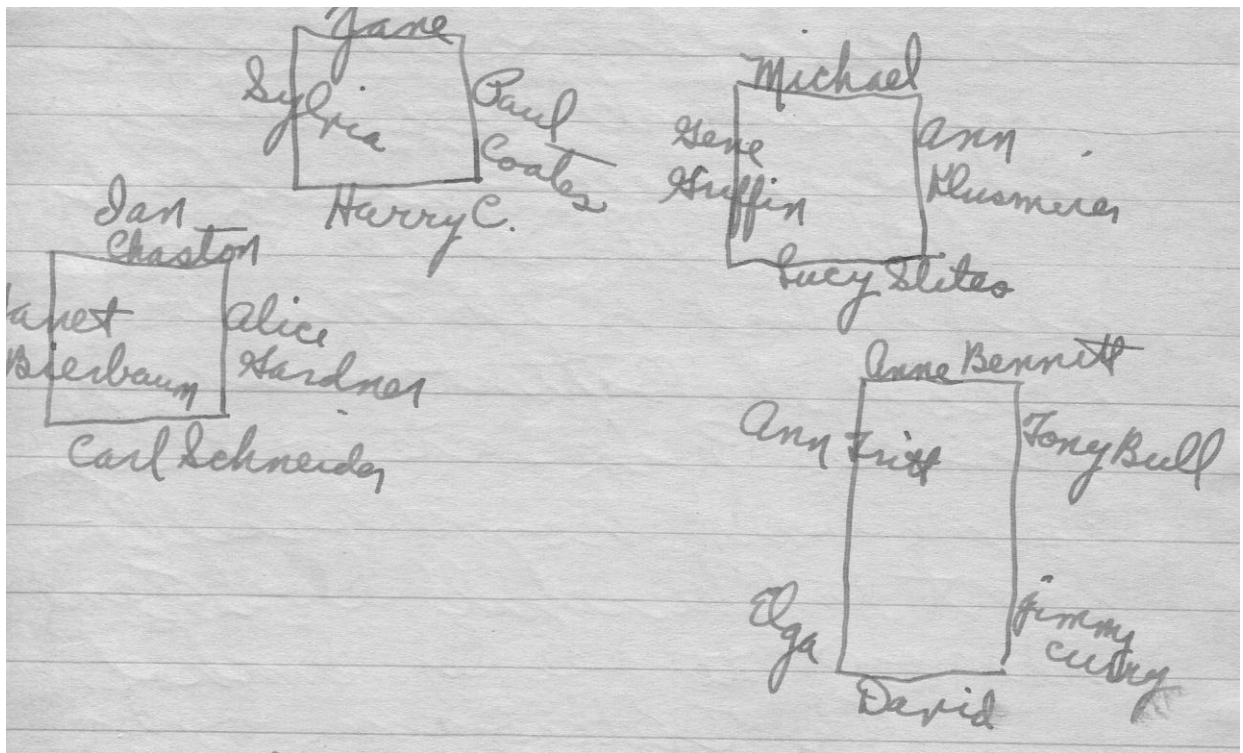
Tuesday, August 25, 1953

I had to go to the grocery store again for a few things. I was busy all day getting ready for today's picnic (supper).

The girls (in the Tritts' car) went to the Music School, the Baptist Seminary, Cherokee Park -- ate at Gladys' -- came back home briefly -- went to Churchill Downs and then out to see Dr. Imhof.

The Tritts came over early to help-and also Mrs. Klusmeier. Eighteen young people ate in the back yard, and six adults (Mother, Mrs. Klusmeier, the Tritts, John and I on the back porch.

The couples were in this arrangement (Jane's idea):



Margaret Fife had to go to a rush banquet, but she and Martin Kaye Pedigo came later.

I served barbecued hamburgers, tomatoes, potato salad, baked beans, iced tea, Fritos, chocolate brownie mixture with ice cream on it. For a little while we feared that we were going to run out of the hamburger, but it finally came out all right.

They played badminton, and did the bunny hop, once. Later Ann Tritt and Elga played -- also Paul Coates. They all had a good time. Many were fascinated by Harry's Model T.

Ian Chaston has a red beadr. Tony says that he is known all over town as "the bearded Englishman".

Jimmy Curry and Gene Griffin discovered that they both worked at Belknap's, and I think Michael and Carl worked at the same place.

After it was all over and we were bringing the tables from the yard, we discovered Tony's wallet on the grass under a table leg. John and David took it to him. He had steadied the leg with it.

Wednesday, August 26, 1953

We got up and went to Mammoth Cave -- Knottie, Ann, the Stakle girls, Jane and I -- in the Tritts' car.

D.P. did not have to go to work until one. Lottie was to be here at 10.

We took lunch with us, and took the Echo River trip through the cave.

When we got back, David was at work, Mother, John and Lottie had eaten.

Just as we drove up, Thelma and Cousin Linnie came. They would not spend the night. I could not keep from being a little sleepy while they were here, but we did enjoy their visit so much.

The girls had dinner at Mrs. Klusmeier's. I ate what was left from the family dinner.

Thursday, August 27, 1953

Jane got up at 6 A.M. and went to work on bills at Dr. Alberhaskys'. The girls wanted to play tennis at Triangle. I asked Janet and Barbara to play with them, since neither Jane nor Ann could go, but Paul Coates and Harry Champion joined them.

Jane and Sylvia went to town.

They were to be on WHAS television-Mary Snow Ethridge's program "Small Talk" at 6:15. They had to be there some time in advance.

Since our television was out of order, we took Mother and went up to Mrs. Klusmeier's to watch them. They came in well. Mary Snow told how they started writing each other in 1947 (I think it was) and played up the gifts they had exchanged, etc.

Mother was able to hear it well.

Ann and Elga had dates with Jim Curry and Tony. We played "Scrabble" with Sylvia-Jane and I did.

Friday, August 28, 1953

We went to Bardstown and Lexington today in our car. It was a hot, dry day: we had been telling them that the Bluegrass country was prettier than toward Mammoth Cave, but it did not prove to be so today.

Stella was at home with Mother.

We went first to Bardstown (Knottie, Ann, Sylvia, Elga, Jane and I). Knottie and I did not go through "My Old Kentucky Home".

We ate our lunch on the ground, and flies were terrible.

Going on to Lexington we could not go direct because of road construction, and had to go to Frankfort and then to Lexington.

We went first to Calumet Farms, then to Lexington to see the stadium at the University of Kentucky- then out to see "Man o' War.

We were all tired out when we got home.

Sylvia and Elga had dates tonight with Paul and Harry (Sylvia with Harry.).

Saturday, August 29, 1953

Our silver wedding anniversary

We slept late. Jane and Sylvia went to see Inta, then to see Dr. Cole at 11.

The girls had lunch in town.

Tritts had them for dinner tonight-with some of Ann's friends.

Mr. Campbell made a Kodachrome picture of us over in the Kempers' back yard.

D. P. was working until 9.

Jane and D.P. gave us -this was a real surprise-a sterling silver sugar and creamer.

John and I went for dinner out to Old Stone Inn. We had steaks.

Ann and Elga had dates with Jimmy and Tony.

Jane and Sylvia went to Scottie's for a S.S. class party.

Sunday, August 30, 1953

We went to S.S. and church, but before that Jane and Sylvia went to the Catholic Church with the Tritts. Elga and Ann did not go to Walnut Street with us. All the girls were here for dinner, in the dining room.

In the afternoon Ann and Elga swam. Jane and Sylvia went to a KTS meeting, then to a party at Ann Klusmeier's for Alice.

I drove out to see Mrs. Gardner for a brief time.

Jane and Sylvia went to training union but came home before church. Harry and Paul came out. All four girls stayed here. They ate the Tritts' watermelon on our back porch.

Monday, August 31, 1953

We got up early and took Sylvia and Elga to the bus station-Knottie, Ann, Jane and I. We made pictures, and the girls shed some tears.

We came on home. I talked to Aunt Jettie and invited them this week.

Jane is working. D.P. worked from 1 until 9 today.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of September 1, 1953 to September 13, 1953 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, September 14, 1953

I have been home all day, except for a trip to the dentist to have an inlay replaced which came out after eating a piece of candy. I turned my ankle getting off the bus as I came home.

Ann Klusmeier ate lunch here and spent the night here.

Tuesday, September 15, 1953

I went to a Juliette [Low] meeting, then in town. I brought a suit out to Jane from Stewarts, but it was too large for her, and the one in her size was in the window.

I also brought a belt out to her, but I think it is too expensive. I brought her a brown nylon skirt from Bacon's but I don't think she likes it.

Ann K. leaves tomorrow morning. She had a kind of neighborhood open house. She and Jane cried all the time.

D.P. worked 6 to 9 and went up to Ann's afterward.

Wednesday, September 16, 1953

Ann left this morning. I washed. Jane saw Ann off.

Dick came out this afternoon.

D.P. works until 6.

My foot (ankle) hurts.

Thursday, September 17, 1953

Jane went to town.

Jim Sidebottom came out to see Mother.

Grady Clay called about my drainage article. It is supposed to be in sometime.

(ed.- There were no diary entries from September 18, 1953 to November 24, 1953)

Book 96- November 25, 1953

Wednesday, November 25, 1953

My mother's last day on earth

I slept downstairs on the davenport as I have been for sometime to be nearer Mother, since her cold. I asked her how she slept. She said all right, that her cold was much better. She had stopped coughing. She wanted to leave off the anti-biotic that Dr. Overstreet gave her Sunday but she had only three more tablets, and she said that she would take them. She took a tablet at 8.

John went with the Websters. I busied myself with dishes. Mother dried them. She was eagerly looking forward to Jane's arrival at 5:52 this afternoon.

Last night I filled out a check-- and David mailed it -- to Mrs. Leah Shipp for \$5.00 for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Mother told me that if we insisted on giving her something for Christmas then to get her 3 ½ yards of material like my dress that I had on (a pima nylon)-that she wanted to make herself a dress after Christmas. I said, "Why not just get one ready-made?" She said, "No, I know how I want it made-opened down the front.

She had me get some material this fall for her to make me a gown, but I hadn't gotten it cut out and then she took the cold and didn't feel like it. It is blue crepe with little rose sprigs.

I told her when she was still at the breakfast table that I had arranged with Donald Bennett to come over on Thanksgiving morning and make pictures of the five of us for Christmas cards. Mother said, "I'm not going to be on it". "Oh yes you are too", I said, "that is why I want it while we are all together. David was scheduled to go on the Black Hawk Trail, leaving Friday morning, so actually Thursday was the only day that we would all be together.

Mother had been better of her cold since Tuesday-but said that her feet were just as heavy. Bless her heart! I think that Opal or Jessie had called either Sunday or Monday night to enquire about her, as it had been announced at Sunday School that I was not present because of her.

I took time upstairs instead of with her to read hurriedly two installments of that Oursler thing running in the paper.

Downstairs with her I made out an order for 2 Christmas gifts for Jane to give from Black and Company, and ordered Coronet for Jane and David to send Ermine.

Mother made her own bed. She had had me wash her white bedspread after her cold. I brought it up fresh from the basement. I asked her if she wanted me to put it on her bed. She said

no that we would put it on tomorrow for Thanksgiving. So I folded it and put it on the end of her bed.

She was sewing on the blue and white apron which she had been making for Cousin Linnie for several days. She wanted one row of machine stitching. I took it upstairs and stitched it. She was also darning a pair of white socks for David.

She had asked me some days before if we were going to have turkey for Thanksgiving. I said no-that we could cut the last of her hams-and save half of it for Christmas. She said that we could have ham that night, but I told her that Jane had wanted chop suey and I would have it that night.

When I got ready to go to the stores, it was eleven. We hadn't been leaving Mother alone-but that morning she seemed so much better that I didn't even ask her if she would be all right. Heaven forgive me!

She said- "Get some meal, for I want to make some mush". For breakfast that morning we had grapefruit, sausage and bought-mush and coffee. Yesterday she and I had pancakes for lunch. I had asked her if they would upset her-and she ate 4 at once, and then let me make her 2 more.

We watched the birds a time or so in the course of the morning-at the blue feeding station we had outside the back porch where Mother could see from her place at the table. She sat next to the radiator.

Well, I left at eleven-went by church.

First, before I left, Mother wanted me to write a check for \$30.00 on the Peoples/ Bank-to cash. I wrote it for her. I said "This is on the Peoples' Bank. You usually give your checks on the Lincoln Bank." "Yes, but I'm having a bond come due there in December," she said.

As I said, I left at eleven. I went by church to take some stuff for the play rehearsals. John and I had worked in the dining room on book jackets the night before -- two of them.

I left a birthday cake in Miss Watkins' box, a note for Bruce Fidler at Otter Hall, went first to A&P then Kroger's. At Kroger's I realized that I did not have my soap coupons and I thought for a moment of going home.

I went to the bank. I could not find Mother's check - thought I had left it at home-thought that I would have to come back to the bank before 2. I then found it. They asked me if she had an account there, and looked it up.

I went to Steiden's -did not like their chickens -- went back to Kroger's and got one. All of this with never a worry for Mother whereas I was usually in a constant state of anxiety about her. Why, oh why, was this?

Finally I reached home at one. I went in the back door - my arms full of groceries. The first thing that I saw was Mother lying at the front door. She was on her right side, breathing, but hemorrhaging from the mouth. The mail was around her. A dining room chair was near the yellow one.

(Going back a little bit)- when Mother told me to get meal for mush, I said, "Mother we have meal". However, I looked to be sure, and saw that we didn't have much.

When I went out the door I said, "Now don't be walking around"-and she said, "I won't". After I got out to the car, I remembered about the mush -- thinking she might try to make it if she thought we had meal -- and I went back in the house and said, "Now don't you be cooking while I am gone". She said, "I won't". That was the last thing I said to her consciously or she to me.

One of Mother's plates (dental) lay on the rug near her. Her hand had caught some of the blood.

I was frantic. I called Mrs. Campbell's number Ma. 6964-W-twice, but couldn't wait longer. I ran to Mrs. Horton's and pounded on the back door - told the maid to tell Mrs. Horton to come at once.

I ran home. The telephone rang and I automatically answered. It was Dr. Walker. He said Mrs. Houchens, did you call me? And I said no, but please to call John to come immediately - my mother.

Mrs. Horton got there. She put a blanket over Mother, removed her other plate. Her breathing was difficult but her pulse was strong. She got Dr. Chapell almost immediately there. Then John brought by Mr. Wotawa arrived.

Dr. Chapell threw a light in her eyes - said that the pupils showed that it was a total stroke. She had a bad lump on the side of her head (right side).

They couldn't get a Yellow Cab Ambulance, so got a police ambulance. I rode beside her and held her hand. Dr. Overstreet had gotten us a room at the Baptist. She made two noises as we went to the hospital, but was not breathing when we got there, I think. They took her to the emergency room.

They took me in the chaplain's office (Dr. Hilburn). Mrs. Fuqua came in there. Finally they gave me a hypodermic injection.

John called John Shirfy (ed.-funeral director in Owenton). I first thought that I wanted Mother at Pearson's through Thursday, but we decided against that.

We came home. David was here. Then Mildred Campbell came, Mr. Kemper, Mrs. Wehr, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Mock, the Bullucks, Mrs. Kuhl, Mrs. Klusmeier.

The Campbells invited us over there for dinner, but before that John Shirfy came. We decided to have the funeral at two on Friday.

The Campbells had steaks, but they were not for me tonight. Folks were coming over home so I came home.

Miss Watkins and Erwina, Nancy Nazor, the Subletts, Mary and Latta Greer, Elmer and Callie Dilley, Sam and Claudine (the latter stayed), the Tritts, Bertha Miller, Miss Weber.

I had called the City Desk - got a Mr. Whelan who was from Williamstown and knew Brother. John and others were making calls.

I forgot to say that John and David went to the station to meet Jane at 5:52 (bus). It was a terrible shock for her, poor child. She had been so happy on the way up-had looked forward to the first home-coming with such glee, as Mother had-and when she came in she broke down completely.

Several years ago, Mother had prepared all the things for her funeral-an ashes-of-roses jacket with collar, trimmed in ecru with double-edged net, all made by hand. She had worked on it before Papa's death, although I am not sure that he knew what she was working on. She had everything-a new slip, a gown with tatting, new hose, even knitted booties. With the things in the box she had a letter for us.

(ed.- no diary entries were found for November 26, 1953 through February 19, 1954)

Book 97- February, 20, 1954-March 31, 1954

(ed.- Entries for the February 20, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, February 21, 1954

(Mariam is on a bus trip to Atlanta, Georgia to visit relatives).

Even though we were supposedly on a through bus, we all had to get out at Chattanooga and change buses. We took our pillows. [ed. Rented from the bus company on the previous leg of the journey.] I got an outside seat for the first time, and drew a woman traveling from St. Paul to Miami. I had taken some lavender pills, and slept in snatches between stops.

We reached the Atlanta station at 6:40 (Eastern time). Harris and Thelma were there to meet me. We discovered that in the change at Chattanooga they had failed to transfer one of my bags.

We drove to their new home. It is in Garden Hills. I love it. The house is a three-bedroom ranch type. They have almost an acre of ground sloping down to a ravine and up the hill beyond. There are many, many trees -- tall pines, beeches, poplars, elms, oaks, dogwoods. There are squirrels all around, and Thelma says there are chipmunks. Song birds, many more kinds than at home at this season, are numerous.

In the yard down the hill beyond them, hundreds of daffodils are blooming and camellias-gorgeous ones-are blooming outside in the yards.

We had breakfast. Mrs. True and Peg got up. Harris and Peggy went to Sunday School and church but we did not.

I wrote an air mail special to John.

We had fried chicken for dinner. Afterwards we went to see the Cyclorama -- Harris, Thelma and I. Peggy stayed with her grandmother.

When Harris and I were in the Cyclorama (Thelma stayed outside) I was amazed to have Mary Helen Ferree come up to me. I knew that she had moved here. That was a coincidence.

When we got home a couple was here calling. Peg told me that Jane's friend, Bob Simpson, had telephoned.

Another couple came -- the Roses.

After six Bob telephoned again. He has a nice Southern voice. He said that he would like to see me. He said that he had plans that evening, and I asked if he could come by tomorrow. He said that he would see.

I was terribly sleepy.

Monday, February 22, 1954

Harris had a holiday but Peg had to go to school. I received a special air mail from John.

Thelma said that we would go to Stone Mountain this afternoon (or even this morning) while Harris was at home with Mrs. True. I called Bob Simpson to tell him that we would go one time or the other depending upon whether he were coming by or not. He said that his brother had gone to Georgia Tech in the car and would not be back until 1:30. He said that he was going to town with his family that afternoon, and he had to leave for Nashville at six.

So-we went in the afternoon to Stone Mountain. I mailed a letter to Jane from Tucker, Georgia.

I made some pictures on the Stone side, then Thelma and I went on the other side, parked the car, and climbed the mountain. It was very sheer in one place and we had to take our shoes off going up and coming down. There is a watch tower on top.

Thelma was really tired tonight. Harris fixed sodas for us.

Tuesday, February 23, 1954

I needed some Ex-lax. Thelma was worried about the negro worker putting the door facings in wrong. She tried to call Harris, then walked with me part way for me to get some idea of how to go to the drug store. I walked over, bought ink, stamps, post cards, Ex-lax.

As I came back, Harris was coming home because he could not get Thelma, she having been out with me those few minutes. Harris came home for lunch.

Today I received Jane's letter which she told me on Saturday night that she had mailed.

Peg and I walked up to her school after she was home.

Tonight we went to the library. This afternoon we walked to an old park.

Wednesday, February 24, 1954

I received an air mail letter from John today, and an air mail from Edgar Morgan. He and Cousin Ray finally got together for 30 minutes.

I have been despondent all day-cried a lot. Mrs. True is crocheting me some mats-green and white, pretty. Her birthday will be April 6.

Thelma washed tonight.

After we ate, Harris, his mother, Peg and I drove in the N.W. section on the other side of Peachtree. Such beautiful home-right out of House and Garden-I've never seen. We saw Penny Barnett's home. I called there Monday and they said she would be out of town until next Monday. The tall pines and the green winter grass help.

This afternoon, Thelma and I walked a litt.

Thursday, February 25, 1954

I took some pills-the orange and the lavender today and felt better. I finished up a roll of film on the Trues' house.

Thelma kept the car today and went to the grocery store, and then we went for a drive this afternoon-and another after supper-and saw more lovely homes.

I love Atlanta. I have about caught up on writing people.

Friday, February 26, 1954

This day has been beautiful. Thelma and I walked all over the lot this morning, saw some interesting birds, but never did see the chipmunks.

I wrote some of my diary for last September.

This afternoon, we drove to the Kroger's near Harris' office, left the car, and took the bus down to Rich's. Thelma got a shampoo. I bought a small book for Suzanne Roe, some chocolates for Peg, some mints for Mrs. True, some pecan roll for Jane and John and David.

We ate in Rich's basement. Thelma looked at the dresses and we attended a style show. We came home on the bus, walked from Peachtree, in time for "Topper" and "Our Miss Brooks".

I leave tomorrow morning.

This morning I received a night letter from Jane saying that she will be free tomorrow afternoon. A letter came from her today, written before the night letter-rather written before she had received my letter asking me to send an air mail letter about her plans. John forwarded letters from Cousin Birdie Ritchie and Mary Sue.

(ed.- Entries from February 27, 1954 to March 28, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, March 29, 1954
(ed. Mariam is back in Louisville)

Mr. Geiger and his young man, Herman were here at 7. We had the two front bedrooms cleaned out (John and I slept on the inner spring or rather, box spring of Jane's bed last night. (ed.-floor sanding, painting, etc. of the house).

I tried to sew on Jane's navy shantung.

Tonight we are all three sleeping downstairs.

Tuesday, March 30, 1954

I slept on Mother's bed last night-on the top of it, with a quilt over it-for I have not yet unmade that bed which she made that morning of November 25. The time is rapidly approaching when I must, for the bed will have to be taken down before they can sand that room. The box of stationery she was using is still on the end of the bed (the one that had Aunt Sue's letter in it) and the clean bedspread that I placed there and she told me to save until Thursday (Thanksgiving Day).

It got much colder during the night. Our radiators were turned off so that they could sand under them. Our blankets were upstairs. D. P. was on the davenport, John on the daybed, I on Mother's bed. I didn't get cold, but John did and finished up the night -he and D.P. under coats.

I took my suit into Bond's for alteration.

Tuesday, March 30, 1954

The heat was still off, I had a cold, and the stove made gas fumes. I had to turn it off. We had a fire in the fireplace. I sewed in the kitchen.

They put the final coats on the bedrooms today. The stairs have been sanded and they are starting on the living room. All the furniture is in the dining room.

Finally this afternoon, Mr. Geiger got the radiators connected and I built a fire.

Wednesday, March 31, 1954

He got the first coat on the living room.

John wanted me to meet him to buy a suit, but first I had to go to the Western Recorder and then to the Courier and Times to try to get publicity for the W.M.U. (ed.-Womens' Missionary Union).

Then I met John at Levy's and he bought a blue suit (\$75). I came home to see about the mail and the floor sanding, then went to church by 3 to help Mary. John and I ate there, but I did not stay for prayer meeting.

Book 98- April 1, 1954-May 10, 1954

Thursday, April 1, 1954

I washed this afternoon, and sewed on Jane's dress today too. The floor men started on D.P.'s room today.

Margaret came out with John. The men had the living room wet, the hall with filler on it, the upstairs landing and D.P.'s room so that we could not walk on them.

John had been home at lunch and brought groceries. I had dinner ready, but right in the middle John said "Toto is in the living room". We called her out, but couldn't get in there to see what damage was done, as the room was bare and there was no light.

In the excitement, John closed the French door into Mother's room. The painters had put the handle on wrong and we couldn't get the door open to get in there.

John wanted us to watch the hydrogen bomb explosion on TV. We stood on cardboards in the hall to watch (all the living room furniture was in the dining room), or climbed over the sofa. Those things on TV only a big puff. One does not feel the terrible immensity of it.

Margaret was able to study up in Jane's room. I worked on Jane's dress until late.

John, David and I slept downstairs-I on Mother's bed.

Friday, April 2, 1954

Stella came for half a day. The floor men left the big sander in Jane's room. They finished the upper hall with its last coat of gym finish.

Well, they couldn't do the dining room. Mr. Geiger was not here then. I went to the book review and got home at 3. They were working on the dining room, but could not finish it. Mr. Geiger said they started on it at 2:30. More than that, the dust from the dining room got on the stair steps which were not dry, and they have to hand sand them over and put quick drying finish on them.

I mailed Jane's jacket today or rather John did.

I went to the University Women's Club.

(ed.- Entries from April 3, 1954 to May 8, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, May 9, 1954
Mother's Day

David came down to breakfast bringing me a compact, bless his heart. We went to S.S. and church. I tried to get there by 9, but it was about 9:20 when I took my iris up to the Junior Philathea class.

David, acting as S.S. superintendent made the announcements at Sunday School.

We came home for dinner, had baked hen.

Jane called this afternoon in honor of Mother's Day. She has been given a \$250 scholarship for next year. She was quite sick on the plane.

After D.P. went to choir rehearsal, John and I went to Cousin Ray's, but they were not at home. Then we went to see Suzanne Roe. She was at home but still in bed.

Cousin Frank was there. He was retired on Friday.

Tonight we went to church.

Monday, May 10, 1954

Today I went to town, bought a small chest to go under Jane's desk, bought two shirts for John, two for D.P.- my material for my dust ruffle (the latter, at Ben Snyder's).

Book 99-May 11, 1954-June 13, 1954

Tuesday, May 11, 1954

Even though swamped with things to do, I took time out to go with Mrs. Underwood out to Mrs. Nussbaum's for the circle meeting.

David worked tonight. John picked him up. John had a meeting with the graduates at school.

I received a letter from Cousin Linnie written Mother's Day.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 12, 1954 to May 24, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, May 25, 1954

Toto's last day

When I went downstairs, Toto had her head pressed tightly against the wall between the radiator and the little cabinet near her box. She would not drink milk, but I spooned a little into her mouth.

I cooked some chicken for her, and broth.

David got up, and we decided that we should take her to Dr. Calldemeier. He had said when we came back from St. Louis in April that we should have her put to sleep, but Jane had asked us to wait until she got home. However another week for her and for us would be cruelty.

I called Dr. Calldemeier. He answered and would be there until 11, and from 3 to 5:30. David wanted to go along, so we decided to go this morning, as he has to work after school.

We did not get her to eat much. I spooned some chicken broth into her mouth. She had gotten very thin.

About last Friday or Saturday she looked more like herself than lately. Dick Campbell called us to say that she was weaving up the street. I called "Toto, Toto -- here, Toto" to her, and she put her ears up and came trotting to me in the old accustomed way.

I had a little song I sang to her, "Kitty, kitty, kitty, kitty, kitty-kitty cat, kitty cat, kitty cat." It must have hurt her ears, for she always barked and howled, even to the last, just the way she did when D.P. would play the harmonica.

We took her collar off. John did -- and left it here. We did not take her box.

We got there shortly after 8:30. There were no other patients there. He put her on the table. She faced the door. I stood in the hall where she could see me. John and D.P. came out, but didn't stay.

She cried out when the needle entered, and then it was all over-an overdose of sodium pentothal.

Dr. Calldemeier put her in a square box in which she had to be curled round. I did not like it. I paid him \$3.00.

We let D.P. out at school at 8:45. That was how quick it was.

John stretched her out on her rugs on the basement table, as we planned to get a long box for her, and not leave her round.

He went to school as he did not have time to bury her then.

I was miserable. I went to see Miss Weber first (Irene Bennett had called before John left). I talked a little to her about her theater train trip. Then I told Mrs. Horton, Mildred Campbell (Dick already knew), Mr. Miller and Mrs. Mock.

I called Mary Gilbert, but didn't know what to do this afternoon. John came home at noon and I took him back to school and went to the W.M.U. meeting long enough to hear George Hays, Jr.

I had told Mary I would go with her at 2:45. We went out to Cooper Chapel Road and she got an interview, but I did not. We were gone two hours. I cried, and talked to Mary about Papa and Mother as we came back.

John did not bury Toto at noon, as he did not have time, and did not have a good box. I got a Fischer's meat box at Steiden's.

I went for John, we went for D.P. at 5:30, and then went to the Express Office to send Jane's foot-lockers back.

When we got home while I prepared dinner and burned the chicken, they dug Toto's grave out alongside the garage-this side, not far to the right of the door to Mother's storage room.

We put the little black chenille bathroom rug which was one of hers in the bottom of the box-and wrapped her in one of the children's worn crib sheets (with hem stitching). Then they put some corrugated board over her before closing the box top.

John had burned her last sleeping box this morning when we brought her back.

Papa and then Mother-always fed her at the table. Mother would not have wanted to see her suffer.

David stayed here. John and I went up to Herbert Cralle Chapel to pay our respects to Dr Carver, who died yesterday at 85. He was a grand old man.

We came back by the Tritts' to leave Ann's graduation gift-a white basket bag. Then we came on home as D.P. was here alone.

He said that Mrs. Stites had called with a message from Jane. I called. Jane had received the cake. [ed. For her birthday May 26, that Mariam had baked on the 23rd and John had mailed on the 24th.] Her last exam is June 1st, and she plans to come home then. Lucy's exams last until the 3rd, and her father is going for her, so they can bring any of Jane's overflow. They were going out to Sherrie's tonight for dinner to celebrate Jane's birthday, and their last fling before exams.

Today has been the sixth month anniversary of Mother's death, and the third year anniversary of Papa's funeral. No wonder I have been depressed.

We decided not to write Jane about Toto, since she is going into exams.

I am sorry now that I did not keep my hand on Toto until the end.

We didn't know until we saw the Tritts tonight that they had to send their dog to the Animal Rescue League last week (mange) and John said that Mrs. Casey in his office was red-eyed this morning because Dr. Calldemeier had to put their dog to sleep last night.

I wrote Gypsy today.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 26, 1954 to May 29, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, May 30, 1954

I wanted to be in Owenton by 9:30 a.m. but it was ten when we got there. Cousin Frank went with us.

We went direct to the cemetery and decorated the lots. Ermine had been there, and there was iris on Papa's and Mother's, flowers on Brother and the baby.

We spoke to some people.

I put roses, snapdragons and carnations on Papa, Mother, Brother, Mr. and Houchens' (I don't believe I had any carnations in Brother's flowers), and put flowers on the baby, Grandma Sidebottom, Uncle Boy and Aunt Dink (one) and Ruby Dean.

We went to Willie and Patsy Estes' and picked up Cousin Edgar. They had us drink cokes.

We got to Mussel Shoals at 11:30. It being a fifth Sunday, they had no preaching service, but had just finished Sunday School. We all went in the church, and Cousin Edgar read from the Bible, prayed, and talked.

Those present were (besides Cousin Edgar and us): Pluma, Cousin Jane, Charlene Lea, Cousin Ettie, Stella, Cousin Gus, Cousin Linnie, Cousin Tom, Cousin Mary, Lucille Crupper and husband, son and daughter, Bod Smither and wife and children. There was lots of food. We ate hurriedly in the church, and then we went to the graveyard and Cousin Edgar located for us the graves of Elisha and William Cobb (my great-grandfather and my grandfather). I put some roses on my grandfather's grave. I had some for Grandma Cobb, but we had to leave to get Cousin Edgar back to the Owenton cemetery by two, so I gave the flowers to Cousin Linnie to put on her grave. She is buried in the new cemetery, I am sure. No one there seem to know, but I remembered.

We reached the Owenton cemetery shortly after 2, but found the speaking had been postponed for 30 minutes, until a body had been put in the vault.

There were hundreds of people there-maybe thousands. Sherfy said that he thought a lot of them just came to see Cousin Edgar. However, except for the inner circle, they did not give good attention to him.

Afterwards we took Cousin Edgar to Willie's and Patsy's. We had to go back out to the cemetery briefly to leave the flowers Cousin Linnie had given me for Mother, and which I had forgotten to leave. Many people were still there.

I never did see Ermine. I saw Gypsy, and she said that she saw Ermine last evening and that she would try to get back over about two, but she didn't.

We came on home-saw the last 10 minutes of Mr. Peeper's honeymoon picture-and then went to church.

(ed.- Entries for the dates of May 31, 1954 to June 9, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, June 10, 1954

I kept the car, went to Taylor Boulevard, Sherwood and Seneca but got no interviews.

I came home, washed made potato salad, two apple sauce cakes, and went to Louise Dakley's to the class meeting-outside. I stepped in a hole and fell down.

D.P. went to Boys' State today.

Friday, June 11, 1954

Stella was here today. John and I went to Frankfort about Mother's estate. We first went to the new office building where the penitentiary used to be (where Mother and John went about Papa's estate) but it had been moved to the new building behind the Capitol. It is a beautiful building.

We found that the inheritance tax was much less than we thought it would be, because Mother had already paid it on Papa, and the children are contingent heirs.

We ate lunch there before we started home -- in that air-conditioned building. We were home about one.

Saturday, June 12, 1954

I got two interviews on Brook this morning. One was an unemployed man. I went to the grocery store this afternoon.

Jane had a date tonight with Ann, Poco and a Steinrock boy. Dick called.

Sunday, June 13, 1954

We went to S.S. and church. We came home and then went out to Ft. Knox for Visitor's Day (ed.-at Kentucky Boys State). Jane went for a drive with Dick and to a Pi Phi initiation instead. Ann Bennett went with us.

We made the mistake of going by Shepardsville and were late getting there.

Trying to find the place, we met a man also looking. He turned out to be John Young Brown, Brother's friend and the featured speaker.

We went to church tonight. D.P. is having a good time.

Book 100-June 14-August 6, 1954

Monday, June 14, 1954
Jimmy Curry's birthday
Also flag day

Bobby Traylor called and he and his friend Bernard Poe came out for supper. They were here attending the F.F.A. Convention. Since D.P. was at Ft. Knox and John had to register, only Jane and I were here to entertain them.

Jane had a date with Dick. They went to the QO dance. Jane wore her pink organdy garden party dress-the first time she had worn it since I made it for last year.

My davenport material finally came today.

I got one of my two Ridgewood surveys tonight. It was a very nice insurance woman who lost one of her two sons during the war. I took Bobby and Bernard as far as Clark's Lane as I went.

(ed.- Entries from June 14 1954 to June 21, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, June 22, 1954

I went to 1417 Taylor Avenue this morning and got an interview.

This afternoon we had a terrible shock. Martha Traylor called and told me that John Sherfy Redding (ed.- Funeral director in Owenton, Kentucky) was drowned today. It just does not seem possible.

He got up early and went to Perry Park to fish. Later in the morning some women from Owenton went over to fish. They saw his flower truck, and then an overturned boat. They called Owenton. All morning and until two o'clock they dragged for his body. Martha called as soon as she had word that they had recovered it.

I called John and Jane and told D.P. when they got off work. Their first reactions were a distinct shock and disbelief.

As recorded in my diary on May 28, I had ridden from the Corinth Baptist Church to the Morgan burying ground with Sherfy and Cousin Edgar. We walked down the hill from the car together. We saw him again at the Owenton cemetery on Decoration Day. He seemed so happy just mingling with the people.

Jane went to a S.S. Picnic and bent the car fender. She cried about it, but I told her it was inconsequential compared with tragedy such as Jack and Alice [ed. Margaret Jack and Alice Redding, wife and daughter of Sherfy] were facing.

John was laying the bathroom floor tonight.

(ed.- Entries from June 23, 1954 to June 24, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, June 25, 1954

D.P. did not have to work until 6 tonight (6 to 9) which made it better since we all wanted to go to Owenton for Sherfy's funeral. Jane got Diane to stay in the office for her this afternoon.

I had an appointment with Mr. Nave for two weeks for a haircut at 10:15. I went on to it, and John picked me up -- rather, John and the children.

We went direct to the funeral home. It just did not seem natural for Sherfy not to be officiating. He looked nice, and natural, except that his hands were drawn. Jack was there, and holding up very well. The place was brimming over with flowers.

We went upstairs and saw Alice and Adeline briefly.

Then we went to the White House (Elsie's place) for sandwiches. We had seen John Mac Hays and wife at the funeral home. There were also there.

Aunt Sue had already gone to the church. We went down to the McPherrons' briefly.

We reached the church at 1:15, and they had already stopped admitting.

We talked to the Coueys. Finally we got in the S.S. department back behind the pulpit. I sat next to Mrs. Simpson, and she told me quite a bit about Sherfy. She said that she didn't know what on earth the church was going to do without him.

There were many, many more flowers at the church, and they said there were equally as many at the cemetery.

Brother Green called him a prince among men, and he was.

Numerous funeral directors participated. Ulous Carlton from Warsaw seemed to be the chief one. Mrs. Simpson said that Oscar had been crying almost all the time.

At the cemetery, as we had heard, there were still more flowers.

I shall always think with thankfulness of the wonderful comfort Sherfy was to me at the time of the death of Papa and of Mother.

We went to see Aunt Sue and Thomas. Uncle Will and Aunt Jettie were there. Then we came home.

We got back in time for D.P. to go to the Library, and for Jane to go to work.

(ed.- Entries from June 26, 1954 to July 20, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, July 21, 1954

At last I have caught up on this diary as of now. I'm still behind on several months before Mother's death, but I have my notes on it.

D.P. was of today, and went down to Dr. Alberhasky's office to do more wall washing, as Jane discovered that the doctor wanted all the walls washed. Jane does not think that Dr. A. is very pleased with their paint job.

Thunderstorms were predicted, so I only washed by hand, and did not run the washer. I have finally started a little work in the basement.

There was no reply from Eloise, whom I have invited for next week.

I am still confused about this Sunday, because of having invited Elbert and Phyllis. It depends on Eloise.

I went to prayer meeting tonight. John worked at the office.

Miss Greer went on a two-week vacation today.

A year ago this month D.P. was at the Jamboree, Jane was going to sorority rush parties, Mother had stayed at Mrs. Schlenk's two weeks.

Things are so different with her gone. I'll never get over missing her.

I miss Tote, too. Her little grave is sinking.

Wonder if anybody will ever read all this diary?

Miss Weber brought up Morton Thompson's "Not as a Stranger" for me to read yesterday. It is thick, thick – but I liked his "The Cry and the Covenant". I have just finished reading "Our Virgin Island" by Robb White. They drink too much.

(ed.- Entries from July 22, 1954 to August 4, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, August 5, 1954

I thought maybe Adeline and Alice were coming tonight, but they did not (I called Adeline at 12:30) and so we took Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann to the Amphitheatre tonight on their tickets. The production was "The Three Musketeers." We all took umbrellas and raincoats. It rained soon after we got there and we all had to go up under the pavilion.

Then a little dog got on the stage (after it started again) and finally a woman fainted in the back.

We didn't get away until 12:15. As Boyd Martin said, it was "swashbuckling", but I got sleep, and so did Mary.

D.P. went to Dr. A.-- weighted 108 ½.

Friday, August 6, 1954

Stella has been here feeling some better than when at the Campbell's yesterday.

Adeline called me late in the afternoon. They were here on business. I invited Alice to stay here until Sunday when we are going up there but she had no clothes with her.

D.P. worked 9 until 1 and then went to Dr. Walker.

Tonight he called Ann and took her to see "The Caine Mutiny" for the first date he has had with her since they went to see "Gone With the Wind" three weeks ago.

Jane is to work for Tish tomorrow.

Book 101- August 7-August 30, 1954

Saturday, August 7, 1954

D.P. worked one until nine today.

Jane had to work for Tish this A.M.

John and I went to town to pick up D.P.'s trousers at Levy's and look at some for John, but did not get the latter. We straightened the bill at Stewart's, for the slip covers.

D.P. went over to the Stevenson's after work to be with Judy and David Loring, and meet Guy's great niece.

Mary had invited him for supper, but he could not go since he was working.

(ed.- Entries from August 8, 1954 to August 21, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, August 22, 1954

(ed.-the family was leaving on a driving trip out west).

We meant to leave at six, but did not get away until ten of 7. The mileage stood at 44,936.

As usual we meandered around through New Albany having crossed the Municipal Bridge. We went through neither Evansville nor Vincennes, but by Hunting being a very winding road for which we lost time. It was hot.

I had taken a lunch-ham sandwiches, lemonade, eggs, potato chips, cake. We stopped and ate at a picnic table area in Illinois.

We didn't reach St. Louis until almost 3 our time. We were routed around St. Louis but Jane had seeing Camilla Wright in mind, and by the time she even established telephone communication with her, we were worn out, hot and cross. The man in the filling station said that we could never reach Moberly by six.

Finally Jane agreed to see Camilla on the way home. She lives in Webster Groves.

Between St. Louis and Moberly, we drove in and out of rain. We discovered that they were on slow time, so had time to go by the University of Missouri campus in Columbia. We saw the Pi Phi house with the big arrow, and I made a picture.

We reached Moberly just at six-drove right to 220 S. Clark without a hitch.

Cousin Sally was on the porch. All of them were there except Betty Sue, who had gone to Kirksville with her fiancé.

We had dinner-meat loaf, potatoes, two kinds of salad, peach cobbler, iced tea (Cousin Sally was worried because they ran out of tea.

Before we finished eating relatives started coming. They were as follows:

3 Ola Maud, her husband, Mr. Alexander and her daughter (19)

2 Cousin Frank [ed. Billy or Biby?] and Cousin Annie Cobb.

2 Cordelia, Charlie Cochran

4 Dan and Merle Cobb, 2 little granddaughters

2 Howard Stamper and wife

2 Kate Stamper Wilhite and husband

Betty Sue and her fiancé (Sefirt, Jean) came

Cousin Sally, Sarah Elizabeth Byrum, Edwin Byrum, Tommy Byrum.

We talked, David made pictures, I showed Mother's pictures.

After everyone was gone we prepared for bed. Jane slept with Betty Sue. David, John and I slept in two beds in the same room.

Monday, August 23, 1954

We got up at seven, had breakfast, then took Sarah E. and Edwin to work in their car. First John had taken our car to the Chevrolet garage to have the car radiator fixed.

We went to see Cousin Frank and Annie, and he took us over to his church, where he had done most of the interior carpentry (It is a new church).

When we got back, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stamper were waiting. We went with them in their Cadillac to his plant-first by the feed mills (We did not get out), then to the turkey and chicken processing plant. We went in a below zero room, and then saw a huge vat of egg albumin being processed to sell to Betty Crocker, Pillsbury and Swansdown for angel food cakes. Then we went up the laboratory where they bake angel foods for testing and the assistant gave John a cake.

Then we watched chickens being killed by electric shock and picked by assembly line methods. They sell the feathers to mattress companies and make dog food (Caper) out of the entrails.

Next they drove us to their turkey and pheasant farm (Their car is air-conditioned). We also saw four dogs on which they try out the dog food-very glossy, they were.

Then they took us to their home for lemonade. Next we went over to Kate's to see her Dresden collection. Then they started to take us back to Cousin Sally's. The battery in the first Cadillac was down, so we went in a second one.

As soon as we had lunch, we left, at one o'clock-drove by Clifton Hill, picked up Dan and drove out to see where Uncle Sam lived, and where he used to live-out where Ola Maude now lives.

We took him back-saw the Alexanders' house-and then started for Cameron.

We reached there shortly after four. Cousin Bay and Madie were alone, but very shortly Ben, Ann and their two little girls came.

We had a wonderful ham dinner-talked afterwards. Cousin Bay washed the dishes. D.P. made a picture.

Tuesday, August 24, 1954

We got up at six, had breakfast (Colorado cantaloupe) and got started before 7. Cousin Bay thought that we should continue on 36 from St. Joe, but we decided to follow our Texaco routing up through Lincoln and Nebraska. I am glad that we did, as it was the route most of the way on the old Oregon Trail.

When we reached Oregon, Missouri (about 70 miles from Cameron), John remembered that he had left his watch (which his father and mother gave him for high school graduation) hanging by its chain on the bedpost at Cousin Madie's. He didn't want to call about it.

We crossed into Nebraska at Nebraska City, after having gone across a corner of Iowa.

As we progressed, the wooded hills flattened out and we came into plains.

We stopped in Lincoln at noon and visited a museum across from the capitol-saw sod house pictures, etc. Then we went across and went up in the capitol tower. We had also seen the University of Nebraska.

We ate lunch in Seward. When we crossed the Platte River it was very flat.

The highway went alongside the Union Pacific R.R. and we saw many trains, the majority of them with good old steam engines.

At Cozad, Nebraska we saw a sign saying that it was the world's largest alfalfa processing plant.

Once as we were rolling along we saw a sign which said 9 miles to Beaver Crossing. Jane remembered that the dentist, Paul C. Houchen, who sold us our Houchens' genealogy. [ed. lived there.] We drove 9 miles there, but he had moved to Lincoln. That was 18 miles wasted, but it was interesting to see the off-highway town.

Soon after that we stopped at a Texaco station at Wasco for gas. The woman in charge who waited on us was Patricia Strieter. We asked her about the 3-layer windbreaks. She didn't know the type of trees, but said the government planted them some years ago and some of them were not in the right direction.

I asked why trees had to be planted around the houses-why didn't they always grow there. She said they did grow along the creeks originally.

Her paternal grandparents came in the 1870's in a covered wagon from Strieter, Illinois, her maternal grandparents from Pennsylvania in the 60's in a covered wagon. She said that just 5 miles to the left of the highways we were traveling was a marker commemorating the Oregon Trail.

Before we got to North Platte there was a period when there were no more houses. The first thing we could usually see of the towns was the big grain elevator. We passed some government surplus tanks.

All along the way we saw fields of black-eyed Susans.

We ate dinner at Tuckers's in North Platte (D.P. ordered onion rings). The food was good.

I called Ogallala to see if we could get accommodations at Erin's Tourist Motel, but they were filled up. Cost of dinner \$7.05 (including tip).

We stayed at Cedar Grove Court in North Platte. Room with two beds, bath, but no air-conditioning, cost \$7.50.

A man from Lincoln who until recently lived in Louisville spoke to us at the tourist court. His name was Rowlinson.

I forgot to say that D.P. bought 2 pennants (Iowa and Nebraska) and I made a picture of the 3 of them in front of a covered wagon.

Wednesday, August 25, 1954

We drove to Ogallala for breakfast getting up at 5:15 and leaving at six. We had the car Texaco-serviced there too. Another family of four sat in an adjoining booth.

As we drove along we saw snow fences, and what were presumably ranches. We never did see any cowboys, except one on a motorcycle.

When we reached Cheyenne, we visited the capitol, which is older than Kentucky's and not so pretty. We did not go on to Laramie, but cut down toward Loveland, Colorado, all the time looking for a place to eat lunch. We finally had turkey sandwiches in Loveland.

From there we drove 30 miles to Estes Park. We had been seeing the mountains ahead, and now quite suddenly we entered them, going through the Narrows, a very scenic route between closing-in stone cliff-like mountains.

As we approached Estes Park along Big Thompson Creek, there were many attractive cottages. We looked for signs of Bill Ladd, but did not see him.

It cost us \$1.00 to enter Rocky Mountain National Park. We drove first to a lodge. D.P. bought a Western hat, and John bought a wool tie. I photographed John, Jane and D.P. on the lookout balcony with a mountain in the background showing snow down a chasm.

We fed peanuts to some little chipmunks.

Then we went on up-18 miles or more. Finally we came to the highest elevation 12, 193. Jane had drive up.

She and D.P. went down to Iceberg Lake to get some snow. They came back breathless. I couldn't get my breath-just from crossing the road

We came on back, stopped at Estes Park, drove back to Laramie-in rain some after Loveland. We reached Laramie at 7. At the first motel we tried, we could not get accommodations, but got separate units at the Wyoming Court-but had to pay \$8.00 per room.

We ate at the Chef. (I forgot to say that our tourist rooms were upstairs).

D.P. went to the University, but found no one (no Order of the Arrow boys he knew). We saw a man with an Order of the Arrow sash as we came in on a corner giving directions. He said that he missed one carload of boys just "loading".

I washed some things. We relaxed and went to bed. Jane's and my bed had some electric vibrating device.

Thursday, August 26, 1954

We had breakfast at the Hotel Corner Coffee Shop. D.P. went over to the University, but found no Louisville boys.

I ironed some things (We borrowed an iron and board from the motel proprietress. At \$16 for a night she could afford to let us have it).

We had to check out by 11. John had sent a night letter to the office giving this motel address until 1 today, Louisville time. We are on Mountain Time here, and no daylight saving.

D.P. went back to the University. John went to see the registrar at the U. of Wyoming. Jane and I went to the P.O. and I got some ink, Scotch tape and Energine [ed. Cleaning fluid], then went to a dry goods store and got some material to make a neck pillow-but they had no foam rubber.

We went back for John but he was not through, so we went in the Pi Phi house, where the wife of one of the national order of the Arrow men was staying-else we would not have gotten in.

Finally we got John and D.P., ate lunch at the Hotel Coffee Shop. We took D.P. back once more. Still there we no Louisville boy there and registration did not start until 2.

We left Laramie at 1:15, and immediately we were in desolate country. It got worse all the time. There were snow fences, tufts of spiny grass (I don't believe this was yet sage brush) and then we had a flat tire-rear right, bought in November. It was awfully windy. While they fixed it, I went over and examined the dry-looking spiny tufts of grass. The soil was very sandy. There were no fences.

I mailed some cards from La Monte P.O. The woman (postmistress) said that although it was very windy there, it does not get terribly cold in the winter.

We passed through Rawlins, and reached Lander a little before dark.

I should have said that even while passing through the desolate country before La Mont, we passed several trailer camps (many miles apart). At La Mont, we were told that they were for uranium ore workers. Tons of uranium are being mined in certain mountain sections about 11 miles from the highway.

We drove up to the Lazy U Motel, but their only available luxurious suite was \$14.50. We would not take it. David was driving. We started to leave, and got the front right tire down over a concrete curb where construction was going on (new street).

They had to get the jack out and jack the wheel up. Finally we got out and got a cabin at Lazy J. It was a log cabin type. Ours was at the back and as soon as we drove back to unpack, Jane discovered 4 cats (3 of them half-grown kittens-one a mother cat-all evidently living next door.)

We got ready (D.P. "dressed" for the first time) and went to the Noble Hotel (AAA and recommended by Duncan Hines) to eat. It was quite unusual. It had a rare Indian collection (murals around the dining room) and the proprietor seems to be an authority on Chief Washakii of the Shoshone Indians. We had a good dinner-well served.

Afterwards we looked at some Rocky Mountain jade in a shop. D.P. bought a filter for his camera.

We went on back to the cabin.

Friday, August 27, 1954

We had to have our tire fixed, after yesterday's flat. There was one vulcanizing place in town, open at 7. John left it there while we ate breakfast at the hotel coffee shop. When we went for the car, the man had us go back in his back yard to see a fawn which had come into town and was staying with them. It was fairly tame and cute. The garage man's wife said that it ate up her strawberry plants. David would not go to the car to get his camera to make a picture of it.

After Lander we got into more strictly dude ranch country, with signs, etc. Before that we went through the Wind River Indian Reservation where the Shoshone Indians live. They seem to be farmers, with some irrigation. No matter how poor-looking the buildings, there was usually a good car.

Whereas yesterday afternoon we would drive 15 miles or more without seeing a human habitation, there was not so much space between houses today.

We ate lunch before we went in the Tetons National Park. D.P. got two hamburgers. We stopped at the Ranger Station before going in the Park. The woman Ranger told us that if our time was limited and we did not want to drive 13 miles, to drive about 4 miles up to the top of Signal Mountain from which we could see all of the valley of Jackson Hole, Jackson Lake and the Teton Peaks.

It was a dirt road, but not bad. The view was magnificent and awe inspiring. The Teton peaks were touched with snow in their canyons. Mount Moran was in the foreground.

Jane thought we should go on into the Tetons, but we decided that we should get on to Yellowstone. It was 26 miles after we entered Yellowstone before we got to Old Faithful. We passed a canyon (going in from the South entrance).

En route we saw 12 bears at different places. The signs all say not to feed the bears but we threw a partly rotten peach back to one and he came up and stood up by the right side of our car. David took his picture. He put his paw through the front side window.

When we first got to Yellowstone at West Thumb, we watched the "paint pot" eruptions, then drove on to the Old Faithful area.

We decided to spend the night there, so got a cabin (\$10.00) for two rooms with 2 beds each – (toilet outside).

Then we went up to watch Old Faithful at five. I had bought color film for both D.P. and me. David was parking and I was changing to my color film when Old Faithful started. I doubt if my pictures were good, as we had to hurry so.

We walked on out to see some other geysers and were fortunate enough to see Grand Geyser in eruption many times (8 or 10). It is higher than Old Faithful. We walked back across with a couple from India, with two children walking, carrying one. The wife wore a sari, had a jewel on her nose, and a ring on her sandaled toe. We talked to them about chipmunks and geysers. There were in a Washington car.

We came back and ate at the Cafeteria. It was not too good.

Afterwards we went to a movie on birds in the Park (in the Recreation Hall) then to one on "Nature Out of Balance" in the Amphitheatre. It was so cold that we wrapped in our blankets.

Then we watched Old Faithful erupt with light on it-then went to Old Faithful Inn (where there was a fire) and watched them dance.

Then we went to our cottage (which we couldn't find at first) built wood fires in the stoves to warm us before going to bed.

Saturday, August 28, 1954

We went up to the Coffee Shop in the Lodge for breakfast, checking out from our cabin. We had to scrape frost off the windshield. It was really cold-down to 25.

Our waitress was from Kansas State at Manhattan. She said the 3 weeks of pre-season work she had there was really vigorous-so cold.

We left soon after, stopping to see various geyser basins and porridge-like boiling masses. We cut across the small circle to see Yellowstone Falls and canyon. D.P. and I made colored pictures.

Then we got in the car and drove to the East, or Cody, entrance. We stopped at the Pahaska coffee shop (Buffalo Bill) and went into his old hunting lodge.

The trip to Cody past chiseled stone canyons and cliffs and through the Shoshone and Roosevelt Dam was monumental.

We had a family fuss with Jane over making a picture at Cody but I finally made the three of them in front of the Buffalo Bill stature.

Afterwards I drove 28 miles (my first) through the Wind River Canyon partly- then Jane took over.

We decided to drive to Casper to stay tonight instead of Lander. It is a city of 23,000-the oil capital of Wyoming. We were to get a cabin for \$6.00. There was a fluffy Persian cat there.

This afternoon at the place where we ate lunch, we saw a black cat with white whiskers and white feet-also a striped kitten.

Jane was in a mood and wouldn't go eat. We ate at the Saddle Rock Café (I only a malt) and took a malt to Jane.

Sunday, August 29, 1954
Our 26th wedding anniversary

One year ago Mother was still here. Jane and David gave us the silver cream and sugar set, and we ate dinner out at Old Stone Inn. Sylvia was at our house.

Yesterday and today we have all been at cross purposes-Jane last night, me this morning, D.P. tonight and John tonight. I suppose it was just the continual rush.

We left Casper this morning after eating breakfast at the Saddle Rock Café where we ate last night. We bought a Casper paper.

The trip to Laramie was through desolate looking country such as we saw two days ago between Laramie and Lander. I had colored film and wanted to make a typical ranch scene, but couldn't get Jane to stop driving in time (1) when I saw cows with yellow, black eyed Susans in the foreground and mountain behind, and (2) when I saw an irrigated farm home sitting like a postage stamp of green in a panorama of brown plain and mountain.

Finally we stopped before we got into Laramie, and David and I went up by the railroad (Union Pacific) right-of-way, but then I discovered that my camera was open. So all my color film was exposed, I suppose.

We rolled into Laramie at about 11:30. The Jefferson County school bus was there. David went to the closing meeting, found Don Thom and the boys. I decided to get film to make their pictures and Jane and I went to a drug store downtown-missed getting to see them leave. D.P. bought a badge (Order of the Arrow) from boy for 50 cents.

We ate at the Hotel Connor Coffee Shop-saw national commander of the Order of the Arrow.

Then we left Laramie-retraced to Loveland, Colorado were in new territory after that. It was tourist and resort country. The family got raspberry juice, but I was feeling headachy and stomach-achy. We went by Boulder to see the University and the Pi Phi house. Jane and I thought that Boulder Dam was there until J.M.H. set us right.

In Denver we saw the capitol (gold dome) and I took a capsule for my head.

We drove on to Colorado Springs and ate at Ruth's Oven (recommended by Kate Stamper). Jane and John had shrimp salad in tomato, I had chicken salad in tomato, D.P. had a dinner.

We then went to a tour guide place (the city is full of them) and reserved a place to stay at Red Cliff Lodge (\$10 for the 4 of us). We also paid \$24 for 4 round-trip bus tickets to the top of Pike's Peak tomorrow at eight.

We went on to Red Cliff which was nice-two rooms with connecting bath (freshly laundered rugs). Jane slept in one room-D.P. on rollaway bed in our room.

Monday, August 30, 1954

I had a bad headache and vomited about 2 o'clock, but felt better this morning.

We ate at Buffalo Inn on the motel woman's recommendation then waited for the bus to come by for us. He arrived on schedule. We went by the cog depot-most people took the diverse route-cog train one way or the other-and I suppose we should have-and then started out the highway and on up Pike's Peak. On the way we saw the old Cripple Creek railroad.

The trip up was exciting-more so coming down. We saw racing cars-their drivers training for the Labor Day race up the mountain. Above timberline the W curve and others are really scary.

The top (elevation 14,000 +) was not so exciting-but cold. Ears froze.

We came down by bus. I decided that the children would have like the diverse route (cog) one way or the other. We had to listen to the same spiel from the bus driver coming down.

When we reached our car at the motel (We had checked out before we left) we ate at Buffalo Inn. Jane had gotten light-headed coming down the mountain, but said that she felt better.

John went to an out-of-state newspaper stand nearby and bought a Courier Journal The first thing that we found was that Cousin John Smither died on Friday. It was a Saturday Courier.

We next drove to the Garden of the Gods, but didn't linger long, as I wanted to go to Royal Gorge, which Mrs. Marshall had recommended highly.

It proved to be a longer trip than we had anticipated-at least 50 miles from Colorado Springs.

When we got there we went in to buy some film. Some Indians then did a dance.

We went over and got in line for the trip down into the canyon in the little cars. It was really 'way, way' down. At the bottom we got out and walked around a little.

Then we went back up on the cars, and walked out on the Suspension bridge, but Jane did not like it much, so we did not go all the way across.

We drove back to Colorado Springs, in rain part of the way.

There we sent a telegram to the Parkers telling them that we would be there tomorrow night.

Some wanted to eat, but we finally decide to drive on to use what daylight we had.

I had meant to get Rock Ford cantaloupes, but hadn't and remembered that I had not bought Stella's gift.

We drove on, could not find a good place to eat after we left Colorado Springs, finally ate at a very inferior café in as small town. We drove to Limon, Colorado and there stopped at the first motel on the edge of town. It was the worst one we have stayed in. The place had several crickets and had evidently been thrown together out of cheap materials by the owner.

Book 102- August 31-October 16, 1954

Tuesday, August 31, 1954

We ate breakfast at Burlington, Colorado at a nice hotel coffee shop where a lot of Texans (a bus load of them) were just leaving. It was an unusually nice small-town hotel. John had the steering gear checked.

Kansas was exceedingly uninteresting. The level farms looked nice, the farm machinery looked good, but the farm homes looked to be the vintage of 1900 and nothing seems to have been done to them since.

We ate lunch at a small hotel coffee shop-the town I've forgotten-in Kansas. It was 1:30 when we went in, and they closed the doors immediately after. I had ham hocks and lima beans-not good. They were trying to figure their patrons and their money, but it wouldn't come out right.

As we approached Manhattan the country was less monotonous. We had wired the Parkers that we would try to be there by six their time. Actually it was only 5:30 when we reached there.

Elsie was alone, preparing dinner. Soon the boy came, Jim, 6 ft. 4, David, 10 ½ years. Tom was working hard on their house which they started in April.

Soon after he arrived we had dinner-wonderful apple pie.

Then we rinsed the dishes and went to see their new house which they are building. Tom with the help of another faculty member is doing all the work. It is a ranch type house with 3 bedrooms (or 2 bedrooms and a study) with a fireplace, in the basement, picture window there too. The lot is 5/8 of an acre.

The Parkers have a cat, and there was another young cat over at the new house.

Tom worked a while and we came on back via the college which like all the college buildings we have seen, has beautiful buildings.

Jane and David slept on the front porch.

Wednesday, September 1, 1954

We got up at 7, and left as early as we could.

Jane had written Camilla Wright at Webster Groves that we would be there late this afternoon but we were running late. We stopped in Kansas City, Kansas and she called her. I called Jessie Watson.

We travelled across Missouri during the day, eating lunch at _____.

We saw a truck trailer overturned beside the highway, the first wreck we have seen.

I was impelled to call Cousin Sally from Boonville or Columbia but John said not.

By the time we reached St. Louis, it was 6:30. We took Jane to Camilla's, and we went on to find a place to eat. While we ate we saw children playing with a black kitten next door. A little girl swung it around by its tail.

We went after Jane. She had eaten at Judy's and had Camilla's new Persian kitten. We got to see Camilla's little sister.

After we started out from St. Louis -- close on to 9 o'clock, we decided not to stop at a motel, unloading everything, etc. I agreed if they would stop and let us all sleep.

In Olney, Illinois something went wrong with the battery about midnight, but we were fortunate enough to find a service repair place open. We had to push the car first.

Thursday, September 2, 1954

Finally at 2, we stopped at a trucker's stop and rested until five-then drove on eating breakfast in a small Indiana town at a nice little place on the square. I finally even found a gift shop open where I could get a basket shopping bag for Stella. I had bought her a pepper and salt set yesterday near Kansas City.

At a quarter of nine -- see tomorrow!

Thursday, September 2, 1954

That driving all night threw me off. Actually go back to the preceding page to start this day. We rolled in home at a quarter of nine. Puss met us.

The Campbells' house addition has made great progress.

John didn't go to the office until the afternoon. I washed in the afternoon. Stella was at the Campbells'.

Dickie seemed to like his wallet from Yellowstone and the silver dollar (for caring for Puss). Stella liked her basket.

We were all very tired. Jane went to work this afternoon.

John and I went to the funeral home -Pearson's --tonight because Miss Turner's father had died.

D.P. took us and then he went out with Ann.

(ed.- Entries from September 3, 1954 to October 13, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

October 14, 1954

I went down to the Wizard Weaver's and picked up Jane's suede jacket (\$8.50 – terrible) and looked at October 1 and 2, 1929 Courier Journals trying to locate when the United Daughters of the Confederacy ran the article about the mailbag containing Grandma Sidebottom's letter. (ed. A letter written by Mollie Sidebottom to her imprisoned husband, Benjamin, while he was at Camp Chase in Columbus, Ohio, during the Civil War. The letter, dated May 30, 1862, never reached its destination, being lost for forty years. It was originally returned to the only living daughter of Mollie and Ben, Mrs. Mary S. Cobb. Then it was given to Mariam Sidebottom Houchens and subsequently to her son, David Paul Houchens. See the entire letter and history in the appendix of Volume 6 of these diaries of Mariam Sidebottom Houchens.)

Tonight Mary and I met at Alta, but did not get interviews. I went on to 1030 S. Preston and got one, then to Male High Boosters, then picked up D.P., then John.

October 15, 1954

Stella was here. I kept the car and went to Alta, but did not get an interview.

I went on Frankfort Avenue and found that one of my hundred year ladies passed away in May. Then I went to see Cousin Frank, but he wasn't there and I saw Mrs. Gividen only.

This afternoon I went with Mrs. Pope Merriman and Alberhasky to the 50th golden anniversary tea of the Highland Mother's Club at the McCall home.

Tonight I have worked on time card, etc.

Saturday, October 16, 1954

I got my interview on Alta (#7) and on Vetter (#8), nicest one yet-then went to Levy's and met D.P. where he got a pair of gray flannel slacks-then I drove around the blocks while he got a sweater at Penny's. Traffic was hair-graying.

John and I, went to the Ernst's open house.

D. P. went to the Male-Paducah game with some boys -- saw some boys there who went to Boy's State, and took them out to the Ranch House.

Book 103- October 17-November 17, 1954

Sunday, October 17, 1954

Our Youth Revival started today for a week -- Andy Blane from Lexington. I could not keep awake in the morning service so did not go back tonight. I slept a little this afternoon.

(ed.- Entries from October 18, 1954 to October 27, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, October 28, 1954

I forgot to say that D.P. studied at the library yesterday afternoon. Today I did more work in the basement late, but the gib event was going to Atherton.

Tuesday morning Miss Woerner called me to invite John and me up there this morning at 10:15 for a special assembly program centered around Vanderbilt. I asked her if anyone from Vanderbilt would be there. She said yes -- said that she did not want to seem mysterious, but someone from Vanderbilt would be there.

Well, we halfway thought the students were coming up. John could not go today because he had to go to the University of Kentucky for the state registrars' meeting.

The Stites had been called, too. Yesterday they received a letter from Lucy saying that they were having mid-terms this week. Margaret got a card from Jane saying the same. Then this morning as I was getting the 9:23 bus to go to Atherton the mail came early for once and there was a long letter from Jane saying that they were having mid-terms. I really did not expect her, but had started with brownies and clippings so took them on.

Miss Woerner took me in her office. Mr. Buford and Mr. Eldred, president of the Vanderbilt alumni in Louisville, were there. Then Mr. and Mrs. Stites came, then Mrs. Lowenstein, then Mrs. McClarin, then Mrs. Johnson, president of the P.T.A., then Superintendents Carmichael and Coslow, then Mr. Bromm.

Miss Woerner told us what she had kept so secret (even the student body did not know why they were having a special assembly.) The Vanderbilt Alumni in 1953-53 started giving plaques to the public high school and the boy's private school and girls' private school which sent freshman to Vanderbilt making the highest grades.

Well, a high school in Montgomery, Alabama got it in 1952-53, but in 1953-54 Atherton got it and even had higher scores than any private school. The four students were Jane, Lucy, Irwin Lowenstein and Bill McClarin.

Well, we all had to trip down the aisle and go on the stage. It was a sea of faces, but I picked out Glenda Doyle and Linda, and after it was over I saw Patty Dannenfeler.

Mr. Eldred and Burford gave me a lift to Barret Avenue and I stopped by, saw Spennie's husband, met her doctor, Dr. Hall and saw her very briefly.

Then I went by St. Anthony's to enquire about Mr. and Mrs. W.K. Augustus who were in a traffic accident Sunday. I did not see her.

David has taken another cold, and his chest hurts a little. He came home telling me that he was off the rifle team – that the man told them to get some more practice and come back later in the year. I know that it was a keen disappointment to him, for he wanted to make that rifle team.

Later tonight he said that maybe because of his chest his knee quivered when he tried to shoot. We want him to see a doctor tomorrow.

He would go over to church tonight to be measured for a choir robe, but John went after him.

Jane called at ten. She knew nothing about the plaque until Ann Sherman called them tonight to congratulate them. We all talked to her (even Puss, by pulling his tail) and Ann Klusmeier was here to talk to her.

Friday, October 29, 1954

John called Dr. Coleman, and he said the only way he could see David today was for him to come to the Baptist Hospital at 9:30, so D.P. took the car to school first, then went for John.

Stella was here. At 11:30, I went over to the Blue Motor bus to go to the Kentucky to meet Mary Sublett for the Friends of Libraries luncheon. Actually I rode in with Mrs. A.J. Miller. Lunch was over, and part of the program, when Mary told me that John was over there. Immediately I knew that it was David.

I went out, and John told me that David's right lung is collapsed, and they will not let him leave the hospital.

We went by school and got some of his books, then went up there. He is in a 4-bed ward, 453, which is all they could get.

John said that Miss Vinson and Miss Collier came to see him. Both Dr. Coleman and Dr. Morris examined him.

He had gotten up and put his clothes on just before we got there (The nurse later made him go back to bed).

Last spring when he had something like pleurisy, we sent him to Dr. Chapell but he evidently did little except give him pills. Later I had him take a chest x-ray about May. It was negative.

Then in the summer before he went to camp in August he went to Dr. Alberhasky and had an examination. So I don't know. We've let him do too much.

I came home and cut some chrysanthemums as there was to be frost tonight. He had a nurse call me to have me call the Y and call Ann Bennett (He had a date tonight). She later called John, I was at the grocery store and wanted to go up there tonight, but John asked her to wait till Sunday.

We went back tonight taking pajamas to him, chrysanthemums, a Life [magazine], toothbrush and toothpaste, Kleenex, some candy and oranges. He said the doctor had not been in and they were only giving him cough medicine.

Saturday, October 30, 1954

John went to school on the bus, and I went up to the hospital, getting there by 9:30, hoping to see Dr. Coleman; they had put a definite stop to D.P. going to the bathroom. He said they wouldn't let him give himself a bath either. He had already had his bath. He said that he was not used to going to sleep as early as he had the night before and got awake at three and could not go back to sleep, especially since the elderly man on one side of him kept calling "Grandma" and wanting to go home. The man in the corner across from David said too that they couldn't sleep. The old fellow was taken home this morning.

I darned socks. Dr. Coleman did not come until 10 of 1. I had helped feed Mr. Wayne, and D.P.'s lunch had come before Dr. Coleman got there.

He said that David's lung is sound-not diseased. He said that in this pneumo-thorax condition a blister forms on the lung which lets the air out when a person coughs or has some unusual physical strain. He said that if it does not inflate fast enough that he will puncture his side to speed it. I asked him about company, and he said that it was better for him not to have it-that he should not talk much. I asked if he could study, and he said yes.

I came on home. John raked leaves this afternoon. A real frost is predicted tonight. I cut chrysanthemums and zinnias to take to D.P.

Tonight we went up at 7. Dr. Pettigrew had been to see him. David found his card, but he was asleep, and Dr. P. did not disturb him.

John and I went down on Second and talked to Helen Orem Boyer who is staying with Spennie.

Dr. Coleman said this morning that they will make another x-ray tomorrow. Treat-or-Trickers were here.

Sunday, October 31, 1954

We went by the hospital before S.S.-D.P. was having his bath. He had already had his x-ray. He said they took him in a wheel chair, and his chest hurt some when he stood up.

I stayed in the Library and did not go to class. Then we went to church.

This afternoon at 3 we went back up to see David, taking Ann Bennett with us. She took him a card which many of his church friends had signed. We told him not to talk much.

David said Dr. Coleman told him that his lung had gone up 20% and that they will x-ray again Tuesday, and then he could come home, he thought-and then be here a couple of days, he said. This we do not believe, of course-on the time, I mean.

Jack Clark's father and mother came to see him-they were there to see Mrs. Size on that floor.

We came home about 4:30. I didn't go to church tonight.

Monday, November 1, 1954

So far we have heard nothing from Jane about David.

John went on the bus and I went up in the car to the hospital. Ermine called just before I left. She had just gotten my card.

I got there at nine. Dr. Coleman was in the building, but he didn't get there until eleven. With him were Dr. Morris and Dr. Barlow.

Dr. Coleman said what David said yesterday-that his lung had inflated 15 to 20% over Friday. He says that he won't have to stay there until it is all the way inflated. He does not want David to engage in any physical exercise for at least a month.

David wanted me to ask him about work but he was already gone. I told David he needn't worry about work-that he couldn't work now anyhow.

I went home by the P.O., to mail Cousin Madie's pillow and write a card to Jane about D.P. I find a bundle of papers -- a bid-belonging to the Bethel pipe Company. I turned them over to the Superintendent of mails.

I got home at one. Mrs. Dutschke came to enquire about David. After she left, I ate. Then Mrs. Allgeier called, then Mrs. Black. Claudine also called.

Mary Gilbert came to talk about the Survey. Mary Klusmeier came. They were away over the week-end, and just learned about D.P.

John and I went up tonight. Miss Graumann had called John to ask about David, and Mrs. Davidson had come over at lunch to ask about him.

Tonight when we got there, he had a huge basket of fruit from the Allgeiers (and frightened me by swinging it himself over to the bed). Mr. Wells had been to see him this morning, and Mrs. Brooks this afternoon. Miss Samuels from the University and a Mrs. Boyer had also been to see him.

Tonight when we got home, Tom Hansen and Joe Saiter came to enquire about him, and Martha called from New Liberty.

Tuesday, November 2, 1954

John took the car and went to vote, then went on up to see David. I stayed home this morning. Different people telephoned, including Adele Loring and I talked to Mrs. Wehr.

Finally I went up on the bus. When I got there, the mail had not come. Ann Bennett was there, having come on her lunch hour, but she left.

When the mail came, he got a card from the Bennetts at Cumberland Falls, and two other cards. He said that they didn't make his x-ray picture until noon or thereabouts, and Dr. Coleman did not come in-only Dr. Morris.

About four, Tom Hansen, Jerry Henderson and Tommy Kurtz came to see him.

While they were here, Mrs. Boulware came bringing lovely chrysanthemums from the church, and then Dr. Davidson came to see him

John came after me. We came back up tonight.

A new patient came in to the fourth bed today-a boy named Herbert from Jeffersontown who is a bleeder, and had to have plasma.

Wednesday, November 3, 1954

Cousin Ola called before we got up this morning. John talked to her.

I went on to the hospital about nine, as I wanted to be sure to see Dr. Coleman. The Coueys came in, and when they were just leaving, Dr. Coleman told me that David's x-ray picture was little different from Sunday's and he would have to have about 30 days for his lung to inflate naturally, so they believed they should speed it up. He asked if we would rather have Dr. Harter, Davis or Bryant. I called John and he said Dr. Miller since he is on the U. of L. board. I tried to finish talking to him about it, but was disconnected and I had to wait for a telephone. Finally we decided to leave it to Dr. Coleman.

He said that he had not mentioned Dr. Miller because he does his work at St. Joseph's. I left it to him.

I went out to Cousin Ray's at noon to take his pillow. They were not there and I left it between the screen and back door.

I picked up John at 2:10 (I had come home first) and we went to see "The King and I" in the newly re-modeled Memorial Auditorium. It was a lavish production but I could not enjoy it, having so much on my mind. I called 4C at 4:30 to see if David had any message, but he said the chest doctor had not been in.

We went on to church to eat. The hospital called to say that Dr. Davis was going to put the chest tube in David's side about 7 or 7:30. We went on up there.

David had had a sleeping pill, and shortly after we there, they gave him a shot, and put a surgical cap and boots on him.

Bob Metry came to see him, bringing Ann. They took him up to surgery at 7:30. He talked a blue streak to the last minute. He was gone 30 minutes. When he came back at 8, he was still talking, and Dr. Davis said that he talked all the time he was in the operating room, even though he had novacaine for the operation (no anesthetic). He said that he could feel it when they pulled his ribs apart to put the tube in.

They were preparing to give him a shot to put him to sleep. John wanted to go to the office, and so we came on home. He called from the office at ten to ask about him and I called from here. He was asleep, they said.

(ed.- Entries from November 4, 1954 to November 10, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, November 11, 1954

(ed.-David was released from the hospital on November 7 and went back to school on November 10)

I again took David to school, with a note from John asking that he be excused at 2:15 for his 2:30 appointment with Dr. Coleman. His appointment with Dr. Davis was for 4:00.

I went to Taylor Avenue but found no one at home.

I came home and washed. I went in the storeroom and said a little prayer. It was one year ago, on a Wednesday when I washed, that Mother went in the storeroom, and said that it might be the last time she was there. She had a cold then. She also had me walk with her to see the little maple tree which had come up at the end of the back porch which she had staked, and the leaves of which seemed to beautifully pink and pretty.

I picked up David at 2:15, and let him out in front of the Brown Building. I parked in the Library lot. When I got up to Dr. Coleman's, David was still sitting there. At a few minutes before 4 he was still sitting there, but then they called him in the inner office. I went down on the second floor to Dr. Davis' office to tell them why he was delayed. At ten or 15 after four, Dr. Coleman had still not seen David. It was arranged by the two offices that David go on down to Dr. Davis' first.

He was in there a very long time. Then I heard Dr. Davis calling Dr. Coleman, and my heart sank within me.

David came out in the waiting room and said that his lung was down again, but not so much as before. Dr. Davis called me in, and told me. He gave us two alternatives-an operation or bed rest for a week or ten days, to see what would happen. I thought D.P. had gone to school too soon. Dr. Davis said that had nothing in the world to do with it (but I don't know).

John called at 5:20 to ask if we were about ready. I told him we had bad news for him, and he said, "Oh, no". Dr. Coleman's office called to say that it wouldn't be necessary for David to see Dr. Coleman since Dr. Davis had fluoroscoped him.

David had weighed 112 in Dr. Coleman's office-and that with his clothes on.

I was so upset that I thought I could never get the car and come back for David but I did.

We picked up John and went home. He was supposed to go to the Kentucky Hotel for a church dinner. I urged him to go on. David and I had little appetite. I had minute steaks, and mine choked me.

When Jon got home he kept trying to get Dr. Coleman but he had gone to Shelbyville.

Our new dial phones were installed.

(ed.- Entries from November 12, 1954 to November 16, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, November 17, 1954
Claudine's birthday

I kept the car. John went on the bus, as I had things to do for D.P. I finished Claudine's pillow at 4:30-took it to her- first wrote a letter to Mr. Tague, took to Male, got D.P.'s German book-went to Stewart's, exchanged size 18 pajamas for 2 pairs size 20-got a pair of "A" size in men's department, came back by church with the book posters and put them up in the corridor and upstairs-called D.P. from there-came home, gave D.P. his lunch, and started washing.

Mary Gilbert came and stayed for 30 minutes. I finished washing after she left.

D.P. said Ann wanted to come. I had to get time cards off, go the grocery store (Scotty's). John ate at church. D.P. and I ate and I went to church leaving D.P. because Bob Metry was on his way. He stayed –and Ann- until we got home.

Book 104- November 18-December 24, 1954

Thursday, November 18, 1954

David wrote a letter to the McClures, thanking them for his flowers, and I wrote them also.

Mary and I went over to 1703 S. Fourth Street tonight, but did not get an interview. The landlord was unkind enough to close the door to his apartment and put the snap lock on the front door so that it locked shut behind us.

Friday, November 19, 1954

Stella was here today. Mary and I listed in the A.M. over behind Kroger's. Her son Gene is back.

In the afternoon I did a review at 3271 Taylor Boulevard.

Tonight I did one on Ridgewood (Trautwein).

David says that his right lung feels different from the other one.

I sent an air mail letter to Thelma.

Saturday, November 20, 1954

David's appointment with Dr. Davis was at eleven o'clock. John came for us at 10:30. We didn't get home until 2. To begin with, we had to wait a long time. Then when David went in, John and I remained in the waiting room. Dr. Davis called us in-said that David's lung had expanded very little over Thursday a week ago-said that it might take a month or more-and might not stay up. He said that he believed David had had other small collapses.

He wanted him to have an x-ray, so sent us up to the McNeill Laboratories since Dr. Coleman's x-ray technician was not there on Saturday.

We waited up there for a while, then went back down to Dr. Davis'. His recommendation was an operation, but we are supposed to talk to Dr. Coleman.

Flowers (chrysanthemums in a bowl in Styrofoam) came while Ann Bennett was here. The purple and gold colors were carried out with a football goal post covered in ribbon. The arrangement was from John's office.

Mrs. Campbell, Sr. sent David some chili for supper.

Sunday, November 21, 1954

I did not go to S.S. or church. John went to church.

We did not hear from Dr. Coleman last night, so John called him this morning. He said surgery, so John called Dr. Davis. He called me back while John was at church. I told him the Baptist Hospital, if possible.

Mrs. Klusmeier came and Ann Campbell and Dale.

John came home. Dr. Davis called. He could not get David on the operating schedule at the Baptist, so he has him scheduled for 11 at Norton on Tuesday. David is disappointed.

We had Swiss steak for dinner.

Ann Bennett and Woody Gray came, then Gladys Corley bringing chrysanthemums in a copper bucket and some sherbet, then Mrs. Kemper and Mary Sue, then Tom Hansen and Jack Clark.

Monday, November 22, 1954

David was supposed to be at Norton about nine this morning for laboratory tests and so on. We got him there a few minutes after nine.

It took a little while to get him registered in, since they were very busy in the admissions office.

They had him in a 7-man ward, but we got him into a 2-bed room. It turned out to be 503. In the room was a Mr. Roberts. It was crowded and David did not like it. He had been disappointed not to get back to the Baptist.

Instead of closets, there were two lockers. Mr. Roberts' flowers took up all the room on the dresser. There was no place to sit.

Jane had wired this morning that she is coming home this afternoon on 3:45 bus.

We got David situated (they took blood for tests) and then I took the car and went home. John went to the University.

I went to Congress and to S. Brook. No one was at home at Congress, & the RA was absent at S. Brook.

I came home and called Mrs. Saag on Seneca. She asked me to come out this afternoon. I went out there and got her interview. She was nice.

I went by for John, but he had to see someone Dr. Davidson had for him to see-a possible assistant so I went alone to meet Jane. Her bus was about 10 minutes late. I had parked on the Library parking lot. She got in the car and I finally got her bag.

We came on to the hospital. David had not been very pleased with his lunch-had been asleep.

John had to eat at church. Jane and I came home and ate beef pot pie-and fruit salad.

Then we went back to the hospital. Margaret was there when we came-and Claudine came. They were going to the Burton Holmes' lecture.

We came on home. John had to go back to the office, and Jane went up to Ann's.

The Campbells came over and invited us for Thanksgiving dinner there.

Tuesday, November 23, 1954

David's operation was scheduled for 11. We got over there about 9. Dr. Davidson (ed.-president of the University of Louisville) was just going up to see David as were arriving. That was nice of him. While he was there Dr. Pettigrew (ed.-pastor of church) came. I had to go out to sign a release for the operation since David was under age.

David kept asking about the time. At 10 o'clock they gave him a shot. His eyes soon showed it-he slowed down perceptibly.

At 10 of 11 they came for him. He had a cap on, as at the Baptist, but no boots.

They were going to move his bed so that he could be next to the running water.

We were down the hall and I saw that a corner room was available-that is, was vacant. We enquired at the desk whether it were available, and the supervisor called down to see about it, and was told that they were moving David into 501. So they took his oxygen ten in there – and rigged up bottles connecting with the water by his bed. They taped the tubes to the floor

Mrs. Stites came up to see us. Dr. Pettigrew came back.

At one o'clock, they brought him back. They said that he was already responding to them some. The anethecist came in with him. He had blood during the operation, and they started giving him glucose.

John insisted that I go with him to the cafeteria on the second floor. We had some chili and coffee.

When we got back, Jane told David that I was there, and he responded briefly in some sign of recognition. We stayed close with him. John went back to the office for a bit.

Claudine was teaching and stopped by after school.

David's bed was fixed with the legs at the foot higher than the head. They used blocks.

William and Ama came by-looked in at the door but did not come in. William said that his chest operation took three hours.

I wrote several letters.

John and I ate in the cafeteria, then came back, and Jane went to eat.

John called Ermine. Jane wanted to talk to her, but he did not let her. At least he did not know whether she wanted to or not.

Jane insisted that she wanted to stay.

Dr. Davis came in late in the day and took him out of the oxygen tent. It was cold (like air conditioning) in the tent. When he took him out, he was hot and perspiring. They also took the blocks out from under his bed.

Red roses came for him this afternoon from the Dunbars.

Tonight John and I ate in the cafeteria on the second floor and then Jane ate.

We were all worn out-I know that Jane was-she would not even eat lunch today, but they urged me to come on home, and we did, getting here about ten, or a little before. Puss had been in the basement all day.

The telephone was ringing as we came in and continued to ring. John had called Ermine from the hospital, and called Martha at ten, as he had not been able to reach her from the hospital.

Wednesday, November 24, 1954

I slept like a log from pure exhaustion but got up at four and John and I were at the hospital by 5:15, as we knew how tired Jane must be.

John took her on home. It later developed that she was not able to sleep much because the telephone rang all morning.

Flowers with the Male High ribbons came from Ann Bennett.

Jane had stayed awake all night, making David turn every 30 minutes, and trying to get him to cough. They gave him hypodermics as he needed them.

Even yesterday and last night they brought him tea and ginger ale. They brought the same for his breakfast and for lunch he had some broth, but wanted little of any of it. His teeth have a scum on them, and his lips are parched.

John came in at 11, and I took the car and went home, knowing that I had to be back in time for him to go to a Council meeting at the University at 2.

I stopped at the grocery store to get some food, since the groceries will be closed tomorrow. It was my kind of renewal of memories of a year ago, for it was on Wednesday before Thanksgiving (although on the 25th) that I grocery shopped while my blessed mother departed this life.

Jane told me that she had been able to sleep little.

Jane came to the hospital in the afternoon. It was rainy and cold.

Margaret and Janet came by.

After school Claudine came.

Jane had made dinner reservations at church for the three of us tonight, but actually only John went over. I ate in the hospital cafeteria. Jane went out to the Pi Phi house with Dick, Margaret and Martin.

Betty Nichols and Ann Bennett came over briefly from church to see David.

Callie Dilley also came by to see David – said that Mrs. Nuckols had asked about him particularly. Erwina came before supper and brought the same message from Mrs. Nuckols.

Jane, Dick, Margaret and Martin came by the hospital to see David.

I came home about nine and left John in charge.

David had what they called a soft diet tonight-including ground up steak.

Thursday, November 25, 1954

This is the actual anniversary of Mother's passing. One year gone so fast without her!

I took Jane to the breakfast at church. John went home in the car and I stayed.

Jane and Ann came back over from church.

Mr. Phelps and Mr. Jewell came this morning bringing chrysanthemums, presumably from the Thanksgiving breakfast.

Jane also brought him an apple turkey from the table.

Dr. Davis came and after he left, the nurses got D.P. up in a chair. Mrs. McConnell, the floor supervisor worked with him. While she had him up, Dr. Alberhasky came to see him, and he and Mrs. McConnell both worked on him.

Afterwards David said that Dr. A. was really rough.

During the morning he would keep saying to me- "Why?"

A Stites girl (whom Jane knows) came from the x-ray Department and made an x-ray of him.

The Stites sent lovely chrysanthemums with the Male High colors.

They brought him a turkey dinner. He ate a very little of it. I finished his turkey and dressing and ate his pumpkin pie.

Ann stayed with him during the game-also Jane and part of the time Lucy and Squidge. He listened some, but felt too bad to be much interested.

Miss Watkins came to see him.

Opal had consented to stay with him while we came out to the Campbells to have Thanksgiving dinner with them.

I became greatly worried about him. He talked to himself constantly during the afternoon, sometimes rationally, sometimes hardly so, and he would give the most pitiful little coughs and lift that poor right arm in the air and try to get it up as they asked him to but was unsuccessful, and seemed feverish too.

I was in tears before we went to the Campbells, but became quieter there.

However, after we went back to the hospital I got in a terrible state. I could not stay in the room with him.

Jane and I were going to stay here-John stayed with D.P. I called Mrs. Klusmeier and she and Ann came down. She gave me a bromide. John called and said that he called-or rather had the house doctor called, and that David's temperature was normal. I relaxed.

Friday, November 26, 1954

I slept all right last night after getting relaxed.

Dr. Davidson called before I went to the hospital. I went back over at eight.

Dr. Davis had already been there at 7:30 and had take D.P.'s tube out. He has had such a complex about somebody stepping on it (It was taped to the floor) that I think it will help him not

to have it. He looked better than last night – slept fairly well – John thought. With his tube out they had him walk out to the hall- and sit up.

He was asleep when Mr. Wells came to see him – talked wildly about “Where is tomorrow?” when the nurse awakened him.

Jane did not have much appetite. She said that Dr. Pettigrew came to see David (I had her call him last night to pray particularly for D.P.) and that the latter was sitting up reading Life.

(ed.- Entries from continuation of November 26, 1954 to November 29, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, November 30, 1954 (ed. Excerpts related to D.P.’s recovery)

This is the thirteenth anniversary of Brother’s death.

I went to the hospital early, for we half expected D.P. to get to come home. The doctor had not been in, and did not come until after 12. He told David that he saw no reason wh he could not go.

We had to move fast. I got hold of John and he was there by 1:15. We didn’t have the suitcase there, but managed to get everything to the car. (A Manual graduate who had had an appendectomy went in and spent some time with D.P. this morning.)

We brought David in the car, and the trip was hard on him.

He put his pajamas on, and got in Mother’s bed, completely knocked out.

Wednesday, December 1, 1954

I slept downstairs last night. David is terribly sore, and is inclined to walk one-sided.

The telephone has rung all dya. Phyllis called this morning, and then Dorothy Summerford called, and Mrs. Vanderhaar, and Mrs. Bulluck.

Miss Grauman also called David and talked to him this afternoon.

I am concentrating on giving him lots to eat.

Thursday, December 2, 1954

While I was helping D.P. take a bath this morning (in the downstairs bathroom) Mrs. Tritt stopped by to tell us about Mr. Bob Kelley’s sudden death yesterday.

I washed today. Stella stopped by to see David as she went to the Campbells.

(ed.- Entries December 3, 1954 to December 22, 1954 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, December 23, 1954

(ed.-David went home from the hospital on November 30, 1954 and went back to school on December 13. He had missed 30 days of school in his senior year of high school).

I went to the grocery store today to do my Christmas shopping. I got and 11 pound plus turkey for five dollars and something. My grocery list was big.

D.P. went to a Christmas dance tonight with Ann. Jane went Christmas caroling with a group from church. She said that they almost came out to serenade D.P., and she was afraid that they would.

D.P. and Ann tripled with Larry and Linda and Dale and Ann. D.P wore Roy's tuxedo. We had gotten him new black shoes and a black tie (He bought the latter himself).

After he left I got very worried that his lung would collapse even called the hotel, and was on the point of having him paged, but John talked me out of it.

I worked on pillows tonight.

Friday, December 24, 1954

Mrs. Steuterman from Meadowlark appeared at our front door this morning with a plate of cookies. I was surprised to see her. She said that she was ashamed to bring them. It developed that she found them in her yard-and decided that Mitzi had carried them over. They were still wrapped in their cellophane with a card firmly attached bearing our name and address. On the envelope were two teeth marks faintly discernible. The cookies had not been disturbed. They were from the Vanderhaars.

Sherm came by and brought Jane a gift. She gave Sherm a compact.

Jane and I made candles during the day (melting old ones down) and I made cookies. Not until tonight did I get my magnolia leaves on the front door-nor put Gladys' decorated leaves on the mantel. I bought the Christmas tree at the Haymarket yesterday. It is a Scotch pine-very, very full and well-shaped but with not a long enough trunk to reach into water. John had to devise a way to put it in water.

Stella was here today. I gave her \$5.00 yesterday and a bag of grapefruit. Today we gave her some fruit, cookies and a candle which we made.

I had to spend the afternoon across the street at the Millers getting a permanent.

Jane and David delivered a pillow to Donald Bennett, and a playpen train to Martha McIntosh's baby.

We went to church with the Fifes tonight-their midnight service. Jane went with Margaret and Martin, Jane and Carl. Jane got her ring today.

D.P. did not go.

Book 105- December 15, 1954-February 19, 1955

Saturday, December 25, 1954

We had our Christmas tree in the dining room. We ate breakfast, then opened our gifts. I don't think Jane had suspected about her Hermes 2000 portable typewriter. In addition (from us) she got two blouses and a cuff link set.

David got a turquoise green sweater, argyle socks to match, a shirt, and of course he already had gotten his topcoat and two pairs of shoes. Ann gave him a tie and cuff link set.

John from me got the "Saturday Evening Post Treasury" and from all of us a "Tartan Toter" (something like a Scotch Kooler for picnics).

To my amazement I got a new Mixmaster, which I had not even thought of wanting. John said he thought I needed a new one, since my original one is 20 years old and has only one speed left.

Eloise sent me a lovely white "shrug" sweater with beads, etc.

Jane had gotten me the reference book, "The Kentucky Novel" which I wanted.

After gift opening, I had to scurry around, as we had invited the three Fifes for dinner.

When they arrive, Claudine brought salted pecans.

D.P. went to the show tonight, and Jane to Margaret's.

(ed.- Entries from December 26, 1954 to February 16, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, February 17, 1955

I had finished the breakfast dishes and the beds, and it was 9:15-and Mr. Bell called and asked me to go to Ahrens for Miss Gaith for social studies. Going on the bus it was ten when I got there.

The classes were O.K.-only the last a bit troublesome (All boys and 3 boys were nuisances) but we had films in two of the classes.

Mary picked me up after school and we came out here and worked.

Mr. Bell called and wanted me to teach at Manly all of next week for Mrs. Milburn. I declined. He then called me back and asked me for Thursday and Friday, and I accepted.

John was registering. David did not have to work tonight.

Jessie called and said that her father and mother were so nervous about opal-she had a major operation this morning-that I went over there.

I forgot to say that David came home in a 1954 Chevrolet Bel-Air from Cooke Chevrolet. They sent it out for us to see. It is black, with a whitish top and white stripe along the side. It also has a radio. David likes it. They will let us have it for \$1000 and our car. Since the Bel-Air is priced at \$1895, and it is going to cost about \$2000 to get our car fixed, we are actually getting it for about \$800 and our poor bashed car.

John and David came for me. David said Mr. Bell had called and wants me to go back to Ahrens tomorrow.

Friday, February 18, 1955

I didn't sleep well last night. I got up at 6:15 and called Mr. Bell and told him that a previous obligation (to Mary and the Survey, but I did not tell him) kept me from going back.

Stella came. Mary did not get here until a quarter of ten.

We went out in the area off Newburgh Road where there is so terribly much mud. We were slooping around out there for hours (taking 15 minutes out to eat lunch on Indian Trail at Poplar Level) and we never did get an interview. I was supposed to call John at 11:30. I called at 11:27 and he had gone. I was supposed to find out if he wanted me to eat lunch with him and Luther Doty, but I could never get him.

When I finally did get him, it was 2:45, and Luther Doty's plane left at 3:20. So I did not get to see him. We did invite him for dinner, but he could not come of course.

David worked tonight and John and I were at home.

Saturday, February 19, 1955

Mary did not want me to work today, and so I did not. D.P. worked.

I went to town and got a mat set for Mary Virginia Bryant-the girl whose wedding Jane will attend in Atlanta-also a bib for her to send to Roberta for her baby.

Then I met John and David at the library. We went to see Mr. Robinson at Cooke's, then went to see Mr. Weathers at Broadway Chevrolet. They were negotiating on the sale of the blue car-in fact, it was sold if the financing went through. They gave us a price on fixing our car. \$225 at Broadway Motors.

We next went to Dr. Calldemeier's to get Puss. He purred when he saw us but did some no. 1 in the car as we came home.

We got home and he drank milk.

I cried. Mother gave us our blue Chevrolet in 1951, and I expected us to have it a lot longer than this. Of course it has 56,000 miles on it and we have already had to spend considerable money on it. It would cost at least \$200 to get it fixed up and it needs a new paint job-so I suppose we did better to trade it in but it was a hard decision. How I do miss Papa and Mother at these times. Papa always believed in trading cars in, and I think even Mother would have preferred that we do so if she could it now.

I made pictures of the car-eight of them.

David cleaned it out. We went down, our last drive in it-and told Mr. Robinson that we would take the black Chevrolet Bel-Air with cream top-7000+ miles-1954, 4-door model. We drove it away and left Mother's gift to us- but we could not drive it always.

David went to the barber shop.

When John and I came out of Kroger's the man who carried our groceries out offered us \$1100 and his good 1948 Chevrolet. Said that he had been looking for one just like this.

David and Rudi doubled with Ann and some Brook Street girl. David is proud of the new car and likes the radio.

John and I stayed home and I stewed, after we went to St. Joseph's to see Opal.

Book 106- February 20, 1955-March 26, 1955

Sunday, February 20, 1955

I spent a miserable night. It has poured all day.

We went to S.S. and church. We came back by St. Joseph's and I left some yellow mums and magnolia leaves for Opal.

This afternoon I made fudge and sent my shrug sweater and the black taffeta skirt to Jane.

Rudi ate dinner with us. D.P. and he went around to see some of the boys-in the Bel-Air.

Mr. and Mrs. McPherron and Jessie ate supper here-then we went to church.

Monday, February 21, 1955

Mary was coming early this morning, but was delayed writing letters, so we did not get started out very early. We went to S. 8th, and she got an interview but I did not. I did a lot of walking back and forth between there and 713 W. Jefferson trying to locate respondents. Before we got there we had stopped at the P.O. for me to mail a package to Mary Virginia Bryant (Jane's wedding gift to her) and to Roberta Willbie (Mrs. Silversides now-in England). We bought sandwiches there.

After lunch I had to go to Dr. Coleman (appointment at 2:30). He saw me in 45 minutes. My bladder condition had cleared up and he gave me a prescription for some nerve and pepper-upper medicine.

Afterwards though it was raining, I went back to 713 W. Jefferson and got my first interview-a 30-year old wife who is a Magnolia information operator (ed.- at that time phone numbers had an exchange name such as Magnolia, Belmont, etc. which were dialed before the number such as Ma 7-1234).

I came home on the bus and it was pouring. Neither John nor David was here.

(ed.- Entries from February 22, 1955 to March 23, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Friday, March 24, 1955

I was at home today, did not get much accomplished except that I went over to Ervay on the bus to get interview #17.

Mr. Robertson (ed.-from the Courier-Journal) called while I was gone-then called John. I called him after John told me. They are running a follow-up on the centenarians-somebody down there had lost all their addresses. He wants me to send night letters to them today or tomorrow.

John and I went to D.P.'s senior play- "Our Town" tonight. David is going tomorrow night.

Friday, March 25, 1955

I sent the night letters last night-12 of them.

I was going to list with Mary today, but Mr. Bell called and asked me to go to Highland for Miss Waltson. John went on the bus. David was still here. I started in the bathroom with a glass casserole in my hand (I had been soaking it). I slipped inside the door and fell. Later in the afternoon I found candle wax on the floor and think that I slipped on that. When we got home from the senior play, David had a candle lighted because the current was off-and I found wax on the floor.

I called David. When he came he thought I had cut an artery. He was worried about that, and the glass-but I said, "Just let me lie here", and I lay I the midst of the glass, the sweet potatoes (which were soaking) and the blood. As usual I had a chill. David put a pillow over my head and 2 coats over me. He went for Mrs. Horton. Stella came at the same time-going to the Campbell's -- then Mrs. Campbell came. She called and got Dr. Coleman at home.

He said that he had two emergencies, and for me to meet him at the Baptist. Stella stayed with me while D.P. went for John.

My left foot was what hurt first, but later it was my right knee and my right back side where I hit the commode.

John took me in my robe and pajamas. I went to the emergency room. Dr. Coleman came, but sent me to x-ray. They made x-rays of my foot, my knee, my back. A bone in my foot was cracked a little, but not a bone that bears weight. Then I went down to the emergency room and Dr. Cecil took 5 stitches in my hand.

We came home and John went to work. I stayed on the daybed during the afternoon. Mrs. Maxwell sent us a wonderful dinner -- Swiss steak, potatoes, carrots, shredded salad, hot poppy seed bread, and baked apples. D.P. ate at Larry's so was not here. While we were eating, Ann Campbell brought peach salad stuffed with Philadelphia cream cheese-and homemade cookies. We were so full we could not eat our baked apples.

Saturday, March 26, 1955
My 51st birthday

I am now older than Brother was at the time of his death.

Stella was here today. She cleaned the house this morning, and ironed this afternoon. John and I had washed last night with him putting his hands in the water and hanging the clothes.

Mrs. Horton brought me some snapdragons from her party of last night.

D.P. went to Male's Speech Festival, to participate in the competition for reading of an editorial. He read one from the Christian Science Monitor. He called us at 2 to tell us that he got "Excellent" not "Superior". He was disappointed, I think, but considering that he has not been in a Speech Class all year, I think he did well, considering that there were 19 entries, and only 1 superior given. The other boy was from Male, who got "Superior".

I had talked with Mrs. Masters on the telephone yesterday afternoon, and she told me that she thought David was ready -- that he would get a superior, she believed-said that he had been so sincere and earnest.

Jane's letter said that Dick Lightfoot had been down. The girls from 305 had a dinner at Sherrie's-15 of them-only Camilla who moved to Chicago and Pat who died were missing.

Mrs. Vanderhaar came and brought me a flower.

Mary and Arthur Gilbert, Ruth and her Jack came by this evening.

Book 107- March 27-May 16, 1955

Sunday, March 27, 1955

I went to S.S. and church-got along all right although my back is sore and my knee particularly hurts. My foot does not bother me.

This afternoon, I got a letter written to Jane-then missed putting it in the mail along with a package (gym suit) I was mailing her, and John had to take it tonight to the P.O.-along with my interview #17 and one non-interview.

John went to church. D.P. went with Rudi, Ann and Frances, that Rudi knows, somewhere after church but he was home at 10.

This was Papa's and Mother's 65th wedding anniversary.

Monday, March 28, 1955

I went listing with Mary today. We first went over in the area of Ervay from 10 until 11:45.

Then we went to Mary's home and ate lunch-then went listing out in the country, off Bishop's Lane.

Next we went to Pinewood and I got interview #18. It was pathetic. The poor little wife is crippled. Her feet are dwindled-have never developed as they should. She says that she does her work on crutches, but she was on the bed today, and was on the bed the other time that Mary and I saw her. I should not complain when I see things of that sort.

From there we went to Fleenor to try to list it. Before when we were out there, there was so much mud and water that we could not drive along it. Now the street is covered with dirt and broken glass. I hope that Mary did not ruin her new tires.

We came on home from there.

D.P. did not come home until after work-took the car back to take Ann to Memorial Auditorium to see a Billy Graham film (after his Y club Omega meeting). He did not stay for the Y Council meeting.

(ed.- Entries from March 29, 1955 to May 13, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, May 14, 1955

The kitten is becoming a little more accustomed to us now and playing some.

Sunday, May 15, 1955

I stayed home from S.S. and church to catch up on some things.

John and David came for me and we ate at the Blue Boar.

The kitten is getting cute.

We went to church tonight, but I can never stay awake anymore at church.

Monday, May 16, 1955

I went to town in the A.M. to Kaufman's sale. The Early Bird Specials were gone because the store opened at 9 and I did not get there until 10.

I went on to Mary's, reaching there after 12. We had lunch and then worked on our new survey 633 for 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours.

I then went by home, and then to 3271 Taylor Boulevard to interview Mrs. Dawson. She is the sister of Mr. Lindsay on Audubon Parkway (next to the Birtles). I didn't get home until 6:15.

David does not have to go to club on Monday nights anymore, so came home.

Cindy (the Campbell's dog) cried to see the kitten, but the kitten, true cat-fashion hisses at him.

I cut David's blue and white striped sharksail shirt out tonight He is much interested in it.

David worked in the library on his material on Huxley (term paper) did not come home for dinner.

Book 108- May 17-July 29, 1955

Tuesday, May 17, 1955

Mr. Bell called me to substitute, but because of Field Day (ed.- for ROTC ceremonies from Male High School), I did not accept.

I kept the car, supposedly to interview, but got no place.

The kitten fell from the second floor to the landing, slipping from one step to another. He was up there with me.

I got John, brought him home for lunch, and then we went to Field Day, first going by the Hansens', as Ruth's mother died yesterday.

Field Day was at Shelby Park. David looked very nice, carrying his saber. John and I stood by the inspection booth, so had a first-hand look at everything.

Afterwards I took John to school, then went to Seneca Drive to interview Mrs. Saag. I left there and drove to St. Anthony's to get Mrs. Hermansky. She wanted to change her dress and hat, so I took her home, then brought her by school where we picked up John-then took her home for dinner.

Tonight John and I took her to the band concert -- no, rather I took her -- in the Playhouse. John had to go to a S.S. Council Meeting.

(ed.- Entries from May 18, 1955 to June 1, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday June 2, 1955

I cleaned the fireplace end of the living room today.

Dr. Webster called me to ask about John and extended condolence because of the U. of K. Press contest announcement that a woman at Indiana University had won. I hadn't even seen it.

David worked today.

Jane came home with Lucy and Mr. Stites. They didn't even get here until 11:30. Jane's stuff overflowed everything even as last year.

We gave David his 35 mm camera this A.M.

Friday, June 3, 1955

Stella was here all day. I washed and finished the living room with Stella.

Jane and Margaret went up to Atherton, but didn't see Miss Woerner.

David and Ann went to the Phi Sigma dance tonight. David wouldn't wear his new tuxedo, wanting to keep it for the senior prom tomorrow night. He wore his new dark suit.

Saturday, June 4, 1955

Stella was here ½ a day, and ironed.

Jane went swimming with Lucy.

D.P.'s senior prom was tonight. He really looked nice.

Sunday, June 5, 1955

David didn't get home until 6. There was some mix-up about the orchid he had ordered from Tony's for Ann, but she finally got it. He didn't get up. We didn't go to S.S. John came for Jane and me we went to the baccalaureate service at the Seminary chapel. It was a beautiful setting. John got flowers this morning at Sohn's. David went to Walnut Street when he got up- did not come here to the Seminary.

Afterwards we ate in the Seminary dining room.

The afternoon was a question mark because of the doubt about the weather. 5000 chairs had been set up on the campus.

Jane, David and I went over on the bus for the reception. At 5:15, they decided to move to the Armory since the Weather Bureau said that it would be raining within fifteen minutes-and it was.

We had to move to the Armory, but it didn't rain any more after a quarter of, and the sun came out. In spite of all that, the move was made in such a way that they were not more than 15 minutes late with commencement. Jane, David and I sat on the first floor. The speaker was from Oak Ridge, and nobody could follow him.

Monday, June 6, 1955

I went to Dr. Gibson's funeral, as did John, also to the cemetery (Cave Hill). I sat by Dulcie Lindley and Dorothy Summerford at the funeral.

When I returned, I worked on D.P.'s room.

Tuesday, June 7, 1955

Stella was here today. She brought David a pretty tie pin.

We did the dining room and finished D.P.'s room.

D.P. worked one until nine. We had Mrs. Hermansky and her daughter here for dinner-had roast beef. The daughter is leaving tomorrow morning.

Wednesday, June 8, 1955
David's Commencement Day

David did not work today. He went to the Auditorium this morning for rehearsal.

Jane drove Mrs. Hermansky's daughter to the airport, Mrs. H. going along. Then she took her home. She gave Jane a box of candy.

Estell and Martha were the only ones who came for commencement. It made me think of Jane's graduation two years ago, when Mother went with us. We sat on the same side of the auditorium-but of course the auditorium is different now since the side balconies are gone.

The boys wore purple caps and gowns, the girls wore white.

Honors were announced. The speaker was Judge Luther M. Roberts.

John had taken David's new camera, and made pictures of him both as he went down the aisle and as he came back.

We finally persuaded Estell and Martha to spend the night.

When we got home we had a coke party or small reception for David and some of his boy friends and their dates.

I had sandwiches and cookies for them, as well as 7-up, R.C., Coke and Orange Crush-also salted peanuts and mints.

More pictures were made.

Jane had to leave to go to the bus for Nashville to go to Ridgecrest. The bus was to leave at 12:30. John took her at a quarter of twelve.

The youngsters went on to another party at Corky Briscoe's.

I should have mentioned that David ate dinner at Bob Metry's. Ann was there too.

Larry brought David a book of the Jamboree pictures, made by Mr. Welch.

(ed.- Entries from June 9, 1955 to June 18, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday June 19, 1955

We went to S.S. and church, and Jane spoke in her S.S., telling them about Ridgecrest.

Jane was depressed this afternoon. We got over to the hospital between 4 and 4:30 and got her situated. She is in Room 365.

We came home and went to church. Afterwards we were watching "What's My Line?" and Jane called to tell us that her operation [ed. pilonidal cyst] was scheduled for 9:30 instead of 10:30, as we had thought.

Monday, June 20, 1955

We were all three at the hospital by 8:30. Jane had her cap on. She had been given a shot, but was not sleepy. At 9:35 they took her to surgery. John had us go down to the Coffee Shop.

David discovered that Herb (the bleeder) is in his old room (455) for overnight. We discovered when we checked in that Mrs. Brooks is in 424. Mrs. Cralle is in 436, and Percy Barnett (ministerial student whom Jane knows) is in 453, next to the ward Herb is in.

Jane was back in 1 hour and 2 minutes, eyes red, but talking and rational. John soon left for the office, and D.P. had to go to work. I stayed with her. She never did talk irrationally. They kept taking her blood pressure all afternoon.

We ate lunch there, and John and I ate supper. Then he made me come home. I couldn't be settled at home. He was going to the office, so I went over on Brook and interviewed Mr. Stocker. Her and his wife are divorced. After we got David, we went back to the hospital to see about Jane. Mrs. Klusmeier and Ann had been there, and Mrs. Stites and Lucy. The latter brought Jane a perfectly beautiful handmade pillow from the Norton Gift Shop.

Tuesday, June 21, 1955

Dr. Pettigrew was here! Mr. Brooks. Mary Gilbert was also here.

I went over early (before 8) with John this morning and stayed at the hospital all day. Jane had 2 hypodermics last night and one today. In general, she has been more sore and uncomfortable today than she was yesterday for her legs stayed paralyzed until in the night last night.

There is a boy called Bobby Harris two doors from Jane who had the same operation on Friday. He says that he will be there another week. Dr. Hagan had told Jane 4 or 5 days originally. He told us yesterday that he took out a piece of tissue about one inch wide and 4 inches long.

When David and I went up to see Herb we saw Helen Orem Boyer on the fourth floor. Spennie is back in room 466, has been there 6 weeks in the terminal stages of her cancer. Helen stays with her all the time.

Percy Garnett and Jane have written notes to each other.

They gave Jane ginger ale, hot tea and bouillon last night, and today some food.

I went home and fixed dinner and we came back.

Bettie Lou and Corkie Kirkham came in to see her.

Wednesday, June 22, 1955

Percy came to see Jane this morning and talked before he left. Mrs. Hoppe was here in the a.m.

Mrs. Vierling was here, Mrs. Kuhl, the Parrents, Dr. Pettigrew and Mr. Brooks.

Joe Maloney was supposed to come yesterday but came today. Bettie Lou came down from the lab while he was there.

Bobby Ann came tonight, Paula and Sherm, Ann and Poke. They had to close the door because of the noise.

John and I went on to prayer meeting and picked D.P. up. (He walked to church.)

Thursday, June 23, 1955

This afternoon was the same for Jane. There is a nice Mrs. Anderson in the end room across the hall from her. She has a brother who is president of the Little Theatre, Norman Wright.

I tried to persuade Bettie Lou to go with me to see Cousin Ray and Mary but she wouldn't.

Franzee and Mrs. Kuhl came to see Jane this afternoon.

I went to Hale, meeting Mary (getting John's watch first) and made an appointment for tomorrow. I drove to Grundy Street with Mary, then to Jefferson, where I got an interview, then home.

Tonight Sherm, Paula and Bill, Johnny and Scottie, Lucy and the two Brown girls came. David and Ann went to a wedding at church, then came back for us.

Thursday – today – Dr. Hagan told Jane that she has to stay a week or ten days.

Friday, June 24, 1955

I went with Mary to Park Boulevard y way of Petunia. We worked on yellow sheets.

I went to the hospital. Dr. Hagan told Jane that she has to stay until next Wednesday.

I traveled to Hale, interviewed, and traveled home.

Billy Harris, Ralph Wooten, Martin Pedigo, the neighbors on the hall came to see Jane and we came back to see her tonight.

Saturday, June 25, 1955

Mary came by at 12 noon.

Billy and Mrs. Anderson came to see Jane, and when Billy told Jane he was going home, she cried.

Cousin Mary came to see Jane and brought her roses.

Joyce and Ann Klusmeier were there. As David and I left, we met Dick Lightfoot going in. He had called at home when John was asleep, and he said, "Just a minute..." then said "Oh, Jane's in the hospital."

Lucy and the Kempers came to see Jane tonight. John and I got there right after supper but left about seven so the D.P. could have the car.

Sunday, June 26, 1955

John went to see Jane and took her the paper during S.S. I stayed for church.

This afternoon John, David and I went, and when we got there Ermine was there. It was the first time she has made an effort to see us since Mother's death. She brought flowers to Jane. The Fifes, back from their trip, came while she was there.

Afterwards we went to see Cousin ray and Mary and tell them good-by.

Tonight Janet, Carl, Ann, Poke, and Martin came to see Jane. We took Ann Bennett and went after church to see her.

Monday, June 27, 1955

We didn't get to the hospital early. Miss Whittall stopped in to see Jane , and Linda and Judy were there.

JoAnn (the student nurse) Everitt had her operation today. She was pretty sick. Her room is right across the hall from Jane's and her operation was the same.

I talked to her mother, who is in from Scottsby, Indiana.

I went from the hospital to Sherwood and interviewed Mrs. Gaertner. Her husband died two months ago.

Tonight I went to Ridgewood and interviewed Mrs. Caldwell, then got John, we went for D.P., and went to see Jane.

Tuesday, June 28, 1955

I went to W.M.U. today for lunch and the program, then went up to the hospital with Mrs. Kuhl and Mrs. Oliver.

Tonight we went to the hospital -- also Larry, Linda and Squidge. We left Squidge there and came on.

Helen Orem told me today that Spennie has gone down a lot.

Wednesday, June 29, 1955

Mary Gilbert told me that the checkout time is now eleven. We got on the ball and were up at the hospital in time to get Jane out by eleven. She was dressed when we got ther, but didn't feel too peppy. Mrs. Anderson was going home, too.

Dr. Hagan told Jane that she could not sit.

She has had a dreadful burning all day.

The Fifes came tonight and brought some foreign students -- from Italy, Japan and Norway (boys who were staying with them and from Greece, a girl going to U. of L.)

(ed.- Entries from June 30, 1955 to July 4, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, July 5, 1955 (excerpts)

I got lime for whitewash, and Jane started white-washing the coal bin.

Jane had gone with the Wehrs to Dr. Hagan's. Isla had called. He took most of her tape off -- He said that she must still be careful.

Wednesday, July 6, 1955 (excerpt)

Jane whitewashed this morning after she and I came from Nave's.
Jane developed an allergy.

(ed.- Entries from June 30, 1955 to July 27, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, July 28, 1955

Stella came here instead of the Campbell's today. After being sick last week she is finally better. The General Hospital gave her lemon and water.

I was preparing for Adeline, Margaret Jack and Alice this morning. I had the car during the morning-went to the grocery store. John came home at lunch and took it.

It was humid and hot. A thunderstorm came up. The kitten chased leaves outside when the wind was blowing but was frightened of the thunder.

They arrived before the family. Dr. Albersasky brought Jane first. Adeline didn't like cats, and we put him outside.

It was cooler after the storm. It did not rain downtown.

We had picnic ham, brown rice, green beans, corn pudding, fudge pie and ice cream.

The Amphitheatre production was "Wonderful Town". Jane had to go to Bill Boland's for dinner (Linda's dinner for Ann) but joined us later at the Amphitheatre.

They went home tonight.

Friday, July 29, 1955

Another Bad Day

Stella was over at the Campbell's today.

David worked one until nine. A letter from the Trues said they are coming back here to live.

John came home at lunch. David went to Dr. Walker at 10:30, then came back to Mrs. Greer's barber shop. He was going to walk home, but was so late getting here that I sent John back to get him. Then he didn't have time to get the 12:15 bus to be at the Library by one, and I took him and John, and then went down to get some foam rubber at Mark's and hose at Ben Snyder's. I saw Mrs. Dave Lawrence.

I had meant to bring the car back to John but it was so hot that I came on home in it.

I suppose the kitten was in the house while I was gone.

After I got home I talked to Jane and she asked about him. I told her that he had just gotten up from a nap. Although he flipped through the air early in the morning and in the evening, he is limp and inert during the day.

I went for John. I think we had hamburgers on buns for dinner.

The kitten had gotten right long legged. The pads of his feet were black and his black bands were most pronounced. He was going to be a shiny cat.

He has always been the cleanest little cat-never once has he messed the house. Of course he did claw work on the pink chair, although he has learned that he shouldn't do it when we are watching him.

After dinner (I forgot to say that I finished Betsy's neck pillow and mailed it as I went for John). John and I sat in the steamer chairs in the front yard and wrote some letters.

The Hortons went to the Amphitheatre, and the Davises had a big party, cars parked on the Hortons' drive.

Kitten flipped around. Jane got a baby-sitting job at Dr. Alberhasky's. Bobby and Mark came with the doctor. John and I went out to speak to them.

About 20 after 8, John said that he would go for David. Thinking only of me, I went along. Just as I went off and left Mother with never a thought that she would not be alone, I did not once think that we get Kitten in. Evidently John did not either. If Jane had been here, she would have gotten him. He was flipping in and out of the shrubbery in the Hortons' yard.

We were back at 9:15 or 20. Immediately we called Kitten (There was a yellow cat in the back of our driveway). David changed to his white bucks and backed out to go over to Ann's. Then he said- "There he is-he's been hit". We ran-he was on the edge of the street in front of the Millers'-toward the Mocks'. He was still warm. Whether we hit him as we came in or a car hit him after we called "Kitty", I don't know. I went absolutely all to pieces.

I took two lavender pills-felt so terribly sorry for Jane.

We had never named him anything except "Kitten" although I called him "Kitten Face". Jane would not name him "Comet" as I wanted to.

John did away with his dirt box (still wet) and the little cardboards we used to hold the French door. There was a green bug on the front porch that he had killed and played with. He slept with Jane at night but came down to his daybed.

Book 109- July 30-November 24, 1955

Saturday, July 30, 1955

I continue with some thoughts on yesterday-“Kitten’s last day on earth”. I defrosted in the morning-can’t remember whether it was yesterday or Thursday that the Goodwill came.

I called him “Kitten Face”. He got on the back porch table to watch the birds and the squirrel at the feeder.

He had gotten so he lay curled in a ball under the dining room table some. We compared him to Ferdinand because he got up and ate the roses and flowers out of the bowls-at least pulled them out.

He was getting clear eyed, and glossy-coated-had never been sick a minute. He always “kept his mittens on” when he played with us, but bit hard.

Why I went-off and left him last night without putting him in, I’ll never know.

When Jane came from Dr. Alberhasky’s, John and David went down to tell her. I had had two lavender pills and was asleep. I awakened within 15 minutes after they told her. Poor child! She took it better than I did.

John made me go over to school with him this morning, but I was so distraught-tried to type had to go home (John taking me) to get material which I left at home.

We picked up Jane, who was due at the Campbells’ at a luncheon.

John and I went to the grocery store.

I prepared some picnic lunch, and at 3:30 the four of us started to Berea to see “Wilderness Road”. We were there by 7. At the Boone Tavern we saw Opal (and later Jessie), Mrs. McCormick. At the Amphitheatre, we saw Mrs. Voll (who teaches with Mrs. Klusmeier), Mr. Settle (who knows John) and the three Glovers.

The production was wonderful but I kept going to sleep. Coming home, the three took turns driving, all getting sleepy. We did not get here until 2:30 AM.

(ed.- Entries from July 31 to August5, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, August 6, 1955

David worked 8:30 until one, then went to the dentist. Jane worked all day and the doctor brought her home.

John and I went to Bernheim at 12 to the Business Department picnic.

John played softball, I played Scrabble.

Afterwards we were going to see Carl Sidebottom at Nelsonville-near Boston-but did not have time.

Jane's dress for Ann's wedding is here. Mrs. Bierbaum brought it out.

Jane went to the rehearsal tonight at 7:30, then to Mrs. Dyer's for the rehearsal dinner-then she was going out with Dick.

David has gone to the Showboat performance with Ann.

We-John and I-listened to election returns.

Sunday, August 7, 1955

We went to S.S. (I substituted in the Junior Department) and then we drove to Phyllis'. Others there were Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Ingram, Phyllis' cousin (Grace Shupert's daughter) from Frankfort, her husband and two little girls, and of course J.O. We had a wonderful dinner-ate in the dining room and side porch. It rained while were there.

Jane was like a hen on a hot griddle to get home, because of the Klusmeiers' open house to see Ann's gifts.

We left early. It had not rained at home.

We went on, up to the Klusmeiers'. Her sister Ruth was there, and the Bullucks came while we were there.

Our brass candelabra had been delivered by Dolfinger's, but not the silver sugar and creamer which Jane, Janet and Shirley are giving her.

We went to church tonight.

Monday, August 8, 1955

A beautiful wedding day for Ann! It got cooler than yesterday.

Jane went to work, also David.

Ann called once to ask if David could go with their family tonight to show them the way. I called him and he said that he could.

I made a banana tea cake and took it up there about five. The cream and sugar set had come.

Roy was to be an usher and came by to borrow David's white dinner jacket.

Jane went with some of the wedding party, David with the relatives.

John and I picked up Mrs. Klusmeier's friend, Mrs. McPherson, on Shelby.

The bridal party was going down the left side at the Seminary Chapel, so we sat on that side.

Joyce Fisher Miller sang.

The first bridesmaid was Diane, then Shirley, then Jane, then Janet (she and Jane drew for maid of honor and Janet won). They all looked pretty-afterwards a number of people told me how beautiful Jane was. Ann was a lovely bride. Her gown was rented. The bridesmaids were turquoise crystellette with elbow-length push-up sleeves, bows in the back, long waist-line-full skirts.

The reception was at the chapel. I helped with the cake.

David made some pictures, but Mr. McCandless was the main photographer.

Afterwards Jane rode home with Tommy and David. We brought Ann's gifts home in our car. She had many there.

Mrs. Klusmeier gave me a lovely Currier and Ives brass planter-gave Miss Coke one-Mrs. Dutschke, and I don't know how many others.

Jane told us tonight that Ann and Poke have gone to Cincinnati.

(ed.- Entries from August 9, 1955 to September 15, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

(ed. David travels by bus to the International Boy Scout Jamboree in Canada from August 11 to 29. A new kitten is acquired on September 1. Jane named it Bo or Beau Brummel.)

Friday, September 16, 1955

(ed.- David leaves by train for Stetson University in Deland, Florida)

Stella was here. I had last minute name tape sewing to do. We did not have the car. I shampooed David's hair. I almost cried when I said the blessing at lunch. I had walked over to Wise's and got chop suey ingredients for lunch. John came for us at 2. David had said he would get everything in 2 suitcases and his footlocker, and he did. He did a good job.

Stella said that her grocer was going to close for the Jewish holiday and left early to get her groceries.

Jane got to go. We went after her.

David wore his charcoal trousers and his blue and white Italian shirt.

The train was due at 4 and it was on time. Mr. and Mrs. Will were getting on it, to go Ft. Lauderdale for two weeks. David was in Car 4, Seat 38. We forgot to get him a magazine.

She (Jane) cried when he left. I kept from it.

We waited until about 4:25 before the train left. Then we took John to work-then I took Jane back to the office and waited for her.

We (John and I) went to the Subletts for dessert at 7. Jane went to Janet's, then home. The Gilberts and Richard came by while we were gone, but she was here.

Saturday, September 17, 1955

All the morning I was thinking of D.P. – at Jacksonville at 9:30, at DeLand at 11:30.

(ed.- Entries from continuation of September 17, 1955 to September 21, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, September 22, 1955

David called after 10 about his schedule. [ed. Phone rates were lower at certain times of the day.] (He registers tomorrow.) John wasn't here, but came bringing Margaret, while Jane and I were talking to him. He is going to carry 16 hours.

5 math

5 chemistry

4 English

2 ROTC

We had a third letter from him today.

Friday, September 23, 1955

Jane did her final packing. Stella was here. I feel terrible.

Saturday, September 24, 1955

(ed:- Jane returns to Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN)

John had to register, so could not take Jane. We left shortly after 8 and were in Nashville in a little more than 4 hours. It was raining there.

Jane knew 2 days ago that Sis is not going back. They don't know who her R.M. will be.

We ate at the boys' cafeteria as her dining room is not open.

We waited an hour for Mr. Burr, who was coming back with us. Jane cried.

Mr. Burr drove all the way. When we reached the Kentucky line the sun was out, it didn't rain any more, and had not rained all day.

When we reached home, John and the kitten were here. I cooked ham and scrambled eggs for us-and made coffee.

(ed.- Entries from September 25, 1955 to September 30, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, October 1, 1955 (excerpts)

I mailed a first package to David – his Jamboree bound journal, some funnies cut from the paper, blond brownies I made last night, twine, Scotch tape, and even three coat hangers. I figured carefully (with a scale) so I would not have to pay extra postage on those.

We had letters from both Jane and David today – the second from Jane.

Monday, October 3, 1955 (excerpt)

We had a letter from David. He write often but his letters are not so full of details as Jane's.

Wednesday, October 5, 1955 (excerpt)

At Jane's suggestion, I wrote carbon letters to J. and D. this a.m. and mailed them at 8:40.

Thursday, October 6, 1955 (excerpt)

Two letters came from David. One said that rush was this week, and the Lambda Chis had asked him if he would pledge Lambda Chi if they give him a bid on Saturday morning. He promised them that he would. John came home for lunch, and we sent David and air mail, special delivery letter. I think John is secretly glad that David wanted Lambda Chi. It seems to me that they sort of jumped the gun on him though, asking him to commit himself before rush was over.

Friday, November 11, 1955 (excerpt)

Veterans' Day. It is no longer called Armistice Day, but Veterans' Day.

(ed.- Entries from continuation of October 1, 1955 to November 21, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Tuesday, November 22, 1955

[ed. A phone call from David on the 20th revealed that he weighed 127 compared with 115 when he went to FL to college.]

This morning I was getting things done (the gas man read the meter-I made some Committee-on-Committees telephone calls) and was glad to be at home. At 9:20 Mr. Bell called to ask if I would accept an emergency call to Western Junior High (social studies for Mr. Calvini), said that the teacher became ill at school.

I left on the bus at 10 of 10, reached there at 10 of 11. Mr. Colvin was still there, but said he thought he was coming down with the flu, and showed it. He was trying to show me about the roll book, and I, with our Florida trip in the offing was afraid I would get his germs.

Even though I had a short day, it was almost more time than I could afford. At home I'm working on my pajamas, and trying hard to finish for our trip.

David called us tonight. It was good to talk to him. He is moving out of his dorm tomorrow to stay in another one until Thursday morning, when he will go on the bus to Roni's home at Winter Park. From there he goes to Cocoa to the home of Jim Sawyer. He is coming back Sunday night, leaving there about 10. We hope to be in DeLand Sunday night, see him briefly Sunday and longer as we come back on the weekend.

Wednesday, November 23, 1955

I washed this morning and did many other things. I feel practically sure that I could have gone back to Western for Mr. Colvin but I called Mr. Bell and told him that I would not be available until the 5th.

John came home for lunch and we went to the bank and I went to Dr. Walker.

Jane got home about 3:30. She and Harriet came with Dick Campbell, who called me yesterday morning to tell me that he was going to Nashville. They had a ride home (at least Jane did) with a boy going to Indianapolis who was leaving about the same time. Mr. Kaye came for Harriet.

We went to church for supper, and prayer meeting. Joyce Young wanted Jane to go to the Pi Phi dinner with a blind date, but Jane preferred to go with us. I took a neck pillow by and left it for Miss Watkins' birthday.

Thursday, November 24, 1955
Thanksgiving Day

We were invited to Thelma's for Thanksgiving dinner after the game today. The morning was busy. I washed more. We had shrimp and French pies for lunch, for Jane. She had to be ready at one for her date with Ann, Poko and Poko's friend. She had to turn down a nice-sounding date which Harriet Kaye, her parents and Mrs. Colgan Norman had arranged for Jane, because Jane had a continuing date tonight with Poko's friend, according to Ann.

John went to the office in the afternoon. Male won the game 6-0. Jane was unhappy because she had to be on the Manual side.

We had an excellent turkey dinner at Thelma's, just the six of us. Jane read "Moby Dick" afterwards and I worked on my pajamas. We got Jane home before nine in time for her date. They went to K-T's.

I finished up my survey time cards and expense vouchers-only 9 ¼ hours this time- and got them ready for mailing.

David had his operation one year ago today.

Thelma was telling us that Phyllis Batts is in the hospital.

Book 110- November 25, 1955- March 2, 1956

Friday, November 25, 1955

The second anniversary of Mother's death

Two years have rolled around so fast! I still miss her so, and always shall. Even yet I have not put her things in the order I want, and should.

Stella was here. There was more washing, and Stella ironed. Jane had an appointment for a haircut. She and I rode the bus in (John was at the office) and I went to Kaufman's to get Angel Tread scuffs for myself, black gloves, underwear for David, and I paid \$10 on my dress and took the orlon sweater back which I had bought David for Christmas.

I came home on the Blue Motor and was home at 12:15. I wanted to be here between 12:30 and one, the hour anniversary of my finding Mother.

Strangely, within 10 minutes of the time, Margaret Vanderhaar called me. She is really a considerate and thoughtful friend.

Mrs. Marshall also called right after one, to tell me about Mrs. Botts.

We ate some of the turkey Thelma gave us.

I got up early this morning and made brownies for Jane to take back, and us to take to David.

John came home between 2 and 3.

Lucy came in a cab about 3:30. We ate turkey sandwiches and had RC's.

Before that, I went over to Mildred's to leave our door key, and tell them about the arrangements for Beau-The Fifes are in Cincinnati and are to come back tonight and pick him up getting the key from the Campbells.

We left at 4:25, leaving Beau in the kitchen his food in the refrigerator, a clean box of dirt for him.

Jane drove. We stopped south of Bowling Green and the others had hamburgers, and I had pie and coffee.

We reached the Deke fraternity house in 5 hours but had been driving around the campus a while.

Don (Lucy's date) and Tommy Nelson (Jane's) met us. The girls are going to stay at Don's home tonight and also tomorrow night-driving to Knoxville tomorrow for the Vanderbilt-Tennessee game.

Daddy and I unloaded the girls' things into the boys' car, and then we left.

We stayed at Bozeman's Motel, out south, tonight.

This afternoon when I went over to Mildred's, I remembered Thanksgiving two years ago when they were so nice to us at the time of Mother's death, and then last year when David was so ill. I would be glad if we could help them now.

Saturday, November 26, 1955

We had a good rest. I suppose Jane was gone before we got up, as they were to leave at six.

John and I ate breakfast at Bozeman's, then started southeast, headed toward Lewisburg and Huntsville (Alabama). Twice we got off our route, once we thought we did. In Fayetteville we had a flat tire, and John changed it.

I mailed a letter to Mildred Campbell and a form letter to the Survey Research Institute in Lewisburg, wrote Jessie a card of congratulation, mailed in Huntsville and have caught up on this diary.

Later-we are staying at the Candlelight Motel in Columbus, Georgia at the entrance to Ft. Benning.

We ate lunch at Saxon's, near Arab, Alabama. Later I bought a toaster cover (possibly for Claudine) at a cotton manufacturing place north of Sylacauga, Alabama.

The day was warmer and was delightful for the game. After we got here, we brought David's radio which we are taking to him, in, and heard that Tennessee defeated Vanderbilt 20-14. I know that Jane was disappointed.

We ate here. I had half a Florida lobster. I must cut down on the cost of my meals, as I am trying to pay John for them.

As we approached Columbus (in fact in Opelika, Alabama) the houses-many of them-were built up on stilts with no foundation under them.

This is a nice motel-has a swimming pool-as does the other unit across the street. There are two double beds in here. We are listening to WHAS (ed.- radio station in Louisville).

Sunday, November 27, 1955

There was no ice on our windshield in Columbus this morning as there was yesterday in Nashville, but it was fairly cool until well up into the morning. We drove to Albany and had

breakfast at Al Jo's (Mr. Jack Watson had told John about it when he gave him his Automobile Club routing). While we ate, we had yesterday's flat tire fixed at a Texaco place.

Right after breakfast we called Jane at the DuPlantiers'. She had not gotten up, and was almost in tears about the Vanderbilt game, but was all right.

We stopped south of Albany and bought 5 pounds of pecans and some cashew nut candy for David.

Then we changed our route a bit in order to come through Camilla. Between Albany and Camilla things became more tropical-moss on the trees, palms, et cetera. Camilla is a southern looking place. We drove around town, but were sure that the school building was too new to be the one where Brother taught. John mailed my letter to Claudine at the P.O.

Finally we went to the McNair Hotel for me to see if I could get some postcards to mail to Ermine and Mrs. Harrell. The place was cold. We let the little dog in as we went in. A sign said to ring the bell, and I did so. A woman not dressed spoke through the half-opened door. It developed that she was Mrs. Ledbetter (formerly Bess McNair) and knew the Harrells well. Ermine was a baby in that very house, for it was her Grandmother Ellis' (her maternal grandmother) house. Mrs. Ledbetter said that the Bailey Tourist Home (what is now that) had been Ermine's home (in later years, that is). I felt that I was on hallowed ground-at last in Camilla, of which I have heard since I was 11 or 12. I thought of Brother's and Ermine's wedding in what is now the Bailey Tourist Home, I suppose.

We saw some roses in bloom, narcissi budded and even blooming. Mrs. Ledbetter said that the poinsettias succumbed at the first hint of frost.

I wrote and mailed government cards to Mrs. Harrell and Edythe at the P.O.

Just before we reached Thomasville we saw Mr. V.V. Cooke's "Velva Haven" sign, but did not go out. We ate lunch-sandwiches-outside Madison, Florida, the worst food we have had.

We reached DeLand shortly after dark, after traversing miles of flat, palm-covered country. Within the last hour before reaching here, we passed orange groves. A little earlier we had stopped and gathered pecans from the ground under a roadside tree. There were piglets there.

We did not expect David to be here until midnight, but finally found his dormitory and were going to put a note on his door. He was back and it was so wonderful to see him. He does not look too much heavier, but is not so thin as he was. He had on the new shirt I made him this fall, and I know that he was glad to see us as were him.

We got to go in and see his dormitory room. It is really nice. We brought him his clock radio, his cowboy hat, his summer tux outfit, brownies, candy and I gave him some of the pecans we bought today.

He had been at Winter Park for Thanksgiving dinner with Roni French's family and then had spent the remainder of the holiday with Jim Sawyer at Cocoa. The latter is a minister's son.

David brought us to a motel where we got a room (\$6.00). We ate nearby and David talked to us (He had eaten). Then he drove us around to show us the wonderful fountain and the various buildings. Finally he took us to the fraternity house and we met some of the boys.

Then he came up to the motel with us and we just talked. Tomorrow he has a full day.

(ed.- Entries from November 28, 1955 to December 24, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, December 25, 1955

I got up first to wrap the cologne which David and I were giving to Jane. I could not find it last night.

We had bakery goods for breakfast. I didn't go to S.S. and church. John went to S.S., but came home before church.

I made a pecan pie. I also roasted the turkey, stuffed it with dressing, prepared escalloped oysters, potatoes with cheese, frozen limas (yesterday I had made the congealed cranberry salad), and browned the rolls.

Jane and David came home with the Underwoods.

First I had better tell about our gift exchange which came right after breakfast. I gave John a raincoat, the children gave him a shirt and a tie. I opened my gift from John and it was a pretty black purse. When I opened Elosise's it was also a black purse.

I opened Jane's and David's gift. It was a black bill fold. Princess Gardner-very pretty. Then I noticed that Mr. Wotawa's box was the same shape, and sure enough his was a green bill fold.

We gave Jane a new brown sweater, and David gave her a blue Ship n' Shore blouse (which she has since exchanged for a white one) and he and I gave her some Faberge perfume (Woodhue-her favorite). David got a charcoal sweater, a shirt from Jane (which we have since exchanged because it had ink on it) and socks from me.

Ermine gave Jane a pretty blouse, and so did Ruth Gutermuth.

Beau got two small rubber balls and a catnip mouse.

Jimmie and Mary got here about 1:15, and we ate at 1:45. We took our time. David made two pictures.

After dinner we watched and listened to the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah on "Omnibus".

The Subletts left to make calls. We went to church. John and I went on the bus, since Jane, David and Ann had gone in the car.

Afterwards we were all four in the den watching "What's My Line" when the four Gilberts, Adele and Judy came. We were so glad to see them.

(ed.- Entries from December 26, 1955 to December 28, 1955 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, December 29, 1955

The vacation is drawing to a close, and my tension is getting worse.

Jane, David and I went to town to get Ivy League black wash pants (with peg bottom) for David, and to try to get a skirt or material for one for Jane. We brought a skirt out, but it is too small.

We brought John home for lunch. David took him back so that he could have the car. He visited the Lambda Chi house.

Jane and I washed -- cracked a button on the cuff of David's new shirt.

Tonight all four of us went to the Lovells' for dinner. The Clarks and Hansens were also there. We had hot dogs and beans -- salad, pie, et cetera-good dinner.

Afterwards the boys went out. Jane went with Richard Gilbert to the Princeton Triangle Club program. Neither of them is home yet (at 12:30 AM).

Friday, December 30, 1955

We left lights on in Jane's and David's rooms. At 2:20 AM David was not home. I dozed for a while but John did not sleep any more. From about 4 I did not sleep. I kept wanting John to call someone. Finally at a quarter of five I called the Lovells. Dr. Lovell answered. I asked if John had come home. He said that he thought he had, and went to see. Yes, John had come home about midnight. He left the boys at the Zanzibar. Ruel Cheatham was going to bring them home. I called the Hansens. Tom had not come home.

Then I called Mrs. Cheatham. She said they had gotten worried about Ruel and Mr. Cheatham started out in a cab looking for him -- had just called her from police court. She said the boys were there (but she didn't know what boys) and would be coming home. John called the police station. He was finally connected with the booking office. They had Tom, Hansen, Ruel Cheatham and Rudi Markl booked, but did not mention David or Jack. We called Ruth Hansen and told her. Next John called Mrs. Clark. She had been awake since two. She said

that Jack had come home, but that David called him at two and said the other boys had gotten into trouble and to come get him. She didn't know where David and Jack were, and that had been more than 3 hours. Just as we were really getting nervous -- the furnace was turned down and were cold -- David burst in at the door at 5:30. He and Jack had been trying to bail the other three boys out. A plain clothes detective arrested the three for ordering beer when they were under 21. David said that Jack had beer but was in the men's room, came out and saw the detective, and walked home. David did not have any beer, and the detective believed him. At police court they put the boys in the holdover and took their wallets away from them. David took care of them. Ruel had \$40 in his billfold and David and Jack used that to pay their bail. I forgot to say that David drove Ruel's car down, as the detective made the three boys go with him. It must have been quite a night.

David went to bed and went to sleep, but John, Jane and I were so keyed up that we never did go to sleep. At eight Mrs. Markl called and wanted David to go to police court with them at nine, so we got him up and he went back.

Jane and I went to town for our hair cuts and took the skirt back we bought yesterday, bought her a Dacron blouse and some black skirt material.

When we got home David was back. Because Tom would be in New Orleans they put him on a \$500 peace bond for 6 months. Rudi and Ruel have to appear in court on January 21.

Stella was at home today.

We were busy getting things done this afternoon.

John had the car, because Jane worked over at the office.

When they got home, David went out to Normandie Village to see a Canadian boy he met at the Jamboree during the summer.

Then he came back and left at 5:30 for a double date with Rudi, Ann and a girl from Jacksonville who goes to Stetson and was visiting her brother here at the Seminary.

We had pork chops for dinner.

Jane and I went to see Mrs. Williams and brought Mrs. Klusmeier down to watch Catherine Marshall on TV.

Dr. Lovell came to see David this afternoon. Carl Williams was here, and Mrs. Klusmeier was also here this afternoon.

David had to get Ann back to the hospital by 10.

(ed.- Entries from December 31, 1955 to January 7, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Sunday, January 8, 1956

We went to S.S. and church. Afterwards John and I had waffles.

A man who is to work for the Wehrs – rather for Mr. Wehr – came to look at David's room – is to let us know tomorrow. John is much upset.

Tonight we had dinner at the Bennetts – also there were the Corleys and the Walter Moores.

Monday, January 9, 1956

I went back to school. Afterwards I came home. John went to the personnel dinner at G.E.

The man called and is going to take the room at \$10 per week.

I have been cleaning off David's table, and cleaning out his closet and chest tonight.

I watched "Peter Pan" tonight. John was not here.

Tuesday, January 10, 1956

I went back to annual today, but I suppose that tomorrow will definitely be my last day.

Mr. Camden moved his things in while I was at school this morning.

I went to Dr. Landis after school.

(ed.- Entries from January 11, 1956 to January 15, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Monday, January 16, 1956

It snowed last night, so Mary and I did not go out today. I worked on survey stuff here at home and wrote both children.

Mr. Camden came back tonight. He had been gone since Friday morning. Highways were hazardous today.

Tonight John drove me over to Merwin and I got an interview at 305.

(ed.- Entries from January 17, 1956 to February 29, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, March 1, 1956

Mary had to have her church luncheon today and so I went down to Central and did two interviews. It was nice, as was yesterday.

Friday, March 2, 1956

I was supposed to serve on the luncheon committee today-and distribute the club bulletins, so I did not go to Central. Mary went and did two interviews.

After club meeting, I went home, since Stella was there.

Tonight I wrote the children and afterwards did some newspaper clipping.

We did not go to Engineers' Day.

Book 111- March 3, 1956- August 7, 1956

Saturday, March 3, 1956

I did no survey work today.

Sunday, March 4, 1956

I went to S.S. and church in the morning, but not at night.

(ed.- Entries from March 5, 1956, to March 14, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, March 15, 1956

We went to Valley today and got interviews 11 and 12.

Jane was due tonight (ed.- from Vanderbilt). She was to leave at 4- got here about 9 something. A boy from Indianapolis and three girls from there brought her. .

She thinks that she did well on her interviews.

Friday, March 16, 1956

Jane and I went to town. She had an appointment for a haircut. We saw a dress she liked at George Moore's, but didn't get it. However, we did get her a Mix-Match suit at Stewart's. She had to meet Lucy at the Pendennis-with some girls from Winnipeg for lunch-and so a few minutes before 1, I came on home to give Stella her lunch.

Tonight we had a girl for dinner and the night from the International Conference-Jill Cherrington from Columbus, Ohio. ‘

John, Jane and I went to the meeting at the Natural Science Building.

John and I left to go to the Lambda Chi dance, as guests. I wore Jane's taffeta dress with the jacket.

Jane and Jill went home after the reception. Margaret and Martin took them.

Saturday, March 17, 1956

After breakfast I took Jill over to the Workshop program – I attended Dr. Brodschi's workshop to find out what I could for Jane. She stayed home and washed her hair. Later I went for her and brought her back for lunch. John also went. Dr. Eddleman was the speaker. Afterwards we went home.

Tonight we went to Sarah Skinner's wedding – Then we took Jane home and John and I went to the University square dance at the gym.

Jane had written us a letter which we did not get – about Monk going to Texas instead of bringing her home.

Sunday, March 18, 1956

We went to S.S. and church, and to the Blue Boar for dinner. John and I went up to the Baptist Hospital to see Bro. Green.

Later we took Jane to training union, and stayed for church.

(ed.- Entries from March 19, 1956, to May 29, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, March 22, 1956 (excerpt)

Mr. and Mrs. Camden and Tom Jr. came and turned over his key and got his things. I gave him \$3.00 back of his last \$10. He paid us \$97 altogether. [ed. He rented David's room since January.]

Wednesday, May 30, 1956

Both children have their last exams today.

John and I went to Owenton this morning. We were there shortly after nine, went to the McPherrons' and got our baskets (most of them rusted out) and then to the cemetery to arrange our flowers (red ramblers, Van Fleet ramblers and magnolia blooms.)

We saw lots of people whom we knew, as usual. Ermine had already been there.

Afterwards, we stopped at Mrs. Thornton's (Cora not there), went to see Cousin Ola and Ran, and Aunt Sue. (I saw Cousin Myrt briefly).

We were home by one or a few minutes after. John went to the office. I washed a considerable washing from what Lucy brought back.

We didn't go to prayer meeting, as we were expecting Jane.

She got here about a quarter of 8, with Barbara Knebelkamp and Judy.

Mrs. Vanderhaar had come over just as John arrived home for supper. Margie is applying for a place in the educational TV set-up of Dr. John Taylor (former president of the University).

It was wonderful seeing Jane, and we talked all evening. We really have an avalanche of things here.

Thursday, May 31, 1956

Jane and I ate some sandwiches and then went to town. I had washed this morning.

We went to Taylor's to see the luggage. Mr. Taylor worked hard to talk us out of the Grasshopper line, and even followed us out the door.

I forgot to say that Jane told us as soon as she got home last night that she is not going back for Vanderbilt's graduation.

Tonight Jane, Genevieve du Chassin, Janet Altic (Pi Phi) and Ann Hemdahl (Pi Phi) had dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Schlesinger. It poured rain after Jane picked up Genevieve, and at 6:45 Dr. S. called to say they had not arrived. However, they came as he was talking.

Jane came home in much excitement. Dr. Schlesinger had fired them with enthusiasm for Paris and had given Jane (loaned her) a Metro book and map of Paris.

Jane wore her new dress with the beading.

Friday, June 1, 1956

Stella was here. There was much ironing to do. I went back to town in the afternoon-did not get to Taylor's Luggage-so did not get a suitcase.

Saturday, June 2, 1956

Jane and I went to town and bought the Skyway suitcase for \$30 which the man wanted to sell us. It is gray. I finished the jacket on Jane's dress today -for cathedral wear.

The Fifes came over tonight.

Sunday, June 3, 1956

This was U. of L.'s baccalaureate and commencement. Gladys Corley arranged the flowers for the Seminary chapel.

David's bus (ed.- from Florida) was due at 11:33, so Jane went to meet him instead of to the baccalaureate. We were invited to eat at the table with the McCalls and Davidsons. Jane and David came but did not stay. They went someplace else to eat.

Then they met us and we went to the University, then home for a little-saw David's pictures and his year book. His other - big -- suitcase had not come.

We went back for the reception. David went to get his suitcase, as he had nothing to wear.

The commencement was fine.

Monday, June 4, 1956

This was a busy morning. David was supposed to go to work at one. Jane thought that Hal and Monk would leave about 7 or 8. The mail brought letters from Sylvia, Jean Paul (in Morocco) and Ermine.

I made meringues (with ice cream and strawberry) for dessert. We had ham, potato salad and lima beans.

The boys were late. Rudi came by and I persuaded him to stay for lunch so that he could take David to the Library. Hal called first from the Dixie Highway. They got there at 12:45, and David got to see them. Only one boy -Pat - was with them.

Monk's hostel card had not come, and they had to call.

We ate lunch and they left immediately afterwards.

John and I went to U.S. 42 and Old Brownsboro Road with them to see them off. The Tydings brought Ann there to meet us.

They got all their stuff in the trunk (including D.P.'s bedroll) and took off.

John brought me home. It was 3 o'clock.

I spent the afternoon getting my vouchers off and sent them special delivery as they have to be there tomorrow.

(ed.- Jane was going to sail to Europe and work for the summer with a group from the University of Louisville)

(ed.- Entries from June 5, 1956, to July 27, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, July 28, 1956

This was the day that our French cadet was due to arrive. Dean Wicker told me that the plane was due to arrive at 9:20. Actually it was 1 o'clock when he got here. John had wanted us to leave for Owenton (Bobby's wedding) as soon as David got off at one. (He was getting off early.)

Actually by the time Gilles (That was his name –Gilles Coustère – took a shower, John and David got here – and we ate lunch, it was almost three when we started.

It turned out that Gilles was from Pau, in southwestern France – the Pyrenees – near the Spanish border. He seemed glad to go to Owenton.

We went first to Adeline's, saw her, her mother, and Lilly. Then, we stopped by Margaret Jack's briefly to see the home next door to the funeral home that she has bought and converted.

Then we went on to New Liberty. It was almost unbearably hot when we left home, but a hard rain storm as we came had plunged the thermometer considerably, and Gilles was more comfortable. At Martha's was Mary Sue, her three children, Jerry's girl, and Mrs. Ford.

Martha had a buffet supper. Afterwards the others had gone on to the church. I was helping Martha get dressed. [ed. Martha is mother of the groom.]

I asked David and Gilles, "Don't you boys want to go to the bathroom?" Gilles replied, "No, thank you. I took a shower just before we left." David and I were convulsed. I don't know what I should have said.

The wedding – at the Wheatley Baptist Church was really very pretty. Gilles said that it was beautiful. They had not sent invitations, but put the invitation in the paper, and everyone came. The storm had knocked out the electricity. There was a weak generator at the church, but insufficient for the organ. They started with the piano. (Candles were providing illumination) But just before Shirley made her entrance down the aisle, the current came on, the girl playing slipped across from the piano to the organ, and the service was finished in grand style with the organ music.

The reception was crowded, and we hurried away.

Margaret Jack had wanted us to come by there to meet a French boy who is the guest of the Owenton Rotary club and who is a present the guest of the Forsees. They brought him up there, and the two boys were glad to see each other.

We did not linger long, as we were all exhausted – and were very sleepy before we reached home.

Sunday, July 29, 1956

We got up and went to S.S. and church. Gilles was impressed with the service. Then we took him to the Blue Boar for dinner. He selected ground hamburger pattie, mashed potatoes, cantaloupe, ice cream.

We came back and David took Gilles to Bowman Field for his flight training.

John and I went to the Wittig's new home this afternoon to the tea they gave for their future daughter-in-law.

Tonight David took Gilles to the Amphitheatre to see "Can-Can." He had bought tickets for him and Ann, but the latter went to Bowling Green with her family. Afterward he took him to get a ranchburger, I think.

Monday, July 30, 1956

Gilles had flight training at Bowman Field again this afternoon. He went to Cincinnati and Lexington, piloting the plane himself since he is a licensed pilot.

We received a letter from Jane today telling about taking Mme and Roberta out for dinner.

Jim and Louis had both asked her for dates.

Tonight I worked for a while on interviews 5 and 6.

Tuesday, July 31, 1956

Gilles was here for dinner last night, but David had a class. We had fried chicken.

This afternoon I went to Merwin to try to finish my interview, but woman (with new baby) wouldn't let me.

Gilles wasn't here tonight.

I forgot to say that in the mornings the five cadets and two escorts are taken to various farms (like International Harvester) and are given their lunch there.

I washed Gilles' white shirt for him.

I forgot to say that I won a Westinghouse fryer from Mazola. [ed. Mariam enjoyed entering contests.]

(ed.- Entries from August 1, 1956, to August 3, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, August 4, 1956

Gilles and his group went to Bardstown, Hodgenville and Mammoth Cave today.

David had amphitheatre tickets for Gilles (and a date). When they called to say that it would be 9:30 or 10 before they were back he went ahead and took Francois Pons, one of the French students over on campus.

I defrosted this morning.

Sunday, August 5, 1956

Gilles got back in time to watch TV last night about 8:25, in fact.

This morning he preferred to sleep instead of going to S.S. and church. I went to S.S. but came home afterwards. Tonight we had the following for supper: The Lovells (John came later) and their French escort they are keeping, Lola Dannenfelser and Pattie, our family, Gilles, and Jacqueline Blondé the French girl working at the Automobile Club. We had chicken salad in tomatoes.

After supper John said that Jacqueline wanted to go. It also seemed that M. (escort) wanted to go to the Seelbach to see an engineer friend – so John, David, Gilles, Eleanor and Pattie took them both down to the Seelbach.

The folks helped me wash the dishes.

Monday, August 16, 1956

Gilles wanted to go shopping this morning, but first he had an interview with Dr. Brodschi. I took him to the university and then downtown.

This afternoon he went to the Ford plant with the others. Tonight he had dinner with Chuck Mathis.

This afternoon Mary and I went down to S. 39th, and I got interview #6.

The Hortons started cutting the 3 trees!!

Tuesday, August 7, 1956

Gilles was busy during the morning. They came by for him. John came home for us to go to the airport to see him off, but David had to go to work, and there wasn't time for him to go out to the old Standiford to see him. [ed. Standiford air field]

We (Mary and I) went down on West Oak Street and I got interview #7.

Jane's letter today was from Italy – telling about wonderful Switzerland.

Book 112- August 8, 1956- October 21, 1956

Wednesday, August 8, 1956

I saw "Harvest" without subtitles at the University tonight.

Mary and I went to Southern Parkway and to South 39th this afternoon.

David went to Dr. B. at 2:30 for a check on his bridge.

Thursday, August 9, 1956

I traveled with Mary to Valley Station but did not get an interview. Mary did.

It looks so terrible without those three trees. The negroes have a terrible time getting the trunks out.

Friday, August 10, 1956

Stella was here. They finished getting the last tree down.

I called many of the parents of the students [ed. On the exchange trip to Europe] trying to get them to see "Under a Paris Sky". None went. We did, but it was not exactly what we expected.

Saturday, August 11, 1956

The Campbells started on their 2-week vacation to Lake Erie today. I am caring for Dickie's guppies.

I went out to Valley Station and got interview #9. Then I came back, dressed and went to the Wittig wedding at St. Boniface (a beautiful church). Afterward I went to the reception at the Pendennis with the Northrops and the Heers.

Sunday, August 12, 1956

We went to S.S. and church then to the Blue Boar.

I'm still working on the typing of Jane's letters.

Jane's letter yesterday was from Rome, written Tuesday. They had an appointment for an audience with the Pope on Wednesday.

She finally had gotten 3 letters from me there, and the Switzerland group had finally gotten with them for a morning tour.

(ed.- Entries from August 13, 1956 to August 28, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Wednesday, August 29, 1956

John had asked me about the car. I had decided not to go to church tonight, in fact be here all afternoon and evening in case Jane's ship docked early. I had written her if she couldn't get us, to call the Campbells or the Hortons.

I decided to interview, so called Mrs. MacFarlane on Royal Avenue and made an appointment for this morning. I took John over.

At 10, I went by Mildred Campbell's to tell her the arrangement. I got up to Royal about 10:15, got home at 12:15. When I came in, the telephone rang, and it was Mrs. Bryant to say they had received a wire from Bettie and they had already docked.

I called Mildred and sure enough, Jane had called about 10:30-said that they docked about 4, but did not get through customs until about 10. They were coming by Detroit and will reach here at 9:25 tomorrow night-she and Anne.

I immediately called Mrs. Tydings.

In a short time she called me to say that Anne had called her and they are now coming by Chicago with Lynn and Katie, and will reach here tomorrow at 5:05.

I was so excited that in spite of it being our wedding anniversary, I went nowhere-stayed here and worked on the cleaning , et cetera, that I am trying to finish before Jane arrives home.

Thursday, August 30. 1956

This was a busy day trying to finish everything. David had to work 12:30-9, but we went by for him at 4:30, for his supper hour. Later, when the train was ½ hour late, Mr. Graham (The Librarian-there to meet Lynn) had him arrange to stay until 6.

The train was due at 5:05, but was ½ hour late. There were lots of people there to meet the 4 girls who were arriving-Lynn Graham, Ann Tydings, Carolyn Lindley and Jane. The Fifes came down too. All the girls got off crying, and there were tears in my eyes too. I forgot to say that Betty Bryant and Katie Bryan also came to meet them.

Jane had on her red coat and a blue straight dress. She looked good.

We went on home after dropping David off. It was so exciting to hear what Jane had to say that I could scarcely get dinner ready.

Jane was so excited about her pictures, so John went up to the Lovells' and borrowed their projector.

We all went after David. After he was home Jane unpacked partly. She brought John a tie from London, a book on French history, David an Italian type shirt from Paris (blue-his color) and me Balmain's perfume from Paris, and a woven luncheon mat set from Florence, Italy.

For herself she bought a blue cashmere sweater set in London, and a red Tartan plaid McKinnon (or McKeenon) in Edinburgh.

We talked and talked. There was so much to talk about.

(ed.- Entries from August 31, 1956 to September 19, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Thursday, September 20, 1956

We had Stella today-switch with Ann Klusmeier so that she could iron David's clothes since he leaves tomorrow (ed.- returning to Stetson University for his sophomore year). We had arranged to receive Ann's plate glass, since Stella was supposed to do that at her house.

Friday, September 21, 1956

This day was given over largely to getting David ready and off.

He and Eleanor left on the South Wind about 4. Ethel made pictures of the 4 of us in front of the station.

Monk Siler was here for dinner tonight.

Saturday, September 22, 1956

Today I took Jane to Nashville. Her junior Pi Phi friend went with us.

Jane drove and we were there in 4 hours. The Turnpike helps. The Pi Phi house was freshly painted-nice looking.

I got her unpacked and then she insisted that I start immediately back. I did not think that I would make such good time but I was home in 4 hours. I stopped at the nut place near Mackie's to get a sandwich some coconut milk and a coke.

The Davidsons were having their reception at Gardencourt. I got back in time to go on over there. John was going in with the Huffmans and was much surprised to see me.

Jane's friend from the summer, Ellen Wood, was there.

(ed.- Entries from September 23, 1956 to October 19, 1956 are not included in this printing but can be seen in the original diaries at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, KY).

Saturday, October 20, 1956

We went to Mary Ann Logan's funeral at the church this afternoon. The entire senior class of Medical School was there. Afterwards we made some church calls, and I almost got bitten on Preston Street.

Sunday, October 21, 1956

We went to S.S. and church then to the Blue Boar for dinner.

Aileen Peyton Johnson was eating there-sat and talked with us a bit.

When we got home, Gypsy Green and Betty Lou had been there-also Billy and his wife-on their way to hear Billy Graham.

Afterwards we went to see Harvey Lovell. I did not go to church.

Book 113- April 18, 1957-June 9, 1957

Ed.- The entries for this book are not chronological but include Mariam's entries in summary for some events that happened on earlier dates.

Thursday, April 18, 1957

It's hopeless to try to catch up with my diary since last fall. I've been keeping it since Jane was 17 months old, but keeping up with it, all my accumulation of belongings, clippings, correspondences, and two jobs, have been too much for me this year.

I am going to try to go back and pick up as I can in a quick resumé, possibly putting in some days exactly as I have notes on them.

Jane's senior year at Vanderbilt started off poorly in spite of my prediction to her that her senior year was to be her best one. She continued to make good grades. Lucy Stites got a diamond ring from Don and announced her engagement.

Jane started dating a boy after Christmas by the name of Bill Hatcher, a senior from Atlanta, who plans to go to divinity school next year. They were very serious for her-Bill wanted to pin her-then they agreed not to date. Jane stayed overnight in his home. (His mother had written me) during their spring vacation. That was when she was on her way down to Stetson to see David. She flew from Atlanta and back there.

I wanted her to apply for a Fulbright last fall, but she said that she was tired of study. She had to study terrifically hard her second quarter-was carrying 6 courses-missed Phi Beta Kappa standing by a fraction of a point.

Friday, August 16, 1957

I've so much to cover that I'll never catch up. To begin with, I kept on substituting until about 10 days before school was out. My last (66th) day was at Parkland on May 21st. Even then I was not through my last survey work. Mary and I had no let-up in University of Michigan studies from October 1955 until this summer. Our big and unusual one this spring was our mental health study (although we did not call it that). We attended a conference at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago about it in late March.

I knew that the end of school was going to be a hectic time. It proved to be. Jane was to be graduated June 2.

On Thursday night and Friday night before Tom and Elsie Parker and David, their second son, stayed with us, en route to Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where Tom was to work for IBM this summer.

We left Louisville in time on Saturday, June 1, to get there for the reception for the graduates and parents at Rand Hall.

We ate dinner with Jane at a place she knew about. That night she had a date with Hal. We let them have the car and we stayed at the motel (same one where Knottie and I stayed when Jane entered- and where John, David and I stayed when we went to the U. of K. game in 1953 and Mother stayed with Mrs. Schlenk).

Sunday morning we ate breakfast at the hotel, and then went to bacculaureate. The sun was out, the speaker was good, and we made pictures.

Afterwards the Pi Phis had a dinner for all the families. It was much fun, but it started raining.

Oh, I forgot-most important. Before bacculaureate, we went to the station and met David, who arrived wearing a straw hat. He was with us afterwards.

We made some pictures, then went to the motel to rest before commencement.

Because of the rain, commencement had to be in the gym, but it was most impressive. Jane and Anne House were near together. Jane graduated cum laude. She made Phi Beta Kappa standing but wasn't elected, although Lucy was. The 10% (top) was used up before they got to Jane. It must have been close as Lucy didn't make magna cum laude (2.5), and Jane did make 2.4.

Afterwards we went for a delightful buffet supper at Starkey Duncans. Hal went out with us. With us at the supper were 4 of Jane's friends-Hal, Starkey, Simm and Bill (also his parents and brother).

This morning the 4 of us drove to Louisville. It was pretty hard for Jane to leave. She was very unhappy when she got home.

On Tuesday of this week, Jane, David and I went to see Mrs. Harrell and Aunt Sue. The latter has been very ill-is still in the hospital, but some better. I wanted David particularly to see them since he is leaving.

Jane had a date with somebody every night this week except Tuesday when she went to Betty Roth's shower. Friday and Saturday night it was Larry Spitzer, Thursday night it was Jim Banks. Monday night it was _____ and Wednesday night -no-this was all the next week. I take it back.

On Wednesday, June 5, Martha Roberts arrived at the Fifes'. On Thursday night June 6 I had a buffet supper for about 16 or 18, including those going to Europe.

4 Houchens
Martha Roberts

Barbara Schwartz
Jean Whitfield

Jim Banks
Mary Beverly Wade

Chuck Matthis	Eleanor Hall
John Stewart	John Lovell
Larry Spitzer	Eleanor Lovell

David and Martha were having orientation Thursday and Friday. On Friday night there was a dinner at the Seelbach given by the International Center. Jane went to a rehearsal dinner for Lucy's wedding.

Saturday morning Jane went to a wedding breakfast while we concentrated on getting David ready.

The wedding (Lucy's) was at 4:30 with the reception at the Pendennis. We left early to get David to the Administration Building. This was still June 8.

It was most exciting there. We got to meet everybody, including Sarah Eddleman and her parents and sister. Sarah asked Martha to sit by her on the bus.

When they finally pulled out, David and Chuck Matthis were in the front seat-next to us, and Martha and Sarah were immediately behind them. (ed.- the bus was taking the group to Montreal to catch the ship to sail to Europe).

Jane went out later in the evening with Penny Barnett and two of the boys who were in the wedding.

Sunday, June 9, 1957

I awakened with one of my vilest sick headaches. There was no chance of going to baccalaureate (ed.-at the University of Louisville), so Jane went with her father to the Seminary and ate with him at Dr. Davidson's dinner. I kept trying to get better.

Finally way up in the afternoon we got hold of Dr. Morris and he sent me some suppositories. I vomited until I was weak.

Finally by the hardest I dragged with Jane to the graduation, but came directly home.

Bill Hatcher came by to see Jane today. He is on his way to Wilmette, Illinois to join the Bahais.

The week after U. of L.'s commencement was a stock taking time after the frenzied rush of the weeks before.

Bill had lunch with us before taking off for Wilmette. I was sore from vomiting for two days.



David and Jane Houchens-piano recital
1948



Jane and David Houchens-new school year
September 7, 1948



Jane, John and David Houchens- Louisiana, Texas Border- June 16, 1948



Bobby Traylor and David Houchens-Cousins
July 3, 1949



Jerry, Mary Sue, Arlene and Kathy Ford
Mary Sue was the sister of John Houchens
September 1950



Linda Wehr, Diane Dutschke, Jimmy Bulluck, Eddie Black, Larry Allgeier, David Houchens
January 26, 1950