

Jesse Lowe Smith

Diary

1929



Photo by Hecketsweiler

Transcribed by

Julia A. Johnas

Forward

The Author: Jesse Lowe Smith was born in Macon, Illinois, on 23 November 1869, to the Rev. Leonard Francis Smith (1838-1874) and Bridget Ann Lowe Smith (1842-1941). His father's diary for that date: "At 5:30 wife bore me another child, a boy weighing 10 lbs when dressed. Dr. Tobey was the physician..." Jesse's father, Leonard Francis Smith, son of Jesse Smith and his second wife, Sophia Lake Spencer, had married Bridget Ann Lowe, daughter of William Fletcher Lowe and Elsea Aquila, on 10 September 1863. They had six children, Elsie (1864), Kittie Grace (1865-1932), Clarence Bruner (1867-1943), Jesse Lowe, Edith (1873-195?), and Lennie Francis (1874-1976).

Jesse Lowe Smith attended grade school in Macon, Illinois. With a passion for books and nature study, Jesse saw his life as a teacher. He attended the Academy in Benton Harbor, Michigan from 1884-1887, living with his Great Aunt Margaret Crooks. In 1888 he returned to Macon where he taught for three years. Teaching and studying independently as he taught, Jesse, at age 21, qualified for entrance to De Pauw University in September 1891. He completed his education at the University of Chicago from 1892 to 1894.¹ After one year at De Pauw, he returned for one term at Macon, and then, with his mother and sisters, went to Lexington, Illinois where he taught for four years from 1893-1897, followed by five years in Park Ridge, Illinois. In May 1902, Jesse came to Highland Park as principal of the Elm Place School. He was Superintendent of Schools for District 107 at the time of his death on 21 April 1934.²

His diaries reveal Jesse Lowe Smith to be a man of many interests and great influence. He was widely known and respected throughout Illinois as an innovative educator and avid naturalist and in Highland Park as an educational, cultural and civic leader. He inspired the Elm Place School teachers to higher ideals of education and the students to a deeper understanding and appreciation for the world around them. He left a lasting impression on all who knew him in life and continues to inspire many who make his acquaintance through his diaries and his legacy in Highland Park.

Identifications: In his diaries, Jesse frequently refers to members of his family. During his years in Highland Park, Jesse provided a home from his mother and sister, Kittie. They are often referred to in the diaries as M. and K. His brother Clarence Bruner is referred to as Clarence or Clarence B., and Clarence's two sons, Leonard and Clarence, Jr. (Bruner or Junior) are also mentioned. Jesse's sister Edith married Clarence Danforth (Danforth or Clarence D. in the diaries). His sister Lennie married Arthur Enders, and their children, Robert and Ruth Anne, are mentioned in the diaries.

Transcriber's Notes: Every attempt has been made to provide an accurate transcription of the diary entries with respect to spelling, grammar, and punctuation; therefore incorrect or inconsistent (Mr. Smith spelled the same word in different ways at different times) usage is retained without the use of (sic). When words were added above the line, they have been inserted into the text. When words were inadvertently repeated, the second occurrence of the word has been dropped. Margin notes are indicated as such and are placed following the text that they appeared adjacent to in the diary. When words were illegible, brackets have been supplied enclosing a blank space []. Words that could not be deciphered with certainty have been placed in square brackets followed by a question mark [like this?]. Transcriber's notes are indicated by brackets [like this – ed.]. Clippings that were pasted into the diary are described in a transcriber's note, but are not always transcribed.

¹*Catalogue of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity* (New York, 1910). Accessed online at <http://books.google.com> on December 16, 2010.

²*Diaries 1859-1874 of The Reverend Leonard Smith, Circuit Rider* by Blanche Beal Lowe.

Tuesday, January 1

Snowed 4 or 5 in. in the night – a little mist to bind it together and the thermo close to zero.
I celebrated for two hours painting in the basement.
Worked several hours in my den today, overhauling & filing, etc.

Wednesday, January 2

About zero this A.M. A fine wintry day.

At school for an hour or so conferring with Mr Vandyke & the janitors. Then to Chic. To Fields to confer with a Mr. Guy about velour curtains; to buy a diary & calendar pad; to exchange a copy of Much Loved Books given me by Mrs Creigh for Strachey's Elizabeth & Essex; Crerar Library for material about skunk cabbage. To office of Henry P. Chandler to confer with him about the St Charles School for boys. To Chic Transp Co for slides, etc. To Triangle Restaurant for supper. - - To Apollo to see Simba – a wonderful record of African life by Martin Johnson & his wife. Home at 10:00

Thursday, January 3

A very little more snow. Clearing. Cooler

Painted in basement this A.M.

Took 1:04 for Chic. To Fields. Then to McClurg's to confer with Guy Kendall about a desired reference book. To Crerar library for notes. Fair – to buy a tub.

Home at 6:30

Ridolfi came up from Winnetka to confer with me about his wife's visa.

Friday, January 4

At school a while this A.M. Early lunch and to Chic.

To Field Museum where I enlisted the interest of Mr Stanley in bot. section in trying to find ref. to temp. within spathes of sk. cab. - - To Chic. Transp Co. to confer with Mr McLeod, etc. - - - Crerar Library for more notes. - - Supper at Triang. Restaur. An hour at Chic Theatre At home by 9:45.

Snowed some towards evening. Sloppy in city

[In response to his circular letter on behalf of the St. Charles School for Boys, Mr. Smith received a letter from Round Table member, J.C.Davies. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 4, 1929

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
Superintendent of Schools,
Highland Park, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Smith:

At our Kiwanis meeting to-day I presented the matter of the need of books for the boys in the Illinois State School for Boys near St. Charles, about which you wrote me recently. I had forgotten to take your letter with me but I presented the matter the best I could, and to me the response was very gratifying. The Kiwanis Club voted to appropriate the five (5) dollars which you asked for and they will forward it to Superintendent Thompson at once. They also decided that it would be a good plan for each member of the club to bring any suitable books and magazines which they have to the Club and send them directly to the school. Undoubtedly a great many books will be thus secured. In addition to this, Dr. Raschke, one of the members gave me five (5) dollars with which to buy some new

books and send out. He preferred to have his contribution this way. I told him that I would make an appointment with you some day and have you help me select the books. Perhaps we can do this at the next Round Table meeting. The response of all members was very fine and I am quite sure that you have started something which will continue to operate as long as there is a need.

Cordially yours,
J C Davies
Superintendent.

Saturday, January 5

Rained much of day and the slush along sidewalks and gutters breaks the record.
At home all day except for miscellaneous errand downtown.
Painted two hours and a half this A M (in the basement) and an hour and a half this evening.
Wrote Willard Clute to inquire about s'k cab. data Wrote other letters.

Sunday, January 6

Frozen up this A.M. 8 or 10° above. Slippery streets
I represented the folks at Presb. Ch. this A. M.
Grew colder during the day.
Wrote some letters. Began Strachey's Elizabeth & Essex.

Monday, January 7

6° or more below this A.M., and not much milder during the day. Roads very slippery and sidewalks dangerous.
Steam fitters still working on our aud. stage and we had no opening exercises. I resented the failure of the s.f. to finish the work during vacation.
Teachers' meeting at 4:00. Introduced the staff to Rugg's new book – The Child-centered school. Miss White not able to get here. Mrs Anderson, sub.
Opened gym this evening for Mrs Jones' & friends who have dancing lessons.

[Mr. Smith's answer to Mr. Davies' letter of January 4, 1929 and Mr. Davies' reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 7, 1929

Mr. J.C.Davies
Superintendent of Schools
La Grange, Illinois

My dear Mr. Davies:

Thank you for your note and encouraging report.

Do you think it would be incompatible with the ideals of our Round Table for us to have a special committee to cooperate with other groups of interested people and make a determined drive in behalf of our reform schools for boys and girls?

There are lots of things to be considered. The Pontiac Reformatory has been becoming more and more a penitentiary, and the growing tendency of judges is to send boys to St. Charles instead of to Pontiac. Because of this St. Charles has apparently been losing its identity. It is evident that we need an additional school, so that St. Charles may function as a home school for dependent boys. Then, we need to see that these schools are given the very best equipment that can be used. Imagine St. Charles having Manual Training this year for the first time in its history! They have fourteen benches and are able to take care of fifty-six boys. They have three or four shops but

only resident work is done, such as mending shoes, sewing up overalls, etc. Well, I think we school men need to bore from within, so let us consider next Saturday, the possibility of our organization helping to get a strong movement behind some program of this sort.

Cordially yours,

1/10/29

My dear Mr. Smith:

I see no reason why it will not be all right to take up the matter of the reform school at the Round Table Meeting. It seems to me that it is a field for real service.

Can you go with me to spend my five dollars after the meeting Saturday? It wont take long.

Sincerely & Cordially

J C Davies

Tuesday, January 8

2° above this A M and 28° above at evening.

Today after a conf with some of the teachers we decided to go on with the Christmas Play.

I went over to the Woman's Club this aft. towards the close of a dist. federation meeting and was invited to talk. I spoke about the St Charles School for boys and stirred things up a bit. Mrs Sundell gave me 5⁰⁰ for the work.

Mrs Gertrude Miller Hamlin spent an half hour with us this aft.

This evening to Orchestra Hall – Geog Soc – to hear Prof. T. Jaggar talk about the volcanoes of Alaska.

[Mr. Smith received another response to his circular letter on behalf of the St. Charles School for Boys. This one from fellow Round Table member H.C. Storm. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Jan. 8, 1929

Mr. Jesse Smith
Supt. of Schools
Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Friend:

Your letter was received and I liked it. I presented the matter to our Kiwanis Club last night and they are very glad to send five dollars to Mr. Thompson. Our teachers will send five dollars. I have seen no other organizations so far, but I shall try to see some very soon.

I appreciate very much your splendid spirit in taking up this matter and I sincerely hope that the thing goes over big.

I hope to see you next Saturday, and whether I see you or not, I want the year 1929 to be the best of your earth pilgrimage so far.

Your old friend,

H.C. Storm

Wednesday, January 9

Melting a little all day. After dark a light snowfall.

I had an assembly of the three eighth graders and talked over the situation with ref to Christmas play. Then we began rehearsals for the play which took up much of the day.

Mr Vandyke went to the city to get two costumes

Great coasting these days in our ravine.

At home this evening where I wrote out considerable of an article on the skunk cabbage.

Thursday, January 10 The Play.

A film of snow in the night and a temp. today slightly above freezing.

We pulled off the Christmas Play today – a matinee this aft, & an evening performance

On the whole quite good. Very encouraging.

Good aud. this evening, all things considered.

M. went. Mr Leech called for her – this evening.

Friday, January 11

Again a little flurry of snow then high winds for a part of the day. Colder.

Helped hear some recitations while the teachers put away our costumes, Miss Grunewald, Miss Nixon & Miss Grenoble doing this.

Capellor for Thos Charles called.

Mary Davis looked in a short time.

Receipts from our play about \$116⁰⁰, much more than we expected.

I came home early from school and painted more of our basement floor. – Worked over my article on skunk cabbage this evening.

Saturday, January 12

4° above at dawn. Milder for a few hours, then snow flurries & increasing cold

To Chic on 8:50. To Pattees to confer about plant photographs. To City Hall (Circuit Court) to make one more effort to get track of a naturaliz. record.

To City Club – luncheon of Round Table. I spoke for 5 min. about the St. Charles School & a com. of 5 with me as chairman was appointed to work up some plan. G.E. Thompson of St. Chas., Storm of Batavia, Skiles of Ev. & Watson of Glencoe Numerous conf. Then to Fields to spend 5⁰⁰ for Mr Davies of La Grange – books for St. C. boys, gift of one of Mr D's friends. – Crerar Library an hour & a half. To Hull House for dinner, after which I had a long conf. with Geo Hooker over St C. affairs. He & I talked with athlet. direct of H.H. (Mr. Kirkland) about this. Home at 10:40.

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter to Mr. Davies' friend describing how his \$5.00 gift was spent. It is transcribed as follows: - .ed.]

January 17, 1929

Dr. E.H. Raschke
La Grange, Illinois

My dear Dr. Raschke:

Superintendent J.C. Davies and I conferred about the disposition of your generous contribution toward the worthwhile library for the boys at St. Charles, last Saturday, and we agreed upon a package which was made up and delivered to St. Charles on Monday. This included "A Boys View of the Arctic," by Kenneth Rawson,

“Boy Scout in Africa with the Martin Johnson Expedition”, Dick Byrd-Air Explorer”, by Green and “The Wonderful Locomotive” by Meigs.

Those of us who are working for this institution at this emergency in its affairs appreciate your cooperation I can assure you.

Sincerely yours,

Sunday, January 13 -14° or lower

10° below at 8:00 this A.M. and now about 14° below at 10:00 P.M. Steady cold.

I represented the family at church today. Mr Fitt preached an excellent sermon on prohibition

At home this aft. Went over to school b'ld'g for a short time this evening.

Monday, January 14

Moderated in the night and at 6:30 A.M. was 2° below & dry crystalline flakes falling. This continued nearly all day, a depth of 6 or 7 inches. Temp rose to 10 or more above. Now falling, & 4° above at 10:00 P.M.

Lichtwald came at 9:00 last evening, relieving Mr. Davis & stayed until midnight. So the El. Bldg was warm this A.M., the Int. do.

Mr Davidson of the H.S. spent most of the day with the 8A's, giving intelligence tests, etc.

Conf with 8's this evening over promotions.

Board meeting this evening. All present except Mrs Pfanstiehl.

Our bathroom pipes frozen up this A.M. but thawed open at 12:30.

[Mr. Smith's efforts on behalf of the St. Charles School for Boys were acknowledged in a letter by Mr. Simon, principal of the School. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 14, 1929

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
Supt. of Schools
Highland Park, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Smith:

I can't begin to express the gratitude and appreciation for the many fine things you are making possible for us. Nearly every day a package of books arrive.

I am quite sure that both you and the givers would rejoice could you but see the genuine interest shown by the boys receiving the books.

Emil Thompson just called to tell me of the inthusiam (sic) shown an[d] sympathy extended to us at the meeting he attended in Chicago Saturday.

I sincerely (sic) hope that some time in the near future we'll be able to thank you personally.

Sincerely,

E L Simon

Principal

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter to State Superintendent of School, Francis G. Blair. His letter and Mr. Blair's reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 14, 1929

State Superintendent of Schools
Francis G. Blair
Springfield, Illinois

My dear Mr. Blair:

With reference to the material in this letter I wish I could have an interview with you. Possibly you will be up in the Chicago area before long and can make an appointment to give me a half hour of your time. Meantime I will plunge right into my subject without explanations.

Since I visited the St. Charles School for boys a few weeks ago I have given much thought to the situation. I enclose a copy of a letter which explains itself. A number of the book publishers and many of my colleagues of the Round Table of Northern Illinois are responding generously. Of course contributions are more or less of the nature of palliative. They represent the response to an emergency, but we must fight off such emergencies.

Day before yesterday at a luncheon at the City Club of Chicago where fifty or more of my colleagues were present, it was decided to appoint a committee of five to represent the group either by taking some initiative or by lending active support to any meritorious movement. I was made chairman of the committee. Two of its members, G.E. Thompson of St. Charles and Howard Strom (sic) of Batavia are in close touch with a string of mens organizations representing the Fox River Valley. I think that ultimately the initiative will come from them, the spectacular work anyhow, but our committee plans to bore from within. To review a little bit, I might say that last summer Judge Mary Bartelme became so disturbed over tales of brutalities at the St. Charles School that came to her ears that she hesitated to commit boys there, and she appealed to the City Club of Chicago for an investigation. Henry P. Chandler, a former president of the City Club, was chairman of this committee and I believe it was largely due to their report that Mr. Ide transferred Major Butler and authorized new methods of dealing with offenders.

I called on Mr. Otto Elliott, the acting superintendent of the school and my estimate of him is that he is a worthy person but not at all equal to the situation. I hear that he wishes to be retained and that he is urging friends to work for him. I have heard a rumor that Mr. Ide will not be renominated. If I were placed in charge of affairs at St. Charles I believe I would not disturb the present corps of teachers much, I would add to the staff and I would equip the school liberally, hoping thereby to raise the morale greatly. I would clean out a number of the cottages however.

Well, what my colleagues and I wish is to receive practical suggestions in formulating a high grade program for the school and institution. If we have this pretty clear in mind we may be able to persuade people of the go-getter type to put through some big program.

St. Charles does not stand alone, of course. Pontiac has been receiving hordes of prisoners of penitentiary caliber. St. Charles has been receiving boys of the sophisticated and dangerously delinquent type. Perhaps a program should read like this:

1. Paid administration to be vastly improved.
2. A new school for dangerously delinquent.
3. St. Charles to be devoted to neglected boys and to mental incorrigibles of tender age.
4. Appropriations set aside for the reconstruction activities such as there is no precedent

for in the history of this state.

Think of fourteen manual training benches in a school for eight hundred boys, these benches taking care of fifty-six boys. This is the first year of their installation. There is a shoe shop, overall factory, and printing outfit there, but the last named only comes into the list of equipment of general educative importance, and only a comparatively few boys come in contact with it.

What authority, if any, has your office over the school? How would it do to put it strongly under the supervision & control of your office?

Please outline in a general way the improvements you would like to suggest for Pontiac and St. Charles, also the school for girls at Geneva.

Cordially yours,

January 23, 1929

Supt. Jesse L. Smith,
Highland Park,
Illinois

My dear Mr. Smith:

How like you it was to get interested in the situation at St. Charles. How natural for you it was to react in the way you did. Every year since I have been in this office the question of the proper classification or organization of the work done by the state has come up in some form or another. In order for you to understand the situation as it is, you must know that all these schools and state institutions are established by legislative enactment. There is usually considerable local pride and energy involved in the location of one of these institutions. Sometimes one section of the state will reach an understanding with another section so that each one will get an institution at the same time.

Now in order to get these institutions established and operating, the law must determine the method of their control. I say it without any intention to blame anyone, but merely to state a fact, that in practically every instance they have been placed under the control of the Governor. The Superintendent of Public Instruction in the beginning was conceived as the official in charge of the common schools of the state. The school for the blind, for the deaf, for reformatory purposes – these were not parts of the public school system because they were maintained by the state. I do not say that this was the way the matter was argued, but the results would indicate that some such reasoning went on. At any rate, one by one these schools were established with no sort of connection with the educational arm of the state. Once in my twenty-two years I have been asked to visit one of these institutions for the purpose of examining the work done. Of course, I have been invited to go to them to give commencement addresses on many other occasions.

For the last six years there has been considerable agitation in favor of transferring the state schools for the Blind and the Deaf and the Soldiers Orphans Home at Normal to the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, but nothing has come of it because there has not been enough power behind the proposal to overcome the inertia or opposition of the existing order.

Now a word about St. Charles. I have never visited the school, but under Colonel Whipp's regime I had opportunity to know something of it at fairly close range and had the impression that the school was being well managed. I have had a very definite impression, however, that the funds allowed for maintaining these schools were inadequate. Some of the things that you have discovered would indicate that that impression was correct.

On the matter of supplying books, I thought I could take care of that immediately as the state has a circulating library. Miss Anna May Price is in charge of the circulating library. They have over 40,000 copies of books selected especially for children's reading. Upon receipt of your letter I wondered why this circulating library had not been used for the St. Charles school. However, when Mr. Swift went to see her, she took the ground that she was working in conjunction with the public schools, and most of her books were in use and did not seem to feel that it was her particular job to get the books to St. Charles. I wish you would write her a letter and see if you can get her interested in the proposition.

In answer to your specific questions at the close of your letter, I may say that to all who have approached me in the past about the transference of the school for the Deaf, or the Blind, or the Orphans Home, or St. Charles, or Geneva, I have always said that I believed that the logical place for these institutions was under the Superintendent of Public Instruction, but that any effort on my part to secure such transfer would be subject to misinterpretation; that whatever action was taken must be taken by outside authorities.

I have never thought that the Pontiac institution was predominantly educational and have never considered it as being in the same class with the others mentioned, although it does have a very large educational program and probably could be greatly improved if it were made a part of the state wide educational program.

Assuring you of my active interest in your point of view and my hope that it will bring about some changes for the good of the children, I am

Yours sincerely,
F.G. Blair
Superintendent

A handwritten postscript to Mr. Blair's letter is transcribed as follows:

Jan. 28

P.S. This letter was dictated as I was leaving my office for several days. The stenographer did not feel like signing so here it is "after many days." F.G.B.

Tuesday, January 15

An ideal winter day. 4° below this A.M. & not above 10° above all day. At evening 4° above. Zero at 11:00 P.M.

Mrs J.S. Otten, Kg critic of La Crosse visited us for an hour or so this A.M.

Annual meeting of F.O.O.N.L held at Ravinia Village House this evening. 81 sat down to eat. Mrs Park, the dinner hostess. Mr Dodge of Chic showed int. motion pictures. Election of officers. Fine time. I took Miss Quick down to play for us.

Wednesday, January 16

4° above this A.M. and 24° above now (11:20 P.M). A little snow & sleet after night set in.

Conf with 2's & 4's over promotions

Samuelson worked on doors & locks today.

I read several chapters from Serg't York's Life Story this evening, and worked on my sk. c. notes.

Thursday, January 17

24° above this A.M. & rose to 32° or more. Rain in air. Melting some

Miss Knight ill and Mrs Anderson a sub.

Miss Tschirgi & Mr Vandyke took a 7B group to Field Museum today.

Samuelson spent most of day with us.

Olander came to measure for two doors, and a table.

Rep of Beckley-Cardy called.
Mr Schultz & I went to Community House at Win. to lecture on home industries by Lionel Robertson. Fine. Brot back by Mr & Mrs Lazard.

Friday, January 18

More or less rain much of day, then late aft. snow set in – a sort of northeaster.

This day Mr. Burwell and Miss Wilson came over to confer with our 8A's over proposed H.S. work. I told the members of the class that we would give all our diploma, but not recommend all to go to H.S.

I made a hasty trip to Nat'l Kg at Ev. where Prof. Elliot Downing was giving course of lectures & secured his agreement to lecture for us on Friday eve, Feb 1.

This evening worked over my sk. cab. paper
Expenses .72 + .50. Dist 107

Saturday, January 19

Three or four inches of snow in night. Moderately cold this A.M. A fine wintry day & evening without thawing.

To Chic. on 9:00 (8:50). To Barnes-Crosby to leave some negatives for good prints. To Chic. Transp Co to confer with Mr McLeod about my photomicrographic outfit.

Bd of Ed. rooms to try to see Hedges. To Remington people to order repairs. Abbott's to get some mounted work. This I checked at N.S. Electric. After lunch went to Chic City Club to try to meet Mr Millikan, but learned of his illness - - To Crerar Library for two hours or so, working on my sk. c. paper. Home at 7:00.

Sunday, January 20

About 2° below at daybreak. Rose to 20 or more. Beautiful wintry day.

Rested this A.M. This aft. unpotted specim. of sk. cab. at school & brot it home. Dissected it & made careful notes.

Went for a walk just before sunset. While enjoying a wonderful color effect on the lake, Mr & Mrs Kennicot drove up, & soon we all went down to see the sunset in the Skokie. Coming back, they came into my den to see the specimens, etc.

Again this evening we listened to the Stock concert over the radio.

Monday, January 21

About 12° above this A M. Fine day. A little thawing.

After morning exercises I took the 10:04 for Chic & the Douglas Pk el. for Austin Ave (60th Ave) where Supt Geo Schwebel met me and took me to the Rotary Club luncheon where I talked for 15 or 20 minutes about the St. Charles School. I was well-received I then visited the Cicero schools a while & was favorably impressed. Back to Chic by 3:30. Errands to Barnes Crosby & to Chic Transp Co. – Home by 5:30 This evening to City Council meeting to a hearing on proposed new road cutting over corner of Library property.

Earl Stratford fell down the Ravine slope today and broke his leg.

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter to the publishers of Popular Aviation Magazine to solicit their assistance on behalf of the St. Charles School for Boys. The letter is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Popular Aviation Magazine
608 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

Not long ago I visited our Illinois State School for boys at St. Charles, a detention school where eight hundred boys are detained for various lengths of time there receiving training. I found that the institution was meagerly equipped with things to inspire active boys. It is practically destitute of interesting library books, through no fault of the teaching staff who bitterly complain about the situation. And when I came to ask about the magazines for the boys to read, I found that they took one copy each of seven magazines for boys, and the teachers told me that the big boys got one chance in a month to look them over and for only a short while. Now this is a shameful condition considering the very wealthy state that is behind the institution, and we are organizing as fast as we can to do something big and worthwhile for the school, and to see that the state gives the school liberal support. For the present my colleagues and I are begging five dollar contributions from all Rotary clubs, and I have personally solicited a number of Chicago publishers who will send packages of books there, and it is with reference to subscriptions to the magazines that I am writing you. They need at least twelve copies, and I will say frankly, that if you will make a special rate on that number of copies of Popular Aviation to be sent to the St. Charles School for boys, I will greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

[To this appeal Mr. Smith received the reply transcribed as follows: - ed.]

February 12, 1929

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
Superintendent of Schools
Board of Education-School Dist. 107
Highland Park, Illinois

My dear Mr. Smith:

Please accept our apologies for the delay in answering your letter of January 21st. We have just moved into new quarters which is the cause of this delay.

We think your efforts in obtaining more reading material for the boys at St. Charles is highly commendable and we will be glad to furnish you with twelve subscriptions to AERONAUTICS, formerly Popular Aviation, for \$10.00.

Very truly yours
Popular Aviation,
now AERONAUTICS
Florence Haskins
Subscription Dept.

Tuesday, January 22

Rained much of the day and the water ponded on walks by snow drifts & the icy streets & walks have made walking and riding perilous.

I was on outdoor duty much of the time from 11:40 to 1:40 & went home to change wet clothing.

Gave talk on colonial bldgs to 6A's.

Conf with 5's & 7's.

To dinner & party of Chamber of Commerce this evening. Great show, such as it is.

Bad roof leak into costume room off stage.

Wednesday, January 23

Zero at 7:00 A.M. Warmed up some but no thawing. Down to 6° above at 10:30 P.M.
Wretched walking. One glare of ice.
Conf today with Mrs Creigh & Mrs Pfanstiehl over teachers & over grade promotions.
Some of the 7's gave two plays this A.M. to audiences of 1 – 6's – The Ruggleses, etc. Well done.
Worked over cases of discipline.
Conf. with 1's & Kg after school.
Some of our staff went on sleigh ride this evening but I stayed in to try to check a touch of cold.
Electrician fixed some of our electric light sockets, etc.
We have a raccoon at school. Had been trapped & suffered during severe weather. Lacerated foot.

Thursday, January 24

Milder but still below thawing. Late this aft a little flurry of sleet, & rain & snow which made walking easier
Mr Vandyke & I spent some time working over promotion plans.
Our P.T.A. meeting this evening a great success. Children explained their work in the rooms.
Refreshments served. Great crowd.
Trying to fight off a cold.

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter to Mr. Thompson regarding the contribution from the publishers of *Popular Mechanics*. The letter is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 24, 1929

Mr. G.E. Thompson
Superintendent of Schools
St. Charles, Illinois

My dear Mr. Thompson:

The publishers of *Popular Mechanics* magazine say that they will mail us, each month, twelve copies of *Popular Mechanics* provided we are willing to let them be two months behind, that is to say, instead of mailing the correct magazine for the month, they will mail them two months old, but that will not spoil them for the boys at St. Charles. I have accepted the proposition for *Popular Mechanics* and I am hoping to hear from other magazines to which I have made a special appeal.

I see that Mr. Brandon has really been appointed Director of Public Welfare.

If you have any news at any time please write me.

Sincerely yours,

Friday, January 25

6° or 8° above this A.M. after a windy night – Cold all day. Down to zero now (10:00 P.M.).
Mr Vandyke at Harvey today, representing me at opening of fine new school bldg by Supt F.L. Miller.
Mrs Hawkins taught today. She relieved in turn the 4 – 3rd grade teachers who met me for private conf. - - - - I tried to persuade Miss Palmer to withdraw for remainder of year, but she remained unconvinced of necessity.
8B's gave 8A's party & a spread after school. A fine affair of which I felt proud.
Got along well with my cold at school but it went for me this evening.

Saturday, January 26

2° below at daybreak. Moderated & as high as 18° above tonight.

I nursed my cold all day and did not leave the house.

Mr Vandyke went to the city for me. He looked up lockers for temporary use at school. He went to Barnes-Crosby to get some prints they had made for me, etc. I got some excellent skunk cabbage illustrative material. I worked over my notes some today.

Sunday, January 27

About same temp as yest. although about 24° above at daybreak. Some snow late aft.

I nursed my cold and stayed in again today.

Wrote up my notes on the sk. c. plant.

Finished Strachey's Elizabeth & Essex.

Began Chamberlain's The Two Worlds.

Listened to sermon by Shannon this A.M. & Fosdick this evening (radio). Also Stock concert 6:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Monday, January 28

Bright day but cold, ranging from 8 or 10 above to 18 or 20.

Conf with 4 – 5's after school this evening.

Revised my sk. cab. paper this evening.

At A M exercises told the story of Capt. Fried & the America in rescuing the crew of the Florida.

Photographed 8A's and developed plate. Not very good

Tuesday, January 29

About ~~42~~ 6° above this A M & about 18 to 20 later on.

Rep of music dept of Ginn & Co.

Our 8A's spent the day at the H-S. Mr Vandyke & Miss Sprague also.

I was at Library Bldg from 11 to 12 & 3 to 4:30 in conf with Mrs Everett, Mrs Balke, & Mr Garnett over the city's proposition to cross our corner with a roadway.

Got my sk. cab. mss ready for mailing.

Gave the 3rd & last of a series of talks on colonial arch. & Mt V. to 6A's.

Wednesday, January 30

About as yesterday.

Conf with upper grade teachers about classifying pupils.

Worked this evening on my mss of article on learning to read.

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter on behalf of the St. Charles School for Boys to Professor Graham Taylor. The letter is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

January 30, 1929

Professor Graham Taylor
Chicago Commons
955 West Grand Street
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Professor Taylor:

Some of us who are especially interested in the improvement of the St. Charles School for boys and are willing to work very hard in the support of any well-worked out program for that purpose are inviting suggestions from all available sources. My impulse to try to do something concrete has been prompted by a number of things including the incidents given so much publicity in the newspapers last summer and the data as to actual conditions there which I have at hand, part of which I obtained upon a friendly visit at the institution. In the academic department, for example, I found honest and well-intentioned work with very inadequate equipment and so I have been begging Rotary clubs and organizations of that sort, for a fund with which to furnish an ample supply of magazines like Popular Mechanics, and to begin the building up of a real library for boys to read, books of railroads, airplanes, etc., etc. A few of my colleagues and I have been able to get considerable publicity for the needs of the school within the last three weeks. We regarded the effort to raise funds merely as a palliative and we realized the necessity of an intelligent and far-reaching program. To that end we wish suggestions from as wide a range as possible. I will greatly appreciate it if you will tell me informally some of the things you would like to have done for St. Charles.

I might add that my present conviction is that it is very important to put the work of such schools under the same sort of management as the Normal schools and State University, then no one can be assigned to teach in the school, nor to preside over a cottage who has not been selected for his special fitness for that position. A plan of this sort and a determined stand for very much greater appropriations for the institution are the two big things I see to work for.

Sincerely yours,

Thursday, January 31

About 2 in. of snow fell in the night. A clear day, thawing a little. Late aft the mercury began to fall. It is now 0°.

The second of Mr Dasch's Little Symph. Conc. this aft. Greatly enjoyed by children who gave the best of attention. We were proud of the children & Mr Dasch was outspoken in praise.

This evening I called at the Thomas house for a while. Mr Thomas died on Tuesday after a very short illness. I had been friendly with him for years.

On way home, I visited an hour with Fritz Bahr.

[William H. Thomas was born in Manchester, Virginia on May 5, 1881. He married Corrine Gastfield in 1902, and they had two children, William H. and Clifford R. Mr. Thomas had been employed at Western Electric for twenty-five years. — ed.]

Friday, February 1

6° below this A M Did not moderate much all day. Is 0° now (11:00 P.M).

Honorable mentions to 8A class at assembly this A.M Let "best citizens" of each class carry flag or accompany it, a boy and a girl.

Dr. Downing came out during aft to visit us & be ready for his lecture this evening. Dr Frank came out later. I spent considerable time with each. Leech took Dr. D. out to his house to dinner, & Cunningham took Dr. F.

Ex. this evening went off successfully. Dr D talked about Pasteur & was given a close hearing. M. did not go. I was afraid to have her try it, ~~for~~ because of danger of slipping.

Saturday, February 2

2° below this A.M. but moderated a little more today. Now 10° above. An ideal winter day.

To Chic. on 9:34. To Schoenbrod for mending tissue (2⁰⁰). To Palmer House for a long conf. over St Chares School with Thompson of St. Charles and Storm of Batavia. Lunch there. Then we had errands together including one at Art Inst. where I introduced these men to Mr Gutherz & talked possible exhibits. Storm came as far as Wilmette with me.

Spent several hours this evening on mss of article on reading.
At Fields ordered soap & toilet paper & conferred over curtain materials

Sunday, February 3

About 20° above this A.M & near that all day.
M & I to Presb Ch. this A.M. Taxi there & brot back by the Sundells.
Long nap this aft. Then over to Green Bay site, to hospital to call on Earl Stratford (broken leg), to Bray's house where I saw the twins (4 mo old), to Cunningham's for a short time
This evening worked on my mss

Monday, February 4

Fine day. Thawed a little in sunny sheltered places.
Transfer of pupils today. Mrs Hawkins came to assist Miss Palmer organize the new 3B's.
Teachers' meeting at 4:00.
This evening our library board met with the City Council at 7:00 and considered plans for the new Sheridan Road and the relation of our library bldg to it. I left the group at 8:30 & went to the Moraine Hotel where a banquet was on – to scout executives, et. al. of North Shore Fine program.
Today I got a letter from Nature Magazine offering me 50⁰⁰ for my article on Skunk Cabbage

Tuesday, February 5

Fine day. Began to thaw today.
Miss Sprague absent and I subbed for three of her recitations
Fine conf. with 5 – 6's in Miss Fallstad's room this aft.
Walked over to lake front at 5:00 and lingered to enjoy the fine color on the ice field. While there met Mrs Pf. in her machine with Miss K. & went with them to see the sunset effects in the Skokie
Worked until 1:00 A.M. on my mss. Ready now for revision

Wednesday, February 6

A little colder with a suggestion of snow flurry.
Afternoon conf. with 1 – 2 – 3's.
Spent some time organizing program to care for remedial work.
Worked on my mss. again this evening.

Thursday, February 7

Mr. Leech & I left on the 8:04 for Chic & to the Midway Studio at 6016 Ellis. Mrs Millard met us there by appointment & was with us until 3:00 in the aft. - - Midwinter meeting of Illinois Art Ex. Soc. Mr Hieronymus presided. Mr. Taft talked over radio. Then we visited various studios there. Lunch at Ida Noyes Hall. At Harper Library at 2:30 to lecture on wood-carving by Aloysius Lang. Lois Greene here & went along with us to Cong. S[em?]. where we had tea at 4:30. Then to vespers at 5:00 at the wonderful chapel. S. & I went with Lois for a short visit in Billings' Bldg, then left for home

Friday, February 8

Snowed two or three inches in night. Moderated.
Conf with Miss Kirkland & Miss Palmer over their need of an assistant
This evening at a party at Mrs Law's – for all the teachers – until 8:15. Then to Presb. Ch. – Fellowship Club to hear Prof Willett talk on Lincoln
Finished my Mss on learning to read and got it ready to be mailed

[Mr. Smith submitted his manuscript to *The Atlantic Monthly*. It was declined. The Jesse Lowe Smith papers in the Archive of the Highland Park Public Library include the editors' response, Mr. Smith's submission letter, and the manuscript. All are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

THE MANUSCRIPT *which we are returning to you has been among those in which we have taken a special interest, and if through press of work it is not possible for us to write you a personal letter, we hope you will realize that we have enjoyed your paper, and are greatly obliged for your courtesy in sending it.*

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITORS

February 8, 1929.

The Editor,
The Atlantic Monthly,
8 Arlington St., Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir :

The enclosed manuscript represents an effort to poke a little fun at some educational methods, present and past. I shall be much gratified if you can make use of it.

The names of the school master and his pupils are fictitious.

Professor Charles W. Odell is the author of the Glossary mentioned and it was published by the University of Illinois.

The Beacon Gateway to Reading published by Ginn and Co. contains the interesting preface which is quoted. Miss Marjorie Hardy of the School of Education of the University of Chicago sets forth the idea of laying a foundation for the social adjustment of the child in the primary grades in the preface of *The Story of Sally and Billy* published by a Chicago firm.

The New England Journal of Education was the medium used by the enthusiastic reviewer.

Mrs Marietta Johnson of the school at Fairhope, Ala., is referred to as trying to defer the teaching of reading until the child is 8 or 9 years old.

Barrett Wendell's *the Mystery of Education* is the source of one quotation.

Very truly yours,

ON LEARNING TO READ.

There is always some one to remind us that they do things differently these days, the classic example being the parent who rashly ventures to assist his child with a problem in arithmetic. That the remark may be given a very wide application is readily admitted. Consider, for example, the field of activity in which those are engaged who are endeavoring to dispel the mystery which surrounds the educative process. Here no one can be an altogether disinterested observer. Naturally we would seem to be justified in regarding activity of this sort with complaisance and freedom from anxiety since we ourselves are safely educated and may generously admit this to be true, with judicious reservations, of our associates, but maturer observation engenders mixed feelings.

Much that is going on in educational research these days seems to elude the simple vocabulary which sufficed in the more or less empirical day-before-yesterday when we were children, and so there are moments when we have feelings of glad surprise that under the circumstances we were ever educated at all. That is looking on the brighter side. There are other times when we can not entirely avoid the misgiving that we may not have been educated at all, even within the limits of our own particular I.Q's. In our formative period were ever such terms applied to us as "prognostic tests", "coefficient of brightness", "achievement ratio" and the like? All these expressions and 297 others are carefully explained in a "Glossary of three hundred terms used in educational research", published recently by one of our great universities. It is looking over the pages of this glossary that purges us oldtimers of any feeling of condescension towards the fearless and serious-minded workers of today. The situation is too real and we are like to recall Barret Wendell's warning of a short while ago that we are "threatened on all sides by unmeaningly impious dissipation of our mystery".

The list of terms in the glossary begins with the abbreviation A.A which is defined as the "abbreviation for achievement age, also accomplishment age and attainment age". Who of us can follow on down the long list to the three hundredth term which is "Zero Point" and defined as "the point on any given scale which means just not any of the trait or characteristic measured by that scale", I say who can follow down the list without being not only a wiser and better but also a bewildered person? They certainly do things differently these days. Note the different kinds of age defined there, seven in all, but not to be confused with the seven ages of Shakespeare. There are achievement age, accomplishment age, attainment age, chronological age, educational age, social age, and subject age, all applicable at one and the same time to the child who is the subject of research. Such discriminations were unknown to our childhood. In the glossary we can learn that marks are still used in educational practice but that children accumulate scores, which are something quite different. Now and then appears on the list a familiar term but it usually exhibits a sort of sea change under the illumination of its definition. Let us copy one or two of these.

"Difficulty. Difficulty is one of the three characteristics or dimensions of pupils' performances. It has been defined as that characteristic of an exercise which when present in a large degree causes a large per cent of incorrect responses and when present in a small degree a small per cent of incorrect responses. In other words, the degree of difficulty of an exercise is determined by the per cent of incorrect responses obtained when it is given to a large number of pupils. If the point of zero difficulty is determined and if certain assumptions are made concerning the distribution of ability of the group of pupils to whom an exercise is given, the degree of difficulty of an exercise can be expressed in terms of a measure of variability of this distribution of ability, etc."

"Scientific: Strictly speaking, anything based upon facts is scientific. For the field of educational research an investigator may be called scientific when he knows his data and uses them with a complete recognition of any imperfections that may exist in them or in his procedure. The significance of this statement becomes more fully apparent when we realize that in educational research the data dealt with are seldom, if ever, perfect".

Now there are special fields of educational research not represented in this glossary, learning to read being one of these, for example. In this field we find that those who are trying to solve the mystery of how children learn to read are also rapidly building up a vocabulary as technical as that encompassed within the glossary above mentioned. Here for an illustration, is the preface to one of the very latest reading books designed to be simple enough to precede even the primer, if not, indeed, to be read before the child goes to any school. In the second paragraph of this preface which, of course, was not written for the child to read, the authors say, "Recognizing the eye as a highly important agent in the reading process, the authors have worked out in the light of the studies and research of recent years, exercises intended to develop focal fields, wider perceptual spans, and eye-sweeps from left to right, and to reduce to a minimum eye-pauses and eye-regressions".

The casual reader is probably not astonished that the eye should receive such recognition but he will be impressed by the technique of the exercises. An enthusiastic reviewer was also impressed and in the columns of an

educational journal he observed, "To one who has no suspicion of what has been going on in the study of the reading of little children much of this book could easily be absurd, for it is as far from the word and sentence method of a few years ago as that was from the a, b, c method of learning to read". Then he asks quite pertinently, "What would focal fields, perceptual spans, eye sweeps, and eye-regressions have meant to any teacher even ten years ago?". "What, indeed", we echo and we think with grave misgivings of our teachers of forty years ago. What would Johnnie Emmitt have made of it, my teacher so long now in the Elysian fields or somewhere else!

Johnnie Emmitt taught the "intermediate grades" in our school which seems to have included the third reader class and that class included Bill and Henry Peffler and me. I cannot explain the term "Johnnie". It was not a term of endearment. It was probably a concession to the optimism of his parents. As we boys knew him he was a mean one, peace to his perturbed spirit! Bill and Henry were twins that under the same nurture grew at different rates and probably had different I.Q's. In those days we did not reckon such things in percentages or make graphs about them. We were content to say that Henry was brighter than Bill. Henry could read with some degree of fluency out of his and Bill's copy of McGuffey's Third Reader, but Bill couldn't, or, at any rate, didn't, and so Johnnie Emmitt would beat him. He doubtless thought that a beating would motivate Bill's effort. I can hear Bill sobbing yet after all these years and how I still hate Johnnie Emmitt!

Of course, Johnnie Emmitt knew naught of focal fields and perceptual spans and so should be pardoned for making a mess of teaching Bill to read, but that doesn't explain how Henry learned to read. Because Henry did read his teacher perhaps reasoned that Bill could and should and so he beat him up. In his more thoughtful moments, however, the teacher must have marvelled that Henry could read. It was all a great mystery. Perhaps the most advanced investigator of today feels the same way and is a little piqued about it. Mark the optimism with which in early days the gifted author of McGuffey's New First Eclectic Reader for Little Children presented Lesson I. The children were to know the names of the letters of the alphabet in their precise order and they were to be able to say the name of each letter when they saw that letter. Thus equipped the child was ready for Lesson I which, underneath the picture of a spirited ox, began as follows:

Lesson I.

(To the teacher. Let the child spell each work in the line, then read the line),

Spell

Read.

is it an ox

Is it an ox?

So the child said aloud: eye-ess eye-tea aye-en oh-ex Is it an ox? And so on. This was a remarkable performance but it happened. About everybody did it. The teacher must often have thought it mysterious but the selection of the material seemed to her so logical. One-syllabled words first and then the gradual introduction of words of two or more syllables!

Now the ox hardly exists today except in picture books and foreign parts and that is one reason why children now do not begin to read about the ox in words of one syllable. Really they begin in all sorts of ways and with utter disregard of the number of syllables to the word. One of our famous teachers has the conviction shared by a great many others that the primary school is to lay the foundation for the social adjustment of the children and she notes that right there the old-fashioned school fell down. If it were possible to confront Johnnie Emmitt and the teachers of his day with that assertion they would be too astonished to venture a disclaimer. They would be still further astonished at the child's first reading book. Perhaps its title would be Billy and Henry and it would take up the matter of their social adjustment at the start. Page one would content itself with the statement that Billy and Henry got up and a glorious picture would present the transaction in a most favorable light. On pages two and three they would wash their faces and brush their teeth. Page eight would disclose them at breakfast, eating oranges and some oatmeal, and drinking some milk. Subsequent pages would reveal them harmoniously at play, visiting a farm and enlarging their ideas of number by counting the various animals, going to the grocery store, and at the end of a happy day going to bed on page 51 after having brushed their teeth and taken a bath on pages 49 and 50.

But how do the children read this material? Well, it is a remarkable performance but it happens. At the outset the children do not know the names of the letters of the alphabet in their precise order nor are they able to say the name of each letter when they see that letter, and, therefore they do not spell out words. They simply read whole words and sentences off at a flash, as it were. This is called the word and sentence method. Its success depends upon the presentation of the subject by the teacher, the urge of the attractive pictures, and the inevitableness of the context. It almost reads itself. Perhaps the McGuffey children learned to read very much the same way,

eluding the vigilance of the teacher who was always saying, "Spell it". Poor old Bill Peffler (he must have been all of eleven years of age, I being minus eight) was not quick at memorizing and shrewd at guessing and so he did not know what it was all about and so his teacher beat him. Today, after Bill's grandchild has got well under way by means of the word and sentence method and due attention has been given to his perceptual span and eye-sweeps, his teacher gradually reveals to him the sounds of the letters and incidentally their names and so he begins to help himself when an unfamiliar word comes into view. These days he and his school mates are likely to read thirty or more simple books their first year of school. Some of his achievement is due to his ability to sound his way along. Bill's teacher said, "Spell it". The grandchild's teachers says "Sound it", and that is what many sly little rascals in McGuffey's day must have done.

That reminds one that McGuffey gradually revealed to the pupils that letters had sounds as well as names, and he began to mark these sounds with numbers, so that there was a1, a2, a3, etc., and soon came along J. Madison Watson with a gospel of diacritical marks and now there were long lists of tonics, subtonics, and atonics to memorize and recognize when one met them. Note by way of illustration how the author explained to children in the third grade how to word "hen" is formed:

"The word HEN, as spoken, is formed of three oral elements; hēn-hen. The first is a mere breathing; hence it is an atōnic. The second is a pure tone: hence it is a tonic. The third is a modified tone; hence it is a subtonic".

The first thirtysix pages of the third reader was devoted to material of that sort which it was insisted should be learned as a prerequisite to beginning the choice readings which followed. Behold, then, the first paragraph in the first section of the choice readings:

"Grace Grant is one of the (thū) best of my dear youŋg friēnds. She has a fine fōrm and a swēet face. Hēr large bright eyes are grāy. Hēr hâir is brown".

Here again, even in J. Madison Watson's time, the old Adam in children showed himself. They deceitfully disregarded the diacritical marks, ignored the distinctions giving rise to tonics, subtonics and atonics, and read anyway. After twenty years or so the diacritical marks were reabsorbed into the big dictionaries where they fringe the bottom of the pages today and vex the reading books no more. In view of all that has been said one may venture the assertion that children have all along persisted in learning to read in spite of the method or the lack thereof, and whether it is about the one-syllabled ox or the child fortified with orange and cereal, their beginning to read may lead one knoweth not whither. There may be a book under a bench surreptitiously consulted (again the old Adam in youth) and long after the man to who the child was the father admits that "The regular course of studies, the years of academical and professional education, have not yielded me better facts than some idle books under the bench at the Latin School". Let it be added here that Emerson's tender years were probably nurtured on the New England Primer which all of us would today rate almost at the "Zero Point" of method.

Some objection may be taken to the implication that learning to read is more or less inevitable and it may be asserted that the mystery which always attended the process in the past has not resolved itself in spite of modern research. One still encounters the fond but mystified parent who persists in reporting that his child ranges blithely through his reading book but does not know one letter from another. Those especially concerned in this form of research frankly admit that insufficient progress has been made to establish a method of reading on an absolutely scientific basis. A great many more workers are needed and it calls for the expenditure of considerable sums of money, but grants from foundations and appropriations from the National Education Association will doubtless be forthcoming. Learning to read will still continue to persist, of course, no matter how faulty the method of reading. The desire to read – that is the true mystery and anyone who wittingly or unwittingly can stimulate that in the child will "teach" him to read even in the lack of an absolutely scientific basis of procedure. Perhaps refinement of method will always wait upon the child's desire, and perhaps that desire may be stimulated through reading books concerned with laying the foundation for the social adjustment of the child, but there are some of us who hold the odds to favor Simple Simon, Chicken Little, Robinson Crusoe and the like. There can be no unmeaningly impious dissipation of the mystery of their appeal.

It remains to dispose of the perplexing phenomenon known as "spontaneous reading" which has long been recognized but not explained. In a recent discussion of the relative importance of nature and nurture a distinguished professor referring to a "concrete illustration" remarked casually that the boy learned to read "spontaneously" at the age of three and one half years, that when he entered school at seven he "chanced" to try the Ayres-Buckingham spelling scale and scored eighth grade in spelling ability. The professor was concerned in the discussion only of the

spelling ability and its origin, making no further reference to the spontaneous reading, as if it were to be taken as a matter of course. It may be that among the many people who have no recollection of how they learned to read there doubtless are here and there those who learned to read "spontaneously". Another authority regards the actual learning to read as hardly a problem. She remarks that children teach themselves when at the age of 8 or 9 they recognize the need and use of information contained in books. It seems that when the time is ripe pent-up energy is released all at once and the children explode into reading, as it were. The educator goes so far as to try to prevent children from learning to read at too early an age. It is said that she has not been entirely successful in this, and here is a fruitful suggestion for teachers who may have pupils that are reluctant to learn to read. Perhaps if they forbade them to read they would create a compelling stimulus for reading. This is a point that will appeal to the very considerable body of our citizens who deplore laws regulating conduct as inciting the conduct expressly prohibited. Pudd'nhead Wilson emphasized this same point in another case. Referring to the episode in the Garden of Eden he says that Adam did not want the apple for the apple's sake, he wanted it only because it was forbidden. He observes that the mistake was in not forbidding the serpent; then Adam would have eaten the serpent.

The reference to learning to read spontaneously was intended to be a sort of footnote to this discussion but glancing over it again, one must conclude that it did not clear up anything at all, as a good footnote should. Perhaps it may be left to honest Dogberry to say the last word. He observes that to be a well-favored man is the gift of fortune but to write and read comes by nature. Whatever he means by that, in the light of what has been set forth above, it is probable that he is right.

Saturday, February 9

About 3° above this A.M. & grew colder this aft. At zero now – 11:00 P.M.

8:34 for Chic. – To Studebaker Th. where I bot 40 balcony seats at 1⁵⁰ & engaged 20 more for next Wed. matinee. To Rickett's to leave Louis Dalponte's diploma. To City Club for Round Table Luncheon where I spoke (5 minutes) for the committee on St. Charles. Thompson, Storm & I conferred on the subject.

To Stevens Hotel to Ceramics expo. Met Elizabeth Payne Hartnett there, also her sister. – To Art Institute at Ann'l Ex. of Chic. artists. Met Nygaard & Rowell there. Then Geo. Hooker & with him made a tour of the collection. Mr Dudley joined us for a time. - - To 28 No Mich. to see at Wienhobers a spec. of black calla in bloom

Home at 6:40 - - -

Sunday, February 10

10° below at dawn. Moderated but still cold.

At Highwood M E Church to hear Rev Mr. Hopkins talk on the religious influence of Washington & Lincoln.

At home rest of day. Marjorie Leaming called for an hour to talk over her plans.

Re-reading Pudd'nhead Wilson

Monday, February 11

6° above at dawn. Moderated little today.

Gave one Lincoln talk today.

Miss Prather, a kg. teacher from Lead, S.D. called.

I met by appointment Irene Clapham, candidate for assistant in 1B.

We teachers had tea at Mrs Millards after school. Fine time. M. went along.

Board meeting this evening. Wood & Meyer out of town. Guyot ill.

Learned this aft. of the death of A.J. Metzler Saturday, A M.! A very likable man.

Tuesday, February 12

3° below at dawn. Did not moderate greatly. A little fine snow late this aft.

Agreed with Miss Prather this A.M. for her to help Miss Kirkland organize her 1B work, giving us 6 weeks of her time for \$250.⁰⁰.

Gave Lincoln talk with slides to 7 – 8's.

Went to funeral of Mr. A.J. Metzel this aft – Miss Davis there. Simple service.

This evening worked on notes for a memo on St. Charles.

Our 8's sold about 1000 Lincoln buttons at 5 cents – profit 3 cents!

[Albert Jackson Metzel was born in Milwaukee and came to Chicago in 1882. He had been a resident of Highland Park for 17 years at the time of his death (age 65), living on Sycamore Place with his wife Della and son Truman. Mr. Metzel was president of Cutler Shoe Company. – ed.]

[Mr. Smith received a handwritten letter from Mr. Thompson, in which Mr. Thompson enclosed a letter that he had received from Mr. Brandon, Director of the Illinois Department of Public Welfare. Both letters are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Feb 12, 1929

Dear Mr. Smith:

Just a note to report progress. Chicago Heights Rotary Club sent 10.00 for book fund. Am enclosing copy of letter from Mr. Brandon. It looks hopeful, don't you think?

Could you and I spend Sat. morning Feb. 16 at Fields selecting the books?

Please let me hear from you.

Geo E Thompson

February 7, 1929

Mr. George E. Thompson, Supt.
St. Charles Public Schools
St. Charles, Illinois

Dear George:-

I am very glad to note the ineterest (sic) you and Storm and Smith are taking in St. Charles. Keep on being interested. Col. Whipp also includes his feelings along this line with mine.

The first time I am up there I will have a meeting with you fellows and see if you won't agree with me on a general scheme for the school. I don't suppose we can get \$250,000 for a Vocational Training School, but I can tell you right now we will get all the money we need to buy all the materials to build anything we can build as a vocational operation.

I haven't time to write you fully this afternoon because I have to leave the office now to go over to Heyworth to a meeting, but remember that I will be glad to visit with all three of you at the first opportunity.

Very truly yours,
Rodney H. Brandon
Director

Wednesday, February 13

Milder. Light snow in the night. Ditto late this evening.

Showed lantern slides to 1B's – Lincoln material.

This aft Misses Knight and Sprague & I took 61 8's to the Taming of the Shrew at the Studebaker. Our own car on the N. S. each way. A splendid performance. Did not get home until 6:50 P.M.

At school an hour or so this evening helping get together materials for the Presb. Guild players who are getting up a play.

Met Mrs Lew Colwell, Mrs (Prof) Lewis, Edith J. Smith, Mrs Western, et. al. in City.
[Pasted to this page is a clipping from the playbill for The Stratford-Upon-Avon Festival Company production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. -ed.]

Thursday, February 14

About 12° above this A.M. Didn't moderate much. Grew colder this evening.
Met 6's at one time and 5's another for Lincoln slides.
conf with Miss Meyers over arith.
Library Board this evening. Mr Flinn there and presented sketches of library site, discussed possible location of new b'ld'g, etc.
Looked in at Aud. on way home where players were rehearsing.

Friday, February 15

Milder. Thawed some.
I have been troubled with a wretched cold. In school only a part of each session.
Promised Mrs Hawkins 35⁰⁰ a week for this half of school year to assist in 3rd grade. Miss Prather is to have \$250⁰⁰ for 6 weeks in 1B.
Helped The Presb. Guild Players with their outfit after school awhile. My distemper too severe to permit me to go out this evening.

Saturday, February 16

A mildly thawing day.
I was shut in with a beastly cold. Went down this aft to barber, to call on Dr Grady, & to get groceries. Came back with violent distemper. This seemed to be checked by mercurichrome as per Dr. G's suggestion this evening.

[Mr. Smith received a letter from Mr. Blair. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

February 16, 1929
Supt. Jesse L. Smith, Highland Park, Illinois
Dear Mr. Smith:
Nothing you have undertaken is more revealing of your fine practical, Christian spirit of service than your efforts in behalf of these boys. I have a very good opinion of Mr. Brandon. I know he will be able to understand your point of view. I hope he will find the means and the methods of realizing your sane and worth while recommendations.
Yours sincerely, <i>F.G. Blair</i>

Sunday, February 17

Thawing. Mercury rose to 36 or 40.
My cold greatly improved but I stayed in nearly all day.
Lois & Mr. Green called for a while.
I worked on a circular letter for the St. Charles School.

Monday, February 18

Wind blew a while before time. Then a calm and the mercury fell & window panes froze over. 3° below at dawn!

Cold all day. Light snow after nightfall.

Miss Grunewald at Rockford because of illness of her mother. Margaret Heffron Mason, sub. Miss West ill with ptomaine poisoning. Mrs Cumming sub. Miss Sprague absent because of inflamed eye (cinder). No sub. I taught two periods. Mr V. one.

Photographer began taking individual pictures of children.

Three of my staff and I went to DeForest school to hear talk by Miss Vittum. There I met Mrs Covey and Katharine (Mrs Kernmer) & had fine chat.

Worked on St Charles notes this evening.

Tuesday, February 19

Snow in the night but near zero at dawn. Cold all day. Now at 10:30 it is 5° below.

Miss West on duty again. Miss Sprague still absent. I heard three of her classes.

Six of us went to Mrs Goodman's for lunch & had a delightful time.

I spent a half hour or so after lunch with a group at the Woman's Club telling them about the Ridgway Bird Haven Memorial.

Teachers' meeting after school.

Basket ball with Ravinia – Lincoln at our school. Both of our teams won.

Worked on St Charles notes again this evening

[Robert Ridgway (1850-1929), American ornithologist and author of numerous books and articles, including the twelve volume *The Birds of North and Middle America*, was Curator of Ornithology for the Smithsonian until 1916 when he moved to Olney. He purchased 18 acres in the country which he developed as a bird sanctuary called Bird Haven. At a meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in New York in 1925, the project of a memorial to Mr. Ridgway was introduced, and a committee authorized for the purpose of raising funds to preserve Bird Haven. A national committee consisting of Dr. Harry C. Oberholser for the American Ornithologists' Union, Mr. Percival B. Coffin of Chicago, for the Wilson Ornithological Club, and Mr. Harry Harris of Eagle Rock, California for the Cooper Ornithological Club, and later Mrs. Gertrude Cox of Chicago as a special representative for Illinois, was appointed. The Ridgway Bird Haven Association was formed and incorporated under Illinois law in 1927. Approximately \$27,000 was raised. In the summer of 1929, Mrs. Frances K. Hutchinson of Chicago offered to assume the responsibility of increasing the fund to \$50,000 and thus provided for the future of Bird Haven. Mrs. Hutchinson also purchased an adjoining farm of 100 acres to increase the area of the bird sanctuary. (see June 27, 1930 entry.) – ed.]

Wednesday, February 20

13° below this A.M! Moderated soon and 12 or 15 above during day.

Gave slide talks on Washington for 3rd's and for 4 – 5's.

This aft. Dudley Crafts Watson addressed P.T.A & the 6 – 8's on Art & the Child. He used charcoal and sheets of paper and made a most amusing & valuable talk.

This evening worked on St Charles material again.

Thursday, February 21

A little above zero at dawn. Milder, though cold set in as daylight went out.

Met 6 – 8's in aud from 9 to 10:20. The Kg's & 1 – 2's from 11:10 to 11:30.

Visitors from Lake Villa schools, three teachers, sponsored (by phone) by Mrs Hamblin.

Took 12:04 for St Charles, reaching there at 3:30. On way visited with Pearl McCord Hill and Jean as far as Glen Ellyn. Two bailiffs had 5 boys for the State School on this train.

Storm & Thompson met me & we went out to the school. With Mr Simon we visited Dr. Campbell, the psychiatrist, then the tailor shop, etc A lengthy conf with Supt Eliot. I took 6:20 for Chic. & at Goodman Theatre saw the repertoire company give Dear Brutus.

[Inserted at this page is a clipping from the playbill of The Kenneth Sawyer Goodman Memorial Theatre for The Art Institute of Chicago production of *Dear Brutus* - A Comedy in Three Acts by James M. Barrie. - ed.]

Friday, February 22 Holiday

2° above at dawn. 7° above now (11:00 P.M). A consistently cold day

Spent an hour or so at school with Mr Van Dyke & Mr Schultz. Also with Miss Parson who was outlining a map of U.S. on the floor.

This aft to Chic. Tried unsuccessfully to meet Mr. Henry P. Chandler. - - Went out to N.U. Settlement & had a fine interview with Miss Vittum. Then walked round for several blocks in her neighborhood. - Polish cathedral - - Small Park. Desecration of park system, etc

Home at 6:30.

Called at the R.W. Patton home a while this evening. Chat with Robert.

[Mr. Smith wrote a letter to Professor Earl D. Myers, who wrote in reply to Mr. Smith's inquiry. Both letters are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

February 22, 1929

Professor Earl D. Meyers,
Department of Social Economy,
The University of Chicago.

Dear Professor Myers:

Some one sent me a clipping a few days ago taken from a downstate paper in which reference was made to a study you had made of the School for Boys at St. Charles. The statement was that you had spent some time at the school and had sent in a report to Director Ide, etc. I meant to write Mr. Ide about it at once by neglected to do so, and then came the news of the appointment of Mr. Ide's successor. So I am prompted to write you directly to inquire if you did turn in a formal report and if you can help me to secure a copy of it.

Some of us are taking a friendly and active interest in the St. Charles school and two of my colleagues, H.C. Storm of the Batavia Schools and G.E. Thompson of the St. Charles city schools, and I have been appointed a committee to represent the organization known as the Superintendents' Round Table of Northern Illinois in a campaign for more adequate equipment for the school. We have established friendly relations with Sup't Elliot and Mr. Edwin Simon, and are to have an interview with Mr. Brandon soon. We are trying to prepare ourselves to suggest and back up projects for betterment of conditions and we are trying to get suggestions from everyone who has made any sort of study of the school. Would you mind writing me what you wish could be done for the school?

Sincerely yours,

1 Gordon Place
Gordon Square W.C.1
London, England

9 March 1929

Jesse L. Smith
Superintendent of Schools
Highland Park, Illinois

Dear Professor Smith:

Your letter of the 22nd February concerning St. Charles School for Boys was forwarded to me here. My report is due to appear in two forms. A very brief statement will be found in the Illinois Crime Survey, now in press, having been prepared under the auspices of the Illinois Association for Criminal Justice, with headquarters at 300 West Adams Street, Chicago. A much fuller report will soon be published by the University of Chicago Press in a little monograph which I recently completed on the Treatment of Delinquents in Illinois. I should advise, since I am so far away, and will be until January next, that you write to Dean Edith Abbott, Graduate School of Social Service Administration, Chicago University concerning a copy of the report, since she has charge of its publication.

I am very glad you and your colleagues are taking under consideration the problems of St. Charles, and sincerely hope you will be able to effect some of the changes so important out there.

With my best wishes,

Very sincerely,
Earl D Myers

Saturday, February 23

Off for Cleveland 8:04 to Chic. LaSalle St. Special train, ours the last car. Chic Princ. had two cars.

Fare 18:45. Seat 2:25 Cleveland at 5:45. Walked to Statler. Stood in line over one hour to secure reservation. Eight o'clock before we got through meal. Some of us did not go to meeting.

Talked today with Hedges about possibility of keeping sch. bldgs open until 9:00 P.M. Said he had tried it – to little purpose.

Clarke Wright did not come on our train.

Sunday, February 24

Wright got in at 8:00 this A M He & Merrill & I went to First Univ. Ch at 82 and Euclid. Rev Mr. Snow, head of Meadville Theolog. School of Chic. sub for Rev Mr. Lupton, minister. Fine music, fine ritual, fine address, fine organist, all fine.

“And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone.”

3:15 Vespers at Music Room in the Cleveland aud – Music by Glenville H-S. chorus astonishingly well done. A Hebrew chorale stood out. Tenor soloist, a jewish boy.

Storm & I went to the Stone Church this evening. Fine spirit of worship. Large cong. Theological discourse.

Cleveland aud. deeply impresses one as a contribution to and a source of municipal uplift.

[Pasted to this page are two clippings, for the service of The First Unitarian Church and for the Vesper Service. – ed.]

Monday, February 25

A.M. First general session.

Aft. Principals' section.

P.M. Wright, Lemon & I sat in 3rd row, left-center balcony. A great spectacle.

Conf with Mr Hoffman late this evening over St Charles situation.

[Pasted to this page are two clippings from the meeting of the National Education Association, Department of Superintendence. – ed.]

Tuesday, February 26

Breakfast with the Illinois group at the Statler. A good time but not of much significance. Memo – Bertha Armbruster's funny story.

Lunch with Rowel, Nygaard & Storm at the Bismarck

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of the third general session of the meeting. – ed.]

Wednesday, February 27

Got to Chic by 7:00 & caught 8:03 home

Everything melting. Great slippery places here & there. Water on sidewalks. A smell of Spring in the air.

All well at home and school.

Had all pots in cold frames brot into dark room.

Went to call on Mr. Highley & learned the name of the choice tomato he raised, then sent to W.S. Schell, Harrisb'g, Pa for seed.

To Geog of Soc. of Ch – Directors' dinner at Union League Club. Carveth Wells & Bert Massey guests Interesting occasion

Conf with 3's at 11:00.

Thursday, February 28

~~Got into~~ Another fine day tho a little cooler Melting continued.

Conf with 4's at 3:00.

After school photographed two pictures – Harding and a group including him - & this evening developed the negatives.

Friday, March 1

A little below freezing all day. Vigorous snow flurries which a burst of sunshine almost counterbalanced.

I went down to Nichols Int School at Ev this A.M. & gave a slide talk to 7th graders. A Spring talk. Gave them a potted cabbage. - - Mr Walker showed me all over the wonderful plant. Then we had lunch together. I got back at 2:00.

Conf with 5's at 2:30.

This evening met Ridolfi & Bartoli at my office & gave R. the letter I received from Amer Cons at Naples & one I wrote in reply. These he is to send to his wife who is to use them as introduction when she applies for a visa. I charged R \$1⁰⁰ for expenses.

Saturday, March 2

Milder. Thawed considerably.

To Chic on 10:04. To Cent. Scient. Co to consult J.R. Girard about app. for registering heat in sk. cab. He referred me to Bausch & Lomb & they gave me list of the Ganong app & advised me to write Prof. Ganong. I did so this evening.

Went out to Inst for Juv. Research – 907 So Lincoln Ave – to see Harrison Dobbs but he was gone for the day. Then to Flower Show at Sherman House. Great exhibit. Visited with Schantz, Gault, Mrs Baroody, Dorothy Trainor, etc.

Sunday, March 3

Bright, then gray but thawing.

Mrs Merryweather called me over this A.M. to see a fine flock of purple finches – 30 or more.

Church with M. Presb.

This aft on way over to school met Mrs Carleton Moseley in machine with Mrs Geo Moseley & little boy. Fine chat with her. Marion & Dr Sniffle now at Baltimore. Geo in N.Y. city until Fall.

Heard Brandon talk over radio from Downers Grove this evening. Also heard Stock's orchestra at 6:00.

Phoned Howard Storm at Batavia this evening.

Monday, March 4

Thawed again today but ended up gray and cool

At morning ex. we recited names of presidents, etc.

At 11:00 we assembled again & with loud speaker set up by H.P. Music Co. we heard the speeches at the inauguration ceremony. A fine experience – 4 – 8's present – 20 rooms!

Teachers' meeting this aft.

Sent off a Dreer order.

Mrs Georgia Bradley Chin - - visited us today.

Tuesday, March 5

Milder. Beautiful day. Thawing. Mud!

Rigged up my spray tank and gave a film coating of lime sulphur solution to most of my small trees.

This aft heard Carveth Wells talk on Sumatra at Womans Club. Had heard this talk before. Does not improve on the hearing.

This evening to Lincoln School to P.T.A. meeting to hear Mr Ewell speak on modern art. Fine time

Wednesday, March 6

Fine day. Continued thawing. High gale set in towards close of day. Blew magnificent clouds across the sky.

Mr Hawkins saw a meadowlark which may have been a winter resident.

Brot out of dark room twenty or thirty pots – hyacinths, daffodils, etc.

Conf with Mrs Howes & Mrs Herman over P.T.A. program. With Mrs Berkson over adjustment problem.

This evening read five chapters in Rugg's Child-centered School.

Thursday, March 7

Very heavy winds during the night. Down to 6° or 8° above at dawn. Moderated but not much above 20°. Beautiful evening.

Number of visitors today, including Mrs Wm Gourley of Lake Forest to whom I gave considerable attention

At home this evening. Finished 8th chapter of Rugg's C-c School Read from "Reconstructing Behavior in Youth."

Friday, March 8

Nearly 20° above this A.M. Thawed a little Colder again at evening. A few snow flakes at 11:00 P.M.

Spent most of morning visiting 8th grade classes & checking up with pupils that have failed in any subjects.

Tommie Strong & his girl friend visited us a short time before noon.

I took 1:04 for Chic & went to aft. session of Child Welfare conf. Also the dinner at 6:00 at the aud. hotel. Pleasant chat with Wisconsin, Minnesota, & Dakota people Met Miss Schaffner, a little pleasant talk with Judge Bartelme & Rodney H. Brandon
[Inserted at this page is a program booklet for the "Program of the Midwestern Regional Conference" of the Child Welfare League of America. Judge Mary M. Bartelme of the Cook County Juvenile Court presided over the dinner lectures, one of which was presented by Hon. Rodney H. Brandon, Director, State Department of Public Welfare, Springfield, Illinois. – ed.]

Saturday, March 9

About as yesterday. Snow gone but ground frozen.

To city on 8:09. to Vaughn's for J.B. tomato seed – ½ oz. Fields for books & to inquire about filing cabinet. To Palmer House to morning session of Child Study Association. Good program. With Coultrap. He & I went at noon to Round Table. Talk by McMinton. Then back to Palmer House. Rowe sat with us. Miss Faulkner & her sister chatted with me.

Home by six.

Today I conferred with various persons about the St. Charles school.

Bought 2 lantern slides – Mexico for school. Paid 3²⁰ for them. Charge Dist 107.

Sunday, March 10

Fine day but still cold.

Took 7:34-9:00 train for Batavia where Storm took me to his house. After a time Thompson picked us up & took us to the home of Rodney Brandon where we had an hour's interview. Found him full of plans for making vocational training the center of things at St Charles. Came away much impressed with his earnestness. Lunch at a restaurant & a conf. among ourselves Then to St Charles with T. I went to Davises & visited for a while.

Home on 4:45-6:48

Monday, March 11

Milder. Gray. Threatening rain.

A busy day.

Miss Tschirgi absent & Mrs Cummings sub. Miss Sprague ill & Mr V. & I sub.

At noon Miss Nixon & Miss Grenoble & I had lunch at H.S. with Mr. Baggett & two of his teachers; Miss Kehoe of Everett; & Mr Sandwick, Mrs Roth & Mr Richardson. Afterwards we talked remedial work, etc.

Teachers' meeting at four.

Board meeting at 7:45. Mr Wood absent . Fine time.

Tuesday, March 12

A real spring day. Delightfully warm. They say meadowlarks and other birds abound. A robin scolded about our place at sunset.

Got the plant house ready for planting.

Mr Vandyke & I have nearly finished school inventory. Mr V. has done nearly all the work.

At four I met with Mrs Everett, Miss Hendee, Mr Fitt & Mr Garnett at pub. libr. for a conf. about a possible public statement.

At 6:30 – dinner of Chamb of Com. Miss Hendee, guest of honor, made an excellent library talk. Then I came away & took M & K (Miss Turp came for us) to the musicale at Geo Jones' – his quartette with Mrs Conover. A great evening.

Wednesday, March 13

Rainy. Mild. Fog late this evening
I started the planting of seeds today.
25 flats – P.S. Earliana
15 “ - John Baer
6 “ Prizetaker
4 “ Crosby's Egyptian beets

Aud Directors' meeting this evening To Church St on trolley where Mrs Pattee picked me up & we motored to City Club. Present Pattee, Schantz, Hunt, Bailey, DeLoach, Mrs Baroody, Mrs Richardson
Interesting time but nothing accomplished Driven back to Central St. Trolley home

Thursday, March 14

A heavy fog cleared away about 9:00 and we had a great day. Warm.
After school a group of us visited the new bldg which now is going ahead rapidly, then went down W. Park Ave to Skokie. Meadowlarks & grackles abundant. Killdeers also. A song sparrow. – and (a new record) a western meadowlark in song!!
9 flats John Baer
3 “ cabbage – Golden
Called on Mr Highley who gave me a pkg of Matchum tomatoes
Visitor – Cecil Hughes, applicant for a position.
Library Board this evening. Long discussion about the library bonds, etc
Edith came in this morning.

Friday, March 15

Much cooler Rain began at 11:00. Ceased then began after dark. Heavy. Gusts. Snow.
Miss Miller's pupils gave a show in the aud. at 2:30. 1 – 5's went.
Planted 6 flats of Matchum today. Continued distrib. potted bulbs from dirt-floored room to class rooms
At home this evening.

Saturday, March 16

About two inches of snow fell in the night but most of it disappeared today. Gradually cleared.
Cool.
To city on 8:34. Made a pleasant & profitable call on Harrison H. Dobbs, supt of Juvenile Detention Home for Cook Co. boys at Ogden & Roosevelt Road.
Home at 3:00.
Worked on St Charles literature this evening.

Sunday, March 17

A fine day. Cool
I left the house at 6:30 & spent an hour Skokie way – Bluebirds, killdeers, meadowlarks, robins, red-heads, juncoes, chickadees, redwings, grackles, crows, cardinals, song sparrow.
—
This evening I heard a woodcock lisp from a field near Sweeney's woods.
—
M & I to church & brot home by the Sundells.

—
Clarence D. came & then he & E. left at 4:00.
—

I went up into the Sweeneys' woods at 4:30. Found a few sk. c. showing where water had thawed out the ice. But two inches down elsewhere ground was frozen

Mr. Leech heard the woodcock last night.

Monday, March 18

A fine day. Milder.

Miss White ill; Mrs Cumming, sub. Mrs Leech and Jimmie ill & Mr L. confined at home. Mr V., C. & I sub.

Conf with Mrs Farquhar, Mrs Murfey, Mr Durbahn.

At City Council this evening & had a chat with Mr Reay & Mr Brown & Mr Zimmer afterward. Set forth my idea about playgrounds.

At Dr H's dental chair from 10:30 to 12:00. – working on upper left molar.

At 5:30 had Dr Harkness remove wax from my ears. Much needed

Tuesday, March 19

Mild. Two short showers this aft.

Conf with Mrs Creigh and Mrs Pfanstiehl at 1:30. To Dr Hamilton's office at 3:00 for an hour or so.

At school a while this evening.

Colin Sanborn & I had a chat this evening.

Miss White still absent. Mrs Cumming on duty

Wednesday, March 20

Mild.

Opened our vegetable pit in presence of 3A's & 4B's. Potatoes, onions, apples, carrots, kept well – also one big head of cabbage.

P.T.A. this aft. Mrs Moore, rep one of our garden clubs, talked of a plan for enlisting children in gardening. I had thirty or forty children of 4 – 8's tell of garden experiences. I talked for a time myself. Good audience

At school a while this evening. Conf. with Mr. Ball over "thermo-couples," etc

Thursday, March 21

Cool wind but temp as high as 56. Showers after night

Miss T & Miss Grenob. took pupils of the latter to Chic – Field Museum

I taught in Miss Greno's room all morning. Mr. V & Mr H & Miss Nixon helped bridge gaps.

Some of us had a bird walk to Egandale & the Merryweather home after school, but nothing startling.

At school a while this evening. Worked over past bldg records.

Agt for Gluey paste

Friday, March 22

Grew milder & gray. Sultry by evening.

Miss Prather concluded her six weeks of service today. Left for Lead, S.D. to continue her Kg work.

Conf with Mr Richardson of H.S. who came to talk over things with Mr Hawkins & Miss Sprague.
Special "case work."

Went to Fullerton Hall this evening to hear the Geog. special lecture on St Louis. Through by 8:30 & so went to the Beggar's Opera. A stunning collection of beautiful melodies
[Pasted to this page is a clipping from the playbill for *The Beggar's Opera* by John Gay. The clipping announces that it is performed "by arrangement with the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London on the Bi-centennial Tour of America. New settings of the Airs and Additional music by Frederic Austin." – ed.]

Saturday, March 23

Cooler. Threatening

Worked around the place two hours. Washed some windows; uncovered our young perennials, etc

At school most of day & a while this evening. Inventory of our pictures, etc

Sunday, March 24

Gray. Cool.

This aft to Arden Shore Camp to talk to boys with flower & bird slides – "A Spring Relish," Nice time Interesting boys. Miss Ferrier met me at Lake Bluff in her machine. Returning she brot me to Lake Forest.

Obliged to compile a list of school pictures for inventory today.

Mr & Mrs Charles Mason spent the evening with us. Delightful time.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping (source not identified) of a death notice of Charles A. McMurry. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Passing of Charles A. McMurry

The death of Dr. Charles A. McMurry, George Peabody College, Nashville, on March 24, in his seventy-second year, removes one of the eminent educational and professional leaders of the country, not alone because of his personal achievements but because of his family and group associates of half a century.

Charles A. McMurry, a native of Crawfordsville, Indiana, when it was the ideal place for an idealist to be born, reared in Normal, Illinois, when it was the only place for an educational enthusiast to be professionally groomed, of a family in which it was as natural to be famous as for a thoroughbred to be speedy, became an ardent disciple of Johann Friedrich Herbart when Herbartianism was the last of the philosophic floods to sweep through the Middle West.

There has been no year, we think, in this century or in the closing years of the last century that there has not come some successful professional or textbook product of Dr. Frank M. McMurry, Charles A. McMurry, Mrs Lida Brown McMurry or from child of some of them, that has not been tied up with their educational work at Normal, Illinois, DeKalb, Illinois, University of Michigan, Teachers College, Columbia University, or George Peabody Teachers College of Nashville.

While Dr. McMurry's life work was officially at George Peabody College, to the last he spent much of his time at the beautiful family residence in Connecticut on Long Island Sound, where he did much of his later writing.

[Dr. Charles Alexander McMurry (1857-1929) was the principal disseminator of Herbartian pedagogical ideas in the United States, formulating the concept of interdisciplinary curriculum. The Herbartian method gained the interest of such national education figures as Frances W. Parker. In 1899 Dr. McMurry established the teacher education program at the Northern Illinois State Normal School at DeKalb and served as its superintendent for several years beginning in 1911. Source: "The Educational Life and Work of Charles A. McMurry: 1872-1929." Ph.D. dissertation, Northern Illinois University, Kathleen Cruikshank,

accessed online at education.stateuniversity.com/pages/2210/McMurry-Charles-1857-1929.html on July 9, 2011. Charles, Frank, and Lida are mentioned in Mr. Smith's diaries. (See entries of May 4, June 8, and November 1 and 2, 1912; January 11, March 29, April 12, June 6, September 6, November 7, and December 30, 1913; February 2, 14, 16, March 1 and 2, August 15, and November 6, 1914; May 7 and November 12, 1915; February 27 and 28, 1922; and February 28, 1924.) – ed.]

Monday, March 25

Burst of rain with thunder at 4:00 A.M. Gray, but mild & clearing.

At assembly Coach Peel & Billie Gifford representing the H.S athletic ass'n presented our heavy weight basket ball team with a trophy.

Teachers & parents (fourteen) met this aft at 2:30 for the first of a series of three conferences, using Rugg's The Child-centered School as the text.

This evening M., K., & I with Mrs Chapin went to our Aud. to hear the Welsh Singers who appeared under the auspices of the Rotary Club. A fine concert.

Tuesday, March 26

Fine spring day

Boys brot in a partially injured pied-billed grebe which submitted innocently to familiar handling & inspection by several hundred children. Sent it back to Skokie this evening by Mr. Leech.

Third & last concert of L.S. series at 2:30. Fine & greatly appreciated. This series has very much delighted our patrons. Mr Dasch praised us highly.

Miss Trena Scott of Wilmette visited us & enrolled as applicant. Also Miss Irene Barnett of Morris. Miss Adams of staff of DeKalb visited us.

The Elson Art Exhibit arrived & Mr Schultz and I began its installation.

Mr. Jensen & Mr Tennant and I had a com. meeting at City Hall this evening. [Tree and Parkway Commission – ed.]

Wednesday, March 27

Fine day in every way.

Spent much time helping set up the Elson Art Exhibit.

Took 4 catkin pictures & developed them this evening.

The Deckers called for a while this evening.

I had Mr Leech bring over a bag of rotted leaves & manure for me from school, & I dressed some of my wild flower beds with it

Last night Mrs Wyley, mother of Robert & James, attempted suicide by the gas route, taking the children's lives at the same time. Her husband found them at 2:30 AM Robt – 6 years – in 1B, dead. James recovered. The mother may not survive

Thursday, March 28

Beautiful day

We invited the public to view our exhibit today & conducted a program of stunts in the aud. and a "literary museum" in the lunch room – aft & evening – Great success

Circus stunts by Miss Wheelock's first graders, Dutch songs & dances, Miss Miller's 2nd graders, clog dancing, acrobatic stunts including tumbling, harmonica contests, etc, etc

Today we planted some improved John Baer, & Marglobe, & Avalon

Friday, March 29

Another,

Miss Palmer ill, but I could not secure a sub. and Mrs Hawkins doubled her classes successfully
We took down our Elson exhibit and packed it for shipment to Evanston
Clarence came in late this aft.

I went to Presb Ch. services this evening. Dr McClure preached. The Sundells brot me home.
Miss Kirkland and I went at 12:30 noon to funeral services of Bobbie Wyley at the undertaking
rooms

Saturday, March 30

Another

Rode in Mr Cunningham's auto with him & Vandyke and Schultz to Chic. To Cent Sc. Co & conf
with Mr Arms over app for testing heat powers of sk. cabbage. To 300 W. Adams, Mr. Jamieson to read
over Prof Meyers report on St. Charles (proof sheets only available) Then to Mr Henry P. Chandler's office
to get a letter of introd. to present to Mr Dennis of Daily News Then to Illin. Soc for Mental Hygiene –
203 Wab – to confer with the Sec. about publicity for state institutions To Art Inst for lunch & to see ex.
of Europ paintings from Pittsburg collection. Home

Clarence spent A.M in Kenosha

At 4:00 I began on my lawn. Raked front scattered & sowed Vigoro. Grubbed up portion of
backyard – pulverized & levelled. Scattered Vig on this & remainder of back yard. [5?]0 lb. Wet down
with hose.

Mr Jensen over radio this eve.

Sunday, March 31

Alas, a rainy day. Cold & uninviting. A heavy fall of hail at 5:00 P.M.

Clarence left for home on the 9:34.

M & K at home but I went to morning service at Presb. Ch. Cello & violin supplemented. The
Sundells brot me home.

At school a while this aft. Mr Spindler & two assistants from Goodman Theatre came for the
“teaser” to dye it to match curtains Geo G Green & his brother visited a while. I took two catkin photog.

We listened in on Stock orchestra this evening

Monday, April 1

Cold, Gray, Clearing late aft.

Miss Quick ill & not here Miss Thomas resumed after 7 weeks of absence.

Teachers' meeting at 4:00. Subject: report cards

Went on 6:04 to Ev. to the Pattees for dinner. They brot me home in their auto I borrowed 55
bird slides.

Tuesday, April 2

Light snow late in the night but gone by 10:00 AM A beautiful day.

Maharaji, a Hindoo magician, gave a show at 11:00 to large no. of our pupils

I went to Lake Villa at 1:00 in Mrs Hamlin's machine to give a Spring talk. In the church. Jammed
with children. The Allendale boys there with their band Fine time Mr Simpson there

Went over to Allendale & shown about by Capt Bradley. Thrilled at what I saw. Mr & Mrs
Hamlin brot me home at 6:00. Had a fine visit with them

This evening got 15 names to petition for nominating Board members.

Wednesday, April 3

Beautiful day. Sultry

Visitors – Walter Stanton & Mr Bergstrom for DC Heath; Miss _____, applying for position
Secured 34 names on petition & turned it over to Martin Hart; he had eleven; Dr Fritsch nine; etc.
Several of us had dinner & spent fine evening at the Manns' Tom showed his movies of foreign travel

[Mr. Storm, superintendent of District 101 of the Batavia Public Schools, wrote a letter to Mr. Smith. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

April 3, 1929

Supt. Jesse L. Smith
Public Schools
Highland Park, Illinois

Dear Friend:

We are delighted that you are willing to come out next Tuesday. Please come as early as you can and either visit our schools, or talk to Thompson and me about the St. Charles Boys Home, or visit the St. Charles Boys Home, or anything else. Then we shall eat together at 6 o'clock—my forty-six teachers and you and I. Right after luncheon we shall have your pictures and lecture. Then my wife wants you to stay all night with us. I want to show you our fireplace and some new books that we have.

Both Mrs. Storm and I appreciated very much the visit we had with you in Boston last year when we rode with you to Concord, and we are mighty anxious to have more visits with you if possible.

Inclosed (sic) find a ticket which is good from Chicago out.

Looking forward with great expectancy to next Tuesday, I am,

Your old friend,
H.C. Storm

Thursday, April 4

A warm day. 75° & more.

Miss Tschirgi & Mr Hawkins took Miss T's group to the city. I heard one of her classes

I showed bird slides to 3's & 4's in gym

A Miss Branch, grad-student of N.W. came to inquire about our methods of teaching reading.

Mr Wyley called to talk about the transfer of his boy to Chic. schools.

I visited the Green Bay school a while this evening.

Dr Meikeljohn talked at H.S. aud. this evening to combined P.T.A. organizations. Very stimulating.

Planted grass seed on bare patches in back yard

[Mr. Storm wrote a letter to Mr. Smith. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

April 4, 1929

Supt. Jesse L. Smith

Highland Park, Ills.

Dear Friend:

I failed to include the ticket yesterday. Here it is. Don't let him tear it out until you come to Batavia Junction. He simply punches the ticket on the main line and then the fellow from the Junction on tears it out. I have another ticket to give you for the return trip. I never use the last tickets in my books so that I always have these single ones for cases like this.

I know you are glowing in these spring days because of the return of your beloved wild flowers. I envy you your knowledge of them because the springtime would mean so much more to me if I appreciated them like you do.

We are looking forward to a great treat next Tuesday.

By the way, after I wrote you yesterday I received a letter from Brandon about John R. Cranor. Cranor is former Supt. at Wheaton and is anxious for a job. I think I better inclose (sic) Brandon's letter and we shall talk the matter over when you come out. I am not sure that Cranor is the man to fit in over there.

Your old friend,

H.C. Storm

[Mr. Storm added the following handwritten postscript. — ed.]

P.S. On what train will you come?

Friday, April 5

Warmer still. Light underwear the thing. Things coming on with a rush

Visited G.B. School with Mr Schultz.

Conf. with various pupils over fruit trees, etc.

Showed bird slides to 6's.

This evening Bert Crawford brot his sister Katharine, a teacher in Monticello, to see me about a position

My hepaticas in full bloom

Saturday, April 6

Even warmer. Extraordinary for first week in April 80° & above.

At school this A.M. Conf with tinsmith; janitors; Miss Quick who announces her intentions to leave at end of year; with Miss West whom I am trying to persuade to leave.

This aft I washed a number of windows & set up screens. Planted ~~two~~ one row of early radishes & two of onion sets.

This evening Cornelia Otis Skinner gave a program in our aud. under auspices of Woman's Club. About 850 there. Fine program M & K did not feel well enough to go.

[Cornelia Otis Skinner (1899?-1979), actress and author, was born in Chicago. She is the author of *Our Hearts were Young and Gay*. — ed.]

Sunday, April 7

A little cooler after a windy night.

Gray towards evening. Thunderstorm at 7:00 and some rain.

At home all A.M. This aft to Sweeney's woods by way of Washington Ave.

The unusual warmth of the past few days has speeded up things greatly. Bloodroot in a white sheet. Marsh m. almost ready. Wood a., do. Great display of sk. cabbage. Frost all gone. Brot back some blossoms. Also some pyrola plants

Monday, April 8

Cooler in the night & cooler this aft. Resumed light overcoats. Rekindled furnace which had been cold for days.

Lyman Gurnee sang a group of songs at morn. ex, Mrs Eliz. McCr. Heath, accompanying. L. has made great improvement.

Miss Ditch called to apply for position

Teachers meeting at 4:00.

I talked before P.T.A & Art League at Wilmette this evening. Fine time Was at 6:00 o'clock dinner at the Harpers, Mrs Maher, Miss Grandquist, Miss Smith, Miss Hayes, & Mrs — also there

Tuesday, April 9

Decidedly cooler Well down towards freezing.

Left at 11:00 for Batavia. Enroute left order for a summer suit at Anderson-Carlson's.

Batavia at 2:19. Met by Storm. Long conf with him & G E. Thompson over St Charles' matters.

At 6:00 dinner at H-S bldg with Storm & his 46 teachers. Then I talked & showed flower slides.

Left at 9:29. Home by 1:30.

Wednesday, April 10

Decidedly cool. Rain at 8:00 this evening.

At Hamilton's office from 2:30 to 4:30. Trouble with teeth; with canker sores; with roaring in my ears

Logan & two of Winnetka teachers called yest. to look over our equipment but I was away.

Went down to Ev. to take Mrs Pattee's lantern slides hope – 6:42 – Had to leave them at a neighbor's.

Thursday, April 11

Rained in the night Milder – then cooler again towards evening.

Mr. Leech, Miss White & I used various 6th & 7th grade pupils to reset a number of flats of tomatoes.

Conf with Miss West over her position Quite trying.

Conf with Mrs Creigh and Mrs Pfanstiehl over teacher schedule.

This evening at the Library Board meeting.

At Dr Hamilton's office from 1:00 to 2:30.

Friday, April 12

Chilly & threatening. Near freezing. Moderated at evening.

Contest to name greatest number of trees & shrubs this A M. 4 – 8's participating. Aud. ex at 2:30, when results of contest were announced & I showed some flower slides

In Dr Hamilton's office – 4:00 – 6:00. Crown set on upper left molars.

Gave Miss West formal letter of notification of non-reelection. She came to our house at 5:00 & waited until my return at 6:30. Then hung on until 7:00. Trying situation.

M & I to The Copperhead at H.S. aud. Well done.

Saturday, April 13

Turned out mild and beautiful day.

Worked at home nearly all day. Planted tigridias Raised up the goose-neck section of our west fence. Raked loose litter & burned it. Planted asters, zinnias, calendulas, & petunias in flats and set them in my cold frame. Set out canterbury bells, foxgloves, and hollyhocks.

During aft. went to schoolhouse to vote

Albert Larson, Hazel, and Mr V. in charge. 28 votes cast.

Mr Bliss, Pres

Arthur Wood – 3 yr

Mrs Creigh – 3 yr

Howell Murray 2 yr

Miss West came to our door at 6:15 this A.M. Sat on the steps awhile, went away again & returned after I had come down stairs. I talked with her a while at the door. I fear for her mental condition.

Sunday, April 14

A beautiful day but cool.

This aft. M., K & I went to the dedication of Bethany Evangelical Church. Very interesting. At close I hurried over to Mr Bliss to meet him & Mr Meyer & Mr Hart in a conf. over school budget.

Then home, & the Millards met me & we went down to Miss Boynton's for supper. Other guests Mr. Frances C Brown, his daughter, Mrs Frances & her husband of Boston A fine evening

Monday, April 15

Beautiful day with a cool wind

To Milwaukee on 7:34 electric. Called up Miss Quick & she met me by appointment at Normal School – Mr Patzer's office – where he introduced to me Misses Galanda Benz, Marg. Behling, & Gladys Shaver. Then we talked with Mr (Otzel) Oltz, director, about them. He took us about a bit, saw Miss Benz teach a class, etc. Miss Q. & I parted at noon downtown. After lunch and a call at Layton Art Galleries (did not see Miss Partridge) I went back to Normal School. Then downtown where I met Miss Quick again who took me over to hotel – where I had a conf with Mr Miessner & with Miss Collins. Home at 5:30—— Board meeting this evening. Budget presented & approved. Long session but harmonious.

Tuesday, April 16

Another as yest.

At noon ate lunch with Womans Club and told the story of Robert Ridgway.

Then Mr Jensen & I toured the town examining shrubbery on parkways,

Wednesday, April 17

Left for Terre Haute

Chicago Heights, Momence, St Anne, Watseka 8:05 P.M. Milford, Hoopston, Rossville - - Terre Haute. To Terre Haute House.

Normal – L.N. Hines, Pres

Placement – V.R. Mullins

April 18 Met Mary E. Baur & a number of other candidates

Thursday, April 18

At Terre Haute

See preceding entry

Greatly admired new dorm for women*

Fine weather. Sassafras, redbud, sugar maples in bloom, etc
Watseka – 77 mi. out. A few mi. north we entered a sand belt. From there to Martinton great colonies of viola pedata Occasional sand hummocks. Pin oaks, probably. From Martinton to St Anne no violets in sight but north of St. A some appeared Momence & the Kankakee
Neat gabled station at St. Anne
Home at 10:10

*Johnson, Miller, Miller & Yeager, architects

Friday, April 19

Left for Stevensville

Left at 6:34 for Stevensville. 9:00 from Chic. Bus from Mich C. at 10:35. At 12:00 took to the road Explored area about the North Lake. Rainy.

Went on to B.H. in the aft & spent the night at the Enders.

Saturday, April 20

At Sawyer

Left B.H. by bus & got off at (Sawyer) Stevensville in the rain where Misses White & Fallstad & Grenoble were waiting me. I tramped by myself in the rain for a while & then we took the bus for Carner's hotel at Sawyer.

Spent most of aft drying our clothes. Rain lifted at 4:00 & we had a glorious walk in the mist & fog

Sunday, April 21

Sawyer.

Fine day.

Walked as far as Warren Dune Visited the Ramoth's. Came back to hotel to take the bus for home

Brot back some specimens of putty root – Aplectrum hyemale.

Monday, April 22

Fine day

At L.S. Div. meeting at LaGrange.

Outstanding addresses by Edward Howard Griggs.

Tuesday, April 23

Fine day. Cool.

Morning ex. Otto Miessner a visitor. Miss Anchester also. Conf with Mrs Creigh Kincaid of the Webster Pub Co called

Teachers' meeting.

Talked to Lennie over phone & had her visit a B.H. teacher at work and report to me. Her report this eve – not favorable

Lawnmowed back yard & some of the front after supper Set out into my wild flower spot under the hawthorne two specimens of orchis spectabilis, five or six of aplectrum, & in "forest preserve" some bloodroot & dutchman's breeches

Shipment of salix c. (10 specimens) from Naperville nursery.

Floriani & friend called; Paid \$30⁰⁰ rental for auditorium.

This evening conferred over phone with Mrs Bob Smith & Mrs McVeety over parkway shrubbery

Wednesday, April 24

Rain in the night. Light showers during day

Frances Baker of Wilmette superv. of music at Stevens Racine Jr H. – called to apply.
Dentist appointment with Dr Hamilton this A M. Consulted Dr. Grady this aft. He wishes me to consult Dr. Herbst next Friday.

Shipment of dwarf fruit trees arrived & was puddled.

New mats for tumbling opened up. & tried out this evening.

Wired Mary Baur offer of 5th grade Hist at \$1550. this evening.

Thursday, April 25

Started day mild but strong cold wind blew up at 11:00 & dominated the day.

To Nat'l Kg College this A.M. & conferred with Misses Adams & Linnell over kg teacher. Lunch at noon with Kathryn Moore who agrees to return next Sept.

Back at 2:00. Began to send home dwarf trees that arrived yest.

After school met a large group of children that wish to form groups of tumblers.

At home this evening

Talked twice today over phone with Orville Bright over his candidacy for Glen Ellyn and phoned Mrs Luther B. Hill about him.

Friday, April 26

Milder.

Grades 4 – 8 invited to occupy balcony of H.S. & see Simba at 12:40. We did this & had a fine time. Then at 2:30 the 3rd graders gave an operetta before all of us. They repeated it for their parents at 7:30 this evening.

Miss Nitz visited me to talk kg this aft. Mrs May Elliot came to confer over acting as sub in Miss Scacciaferro's place the next 7 weeks at 17⁵⁰ per (Miss Kirkland's room).

I went to H.P. hospital & met Drs Grady & Herbst at 7:00. Dr. H. examined me carefully, used catheter, etc. Reported reassuringly.

Saturday, April 27

Fine day.

Arranged with Mr Paul to defer the first mortgage payment of Nov. 1928, to Nov. 1933.

Was x-rayed this aft at hospital to permit a study of my urinary tract

Interview with Helen Schmidt this A.M. Also with Marjorie Lynch of Pekin who brot with her the Misses Waltmeyer & Winthrop. This aft with Miss Lois Lehman of Mt Pleasant, Mich., Miss Marks being present at this interview.

Had Santi lawnmow and dig up three of my garden beds this aft. This evening I trued up the edges of the garden beds

Sunday, April 28

Threatening. Showers two or three times, one with a dash of hail.

Miss Barker, a friend of Miss Dorsch's called and I spent some time at school with her. Applied for 5th grade

The Leeches came to call this aft & Mr L & I went down on the cinder road along H.S. athletic field to photog killdeer's nest reported by children. This was along the cinder road within two feet of motor ruts. Flushed the bird & took two pictures. Found another nest fifty feet away & photog it Bad luck in developing. Four of the plates adhered in developer! Got only one good picture.

Monday, April 29

Frost. Ice in bird bath Gray this aft – a short shower. Clearing.
Mr Leech & pupils made a big thing of transplanting tomato plants.
P.T.A conf. this aft. Mrs Gaidzik presiding; we discussed several chapters of the Child-Centered School

Took 5:34 for Chic. To new Woman's Club Bldg to dinner of F.O.O.N.L. Fine time. Speakers Bley, Jensen, Hooker, Quinlan (an engineer), Cowles & I.
Marshall Johnson & his wife brot me home

Tuesday, April 30

Grew warmer. A real Spring day.

Planted two rows of s.g. beans & two of b. lima

Transplanting of tomato plants completed

Hutchins, bird lecturer, gave very interesting entertainment after school. Gave him all the proceeds \$19⁰⁰ + .

Sent Spindler check for \$345⁰⁰ for "teaser."

Mrs Dawson visited school to interest children in garden contest

Mr Churchill called this evening to lend me his graflex & show how to use it.

Mrs Pfanstiehl took me in her auto at five to photo K-d's nest. Bird brooding & her performance very interesting

[The Jesse Lowe Smith papers at the Highland Park Public Library include a sheet outlining expenditures from special funds. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

EXPENDITURES OF SPECIAL FUNDS

The MURALS.

Class of February, 1922, Cyril Duffy, Pres. and the Class of June, 1922, Amadio Carani, Pres., \$117.27; Class of Feb., 1923, Antonio S. Ullian, Pres. \$83.11; Class of June, 1923, Lyman McBride, Pres., \$138.17; Class of Feb. 1924, John H. Harmon, Pres., \$100.75; Class of June, 1924, Peter H. Prato, Pres., \$100.00. To this was added \$90.00 from interest. The total, \$629.30, was given to Albert H. Krehbiel, artist, April, 1927.

LINCOLN, THE ADVOCATE

Class of February, 1928, Jefferson Bennett, Pres., gave the sum of \$207.32, which paid for the copy of the studio model of Taft's Lincoln, the Advocate, \$112.50. This also paid for the two stone VASES in the hall, \$63.00, and furnished \$31.82 towards a fund of \$36.45 due the Art Institute for mounting the murals in place.

THE "TEASER"

This addition to our stage equipment cost \$345.00. The Class of June, 1928, Harlan Pike, Pres. gave \$190.92; the Class of Feb. 1929, Dominic Ronzani, Pres. gave \$122.84. The glass blower fund, \$5.00, the photograph fund, 19.67, and the Contribution of \$6.57 from the Robin Hood Fund completed the payment.

Wednesday, May 1

Started off drizzly. Cleared, then cold wind blew up & kept up into the night.

Long conf with Mrs Creigh & Mrs Pfanst. this A.M.

Matheny of Keystone V. Co. spent some time with me this aft.

Called on Mrs Hodgdon after school to confer about Raymond.

Dug up 6 cant. bell plants for Mrs Chapin. Set out 8 c.b. & 2 foxgloves on Mrs Karl's place.

Planted helichryssum – 6 colors

Thursday, May 2

Cold winds. Threatening. Flakes of snow fell in Chic

To Chic on 10:04. To Dr Geo E. Shambaugh for a complete examination of my hearing. Have had roaring in my ears for some time. — Am to expect a lessening of acuteness of hearing. The roaring is not necessarily significant. — Dr. S. quite sociable when he recognized me as having guided him & his two boys up Gunsight Mt. - -

Visited an hour with Nygaard at Kenilworth & he brot me home.

Conf with Miss Palmer — searching, but am giving her another year — this time in 5th grade.

Dinner at H.S. this evening. H.S. staff members & principals of supporting schools

Friday, May 3

Cold. Ice in bird bath this A.M. Moderated & sun came out towards evening.

Mr Leech's pupils planted asters, zinnias & calendulas in flats

W.J. Brown and I talked over the plan to remodel the gym

I went to Wilmette this evening to dinner at Miss Marks' home, shared by Mr & Mrs Talley. Mr & Mrs Rowell also guests A fine time.

Met Willie Harshaw, a 1908 pupil, this evening.

Saturday, May 4

Milder. Sunny, but still cool. Ice in bird bath at A.M & frost on grass

To Chic on 9:04. To Schantz' office to return some slides I had borrowed. To Douglas Sutherland's office but did not find him in. — To Eastman K store for plates. Art Inst. for lunch & to look over ex. of watercolors, one of which was executed by our Harold Schultz!

Home at 2:05.

Worked in garden. Planted 3 rows of Independence corn. Two rows of nasturtiums Set out 6 c. bells & 3 foxgloves on Mr Riddles grounds. Also a row of nasturtiums.

Called up Thompson of St Charles No news.

Got my new suit at Anderson-Carlson's - \$115⁰⁰

Sunday, May 5

A thin film of ice in bird bath this AM Warmer, though cold wind blew.

M & I to church

Spent an hour or so late this aft with Mr Parratt.

Cleared away in my den much of the day.

Monday, May 6

Still cool. No frost this A M.

Miss Galanda Benz, our music teacher for next year, spent the day with us. — Candidates Mildred Brown, Mrs Haddix & Florence McCartan visited us. Mr Sweet, rep. film co, came to demonstrate his materials. Mr Capparello came to promote his display of antiques etc.

Mr. Jensen called

I went at 4:00 to Pub. Libr. to meeting of finance committee

This evening Ed Larson & I agreed upon a portion of his garden to be assigned us for school purposes

I worked on St Charles material this evening

Tuesday, May 7

Frost and a thin film of ice. Cool wind
Field trip to bluff with 4B's – Stine and Hansen
Washed windows on upper floor & put on the screens.
Planted four-o'clock see this evening.
Edith came this afternoon

Wednesday, May 8

Milder. No frost. Still Cool winds. Slight sprinkle
OConnor of Highwood sent a man to plow and disc our new Vine Ave. garden
Mary Baur of Terre Haute, elected to teach fifth grade hist. spent day here. Her father came in
later in the day & went back with her.
I gave a "seed lesson" to 5B's – 2 groups
Long conf with teachers' com. at 4:00.

Thursday, May 9

Milder, tho a light frost following a brief shower in the night.
Spent the A.M. with our men getting the garden laid off. 3rds planted oats, rye & flax.
This aft Miss Mildred Brown called to confer about the kg position, but decided not to accept it
Ag't for Knight & Knight called.
6's gave a very beautiful 6th grade play – Robin Hood scenes. One of the most beautiful I ever
saw.
Set out 2 rows each of onion (Prizetaker) & beat plants this evening.
Library Board meeting. After this spent 20 minutes at house of a neighbor, Lipp, looking over his
landscape sketches.

Friday, May 10

Milder. Threatening. Shower at 9:00 P.M. followed by thunderstorms later. Fine rains in the night →
4's & 5's planted in the garden
Last shipment of nursery stock in(Onarga) & distributed
6's Robin Hood play this evening brilliant success. M., K. & Edith went.
[Inserted at this page is a clipping of the playbill for the Robin Hood play. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

ROBIN HOOD
presented by
THE SIXTH GRADES
of
ELM PLACE SCHOOL

Elm Place Auditorium
Friday evening May the tenth
Seven forty-five o'clock

Cast of Characters

Robin Hood.....	Douglas Graves
Little John.....	Tom Hawkins
Will Scarlet.....	John Ludlow
Arthur a Bland.....	Billie Tyson
Midge, the Miller.....	Lee Peterson
Friar Tuck.....	James Rutledge
Wat, the Tinker.....	Kenneth Klee
Alan a Dale.....	Fred Golden
Will Stuteley.....	Harmon Zimmer
David of Doncaster.....	Jack Dennet
Harry.....	Ben Shifflet
Walter.....	Arthur Paulsen
Henry.....	Andrew Petros
Charles.....	Wallace Fritsch
Dick.....	Robert Dorr
James.....	Robert Gray

Other of Robin Hood's Men

Vernon Nevitt	Raymond Bartlett
Harvey Zimmer	Robert Smith
David Swan	Henry Harmon

Arthur Oppenheimer

Fair Ellen.....	Eleanor Mayo
Dame Dale.....	Mary Bernardi
Sir Roland.....	Kathleen Garrity
King of England.....	George Gaidzik
Queen of England.....	Harriet Nelson
King's Page.....	Bidwell Moore
Queen's Page.....	James Smith
Court Chamberlain.....	Bloss Vail
Sheriff.....	James Rutledge
Crier.....	Sheman Keller
Herald.....	Harry Lankford
Sir Robert.....	John Steele

Ladies in waiting to the Queen

Barbara White	Patty Clark	Marion Hayward
Anna Repholz	Harriet Craig	Lorene Mullens
Mary Martin	Virginia Leffert	Enolia Tempas

The King's Guard

John Eisendrath	Byron Howes	George Coleman
	George Borchardt	

The King's Archers

Clifton.....	Harry Lankford
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Tepus.....	Louis Moffat
Gilbert.....	Louis Schultz
Tart Vender.....	Francis Ronan
Balloon Seller.....	James Rice
Puppeteer.....	Joe Riddle
Flower Venders.....	Hazel Koch, Mary Bernardi
Color Bearer.....	Victor Tescori
May Queen.....	Barbara White
Last Year's Queen.....	Barbara Tennant
Flower Girls.....	Angeline Ronzani, Juanita Dill
Crown Bearer.....	Jack Witten
Pages.....	David Pasquesi, Allan Barnum

May Queen's Attendants

Harold Block	Edwin Hall	Marion Rafferty
Mildred Smith	Vernon Rudolph	Vincent Lauffenberg
Jean Jordan	Miller Belfield	Frank Anderson
Dexter Calkins	Francis Drake	David Jenkins
Edward Moroney		Louise Ozella

May Pole Dancers

Florence Peterson	Helen Titman	Alice Mae Gaudin
Naomi Saathoff	Eleanor Mayo	Royanne Bartlett
Virginia Bennett	Joyce Slack	Kathleen Garrity
Harriet Neuton	Estelle Wilson	Florine McFadden

Chimney Sweeps

John Rosenthal	Andrew Erickson	John Engels
Richard Suess	Chester Skidmore	George Kellner
George Clark	Newman Fell	Lee Gatewood
	Jesse Johnson	

Milkmaids

Dorothy Mann	Virginia Brewer	Peggy Hultz
Betty Kruegar	Jean Tennant	Madeline Cliffe
Jane Dowd	Myrtle Biseth	Janet Greuel
Eileen Zimmer	Carroll Vigeant	Naomi Smith

THE PLAY

SCENE I	In Sherwood Forest
SCENE II	In Sherwood Forest
SCENE III	Throne room of the king
SCENE IV	In Sherwood Forest
SCENE V	On Finsbury Fields near London Town
SCENE VI	In Sherwood Forest

Saturday, May 11

Spring in the moist air: Washed 10 windows (outside) & cleaned and set in place the screens for them.

Rain interrupted at times Then this aft it came in torrents – with electrical accompaniment. Just what our gardens needed.

This eve. after 6:30 Mr Bartoli & I transferred Miss Palmer's sitting hen from the playroom to the hatching coop outside

Roger Vail came to talk over Sherman's program for next year

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day

A delightful day

The Enders came in at 10:00, Clarence D. an hour earlier He & M. & K. & I had an hour's ride.

Everybody left before four. I rode in Arthur's machine as far as the city & came home on the electric

Monday, May 13

Cooler.

Our men set out some witch hazel bushes, etc. in front of the aud. vestibule

Cappelani, dealer in handwoven stuff, (Italian) set up his display in our upper halls. We took down the Wilmette posters.

Teachers' meeting this aft.

Mrs Dawson & Mrs Moore came to organize garden clubs with upper grade pupils

School Board meeting this evening. Long and amicable. All present.

I mowed back yard & set out 12 or so Campanula Americana given me by Mrs Greene

Tuesday, May 14

Rained much of the night. Slight showers during the day

Went to Nat'l Kg. College this A M. to confer with Miss Linnell over Kg teacher. Agreed to defer action for a while

Home for lunch & then to H.S. Visited Mr Platt's class in Senior Latin, & Mrs Allison's in Freshman Latin

Mrs Denzel and I conferred over Special Funds in her possession, these belonging to our pupils.

This evening Misses Sprague, Knight, Nixon, Greno & Grunew & Mr. Vandyke & I had conf. over promotions

Charge Dist 107 – 72 + .50.

Wednesday, May 15

Turned off warm. A real Spring day. Then storm & downpour after dark. Cooler

Visited 11:25-12:00 class in Latin at H.S.

P.T.A. this aft. I showed some lantern slides

5:34 to Chic. Dinner at Chic W. Club. Judge Bartelme presided. Home at 12:15.

Saw golden-winged warblers from science room windows today. An unusual record.

[Paged to the preceding page is a clipping of the program, entitle "Our Youth" of the Chicago Women's Club, 72 E. Eleventh St., the Honorable Mary M. Bartelme, Judge of the Juvenile Court of Cook County, presiding. Speakers at the program were: Alfred E. Whitman, Children's Aid Society of Boston, Mass., on "A Community Program for Delinquent and dependent Children;" the Hon. Rodney H. Brandon, Director of the Illinois Department of Public Welfare, on "The State's Responsibility in Child Welfare;" Wilfred S.

Reynolds, Director, Chicago Council of Social Agencies, on "Community Child Welfare in Cook County;" and Mrs. Harry Hart, Chicago Women's Club, on "The Women's Club and the Juvenile Court." – ed.]

Thursday, May 16

Decidedly cool today Clear.

Misses Quick, Hanson, & McMunn unable to be on hand today. I sent Miss Hanson's pupils home this A.M & taught them this aft. Mrs Cummings sub for Miss McMunn.

Our wild crabapple picnic this day with Mrs Millard as host – in the river woods. Very successful. M. & K went. Our party saw a prothonotary warbler (I was not then at hand). Golden-winged warbler again seen. A fine bird day. Many of w.c. trees still in bud

Friday, May 17

[no entry on this day – ed.]

Saturday, May 18

[no entry on this day – ed.]

Sunday, May 19

[no entry on this day – ed.]

Monday, May 20

Moderated in the night Chilly. Clear in aft.

At noon left with some members of H.P. Garden Club, to Wauk Flats Drove up to Zion C. & east, & down into the area. Fine display though early stages – Osmunda R – puccoon – arabis, dodecatheon, viola pedata, et. al., valeriana e., paint brush, etc. Had trouble with cars miring. Home at 6:30.

Tuesday, May 21

Milder

The 2nds planted popcorn, the 1's pumpkins & castor beans

Mr Lechtw & Mr Koltr'm & I went to P.C. bldg & brot away some roots of Va creeper & planted about our Int. bldg

Miss Kinnebaugh, from Natl Kg College, came to apply.

Conf with Ferguson of Ginn & Co.

Conf with 4's over promotions.

Spent this evening on notes for broadcasting tomorrow.

Photo of blossoms of bearberry. Developed these & three previously taken of killdeer

Wednesday, May 22

Took 8:09 for Chic (A mild day). To Hotel La Salle where I broadcasted. W.MAQ at 9:15 for [1?]5 min. & at 10:15 for 15 min. [to?] 4 – 6 & 7 – 8. Miss Cullison introduced me. Topic nature study

Then to Sabin Jr High to meet Miss Phillips & see some Latin work. Miss P. had her auto & we drove down (lunch on 57th) to Hirsch Jr H. at 79 & Ingleside where we saw a Latin class, etc On way back visited U. of C. chapel, the Harper Library, Chic. Theological Seminary.

After supper, planted gladiolis, spaded variously, etc.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping on The Chicago Daily News stationery, 15 North Wells Street, Chicago, listing the public school programs for Monday, May 20 through Wednesday, May 22. The program for

Wednesday, May 22 from 9:05 to 9:30 AM for grades 4,5,6, was Nature Study. "Jesse L. Smith will deliver the nature study talks introduced and assisted by Miss Aline Cullison of the Crane Junior College, in charge of these programs." – ed.]

Thursday, May 23

Threatening, Showers at 12:00 & 3:00. Heavy rain at 5:00
Henry Kern, warden, brot me a fine dead crow – a pure albino. A boy killed it with a stone at Waukegan Turned it over to Colin Sanborn
Conf with 5's over promotions.
Mr Richardson, H.S. psychologist, made a careful study of Raymond Hodgdon today.
H.S. teachers served tea at 4:00 to g.s. teachers Pleasant time
I had a conf with Mr Sandwick over jr. H.S. subjects today
Pd. phone & teleg for Dist 107. 3.03

Friday, May 24

Fine day but rather cool in aft & evening
Called special assembly of 6 – 8's to try to curb the epidemic of "freezer", "nixes", & "greens" that has swept over us.
Engaged Prof W.L. Bailey, Sociology, of N.U. for commencement.
Talked seeds & plantings to 2 – 3 - & part of 4's this aft.
Set out additional row each of onion plants & beets at home & 10 cabbage. Mowed all my lawn

Saturday, May 25

Fine day
To Chic. Fields for socks & slippers & books Vaughn's for sulph. amm. & sulph of iron Chic Transp Co to leave killdeer slides & bearberry. To United Artists to inquire about film Home at 1:00.
This aft met Julia Price of Oak Park to consider her for 5th grade position.
Dug in garden Set out cosmos, larkspur, & some calendulas Dumped soil, leaves, & chemicals in my compost box.

Sunday, May 26

Fine day Mild
Miss Cramer took me out to the river woods to photog an oven bird's nest this A M – one egg (oven) & 3 eggs cow bird! Miss C. said there were two o.b. eggs yest. - - On way back we followed the County Line road for a mile in a vain attempt to discover traces of my lost colony of asclepias ovalifolia
Long nap this aft & a fine pull at the Life of Mark Twain. - - Inspected the school garden & the new school.
Developed 4 negatives.

Monday, May 27

Sultry.
Parsons of Scott Foresman.
Miss Knight announced her resignation to marry!
Mr Cunningham at home with tonsilitis.
Distributed cabbage & onion plants
Charles Hadlock & his teacher, Mr Kavanah, played at morning assembly, accomp by Mr Me[c?]k.
Teachers & parents this aft. to discuss music & art in Rugg's book

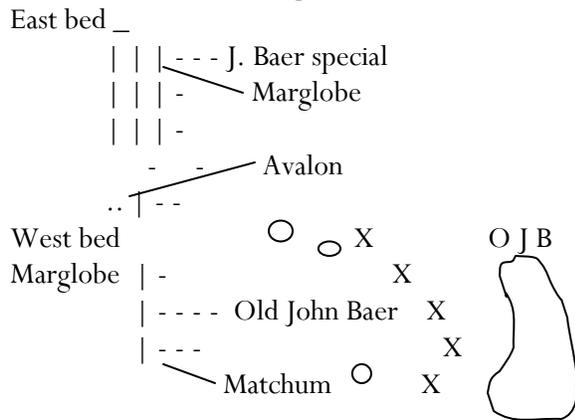
Then I photographed some lady slippers, yellow, at the Gifford ravine
 Planted alyssum, replanted helichryssum, etc. this evening.
 Then to city hall where council & library board had a rather tempestuous session.

Tuesday, May 28

Very sultry
 Mrs Mason, sub for Miss Fallstad Mrs Cumming for Miss Wheelock
 Mrs Creigh, Mrs Pfanstiehl, Miss Behrens & I in one machine, & Turpin, Wheelock, McBroom & Deile in another went to the Coonley school at Downers Grove Miss Morse gave up the morning to us, including trip thru the new bldgs Lunch at Downers Grove Then to nursery school at Winnetka, then to Nygaard's new school at Kenilworth & home
 Then I took 5:34 for Chic to Board Meeting of Geog Soc at Hotel La Salle. Back to Ev. with Prof Haas in his machine & home on trolley

Wednesday, May 29

Very, very sultry.
 Memorial observances in form of aud. assembly at 9:00. Songs & pictures.
 Began distrib. of tomato plants. Two thirds sent out today.
 Our men filled & planted window boxes & urns
 Conf with Messrs Primm & Baker rep. Davey Tree Surgery.
 8A's showed El Gaucho this aft & evening. Fair audiences.
 I set out tomato plants.



Thursday, May 30 Decoration Day.

Very warm but more breeze than yesterday.
 Went to Exercises in Memorial Park. Our Elm Place Band plus some Lincoln School boys led. Boy Scouts – Amer Legion – address by Mr Siemons
 Chat with Mrs & Rudolph Ingerle & Mrs Watson and Rosemary.
 Before exerc. I mowed most of my yard, etc
 This aft late I began on sprinkling, weeding etc Planted castor beans, 2 more rows of stringless green, 21 hills of Golden Bantam, etc.

Friday, May 31

Still warm but a gray sky & breezes moderated temp.
 Finished distrib. tomato plants

Conf with Mr. Brown at new bldg with reference to uncovering trees embedded in clay.
Miss Finn of Ev. called to apply for position
Harry Gillett of School of Ed. called to visit Mr Van Dyke & consider his applic for part time job at Univ. Made him an offer which Mr V. accepted & the latter resigned
Music festival tonight a great success M & K went, taking Mrs Chapin with them.
[Pasted to this page is a clipping of the Music Festival program. – ed.]

Saturday, June 1

Turned cool in the night & a rising wind this A M brot in air that seemed icy cold. Overcoats were a real need

Worked an hour or two this A.M. mowing & then weeding out my wild flower preserves. Then to the H.P. hospital where Dr. Sheldon & his assistant made five or six xray photos of my spinal column & urinal tract.

This aft K & I went to Patten Gymn at Ev. to Children's Concert. Fine performance.

More work in yard this evening.

Colin Sanborn called for a while.

Furnace started again.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of the "Fourth Concert" of the Chicago North Shore Festival Association featuring a children's chorus of 1500 voices with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Stock and Mr. Beattie. – ed.]

Sunday, June 2

Still quite cool. Windy.

Edith & D. came this A M D & K left for Gary before noon, K to go to B H. Edith is to stay with us.

I went to church. The Sundells entertained me for a half hour afterward until Fred & Mrs Stagg came to be their guests

I went to the Sherers for dinner at 1:30. Fine people. Two boys, Renslow in 7A; Sam in 5B.

Called on the Chapins a while this evening.

Monday, June 3

Milder. Mr Leech reported frost in the Skokie

Mr Vandyke at Winona Lake, Ind. because of the death of his mother

Mr Wood & Mr Guyot came this aft to inspect bldg for repairs

Mr Flinn & I had a long conf. over decoration of kg room.

Had Kg's & 1 – 2 – 3' teachers for conf in new bldg at 11:30

Set out 30 or 40 zinnia plants this evening

Tuesday, June 4

A fine day. Milder

Mrs Pfanstiehl & I conferred with Mr Brown & Mr Grimson at the new bldg, & then went to Braeside bldg with Mr. Wright to look it over. Very attractive

This evening the K's & 1 – 2 – 3's & Mr Schultz & I had long conf about new bldg & its equipment.

Mr Curry & I conferred about kalsomining.

I took 4 pictures of 8A's in front of int. bldg.

Miss Gridley of Ev. came to be considered for a position

Miss Katherine Pratt came from Milwaukee – Downer to apply for sewing position Agreed to take it - \$1500.

Counted up reports of children and had about 100 cases listed of cats destroying birds.

Wednesday, June 5

A fine day

Our men spaded for the pupils & Miss White's pupils planted more field corn, replanted wheat & planted peanuts.

I had a conf at H.S with Miss Buzard over our 8B pupils. Then I met the 8B's and talked over next year's work with them.

We sent copy for our commencement invitations to the printer.

Conf at 11:00 with 1 – 3's over reading books

Miss Sprague ill and Miss Anna Behrens sub.

I took baseball boys picture This eve developed these & the 8A class pictures.

Set out calendulas & asters. Set sprinklers at work.

Thursday, June 6

Turned off warm, even sultry.

Went with Miss Palmer's & Mrs Hawkins' 3B's to Childerley Farm School & Buffalo Creek Farm this A.M.

Misses Behrens & Kennedy with bus & machines went to Old Mill Farm this aft

Miss Anna Behrens sub in various rooms today

Mr Burwell & Miss Wilson from H.S – met our 8A's to enter them for H.S. courses in Sept.

I gave out asters, zinnias & calendulas, this aft.

Spent an hour at new bldg late today.

Mr Anderson's Band Concert this evening. Great success in some ways.

Friday, June 7

Turned cool in the night and has been very chilly all day

A busy day. Conf with Mrs Tyndal, Mrs Engels, Mr Reynolds (over Latin tutoring) This aft with Miss McMunn & some 4A's to Wauk. Saw a freighter unload at the coal Co's dock (Hussey). Saw them "push an oven" at N.S. Gas Co. Home at 5:00

The 8B's gave party in Sunset Park to 8A's but it was so cold that the party broke up early.

Leola Eklund & Blanche Gosling came to dinner on Edith's invitation, & I showed them over our school plant this evening They went back to Ev at 9:34

Kittie came back this evening from B H.

Saturday, June 8

Fine day but still cool.

An hour or so with Mr Richardson, H-S. psychologist, advising him as to classifying our 8A's for entr. in Sept.

Read proof of commencement programs at Press office –

At school two hours this aft., then to new bldg for conf with Mr. Flinn, Dr Fritsch, Mrs Pfanst, Mrs Creigh, Mrs Millard Discussed trim, finish, etc etc.

This evening ran hose Weeded border beds. Set out petunias

Sunday, June 9

A fine, mild day

Clarence D. drove in at 8:15 & he & Edith left an hour or so later

I went down to the home of Mr & Mrs McNamara at Winnetka this aft to a reception in honor of Mr Kingsley's birthday. A fine gathering. Mr K is shortly to go to Europe

This evening M, K. & I went to Bethany Evangelical Church to hear Howard Kuist preach A delightful occasion

Monday, June 10

Warmer. Somewhat sultry

Howard Kuist made a pleasant talk at assembly

Conf with Mrs Goodman, with Mrs Eisendrath, and Mrs Johnson Capellor visited us – from Thos Charles

Teachers meeting this aft.

Board meeting this evening. Long. Friendly, but could not carry through our gym. reconstruction

Tuesday, June 11

Heavy thunderstorm & a deluge this aft. More rain, etc., this evening Very much needed

8A boys with Mr Hawkins & Mr Schultz to city in a bus – airport, etc

I went in on 9:34. To U. of C. Fine conf with Harry Gillette, at lunch & after. Then to Univ Book Store. Then conf with Mr Wm H. Cowley, in Bureau of Recommendations Then to Albert Agency (On way by I.C.R.R., etc, stormbound in subway at Van Buren St). Long conf with Searles and Miss Smith. Home at 6:20.

Conf with 7 – 8' teachers this evening over next year's program

Charge Dist 107.

40 + 40 + 60 + .24 + .10 + 50

Wednesday, June 12

Turned off cool again. Fireplace needed.

Conf with Colvin from Sheldon & Co over mn'l tr. benches, etc

Ruth Raymond, Kg. of Lake Forest, applying here.

Distributed petunias

Conf with 1 – 3's at 3:00.

This evening Mr Flinn & I had conf. over various things at school.

Met with Misses Cramer, Parson & Fallstad this evening for a time.

Signed diplomas this evening

Thursday, June 13

Picnic Day.

Gray, foggy, cool. Light shower at 8:00. More rain at 12:30 etc

Picnic a success in spite of all. Pulled off games in the morning before it rained.

8A's gave vaudeville after lunch – quite interesting – and then we had "nonsense movies."

This evening M & I went to H.S. ex. Fine. Heavy rain during the ex & we were long detained getting home.

[Inserted at this page is the program booklet for "The Thirty-ninth Annual Commencement of the Deerfield-Shields Township High School." The High School class of 1929 was: - ed.]

Frieda Aalto

Alice Adeline Andersen

Bertil P. Anderson

Vega Anderson

Harold Ernald Appleton

John J. Geraghty

William Carleton Gifford

Florence May Glader

Victor L. Glader

Harriette Miriam Golden

Melvin John Archer
Pauline Armentrout
John Cuyler Baker, Jr.
Roger Readfield Balke
Carl T. Bakke
Thayer T. Batt
Dorothy Becker
Raymond Dierksmeier Behrens
Gladys Edna Belcher
Clover V. Benson
Berthil V. Berg
Thomas S. Bird
Edward Bleimehl
Ferdinand P. Borchardt
Mathilda E. Borchardt
John J. Bosselli
Edmund Douglass Brigham, III.
Clara Agnes Broms
R. Harold Browning
Katherine Buhrer
John Carr
Emil L. Carlson
J. William Chambers
George Brainerd Chapman, III.
Daniel Clark
Lois Gayle Clark
Marion Breed Collins
Joseph F. Condon
Genevieve Margaret Cook
Jean Coxé
Lawton Hamlin Crosby
Virgie Lee Cross
Joseph Roy Delhaye
Teresa Marie Dunn
Donald John Eaton
Lucille Alice Fabry
Austen William Fitzgerald
H. Elizabeth Flinn
Mary Bonita Friebele
Julia Anne Frisbie
Alice Marie Fulkerson
Benton Gallup
Marian Louise Garling
Charlotte Marie Gastfield

Charles Keith Grant
Tanis Jessini Greer
Ellen L. Greig
Walter Harry Griswold
Robert King Hall
Raymond H. Haltenhoff
Allen Edward Halverson
William P. Hammond, III.
Edith M. Hansen
Milton J. Hardacre, Jr.
John Henry Harfst
Edward Patrick Hart
Richard Wyckoff Hawkins, Jr.
Mary Josephine Hildreth
Jean William Staniclaws Holm
James Henry Hood
Marion L. Huber
William M. Hunter
George Alfred Hutchinson, Jr.
Irene C. Irving
Frederick E. Jackson
Edgar A. Jenkins, Jr.
John Fairbairn Jenkisson
Virginia Helen Jerome
Eslie Jewel
Evelyn Astrid Johnson
Thomas Fisher Jordan
Robert James Kees
Eleanor Ann Keller
Fanny Kerr
Robert Julius Knox
Marcella Ann Kodym
Elmer J. Koon
Ethel Marie Kreh
August Joseph Kreuzkamp, Jr.
Margaret Louise Kuehne
Faith Ardys Kuhlman
Walter Wilson La Hue
George Burt Lake, III.
Arthur Frederick Larsen
Bradford Larson
Thelma Juanita Larson
Vittro Lenzi
Thomas Carr Lester, Jr.

Helen Anne Leuer
Emily C.E. Lichtwalt

George R. Schwalbach
George James Seiffert

Victor Frederick Linderholm
Miriam Rose Livingston
Harold G. Lawrence Lundell
Arthur J. Magnani
William Markowitz
Mary Louise McClernan
Joseph McClory
Donald Wallace McClure
Lily McCormick
William McCrory
Jean Ross McLachlan
Walter Meierhoff
F. Lloyd Moon
Philip H. Nason
John Joseph Neal
Elsie Catherine Neumann
Conrad Neumann, Jr.
Lester I.O. Nick
Grace Mae Niebuhr
John M. O'Connell
Joseph O'Neill
Enid Pearce
Mabel Anne Pearce
Gladys M. Perrow
Wynn E. Petersen
Henry Philipp
Edward M. Pitt
Catherine M. Preston
DeWitt M. Purdy
Vera Leone Purdy
Mary Will Riley
Felicia Blanche Rogalski
Clarence H. Rogers
Ruth M. Roskam
Lloyd August Rudolph
Carolyn Saathoff
Helene Saul
Frances Carolyn Schmidley
Joseph Schonthal, II.

The Board of Education was:
George J. McBride, President
Frank W. Read
George T. Rogers
C.W. Getty
John Benson

Kathryn Eleanor Sharp
Barbara Shipnes
Chester A. Siver
Ethel Mae Skidmore
Elizabeth S. Sleeman
Ruth Elise Sloane
Annie Smigoski
William B. Smith
Josephine V. Snyder
James T. Stewart
William M. Stewart
Paul J. Stipe
Alice M. Stupple
Maxwell R. Suess
Pearl M. Swanton
Ada Charlotte Thomas
Albert R. Thompson
Donald Ritchie Vaughan
Frank J. Wagner
Richard H. Wagner
Ruth Walbridge
Gertrude Alice Walters
Walter Watson
Aloysia Antonette Welinske
Mary Anne Welsh
Kenneth G. Wessling
Jean Whinery
William H. Wieboldt
Gertrude Elizabeth Williams
Jack Williams
Alexander J.G. Wilson
Dorothy E. Wink
Louise H. Wolak
Jane Elizabeth Wood
Anne June Yohannan
Frederick C. Zahn
Frank J. Zanier
Mildred Elizabeth Zimmer

Friday, June 14

Last day of school

Drizzling rain this A.M which made us change our plans somewhat.

Met in the aud. and spent an hour or more on exercises, honorable mentions, etc. The rain had a lull by that time & the band led the procession of flags to the flagpole & all the flags were run up & saluted. The children then went to their rooms & were formally dismissed.

I spent remainder of day with various teachers.

Commencement this evening. Music fine. Address inferior. Class of 58.

Saturday, June 15

Beautiful June day Let the furnace fire die out again.

At school most of day. Conf. with various teachers. Met three promising candidates –

Lit → Miss Morassey – Milw.

“ “ Mickelson – Racine

Kg → “ Stark – Chic.

Mowed backyard. Set out more petunias and zinnias & one patch of antirrhinum. Set out clump of *Cypripedium candidum* & of *C. parviflorum* which Miss Grenoble's nephew sent me from near Madison, Wisc.

Sunday, June 16

Old-fashioned thunder storm after 4:00 AM. Fine day but sultry.

Dr Fritsch, Mr Grimson, Mr Flinn, Miss Turpin & I met at new bldg at noon to O.K. color for walls

Late this aft I walked out as far as the Leeches Mrs L. & I & the children visited the Edwardsen, near neighbors, then back to the house where Mr & Mrs Cunningham, Miss Marks, & her Wilmette friends, Mr & Mrs Talley, & Mr T's father & mother had arrived. Came back to town with Mr & Mrs C.

Monday, June 17

Warm. Sultry

At school all day.

Interv. with ag't for Winston (Triangle arith), Nelson of Amer. Seating Co.; ag't for Scribners; agt for Yale Univ Press; with Mrs Hallin & two other teachers from Maywood; with a teacher from St. Paul; with Capt & Mrs Moore of Ft Sheridan; Mr. Cunningham; attended P.T.A. meeting in my office, etc

Mowed my yard this evening.

Lunch with Jens Jensen at Sunset cafe, then we spent a half hour at new school bldg. Mr. J is to plan the landscaping.

Tuesday, June 18

Very warm & sultry

At school all day

Conf with Mr. Wright. With Mr VanDyke With janitors

Hoed for a while in my garden this evening. Then to Mr Peyraud's at Ravinia to concert given for McDowell Assn. In the ravine, a fairyland effect. But – so warm. Mosquitoes.

Wednesday, June 19

Also very warm but not so intense as yesterday

Clarke Wright and I had a conf about arith & Eng for upper grades

Nelson for Amer Seating called.

Mr Leech and I went scouting late aft. into the Skokie. Found fringed gentian plants as last year near Barnett's in Greenwood Gardens, and plants of Habenaria l. in field north of entrance to these Gardens
Hoed in my garden this aft.

Mr Flinn & I had conf at new bldg. The finish coat of plaster going on rapidly.

Mr Leavitt of Ev. called to consider assistant's position.

Thursday, June 20

Cooler, noticeably so by evening. Air full of scent of clover blossoms.

Chat with Clark Wright about concerts for next year.

Janitors conf this A.M. Mapped out summer's work. Sent Lichtwald into city to order paint, etc.

Miss Cramer took Miss Guiney, Francis Ronan and me to Wauk flats at 3:00 to see nest of belted piping plover. Got five photog. all of which developed well this evening. Fine sight. Nest out on open beach.

Coreopsis & lupine still in bloom. Ceanothus, puccoon, phlox.

Hoed my tomatoes.

Friday, June 21

Fine summer day. Warm but not too warm

Met Miss Irene Stark & Miss Marks this A M & we visited the new bldg together We both liked Miss Stark's appearance. This evening I phoned her the offer of the position & she accepted - \$1700. - - I wired Bertha Mickelson, Black Earth, Wisc. - the Literature - 7 - 8 position at 2050. & she wired acceptance - - Talked with Ruth Teuscher, Racine, over phone and secured favorable report upon Miss Mickelson

— Forrest Colwell, youngest son of Louis W. called as agent for school supply house. - - Went to Skokie meadows to look for fringed gentian plants. Found only one - — This eve develop. 5 neg., three being of y. lady slipper.

Hoed some more

Saturday, June 22

Fine day. Gray at close Heavy rain at 11:00 P.M & on.

Met H.D. Richardson, at 10:30, candidate for assistant's place Made good impression

This aft went to Skokie meadow near W. Park crossing. Dug up wild geranium & trilliums, and cut one sod with a specimen fringed gentian in it. Menoni's machine brot me home.

Mrs W.A & Mrs C.G. Alexander & Teddie invited me as guest to Ravinia - opening night Great program - interrupted by heavy rain. Got home about 12:30 P.M

Sunday, June 23

Fine day after the rain.

M. & I to Presb Church

This aft Mr Cunningham took Mrs C & the baby & Mr & Mrs Hawkins & me to Wauk Flats. We men left the others in the machine near station & walked over to the beach. The nest & eggs & the two birds O.K. Had graflex but could not get near enough to the birds

Great display of spiderwort, puccoon, phlox. Ceanothus past its prime. Liliium P. just beginning to bloom

Monday, June 24

Gentle rain after eleven this A M. Cleared this aft.

Started Miss Johnson on the census this A.M
Worked at teacher correspondence this A.M. & this evening.
Worked on my "forest preserve" this aft. Set out trilliums & wild geraniums. Set out several clumps of columbine seedlings, these from a flat of seeds of wild c. I planted last Fall.

Tuesday, June 25

Fine summer day.
Hoed third of garden Set out 4 clumps of *A. exaltata* seedlings in forest preserve.
Worked at school Spent an hour or so at new bldg. Conferred with Mr Flinn over phone. Dr Fritsch also.
Mailed out formal notifications as follows:
Bertha Mickelson, literature
Irene Stark, kg.
Harold D. Richardson, Asst.
Miss Cramer took me and Francis R & David Jenkins to Flats late this aft. The plover eggs still unhatched.
A man brot in this evening a hog snake, young, about 10 in. found between Wauk & Zion

Wednesday, June 26

A fine day
Hoed in garden Mowed front & side lawn. Planted ageratum border
Worked on reports at school.
Interview with Mr Leonard rep. Mahoney Chair Co.
Baby wood thrushes have left the nest at school Hopped about under the trees.

Thursday, June 27

Rained a little this A M A thunder storm and downpour after 8:00 P.M
Mowed backyard. Set out some petunias. Reset four cabbage plants. Planted 15 or so hills of corn among corn rows.
Finished all reports to County Supt but one today.
Gave two hours to demonstration of cleaning & waxing linoleum this aft. & gave an order for machine & materials – Midland Chemical Co.
Conf with Mr. Flinn over construction items.

Friday, June 28

Fine day after the heavy downpour of last night.
Clarence drove in late this aft
Interview with Bredin rep. Beckley-Cardy.
Met Jensen & Johnson at new school grounds & went over his sketch with him
This aft met Miss Marks, Miss Deile, & Miss Stark at Nat'l Kg at Ev. & inspected furniture
The Cunninghams called this evening for a while. Then C & M & K & I went out in C's machine for a 20 min. ride. I spent most of that time with Dr Fritsch discussing plans for landscaping the grounds.

Saturday, June 29

Fine summer day
Nearly all day on grounds of new school. Had our four men work on trees this A.M.
Spent long time with Mr Ugolini & with Marshall Johnson on plans for road, walks, etc.

This aft met Earl Fritsch there for an hour Later Mr Flinn & I met there & with Ugolini were there until about six.

This evening mowed portion of parkway. Then we all went for a ride – past Elmwood Farm, Old Mill, Lasker, Bannockburn, Jewett, etc

Sunday, June 30

Sultry this A.M. Cooler this aft. Short thunder storm at 5:00.

All at home this A M Late this aft C. took us all for a ride west of Highwood, etc

This A.M. I visited the site of the Port Clinton school. Only ground rubbish left Fritz Linstrom had contract for taking down the bldg.

The first “black-eyed Susans” in bloom.

Monday, July 1

A little rain in the night

At G.B. school a while this A M

After lunch worked an hour or so with our men in the school garden

Clarence spent the day at Kenosha

Fine ride this evening.

Tuesday, July 2

Fine day. Cool.

Sprayed dwarf apple trees & the milkweeds with nicotine sulphate.

Planted delphinium seed, foxglove, coreopsis, & canterbury bells.

This aft. Clarence & I went to Chic on electric Shopped at Fields & Eastman Kodak stores, etc At Amer Seating Co to see folding chairs Visited Daily News new bldg, etc Home at 6:30.

A fine ride around country after supper This time to Glenview, past Glenayr, etc.

Wednesday, July 3

Beautiful day. Sultry in aft but cooler at close of day.

Clarence & I left in his auto at 7:30 & I got off at Geneva while he went on his homeward way.

Both Thompson & Storm were away & I spent some time at Geneva Ct House looking up a map of the “esker” country.

Back to Chic by interurban. Spent aft at Field Museum. Home at 6:15

Hoed in garden this evening.

Firecrackers booming

Thursday, July 4

Light shower a while, then clear and warm

A noisy day and evening. This A M – I hoed in the garden, dug out my dead hard maple on the parkway, staked my tomato plants.

The madonna lilies are well in bloom. Here and there zinnias are opening.

A nap this aft. Then wrote a report on teachers for Mrs Creigh & Mrs Pfanstiehl.

The Parratts spent the evening with us

Friday, July 5

Rather warm. Shower after nightfall

Mowed most of lawn Then conf with Mr Flinn. Then with Martin Hart & turned in final report to Mr Dooley

At G.B. an hour this aft conferring over clearing away soil. Then to Ft Sheridan to try to secure permission for Dr Cowles' party to botanize there tomorrow Capt Pickens agreed to this & offered to assign a non com to accompany us.

Then at my office again. This evening, desk work

Saturday, July 6

Fine day. Sultry. Cooler at evening.

Dr Cowles with his class of 12 or so in plant ecology got off the 9:36 at Highwood and Cunningham & I met them there and were guides for the day. Corporal Miller detailed by Capt Pickens, adjutant, met us at south gate and walked with us all day – this to put our trip on an official basis and avoid appearance of violating rules prohib. picnicing. - - A M at Clay Cliffs & along shore south Lunch eaten under trees in Sweeney's yard. Aft. followed ravine just north of rifle range, then down shore to pumping station, & out to trolley station. Fine time

Pyrola, melampyrum, L. Philadelphicum, Apoc. canandro., etc.

Sunday, July 7

A shower in the night succeeded by a fine day

At home this A M. A radio sermon fr. U. of C. Chapel

Late this aft went with Misses Cramer & Byrne to Wauk Flats. Plover still brooding. Took 3 pictures with graflex.

Eurphorbia c. just beginning. Calopogon p. in bloom

Monday, July 8

Sultry, Cooler at evening with showers.

At school a while this A.M. Then this aft left in a taxi for Woodstock. Talked to Garden Club at Dean St. bldg – highway conservation. Small aud. Hot room. But fine & appreciative listeners. Home by 20 of 7:00.

Board meeting this evening. Authorized exp. of 5000 on interior furnishing at new bldg. & 3500 on grounds

Got 25⁰⁰ for fee today.

Tuesday, July 9

Fine summer day. Warm

Conf with Mr Flinn this A.M. At 11:00 went to Beach with Miss Cramer & Francis Ronan following Mr Bailey & Mr Ward of the Acad of Sc. who came in response to my phone that Miss C. had yest. found 2 hatched eggs in plover's nest - - - We found three dear little birds & an unhatched egg, the young ones running freely about. Mr B set up blind & he & Mr Ward took some remarkable pictures.

We got back at five. At six M., K., & I went to the Chas Mason's for dinner. Fine evening.

Wednesday, July 10

Fine day

Spent A M. at new school, with Mr. Flinn most of the time.

This aft Miss Johnson and I went over situation together

This evening Mrs Pfanstiehl & I worked over the budget for the new bldg.

Thursday, July 11

Rained much of day after 11:00 A M

I worked with Mr Santi on G.B. grounds, cutting grass, burning rubbish, until checked by rain. Mr Lichtwald took me to Oak T. S & Door Co to arrange for mill work

At 1:30 met Mrs Pfanstiehl, Mrs Millard, and Mrs Childs there (new bldg) & debated equipment of rooms, etc.

This evening a conf with Mr Flinn & then one with Mrs Pfanstiehl.

Friday, July 12

Very hot. Humid

I started two of Menoni's laborers chopping down dead trees on new bldg grounds.

Left this aft for Wychwood. To Kenosha and by bus to Lake Geneva. After short wait Patrick picked me up machine in which Mrs Freund was "already." She had come in by train. Delightful welcome at W. Mrs Bertha Jaques of Chic soon came to join the party. We had a delightful evening. – Very warm at bed time

Saturday, July 13

A warm night, and a heavy thunder shower this A.M

Afterwards we went for a walk through the grounds after Prof Freund came in from Chic. After lunch Mr Chase's yacht picked us up & took us to Martin Ryerson's pier where we took on Mrs Ryerson & her guest, Mrs Corey, A fine ride around the lake & back to the Ryerson Pier where we got off & went into the house for a time to see the young robin they are bringing up by hand - - Then back to the Hutchinson house. The Friends left at 5:00 for Chic. – Prof. Lovett came in at 6:30 as another house guest

Sunday, July 14

Pleasantly cool. Overcast

Had a walk by myself before breakfast.

Afterwards Prof Lovett and I were shown about by Mr Wm Longland, the gardner-sup't for an hour or so.

For lunch arrived Mr & Mrs Martin Ryerson, Mrs Corey, Mrs. Junkins & a Mr. Hutchinson (neph of C.L.). After lunch Mr Ryerson's yacht picked us up for a fine ride along the lake, & let us off at 5:00.

At 6:00 Patrick took me into L. Geneva where I caught 6:35 bus for Kenosha & from there the 8:30 for No. Chic & home – by 9:20.

A most delightful day.

Monday, July 15

Fine day.

At school several times Conf with Mrs Pf & Mr Flinn on my parkway this evening

Mowed all my lawns.

Tuesday, July 16

Beautiful day.

Started two laborers excavating flower beds to be filled with black soil from our reserve piles At G.B.S. three or four times. Conf. with Curry and set him at the painting – kalsomining job at Elm Place Authorized as an extra the painting of wood trim on kg front and refinishing teachers' room (kg).

Conf with Dr Fritsch over grading, with Ugolini about bidding on sidewalk work

This evening Messrs Green & Riddle visited my den a while to look over filters, etc

Wednesday, July 17

Lake Mills, Wisc.

Fine day

Left at 7:30 with the Jensens (Mr., Mrs. & Miss) for the home of S.W. Faville, 2 mi. north of L.M., Wisc. to see a bit of virgin prairie.

Got there at 11:00 and were entertained at dinner. Mr Faville (78 yrs), his married daughters, Mrs White, Mrs Tillotson, Mr T., Ellen W., & other children. Prof Cole & Mrs C. of Madison in the party.

After dinner we explored the prairie. Especially noticeable the *habenaria leucophea*.

Left at 5:00. Ate at Burlington Hotel at Burlington, Wisc. Home at 10:00

Thursday, July 18

At first warm but a lake breeze arose, cooler & cooler, & blew all day, increasing after nightfall.

At G.B.S. for a while. Then an interv. with Miss Deile. Then Mr Jensen & I drove away at 11:00. Went to a prairie at Mannheim Road and the intersect'g road south of the viaduct which is south of Irving Park Blvd. Great display of phlox. One stout specimen of *Baptisia bracteata* which we thought to be *B. australis*

Ate lunch at Eleanor lunch room at Park Ridge Home by 2:30.

Mr Bartoli then took me to Oak T. S & Door Co – to site of Port Clinton Sch. & home

Mowed almost all of my lawn.

Conf with Mrs Pfanstiehl this evening.

Friday, July 19

Cool wind blew much of day. Bright & clear Dust blows about at our corner because of clay piles in the street

At G.B.S. most of day. With Flinn & Steenhill until noon Conf with Dr Fritsch twice today; with Ugolini this evening.

Called at the Fishers & the Tillmans this evening. Making a friendly inquiry to try to find out what boys are guilty of depredations at the G.B.S.

Visited the Cunninghams a few minutes

M.,K, & I listened to a band program, WM.A.Q., Geo Dasch, this evening.

Saturday, July 20

Fine day. Cool. Growing gray later

At G.B.S. a while. Then to Pub Service & City Hall to check up on electric service for the new school

To Chic on 9:04. To Heywood-Wakefield (Mr Newman) to figure on chairs. To Revells (Otto Riske) to figure on teachers' desks. To Sharpe & Smith to price instrument cabinet for nurse's room To Shaw-Walker with ref to filing cabinets & safe Home at 2:30. Worked at E – P.S. and later at home on orders for equipment.

Conf with Ugolini et. al. this evening.

Charge Dist 107 –

R.R. .80 + tolls .50 + .25

Sunday, July 21

A fine day. Cool

M & I to church – Presb – this A.M.

Late this aft I walked over Skokie meadows Found one fine stalk of habenaria leucophea in blossom

Veronica budding, so is liatris. Lythrum a., turks cap, rudbeckia – the major display.

On way back chatted with Cunningham and Hawkins, the Brays, Ashley Thomas' people Mrs Clow called here a while this evening She is living at the T.C. Williams.

Monday, July 22

Warm day.

Three of Bahr's men worked on our trees at G.B.S. today.

Three of Menoni's men and a team worked also. Began to move piles of topsoil into the wide trenches about the building.

I went up to O.T. Sash & Door Co to revise our order for tables, etc

Conf with Dr. Fritsch at noon.

At Elm Pl. part of this aft. Conf with Miss Hanson & Mrs Cunningham over cupboard in her room

Dictated letters to Hazel who is now on duty only occasionally.

Watered yard & lawn with both sets of hose this evening.

Tuesday, July 23

Warm day but tempering breezes

At G.B.S. school most of day Two teams and four men, but two were taken away (hay field) at end of 2 ½ hours.

Sprinkled lawns

Forrest Colwell called during lunch hour & ate pie & drank iced tea with us (For Hart-Spencer)

Wheeler for Lippincott (H-A Speller) called

Wednesday, July 24

Warm. Very sultry. Tempering breezes late aft.

At G.B.S. to start on. A light shower did not last long. 3 men from Minoni & 2 teams. Louie hauled several loads to site of old Port Clinton School.

Bahr's men worked for a while.

Conf in the A M with rep. of Clarin chairs; with Bredin of B-C.; with Curry. At noon Mrs Rubin, Mrs Wolff, & Mrs Cahn called to ask me to spend two hours in Harms woods with the N.S. Garden Club – July 30.

Took 2:04 for Chic To Tothills to figure on playground app. Also to Fair. Shopped at Fields Home at 7:00.

Ran both hose this evening

B of E - .80 + .07 + 1.50.

Thursday, July 25

Thunderstorm in the night. Warm day with tempering breezes

At G B.S. much of day. Had a load of logs for building bridges hauled to Elm Place and two or three loads of butts hauled to the dump.

Menoni conferred with me about grading. Doctor Fritsch, also (phone). Curry, Brown, & Grimson conferred with me at Elm Place

Interview with Mrs Manfredini & her sister Joan Toni & wrote immigration com. in her behalf. Met Miss McIntyre, book agent (Student's Reference).

Friday, July 26

Light shower in night & another at 9:00 A.M. Over cast & sultry; clearing after noon. Very warm
At school (G B.) about all day. Conf with Mr. Flinn. With Colvin of Clarin Chair Co. With
Anderson of O.T. Sash & Door Co. With Lichtwald Had 3 teams – 5 men All logs piled in one place,
all snags hauled away. Covering terrace with black soil.

Got “Proposal” for installation of electric service at G.B. from Pub. Serv. & left it at Mr Guyot’s
this evening for his signature.

Saturday, July 27

A hot one!

At G.B.S. twice this A.M. Errands at Elm Place. Desk work at home this aft. Hours of work with
the hose. Laid the dust from beyond Parratt’s corner, west, almost to Mrs Kayle’s, east.

Postage – Dist 107 - .70

Phones .50

[Mr. Smith was requested frequently to speak on nature topics. These invitations came primarily from
garden or women’s clubs. On this day, Mr. Smith replied to a handwritten invitation from the Woodstock
Woman’s Club. The invitation and Mr. Smith’s reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Woodstock Ill

July 24 – 1929

Mr J A Smith

Highland Park Ill.

Dear Sir –

The Woodstock Womans Club would like to arrange a lecture with you for Oct 14th
Have you different slides than the ones shown here for the Garden Club – or you could add some new ones.
Kindly advise me if you could come on that date also terms ect.

Very truly yours

Mrs James Hecht, chairman
Home and Education Dpt.

July 27, 1929.

Mrs James Hecht,
Woodstock, Illinois.

Dear Mrs Hecht :

This is in reply to inquiry about the possibility of my giving a talk before the Woodstock Woman’s Club on
October 14.

I have material for two or three other talks with excellent illustrations which I feel sure would appeal to
your group as readily as the one I gave the other day but - - - - I am a busy school master and I seldom take the
liberty to lay aside my regular task to meet outside engagements. I appreciated so much the kind reception given me
the other day that I regret very much to waive a chance to appear at Woodstock again.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I, remain,

Sincerely yours,

Sunday, July 28

Tempering breeze but still warm
At home all day.
Solidago serotina.
Called at the Ditmers a while this evening.

Monday, July 29

A cool night but grew warm today again
At G.B.S. again. All rubbish to dump heap, grading progressing.
Conf. with Guyot this aft. etc
At Elm Place a while Richards, H.J., the tuner, came to examine the used pianos Mrs Pfanstiehl's committee had bot – Steinway grand, Knabe, Bush & Gert. Pronounced the Steinway a fine bargain, the Knabe in fine condition, the B & G. good
Watered back yard Called on the Chapins this P.M
Aster disease again. Root aphid, it seems.

Tuesday, July 30

Cool in the night but very warm today
At G.B.S. this A.M 3 teams and 5 men The plant house bins filled with soil. Neighbor Gary's small back garden filled up and surfaced. Grading carried forward.
This evening I conferred with Mr Ugolini & Dr Fritsch over roadway & walks Nothing settled
This aft I went with Mrs Kahn and Mrs Rubins, Becker, Hirsch, Klee, and two other women – members of N.S. Garden Club – to Harms Woods (Forest Preserve) – to name over trees & plants. Good time in spite of warmth.
Mother's 87th birthday. Had letters from Clarence, Junior, Aunt Eva, Lennie.

Wednesday, July 31

Another very warm day Cooling breeze blew up about 7:30 P.M
At G.B.S. With Mr Flinn & Menoni. Did not use any labor today. Gas Co. laid main today.
At E.P. this aft. Began inventory of seats, etc
Pattees & John Winthrop called for a time after supper.
I sprinkled until 10:00 P.M

Thursday, August 1

Delightfully cool today
Met Dr Fritsch & Mr Mocogni at G.B.S this A.M & the work of grading & excav. for sidewalks began. I was there much of day - - Called up Frey's office of L. Forest & they sent a man to cut down the pipe leading down into the oil tank, this being in way of road making – Two teams, three men. – Shirley of Silver B., & an ag't for Fuller brushes
This evening Mr Cheetle of H & Flinn & his party visited the bldg. I locked up plant house door after they came out. - - At Elm Place awhile. - - Sprinkled some. - - Called on Mr & Mrs Chapin this evening. Am uneasy about Mrs C's bronchial trouble - -

Friday, August 2

Light rain began this A M & steadily increased. At times heavy downpour. At it late this evening.
Everything soaked

At G.B.S. for an hour. Then at 11:00 for Chic. To Fields to shop & consult travel circulars To the R.R. exch. bldg on Jackson Blvd to N.Y Central circulars Then to Evanst. where I met Mr Anderson in office of Musical Director. Short interview with Mr. Beatty – we called on Anthony Guerrera, 829 Forest Ave, who seems interested in acting as our band master. - - Home at 6:15

This evening went down to Rav. Pk but all seats sold. On to Norshore at Howard St where I saw (and heard) insipid movies

Saturday, August 3

Cleared before noon and a fine, cool day resulted

At G.B.S. in conf with Mr. Flinn & others this A M

Worked around home this aft.

This evening planted a flat of delphinium seed, one of canterbury bells – lt. blue & dark blue, and one rose & white

Went to bed at eleven At midnight the Enders & Danforths arrived from Gary

Sunday, August 4

Cool. Beautiful day.

Auto rides today.

Harvey & family & Mrs Swartout called a while this aft

Monday, August 5

Fine day. Gray later. Cool.

The “folks” left us at 5:00 A.M Were to eat breakfast in Gary.

John Rhinehart, new janitor at G.B. School, went on duty. I spent most of day with him. Showed him about new school. Went to E.P. with him & conferred with janitors. Sent him to H.P. Hardware to select tools, etc

This aft he & I worked with Mocogni in laying off “driveway”.

Worked this evening on janitor problems.

Dist 107

Express .75

Tuesday, August 6

A beautiful day. Mild.

At G.B.S. at first. Conf. with workmen – with Mr Flinn. He & I examined a driveway at the hospital, then some trees growing out of “pits” at the R.R. Mens Home

Then Mr Rhinehart & I went to E.P. & began to classify seats for the G.B.S. R. worked there rest of day

I met Ranier of Beck-Cardy this aft. Conf with Curry.

At home this evening.

Wednesday, August 7

Fine day.

30 tigridia blooms this A M First bloom was July 28.

At G.B.S. all A.M. Public S. set up two poles.

Menoni’s men (3), & 2 teams made good progress excav. for road Steenhill’s men worked on concrete steps (2nd day).

At E.P. part of aft. Helped assign seats to 5's & 6B's. Wired P. Derby & Sons to find out about my order.

This evening Mrs Anderson's summer pupils gave a cheap program in the aud. Creditable audience.

Thursday, August 8

Warmer. Fine day

At G.B.S. & E.P. – then to city on 11:04. Shopped at Fields. At Economical Drug Co. Had glasses repaired at Dow's. Home at 4:00.

To G.B.S. a while This evening, first at E.P., then at meeting of Pub. Libr. Board. Discussed project for new bldg

Friday, August 9

Quite warm.

Mowed most of lawn before breakfast.

At G.B.S. this A M Mocogni & I laid off the remaining drive & walks, etc.

Conf at E P. with all the janitors. Mr. R & I went over things at G.B. the latter part of aft.

1 team, 3 men. Finished grading parkway for planting.

Richard Churchill, Jr., came this evening to get his father's graflex which I had borrowed. Gave me some arrowheads. He & I went over to G.B. to talk over trees.

Saturday, August 10

Very warm. A heavy shower mid aft cooled things off somewhat.

At G.B.S. this A.M. Mr R. planted grass seed on parkway & mulched it with clean straw.

This aft & part of this P.M. at E.P. Sent off business letters.

[On this day, Mr. Smith replied to several invitations for speaking engagements. The invitations and Mr. Smith's replies are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Forest Park, Illinois

July 8. 1929.

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
Elm Place School
Highland Park, Illinois

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am writing as Chairman of the Program Committee of the Garden Club of Oak Park and River Forest.

I have heard your tours to the Waukegan Flats and your talks on the wild flowers found there, and I wonder if you give a talk on these flowers without making the trip. It would mean taking to cars from here and would take considerable time.

However, I am very much interested in the Waukegan Flats and feel sure the Club would appreciate a talk on this subject.

If you think this could be arranged will you reply in the enclosed envelope, telling me the price of your lecture and giving me any information you think necessary?

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesdays of the month.

Thank you.

Your very truly

Bessie Roos
(Mrs Albert C.)

520 Marengo Ave.

August 10, 1929.

Mrs Albert C. Ross,
520 Marengo Ave., Oak Park, Ill.

Dear Mrs Ross :

This is in reply to your kind letter of inquiry of July 8 with reference to a possible speaking engagement. I must plead the exigencies of vacation time to extenuate, if possible, my lack of courtesy in delaying so long this reply. It has not seemed possible the past few weeks to be sure of open time and while for that reason I was deferring an immediate decision I failed to note the extent of the delay. This can serve only as a letter of apology as I am sure the occasion you had in mind has gone by.

Please let me say, however, that if the organization you represent finds a place during the coming season for an evening engagement, I would like to serve you. Years ago I had a delightful time at an afternoon meeting of your organization in the home of one of the members. I have a great deal of fine illustrative material but before your group I would like best of all to talk about our vanishing prairie flora. That of the "Waukegan Moorlands" with which I am quite familiar is really prairie flora and lends itself well for illustrative purposes.

If you care to keep me in mind for an evening engagement (I am reluctant to leave my school work during "working hours"), I will appreciate it.

Very truly yours,

Harvard Ill – July 16 – 29

Mr. Jesse Smith
Supt. Highland Park Schools
Highland Park. Ill –

Dear Sir:

In a Woodstock paper I saw an item telling of your talk before the Garden Club and I would very much like to add your name to my list of speakers of the 11th District.

I hope you will be available through the coming year. Will you please send your subjects and your charges I am sure other clubs will be anxious to hear your talk –

Thanking you I am

Very sincerely yours
Stella M Fadden
(Mrs John)
Chairman – 11th District
Speakers Bureau
Harvard
Ill –

August 10, 1929.

Mrs John McFadden,
Harvard, Illinois

Dear Mrs McFadden :

This is a very tardy reply to your letter of inquiry with reference to my availability as a speaker on programs of the 11th district. I appreciate very much the inquiry but I am obliged to avoid day-time engagements during school sessions. I am a very busy school man and I feel uneasy about laying my work aside to accept engagements other than those before teaching groups. I can come for an evening engagement and I shall be pleased to receive an invitation of that sort. I was obliged recently, to decline an offer from the Woodstock Woman's Club for October 14 because it was for an afternoon program.

I must say that I have a large collection of unusually fine slides of wild flowers, showing their habitat and striking features of structure, and I offer general talks such as "The Forest Cover", Flowers of the Wayside and Meadow", etc. I am full of zeal these days for planting parkways with prairie wild flowers and for preserving them along country roadways and railroad right of ways. When the conservation note is especially desired I use the second title above. I have a talk on Milkweeds and our Native Orchids which is unusually well illustrated. I do not know of anyone who has such material available.

For evening talks I am asking thirty-five dollars and expenses.

Perhaps I should add that I have a few choice bird slides and a number of others at my disposal and I make it a point to include birds as a part of the environment of the plants displayed.

Very truly yours,

Aug. 1, 1929

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
334 Vine Ave.,
Highland Park, Ill.

My dear Mr. Smith,

You have been recommended to our program committee by members of our club who have heard you address other groups in Waukegan.

We have reserved the date of March third for a nature program and would be interested in knowing on what terms you would consider addressing our club on that subject.

The program is in preparation and will go to the printer the latter part of August, so we shall appreciate an early reply.

Yours very truly,
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
Edith Joannes
Edith Joannes, Corresponding Secy.

August 10, 1929.

Miss Edith Joannes,
319 Grand Avenue, Waukegan, Ill.

Dear Miss Joannes :

This is in reply to your inquiry of the 1st with reference to a possible speaking engagement before your group on the evening of March 3, next.

I am usually away from home on that date as it is included in the week of the annual meeting of the Department of Superintendence, our most important professional program of the year.

I appreciate the courtesy of your inquiry and regret that I can not serve you.

Sincerely yours,

Sunday, August 11

A fine day. Warm in the sun. Cool at evening
M & I to Presb. Church Rev Harold Branch of Chicago Heights.
Read some chapters from Prof Tinker's The Good Estate of Poetry.
Mrs Clow a caller this evening.

Monday, August 12

Fine day.
Various conf. today with Flinn, Hennig, Mocogni, the janitors, etc
Wrote out full report of situation, memo of labor, matters pending etc. for Dr. Fritsch, Sent Mrs Pfanstiehl a copy
Worked until 12:30 P.M.
Got ticket & reservations for trip to Denver.

Tuesday, August 13

Westward (See small notebook)
Left Chicago on C & N.W. this A.M. Through Omaha about midnight.

Wednesday, August 14

Denver – Estes
Nat'l Park Hotel.
"And so to bed."
Hot.

[Mr. Edwin L. Simon, principal of the St. Charles School for Boys wrote a letter to Mr. Smith. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

August 14, 1929

Mr. Jesse Smith
Supt. Highland Park Schools
Highland Park, Illinois

Dear Mr. Smith:

I wish to express the appreciation of the boys and the faculty for the fine books we received from you.

Our school year closes August 16th and I am inclosing an invitation and a program of the exercises.

Mrs. Simon and I sail for Europe September 12th. It is our plan to remain there a year, studying.

Best wishes for the new year, I remain

Sincerely,
Edwin L. Simon

[Mr. Smith replied to this letter. His reply is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

August 30, 1929

Mr. Edwin L. Simon,
St. Charles, Illinois

My dear Mr. Simon:

I appreciate very much your sending me a copy of the graduating exercises of the School for Boys and I would have made it a point to be present had I received it in time. I had gone out into Rocky Mountain National Park and did not receive any of my mail until I got back home the other day.

I am so pleased that you and Mrs Simon are to spend the coming year in Europe. I wish it were at the expense of the state and that you both were pledged to come back into service upon your return. I also wish it would be possible for me to have a talk with you before you leave.

Please remember that I shall always be interested to hear what happens to you.

Cordially yours,

Thursday, August 15

Estes Park

Called on Mrs Geer.

Walked out to Y.M.C.A camp & beyond to Mr Fitt's cabin. Mrs Bradley & children there. Mr & Mrs F. off to the coast.

Friday, August 16

Forest Inn

Left baggage at Mrs Geer's Packed up to Forest Inn

Saturday, August 17

Forest Inn.

Sunday, August 18

Forest Inn

Walked to Fern Lodge & back.

[Pasted to this page is a newspaper clipping of the marriage announcement of Mona Bahr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Bahr to Charles F. Grant, vice president and cashier of the Highland Park State Bank. - ed.]

Monday, August 19

Forest Inn.

Climbed along mt slope across from Inn

Tuesday, August 20

Forest Inn

Walked to Odessa Lake & back.

Wednesday, August 21

Back to Estes Park.

Now at Mrs Geers.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of an obituary of architect, artist, and Ravinia resident, Lawrence Buck. Mr. Buck was 64 years old. He was born in New Orleans and came to Chicago in his early twenties where he maintained a studio. Among his commissions was the Cyrus McCormick home in Lake Forest. He moved to Highland Park in 1920. – ed.]

Thursday, August 22

Estes Park

Auto ride with Mrs Geer's party to Bear Lake, etc.

Friday, August 23

Left for Denver.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of an obituary of Highland Park resident Henry M. Prior. – ed.]

Saturday, August 24

Left Denver for Omaha.

Sunday, August 25

At Omaha

Monday, August 26

Omaha for H.P.

Tuesday, August 27

Fine day. Cool.

Tackled some of my mail this A.M, then visited the G.B. b'ld'g. Parkway & terrace have bright green covering of grass; the strips of beds for shrubbery with a cover of rye. The landscaping nearly finished looked fine. Progress fine on bldg but still lots to do.

This aft – Sears of World Book & Everett of school supply house called I spent a little time at Elm Place.

Found lawn & garden in need of sprinkling, so began on this this aft & evening.

Wednesday, August 28

Graf Zeppelin.

Nice & cool. Threatening for a while & some rain drops but clearing.

At new school part of morning. Then met W.J. Brown by appointment at the Int bldg

This aft went to Chic at 3:04. To Nixon & Co where I had a friendly interview with Mr Dolmage of the credit dept. He promised to investigate the situation

Then to vicinity of Art Inst – Monroe St. viaduct – to watch for the Zeppelin. Came at 5:25 escorted by 30 or more planes. One of the most beautiful sights. Circled almost over me two or more times – then headed east over the lake

Thursday, August 29

Light showers this A M Clearing. Cool

At G.B.S this AM to confer with phone people & Mr Brown, et. al. over installing phones.

With Curry over staining benches With Menoni about a problem in grading.

Authorized Moran to put in yard connection for hose

Met Bill Hart to talk over school problems of his protegee, Bert Sanders

Mr. Bartoli & I went up to Highwood – Oak Terrace Sash & Door Co to confer about pigeon holes for Miss Miller's room. Authorized construction Mr B & I agreed on setting up some blackbard in the Kg room

Conf this evening with Miss Hendee over plans for new library b'ld'g.

Friday, August 30

Fine day. A little sultry

At G.B.S. & E.P. about all day.

Miss Johnson & I went to G.B. to look over things together

Ordered cork carpet for bulletin boards in Miss Stine's room.

This evening I was a guest of the Millards at dinner & went with them to Ravinia. Brilliant program.

Other guests – Misses Goodwillie & Gehrhart of Winnetka. Dr Fisher's daughter, Mrs Price & her husband

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of the Ravinia program which featured *Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*. – ed.]

Saturday, August 31

Sultry day but cool in shade

At G.B.S & conf with Flinn, Brown & various others. Ordered wardrobe hooks of H.P. Hardware; towel bars of Meierhoff; etc.

Sprinkled heavily this evening. Also gave a dressing of Armour's Green Ribbon on front parkway & the strip west of front entrance walk

[Mr. Smith received a second invitation (see August 10, 1929 entry) from Edith Joannes, representing the Business & Professional Women's Club of Waukegan, to give a nature talk. He also received an invitation from Mrs. C.A. Werner of the Lake Zurich Community Woman's Club. Their invitations and Mr. Smith's replies are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

August 20, 1929.

Mr. Jesse Smith
334 Vine Ave.
Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Mr. Smith:

The program committee of our club has requested me to inquire if you would consider speaking to us on any first or third Monday of the month from February to May, 1920.

Our program is only tentative after January and any other plans could be arranged to suit your convenience. However, if possible, we would like to announce a date on our program which goes to the printer the first week in September.

We hope to have the pleasure of including your name.

Yours very truly
Edith Joannes
Edith Joannes, Corresp.Sec'y.

August 31, 1929.

Miss Edith Joannes,
319 Grand Avenue, Waukegan, Ill.

My dear Miss Joannes :

I think I may be able to serve you

if the first Monday in April suits you;
if some topic like The Awakening of Spring or Wayside Adventures is satisfactory to you;
if you take care of my expenses and contribute five dollars to my "breakage fund";

I can bring and operate a lantern if desired.

Very truly yours,

Lake Zurich, Ill.
Aug. 29, 1929.

Mr. Jesse L. Smith,
Supt. of Schools,
Highland Park, Ill.

My dear Mr. Smith:

I have heard such favorable comment on the programs you have furnished for different Women's Clubs in our district and I should like to know what you include in your program such as given at Lake Villa under the title of "Awakening of Spring". Will you please advise me as to your charge for this program and if you will be available for April 17, 1930?

I shall greatly appreciate an early reply.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. C.A. Werner
Pres. Lake Zurich Com. Woman's Club

August 31, 1929.

Mrs C.A. Werner,
Lake Zurich, Illinois

My dear Mrs Werner :

Thank you very much for your kind inquiry about my talks, etc. In reply I am obliged to report that I do not feel free to make engagements for programs that occur during the hours that school is in session. I am a busy schoolman and like an average housewife my work is never done. If some time you can use me for an evening program, I may be able to serve you.

I have for some years been collecting sets of unusually fine "still" pictures, mostly of plant life, and from my collection I select sets that seem to be especially appropriate for the group to whom I may talk. The Awakening of Spring; Wayside Biographies; Adventures A-field; these are topics I suggest. I use to good effect some bird slides in each talk.

I am asking thirty five dollars for one talk. I bring and operate a lantern when desired.

Very truly yours,

Sunday, September 1

Fine day.

M & I in a taxi to Highwood M E & heard Mr Hopkins preach acceptably. Rollin Pease's daughter played. Ella Pease with Mrs Rollin & the daughter brot us home

Late this aft I walked over to E P & G B & home Visited at the Greens this evening – Mr & Mrs., Lois, & Davis

Monday, September 2

A very warm day

Crowded roads

At G.B.S. twice today. Most of my time a E.P.S. Mr Rhinehart worked all day.

I soaked my trees on front parkway and nearly all of backyard

Phoned Edith this evening. Reported Lennie back in B.H.

Tuesday, September 3

Warmer even than yesterday!!!

I took Bert Sanders, a 17 hr old backward boy, to the H.S. this A.M to try to get in unclassified. Much disappointed to fail to receive furniture shipments for G B.S. However I had Gus Norrlen haul desks, small chairs, pictures, supplies from E.P. to G.B.

Mr Richardson came & began to inquire into his work

Miss Benz came in an auto from Milwaukee & looked things over.

Window washers began work. Albarene stone arrived

Wednesday, September 4

Very warm but not as yest. Overcast late in day

At G.B. a while, then took taxi to Highwood Catholic church to funeral of Mrs Mocogni.

This aft Mr. Richardson were together most of time & largely at G.B.S. - - - The chairs from Heywood-Wakefield came - - but nothing else. Much desired mill work missing. Things progressing slowly.

Hose going again this evening

Thursday, September 5

Slight rain in night & much cooler this A M Threatening & slow rain for some time this aft.

At G.B. Then to Chic Shopped mostly for the Board. Fields. Econ. Drug Co Then went to Dr H.K. Smith, 910—, former partner of Dr Francis Lane – to have eyes examined for new glasses. Took prescription to Dow.

To G.B.S at four to see progress of today. Phone conf this evening with Mr Bliss – Dr Fritsch

Friday, September 6

Cool. Very pleasant.

At G.B.S at 7:30 to confer with Dr Fritsch & Mr Flinn There much of day. Decided that we could not hold school on Monday.

Mr Baur & Miss Rosemary of Terre Haute came & I took them to Mrs Gregory Sheahen's where Miss Baur engaged a room

Miss Kennedy & Miss Marks "showed up". Miss Sands & Miss Guiney reported during day, Miss Jones & Miss Dorsch, this evening. Mr. Schultz here

Mr Murray & I had a long conf this evening in the playroom over school subjects.

Saturday, September 7

Fine day. Cool breezes

Busy at G.B.S. until ten. Then at E P.

Teachers meeting at 1:30. Miss Kirkland & Hanson absent. Miss K wired from N.Y. City that she had just landed. All else present. Very pleasant reunion. Eight new teachers & one former returning from leave of absence.

Latter part of aft called together in new bldg the seven teachers for a conf.

This evening overhauled things in the office. Mr Richardson there, working on the new program.

Sunday, September 8

Fine day

Miss Green & Lois came over before church to look over our garden – then M & I went with them to their garden & Lois later took us to Presb Ch Mr Fitt preached

This aft I went over to G.B.S from 4 to 6 to see that things were all right

The Sundells took M & K for a late aft. ride & spent evening with us

Monday, September 9

First day of school.

Grew sultry this aft. but brief shower cooled atmosphere

G.B.S. not ready & children enrolled and sent home until Thursday.

Much irritated over delay in fan room. Motor lying there for weeks, only this day being set in place. Phoned protests to Hub Electric & to architect

All mill work arrived this AM Linoleum men need two days yet.

Assembly at opening at Elm Place. M. present. Good time

Teachers meeting this aft.

This evening called in at G.B.S. awhile. Then to E P. where I wired long protest to P. Derby Co. over delay to fill order for Kg equipment.

Tuesday, September 10

Fairly cool. Brisk winds blowing dry leaves from the trees

Conf with 8B's this A M over their course of study.

At G.B.S. as usual. Disagreed with window washer & referred the matter to Mr Flinn. Do not approve quality of work

The G.B.S. teachers entertained all the rest at 3:30 in their new rooms, Mrs Pfanstiehl & Mrs Creigh present. Fine time.

At home desk this evening.

Wednesday, September 11

Fine day. Very cool at the start.

At G B S until 9:20. Then at 5:00.

Announced f.f & v exhib. in various rooms.

Shirley of Silver B.

Mr Larson of Little Symphony Co

Mr Jensen, with whom I had lunch at Green Tea pot.

Mrs Paul Wright. Fine chat.

Group meeting with teachers

After supper Mr Bolle called to talk over band matters. Then I met Mr Richardson in the office to work over the program. While there Lloraine & Mrs Webster came to talk over Jean's work. She is quarant. with Gay who has inf. paralysis

Thursday, September 12

A few raindrops at noon. Cool

Pulled off flower, fruit & vegetable show today. Good exhibit considering the drouth. Mrs Steele & Mrs Goodman arranged it & made awards

At G.B.S. a while before & after school. Fan set in motion Linoleum laid

Berube & Eichler set two cases at E.P. today – Miss White's & Miss Millers

Still meeting with teachers & wrestling with programs.

Children dug up some of the peanut vines & took specimens of other planting from the school garden

Friday, September 13

Fine day. Cool Threatening, but dry

Sprinkled front lawn this evening. Mowed some of lawn

Flowers from exh. of yest sent to city this A M by Mrs Steele's committee

Mr Shaw, student from N W U., came to arrange to serve as band master

At G.B.S. twice.

This evening went over accounts of P.T.A with Mrs West, treasurer

Saturday, September 14

Quite cool at dawn. Put on my vest (first time for many weeks) & laid aside my straw hat. Fine day and mild

To Chic on 9:00. To Dow's to get my new bifocals & to Dr Smith's to have them checked. Schoenbrod's for mending tissue; Stebbins for hooks for window pulls & to buy a knife; Fields for mirror, soap, necktie, etc Bausch & L for microscope. Home at 4:15.

To G.B.S. until 6:00. This evening met Dr Fritsch at school to check up bills
Charge Dist 107 – mending tissue 1⁰⁰; hooks 1.20;

Sunday, September 15

Beautiful day. Quite cool at the start & a grate fire appreciated

M & I to Mr Siemsen's church Sermon by Mr Munday of Pell Lake Mrs Decker brot us home

At four this aft I went over to G.B.S. to do a little work. Visitors came in. Then Mrs Pattee & Fred. I showed them about. Then we rode out W. Park Ave to R R. & walked along the R R a ways A few dried up fr. gentian stalks

After the Pattees left, M. K. & I went down to call on the Chapins who are back after several weeks in the east

Monday, September 16

Began to rain about 9:30 AM & towards noon a deluge. Such a jam of autos at Sheridan & Elm that I felt obliged to direct traffic there. With only an umbrella I was drenched through & had to change completely. Cleared towards evening.

G.B.S. open to pupils & 193 enrolled 1B over-crowded. - - I was over there for a short time this aft.

Conf with Barendsen; with Mr Bolle of H.S. who appeared in morning assembly & then met band boys after school for short time

Board meeting this evening – only Mr Bliss & Mr Guyot there, but bills looked over, etc. Mr Richardson present.

Tuesday, September 17

Fine day.

At GB S. most of morning. Met all of pupils in an assembly. At the school this aft. Very busy. Mrs Anderson began assisting Miss Kirkland in 2B. _____

Wednesday, September 18

Light frost reported out in country. Fine day. Migration strong.

Very busy.

Conf with 6A's – 8's at 11:00. Pupil government

At G.B. twice.

Steve Marks finished his work. 15 days

Mr Ford came to display reprod. of Ferris' paintings

At home this evening

[Mr. Smith continued his correspondence (see August 10, 1929 entry) with Mrs. Ross regarding a possible speaking engagement for the Garden Club of Oak Park and River Forest. Mrs. Roos' letter and Mr. Smith's reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Forest Park, Illinois
September 13. 1929

My dear Mr. Smith –

I feel that I owe you an apology for not having answered your letter of August 10th before this. I did not know what answer to give you in regard to an evening meeting until after a Board Meeting and we have had none until this week.

We shall be very glad to arrange for an evening meeting to be held in the Spring if that is agreeable to you.

I will write you again. In the meantime, if you have any preference as to the time, (or rather the month) in which to give your lecture, will you let me hear from you?

Thank you.

Yours sincerely
Bessie Ross
(Mrs Albert C.)

September 18, 1929.

Mrs Albert C. Roos,
520 Marengo Avenue, Forest Park, Ill.

My dear Mrs Roos :

If you should find a place for me on your program, I suggest a date either in March or April as the most timely.

Sincerely yours,

Thursday, September 19

Fine day. Had covered up tomato plants, etc., in antic. of frost but none appeared.

All morning at G.B.S. Mrs Pierce & Mr Gearhart, agents called; also an (Hindoo) Indian lecturer who is to come next Wednesday.

Eight of us had a "fringed gentian" walk after school – from Prairie Ave to W. Park Ave thru the Skokie. Two stalks of fringed g., many of bottled g.; spiranthes, etc Palm warblers, b.t. green, redstart, etc

[On this day Mr. Smith replied to an invitation to speak to the Garden Club of Illinois. The invitation and Mr. Smith's reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Sept. 5th 1929.

Dear Mr Smith,

Will you lecture to the Garden Club of Illinois in Chicago, sometime in late November or early December, on "Conservation of Highways."

If it can be arranged, what are your charges and requirements?

Thanking you for a prompt reply,

Very Truly Yours,
(Mrs W.L) *Frances Karcher*
Chairman of Programs

September 19, 1929.

Mrs William L. Karcher,
Freeport, Illinois.

Dear Mrs Karcher :

I am embarrassed to note how long I have delayed a reply to your letter of Sept. 5 inquiring about a possible engagement with the Garden Club of Illinois. It may now be too late to be of interest but I will reply as if it were still possible to serve you.

I have of late consistently declined other than evening engagements because of the pressure of school duties but I could make an exception if it were a question of appearing before your organization. The topic and the occasion would justify a change in my program. So if you find that you have a place for me I will try to serve you. I can use lantern slides if desired. I would ask for my expenses only.

Very truly yours,

Friday, September 20

Beautiful day.

Conf with Mrs Creigh this A.M. With Janet Griffith. At G.B.S. a while.

This aft Miss White's pupils harvested our farm crop. The 2 - 3's from G.B.S. were present.

Clarence came in at 5:50 - via R R.

We all went to Bethany Church to chicken dinner A fine time.

Then I went to a meeting of the library board where the librarian of the city of Cincinnati talked to us about library bldgs & commented on our plans Mr. Hadley, a fine type of gentleman

Saturday, September 21

Nixon contract

Beautiful day

Clarence to Kenosha I to Chic on 9:04. To Nixon Co where I had a conf. with Mr ~~Nixon~~ Sonnenschein & Mr Dollmage & accepted the proposition to allow me \$800⁰⁰ on my outlay of \$1669. This was "velvet" to me, as I had not expected restitution of any sort.

To Vaughans for plants for aquarium. 1³⁵. To Illinois Soc for Criminal Justice - 300 W. Adams - Room 816 - Mr Jamieson for copies of chapter of Juvenile Delinquency etc.

Home at 3:00. Went to reception of Mr Beatty's - coming out of Veronese. A fine time.

Sunday, September 22

Beautiful day

Clarence went home this AM.

A Mr Killian brot a live humming bird which he had revived & fed on honey for three days. I went with him to Mrs Griffiths ~~whether~~ where after the bird had sipped honey when offered in a cup, the bird was released The druggist weighted it in at 55 gr

During this aft Mr Leech took me out in the country to get some queen Anne's lace etc.

Then I photographed at home a mass of aster laevis & of ragweed

Monday, September 23

Beautiful day

An hour at G.B.S. this A.M. Mr Sandwick found me there & discussed with me for a long time the matter of prep of h.s. pupils, etc

Capellor of Thos Charles called

Teachers meeting (general) held at G.B.S. Quite successful

Short conf. at E P. this evening with Miss Kirkland over problem of employing an assistant.

Tuesday, September 24

Check from Nixon Co.

Fine day though sultry in midday

Morning ex at G.B. Used a few bird slides. There until 12:00. Took trolley for Chic To Fields to return an imperfect clock & order two vases To Nixons to return my contract and receive a check for \$800.⁰⁰

Home at 3:30.

Conf. with several teachers. Worked at G.B. until 6:00.

Home this evening.

Wednesday, September 25

Threatening. A little rain in the night and a very light shower or two today.

Two hours at G.B.S this A M

Edgar Eisinstadt called. Agent for Laurel Book Co. An insurance ag't. Mr Free for a transfer. Miss Janet Griffiths

Mr Dhalwani, Indian gentleman, grad. of Oberlin, & his wife gave capital talk on India at 2:30 today. Admis. 10¢ & receipts – about 30⁰⁰ His wife assisted

P.T.A gave a garden tea and reception to the teachers at Mrs Kellner's this aft. Fine time.

Thursday, September 26

Fine day.

At G.B.S. one hour. Mr Shaw, bandmaster, came to meet the boys and plan for practice

Miss Dorsch away at wedding of her sister – yest & today. Mrs Hawkins sub.

Conf with Mr Mann this evening over a possible observatory.

Friday, September 27

Find day

Mr Shaw, bandmaster, met boys this aft. Mrs Law present – is to help finance things.

Mr Lichtwalt still absent. Kidney trouble

Mr Mann & I talked over plans for mounting the telescope this evening

Saturday, September 28

Showery this (late) aft & evening.

At (G.B) E.P. all A M Met Mr. Steenhill & gave him blueprint of proposed concrete base for telescope – to prepare an estimate

Much desk work at home this aft. Then Mrs Nolting called & we had a long conf. on symphony concerts

I dug up the red lilies this evening. This involved the John Ruskin tulips edging the beds

Sunday, September 29

Heavy rain with thunder & l. after midnight

Edith & D came in this A.M & had dinner with us. Leota Eklund with them

Mother went away with them this aft – for Gary & perhaps BH.

I walked out west Deerfield Ave & along Ridge Road & back this aft after the folks had gone

Monday, September 30

Fine day.

Very busy one.

Mr Schuler rep. Chic Motor Club here & organized patrols among our boys

Bandmaster Shaw met boys at 1:00

Mr Jensen & I had lunch at Green Teapot, then went to G.B.S. to plan for shrubbery, etc.

Exec. Com. of P.T.A met in my office at 2:00

Teachers' meeting at 4:00. Then I went over to G B.S. to see how the trouble over the oil burner was coming out. Then to hospital to confer with Dr Herbst.

After supper Mr Leech & I spent an hour or so at G.B.S. fixing up the kg pool.

Dist 107 – 1.45 expenses

Tuesday, October 1

Fine day.

Morning ex at G.B.S. There until noon

This aft helped in some outdoor excursions

Conf of 4 – 5 – 6's after school.

Mrs Williams and Mrs Clow called this evening.

I re-set some phlox this evening & put in two clumbs given us by Mrs Greene I also planted four roots of Aralia racemosa sent me by Mrs Hutchinson

Made my last payment to the Tennant Finance Corporation. [See July 20, 1927 and September 7, 1928 entries. – ed.]

Wednesday, October 2

Another lovely day.

Field trip with a 4th grade group & Miss McMunn at 10:00 – Exmoor ridge, Sunset park, etc.

Conf with Mrs Manning of H.S. orchestra together with Mrs Benz.

Mr Watt called to discuss ventilation Had a pleasant visit.

Mr Hawkins took me out west of town to look over wood lots for possible planting material

Worked this evening on circular about symphony concerts

K & I packed up box of bulbs (lilium – fire lily) for Lennie. Also set some aside for Mrs Decker, [Ro?]gan, & Mrs Phillips

Thursday, October 3

Raining at daybreak, but slacked up. Gray & sunny. Finally cleared & cooler

Turned over mss of a plea for symphony concerts to Miss Buzard's assistants to make mimeograph copies

At G.B.S. a while. The janitor & I attached connecting cords to cloak room lights to attach to lantern cord.

Our staff had for its "walk" this evening a visit to the Becker estate and the Florsheim A great spectacle of color. At Beckers the ravine, the lake vistas, the beautiful garden.

Friday, October 4

Beautiful day

Reset fire lilies & tiger lilies with a patch of John Ruskin tulips before school, this A M

Conf with Miss Hammett who wishes to teach piano With Miss Rudolph who is to be asst in 2B. With the Johnson man at G B S. who came to regulate temperature. With Mrs Marks & Mrs Danley.

Field trip with 4B's & Miss McMunn at 11:00.

With Mr Shaw, bandmaster, et. al.

This evening to Y.W.C.A. reception. Small attendance. Good time.

K. had business trip to Chic. this day

Saturday, October 5

Frost.

Frost. Film of ice in bird bath But no apparent harm in my yard

Got into the mail the circular relating to symphony concerts

Worked at both schools a little Mrs Green gave me some geraniums for cuttings

Holland furnace people came & cleaned furnace pipes.

Went down to Blackstone to hear "Caprice." Fine acting; horrid play

[Pasted at this page is a clipping from the playbill for *Caprice* by Sil-Vara. It starred Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. — ed.]

Sunday, October 6

Gray. A very little rain. Windy.

Slept heavily after breakfast this A M

Late aft Mr & Mrs Parratt came for us and we had a beautiful drive — with something to eat at the Green Tea Pot, Lake Forest Then we went through the G.B.S. before coming home

Monday, October 7

Fine day.

Mr Hoskins, fire marshall, talked at morning assembly about fire protection, and we had fire drills afterward

Miss Anchester of Chic Teachers' College called and I showed her through the G.B.S.

Teachers' meeting at 4:00 Miss Moore went home ill.

Miss Jones back on duty.

Went down to Mr Wright's this evening to talk over symphony concerts, etc. He brought me home

Tuesday, October 8

Another fine day.

Morning ex at G.B.S. Returned in the aft to call all the little boys together to instruct them as to various things — including trespassing on neighbors' grounds

To Geog Soc this evening to hear Dr Breasted He was given the gold medal of our Soc, Dr Goode making the presentation speech

Field trip with Miss Hansen's group at 11:00.

Mr Cunningham and I slipped away during the morning & called at the McCormick estate (C.H) to secure permission for the walk & to spot the right trail.

[James Henry Breasted (1865-1935) was an American archaeologist and historian. After earning his PhD in Egyptology from the University of Berlin in 1894, he became an instructor at the University of Chicago where he founded the Oriental Institute. – ed.]

Wednesday, October 9

Threatening. Cool wind Moderating towards evening.

Mrs Cordonier & her assist. of Preventorium came to talk over report cards

Mrs Creigh present for a while

We had tea at the new Braeside school this aft. Lovely bldg.

Our kg chairs came today (& kg tables) & Mr Richardson worked at G B.S. this evening unwrapping & setting them up.

Thursday, October 10

Drizzly much of day

Our staff spent much time preparing for our party at G.B.S, this to follow the annual McCormick walk. H-S, Lincoln & Ravinia invited

Although it was drizzling we went on the walk – about forty of us, perhaps more Planned only to go thru C.H. McCormick estate, but the Supt of Mrs R-McC's estate invited us in there, & we made a hasty tour before going on the other trip as planned. Fine walk Then back to G.B.S. to plate lunch, etc. Sang. Chatted. Danced, etc Great time

Friday, October 11

Threatening. Showery at evening.

This evening to banquet of Fellowship Club at Presb. Ch. General Wood made an excellent talk.

Saturday, October 12

Fine day

To city with Mr Richardson on 10:04. To City Club to luncheon of Round Table Very pleasant time. Introduced Mr. Richardson generally Talks by Storm & Washburne.

Home at 3:30. Went to General Wood's to the coming-out party of Frances. Very pleasant time Looked up material for a talk on trees this evening

Sunday, October 13

Most beautiful day

Mother got back at 9:00 with Edith & D. Had enjoyed her two weeks' trip. E & D. left after being here an hour or so as they wished to view a Columbus celebration at home

This aft Arthur Lawley & his wife drove up with two friends & made a short but friendly call.

I walked out W. Park Ave to the railroad & hunted up fringed gentian plants. Lingered until after sunset enjoying the color in leaf & sky. On way back Miss Cramer & her friend picked me up & brot me home

Have been greatly absorbed in reading Bowers' The Dark Era

Monday, October 14

Oh, a beautiful day!!

Miss Stine's pupils talked Columbus at morn. ex & recited "Before him, etc." I talked Count Pulaski, etc

Conf after school with 6A's - 7 - 8's over pupils' work

Mrs Taylor subbing for Miss Greno who is helping her parents move

Miss Pratt ill & at home at DeKalb

K & I to concert at H.S. this evening. Fine.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping of the concert program. The concert was given by Miss Edith Mason for the benefit of the Highland Park Hospital and featured "Mr. St. Leger at the piano." - ed.]

Tuesday, October 15

A little rain in the night. Cleared

At G.B.S. this A.M. Held teachers' meeting there

Wednesday, October 16

Fine day. Leaves showering down.

Miss Phillips absent with a cold. Her classes taken by some of us. I heard two Latin classes

Miss McMunn & Miss Behrens took a 4B group to Wauk this aft. Miss Starke subbed for Miss B.

Agent for Winston and for Scott Foresman

Jessie Clark drove up to our house this aft & I visited with her a while. She looked quite well.

I worked on notes for a tree talk this evening

Thursday, October 17

Beautiful day.

The janitors and I went over to Mrs Snites & brot away a huge hamper full of geranium cuttings

Miss McMunn took another 4B group to Waukegan. Miss Meyers went along. Mrs Anderson subbed.

Comm. meeting or conf. about symph conc. met in E.P. Kg. Mrs Pfanstiehl, Creigh, Weinberg, Grinnell, Nolting, Kennicott, Herman, Mr Dinkaloo, Mr. Wright. Mr Larson of L.S. Symph. discussed it with us. No decision. Consider it further.

Some of our teachers with Cunningham as leader had a shore-woodland walk

Friday, October 18

Beautiful day.

Man came to set up clock in GBS but electrician failed to appear & the work goes over until next Monday

I talked at H-S. assembly at 12:40 on trees, etc, using slides. Got on rather well

Gave a 4th grade group nature lessons at new bldg. Made geranium cuttings.

This evening Mr Schultz and I went to Art League Meeting at Ravinia Village House, a memorial for Lionel Robertson & Mr Buck. An impressive occasion. Mr & Mrs Wright brot us home

Saturday, October 19

A beautiful day

Gave up the day to work about the place

Pulled up tomato plants & bean bushes. Stored stakes in basement. Reset three rosebushes & grubbed one out. Reset 8 or 10 plants of canterb. bells & foxgl. Also three or four milkwd plants - set on

parkway. Brot one root of A. rubra from P.C school & set on pkwy. Rooted out undesirable goldenrod & aster plants on pkwy. Miss Johnson took me out to Frankens where I bot 6 delph & one peony – Felix Cousse. Set latter (one large & one small plant [a gift]) at corner where four o c were growing.

Dug up bulb of amorphallus & stored in dirt room
etc.

Sunday, October 20

Heavy shower in the night Cleared Mild.
M & I to Presb Ch. this A.M. Taxi.

This aft I went with Mr Green & Mr Riddle & Robt & Geo Gaidzik to the Curtis Flying Field at Glenview to see the celebr. of its formal opening. Wonderful display of flying. Saw seven men drop from one plane in parachutes

Called at the Greens a short time this evening

Monday, October 21

A real fall day, ending with high wind & drops of rain.

We celebrated in aud. this AM. the 50th anniversary of the incandescent lamp. The Pub. Service Co. showed a 3 reel film of Edison' life & a rep. spoke for 15 min. Then our 7th's gave four or five scenes from E's life. The 8th graders then displayed candles, whale oil lamps, kerosene lamps & an array of lights of today. A fine program

At 3:45 Tennessee Mitchell Anderson (Mrs Sherwood) talked at Woman's Club on modern sculp. Ten of us present. My boys op. lantern.

Board meeting this evening – at G.B.S. Fine time

[Tennessee Mitchell Anderson (1874-December 1929), second wife of Sherwood Anderson, was a sculptor with a studio in Chicago. – ed.]

Tuesday, October 22

A stormy day, chill and wintry like

Morning ex at G.B.S. Showed "light" exhibit.

Electrician worked there today

Lichtwalt & K. went over to Mrs Snite's & got more geranium cuttings.

Prof Dudley, formerly of Madison, director of vis instruction, rep Yale Univ Press, came this aft & I had quite a visit with him His daughter Jane, violinist, came with him

Miss Qualey of A B Co. called.

[Mr. Smith continued his correspondence (see September 19, 1929 entry) with Mrs. Karcher regarding a possible speaking engagement for the Garden Club of Illinois. Mrs. Karcher's letter and Mr. Smith's reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Oct 5th 1929.

My dear Mr Smith,

The Garden Club of Illinois would be very happy to have you talk to them on "The Conservation of Highways" on Thursday November 14th at 2:00 PM, (if you can so arrange) at the Stadium.
Will you kindly advise me what, if any, are your requirements? – Lantern & etc.

Very Truly Yours,

(Mrs W.L.) *Frances Karcher*

October 22, 1929.

Mrs W.L. Karcher,
1011 West Stephenson St., Freeport, Ill.

My dear Mrs Karcher :

This is in reply to your letter of October 5 relating to my proposed talk on the topic, "The Conservation of Highways" on Nov. 14 at 2:00 P.M. at the Stadium in Chicago.

I would like to use lantern slide illustrations with my talk. I assume that at the Stadium lantern facilities as well as an operator will be available. If this does not prove to be the case, I can arrange all details myself. I will bring my own lantern and a schoolboy operator. Please let me know in due time what should be done.

Very truly yours,

Wednesday, October 23 Snow!

Four inches of wet snow fell in the night. It melted rather rapidly but fitful snow squalls continued during the day.

Clock man set up the clock in G.B.R.S.

I had two groups of 4th's make geranium cuttings at E.P.

Conf with Mrs Gaidzik & Mrs Selfridge over 2B work.

P.T.A. this aft. in E.P. kg. room. Miss Lynch brot her 2nd grade toy orchestra over & it gave a fine number – Some 5 – 6's showed soap sculpture of greek architec. etc

Thursday, October 24

Gradually cleared A little cooler

I dug up gladiolas, tigridias, & dahlias before school

Geranium cutting lessons – fourth graders E.P., 2's & 3's at G.B.R.S.

Were to have had Teachers Thursday aft. walk, but no one met me at appointed place, so I went alone – out Deerf. Ave to drainage ditch & north to West Park Ave., etc. Brot back four roots of helenium a. which I planted on parkway.

Called a few minutes on Mr Bliss this evening, then to E.P. an hour or more

Friday, October 25

Fine day

Most of morning given to 4th grade pupils (four groups) in digging hard maple seedlings at Maple & Sheridan

Prof. Bobbitt visited with me at 1:30. Fine interview. Asked me friendly questions about Mr. B.

Then I went to G.B.R.S. & gave children chance to plant ger. cuttings in flats filled with sand.

Then after school I worked until after 5:00, planting cuttings. Planted two flats of calendula seed.

Trimmed some calendula plants from the garden & set them in soil.

Packed my bag & set out for Mich City at 6:34. To Spaulding house & to bed.

Saturday, October 26

Michigan City to Stevensville

Fine day Took 7:35 bus for Stevensville. (Hotel 3⁰⁰; breakfast .75; taxi .50; ticket 1.15) Got off at Dunes Highway & walked into Stev. Left most of my baggage at drugstore Bot tinbucket & cup, wienies & cream, brot sandw fr. Mich City. Began at 9:00 a day's walk & saw no human being until 5:00. To Grand Mere Beach & south along shore 1½ mi. or so to first summer cottages. Back tracked few hundred ft., then climbed over into the dunes Did a lot of exploring. Tramped over tamarack swamp, back & forth. - - Ate my lunch in "witch hazel" park Boiled water & added cream to make my noon drink Roasted wienies, etc. Back along beach to Grand Mere & viewed late sunset from the dunes highway. - - Took 5:52 P. Marq for Sawyer & to Carner's hotel for bed

Sunday, October 27

Another beautiful day.

Oaks, masses of color. Most of other trees plundered

Left Carners about 8:25 by bus for B.H. - .75 + .25 – A shoe shine, then went up to Lennie's.

Short visit with the Crooks

Then L., Arthur & I set out in the auto for Mich C. Ruth preferred not to go.

Had lovely ride. Stopped at Mr Ramoth's place and spent a delightful hour with him & Mrs R.

Then on leisurely to M. C. Fine dinner at La Salle cafe. Caught 3:48 for Chic. & home.

Monday, October 28

Gray & threatening.

At morning ex. Frances Tillman White and her husband entertained, her husband sang well, also used his guitar Marg. Esmis played on her violin. I talked about Roosevelt.

Number of visitors from Racine.

This aft to "Conf." at Winnetka. Prof Haydon & Prof. Sapiro in aft. Went down again this evening – heard Patty Smith Hill & then Prof T.V. Smith. The whole conference remarkable.

Mr & Mrs Eisenrath brot me home.

Today I received through the mails from Aunt Eva the pair of glasses worn by great g. f. Absolom Smith who died in 1861.

[Pasted to this page is a clipping from the Conference on "The Family" held by [New] Trier Township High School, [North] Shore Country Day School, [The] Winnetka Woman's Club, and [The] Winnetka Public Schools. Professor A. Eustace Haydon, Department of Comparative Religion, University of Chicago, spoke on "Putting Ideals into Behavior." Professor Edward Sapir, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, spoke on "What is the Family Still Good For?" Professor Patty Smith Hill, Teacher's College, Columbia University spoke on "The Twenty-Four Hour Day of the Young Child." Professor Thomas Vernon Smith, Department of Philosophy, University of Chicago, spoke on "The Clash of Family Ideals." – ed.]

Tuesday, October 29

Misty & rainy.

Morning ex at G.B.R.S. Calendula seeds "coming up."

This aft to Chic To Abbott's to take oil painting (gift of Hildred Densmore's husband) to frame; also two color prints of Estes. Bot 4 Indian prints & ordered framed

Bought floor lamp at Fair. Wall lamp guards at Stebbins \$1⁵⁰ – Dist 107

To Directors' meeting of Geog Soc. Routine business Home at 7:10.

Wednesday, October 30

Spent lot of time on certificating data. Old certificates to be sent back & new forms issued

Showed Mrs Fred Hill & Mrs Horton of Glencoe about today.

This evening Dinkeloo, Wright & I met with exec. com. of Chamber of Commerce & discussed possible symphony concerts. Fine time but we are not sure we got anywhere.

Thursday, October 31

Still rainy and foggy.

Hallowee'n parties at school

Electrician (Warner) from Fuchs Elec. Co – 129 So La Salle – came to look over connecting phones, & plan for electric gongs in elem. bldg

Hub man at work on gongs, & clock man on clocks at G B.R.S.

Schantz came & gave fine talk on Tennessee mts at 11:00 to 4 – 8's. We had lunch at G.T. & long conf afterwards

At home this evening. Stowed away screens, wheelbarrow, lawn mower, etc.

Friday, November 1

Cleared. Sunny much of day. Mild

Much desk work today. Two trips to G.B.R.S, the later one with Mr Lichtwalt to try out new floor mop

Conf. with Mrs Law, Mrs Marks, Mr Hayward.

The 8B's had a fine party this evening in the playroom, Mr. Richardson in charge.

[On this day Orpheus M. Schantz, President of the Illinois Audubon Society, wrote to Mr. Smith concerning affairs of the Society. His letter is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Nov. 1st, 1929

Jesse L. Smith
Elm Place School
Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Mr Smith:-

A prominent Woman's Club member, of Beverly Hills, Mrs B.E. Buttles, called me this morning and gave me a very enthusiastic report of the announcement among the conservation chairmen a few days since, that the woman's clubs were very much in earnest about getting behind the Illinois Audubon Society.

Mrs Buttles is one of the women, who, more than any other one individual, assisted Mrs Cox in getting money for the Ridgway Mem. Fund.

The women in Mrs Buttles District are planning to place a set, or sets, of The National Audubon Society's cards in every school room and as far as possible sell to individual members of their clubs.

The Illinois Audubon Society will get 30¢ from every set so sold. I told Mrs Buttles that I would agree to talk with her whenever she desired.

I am constantly embarrassed by the possibility of having to announce-perhaps-that someone else has been elected President, and I am afraid such an announcement might not prove very pleasing to the energetic women who worked so hard for the Ridgway Fund, as whoever might be elected would be for a long time a stranger to the woman's clubs.

Mrs Buttles has asked for a general statement of the fact of the completion of the Ridgway Memorial Matter, and a request that the Women's Clubs powerful influence may be swung into line for the Audubon Society.

For the good of the Society, and without prejudice, I wish the change might be deferred until next election, so that there might be no possibility of curious questions as to why the change needed to [be] made.

Sincerely

OM Schantz

[Mr. Smith sought information about Mrs. Cox. On November 7, he wrote a letter to fellow Audubon Society member Mrs. Richardson. His letter is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

November 7, 1929.

My dear Mrs Richardson :

Can you not make inquiry among members of the Chicago Ornithological Society and the Chicago Woman's Club as to Mrs Coxe?---Who are her associates or following--- who is likely to have influence with her--- what "goods" she might be able to deliver,-- how we might go about it to solicit her active support if this is desirable?

Cordially yours,

Saturday, November 2

Fine day

Washed upstairs windows. Then met Mr Baker at Int Bldg to go over matter of linoleum floors. The lin. in sc. room is pulling away from floor & humps forming.

Then went with Mocogni to yards across Skokie & selected soil pile from which to have a load for my place & 2 for G.B.R.S.

This aft got wheelbarrow load of leaf mould from wood lot on Sheridan Road. Got small (express) wagon load of soil at E.P.

Planted pots of Clara Butt tulips & of Gertrude hyacinths.

This evening long conf with Mr Lyon & Mr Gregory over Aud Soc. Held this at G.B.R.S.

Sunday, November 3

Find day.

Rested at home all A M. This aft to Pattees' to try to secure their consent to compromise in Audubon matters

Home & then took 5:34 for Chic & the Cliff Dwellers Club where the Friends of O.N.L. had a campfire dinner Fine time Addresses by Cowles & Jensen Fine address by Capt. Sauer, head of Forest Preserves.

Monday, November 4

Heavy frost & firm ice in bird bath

At morn ex Mr Bergh produced a "fiddlette" and entertained us highly with it Agent for Ritters.

Ralph Seymour lectured at Woman's Club this aft. I attended & spent some time afterward.
Mr Richardson and I had a long conf this evening.

I talked with Mr Bailey of Acad of Sc. over phone today about Audub. matters On his advice I made a date with Mr DeLoach for tomorrow.

Tuesday, November 5

Gray & sunny. Sharpest frost thus far. Thick ice in bird bath

Morning ex at G.B.R.S. Displayed a cabbage and a beet.

Lichtw & K heeled in our maple seedlings at G.B.R.S.

At 11:00 went to Chic. To Atlantic Hotel for lunch with Mr DeLoach. He laid the situation in Audub. Soc. before me from his standpoint, enumerating things I did not know. Then we went up to Mr Lodge's office for a short visit. Then home

Teachers' meeting at 4:00.

This evening at E.P. Miss Grunewald & I talked over Armistice Day program

Wednesday, November 6

Fine day,

Miss Behrens, Lynch & Johnson took G.B.R.S 3B's to Buffalo Creek Farm this A.M & the first two took 3A's to Old Mill Road Farm this aft.

Mrs Hawkins sub

Conf of G B R S mothers this aft which I attended. Elected chairman Mrs Hargraves, Sec Rybolt.

Others – Laegler & Durbahn (Not sure about last).

Went down to meeting of Aud Soc Directors. All present except Sch., Deane, Blakeley, Eifrig. – Elected Eifr. Pres., Amicable. Much enthusiasm. I presided

[In the weeks following the meeting of the Audubon Society Directors, Mr. Smith wrote (and received) several letters in an attempt to maintain the "amicable" state of affairs. That correspondence is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

November 7, 1929.

My dear Mr. Eifrig :

I trust you have been notified of your unanimous election to the position of president of the Illinois Audubon Society. I regret that the present bylaws have stripped the president of almost all of the powers hitherto exercised by Mr. Schantz and vested them in the chairman of the board. I happen to be that chairman for the present and I will try to make amends to you by acting upon any advice you may see fit to give me. Our big job is to get our committees organized and at work.

I learn that it has not been the custom to ask for the report of standing committees at each meeting and that such committees have not functioned to any great extent. The list of committes named in Mrs Baroody's report to the board on Sept. 20, 1927, was accepted by the board upon motion made by you. I enclose a copy of the list. I do not find that any such committees have been appointed this year. A motion prevailed last evening that I name the members of these committees but I announced that I would name the members of the executive committee and assign it the task of revising the committee lists if it seemed wise to consolidate any of them. I also invited suggestions as to what might properly be included in the duties of the various committees, particularly those of the executive committee. This latter will be expected to arrange with Mr. Schantz for a series of lectures to be made by Mr. Schantz as our field agent and to have charge of the fund of \$600.00 set aside on motion of Mr. Lodge for that

purpose. This committee will authorize all expenditures and present all bills for approval by the board before checks are issued. This committee will be expected to report to the board and to carry out policies dictated by the board.

Now I plan to appoint Lodge, De Loach, Deane, Pattee and Lyons on the executive committee. As to the other committees I wish you would look the list over and advise me of any appointments you consider especially appropriate. Please name two committees upon which you prefer to serve.

Cordially yours,

Nov. 7, 1929.

My dear Mr. De Loach :

Some advice, please.

If the executive committee should consist of Lodge, De Loach, Pattee, Lyons, and Deane, would it be wise to ask Mr. Lodge to act as chairman? I look upon Pattee and Lyons pairing off and you as maintaining friendly relations with Mr. Deane, and then if Mr. Lodge would put some punch into affairs, his chairmanship would be a concession to the new element in the society. If you suggest some other name, I will hold the suggestion confidential. I will not ask any one else about this. - - - -You need not answer in writing. I will phone you or, better, phone your office soon to see if you are "in", and then you can say it to me "face to face".

Yours,

November 7, 1929.

My dear Mr. Schantz :

I found after several conferences that I could accomplish nothing for a program such as you suggested the other day. Only a few favored it and the great majority strongly opposed it. Under the circumstances it seemed to me better that it should not be pushed.

The society is suffering from its failure to function collectively. Your mistake, I think, has been in allowing so much of the work to devolve upon you. Hardly a standing committee has been at work, so far as I can find out. I note in the minutes for 1927 that a long list of standing committees was announced but there is not a record concerning them for this year. This is a dangerous situation and I think it would be wiser for you to put it up to others to get into committee work and carry some of the load. You recognize that there are and have been all along elements of danger in your holding so much of the welfare of the society in your hands. You have been president, salaried employe, treasurer, publicity man, etc., etc., and the society has been accustomed to functioning at second hand. It can not have healthy growth until its entire directorate is set to work.

Suppose we sort of start over and anew and try out a program of distributed functions. Then if people do not work, they will be exposed to public criticism. At present criticism has been directed against you and that was inevitable because you accepted practically all the responsibility for the working of the society.---You have been made field agent of the society and a fund of six hundred dollars has been set aside to start of your campaign which you and the executive committee are to plan and carry out. I wish you would accept the situation cheerfully, and get ready to put your shoulder to any wheel that presents itself, besides. There is the work of the publication committee and a

publicity campaign among the women's clubs such as you spoke of to promote. I will try to function vigorously as chairman of the board for a while until we can get our committees steamed up, then I would like to retire to a place on the publication committee. I wish you would go ahead with the proposition Mrs Cox spoke of, and cultivate her friendly interest in our affairs. If you think up a well balanced program for field work and present it to the executive committee for approval, then you can show that to Mrs Cox as an evidence that our society is going ahead and it entitled to support.

Yours,

November 8, 1929

Dear J.L.S.

Just received your letter, and agree perfectly to your suggestions as to elements of danger in the concentrated functioning. But, there was another element that stood in the way of efficiency:-the lack of initiative and constructive action in the chairmen of committees.

What's past is behind us, but Mrs W.D.R.Catherine M.Mrs F.H.P. Esther Craigmile, et al, never had anything to suggest that they would or could carry out.

As an example. The Present Conservation Council is practically nil in efficiency, being only a place to go once a month for lunch, and a list of about 60 representatives receiving notices of meetings and getting the proceedings, when only a very few paid dues; (carried gratis by Miss M.) and then all at once the Treasurer would receive bills for stationery, postage, etc. and there would be no money in the Treasurer's account with which to pay.

Recently a meeting was held of the Ohio Valley State Parks assoc. Engineered by Kennicott & Miss M with the expectation of about 200 in attendance, and only a handful at its meetings; at the dinner there were about 30 present, largely friends of the Kennicotts, and members of the Izaak Walton league.

I am very glad to have your letter, and will be "more glad" to talk things over, so that the high spots and low spots for the future may be brought out.

I accept the new arrangement with a sense of freedom from certain disturbing criticism that I saw no way to correct under existing conditions.

Furthermore, I shall refrain from be obnoxious, by letting someone else say "I told you so." I would much prefer having Lodge President than Eifrig. Lodge is a practical businessman, Eifrig "a German who still in his heart thinks Kaiser Bill was O.K." Eifrig was advanced to Member class at the recent A.O.U. meeting through the help of Lyon and Deane, but Deane was called down by Dr Roberts for backing him, and had Deane known of the petty little things that Eifrig did to Dr Roberts, and the errors he made in identifying birds collected in the Minnesota region I think Deane would not have urged his advancement to the Member class.

I do not know whether I can control Mrs Cox activities or not, I hope that I can, for she and her friends are very efficient. I will do everything I can for the lecture program, and should like to talk that over with you.

Where to go, how to get the entree, etc.etc.

I am going to the "Ridgway Memorial" tonight, at the Academy, hope you will find time to attend.

The ladies wished to have "violin music" at the ceremony, but Bailey, who is at times "short tempered" revolted, and it will not be.

Reuben M. Strong, who I believe is program chairman, called Mrs Coxe on phone asking what he should say?

I sincerely hope that the Audubon Society can get down to a

Practical and efficient program, and that it will be possible to get committees to function, actually and not in words only.

I do not know anything about further plans, i.e. moving to the Academy, giving up this office, etc.etc. but presume I will be advised.

I know that Bailey is eager to have the Audubon Society move in to help him in his campaign, and that they tried to get the Geographic Society to come in too, but the Geog. Soc. refused to consider the proposition.

So long, and much obliged for your kind and friendly letter, which helped to "deaden the blow".

Sincerely,
OM Schantz

Nov. 13, 1929

Mr. Jesse L. Smith
Board of Education
Highland Park, Ill.

Dear J. L:

Pardon me for not having responded sooner to your request for a price on the circular, which I return herewith.

I suppose your intention is to print it on one side only, with subject matter similar to the bird illustrations. One thousand copies would cost about \$50.00; two thousand, about \$60.00. This includes the cost of six separate halftone illustrations and type matter similar to the sample. It does not, however, include the cost of assembling the photographs with decorate borders and making halftones of the grouped photos. This would add considerable expense – probably \$20.00 or \$25.00.

While I have my finger in your buttonhole, I wish to project another idea which has been in my mind since last Wednesday. You probably have a notion that I feel that I should be rewarded for my recent insurgent activities in the Audubon Society by receiving a place on the Executive Committee. On the other hand, your diplomatic sense probably tells you that this would be unfortunate.

This, then, is to say that, regardless of anybody's wishes for or against, including yours, I would prefer not to have that assignment. I am sufficiently egotistic to think that what was accomplished at the last two meetings of the directors through my willingness to be the spokesman of the left wing is the most important accomplishment in the work of the Audubon Society in a good many years. With the man who aspired to be perpetual President, Treasurer, Executive Committee, Editor, Publication Committee, and what have you (for a consideration) deposed, and with yourself brought back into active participation as Chairman of the Board, I feel that I can well be proud of the accomplishment and content to take no further active part.

If you should ask my advice – which you haven't – as to the personnel of the Executive Committee, I should name, without hesitation, Lodge, Gregory, and Bailey, and ex-officio, the Treasurer. I certainly hope that it will not be necessary to recognize the repudiated past President on such a committee, believing that he is fully compensated for his dethronement by the plan to pay him liberally for the twelve lectures he is to deliver.

Most cordially yours.

Fred Pattee

F.H. Pattee.

S

Thursday, November 7

Gray & sunny.

Helped 3rd graders at both schools to set up vegetable pits.

Nine of us had a walk after school – Ravine Drive to lake, the Millard grounds, etc.

Mr Leech & I worked at the G.B.R.S. aquarium after supper this evening.

Friday, November 8

Fine day

Much of the morning at G.B.R.S. Ran out of oil & sent children home until after noon. Then this aft. the burner didn't work & again no school

At noon hour Miss Turpin drove me down to Sunset Golf Club & Mr Laing showed me their nursery, etc

At 4:00 Mr Hawkins let me off at Skokie meadow just beyond Exmoor where I dug up a few Veronica, rudbeckia triloba, etc. & one liliun superbum. He brot me home an hour later

I took 6:34 for Chic to Acad of Sc. where a Ridgeway Memorial Meeting was held – Test, Eifrig, Cowles & Strong – Then four reels. Fine program Mr Graham brot me to Wilson Ave.

Saturday, November 9

Beautiful day Crust on soil at dawn

Bob Skidmore wheeled in from parkway a wagon load of soil Menoni's men had left there

I took 9:04 for Chic. To Schantz office for conf with him & Mrs Baroody & Miss Mitchell. Ladies left at 11:30. Then S & I went over to B & Lomb's to figure on an automatic stereop From there I went to City Club & ate lunch with Round Table group. Listened to first number on prog. (Schwebel) & came away. - - Errand at Fields. Then home & to the aud. where the Ev. Childrens' Players were putting on Aladdin. Great audience Fine - - - This evening to bank to get Woodman certif. & prepare to surrender old one & get a new one.

Sunday, November 10

Rained towards morning & rather heavily until 10:00. Slight rain at intervals thereafter

I went to Presb Church This aft I visited G.B.R.S. for a short time Then to Chic. Art Institute. Then to 4641 Woodlawn to be Miss Lelia Goddard's guest. Mrs W.H. Claggett also there. Nice Visit Home at 11:15.

Monday, November 11

Cool. Gray

Armistice Day exercises Were to have had a speaker from Amer. Legion but he did not appear. Had fine exercises of our own.

Mrs Grunewald's & Miss Tschirgi's gave most of program. Made much of the K – Briand Peace Pact

Mr Ritow, a Chic. principal, present.
Conf of 7A's & 8's this evening.
School Board meeting this evening. Amicable.

Tuesday, November 12

Threatening, Misting at nightfall.
No morning ex at G.B.R.S. Called there this aft.
Conf with 6A's – 7B's this evening after school
Went to Wilmette Women's Club this evening to talk before Evening Garden Club, Mrs Ewer, chairman of program com. Raymond Phillips & Bob Skidmore went along to operate for me. Good and appreciative audience. Enjoyed myself.
This day paid off a thousand dollar mortgage on my house. Still owe \$240 int. to be paid in 30 days

Wednesday, November 13

Rainy. Not much cooler
At the noon hour had Mr Leech let me off along Miss Coolidge's place on Ridge Road. And for nearly an hour I made an inventory of the natural planting along 800 feet of frontage.
Assembly of 6 – 8's this aft to talk over self government plans, etc.
This aft & evening, the Tony Sarg marionetts, - Rip Van Winkle – under Miss Kinsolving's management. Fine show

Thursday, November 14

Gray. Finally clearing.
Myrtle English & Miss Hinshaw & Mrs Schmidt of Evanston spent two pleasant hours with me this A M.
Took Raymond Phillips & Bob Skidmore with me to Chic on 12:04 & to the Stadium Club Room where at 2:00 o'clock I talked to a group of rep. garden club women of northern Illinois – Roadside planting. Mrs Fischer of Lake Bluff presided. I was given a flattering reception Home at 6:30
To Library Board this evening. Plans for new library bldg tentatively approved.

[In the weeks following his lecture to the Garden Club of Illinois, Mr. Smith received letters from the Club. Those letters and Mr. Smith's replies are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Nov 15 – 1929.

Dear Mr Smith –

Permit me to again tell you how pleased I was with your lecture yesterday at the Stadium. I spoke to you at the immediate close of the program.

I am mailing you a copy of Garden Glories – the Federation Bulletin – which I edit – and I am writing to ask you for the quotation from Jno Burroughs – (I have the one from Kipling)

I wish to write you into all the space available in January Garden Glories and I need to have my copy at once.
May I ask also the price of your lecture. I know you were gracious to us yesterday, but many clubs will be looking for you.

Very cordially
Mary Dynes

November 17, 1929.

My dear Mrs Dynes :

I enclose the quotations I used the other day and the sheet upon which I had copies them. You need not return the sheet. You will find that I have indicated in writing the source of the quotations.

You were very kind in your reference to my talk and I must admit that it gave a thrill to talk before so appreciative an audience.

I am asking thirty five dollars for my talks.

Cordially yours,

Mr. Jesse Smith
Highland Park, Ill.

My dear Mr. Smith

The Garden Club of Illinois wishes to thank you for your very inspiring lecture on Roadside Planting on November 14th – at the Chicago Stadium.

Your talk was interesting, educational and inspirational and your audience was thrilled. They tell us it was one of the best programs the Garden Club of Illinois has given its members.

Please accept our sincere appreciation for the splendid talk and lovely pictures. Will you please let me know your lecture fee, also your expenses.

Cordially yours,
Abbie S. Kendall – Treas.

Mrs. George M. Kendall
Glen Ellyn, Ill.

November 29, 1929.

Mrs. George M. Kendall,
Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

My dear Mrs Kendall :

Thank you very much for your kind expression of appreciation of my talk of the other day.

I agreed with Mrs Karcher to present a bill for my expenses only. I furnished a lantern and two competent boy operators for whom a fee of \$1.50 each plus expenses is ample, the total expenses being \$5.40 for all three of us.

Sincerely yours,

Glen Ellyn, Ill.
Dec. 3 – 1929.

Mr. Jesse L. Smith,

Superintendent of Schools,
Highland Park, Ill.

My dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed please find check for \$10 covering your expenses for your lecture at the Stadium last month. Perhaps, you know of a Garden Book you would like to have and will accept it as a very small expression of our appreciation.

Cordially,
The Garden Club of Illinois
Abbie S. Kendall, Treas.

Friday, November 15

Visiting Day

Beautiful day.

All away visiting schools Clark Wright and I went in his auto to Batavia where Storm met us & in his auto we picked up Thompson at St Charles & went out to the State School. Mr Elliot took us to the school where we saw morning dismissal. Went to Storm's house at B. for lunch. Then back to the state school for "chapel." Rest of aft. visited school classes, mn'l tr shop, etc & had an intimate talk at the close with Mr Elliot. W & I got home at 6:40.

Saturday, November 16

Gray but finally clearing

Worked two hours on my garden. Wheeled in most of a load of compost (cow manure) which Koller had dumped on my parkway. Got most of my garden plots ready for spading.

At 11:45 left with Mr Hawkins in his auto. We picked up Prof Grant & Prof Ball at 127 Library St. & set out for Batavia where we picked up Storm The rest of the aft we spent exploring ~~the~~ for kames & eskers in the country s.w. of Batavia & s.e. of Kaneville. Extremely interesting. Ate supper at Storm's. Home at 9:15

Sunday, November 17

A beautiful day

Ed & Margaret Wilson drove up before church and visited with us a while. They had Fay's three babies – Sonnie (Chas Wilson), Shirley, & Buddie (Marjorie) and the governess.

M & I taxied to Bethany Ev. Ch. & came home with W.A. & Mrs Alexander.

This aft I walked out W. Park Ave to R.R. & gathered some fringed gentian seed

This evening Edwin Grover called for a short but delightful visit.

Church .50.

Monday, November 18

Threatening. Then rain this evening.

This aft to Woman's Club to hear Thomas Tallmadge lecture on Modern Architecture.

This evening to meeting of realtor's club of the North Shore. Dinner in club room at Green Tea Pot. Then I talked about natural planting

[Thomas Tallmadge (1876-1940) was an architect, architectural historian, and instructor at the Armour Institute (later known as the Illinois Institute of Technology). He coined the term "Chicago School" to describe the prairie style of architecture practiced by his contemporaries. The firm of Tallmadge and Watson designed the W. Granville Mott house at 80 Laurel Avenue in Highland Park. – ed.]

Tuesday, November 19

Gray & threatening

Rolvag, the novelist, spoke at Womans Club this aft & I excused some of the teachers to attend it.

Morning ex at G.B.R.S. & I stayed there until nearly noon. Had a conf. with Mrs Pfanstiehl there

This evening to City Hall where Clifton Franklin, Warner Turiffe & Niebuhr were tried for "assault & battery" on Geo Gaidzik. First two pleaded guilty & were fined 25⁰⁰ & costs with suspended sentence

[Ole Edvart Rølvaag (1876-1931), author, emigrated from Norway to the United States in 1896 and settled in South Dakota. His most well-known book, *Giants in the Earth* (1927), described the immigrant experience. – ed.]

[Mr. Storm wrote a letter to Mr. Smith regarding the St. Charles School for Boys. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Nov. 19, 1929

Supt. Jesse Smith
Public Schools
Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Friend:

I enjoyed getting your little note this morning. I surely had a splendid afternoon with you folks and both Mrs. Storm and I wish that you men would come every Saturday. Mrs. Storm was sorry not to have a more elaborate meal for you, but I think the men were very well pleased.

Here is my list of impressions about the Boys' Home:

1. Mr. Elliott, a very fine man, is doing his best. He is a sympathetic man. He has abolished the strap entirely and other forms of diabolical punishment that were doing infinitely more harm than good at the Boy' Home.
2. The Principal of the school, an egotistical, untrained woman. She is constantly bragging about herself, which is not a good sign. She seems to be woefully lacking in methods of modern school practice.
3. Teaching staff, worse than mediocre. There are two of the younger teachers that may be all right. They were giving examinations and it was hard to tell what kind of teachers they were. Miss Young is one of these. I did not see her do any teaching and was in her room only two minutes, but she seemed very attractive. The others are very wooden in their methods and seem to be doing nothing along the line of creative activity. There is practically no socialized work. Teachers do not plan their work in such a way as to make it interesting. In fact it would seem that very little planning of any kind is done. Methods used were behind the times twenty years ago. They are doing little to adapt the school work to the individual needs of the pupil.
4. I should like to see the children dressed in something aside from overalls. I believe it would add to their self-respect if they had corduroy outfits such as the college boys wear. The first expense of this corduroy would be greater than that of the denim, but it would last much longer so the State would not be out much money.

Be good to yourself at all times and come out to see us again as soon as possible. Your friendship means much to both Mrs. Storm and me.

Sincerely,
H.C. Storm

HCS/BB

Wednesday, November 20 Snow

Two inches on ground at dawn. Melted but froze here & there Gray & cold
Instead of regular P.T.A. program, parents came at 1:30 to observe class work for one hour. Then there was an hour conference. Then all came up for tea in Hall of Pictures. Very successful.
Home at dusk – but I spaded half of garden
At school this evening with Richardson, Mickelson, Grunewald, Schultz, Grenoble & Benze planning for Christmas Play.

Thursday, November 21 12° above

Big drop in temp. in night. 12° above at dawn Cold all day and down to 7° above at 10 P.M.
At G.B.R.S. to look things over this A.M. Met Dr. Fritsch there at 12:00 to talk about shrubbery
Looked in at 8:30 this evening. Plant house 40°! Conferred with Mr Flinn over phone about heating situation

Friday, November 22 1° or 2° above

Almost zero at daybreak! I went to G.B.R.S to inspect plant house but steam was on. Mr R. said it was 30° at 5:30. Nothing frozen.
Went with McNeil & two others of Bahr's men to Sunset Golf grounds & nursery & brot to G.B.R.S grounds haws, wild crabs, - elderberry, red o., gray dogw, plum, etc This aft we went to thickets off W. Park Ave. along right of way at M. Electric & got aspens, nanny berry, & 4 plums. The men set out most of these before close of days work
I got back to E.P. in time for splendid book week program by 5 – 6 – 7 – 8's
This A.M. Roger Balke set up a radio & our pupils listened to the Damrosch programs.

Saturday, November 23 22° above

Great rise in temp. Gray day.
Bahr's men at school this A.M. I conferred with them before taking 8:34 for Chic.
To Schantz' office where from 10 to 12 I held open conf with Richardson, Baroody, Mitchell, Craigmile, Eifrig, Schantz
Lunch with Schantz.
Shopped for M & K.
Home at 4:00.
Loaned Mr Siemsen a globe for Sunday services
Worked on Aud. Soc matters this evening.

Sunday, November 24

Sunny A.M. Gray P.M.
At home all morning.
Mrs Childs came for us at 1:00 and we had dinner with her and Billie. Fine afternoon
Mr Bletch called to bring a hornet's nest this evening and visited a while.

Monday, November 25

Milder.
Teachers' meeting this aft.
Roger & Dr Balke called for a while this evening
Margaret Wilson spent the day with us

Today was "wash day."

[Mr. Smith continued his efforts on behalf of the Audubon Society. On this day, he prepared a committee list and wrote letters to Mr. Schantz and Mr. Lodge. These (and Mr. Schantz' reply) are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

COMMITTEE LIST—AUDUBON SOCIETY

November 25, 1929

EXECUTIVE: Lodge, Lyon, ~~Deane~~, Bailey, Decker, Pattee
FINANCE: Gregory, Blakeley, DeLoach, Deane, Hunt
LEGISLATION: Blakeley, Millard
EDUCATION: Eifrig, DeLoach, Craigmile, Baroody
OPEN MEETINGS AND LECTURES: Lyon, Bailey, Gault
PUBLICATIONS: Smith, Folsom, Pattee, Hunt, Schantz
EXCURSIONS AND FIELD NOTES: Craigmile, Eifrig, Gault, Gregory, Bailey
MEMBERSHIP: Richardson, Mrs. Pattee, DeLoach, Folsom
PUBLICITY: Schantz, Lyon, Bailey, Lodge
SLIDES, ETC.: Baroody, Mrs. Pattee, Richardson, Bailey
ADVISORY: Deane, Gault

NOTES

The Executive Committee is requested to be ready to report at the next meeting for the approval of the Board a list of rules relating to the activities of that Committee and to submit a tentative program of activities for our field agent. The rules, for example, may well relate to the matter of a quorum of its membership, authority to call meetings, the making of purchases, allotment of expense funds, presentation of bills for the approval of the Board, etc., etc.

It is hoped that the Membership Committee will have ready a revised list of the names and addresses of all members of the Society with an analysis of distribution of this membership.

The committee on Excursions and Field Notes is requested to report its plans for field trips during the holidays and for a bird census in various parts of the state at that time.

The Finance Committee is requested to report upon the possibility of financing activities of the field agent, of furnishing funds for the work of the secretary, for the committees on publications, publicity, etc.

It is advised that the Publicity Committee have ready as complete a list as possible of important meetings scheduled for the next three months, in Chicago and elsewhere, which will present opportunities for Audubon work.

The Publications Committee will try to present plans for the publication and distribution of service bulletins without expense to the Society.

The Slides Committee is requested to report a classified inventory of slides in our possession and report upon desirable additions to these collections.

At the coming meeting either the Slide Committee or the Publicity Committee may bring up for consideration the purchase of an automatic balopticon with a capacity of seventy slides. This could advertise Audubon work at garden shows, conventions, and various other public gatherings. It will cost about three hundred dollars.

The Board will be asked to consider the advisability of issuing a circular letter at this time outlining our proposed activities and inviting suggestions, this to go to all of our membership.

The next meeting of the Board should be Wednesday evening, December 4th. On that evening a new school building is being dedicated in my school district at Highland Park and I must be present to take part in the program. Will it be possible for the Board of Directors of the Society to meet on the evening before, Tuesday, December 3rd?

Jesse L Smith

November 25, 1929.

My dear Mr. Schantz :

The resolution setting aside \$600.00 for lectures by the field agent specified twelve lectures and the executive committee presumably has authority to negotiate with you on that basis. I think it would be better if you yourself propose something that will be more of a bargain for the Society and thus make it possible for the committee to set aside additional appropriations. I had it in mind that you would make a list of strategic situations and then the committee would negotiate with women's clubs or garden clubs at such places and try to arrange for action on their part. You could agree to speak in the schools, perhaps to talk to a group of scouts and then give an evening talk for adults somewhere. For this our committee could propose to furnish your services for a nominal sum plus your expenses. If you received ten dollars and expenses, you could turn that in to the sum at the disposal of the committee and arrange to cover twenty or so places instead of twelve. I do not think the Society can afford to pay fifty dollars a lecture outright. Wouldn't it be better for you to accept twentyfive dollars and what additional sum you could realize in the field? You can readily see that if you give twelve lectures only for \$600.00, you will not be able to make sufficient contacts to bring in returns anywhere nearly corresponding to what is paid out. This will invite inevitable comment. --- I would not have it appear that a club in paying ten dollars was paying more than a small portion of your fee and they should understand that what you received came entirely from the Society.

Well, I suppose Mr. Lodge will ask you to confer with him over a program of some sort. I hope you will have one threshed out soon so that we can report it at the Board meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Highland Park, Ill.
334 Vine Avenue.

November 25, 1929.

My dear Mr. Lodge :

I sent out the committee lists today and I hope yours is on your desk at this time. In my present capacity of a new broom I am taking the liberty of making suggestions to

the committees. I promise not to be ruffled if these suggestions are disregarded. So here goes.

I wish Mr. Schantz would prepare a list of strategic places and with your approval carry out a campaign in each. If Streator is selected, your committee might make a proposition to the women's club or the school people to send Mr. Schantz there for a day of service. He would speak in two or more schools, perhaps talk to the scouts and confer with their leaders, and make an evening address as arranged for. Mr. Schantz would ask for his expenses and for a contribution in memberships of ten or more dollars. We would guarantee him twentyfive dollars and the ten or more dollars from membership fees. In this way we could expect Mr. Schantz to visit at least 24 centers instead of simply delivering twelve lectures. I have frankly told Mr. Schantz that we can not afford to pay fifty dollars a lecture and that if he contents himself with simply giving twelve lectures for the six hundred dollars allotted, the returns will necessarily be small in comparison with the outlay and that there will be inevitable comment.

Now it is up to your committee (Executive) of which you are chairman to negotiate with Mr. Schantz for a lecture program. You have authority to offer him fifty dollars a lecture for twelve lectures. I will not hesitate to approve whatever you do about it even if you deem it wise not to hold Mr. Schantz to such a program as above suggested.

Will it be possible for you to call your committee together before your next meeting? I have written Mr. Deane a frank and friendly letter and I am hoping he will consent to serve.

Sincerely yours,

Nov. 26, 1929

My Dear Mr Smith;-

Just received your letter, and while I can write a short note, I wish to assure you that I have had no thought of only giving 12 lectures for the \$600.00.

I will be glad to give many more, provided, as you stated my expenses shall be guaranteed. I had the misfortune to be knocked over by a bus last night, on a right turn corner-Dearborn & Quincy-where I was not aware there was a right turn permissable. As a consequence my right arm is in a splint, and I am suffering some dull but constant pain. I carry ample accident insurance, so will not be out any money.

Think I will be unable to write even checks for about a week.

I sent your papers out by express as you suggested. Think I could have sent them cheaper by letter postage. Using the board for protection did not increase the cost of sending more than 1¢, as the express company has a minimum charge. Sorry I did not go to the post office first.

Am writing at the office, where I expect to be as usual every day.

Sincerely
OMS

Left hand work is not so good. [Mr. Schantz' handwritten postscript to the typed letter. – ed.]

Tuesday, November 26

Mild day. Winds.

No morning ex at G.B.R.S because of scarlet fever cases from the school – four cases.

Had janitors pot a lot of hyacinths, tulips & jonquils (Campernelle) Mr Lichtwald planted outdoors

25 John Ruskin

20 Picotee

25 Fawn

25 Louis XIV.

This aft Mrs Mannings brot the H.S. orchestra to our aud for a forty minute program I was much pleased with the progress of the orchestra.

This evening made copies of Tavern Scene for Christmas Play

Wednesday, November 27

As yesterday but light snow flurry in aft & again in evening.

Thanksgiving Day ex. at G B R S which I could not attend. Splendid ex. at Elm Pl. Sixth graders told Pilgrim story & dramatized Miles Standish

Our children gave huge collection of canned goods etc. to L. Bluff.

I spaded up three remaining garden beds late today. Frozen lumps here & there

Thursday, November 28 Cold again

About 10° above and a very cold wind

M., K, & I left on 7:43 for Gary. Thoroughly chilled at station here & walking to Van Buren St station. At Gary at 9:50. Lennie there. Pleasant day together. Fine meal

During aft all of us but M drove out to city park, etc.

Left Gary on 5:00 P.M Home at 7:20.

Friday, November 29

4 below at dawn. Searching cold wind

To city on 10:00. Lunch with Pattee at Union station & long talk over Audubon affairs

Shopped at Fields, Kroch's, Lyon & Healey's, Economic Drug Co.

Home at 5:30.

Phoned Rhinehart to hire a man to run our G.B.R.S. plant all night.

While I was away today Mr Billie Mahan, Mrs Mahan, Douglas Mahan, Tot & a young lady friend called for a while. Came in their auto. They planned to drive home this evening!

Bitter this evening.

Saturday, November 30

Again 3 or 4° below at dawn. Gradually warmed up today – up to 10 or so above.

This A.M. Mrs Rubin took Miss Hendee & me to the Nichols Intermediate to look over the children's library. I left them there & went in to Chic. on the elevated. To Anderson's to order suit of clothes; shopped at Wallgrens & Economy Drug Co. Conferred with Dr H.J. Smith about my glasses & had Dr Dow bend the shanks somewhat. To Pub. Library to look up book on London cries. Home

Sunday, December 1

Snow fall – small – in the night & blown about. Added to during the day – two inches or so.

At home this A.M. A walk along Sweeney's woods & down to w. Park Ave, this aft.

Made up the draft of a three page letter to go to St. Charles (Mr. Elliott).

Temp about 27° today.

Monday, December 2

About 8° above this A M

Eighth graders in aud. exercises told of the opening of the 71st Congress.

Helped Kg's plant p.w. narcissus

Conf over Christmas play after school.

This evening at a special meeting of library board to consider problem of finance.

Afterwards I called on Mr Strauss, manager of the Alcyon, to suggest the possibility of exploiting some fine film on percentage basis for the school"

Tuesday, December 3

2° below this A.M but about 20° above at noon Gray later in day.

Morning ex at G.B.R.S. Conf with Mrs Herman over tomorrow's program

Called all 8's together & talked over Christmas play.

Conf with G.B.R S teachers after school

Took 5:34 for Chic to meeting of directors of I.A.S. Amicable. Transacted much business

Wednesday, December 4

G.B.R. School

Milder

Spent much time at G.B.R. School. This evening the housewarming took place. The band under Mr Shaw's direction played & Miss Benz conducted the orchestra A group of girls sang. Then Miss Deile sang. Mrs Herman spoke for the E.P.T.A. & presented Mrs Hargrave who spoke for the G.B.R.S. Auxiliary. Mr Bliss introduced first Mr Simpson, then State Supt Blair who made a fine address Refreshments were served and audience much pleased. Mr Blair went in to Chic on the 11:04. M & K went & had a good time

[Inserted at this page is the program card for the housewarming. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

The President and Members of the Board of Education
of District No. 107, Highland Park and the
officials of the Elm Place Parent-Teacher Association
and of the Green Bay Road School Auxiliary
of that Association cordially invite you to an
INFORMAL "HOUSEWARMING"
at the Green Bay Road School at 7:30 on
Wednesday Evening, December 4, 1929

THE HONORABLE FRANCIS G. BLAIR,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
will be the guest of the evening and can be relied upon
for a happy and appropriate address
The Elm Place School Band will furnish the music

Thursday, December 5

Fine, mild day. Thawing.

Left on 4:47 for Chic. & took N.W for Geneva. Mr. Coultrap met me & I had supper at cafe. I gave a roadside planting talk before small audience at H.S. bldg. Mrs George presided Mrs Burgess at door. Mrs Peck introduced herself as owner of land where Bald Hill lies – referred to in talk

Fee paid - \$35⁰⁰.

Friday, December 6

Mild Gray.

Planting lessons both at E.P. & G.B.R.S.

Mr Winslow, ass't supt at Park Ridge visited this aft.

Very annoying report of rudeness of boys after school yesterday aft & one boy sent home for day.

Amicable call from his mother.

Saturday, December 7

Threatening. A very little snow fell & made roadways slippery.

To city on 9:47. Great smoke cloud in loop

Went out to 907 So Lincoln, office of Juvenile Dention work only to learn that Dr Campbell, former psychiatrist for St Charles is in Europe & no one has his place. – Went to Anderson-Carlson to have a try-on – Home at 4:00

Spread a load of green manure (Siljestrom) on selected places

Sunday, December 8

A little cooler Gray.

Asked to attend a finance meeting of the Board at Mr Murray's this A.M. Present Mr Bliss & Martin Hart. Very amicable.

This evening to the Carvers for a "hymn sing." Fine time

Rev. Prince, Rev & Mrs Keller, the widow Keller, Norcross, Mason, M Vail, R Hastings., Randall, Mr Jerome, Miss Hipwell, Miss Goddard,

Monday, December 9

About as yesterday.

Morning ex.

New pupils.

Conf. over play after school

Mrs Chas Mason a sub for Miss Grunewald whose parents are very ill.

Board meeting this evening.

Dr Norcross demonstrated the audiometer

Several people with Phil Cole as chairman whose children are in Deerfield School Dist came to talk annexation

Bills representing the completion of contracts on G.B.R.S. approved

Tuesday, December 10

As yesterday. Gray.

Morning ex at G.B.R.S. Helped Kg's, Miss Lynch & Miss Wheelock plant paper whites Used peat moss

Various conferences this aft.

Home this evening. Wrote Audubon letters, etc.

[Regarding the Audubon Society, Mr. Smith wrote a letter in reply to Mr. Deane. Mr. Deane's letter and Mr. Smith's reply are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

Nov. 30th. 1929.

My dear Mr Smith

I appreciate very much your kind letter of the 25th. I certainly do not deserve the good things you say and it is a disappointment that I could not continue with the Directory as had been my pleasure for so many years. It got to a point where the meetings were no longer a pleasure to me and some of the other Directors continued to attend, only to be at loggerheads with every proposition made for the interest of the Society.

My interests are as keen as ever for the cause and I am doing something for the Society every week, but I can work easier and pleasanter outside than I was able to do inside.

In my judgement there are too many Directors on the Board now, and a Society of this nature could be handled far better by men than with women who are bound to get together and make trouble, and the Society has had a most flagrant example of it in the past year. I cannot imagine how we all were so inexperienced when we allowed a man and wife to be elected on the same Board. Two Directors told me recently that unless some of these changes were to be made shortly they would resign, so you see how the feeling is.

While I know that you have always disfavored the publication of our Bulletin I hope that it will not now be abandoned for I am sure that it is an excellent asset of the Society. I feel that I am in a position to know how much it has been appreciated, and giving the opinion at one meeting of such men as Robert Ridgway, Dr. Palmer, Dr. Chapman and a dozen others whose letters I held in hand, one of the lady Directors remarked "We don't care what other people think, we only care what we think ourselves". Another lady Director was asked recently if she could not try and swell the membership with a few names, her answer was "I have not tried to get any new members for a long time because I felt that we did not have enough to offer them for their money". This shows the nature of some of these deep thinkers who are kept on the Board to represent the Illinois Audubon Society. Outside of the State your Society has an excellent reputation. Prest. Pearson, of the National, tells me that the Ill. Society ranks third, if I am not mistaken.

Some other States are loosing their interest. The big State of Penn. for instance, they have sufficiently become inactive as to shut up shop and quit. At the Phila. meeting of the A.O.U. last month they presented us with such funds as remained in their treasury (\$2500.) and asked us to use it as we pleased towards bird protection. I shall always be interested in the welfare of the Society and it is, of course, up to the Directors to make a success of it. I shall hope to hear after your annual meeting next spring that important changes have been made for the benefit of the Society. This is, of course, a personal letter only for you.

Pardon the suggestion, but unless the Society is going to be fortunate in receiving bequests they have got to increase their membership and right away. Perhaps the lady Directors could be asked if they want to be of benefit, to get busy and raise members. They ought to add 100 among them.

Very Sincerely

Ruthven Deane

December 10, 1929.

My dear Mr. Deane:

It does not become me to chide you for wishing to work outside of the committees of the Board but now that I am flourishing (for a while) a new broom, I wish you would not go on a vacation, so far as the Board is concerned. I intend to respect your wishes, however, and will ask Mr. Bailey to serve on the Executive Committee in your stead. I do not understand you to be averse to be called on for help even if it is to be rendered unofficially. So I am taking the liberty to call on you at once.

Have you a "pull" with Professor Alfred O. Gross of Brunswick, Maine? If so, will you try to persuade him to let us have for our stereopticon collection a copy of five or six of the pictures of prairie chickens reproduced in the current Bird-Lore? Our best lecture set should show good pictures of prairie chickens and here is a fine chance if you can persuade Prof. Gross that our use of them will not jeopardize his use of them in any other collection. We can

promise not to use them contrary to his directions. If he will give us clear prints we can have a fine slide of each made and return him our negatives.

At our meeting the other evening it was moved that we all send in contributions for another issue of the Bulletin and with that material on hand we are to discuss at our next meeting what kind of a bulletin we can get up and when we can publish it. Suppose we go ahead and put together the very best material we can collect and that we wish to issue it in January, can you once more "go out for" additional funds for the issue? -- We were still in debt for the last bulletin until in November our treasurer disposed of one of our securities and paid the deficit on that and our rent. We have obligated ourselves to Mr. Schantz to the extent of \$600.00 to put on a campaign in certain selected centers during the next few months. We should try to finance two or three lectures which we could offer our members and the general public free of charge. A.A. Allen, for one, is proposed, his lecture to be given when he comes to lecture before the Geographic Society. We have to face an ambitious program on a diminishing revenue from membership.

I feel that loyalty to Miss Drummond's memory calls for a greater effort to reach children than we have put forth since her first retirement. That is why I regret that the bulletin prepared for adults absorbs practically all our publication efforts. I do not hesitate to assure my colleagues that I am willing to co-operate in the production of the annual bulletin if it is the wish of the majority but that I prefer something that can be sent broadcast into the schools wherever desired. Of course we can not expect to raise sufficient funds to distribute our beautifully gotten up bulletins freely. We would need to make such material pay its way.--- In Evanston every householder receives free of charge each week a local magazine of interest, beautifully printed and with rotogravure illustrations. The advertiser pays the cost. We receive a similar weekly magazine in Highland Park, and this happens here and there. One wonders how we can get into the stream of advertising and issue our bulletins by the thousands at the expense of the advertiser. About everybody says it can't be done. But if it could be!

My present notion is that it may be best to get out a bulletin before the end of January and collect material for it that might be quick in its appeal and wide in range and then offer it to advertisers as a sample of what we might do in a spring migration number, etc. While this is preparing we might "release" sections of it of unusual interest to appear in widely issued newspapers even before the bulletin itself appears.

You will note that all the members of the executive committee are men. I think we can bring it to pass that this committee and the president will largely determine the policies of the Society. This committee authorizes purchases, directs the work of the field agent, and can easily be authorized to carry on at any or all times. The position I hold can easily be sloughed off and devolve upon the chairman of the executive committee. I think that all this adjusts the situation satisfactorily or will adjust it.---I want to talk this over with you some time.

Sincerely yours,

Wednesday, December 11

As yesterday. Mist & freezing temp at evening.

Clarence wired me of the death of Uncle Joe Miller this A.M., Mrs Taylor's father.

Helped with Christmas play.

Allyn & Bacon's rep. called.

From 5:45 to 6:45 this aft. met with Mr Wood, Dr. Fritsch & Mr Flynn to consider installation of automatic control in oil burner at G.B.R.S. and replacing steam engine with an electric motor at E.P.

Mr Leech & Mr Hawkins called at 7:00 & I hurried from the table to go with them to Evs to hear Prof Leighton lecture on deposition of moraines, etc. Fine time Met him. Visited with Prof & Mrs Grant.

Thursday, December 12

Rained in the night. Milder.

Miss Tschirgi and her group of 7A's had a field trip to Field Museum. We got along without a sub.
I heard two classes

Met Mr Vernon of Johnson Temp Control at G B.R.S. to confer over a thermostat control for the plant house.

This evening at office with various duties.

Wired Clarence to buy bouquet of flowers (six dollars) and attach a card for Elm Place

Friday, December 13

As yesterday. Foggy.

Miss Tschirgi & Miss Grenoble took Miss G's 7A's to Field Museum

I heard three classes today.

At home this evening. A cold threatening.

Saturday, December 14

As yesterday.

I was bottled up all day with a distemper in my head, only venturing out after dark to get my electric fan at school.

Worked on letters to be sent to Otto A Elliott, supt at St Charles School & to Rodney H. Brandon, et. al.

[Mr. Smith's letters to Otto A. Elliott (and Mr. Elliott's reply) are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

December 14, 1929.

Mr. Otto A. Elliott
Acting Managing Officer,
The State School for Boys,
St. Charles, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Elliott :

I have taken the liberty to make copies of the enclosed letter which is addressed to you and which you may distribute among the teaching staff if you think it worth while.

My colleagues and I think that the teachers are greatly in need of help in their most difficult task and that the most immediate form in which help can come at this time is in that of additional equipment. Stress is laid upon that in the letter. We have not criticised the teachers there but in the privacy of this letter we wish to comment frankly upon the work as we see it.

All probably agree that these teaching positions are very important and very difficult and that only teachers of the highest skill should be employed. Surely no one will contend that the present corps is made up of teachers of that type. Probably not one of them was selected on the score of superior qualifications alone. Possibly if the high standards such a situation demands were carefully explained to these teachers most of them would ask to be transferred elsewhere.

We long for two things : for the salaries of teachers in the school to be raised to \$3000.00 a year as a minimum and for the choosing of superior teachers by the same board that selects the heads of the state teachers' colleges or by a body similarly qualified.

We recommend the gradual elimination of nearly all of the present staff of teachers. Some of them could probably be employed very profitably for the state as social investigators, making case studies of delinquents, studies that are sadly lacking today. Detailed studies such as the one on pages 677-700 of Chapter XIV of the Illinois Crime Survey could well occupy the time of a considerable staff of workers. The contacts these teachers have made with delinquent boys would be of value to them in this research work and indeed peculiarly fit them to assist parole officers in that form of neglected work. Their places in the class room should be filled with persons of the ability of Mrs Lovelette (I am not sure of the name) who now receives and examines new boys when they enter the school. In this way the institution could be more nearly prepared to look after the moral welfare of the boys who are compelled to enroll in the school.

An important step forward would be for the institution to give its teachers special training for the work. From time to time its very best teachers should be sent away to study with psychiatrists, to enroll for a time with social workers in the field, to observe educational methods in vogue elsewhere, all this at the expense of the state. This would result in the great enrichment of the work at this school and it would probably attract teachers whom it would otherwise be difficult to persuade to come to St. Charles. All this might help to make St. Charles a model school home for delinquent boys. It would help to turn back the tide of bad influence which, it should be frankly admitted, the school is involved with today.

We regret that Miss Patten favors so strongly the sort of lockstep style of administration which she has introduced into the school. We would like to see this gradually abolished in favor of some method characteristic of a school rather than of a prison.

We feel uneasy about the apparent tendency to use negro boys as squad leaders far out of proportion to their relative numbers in the school. If we think of actual conditions, waiving aside abstract theory, we will recognize the inevitable lowering of self-respect among white boys when negro boys are conspicuously employed to supervise their conduct. The docility of the colored boy should not commend him for leadership without taking character into account. We noted especially two colored "boys" in conspicuous positions, one of whom had a wife and child, we were told. The other had been connected with a house of prostitution in Chicago we were told. This latter "boy" was on guard at the school entrance during the entire afternoon we attended.

We strongly object to the prison dress of the boys. During school hours and after work hours they should dress like school boys, we think. They have been sent to this school because they did not respect themselves sufficiently to resist evil conditions. Every effort should therefore be made to help them build up their self-respect. In this correct dress is, of course, important. There is a painful contrast everywhere between the well-kept buildings and grounds and the slouchy dress of the boys that live in them.

My colleagues and I greatly regret that there is now no psychiatrist with a staff of competent assistants on duty at the institution. The school might well be regarded as a "key position" among the state institutions and of such strategic importance as to warrant even Dr. Adler's personal attention. We understand that the segregation of boys of varying degrees of moral perversity which Dr. Campbell, the psychiatrist in charge last Spring, told us was only just under way, is practically at a stand still. This surely means that many boys must emerge from the school worse than when they entered because of moral contamination. We know that this is not due to any attitude of yours towards the work of the psychiatrist or is it any failure of co-operation on your part that Dr. Adler's department does not play an important part in the work of the school. We refer to the subject here simply to register our regret over the situation.

Another source of great regret to us is that the school is in the same backward condition as to vocational training as it was a year ago. We had hoped that by this time there would be tangible evidence of a great transformation due to a commodious vocational building being under construction and to the prospect of vocational training being made the center around which all the activities of the institution would revolve. Instead there seems to

be the same dawdling over more or less perfunctory activities with the exception of those of the farm and one or two shops. This, als[o] we are sure is not due to your lack of sympathy with a vocational program.

My colleagues and I have now known you as an official for more than a year and we feel that we should express to your our appreciation of the good work you have been able to accomplish. We are gratified at your attitude towards new ideas. An institution is sure to get somewhere even under adverse conditions if in its administration there is receptiveness to new methods and new solutions for ever-recurring old problems. We wish to say further that it has not escaped our attention that in your contacts with the boy you are essentially humane and sympathetic. This, we agreed, was the best thing we saw at St. Charles.

Sincerely yours,
Jesse L. Smith

Highland Park, Illinois
December 11, 1929.

Mr. Otto Elliott
Managing Officer, The State School for Boys
St. Charles, Illinois

My dear Mr. Elliott:

My colleagues, Mr. G. E. Thompson and Mr. H. C. Storms and I have agreed to offer some friendly suggestions about the academic work of the State School for Boys, basing these suggestions upon observations we made the other day and on previous visits and upon data furnished us by Miss Patten and members of her staff.

Visual Education

We would like to see visual education greatly emphasized in the school. This means the use of pictures in every way possible. It means the use of objects, museum specimens, models, paste and scissors, clay, crayons, water colors, kalsomine colors, easels, mounting board, etc. It means cutting, mounting of pictures and drawings on wall charts and in scrap books; weaving, making of airplanes and models of ships, automobiles, engines, of mines, shipyards, manufactories, harbors, of industries, agriculture, fishing mining, manufacturing, commerce. It should mean the liberal use of the stereopticon and of the motion picture machine.

We wish you would buy a good stereopticon and instruct the teachers to use it each day. It can be used to teach laggards to read. It can always be relied upon to furnish abundant material for the boys to talk about. It is often possible to learn more geography from a lantern slide than from a page in a book. The great majority of boys in your schools are not even slightly book-minded and never will be, but every one can be reached in varying degrees by pictures. A good stereopticon does not require the absolute darkening of the room. One can use the back of a wall map for a screen. Your music director could throw the words of his songs on a screen in the assembly hall. We do that in our Highland Park schools and with a large collection of song slides to draw from we are able to have very rich "community singing."

Teaching With Things

Your school is owned and supported by the State of Illinois and it can appropriately draw upon any practicable source in the state for educational material. There are probably one hundred institutions in the state that would gladly send the boys collections of industrial material for study, ores, metals, raw materials used in manufactures, finished products, photographs, posters, ect. The state museum at Springfield and the University of Illinois would send quantities of labeled specimens. Shelving could be built (by the boys) along the entire length of

one wall in each room and these treasures for study could always be at hand. Any boy who so desired could make a small cabinet for his very own and carry away it and its contents when he left the school. What magnificent displays of agricultural products the school could originate in its own gardens! The boys and girls in my schools raise in small plots wheat, rye, oats, barley, broom corn, sorghum, milo maize, kaffir corn, feterita, sudan grass, soy beans, tobacco, peanuts, flax, buckwheat, castor beans, enough yellow dent corn to make two or three shocks, pumpkins for hallowe'en, and (this year) a half bushel of popcorn (some was popped and eaten the day before Thanksgiving). We raise all this material for information purposes and use it besides for school room decorations.

Owning and Using Stereopticons and Motion Picture Machines

In these same schools we own four stereopticons (one for each building although three buildings are on the same school site) and we own sets illustrating industrial processes: the mining and uses of coal, iron, etc., lumbering and forestry, dairying, paper making bridges, canals, etc. etc. Schools can borrow splendid sets of slides from the International Harvester Company and other organizations. The Chicago schools would doubtless release many sets for your use. We make all our slides for songs ourselves, setting up the words on the printing press and printing on a celluloid film which is enclosed between cover glasses.

We have a standard movie equipment consisting of two simplex machines motor driven and we have educational movies during from one to three school periods each Monday. We get wonderful sets of films from the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Department of Agriculture, International Harvester, Western Electric, etc. simply for express charges. For the third year in succession we are showing the series of history films made up by the Yale University Press and these we receive rent free, paying only express charges. Last Monday we showed the Declaration of Independence (four reels) and the week before the subject was "The Eve of the Revolution" (Boston tea party, Lexington, and Concord, etc.) We do not show any "feature plays" as a rule. The children see enough (too many) of them at the theaters.

Objections to a Bookish Program

Don't you think that a school where more than fifty percent of its pupils range from border line to feeble minded and the next twenty percent above them is dull normal, leaving only about twenty-seven percent normal or above, should get away as far as possible from the bookish type of school program? My colleagues and I are not a bit enthusiastic about your boys following the course of study and taking the same examinations as are used in the Kane County schools. We advise your teachers to forget all that and to give your boys what seems best available to arouse their interest in things about them, in the physical world, the industrial world, the world of books of imagination and adventure. The county course of study is on the whole too dull for your boys.

Nature Study and General Science

Miss Patten says that general science is not being taught now, that she and her assistants feel that lessons out of books concerned with good conduct, citizenship and patriotism are more useful, etc. There is a place for such lessons and they are of great importance. It is also vitally important that there be a place for the study of elementary science. As we noted in our visit one year ago the subject of general science was on the program but as the teacher had not one particle of apparatus the results were of course negligible. It was not being taught. These boys of low mentality, these laggards to school, should have simple things and every day machines to work with and, let us say again, should be aroused to a deep interest in the things about them. They should repeat the experiments that gave rise to the voltaic cell; they should build batteries, magnetos, radios; they should study the properties of air and of others gases; they should perform simple chemical experiments; learn the principle of the steam engine, the gas engine, the dynamo, motor, airplane, etc. They should study plant and animal life; there should be a plant house where they could have a part in the propagation of plant life, etc. The boys could force bulbs and have flowers for school rooms and cottages even without the aid of a plant house.

Increasing the Hours for Educative Effort

Your school day of three hours seems to us very inadequate for the needs of the boys. If you had a well-organized system of vocational training around which much of your school work revolved that would be another matter. In the absence of that it would seem advisable to utilize an hour or two of the time spent in the cottages for free activities of an educational sort – making things, drawing, modelling, painting, pasting in scrapbooks, talking over books with their teachers, etc.

The Manual Training Equipment

We were pleased with what we saw in the manual training department. The teacher is greatly in need of some machinery with which to get out material for the boys to work with. There are fourteen benches now. If he had the help of machinery he could probably look after that many more. We recommend the same machinery that we have in our grammar school shops: an Oliver No. 192 band saw or its equivalent, a Chap Champion portable electric saw or its equivalent, and a simple wood lathe. The three machines cost my school \$325.00. The instructor in your school would probably accomplish three or four times as much work as at present and, of course, accommodate many more boys. There should be ten or more additional benches at a cost of \$200.00. It would be much better still if the teacher had an assistant. This would make it possible for boys to do a greater variety of things and now and then to undertake special projects. At present all the boys make the same thing at the same time, a bookend, for example. The work as we observed it was well done, but the value of the manual training work as a whole would be much greater if the teacher could let the boys choose their own projects whenever possible. An assistant teacher would make such a variety of undertakings possible. Perhaps at times he could even venture into the school rooms and help the boys with construction work having to do with the material they were working over in their textbooks.

Co-operation of Other Schools

Mr. Storm and Mr. Thompson and I wish we might have the privilege of sending out for display illustrative material representing the efforts of children of various ability. I, for example, will borrow from my upper grade pupils a collection of material for a wall display which tells the story of progress in transportation by land and water and air; of changes in fashions, in methods of manufacture, etc. I offer also to bring out one of my stereopticons and a supply of slides and give an entire day going from room to room demonstrating the uses of the machine and teaching boys how to operate it. My colleagues will make similar offers. I wish you would invite their boys glee clubs to sing at assemblies.

I assure you, Mr. Elliott, that we regard it as a great privilege to present these suggestions and that we will consider that you are conferring a favor on us if you make any requisition on us for help.

Sincerely yours,

December 20, 1929.

Jessie L. Smith,
Superintendent of School,
Highland Park, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Smith:

I have your letter of the 14th instant, also copy of your study and suggestions, submitted in reference to our School. For all this, I wish to thank you very kindly, and wish to say, that we will endeavor to build up our School along the lines you suggest.

We have an appropriation of \$50,000 for a vocational building. This appropriation was made available after July first this year, and up to this time, plans for the building, that I would like to have constructed, are not drawn. We hope to have these plans from the State Architecture's Office by early spring, and will push the construction of the building as rapidly as possible. After the building is completed, we will then have to raise the money for the different furnishings. All of this, I presume, will take at least a year to complete. In the meantime, I would be very pleased to meet with yourself, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Storm, and discuss from every angle, the ways and means of making the St. Charles School for Boys' the outstanding school of its kind. Kindly let me know if it will be possible to meet with you gentlemen in the near future at the St. Charles School for Boys'.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Otto A Elliott

Managing Officer.

OAE/VBR

Sunday, December 15

As yesterday.

Shut up all day. My distemper slackened only when late in the day Lois Green with her mother came and treated my nostril with Efedron. Read little.

Mrs Greene read us some of Alden's interesting letters from Cairo.

Monday, December 16

As yesterday.

Went to school until noon but my distemper set in violently in my right nostril this time, so stayed home the remainder of the day. Lois Greene came this evening & treated my nostril.

Tuesday, December 17

About as yest. Growing a little colder.

Unable to go to school. My distemper rather violent. Abated towards evening.

Wednesday, December 18

High wind came up about four AM. carrying snow & drifting it about. Has blown heavily all day and developed strong drifts.

My distemper almost gone & I got along rather well at school.

Glad to get home out of the storm this evening.

Received disquieting news from Edith today. Clarence D is not recovering so rapidly as could be wished

Thursday, December 19

Great drifts this A M. Snow ceased. Wind died down. Skies cleared after nightfall. Traffic greatly crippled

Sent Mr Kolterman & Hazel in on 8:09 to get costumes. K. got back at 2:00 & Hazel at 2:30.

Christmas play aft. & evening. Very successful performance. Small but interested house this evening.

M & K did not go. K. had neuritis in her leg.

Friday, December 20

About 7° above this A.M. Cleared somewhat. Sun shone now and then, which had hardly occurred since 8 or 10 days ago

With the G.B.R.S pupils when they sang their carols at 10:30.

We all met for carols & the story of the Christ Child at 1:30.

Saturday, December 21

About 5° below this A.M. Bright & sunny.

To city on [8?]:50. To Fields. To Sweet Wallach. Anderson-Carlson. Lunch hour spent with Mr Bailey of Acad of Sc. & Mr Lodge at his office at 111 W. Jackson Blvd. – 12:15 to 1:45. Conf on Audubon affairs. Decided to get material for four pages in the Acad of Sc. Bulletin soon to appear

Got my new suit at Anderson-Carlson's. 115⁰⁰ Home at 3:00.

Returned Christmas slides to church Visited at Library with Miss Hendee.

Addressed the last of Mother's Christmas cards She has sent about 50.

Sunday, December 22

Gray all day. A little milder.

K. still troubled with neuritis

M & I to church in a taxi.

At home remainder of day.

Monday, December 23

Milder. Snow in the night & continuing at intervals during day. 4 to 6 in.

To Chic on 9:34. To Schantz' office for long conf with Miss Mitchell & Mr Schantz Then to Acad of Sc. to confer with Mr Bailey & Mr Worthley. Mr B showed me some excellent films of bird life

Home at 6:15.

Tuesday, December 24

Mild. Gray most of time

Various errands this A.M.

This aft to school to set Bartoli, Kolterman & Santi to clearing snow on roof from openings for downspouts. Leakage in Miss Mickelson's room ruined some books

Mr Leech & I siphoned some well water from a jug into the aquarium at G.B.R.S.

Worked on copy for a circular of the Acad. of Sc.

Wednesday, December 25

Pine grosbeaks

About as yesterday.

Mr Leech & I followed up a tip about strange birds and at 9:00 this A.M. went down to Mrs Hecker's at 1415 Wildwood Lane & looking over her fence saw four pine grosbeaks feeding in a clump of highbush cranberries. One fine male and three others, either immature males or females

Left on 2:34 for Gary. Visited there until 7:00. Home at 10:00. Clarence D very weak. Looks bad.

[On this day, Mr. Smith wrote a letter to Mr. Bailey, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Audubon Society. It is transcribed as follows: - ed.]

December 25, 1929.

My dear Mr. Bailey :

I regret that we could not have sat down together and worked up the material for your quarterly. As it is I have put together something which I am sure I would whittle a good deal if I were in conference with you. So I am obliged to put it up to you to work over.

I estimate that we have space for 1500 words plus the cuts and a list of officials. The material as I first prepared it consisted of 1050 words. So I penciled off about 120 words. Mr. Lodge's article is about 475 words. I enclose the other copy which is at hand. It can not be used unless more of the "announcement" is dropped off.

In putting together my material I had at first the idea that it must read so as to reassure our members away from the city who may fear that we will be interested only in the Academy of Sciences. Then, too, I felt that something should be said about the Academy itself for the benefit of our own members. Do to all this matter as you think best. When it is set up you will be better able to decide how much of it can be used.

As I explained to you, I have to leave for Springfield at ten o'clock tomorrow. I have not had time to phone you---I had to spend this afternoon and evening in Gary and going and coming.

This morning Mr. Leech and I went down on Wildwood Ave. here to investigate a report of strange birds and had a fine long visit with four pine grosbeaks. They were feeding leisurely on highbush cranberries: one brilliantly colored male and the others either females or immature males. They are likely to feed at this place more or less regularly as it is a fine mass of bushes in heavy fruit and there are many shelters of evergreens not far away. It is in the back of Pick's estate off Sheridan Road north of Ravinia. Mrs Hecker at 1415 Wildwood Avenue tipped me off and her back yard looks into the bushes.

Yours,

Thursday, December 26 Springfield

Left on Alton at 10:15 for Chic. (Before this I left copy for Aud. notes with Mr Bailey at Acad of Sc).

Our Div. had special car; N.E. Div. one; Chic Div. probably several. Springfield at 2:30. Snow melting.

H.C & W.B. Storm & Clark Wright & I went out to Lincoln tomb at 4:00. Fine visit with Mr Fay. They are clearing him out & all his material preliminary to remodeling interior. When we came away Mr Fay took same car & introduced us to Mr & Mrs Vachel Lindsay.

Evening program interesting.

Wright & I had a room connected with Bright & Nygaards & we gossiped late in the night

Friday, December 27 Springfield

Still mild & gray

During the morning I visited at their offices Mr U.J. Hoffman (Asst to Mr Blair), Mr R.B. Miller, Forester, & Dr E.C. Service, Parks & Memorials

After hours this aft. Storm, Thompson & I had a conf on St Charles

At 6:00 we of the Lake Shore Div had dinner by ourselves at Leland Fine time

This evening Prof Barnes' iconoclastic laying-about was amusing & stimulating.

Again a late gossip with Nygaard & Bright & Wright
[Inserted at this page is a clipping from the program brochure for the Illinois State Teachers' Association meeting. The evening program on Thursday, December 26, featured an address by President of the Association George D. Wham of Carbondale. On Friday evening, December 27, Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes gave an address on "New History and Social Studies." – ed.]

Saturday, December 28

Mild. Gray. Light fall of snow at intervals

As program was speeded up, we had our car attached to the 11:28 & got in to Chic. at 4:00. Fine time on train. Conf. on St Charles with Coultrap & Haggard representing the N.E. Division & Thompson, Storm & I the Round Table

Had a short visit to the Lincoln Home this A M Such a refined & gracious lady in charge!

All expenses paid by our Lake Shore Div treasurer – E A Nygaard.

Sunday, December 29

Sunny. Mild

M & I to church – Mr Siemsen's.

This aft Harvey & the two boys & Aunt Emma spent an hour or so with us. Blanche unable to come

The Sundells called and before they left Clarence and Bruner came in – 5:00.

Fine visit this evening

Monday, December 30

Sunny. Mild

Junior & I went to city on 12:04. Lunch at Union Station Tried to get opera tickets but only singles available at 4⁰⁰ & 5⁰⁰. Errands & then to Art Inst. At 5:00 to Apollo & saw most of "Doug & Mary" in movie of Taming of the Shrew. Supper at Palmer House restaurant. Then to R.U.R. which we greatly enjoyed

[Pasted to this page is a clipping from the playbill for *R.U.R. (Rossum's Universal Robots)* by Karel Capek. The cast included Sydney Greenstreet as Mr. Alquist, architect and Head of the Building Department of R.U.R. and Clifford Odets as one of the robots. – ed.]

Tuesday, December 31

Finis – for the year!

Fine, mild, sunny day. Much of snow melted

Clarence & Junior left this A.M. C. was to take aft. train for Decatur. Jr. the 5:00 P.M for N.Y

I visited Elm Place to see how work of installing a motor was progressing. To G.B.R.S. with Mrs Welch, Mrs Gaidzik & Jean Coxe to look over possibilities for its use for meeting of the F of O.N. L on Jan 21.

[Mr. Smith made notations on blank pages at the back of the diary. The notations are transcribed as follows: - ed.]

May 8 – 1929

Entered upon agreement to pay \$30⁰⁰ int. in May (May 17) and \$30⁰⁰ int on Nov. 17 of the years 1931 & 1930, & on Nov 17, 1929 – this on a mortgage note of \$1000⁰⁰ due Nov 17, 1931.

My lot is the west 75 feet of Lot 25, Block 16, S.E. ¼ of N W ¼ of Sec. 23, Tp 43, N, R. 12 E. of 3rd P.M

Deed recorded in book 401, p. 421, document number 290592.

Nov 11, 1929.

Sent in my (duplicate) benefit certificate (No. 226542) for \$3000. in the Modern Woodmen of America together with an application for a new certificate – “Form A” for \$3000,⁰⁰

Payment for one month

Benefit fund 13⁵⁰

Double indemnity 45

Per capita 45

14⁴⁰

Dec 12, 1929.

Rec'd certificat No E114971 Amount \$3000. Rate 13.95 Beneficiary Bridget Ann Smith. Also “Rider for Double Indemnity Benefits for Accidental Death” for \$3000. (Form A).