

Maurice Emmanuel Yoder – Born September 19, 1885, died September 8, 1975

Married May 18, 1912 to Zora Naomi Coldren. They had six children:

Phyllis – 1913

Roberta – 1914

Mark – 1916

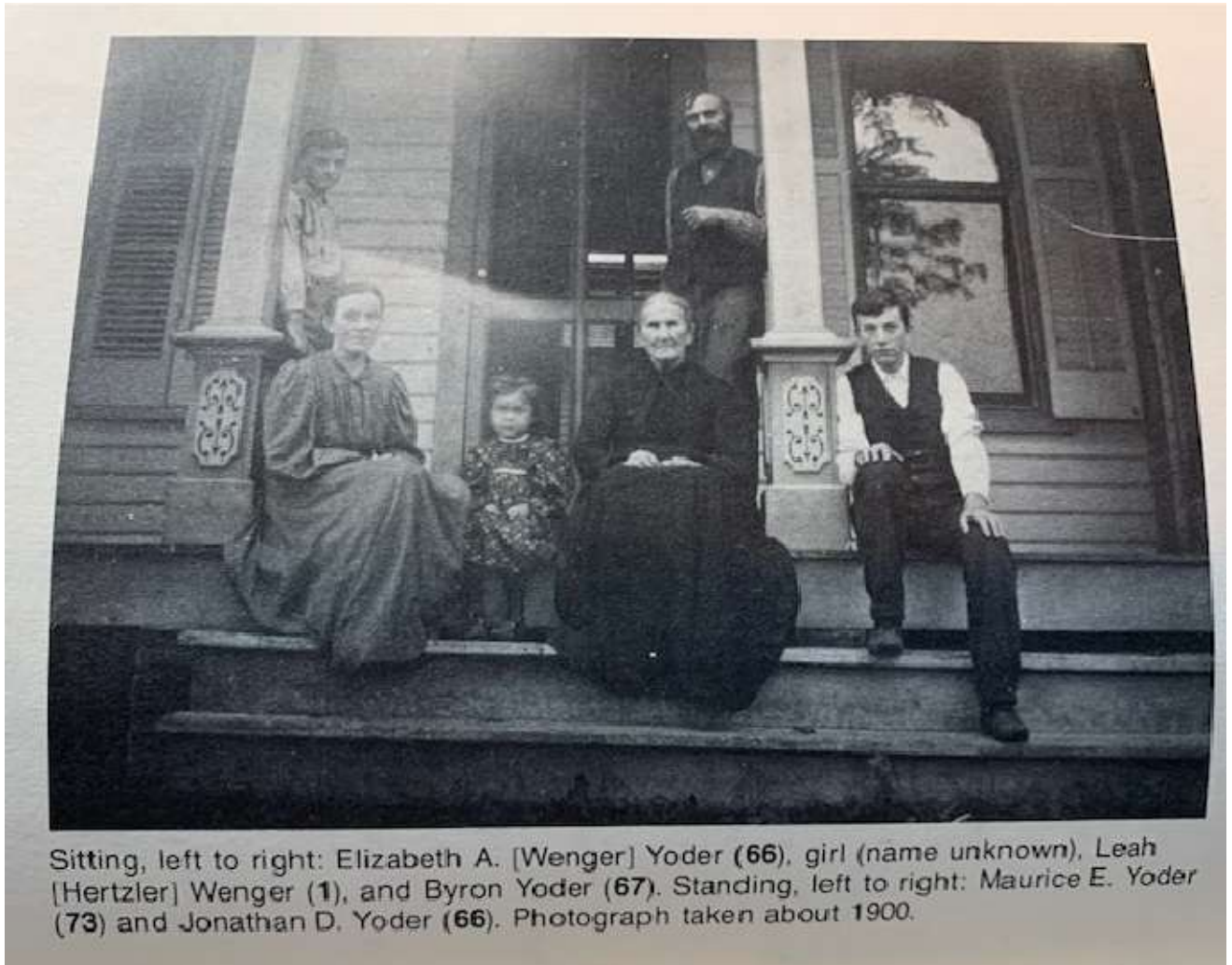
Donald – 1920

Von – 1921

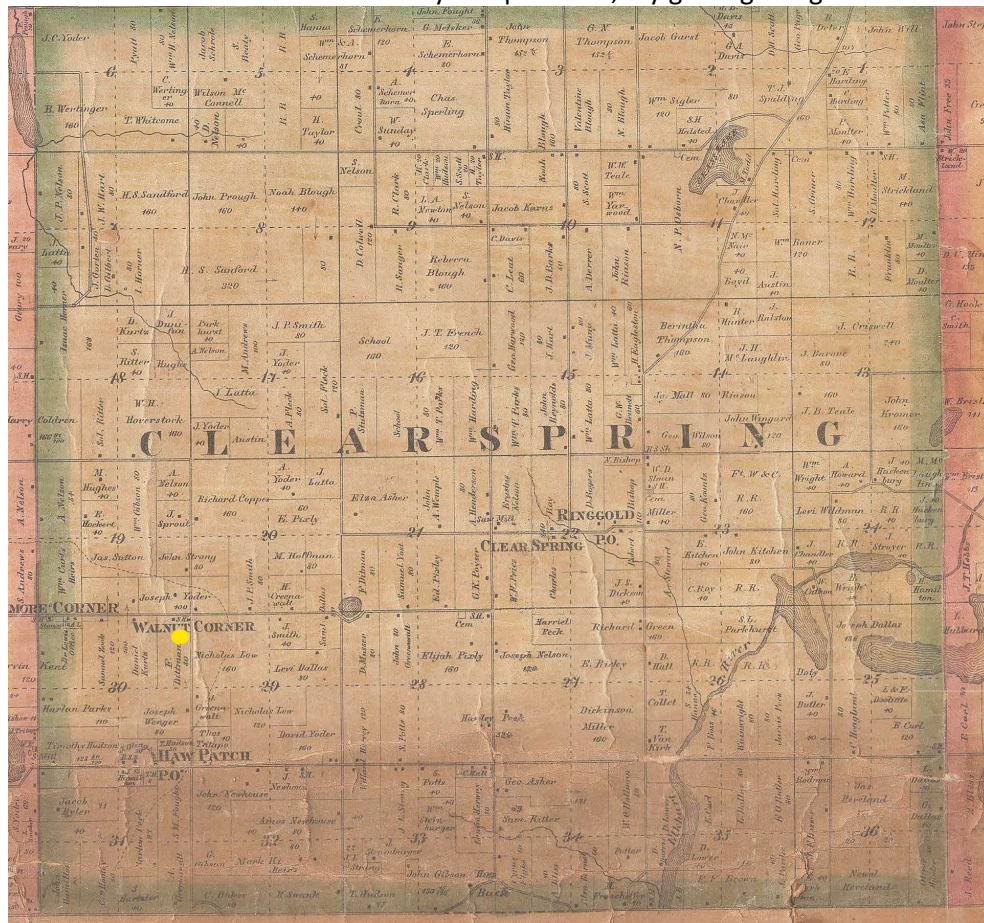
Richard – 1928

Grandpa Maurice E. Yoder, son of Elizabeth (Wenger) and Jonathan D. Yoder, began writing a daily diary on January 1, 1911 at age 25, and continued up into the 1970s. In 1911, Maurice was a bachelor who worked his family's farm in Topeka, IN. His brother Byron, born 1882, worked as a school headmaster in Buffalo, Nebraska in early 1911, and returned to work the family farm later that year. In early 1912, as we will see, he is returning to Nebraska, where he remained at least 20 years. The Yoder family had an adopted daughter named Ester M. "Esta" (Matthews) Yoder, born in August 1893.

Grandpa became engaged to marry Grandma Zora Coldren in August 1911.



The family lived at Walnut Corners in Clearspring Twp, LaGrange County, IN. This map from 1864 shows the land was homesteaded by Joseph Yoder, my great-great grandfather.



Monday, January 1, 1912: Here is where I begin a new year. My diary last year was not entirely satisfactory, principally because I failed to write down events of importance which happened in the great world outside the confines of our paling. This year I hope to note all important events which seem to have to do with the world's history.

Today I mulched the strawberry patch with Kaffir corn fodder which had grown right side of the patch. Byron and I went over to town to practice singing for Mrs. Lantz's funeral. Chas. McClaskey brought my life insurance policy down and I paid my first semi-annual premium of \$15.89. I am insured in the Northwestern Mutual.

Tuesday, January 2: Byron and I both delivered milk today in order to get done in time for the funeral of Susanna Lantz. The quartet sang and really made a fizzle of the last number. Cornelius forgot the tune. In the evening I went to teachers' meeting and afterward to quartet practice. This was one of the most beautiful nights I have ever seen. The moon shone very brightly, the stars sparkled, and the snow particles glistened like diamonds. The air was quite frosty, enough to be very invigorating.

Wednesday, January 3: Byron and I both delivered milk. Daddy and Soll butchered a hog for Salina Kurtz.

After dinner, Byron and I hauled in a load of corn.

The papers are full of politics now. Congress seems only to have in mind certain legislation as will have a bearing on the coming campaign, and does not see it necessary to conform to the wishes of the people. Gov. Osborn of Mich. made a speech in which he said that both LaFollet and Taft should withdraw from the race in favor of Roosevelt. Just at present Roosevelt is being talked of continually but still continues to declare that he is not seeking the nomination.

Thursday, January 4: Willie Wenger came along home with us from town in the forenoon and stayed for dinner. I went to town in the evening. The wind became very strong and sharply cold.



William Howard Taft was president in 1912, running for re-election; Theodore Roosevelt had been president from 1901-1909; Sen. Robert Marion LaFollett of Wisconsin

Friday, January 5: Blizzard and more blizzard. Last night was the coldest night of the season and today about the stormiest day in several years. I helped father take some cattle over to town. We changed our chicken from the old house where we have been having them to a small chicken-house in the orchard. Some of them had become pretty cold but the new quarters are much warmer. The Jolly Bachelors practiced here tonight.





Jolly Bachelors – Grandpa is 2<sup>nd</sup> from left.

Saturday, January 6: The thermometer remained near zero all day. I took some corn over to Pence's to have it cracked. I heard there that Bessie Hostettler had died. She took sick suddenly while at the table last evening and died before nine o'clock today. Death was due to an internal hemorrhage. In the evening I went to hear Ralph Parlette. His subject was "Pockets and Paradises." He said that everything belongs to us inasmuch as we are able to use it. We own nothing except what we use.

Sunday, January 7: Thermometer registered -14 degrees this morning and did not go above zero all day. By and I both delivered milk then went to Salina Kurtz's for dinner. We had a fine dinner, mashed potatoes, cold slaw, fruit salad, bean salad, and caramel pie and olives. After dinner we went down to Walter Greenawalt's to practice a quartet for tonight at the M.E. Church. The Methodists began a series of several sermons this evening. It seems strange that a religion needs stirring up each year. I think the old-fashioned revival service is a product of a past age. There is need of a practical common sense presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that will appeal to more.

Monday, January 8: MacDougal gave birth to a bull-calf last night but was nearly frozen when father got out to the stable. It died before breakfast. This is what comes from not having a barn fixed conveniently with a box stall for heavily pregnant cows. By and I hauled a load of fodder then I hauled a load of worm-wood from the wood. We went over to town for quartet practice and to practice for Bessie H's funeral.

The boom of Woodrow Wilson for president takes a slump. Someone is digging up some letters of his criticizing W. J. Bryant and a letter of Cleveland's criticizing Wilson. I was rather disappointed.

Tuesday, January 9: Blizzard, very stormy, cold, S.W. wind all day. This was a very hard day on wheat. There was not much snow on the fields and that blew off together with considerable soil. I went to Bessie Hostettler's funeral. Mrs. Lauber, Mrs. Reichelderfer, Byron and I sang. There was a large crowd there in spite of the inclement weather.

Mr. R. L. Crane, a millionaire manufacturer, died suddenly yesterday. He obtained considerable notoriety by his attack on universities and tech schools. He said the four years which a youth spent in obtaining a college education were so many years wasted. Everyone knows that the social side of a college life is not all that it might be, but nevertheless, all right-thinking men know that he has overshot the mark in his sweeping denunciation of all phases of university life.

Wednesday, January 10: Don't seem to have done much today at least I can't remember of anything of particular importance. Went over to town in the evening.

Today's paper has an account of a large fire in New York. The Equitable Life Building burned to the ground. The value of property destroyed was estimated at \$6,000,000.

Baltimore was chosen as the site of the next Democratic National convention and the date June 25. At the banquet held Monday evening Wilson's stock seems to have risen.

Thursday, January 11: I hauled some fodder in the forenoon. Father helped at the stockyards.

Friday, January 12: I chored around today. Took seven sacks of corn over to Pence's Mill to have it crushed but they had had a break so couldn't get it done. The Jolly Bachelors came over to practice this evening. The Chicago Board of Trade Building burned also the C- Package Mfg. Co.

Saturday, January 13: I went over to town this forenoon after some corn which Pence's were grinding. Went to choir practice in the evening but the choir failed to materialize. The only benefit I derived from it was the walk there and back and goodness knows I didn't need that.

Sunday, January 14: Byron and I delivered milk. After the utensils were cleaned up we went over to Arthur Greenawalt's for dinner. Cornelius was there too. We had a fine time and excellent dinner. I went to the Methodist church in the evening. There was a large crowd out.

Monday, January 15: I tackled a job today much like the job Hercules was required to perform. I started to clean our horse stables which had not been cleaned for I don't know how many weeks. Hauled the manure onto the orchard.

Tuesday, January 16: I finished cleaning stables and Byron and I hauled a wagon-box load of fodder. In the forenoon I went over to town and bought some Dairy Feed. I went over to M.A. Stolars to Teacher's Meeting after which we had quartet practice.

Wednesday, January 17: I cut some fodder for the cattle. Went over to "Central" in the evening. U.S. threatens to interfere in Cuba for the third time because of political disturbances which are becoming serious.

Thursday, January 18: I took Zora over to her school because of the rain and the icy roads. Came back to town and brought over milk bottles from the depot.

I started to cut some fodder after dinner but had to quit because a connection became broken. I went over to town to get it fixed and brought my suitcase along home.

Byron got ready to go to Nebraska.

Editor Harvey of Harper's Weekly and Gov. Wilson of New Jersey have had a break. Gov. Wilson asked Harvey not to support him because he said his support hindered him in his campaign.

Friday, January 19: Byron started for Lincoln Nebraska on the early morning train. I delivered the milk. Pa and Soll butchered two hogs for Ray Sutton and one for us. I borrowed Lonnie Frank's wagon and hauled a load of fodder.

I did not have milk enough so had to deliver three pints in the evening. I was supposed to have been at choir practice but got to town so late that it was all finished before my arrival.

Saturday, January 20: After delivering the milk and washing the bottles I cut some fodder for over Sunday. I had to deliver three quarts of milk in the evening to the restaurants. I sold 161 pints today.

Sunday, January 21: I went over to town in the evening. Senator Cummins of Iowa added another complication to an already complicated situation by announcing his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination. He will be sort of a middle ground between the extreme radicals led by LaFollet and the conservatives headed by Taft.

Monday, January 22: After delivering milk and washing bottles I cut fodder for the cows. A pro-Roosevelt Club has been formed in Chicago which has for its aim the unifying of all pro-Roosevelt efforts. The announcement of this organization has opened consternation in the Taft camp.

Tuesday, January 23: I didn't get a great deal accomplished other than the routine work on account that the folks were intending to go to a surprise on Jacob Troyer's house and wanted to do their work early.

After bottling the milk I went over to town and took supper with Zora, after which we went to "Teachers' Training Class." The folks reported a good time and about forty guests at the surprise.

Wednesday, January 24: I did the routine work and then pa and I hauled in two shocks of fodder. After doing the chores I went over to town after our cooler which was in the repair shop.

The Roosevelt boom grows apace. Gov. Hadley of Missouri and the Governor of Kansas both have declared themselves for Roosevelt and claim that they have their respective states behind them.

Thursday, January 25: This has been a very nice and well-behaved winter day. I cut some fodder after washing the bottles. Gee! but it is keeping me busy to do all the work while Byron is gone.



Albert Baird Cummins, Senator from Iowa

Friday, January 26: Mother washed the bottles for me so that I could haul a load of wood and a load of fodder. Began to snow in the afternoon. In the evening I went over to C. Stolars' to choir practice. The choirs had sort of a blow out.

Saturday, January 27: This has been a beautiful day, one that everyone enjoyed. I did the routine work then cut some fodder for over Sunday. About 5:00 I received word that my chickens were at the depot. I hurried out to meet mother and dad just this side of Simon K. Yoder's. Got them and found they were fully up to my expectations which by the way were not high. In the evening Zora and I went to hear the Lync quartet from Kendalville. They were accomplished singers and sang a very high class of music, too high class for the majority of their audience.

Sunday, January 28: I delivered milk and washed bottles then began doing chores. I had a late start this morning hence I was late all day. I did not go to church in the evening.

Monday, January 29: Did the routine work. In the evening I went over to the granary to a Short Course meeting. Jake Yoder, Maynard Ulmer, R. F. Miller and I were there. We discussed ways and means for the successful management of the coming Short Course.

Tuesday, January 30: I went over to town in the evening.

Wednesday, January 31: The afternoon and evening were ideal. In the evening I went over to Weed's to choir practice. There was a house-full present and the new piano was tried and in great shape. Expected Byron home from Nebraska last night or this afternoon but there were no signs of his having arrived at either time. Father and S.K. Yoder went down to Cosperville to the Farmer's Institute. Father came home with cramps in his stomach due to something irregular about the eats.

Thursday, February 1, 1912: nothing much

Friday, February 2: routine work

Saturday, February 3: I went to church in the evening at the F. B. Church. A mission program was given which was very fair.

Sunday, February 4: I delivered milk in the morning. Did it up with a rush in order to get done in time to get over to E. C. Yoder's for dinner. The Jolly Bachelors quartet were supposed to have been there but Byron had not come home from the West and Walter came near backing out. However, he was prevailed upon to stay with the promise that he would be excused as soon as he had finished eating. He had company at home. Went to church in the evening. Byron came home.

Monday, February 5: Byron delivered the milk. Pa and I went over to town to get some coal. After dinner I chored around and took another door out of the silo. Byron came home with a new plan in his head. He has made arrangements with Dr. Bentley to look after his interests in Scottsbluff Nebraska. This necessitates a rearrangement of my plans. I shall in all probability continue to farm for daddy.

Tuesday, February 6: Byron was nearly sick with a bad cold and so I delivered the milk. Pa went with S. K and Clarence Yoder's to Uncle J. K. Zooks. He did not get home until after dark and since By was sick I had all the chores to do. Daddy got home about 6:30 or 7:00.

Wednesday, February 7: I delivered the milk and washed the bottles. Pa went over to town in the morning to see Pence about framing up the cottage and obtained his promise to come over next week to look things over.

Daddy took a load of corn over to Pence's to get it ground for the hens. I went over to town in the evening.

Thursday, February 8: I delivered milk and washed bottles again. Daddy went down to Ligonier to see about purchasing some beans. Rev. & Miss Florence Weed gave us a call this afternoon. We had a very nice visit.

In the evening after I had gone to bed R. F. Miller (creamery owner) called up wanting to talk to me. He had a message from the Asst. State Veterinarian saying that he had a good specimen of a Tubercular cow which he thought might be used for demonstration purposes at the Short Course. We decided that if she could be got here at a total cost not to exceed \$35 that we ought to get her.

Friday, February 9: I delivered the milk and brought a new bobsled along home.

After dinner Pa and mother went over to town. I hauled a load of fodder and cleaned the cow stables. In the evening I went over to town to a "Short Course meeting" at the Creamery. Ulmer Bros., Osman Roy, Rollis Kent, R. F. Miller and I were on deck. We made final arrangements. Decided not to buy the tuberculosis cow. Her owner wanted \$25 for her which was considered too large for us in view of the fact that we were not sure as to the expense connected with the course.

Saturday, February 10: I chored around in the forenoon. Father and mother went over to town, mother to see her mother, father for business purposes. After dinner we, Pa and I, cleaned stables and hauled a load of wood.

Sunday, February 11: I went to church in the forenoon then to Zora's for dinner. Did not come home to do chores but staid until after church. I had a close range view of Asa Fought's baby. It is a big healthy looking little fellow and seems to be very good natured.

Went to Christian Endeavor Society and was voted in as a regular member.

Monday, February 12: Pa and I went over to town in the morning to get some lumber for a smoke-house. After we got home we cleaned out the colt stable.

Jesse Turnbleau came over for dinner and helped put up the smoke house. We didn't get it quite finished, lacking only the roof and a little siding. At the supper table and after supper, Jesse gave us an interesting dissertation on farm conditions in Nebraska.

Tuesday, February 13: Father and I went down to Ligonier to get some bran. We went down there in the bobsled. There was a very cold East-Southeast wind which nearly put my face out of business. We didn't quite get the smoke house finished. Jesse Turnbleau came and helped us.

Wednesday, February 14: We finished the smoke house and got it to its place. Father and mother went over to town in the afternoon. I cleaned stables and chored around generally. This was about the first sunshiny day we have had in many days. The sunshine played "scatt" with the snow.



Thursday, February 15: I helped Byron to deliver the milk then got things ready for the Short Course which began at noon today. Not a very large crowd was present but the lectures were instructive and interesting. Farmers of the neighborhood did not take hold of the work as they should have. They do not seem to realize how important it is that they know how to farm better. Saw Mr. Plummer, a Purdue "Ag" grad.

Friday, February 16: Fair and warmer. The snow dissipated quite rapidly. Helped Byron deliver the milk then attended the Short Course all day. There was a much larger crowd than yesterday. The women have become very much enthused over the Domestic Science work. In the evening Mr. Crane gave a lecture on how to keep the boy on the farm. I stopped in at the telephone office after the evening program and seem to have had a hard time getting away.

Esta and her step-father came here this evening and stayed all night. Esta's mother has been trying to find her for years but only succeeded in finding her very recently.

Saturday, February 17: Interest in the short course was good to the end. A move has been started to secure the Short Course for the place again.

A rather good joke in which mother and Byron were the principal actors, occurred this morning. When I came home last night (this morning) I went up as usual and went to bed. Instead of sleeping with Byron I slept in the room with Mr. Ernsberger. In the morning when mother found I was not in bed with By, she became alarmed and telephoned to central and Kurtz's Restaurant to find out if I had left town. She was not a little surprised to see me come downstairs.

Noah Yoders' were here all night.

Sunday, February 18: I went to church and Sunday School, then went to D. W. Moser's for dinner. Pa's and Noah Yoder's were there. Went to church in the evening. The main hall was full.

Monday, February 19: Fair, warmer. A beautiful spring day.

Milt Pence and Bill Blough came over this morning to make arrangements for doing some work for us. Pence took measurements for window sash and Billie talked paint. Pa and I hauled in some fodder and I hauled some corn which the fodder had been covering. After dinner pa took a load of wheat to town and I cleaned the cow stable and the chicken house. I went over to town in the evening.

Tuesday, February 20: Pa and I hauled a wagon and box load of fodder and then I hauled the corn that was uncovered. Part of this corn, eight sacks full, I sacked for grinding. After dinner I took it over to Pence and had it ground.

Pa went to Mr. Wooster's sale. Things did not sell very well. Byron and Florence Weed and Zora and I went down to Ligonier to the fourth number of the Lecture Course, the "Four Artists." It was very good, particularly the violinist and the reader. Her reading of the story of the Captain and his invalid wife – When we got back to town, we noticed that it was beginning to snow.

Wednesday, February 21: Blizzard! This was one of the worst days I have ever lived through. The one redeeming feature of the situation was that it was not very cold. I took Zora over to school this morning but couldn't go after her because of the storm. We were to have the fourth number of the lecture course this evening, but the storm was so severe that the lecturer could not come.

Thursday, February 22: More blizzard. Still more blizzard. The wind was still blowing this morning but abated somewhat toward evening. I hardly expected to find my pigs living this morning, but they were

not much worse for wear. I banked up the houses with snow and made them more comfortable. Didn't do anything but the chores today. Byron and father helped open up the road to town this forenoon. We couldn't deliver the milk in the morning so had to wait til afternoon then take the bob-sled.

Friday, February 23: I chored around in the forenoon. About 2:00 I went to Thompson's Corner after Zora. I went in the sleigh and found the roads at places very deep with snow drifts – (a road had been cut through) – and at others, no snow at all. Byron and father delivered the milk with the bob-sleds. I went over to town in the evening.

Saturday, February 24: Byron and father delivered the milk with the bob-sleds. I went over to town in the forenoon and bought a pair of ?? (.75) and a pair of horsehide work gloves. We cleaned stables in the afternoon. Went over to Rev. Weed's to an informal gathering in honor of Rev. Weed's nephew, Mr. Weed from Ohio.

Sunday, February 25: I went to Sunday school and church in the morning and to church in the evening. I stayed at Zora's for dinner. Florence Yoder was here for dinner. The Jolly Bachelor quartet sang in the evening at church. This was our last appearance as a quartet as Byron is planning to leave for Nebraska during the week.

Monday, February 26: Byron delivered the milk. In the afternoon I went up to town to attend to some business affairs. I bought two sacks of flour. Pa went to the horse sale at Joe Bower's livery farm. Theodore Roosevelt made formal announcement today of the fact that he would accept the nomination for president of the United States if tendered him by the Republican National Convention. This announcement came as an answer to the segment of seven governors that he heed the "call" of the people and accept the nomination.

Tuesday, February 27: I helped sing at John Brant's funeral. Jennie Yoder, Belle Nelson, Dot Greenawalt and Mr. Robert Weed sang also. The funeral was held at the house. Borrowed \$125 at the bank for six months. Pa helped Chas. Hartzler's work.

Wednesday, February 28: I took Byron over to the train this morning. He started for Minster Nebraska where he has become interested in helping develop a new irrigated county. I delivered the milk.

Pa went over to town after dinner and brought home 100# of cotton-seed meal. He helped Mr. Holden load up his goods to move to within a few miles of Wolcottville. I went over to attend to some telephone business in the evening.

Thursday, February 29: Nothing much doing today. Father helped "Davy" Hartzler to move. "Bristles" gave birth to 9 pigs this evening.

Friday, March 1, 1912: When I got up to town this morning, I heard that Fred Wilson had died. He had been sick only about one week and had been the picture of health and strength before. The announcement of his death came as a shock to the whole neighborhood. A world of sympathy has gone out to Ruth (*\*nee Coldren – Zora's sister*) from the whole community because of the peculiarly sad situation in which she is left, having lost mother, grandmother and husband within about four months of time. Her physical condition demands imperatively that she be kept quiet and free from anything that will excite her. *\*\*Linda's note, Fred was 25 years old and Ruth 25. They married February 24, 1910, and*

*Ruth was pregnant with their first child, Fredric Wilson, born March 17, 1912. Ruth married Earle Jackson Banta in 1919 and her son became Fredric Wilson Banta.*

Saturday, March 2: I delivered milk in the forenoon, then took a load of corn over to Pence's after dinner to get it ground for the cows. In the evening I took Zora down to Wilsons. I nearly froze, at least, I became very cold. Ben (\*horse) went lame on the way home and I had to let her walk most of the way back. The quartet practiced for Fred Wilson's funeral.

Sunday, March 3: I hustled around and delivered the milk then went over to E. C. Yoder's to practice singing for Fred Wilson's funeral. Despite the inclement weather the church was more than filled. It was a very sad occasion and Ruth certainly deserved to have had the sympathy of the whole community. In the evening I went to church.

Monday, March 4: I did the routine work then Father and Soll butchered three hogs, one for Frank B\_\_\_ and one for John Miller.

Tuesday, March 5: I didn't have anywhere near enough milk today so had to make a delivery of 15 pints in the evening.

Wednesday, March 6: The cold spell seems to be broken for this day at least. Delivered the milk and washed the bottles after which I helped daddy to haul a load of wood.  
Jennie Emmert's little son Ralph fell into the house water tank, head foremost. Fortunately, Jennie was near and heard the splash and rescued him immediately.  
Texas Republican Executive Committee has declared itself for Roosevelt.

Thursday, March 7: After doing the routine work I helped pa haul a load of fodder. Went over to the creamery in the evening before supper and got a bale of straw (50 cents) and a can of buttermilk. I heard my first song sparrow today while delivering milk.

Friday, March 8: Did the routine work. Wm. Wenger and Fred Moseman arrived with three car loads of goods from Charlotte, Michigan. They started Sunday at 2:00 PM. Pa helped Alva Lantz ship stock. We got rid of this of our colors and will now have an abundance of milk.

Saturday, March 9: Routine work. I managed to get over to the railroad in time to help Fred Moseman's unload their piano from its car onto the dray and then get over to Joe Keiner's in time to help unload it from the dray. I went over to town in the evening.

Sunday, March 10: Father, mother and I went over to Clarence Yoder's for dinner today. In the evening I went up to Silas Yoder's to spend the evening. Sunday papers are full of the story of how Capt. Amundsen discovered or reached the south pole. It is reported that Capt. Scott, an Englishman, has also reached the pole.

Monday, March 11: Pa helped J.M. Babcock to buzz wood. I went over to town after dinner to get some buttermilk, 100# tankage, and to get Ben (\*horse) shod. It began snowing soon after dinner and continued nearly all night.

Tuesday, March 12: We had about six inches of snow last night, quite enough to make good sleighing. After washing the bottles I helped pa pen up his Hampshire sow. We had quite a time and finally we had to put her into a crate and haul her to the pen. We hauled a couple shocks of fodder.

Wednesday, March 13: Father and mother went over to town in the forenoon. Father bought two bales of straw and some buttermilk. After dinner father and I hauled five shocks of fodder before I washed bottles. In the evening I went to choir practice at Weed's.

Thursday, March 14: Thirteen years ago today we moved here from Eli Park's place. I remember that the weather was fair, but there was still a raw wind.

I delivered the milk and washed the bottles before dinner today.

After dinner I sacked up two sacks of corn and took them over to the mill to have them ground. It began to snow just as I started and when I came back it was snowing a great deal. Father went down to Ligonier to Larsen Bros. horse sale. He brought home my Partridge Rock pair (from) Mr. Kade of Butler, IN. The cost was \$10.00 + enpassage \$.45.

Friday, March 15: Biggest snowstorm of the year. Not very cold. We had the heaviest snow storm of the winter today and last night. The snow was pretty heavy and didn't drift much. I didn't deliver the milk this forenoon with the hope that the storm might abate after dinner, but not so. About 3:30 PM the sky cleared up and the air became cooler. It was a lovely night. Pa helped Lauren Frank's to butcher a hog.

Saturday, March 16: The thermometer this morning registered 8 degrees. This was one of the most beautiful mornings I have ever seen. The snow was as clean as could be and sparkled as though set with diamonds. I took some pictures of our and Joel's orchard.

We delivered the milk with a sled. After diner I went over to town to Seagley's opening. There was a monster crowd out.

Dr. Harvey Wiley, the pure food expert of the Bureau of Chemistry in the Dept of Agriculture, resigned his position because he was continually handicapped by unsympathetic co-workers. His loss is one of the greatest that the US government has sustained for some time.

Sunday, March 17: We did not deliver milk today and found it quite a welcome relief. We all went to Sunday school and church. Jephtha Plank and wife (\*Lydia Ellen Yoder Plank) came along home with the folks.

Susie Coldren (\*Zora's sister) walked along home with me from church and then I hitched up and took her up to Silas Yoder's to see her little nephew, Ruth's baby (\**Fredric Wilson*), who was born today, on St. Patrick's Day in the morning.

The snow went away very rapidly but as the ground hasn't opened up yet there is a great deal of water everywhere. Father had to move his Hampshire sow and pigs to keep them from drowning. I led the C. E. Meeting in the evening. Subject: Success Worthwhile and not Worthwhile.

Monday, March 18: Delivered milk and washed the bottles, then went over to Pence's with three sacks of corn to be ground for the cows. Pa had three cows de-horned. In the evening we went over to the Literary Hall to hear Rev. Miller, a preacher, give illustrated talks on the Holy Land. It was very good. There is water everywhere. Haven't had so much for several years.

Tuesday, March 19: This has been a very springy day. The snow is going very rapidly but the "banks" are yet here. Only occasionally is there so much water everywhere as this spring. The ground is frozen so solidly that it is taking a considerable while to thaw it out. It seems too bad that there isn't some way of

holding this water in the ground where it is so much needed. Water is as deep over the Buttermilk Bridge that it comes up to the buggy box. The Goshen Times said today that there have been seventy-six days of continuous snow and thirty-seven days of zero weather. I hauled in some fodder and a few heaps of corn.

Wednesday, March 20: Another blizzard. It began to snow about noon and kept it up until after midnight. Toward evening it turned to sleet.

Thursday, March 21: It was cloudy all day and the thermometer stayed near freezing and below most of the day. I went over to town in the evening to hear Rev. Miller's illustrated lecture on the Holy Land. The high water in town has gone down, which fact would seem to indicate that the ground has opened below.

Friday, March 22: After dinner Pa and I took some corn over to town to get it crushed. Got some buttermilk, stale bread and some packing stuff from the furniture store. In the evening the folks went to the lecture at the hall. This has been a welcome change of the weather, but the snow and water are not receding as rapidly as I would wish. Last night a freight on the Wabash was wrecked near Stony Creek. A broken rail was the cause of the wreck.

Saturday, March 23: After the routine work was done after dinner Pa and I hauled a couple of shocks of fodder and then Pa went over to town to bring Verda Zook and Blossom Lantz over here for supper. I hauled some corn that was under the shocks. We all went to the lecture in the evening. I had some cream separating to do after supper so did not get there until the lecture was half finished. Mr. Miller had some very fine color slides.

Sunday, March 24: I went to church and heard Rev. Miller give a sermon on "The Overcoming Life." Walter Greenawalt came along home with me. We had six fried eggs, pork shoulder, and toast. We went to church in the evening at the Literary Hall. Mr. Miller lectured on Babylon and India. The excavations being made in Egypt and at Babylon are verifying the bible narrations very nicely. It is wonderful the magnitude of the building operations of the ancients. The palace at Babylon is built of kiln dried brick, 13" x 13" x 3", laid with asphaltum mortar and parts of these walls are in a perfect state of preservation after thousands of years.

Monday, March 25: Pa went with J. K. and A. E. Yoder and Will Hartzler to a sale down by Henpeck (?). I delivered milk and washed bottles then cleaned stables and mixed up 333# of cow feed, then went over to town with the cream and brought some buttermilk along back. Both the Roosevelt and Taft bureaus claim Indiana but nothing is known definitively.

Tuesday, March 26: Did the chores and that is about all. Father went to Guy Sutton's sale. He said a very large crowd was present. Mother went over to Grandma's. She – Grandma (*Leah Hertzler Wenger, born 3/26/24 in Belleville PA*) – was 88 years old today and is surprisingly active and possessed of all her faculties. Today the Republican State Convention convened to elect four delegates at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in June. J. N. Babcock and R. F. Miller are the delegates from Eden and Clearspring Twp.

Wednesday, March 27: After the bottles were washed I trimmed the trees in the young orchard. Pa went over to town after some buttermilk.



At the Republican State Convention yesterday four delegates were elected and instructed to vote for Taft at the National Convention. A Rump Convention was held by the Roosevelt forces and four delegates appointed.

Bender sold his farm to Engolsby Greazy. "Goldy" sold to Walter Trowl and the latter sold to Bender. Roosevelt opened his campaign for the presidential nomination with three speeches in Chicago. The crowd at the Auditorium Theater was immense. Traffic was stopped for some time. The Theater holds approximately 4,200 and it was filled to overflowing in 7 minutes. T. R. was accorded the biggest reception ever for a presidential candidate in Chicago. Zora and I went down to Ligonier to hear the Chicago Glee Club – rained most of the time.



In the evening I went to the Hall to see a stereopticon lecture about New Mexico. This seems to be a fair fruit country and developed fruit land sells above one thousand dollars per acre.

Saturday, March 30: After dinner pa and I took some corn over to the mill to have it ground and then we went over to Brant's sale.

Sunday, March 31: A typical spring day. I saw some killdeer and some frogs and heard some flickers on my way to church. I consider these pretty good indications of the coming of spring. I went to church and C. E. in the evening.

Monday, April 1, 1912: It was drizzly and damp all day so I didn't do much of anything but chore around. Tore off some plastering in the other house. About 5:00 a fellow by the name of Cutter called me up and said he was a representative of the Rock Island R. R. and wanted to know if he could come over and talk S.W. Kansas to me. I had sent for some of their literature and they followed it up by sending a man here. I told him there wouldn't be any use in his coming out.

Tuesday, April 2: Didn't do much but the routine work. Simon Kenagy was here for dinner. The papers are full of the great floods which are devastating the country. The Mississippi is fifty miles wide at Cairo, Ill. And over fifty feet deep. Levees have broken along the Mississippi and thousands of people are homeless. The flood damage throughout the country is unprecedented.

Wednesday, April 3: Went to see Sid Landau, character artist this evening. He was very good. He "made himself up" to look like Mark Twain, Lew Field, Longfellow, Poe and an old farmer whose wife had died and had gone to stay with his son who was a lawyer at Boston. The program was clean, and interesting. Went over to Lydia Lantz's house to stay up at Mrs. Lantz's wake. D. D. Moser was there also.

Thursday, April 4: Mrs. Noah Lantz was buried today. Mother brought Phoebe along home from the funeral. I went over to town after some buttermilk and then fixed up my seed corn tester. Was working around at one thing and another and forgot all about my bottles and so I had to wash them after dark.

Friday, April 5: This is the first day that has been warm enough to work without a coat with comfort. I got home in time to wash the bottles before dinner. After dinner I went down to Ligonier to order a suit of clothes. Wheat fields look very bare. Soll Yoder helped pa fix up a place for Queen (\*mare) and do some odd jobs.

Saturday, April 6: After delivering the milk I loaded up some corn and took it over to town to get it cracked. Went over to town in the evening. It began to rain about 6:30 and we had a very nice rain which freshened up the grass wonderfully. Wheat looks pretty bad now.

Sunday, April 7: Queen's colt was born. I went to Sunday school and church. After dinner I went up to Silas Yoder's to see Frederic Coldren Wilson (Zora's nephew, born March 17.) I haven't anything to say. He looks just like any other baby two weeks old that I ever saw.

Monday, April 8: Mother wasn't very well and so I had to do some of her work. Consequently I was late in getting up to town with the milk. After dinner we moved my chicken house. In the evening I went up town to practice for Baccalaureate services. Mrs. Jennie Yoder, Mrs. Reichelderfer, Walter Greenawalt and myself will do the singing.

I brought home 120 eggs, white Leghorn, from Jephtha Plank for \$2.50.

Tuesday, April 9: Father went to "Goldy" Greazy's sale and mother went along as far as town. Worked at a chicken house for my Partridge Rocks.

Wednesday, April 10: I did the routine work in the forenoon then finished a chicken house for my Partridge Rocks. Father had a team on the grader. I went over to town in the evening on "telephone business."

Thursday, April 11: I delivered milk and washed the bottles in the forenoon. After dinner I hitched the team to the grader. Pa helped grandma clean house. Returns from presidential primaries in Illinois show a plurality for Roosevelt of 140,000.

The New York delegation is to be sent without instructions. The supporters of Pres. Taft are becoming alarmed as they see that the sentiment of the people throughout the country is unmistakably against Taft.

Ira Stage died today.

Friday, April 12: Partly cloudy and cooler. Pa went down to Wm. Husten's after some oats for seed. We cleaned it in the afternoon. In the evening I went to choir practice.

Saturday, April 13: After dinner Eli Yoder brought some oats over to have it cleaned. Pa took some corn over to mill to have it crushed but Pence couldn't start the engine so couldn't get the grist. I cut some posts for a chicken park. Ira Stage was buried today.

Sunday, April 14: I delivered milk again this morning and didn't go to church. S. K. Yoder and family were here for dinner. Went to C. E. and church in the evening. Fred Roy's boy was born today.

Monday, April 15: I finished a park for my Partridge Rocks. Pa went to a horse sale at J. D. Zook's place. Roosevelt carried the state of Pennsylvania by a very large majority of delegates over Taft. Illinois and Pennsylvania were considered the decisive states and since both went strong for T. R. it looks like he might win out.

Tuesday, April 16: S. K. Yoder came over and helped us get ready to sow oats. I disked in the afternoon and Pa drilled. I went over to town in the evening to practice for Baccalaureate services. The ocean liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and sank. Reports are incomplete as to the fatality.

Wednesday, April 17: Father drilled oats in #2 in the forenoon. After dinner I disked what remained and tried to finish sowing but was finally driven in by the rain.

I went over to town in the evening to a meeting of the Lecture Course committee, also to a meeting of the Alumni Association. Russell Holden was elected chairman and Mrs. Holden secretary.

Reports indicate that about 1,300 lives were lost in the sinking of the Titanic. There were mostly women and children saved.

Thursday, April 18: I did the routine work in the forenoon. After dinner I put some seed corn in the tester. This has been a cold, muddy, disagreeable day but it was good for grass and clover.

Friday, April 19: The ground was too wet to work in, and so I took the manure spreader and hauled in some of my corn that had been out under fodder shocks all winter. It has been under water part of the time during the high water and is in pretty bad condition. After doing that I went over to town and

bought 7 ½ bushels of Canada Field Peas to be sown in with oats for hay. Also brought a double bass viol belonging to Seagley Bros.

Saturday, April 20: After dinner I began plowing in #8 for peas and oats. It was pretty wet yet but I felt that I could hardly wait until it was dry enough. I went over to the "office" in the evening.

Sunday, April 21: I delivered milk and then went to church. I went to young people's meeting in the evening but did not stay for church. I had to hurry home to avoid being caught in a storm.

Monday, April 22: I hauled manure in the afternoon. I hauled one load on #6 and seven on #9. Went to hear Wiggam in the evening. (*\*Albert Edward Wiggam (October 8, 1871 – April 26, 1957) was an American psychologist and eugenicist. He was called "one of the most influential promoters of eugenic thought" and a "gifted showman," which made him a popular lecturer.*)

Tuesday, April 23: I helped wash this afternoon. Pa plowed for peas and oats. I went over to town in the evening to practice for Baccalaureate services.

Wednesday, April 24: Pa plowed for peas and oats. I went over to town in the evening.

Thursday, April 25: Father harrowed the south side preparatory to seeding clover. I did not wash bottles but went out immediately upon reaching home and began sowing. After dinner Soll came and plowed. I sowed Canada peas and pa finished #4. He harrowed after the seeder with a spike tooth harrow.



Friday, April 26: I borrowed Fletcher Fought's drill and drilled in peas and oats in #8. I sowed 7 ½ bushels of peas and about six bushels of oats on 4 ½ acres.

Pa delivered my hogs in the morning. 13 weighed only 1255 pounds. I was ashamed of this but the severe winter and poor quarters and lack of milk worked havoc. They came to \$75.35.

Saturday, April 27: Delivered milk in the morning. After dinner I harrowed in #2.

Sunday, April 28: I did not go to church in the morning. Took Zora over to Thompson school to get her school books. Went to church in the evening. Mother's incubator eggs began to hatch today.

Monday, April 29: I delivered milk for the last time this morning. "Goldie" Greazy went along around to learn the route. After dinner I washed up the things for him and helped him load them up. The folks went over to town. Mother's incubator hatched 64 chicks from 75 fertile eggs. Went over to town to quartet practice.

Tuesday, April 30: I helped mother wash in the forenoon. Pa went to LaGrange to pay tax. I hitched the engine onto the wash machine and while it was washing a batch I fixed up my colony brooder with a \_\_\_ state adaptable hover (\*heating unit.)

About 2:00 PM I took the team and began harrowing for oats in #3. Went to quartet practice in the evening.



**COLONY BROODER HOUSE**

Wednesday, May 1, 1912: With the help of S. K. Yoder and the team in the forenoon we were able to sow #2 in oats and clover today. The ground was in excellent condition.

Thursday, May 2: I plowed the garden and helped plant some potatoes and sweet corn. It became showery towards noon. I had planned to go to Ligonier after dinner and tho delayed somewhat by the rain had a very nice afternoon for it after all. I bought my wedding clothes. Zora C went along to do some shopping.

Friday, May 3: We had a very heavy rain last night reaching the proportions of a cloud burst in the vicinity of Buttermilk. It was reported that the Buttermilk bridge was under water nearly or quite as deep as when the spring thaw came.



Pa and I took the old cream wagon over to the shop to have it repaired. After dinner I put my incubator chicks in the colony brooder. (*\*A brooder house is a poultry house that is especially prepared and equipped for comfortably rearing chicks from 1 day old until 6 weeks old. A brooder house ought to offer about 0.5 sq. ft. per chick in allocated floor space.*) From 115 fertile eggs I have 54 chicks. This adaptable hover seems to be a very nice thing as the chicks seem to be quite comfortable. Went over to town to quartet practice.

Saturday, May 4: I hauled manure in the forenoon. Pa took some cattle down to Ligonier. After dinner I plowed in #3. The ground was almost too wet but the season is so late one cannot wait for ideal conditions.

Sunday, May 5: I went to Sunday school and church in the morning. Went to Baccalaureate services in the evening. There was a large crowd present as usual. Rev. De Bow of the M. E. Church in Ligonier preached the sermon. His subject was the Shining Light.

Monday, May 6: I plowed all day and was pretty thoroughly tired out. Volney Greenawalt (*\*cousin*) and Howard Waskey came here to paper the living room.

The leaves have come out very rapidly the past few days. Ivah Henderson's little girl (*\*Marilee Lanore Henderson Bailey*) was born today. Also Ida Honderich's little girl (*\*Lois Fern Honderich, 1912-2014.*)

Tuesday, May 7: I plowed until I was driven in by the rain. I went out again after the rain. Verda Zook is helping mother clean house the last few days. I set 129 eggs in the big incubator today.

Wednesday, May 8: I plowed all day. In the evening I went to the alumni reception at Fraternity Hall. There were not many there but we had a good time anyway. Rained again this afternoon. These rains are mighty fine for oats.

Thursday, May 9: I plowed all day. Pa, Florence Y and Mildred Emmert went down to Mr. Lee's after some blackberry plants, then went to Marshalls to see about pasture for the \_\_\_\_.

I went to the first number of the Commencement program, the class play "She Stoops to Conquer." It was well played before a full house. The music by the Topeka Orchestra was very good.

Friday, May 10: I plowed in the forenoon. After dinner I went over to the Leming place to tear down an old house frame which we bought from Dan J. Yoder.

I went to the second number of the Commencement program, the class night. All who spoke are had any part whatever acquitted themselves very creditably. The house was full again.

Saturday, May 11: I plowed in the afternoon. It had rained during the night, and continued part of the forenoon. The ground was plenty wet enough. 15 Partridge Rock chicks hatched today.

Sunday, May 12: Rained nearly all last night and all day today. The rain is coming steadily and will nearly all be absorbed by the soil. The rain is needed but it will delay us in our farm work. I, and all of us, was at home all day.

Monday, May 13: I helped mother wash in the forenoon. After dinner pa and I hauled some manure. In the evening Zora and I went down to Ligonier. It rained a little in the evening.

Tuesday, May 14: Hauled manure. The ground was soft at places and the spreader sank into the ground halfway to the axles. I worked all the rest of the forenoon getting that one load unloaded. I used three horses after dinner, adjusted the "Double-draft" collar on old June. I set two hens with B.P. Rock eggs.

Wednesday, May 15: I finished plowing in #3. The ground is plenty wet. Pa and Soll went after some Tamarack fence posts and Manasseh Miller's. I went over to town in the evening. Went to see Rev. Weed about performing a short but important ceremony at Silas D. Yoder's next Saturday evening.

Thursday, May 16: I hauled manure this forenoon. After dinner I started to the field intending to begin plowing in #6 but a rain came up very suddenly and I was compelled to go to the house. It hailed quite fast for a time. The hail stones were about the size of peas. I set two hens, one with Part. Rocks, the other with B.P. Rocks.

Friday, May 17: Pa and I delivered some hogs. I sold my sow. She weighed 300# and I sold her at \$6.10. After dinner pa and Ron Fought took the colts down to Eph. Mast's pasture, west of Topeka. I cleaned stables. Uncle J. K. Zook's were here for supper and stayed all night. I went up to Silas Yoder's a little while. It was probably my last visit to Zora Coldren.

Saturday, May 18: Walter Greenawalt took Zora and I up to LaGrange to get our marriage license. Bessie Bender went along too. Got back about 11:30 AM. I harrowed in the afternoon.

In the evening Zora and I were married at Silas D. Yoder's. there were about 30 guests present and everything went fine. We went back to the telephone office.

Sunday, May 19: Went to Sunday school and church in the morning. After dinner, Zora and I walked over home. I did my chores and then we went up to Silas Yoders and went with them to church.

Monday, May 20: I harrowed in the forenoon. After dinner we began planting corn in #8. I set two hens with Partridge Rock eggs from Wisconsin. There were five of the thirty broken in transit.

Tuesday, May 21: I finished planting in #3 soon after dinner. After dinner we started plowing in the small field north of the barn. Corliss Stoler's little boy was born this evening. Zora and I went to teachers' meeting at A. L. Gerber's.

Wednesday, May 22: I finished plowing in the field north of the barn and we harrowed and planted it. It was a big day's work. Returns from the Ohio presidential preference primaries indicate that Roosevelt has carried the state by a comfortable majority. This is a very severe blow to the Taft candidacy for Ohio in his home state.

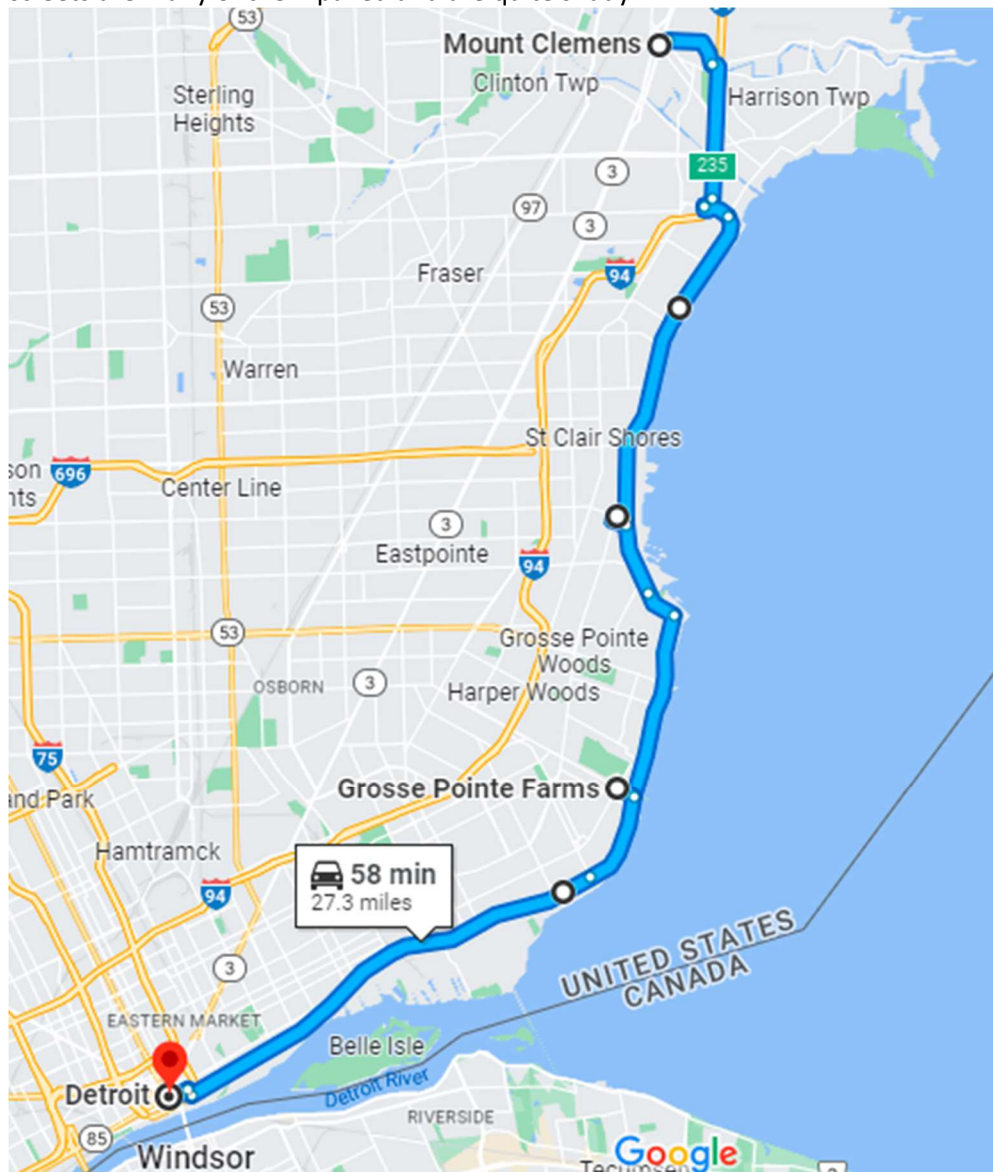
Thursday, May 23: Zora, Ruth and (baby) Frederic boarded the early morning train for Mt. Clemens (*\*Linda's note, Mt. Clemens MI is 30 miles north of Detroit*) where they will visit for a week. Aunt Della Yoder intended to go too but she missed the train. I am intending to go up Sunday. Clarence Yoder came over with Babcock's team and helped us plow. I unloaded my Campbell Winter Chaser Furnace. I went over to town in the evening.

Friday, May 24: Lonnie Franks and Clarence helped us plow today. We didn't quite finish as we had hoped we might. Received a letter from Zora in which she said they arrived at Mt. Clemens OK.

Saturday, May 25: I finished plowing after dinner and then harrowed the remainder of the day.

Sunday, May 26: I stayed at the telephone office until time to catch the 3:10 AM train east. The train was 1 hour and 10 minutes late and so I failed to get to Detroit until nearly 9:00. Took the first car for Mt. Clemens arriving there about 10:15. Zora met me at the station and we went down to Clarence Greenawalt's. I ate a little breakfast and shortly after we went over to A. W.'s for dinner. In the late afternoon we took a 45-mile auto ride along the St. Clair Lake Shore drive to Detroit.

Mt. Clemens is a beautiful town of perhaps 15,000 and has 33 first class hotels besides others. It is known all over this country and Europe for its mineral baths. There are many fine residences and the streets are many of them paved and are quite shady.



Monday, May 27: I started out with Uncle Anson Forest Parks and a couple of others to view some farms N.W. of Mt. Clemens. We hadn't gone very far however until it began to rain and the roads became so

slippery that we turned around and went back. Zora and I, Ruth and Della took dinner at Clarence's. Had a fine dinner. In the evening at 8:45 we started home, arriving at about 4 o'clock.

Tuesday, May 28: I awoke to find it raining. I took breakfast with Zora and then came home with father. I bought \$1.17 worth of lumber for a Philo Coop. We started planting but were driven in by the rain.

Wednesday, May 29: It rained again this morning. I worked at my Philo Coop in the forenoon. After dinner I helped mother work.

Thursday, May 30: I finished planting corn this forenoon. After dinner at Mrs. Yoder's I attended the Decoration Day Exercises and went to the ball game with Mrs. Yoder. Abe Stutzman and Mr. Murray began plastering the house. Zora and I went to prayer meeting and choir practice in the evening. Beautiful day.

Friday, May 31: Father and I replanted corn in #3. The corn which Mr. Henry Field claimed was extra selected and to test 100% germination has failed to come up to the mark set for it. It did not germinate as well as the common corn bought from Field.

Saturday, June 1, 1912: I went to the creamery in the morning and got Ben shod. Then Zora and Susie and I went to the Greenawalt Reunion. I had a good time and lots of good things to eat. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Memory, a son.

Sunday, June 2: It rained some last night and drizzled more in the forenoon. Zora and I went to Sunday school and church both morning and evening. Mrs. Griffith, a returned missionary from India, spoke at the Baptist Church.

Monday, June 3: I plowed the patch south of the garden this forenoon. After dinner I began plowing in the young orchard. Pa planted sweet corn in the \_\_\_ patch. The fight over the seating of contested delegates is on in Chicago at the Republican National Convention. Indications are that things will be moving.

Tuesday, June 4: I plowed in the young orchard in the forenoon. After dinner I began plowing. In the evening Chas. Hartzler and Zora came over and we made two freezers full of ice cream. The Wabash R. R. began work on the crossing at Topeka.

Wednesday, June 5: I plowed corn all day except when I went over to town to see the pile driver in action. I had a letter from Campbell Furnace Co. saying that J. J. Yoder & Co will handle the Campbell Furnace. That will make it easier for me to get mine installed.

Thursday, June 6: I plowed corn all day. Pa went to Bender's Jersey Cow sale in the afternoon. Cows did not sell well because it was pretty generally known that he had contagious \_\_\_ in the herd. The highest price was \$30.

Friday, June 7: I began removing the plastering from the cottage. Worked at it all day.

Saturday, June 8: Worked at the plastering. S. K. helped in the afternoon and he and Pa hauled away the plastering which I had torn loose.

Sunday, June 9: I went to Sunday School and church in the morning and Children's Exercises in the evening. Zora and I went down to Bender's in the afternoon and ate some ice cream. The Children's Exercises were as good as I have heard, which is the more remarkable in that the children had but one week to practice.

Monday, June 10: The carpenters, Joe Nelson and Eugene Tomlinson, and the painter, Sam'l Kurtz came today. We tore the roof off of the cottage, and shingled one side and part of the other.

Tuesday, June 11: Worked at the house. Sam Kurtz painted. We are wishing for rain. The ground is quite dry.

Wednesday, June 12: I helped at the house. The Preacher's Band gave its first "open-air" concert tonight. It did very well, everything considered. Indications of rain are eagerly sought for.

Thursday, June 13: I began plowing corn in #6. The painters and carpenters were here all day. The carpenters left in the afternoon.

Friday, June 14: I was awakened by rain about 3:30 AM. We had a pretty fair shower. I plowed corn.

Saturday, June 15: I plowed corn in the patch north of the barn then finished in #6 after dinner.

Sunday, June 16: We had some more rain last night, enough to make it too wet to cultivate corn for a few days. Went to four church services today. Zora came along out to the farm in the morning and we picked some strawberries for breakfast and dinner. We had strawberries and ice cream for dinner. Susie came home from Angola yesterday and went back today. This has been a great growing day.

Monday, June 17: I helped pick strawberries in the morning and then did some excavating in our cellar to make room for the furnace. After dinner I plowed the patch north of the barn. Zora came over in the forenoon and canned six quarts.

Tuesday, June 18: I plowed corn all day in #3. In the evening Mrs. Y and I went down to the furniture store and looked at some furniture. The temperature has been quite cool.

Thursday, June 20: I hauled gravel on the roads all day. We hauled the gravel from under the railroad in Topeka, where the underground crossing is to be.

Friday, June 21: I helped pick strawberries and put a bee hive together. Zora came over and canned strawberries. Father worked roads.

Saturday, June 22: I plowed corn all day. Pa brought a team out at noon and kept the plow going while I ate dinner, worked my buggy and assembled chicken coops. I lost a good swarm of bees today.

Sunday, June 23: We went to Sunday School and church in the morning and to the services in the evening. Took a buggy ride down to the "Kurbs" after dinner. Word came this morning that Taft and Sherman were nominated for president and vice president on the Republican ticket. Roosevelt and his delegates took steps toward the instituting of a new party. If public sentiment warrants it another convention will be called in August to which all progressives are invited to take part.



Monday, June 24: I finished plowing the corn the second time. This was the first hot day we have had this spring.

Tuesday, June 25: Zora came over and picked and canned 10 qts of strawberries, making, in all, 25 qts for us and 9 for mother. J.D. (\*aka "pa", Jonathan D. Yoder) went fishing. I went to the creamery and brought 12 sacks of gypsum plaster along home. After dinner I hauled a load of sand from \_\_\_, a load of 20 sacks of plaster from Dowell & Priest, and brought the plasterer's outfit over.

Wednesday, June 26: I hauled a load of sand in the afternoon, and helped the plasterers get started in the forenoon. Zora came over to pick strawberries. She canned only 3 qts.

Thursday, June 27: Helped the plasterers.

Friday, June 28: I hauled a ton of plaster from town in the forenoon and finished patching some later. After dinner I plowed corn.

Saturday, June 29: I plowed corn all day. I awoke this morning with a sad sore throat which I supposed at once must be the mumps. Did not feel well all day. There is a dead-lock on at the Democratic Convention at Baltimore. Clark has a slight lead over Wilson who has made rapid gains. Underwood holds third place with Harmon, Marshall and others bringing up the rear.

Sunday, June 30: I tended "telephone board" today not caring to go to church on account of my shaven head. Mrs. Y and I took dinner at Kurtz's Restaurant.

Monday, July 1, 1912: Daddy and I helped Amos Fought rake hay. I worked 2/3 of a day while pa went home at noon to begin mowing for us. The deadlock is still on in Baltimore. Thirty-six ballots have been cast and no candidate has a majority. This is the greatest number of ballots since in 1860 when there were 54.

Tuesday, July 2: I went to the creamery, then mowed in the forenoon. We got ready for hauling in hay until noon. After noon we took in 2 ½ loads. It was none too well cured.

Zora came along home from the creamery to pick raspberries and cherries. This has been a very hot day with a threat of rain. The folks went to Chas. Hartzler's for an ice-cream "fest."

Gov. Wilson of New Jersey was nominated on the 46<sup>th</sup> ballot by the Dem. Convention at Baltimore. Gov. (Thomas) Marshall of Ind. was nominated for Vice President. The presence of Gov. Marshall on the ticket weakens it for everyone knows he is controlled by the \_\_\_.

Wednesday, July 3: I plowed corn all day today – very hot. There was a large crowd at Band Concert.

Thursday, July 4: I plowed corn part of the forenoon, then came up and finished raking hay. We took in the rest of our hay after dinner. Jack Johnson (*\*John Arthur Johnson (March 31, 1878 – June 10, 1946), nicknamed the "Galveston Giant", an American boxer who became the first African-American world heavyweight boxing champion (1908–1915). Widely regarded as one of the most influential boxers of all time, his 1910 fight against James J. Jeffries was dubbed the "fight of the century"*) knocked out Flynn in the 9<sup>th</sup> round. (*\*Andrew Chiariglione (24 December 1879 – 12 April 1935), known as Fireman Jim Flynn, an American boxer of the early twentieth century who twice attempted to take the World Heavyweight*

*Title without success. He is often remembered as the only boxer to ever knock out the formidable Jack Dempsey.)* He still remains champion heavyweight pugilist of the world.

Friday, July 5: I plowed corn in the forenoon. After dinner I raked hay for Amos Fought. Pa helped him put it in the barn.

Saturday, July 6: I finished plowing the corn the third time today. Very hot and dry.

Sunday, July 7: I did not go to church today because of my shaven head. "Uncle" Silas Yoder's came to the telephone office for dinner. Dorothy Greenawalt came from Mt. Clemens on the noon train and was here for dinner. Sue left on the afternoon train for Angola. In the evening Zora and I went to young people's meeting at the M. E. church – a union meeting.

Monday, July 8: I plowed corn all day today. Ed Emmert loaded up his goods preparatory to moving them to Elkhart where he has purchased a lot and has had a house erected.

Tuesday, July 9: I plowed corn all day. Ed Emmert moved to Elkhart today. W. W. Hartzler, Geo. Reiner and S. K. Yoder took loads.

Wednesday, July 10: I plowed corn in the forenoon. After dinner Zora and I went out to Mrs. Adder to take some carpet rags to be made into a rug. We went out on the Dallas Lake after that and ate our supper on the boat. We caught no fish.

Thursday, July 11: I finished plowing corn the fourth time today noon. Zora came over to make currant jelly. I worked at the cellar under the cottage. I am making part of it about 18" deeper to make room for the furnace.

Friday, July 12; I worked at the cellar most of the day and finished it.

Saturday, July 13: I went to the creamery and then stayed at the telephone office for dinner. After dinner I didn't do much of anything. We had a great deal of rain and some wind. Leonard Steinbarger's barn was struck by lightning and burned. It was full of hay. I had my head shaved for the last time this year today.

Sunday, July 14: Didn't go to church until the open-air meeting in the evening. Zora and I went to Dale Seagley's in the afternoon.

Monday, July 15: I cut the peas and oats in the forenoon. After dinner we began cutting wheat. We have 52 shocks of wheat from a seeding of some 28 acres. Zora and I ordered our rugs. One costs us \$42.00, the other \$24.00 and the third, for the bedroom, to cost about \$6.00.

Tuesday, July 16: We cut our rye today finishing about 3:00 PM. After that we cut Lauren Frank's wheat crop. He had 20 shocks. Zora and Ruth went over to Goshen to look at tomb-stones for Fred Wilson.

Wednesday, July 17: I helped mother wash until about 3:30 when I began raking up the peas and oats. After dinner we put up 5 loads of peas and oats hay. Counting the cost of the seed and the labor involved in seeding and harvesting this hay has cost us about \$30.00 or \$6.00 a load.

Thursday, July 18: I went to the creamery this morning. Bought 100# of bran and brought home 3 sacks of cement. Went to see Pence and found that they could come out to work on the house tomorrow. I bought the window frames along for the \_\_\_ then went back after the sash and found they weren't finished.

Friday, July 19: Zora came along out to the farm with me this morning and we worked at the house, cleaning it up, all day. I went to Union choir practice at the Methodist church in the evening. Jake Bowman came to work on the house.

Saturday, July 20: Lonnie Franks and I delivered two loads of stock for him and a sow for me – weight 395# @ 6 cents = \$23.70, and a calf and a sow for Lonnie. I helped Jacob Bowman at our house.

Sunday, July 21: Father, mother, Zora and I went over to Middlebury to visit Noah Yoders. S. W. Yoder took us in his automobile. We had a good time and enjoyed especially well the view from Prospect Hill. Mrs. Chas. Hoverstock became suddenly ill with severe pain in the abdomen. Doctor found it due to hemorrhage.

Monday, July 22: I helped Jake at the house. We built the kitchen porch. Mrs. John Price (\*Emmeline Barnes Price, 1855-1912) died this evening.

Tuesday, July 23: I went to the creamery in the forenoon and brought home some lumber for s\_\_\_ frames and a wardrobe. After dinner, pa and I hauled in two loads of rye. We were delayed by a slight shower. The Coldren children divided their household furniture today. In the evening I went over to Beulah Church to practice singing for Mrs. John Price's funeral.

Wednesday, July 24: In the forenoon, Soll and I hauled in three big loads of rye. After dinner, Zora and I went to Mrs. John Price's funeral.

Thursday, July 25: Helped at the house. Pa and I hauled in our wheat crop in the afternoon. Anna Chiddister helped mother clean the upstairs.

Friday, July 26: I worked at the house. Zora came over in the morning and we cleaned the upstairs. Jake finished everything but putting in the windows. Pa cut Frank's oats.

Saturday, July 27: I went to the creamery in the forenoon and transacted some business in town. After dinner we cut oats in #1 finishing it about 5:15 PM. A "progressive" convention was held at LaGrange to elect delegates to the Indianapolis Convention.

Sunday, July 28: We went to church in the morning and evening. Mr. Hogan preached at the open-air meeting.

Monday, July 29: I began plowing corn in #3.

Tuesday, July 30: I plowed corn. Finished in #3 about 4:00 PM. Aunt Rachel, Naomi and children, Carrie and children, Amanda and babe, and Zora were here for dinner. Walter Greenawalt came about 5:30 to take my desk over to the store. It began to rain and he stayed for supper.

Wednesday, July 31: I began plowing for rye in #7. The ground is very hard and cloddy. Zora came over and she and mother canned 15 qts. of huckleberries.

Thursday, August 1, 1912: I helped work and helped Zora clean the bedrooms and living room. After dinner daddy and I finished cutting oats in #3.

Friday, August 2: I went to the creamery in the morning and then worked at the house until noon. After dinner daddy and I helped Lonnie Franks thresh. Pa helped Clyde Fought thresh in the forenoon. Zora and I went up town in the evening. I went to choir practice.

Saturday, August 3: I painted in the forenoon. Early dinner we started for LaGrange to attend a delegate convention. We went up with J.M. Babcock. There was a split in the party and a part of those who called themselves the "real" Republican party "bolted" and held a convention in the Opera House. Last night was very cool, frost being reported at several places. One "Amishman" north of town reported 1 ½ acres of potatoes frozen.

Sunday, August 4: We, Zora and I, stayed up at the telephone office last night. Went to Sunday school and church, morning and C.E. and church in the evening. Dr. Somerville Light, Presiding Elder of the Goshen district of the M. E. Church. It was very cool but a good sized crowd listened attentively to the sermon.

Monday, August 5: I went over to Pence's after our windows. Jake Bowman came over to put them in. Joe Nelson came in the afternoon to help. I helped to haul some stone and painted upstairs. The National Progressive Party known as the "Bull Moose" was called to order today noon by Sen. Dixon.

Tuesday, August 6: Albert Fought and his son Chas. Came to put a cement floor in our cellar and to build a cellar wall. Father and Lonnie Franks hauled in oats in the afternoon. Zora painted nearly all day. Roosevelt and Johnson were nominated for president and vice-president on the Progressive Party. Nearly 16,000 people attended the convention.

Wednesday, August 7: Anna Chiddister came to help us paper our upstairs. I painted. Albert Fought and son worked part of the day.

Thursday, August 8: Amos Greenawalt and his wife came to paper the house. It rained after dinner. I did some painting.

Friday, August 9: Amos Greenawalt finished papering. I was painting most of the day.

Saturday, August 10: I went to the creamery in the morning and bought some paint and an iron bedstead. Then I ploughed until about 3:45 when it began to rain. Pa and Soll went after the colts. Pa sold a colt to an Amishman, the colt a son of "Brick Manuel."

Sunday, August 11: Zora and I went to Sunday school but did not stay for church. Uncle Silas Yoder's and Ruth and Frederic were here for dinner. Went to young people's meeting and church in the evening.

Monday, August 12: I plowed until noon. After dinner I went over to town after a load of goods. Pa plowed.

Tuesday, August 13: We worked at the house and moved our goods in the afternoon. Ray Sutton helped us. Pa plowed after dinner.

Wednesday, August 14: Ruth Wilson came over to help Zora straighten things up. I plowed all day. Aunt Della, Maude, Helen and Eulah and babies came over in the afternoon.

Thursday, August 15: I plowed all day.

Friday, August 16: We hauled in oats. Lonnie Franks helped us. We ate our first meal alone in our own home.

Saturday, August 17: Lonnie Franks helped us finish hauling in oats. We did some cleaning up and I went over to town after Bowers four-seated rig. Arthur Coldren came in the afternoon and stayed all night.

Sunday, August 18: We had one of the most severe thunderstorms of the year last night. In Goshen, Elkhart, S. Bend and Bristol, many barns were struck by lightning and much damage was done by rain and wind. At Niles Michigan, 14 inches of rain is reported to have fallen in 24 hours.

We had intended to go over to Uncle J. K. Zook's today, but were prevented by the rain. I went over to town about 11 o'clock and brought Ruth and Frederic over. Pa went over to town with two rigs to meet Uncle E. S. Wenger's but they didn't come.

Monday, August 19: Zora and I went to Ligonier in the forenoon and did not get back until about 3 o'clock. Pa went over to town to meet Uncle Doc's. Grandma was here also.

Tuesday, August 20: I took Uncle Doc's and the folks out to the Atwood Lake to stay a week or more. I did not get home until about 12:30. Chored around in the afternoon.

Wednesday, August 21: I went to the creamery in the morning and then chored around until noon. After noon I took the team and sulky plow over to Norm Babcock's and started Soll to plowing. He only plowed a few rounds until he was chased in by the rain. I just rushed home as it began to rain. Ruth, Frederic, Zora and I went over to town to a band concert.

Thursday, August 22: I went to the creamery and then took my gasoline engine apart and gave it an overhauling. After dinner I went over to J. W. Babcock's with the team to help plow. Plowed four rounds and was then driven in by the rain.

About eight o'clock the fire bell rang and we found that the Kurtz Restaurant had caught fire. I got on the "wheel" and hurried over but found when I reached there that it was only a small blaze and was promptly extinguished by a hand extinguisher.

Friday, August 23: I went to the creamery in the morning. Chored around until noon when Zora went over to the depot after Susie who came home from Angola. Pa came home from the Atwood Lake with Parley Hostettler and was here for dinner.

I took Bowen's four seated rig home then came home and did a little cleaning up.

The first Progressive Campaign speech of the season was "ripped" off the evening. Did not get to attend on account of being so busy.

Saturday, August 24: I went to the creamery in the morning and chored around until after dinner when I went over to Babcock's and helped Clarence finish plowing. Zora took Ruth and Susie over to town.

Sunday, August 25: Zora and I went to church and Sunday school in the morning. We did not go in the evening because Zora had a headache. Mrs. Levi Hartzler died today. (*Catherine Monell Hartzler, Jan. 5, 1875, died Aug 25, 1912. To this union were born three children (one daughter dying in infancy) and two sons who grew to manhood (Harry and Leroy who preceded him two years ago, and a foster daughter (Mrs. Robert Woodward.)*

Monday, August 26: I went to the creamery and helped Zora work in the forenoon. After dinner I plowed.

Tuesday, August 27: I went to the creamery, brought Susie along back to help Zora prepare for company. I went down to the lake before dinner to bring the cousins back.

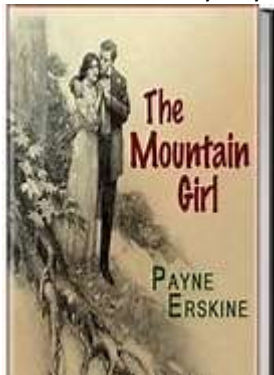
Uncle Man's, Grandma and father and mother were here for supper (pardon me, dinner.)

Everything was lovely except that I passed the meat before the potatoes. Uncle Silas Yoder's came up in the evening to help us finish the scraps.

Wednesday, August 28: Zora and I went over to Fletcher Fought's to help thresh. It was rather showery and we didn't get any threshing done before dinner. We finished there in the afternoon.

Thursday, August 29: I helped Lias Olinghouse (Elisa William Olinghouse, 1853-1936) thresh in the forenoon. After dinner I helped W. W. Hartzler and then we moved over to our place and threshed until evening. We blew the straw into the barn and pa and I worked it back. It was an awful job. Had it not been for the pleasure it would be to find our straw nice and dry when it is storming outside I wouldn't have stood for it.

Friday, August 30: We finished threshing in the forenoon 33 bushels of wheat, 85 bushels of rye and 685 bushels of oats. I plowed after dinner. In the evening, Zora and I went to town and finished reading "The Mountain Girl" by Payne Erskine.



## The Mountain Girl

Payne Erskine



***The Mountain Girl** was originally published in 1911 and is available in digital format for FREE at Project Gutenberg, Feedbooks, and other sites. It is also available in free audio format at Librivox. The magazine Ladies Home Journal published one chapter at a time. The book contains several illustrations.*

*Plot: David Thryng is the third son of a British peer of the realm. Unwilling to marry into money without love, and unwilling to spill blood on the battlefield, he decides to become a doctor. David travels to Canada, where he studies under Doctor Hoyle. When David becomes ill, Hoyle sends him to recuperate at his cabin, perched high on a promontory in the mountains of North Carolina.*

*When the story begins, David's train is arriving at the tiny mountain crossing. David disembarks just in time to rescue a young Hoyle, named after the erstwhile doctor, David's mentor. Hoyle and his beautiful but quiet sister Cass take David home to mother, because the night has fallen, with fresh snow. At their cabin, David tends mother's broken hip.*

*The next day, David travels another mile, up the trail to his friend's cabin. The crisp mountain air is rejuvenating to mind and body, and his sensitive soul finds rest.*

*But David soon realizes that this delightful family is hiding something, or someone. There is a dark secret in the glen. Could it simply be a whiskey still? It must be something more...*

*And meanwhile, what's happening across the sea, at the family castle?*

*Written with dialogue in the mountain dialect.*

Saturday, August 31: Very hot. I plowed in the forenoon. The flies and mosquitoes were very bad which in addition to the heat made it very difficult to work a team. After dinner I helped Zora get ready for company, then harrowed what I had plowed. Clarence Greenawalt's, Silas Yoder's, and Ruth and Susie were here for supper. We went over to town in the evening.

Sunday, September 1, 1912: Zora and I went to S. S. and church, then to David Hooley's for dinner. Ruth and Susie were there also. We had a nice time.

Monday, September 2: I plowed all day. It was very, very hot today. About 6 o'clock it began to rain and rained a pretty good shower. Lightning created considerable disturbance with telephone lines. In Chicago there was a very severe electrical storm accompanied by 1 ½ inches of rain. Basements were flooded and sewers overflowed.

Tuesday, September 3: I plowed most of the day. It was very hot and I could not get much work out of the team. Pa and Soll took a cow down to Ligonier which we had sold to Joe Daley.

Wednesday, September 4: I plowed all day. Zora went to a meeting of the Ladies Aid Society at Chas. Wygants. In the evening we went to a C. E. Business meeting at Pearley Hostettlers.

Thursday, September 5: I plowed all day. Very, very hot and the flies were positively awful.

Friday, September 6: I plowed all day. Alice and Florence Weed were here for supper. We all went to choir practice at Rev. Weed's in the evening.

Saturday, September 7: I plowed all day. Daddy and Mommy went to the Yoder Cousin Reunion. They reported about 130 present.

Sunday, September 8: Zora and I went to the regular church services today. Attend the Methodist Church in the evening. Ruth and Frederic came along out for dinner.

Monday, September 9: I plowed all day. Zora washed and prepared corn for the dry-house.

Tuesday, September 10: I plowed all day. Zora was not well all day. Very misty in the evening.

Wednesday, September 11: I plowed in the forenoon. After dinner Zora and I helped Ray Sutton's to thresh.

Thursday, September 12: I went to the creamery and finished plowing in #1 in the forenoon. After dinner I began discing in #7. Daddy went to the Goshen fair.

Friday, September 13: I finished discing in #7 and then began harrowing in #1.

Saturday, September 14: John Morrell came over to install the furnace. I helped him all day but we did not get it finished. Zora went to town in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 15: We went to church in the morning and to C. E. and church in the evening. Called on Uncle Fletcher Fought's in the afternoon. Osa's and Lester Coldren's were there.

Monday, September 16: I harrowed some and helped John Morrell at the furnace. Pa began sowing in the corn ground in the afternoon. Zora and I went to town in the evening.

Tuesday, September 17: I harrowed a short time in the morning and then helped John with the furnace. After dinner I helped daddy clean seed wheat and put away tools. After that I went out in #1 and finished harrowing. It rained nearly all the time I was at it and I was soaked to the skin.

Wednesday, September 18: Pa went over to Babcock's to help thresh. I went to the creamery and then came home and finished plowing in #7. After finishing that, pa and I cleaned seed wheat.

Thursday, September 19: I drilled wheat in #1 finishing at 6:30. Pa sowed wheat in the corn. Zora wasn't feeling well all day. *Today it was 27 years since I made my first appearance in the world.*

Friday, September 20: I helped Amos Fought fill his silo. We didn't get started until late but finished in good time. Zora went over to her Uncle (Harvey) Elton Coldren's (1856-1916) after some sweet corn.

Saturday, September 21: Father and I helped Fletcher Fought fill his silo. There was a Bull Moose convention at LaGrange today to nominate county officers.

Sunday, September 22: Zora and I attended the regular church services. We went to the telephone office for dinner. Took Frederic for a ride out to Eden Cemetery. John Fought was operated on for appendicitis at his father's house today.

Monday, September 23: I worked at the furnace in the forenoon. After dinner we helped W. W. Hartzler fill his silos.



Tuesday, September 24: I harrowed in #7 all day.

Wednesday, September 25: I sowed rye in #7. It took me all day.

Thursday, September 26: We had our first frost last night. Zora and I went to Wolcottville to hear Joseph E. Wing at the Wolcottville Farm Products Show and Colt Show. Went to Ora Fought's for supper and then back to town to hear Joseph Wing again.

Friday, September 27: We cleaned out the silo and cut some corn. Zora and I went to choir practice in the evening.

Saturday, September 28: I helped Eli Yoder fill his silo today. Father helped Chas. Hartzler fill his. Zora went up to Fletcher Fought's to help the women with their work. John Fought can't live any length of time. We sold some chickens, old and young, for \$6.70.

Sunday, September 29: Zora and I attended the regular church services. We invited father and mother over for dinner. Zora led the C. E. Meeting, subject: "Missionary Boldness."

Monday, September 30: I helped Eli Yoder finish filling his silo until noon. After dinner I hauled two loads of coal from M. D. Lantz's car. Hauled 8035 pounds. John Fought died at 7:00 this morning.

Tuesday, October 1, 1912: I helped Elias Olinghouse fill his silo. We had all kinds of bad luck but in spite of that succeeded in getting it nearly full. Zora and Effie Yoder went to Ligonier in the forenoon. Zora bought a new suit.

Wednesday, October 2: We filled our silo today or rather attempted to but because of lack of help we did not get it filled.

Thursday, October 3: Zora and I went to John Fought's funeral in the forenoon. After dinner I got my corn cutting machine ready for business and then picked seed corn the rest of the afternoon.

Friday, October 4: Zora and I went to "Corn School" at LaGrange. There was a very large crowd there. The Farm Product exhibit was the best that I have ever seen, and the corn was especially good. Mr. Henry of San Francisco fame spoke but I foolishly went to see a football game instead of listening to a good speech.

Saturday, October 5: In the forenoon I made some "gallows hills" and cut some corn. After dinner I used the horse cutter and cut 18 shocks. Zora went to town in the afternoon. Today (Zora's) sister Sue attained the dignity and mature age of 18 years.

Sunday, October 6: We went to the usual church services. "Uncle" Silas Yoder's and us went to the telephone office for dinner. We had a good dinner and a good time. Today's services were the last in the F. B. Church before the work of remodeling begins.

Monday, October 7: I dug potatoes until about 4 o'clock when we began hauling in. We hauled in 48 bushels. Our estimate is that we shall have 100 bushels. The quality is good and the yield all that could be wished. I received a letter from Joseph Wing saying that he can come to Topeka December 13 or 14. Zora went to town after dinner and bought some grapes off Mrs. H. L. Bender. Work of remodeling the F. B. Church began today.

Tuesday, October 8: I cut corn all day. Pa helped. Mother went over to town to the dress makers this afternoon. Zora is about laid up with rheumatism in her neck and shoulder. Voyl Phillips and Cecil Bowman were married this evening.

Wednesday, October 9: I cut corn until the rain drove me in. Cut corn again after dinner. Ralph Sharer and Audrey Kurtz eloped this afternoon. Mr. Sharer and the sheriff started after them.

Thursday, October 10: I went over to Amos Fought's on business. It began raining soon after I got back and rained until noon. Zora and I went over to town in the afternoon. Ralph Sharer and Audrey Kurtz were caught at Centerville Michigan and brought back home.

Friday, October 11: I cut corn all day. The corn stayed wet most of the forenoon. There was a Bull Moose speech in town tonight but I worked so late that I couldn't go.

Saturday, October 12: I went to the creamery in the morning then came home and got the pumpkins in. Pa and Soll went out to M\_\_ after the young cattle. After dinner pa and \_\_ went over to Uncle J. K. Zook's to stay until Sunday evening. I cut corn in the afternoon. Topeka played Ft. Wayne today 40 to 0. Zora was at the pastry sale all day. I went over to town in the evening after Zora.

Sunday, October 13: Zora and I walked to church in the morning. Susie came along home for dinner. We did not go to church in the evening.

Monday, October 14: I went to the creamery in the morning and then cut ten shocks of corn until noon. Cut eighteen shocks after dinner. The corn was very dry. Pa helped Eli Yoder thresh his oats in the forenoon. He cut corn in the afternoon. Zora washed. Mother was sick all day. Had the doctor in the afternoon.

Tuesday, October 15: I cut 20 shocks of corn until early dinner, then pa and I went to Susan Reimer's sale. Cows sold very high. Sister Sue told me this morning that Col. Roosevelt had been shot last evening at Milwaukee. The wound was not considered serious.

Later reports indicate that the wound is more serious than was at first supposed. The would-be assassin is supposed to be demented. He claimed that he had had a dream in which McKinley appeared to him and said that T. R. was his murderer and that he, Schrank, should avenge his death. Schrank was captured.

*\*On October 14, 1912, former saloonkeeper John Flammang Schrank (1876–1943) attempted to assassinate former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt while he was campaigning for the presidency in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Schrank's bullet lodged in Roosevelt's chest after penetrating Roosevelt's steel eyeglass case and passing through a thick (50 pages) single-folded copy of the speech titled "Progressive Cause Greater Than Any Individual", which he was carrying in his jacket. Schrank was immediately disarmed (by Czech immigrant Frank Bukovsky) and captured; he might have been lynched had Roosevelt not shouted for Schrank to remain unharmed. Roosevelt assured the crowd he was all right, then ordered police to take charge of Schrank and to make sure no violence was done to him.*

*As an experienced hunter and anatomist, Roosevelt correctly concluded that since he was not coughing blood, the bullet had not reached his lung; he declined suggestions to go to the hospital immediately. Instead, he delivered his scheduled speech. His opening comments to the gathered crowd were, "Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know whether you fully understand that I have just been shot, but it takes more than that to kill a Bull Moose."*

*Afterwards, probes and an x-ray showed that the bullet had lodged in Roosevelt's chest muscle, but did not penetrate the pleura. As doctors concluded that it would be less dangerous to leave it in place than to attempt to remove it, Roosevelt carried the bullet with him for the rest of his life. Both President William Howard Taft and Democratic nominee Woodrow Wilson suspended their own campaigning until Roosevelt recovered and resumed his. When asked if the shooting would affect his election campaign, he said to the reporter "I'm fit as a bull moose." The bull moose became a symbol of both Roosevelt and the Progressive Party; it often was referred to as simply the Bull Moose Party. He spent two weeks recuperating before returning to the campaign trail. He later wrote a friend about the bullet inside him, "I do not mind it any more than if it were in my waistcoat pocket."*

*The shooter, John Schrank, initially pleaded guilty to the charge of attempted murder, but the trial judge, unconvinced of Schrank's sanity, declined his plea and the case was brought to trial. Schrank was found not guilty by reason of insanity by the jury and was sentenced to indefinite institutionalization.*

JOHN SCHRANK IN MILWAUKEE







Wednesday, October 16: I cut corn in the forenoon and in the afternoon put away my seed corn. Ruth and Frederic were here for dinner. Ruth and Susie were here for supper.

Thursday, October 17: I cut corn in the forenoon. After dinner pa and I dug 18 bushels of potatoes and put them in the cellar. Then we went over to town and got a stove which belonged to Rube Coldren.

Friday, October 18: I began to cut corn in the forenoon, but had cut only 12 shocks when it began to rain and rained all day.

Saturday, October 19: I delivered my hogs and brought a load of lumber along home for our chicken house. After dinner pa and I finished cutting corn.

Sunday, October 20: Zora and I went to Chicago this morning. The train was two hours and thirty minutes late. We arrived in Chicago at 12:45. After securing a room and eating our dinner we went across to Michigan Ave. to see the sights. We found that the Art Institute was open to visitors and went in. The best of American and foreign art was on exhibition there. We also listened to an orchestra concert which was very good. In the evening we went to the orchestra hall to hear Dr. Bryan of Ind. Univ. but Zora became sick and we had to leave before he began his speech.

Monday, October 21: The forenoon was spent in the large department stores of Marshall Field & Co., Mandell Bros and Woolworths Ten Cent Store. After dinner we went to Lincoln Park. We saw a great many different species of birds and mammals and many other beautiful sights. In the evening we went to see Wallace & Hagenback's show at one of the theaters but found it was nothing but moving pictures. While waiting for the train a band suddenly began to play outside and we soon found it was a delegation of Greeks coming to see their friends off to the war with the Turks.

Tuesday, October 22: I cut down telephone poles along the road north of here and scrapped the wire. It began raining about noon and continued showering until evening. Pa went to Wolcottville to a cow sale.

Wednesday, October 23: After dinner pa and I went to LeRoy DeBow's sale west of Cramer schoolhouse. Bought two heifers for \$45.00, one year old. One is half Jersey and half Guernsey, the other is  $\frac{3}{4}$  Guernsey and  $\frac{1}{4}$  Holstein. I finished cutting telephone poles and then hauled them up to the house to be sawed into lengths for furnace wood.

Thursday, October 24, 1912: I husked corn in the forenoon. After dinner pa and I went over to DeBow's after our heifers. In the evening Zora and I went over to town. I went to hear a progressive speech.

Friday, October 25: I husked corn most of the forenoon and dug potatoes the remainder of the time. Father and I finished digging potatoes in #6 after dinner and hauled them in, also some corn.

Saturday, October 26: In the forenoon I helped Ezra Yeager make some cider, then took off 24# of honey. After dinner daddy and I cleaned up things a bit.

Sunday, October 27: Bessie Bender, Della Lantz, Cornelius Easole and Walter Greenawalt came out to our house for dinner. Zora had quite an elaborate dinner prepared at which I served. We thought we were doing things up quite well. Jake Yoder's and Will Hartzler's visited the folks. P. R. Zook and his mother called at the folks' home in the afternoon. I led the C. E. meeting in the evening. Subject: Christian Sociability.

Monday, October 28: I went to the creamery in the morning and then husked corn until noon. After dinner I went over to the old "Leming" place and brought home a load of logs and lumber. Father, mother and Zora went over to Goshen with John K\_\_. Mother and Zora went to \_\_.

Tuesday, October 29: I was making cider most of the day. Soon after dinner, I got word that my Partridge Rock chickens from Elkhorn Wisconsin had arrived. I am well pleased with them. The pullet looks rather small and doesn't show much penciling but she has plenty of time to develop.

Wednesday, October 30: I went to the creamery in the morning then came home and Zora and I went out in the Schrock Field and sacked up a lot of leaves for litter for the chicken house. After dinner Zora and I husked corn. Father went to LaGrange to pay the tax and brought home two White Holland Turkey Hens and a bushel of Ohio seed-corn which latter he bought of Mr. Biddle, the farmer from Lewis, PA.

Thursday, October 31: Zora and I went to the cornfield in the morning and husked seven shocks of corn when it began to rain. Didn't do much the rest of the day.

Friday, November 1, 1912: It rained nearly all day. I cleaned the horse stable in the forenoon. After noon Zora and I went to town.

Saturday, November 2: I husked corn all day. There was a cold west wind blowing most of the day. I helped the folks move their cook stove into the winter kitchen.

Sunday, November 3: Ray Suttons, Lester Coldren and Ruth, Frederic, and Sue were here for dinner. We all seemed to enjoy ourselves. This has been a beautiful autumn day.

Monday, November 4: I went over to S. K. Yoder's after a load of sheaf oats which we had stored there. Pa went to the creamery, then came back and helped me load oats. While up town he heard of a wreck on the Wabash 3 miles east of town. When we got home we unhitched our team and took the buggy and drove out. It was awful. An Eastbound freight collided, head-on, with the westbound passenger. The foreman on the passenger was killed and the Engineer was reported to be dying. Conductor of freight disobeyed the order to wait at Topeka for the 3:10 train, thinking he could make Eddy. Both engines were lying on their sides on the embankment, a mass of broken and twisted steel.

Tuesday, November 5: I husked corn until 3:45 then helped father load up a load of corn. It had begun to rain before we left the field and continued almost without intermission all night. I got ready as soon as I reached the house and, with Zora, went over to town to cast my ballot for Roosevelt and the Progressive Party. Zora and I stayed with Ruth and Sue for supper. I stayed up town till 12 o'clock listening to the election returns. There early began to show signs of a Dem. Landslide. Wilson was elected President, Nation, State and County went Dem.

Wednesday, November 6: Chored around all day. Succeeded in living through it even if the Democrats did win out by a big majority. Returns according to the Tribune: Wilson 322 electoral votes, Roosevelt 110, and Taft 16.

Thursday, November 7: I started to make a foundation for my chicken house. After dinner, Zora and I husked corn. The fodder was quite damp. Zora and I went to prayer meeting. More recent electoral

returns indicated that Wilson has the largest majority in recent history. He has 410 electoral votes, Roosevelt 80 and Taft 11.

Friday, November 8: Zora and I husked corn all day. We went up town to hear a free piano recital given by Mr. McWhorter for Greenawalt Bros. It was quite good, drew a large crowd and gave Greenawalt Bros. a splendid opportunity to advertise their new Krakauer piano.

Saturday, November 9, 1912: I husked corn in the forenoon. After dinner I finished my chicken house foundation, cleaned chicken \_\_\_ and did other odd jobs. Pa went to Elkhart. The F. B. choir came out here to practice and spend the evening. Zora had quite a nice luncheon consisting of mixed fruit, cake and wafers. Ethel Stohr, Chas. And Alice Weed and Dot Greenawalt were present.

Sunday, November 10: This has been a beautiful day. Zora and I went to Sunday School and then to Uncle Silas D. Yoder's for dinner. We had a good time and a splendid dinner. Ruth, Sue and Frederic were there also.

Monday, November 11: We husked corn all day. Pa delivered six hogs which weighed 1,070. Sold them at \$7.00 per cwt. Zora and I borrowed \$300 from Ruth. Zora went over after it after dinner and took \$225.00 of it to pay the balance on the piano.

Tuesday, November 12: Zora and I and father husked corn today. We husked 30 shocks and hauled in the corn.

Wednesday, November 13: It rained nearly all day and there was a high S. W. wind changing to W. I went to town in the forenoon and in the afternoon I put some of my seed corn down in the furnace room. Grandma Wenger ate dinner with us.

Thursday, November, 14: I went to the creamery in the morning then worked at my seed-corn. Finished it after dinner then got the cabbage in. I had a light attack of lumbago.

Friday, November 15: We husked corn all day. By Zora's help we were able to husk 31 shocks today. Mrs. and I went over to town to attend some F. B. church doings. They discussed various details in the repairing of the church such as seating, furnace, and windows.

Saturday, November 16: I husked corn all day, except when I loaded up one load.

Sunday, November 17: We went to Sunday School. There was no church service on account of Rev. Weed's absence at the hospital. Rev. Reichelderfer was taken to Ft. Wayne to consult a specialist about some hemorrhages which the doctor here could not locate. Mr. Gay announced from the pulpit this evening that Mr. Reichelderfer was to be taken to a hospital at Indianapolis and that his case was very serious.

Monday, November 18: Zora and I husked corn in the forenoon. After dinner we washed after which, about 3 o'clock, I went out and husked corn.

Tuesday, November 19: Zora and I husked corn in the forenoon. After dinner Sam Kurtz came to help me put up my chicken house. The lectures by Rev. Miller were postponed until December 9. Paul R. Zook is to be married this evening.

Wednesday, November 20: Sam and I worked at the chicken house all day.

Thursday, November 21: I worked at my chicken house all day. Zora went to town in the afternoon and we both went in the evening. Zora went to prayer-meeting, I had my hair cut and then went to a meeting at A. L. Gerber's place to consider some lecture course talent.

Friday, November 22: Zora and I husked corn in the forenoon. After dinner I worked at the chicken house but didn't get it finished. Mary Kenagy-Yoder and daughter, Mrs. D. D. Moser, Mrs. Alice Lantz and daughter, and Mrs. R. H. Kenagy and daughter visited mother for dinner. Oliver Fought died last night. Audrey Kurtz Shear's baby girl was born today.

Saturday, November 23: I finished covering my chicken house in the forenoon. After dinner I hauled a big load of corn. It was quite disagreeable in the evening.

Sunday, November 24: Zora and I went over to Ruth and Susie's for dinner. I put a screw hook into the ceiling for Frederic's jumper. Purdue beat Indiana yesterday 34 to 7. Father and mother went to R. A. Hartzler's for dinner today.

Monday, November 25: I helped do the chores and then went into the house and layed down to rest my back which was giving me considerable pain. About 10 o'clock I took mother over to grandma's where daddy was helping change the stores. On the way home I saw Dr. Vaughan and had him give me some medicine for my lumbago. The rest of the day I stayed in the house.

Tuesday, November 26: I laid around all day. Had a very considerable distress in my back.

Wednesday, November 27: I did a few chores today but kept pretty quiet. Father and mother went to Jonathan King's funeral. He leaves a wife and three children. Pa went to A. L. Bender's sale and bought five pigs for me. Paid \$4.05 each. Gave my note due Aug 27.

Thursday, November 28: Zora and I and daddy, mother and grandma went to the M. E. Church for our Thanksgiving dinner. There was a large crowd there. Topeka played Kendallville in the afternoon and defeated them 101 to 0.

Friday, November 29: I chored around in the forenoon. After dinner, I worked at the new chicken house. Zora went over to Ray Sutton's. They were butchering.

Saturday, November 30: I husked corn all day. Daddy helped in the afternoon. We have 115 shocks left to husk.

Sunday, December 1, 1912: We went to Sunday school and Christian Endeavor.

Monday, December 2: I worked at the chicken house all day. I have it mostly finished. Zora and I caught 42 pullets and sixteen old hens and put them in the new house.

Tuesday, December 3: I helped Zora wash until pa came home from the creamery, then we went to Ligonier. I bought a Christmas present for Zora.

Wednesday, December 4: I husked 22 shocks of corn today. Pa was about laid up. .Zora and I went to a Christian Endeavor Business Meeting in the evening at Pearley Hostettler's. This was more of an April day than December.

Thursday, December 5: I was surprised to awaken about 2:30 AM and hear it raining. I went over to town to help work at the church. There were about one dozen there and a great amount of work was accomplished. Zora helped the Ladies Aux to furnish a dinner.

Friday, December 6: I chored around all day. In the evening, Zora and I went up to town to attend a meeting of the Christmas Program Committee. After that I went to choir practice at R. H. Kenagy's.

Saturday, December 7: Father and I loaded two heifers into the wagon box and started for Ligonier. When we got to Topeka one of the heifers fell down and so we went to the stockyards and unloaded the one. Pa hauled the other one to Ligonier while I waited and drove the one with a bunch which G\_\_'s were taking. It was about 11:30 when we got there. We brought home ¾ ton of bran.

Sunday, December 8: Zora and I went to D. D. Moser's after church. Daddy's were there. Amanda Oesch, Fern Lantz, Ada Zook and Verda Zook were there also. Rev. Weed preached his first sermon since his operation. We went to the evening services.

Monday, December 9: We tried to load daddy's Hampshire boar into the wagon but we were unsuccessful, so daddy and S. K. drove him over to Noah Yoder's. I went to the creamery and purchased 4.40 worth of footwear and 100# of oyster shell. In the evening we went to see Rev. Miller's pictures of the Holy Land.

Tuesday, December 10: Zora and I went to Ligonier. After I got back I went out to the field and brought in a load of corn. We did not go to the lectures this evening.

Wednesday, December 11: I chored around all day. Zora went over to the telephone office in the morning and staid all day. Ruth helped her make her waist. Minnie Kurtz, husband and daughter, Bessie and Della Kurtz, Ada Zook and Phoebe Verner, Mary Yoder and Liza Zook were over at the folks' for dinner. We went to the lectures in the evening.

Thursday, December 12: I made some hens' nests for my new chicken house. After dinner Zora and I went over to town. I took the lumber back which I had left from the chicken house and paid \$25.00 on acct.

In the evening before dark daddy and I went up to Lonnie Franks' to help him catch his turkeys. We couldn't do anything with them so we decided to wait until after dark. I went up after supper but they had got up in the trees and we only succeeded in capturing one bird. I found seven chickens of mine which had been roosting in Joel's marsh.

Friday, December 13: I took some chickens up to town for mother and us. We received ten cents a pound for them. Ours weighed 48 pounds. I sold one B. P. Rock cockerel to Susie Smith for 75 cents. After dinner daddy and I cleaned stable, I worked at it until my bruised ribs made it necessary for me to quit. We went to the illustrated lecture in the evening.

Saturday, December 14: I went to the creamery in the morning. After dinner, I took Queen and the one-horse wagon and went over to the old "Gary" place after some wood. I brought home 1 ¼ cords. Daddy

hauled two loads of wood from the same place. Zora went to a pastry sale at A. L. Gerber's store in the afternoon.

Sunday, December 15: Zora and I went to church and then to Lester Stolars for dinner. Ruth, Frederic and Sue were there also. Went to Union Meeting at the Sycamore Hall in the evening. Rev. Miller preached an excellent sermon on "Love."

Monday, December 16: I husked corn in the forenoon. Soll helped and we finished in #6. After dinner, I hauled in my corn and then cleaned stables. Esta came from Elkhart to spend her vacation.

Tuesday, December 17: The folks went to Ligonier to do their Christmas shopping. I went to the creamery. When I got home, Willis Fought was here and stayed to dinner. Zora worked. After dinner I chored around. Arthur Greenawalt brought Zora's sewing machine over. Esta was here for dinner also.

Wednesday, December 18: I helped Soll Yoder haul fodder from E. Hartzler. Lonnie Franks helped too. After we had unloaded over three loads, Soll came along over and helped me bale up a load and unload it. In the evening Zora and I went to a C. E. Business meeting at Pearley Hostettler's.

Thursday, December 19: I cleaned out our chicken house and put in clean litter. Father went to Alton Leopold's sale.

Friday, December 20: I went to the creamery in the morning. I had so much "business" to attend to that I didn't get home until nearly noon. After dinner I worked around at various things. Zora went up to Walnut School to attend the Christmas Exercises. Father helped J. W. Babcock to butcher.

Saturday, December. 21: I went to the creamery in the morning and then fixed up five nests for the new chicken house. After dinner I helped S. K. shred fodder. Zora went over to town after dinner to help practice the children for Christmas Exercises.

Sunday, December 22: We attended the regular church services. This is one of the first Sundays for a long time that we haven't had company or haven't been company.

Monday, December 23: I helped Zora and mother to work in the forenoon. After dinner father and I hauled manure. Mrs. Sarah Simonds was buried today. She is the mother of Mrs. Daniel Sutton.

Tuesday, December 24: I hauled manure in the forenoon. After dinner, I helped Lonnie Franks shred fodder. In the evening, Zora and I went to Christmas Exercises at the Baptist Church. They were very good. The evening was beautiful but not at all like Christmas Eve for there was no snow and not very cold.

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day. Zora and I went over to Ray Sutton's where we had a Christmas Dinner. Uncle Silas Yoder's, Ruth, Frederic and Sue, Jake and Vernon Bowman were there too. The dinner was beyond comparison. There was a Christmas tree for the little folks.

Thursday, December 26: I hauled manure in the forenoon. After dinner I hauled one load and then went over to town after a load of corn cobs for the elevator. Zora and I went to prayer meeting at Rev. Weed's.



Friday, December 27: We shredded fodder today. We would nearly have finished until noon had not the machine been broken and most of the forenoon consumed in repairing the damage. We shredded eight loads.

Saturday, December 28: I helped Ray Sutton shred fodder. We finished about 10 o'clock. Father and I hauled in fodder. Zora went over to town to do some trading. Vada Barnes and Susie came over for supper and to stay all night. Sue's arm, which had been injured by a fall, kept her awake a good share of the night.

Sunday, December 29: We attended the regular church services.

Monday, December 30: I went to the creamery in the morning. After dinner Zora and I went over to town to get Mrs. Stoler's store-room ready for the C. E. Social.

Tuesday, December 31, 1912: Daddy butchered two hogs which he had bought off S. K. Yoder. Zora and I went to the C. E. Social in the evening. We had a very nice time. About 25 or 30 persons were present. Robert Lep\_\_ died today. Paralysis.

This ends the year, a year which will remain forever in my book of remembrances because it is the year of our marriage.

It also marks the organization and growth of the Progressive party. The year has been one of general prosperity although farmers in this vicinity are feeling that they are "hard up" because of a wheat failure, the cholera scourge, and the victory of the Democratic party.

Personally, I feel that I haven't made any progress as a farmer this year. I have been compelled to walk in the beaten path which my fathers trod and any attempt to step aside into new paths was promptly frowned down.

What the new year has to bring is mercifully kept from us but I hope that I may be able to take it as it comes. Joy or sorrow, sunshine or rain, with patience, not forgetting that "God doeth all things well."