



Maud Hart and Delos Wheeler  
Lovelace Family Papers.

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JANUARY

- Jan. 1. Daddy was a little better this morning. The weather was warmer, way above zero, a melting smell in the air. I had slept here with mother and brought her breakfast to bed, and afterwards she & I & Merian and Frank & Helen & Dale drove out to Minnetonka to store daddy's car in our garage. A beautiful white landscape. The lake covered thickly with snow. Merian & Dale walked on the ice, scraped the snow aside and made a huge snowball. Then we called on Lockertys who told us how the boys always had to scrape and sweep snow off the ice for skating & that they had had two pairs of cardinals this year. Merian so sweet in her little red suit but me very lonesome for Delossy. I took her back to Helen's house & Borghild & returned to Mother's where all of us stayed the rest of the day. A strange New Year's Day. A sad one.
- Jan. 2. Warm and grey. Snow in the air. Stayed at mother's until 2 Thurs. when I came out to Helen's to relieve Borghild. Merian & I such a happy resting time. She and I alone for supper and she wiped the supper dishes for me.

Jan. 3. Warm and snowing thickly. Merian and I had breakfast in  
Fri. bed, and now Merian & Borghild and a quart of ice cream  
are going out to Lundquists to spend the day with Connie,  
Tommy and Ronnie. Merian had the most glorious time there.  
I stayed here with mother and am staying all night. The  
snow today was damp and soft - the kind that clings to  
all the branches. But tonight it is growing colder and a  
wind is blowing it around. Falling snow will always make  
me think of these days and watching by daddy's bed.

Jan. 4. At mother's all day. Haynes came about 5 and after ex-  
Sat. amining Daddy, gathered mother and the three of us to-  
gether and told us that daddy could not rouse from this  
sleep. I think it was the hardest thing Haynes ever had  
to do. Then he took Mrs. Modsen, the nurse, with him and  
left the three of us alone with mother. We all had a cry  
but braced up and Frank came and cooked us supper and made  
us eat it. We're all sleeping here tonight. We brought up  
the mattresses to put on the floor for Helen and Frank.  
Dale slept at Helen's with Borghild and Merian.

- Jan. 5. All of us picnicked in bed this morning, spread over  
Sun. floor & couches. I thought how daddy would have loved it. Every twig on every tree and bush is covered with frost and the dead leaves clinging to the poplars. And a few slow flakes drifting down. Darling daddy still sleeping. Katie & the nurse do crossword puzzles. We are bringing Merian down. Bee drove us out to get her. Trees, with their frosted twigs, look like silver clouds. The pines are loaded with shovelfull of snow. When we got back to mother's, Rosemond was here with a big pie, looking so fresh and comforting. This afternoon the sun came out and now it is getting low, making the west pale lemon yellow, whitening the snow. I am taking Merian to Helen's for all night - then will come back here to sleep.
- Jan. 6. Darling Daddy died this afternoon at fifteen minutes after  
Mon. three. He was sick all day, Katie & I, Froh and Frank were with him. He was holding my hand when he died. Last night about 7, Haynes told us he probably would not last the night. We all sat beside him most of the night, mother closest, holding his hand until 5 o'clock in the morning. She was so calm, talked to us all night about their youth and their happiness together. But when he passed away today she almost went out of her mind, for a few moments. Haynes ordered a hypodermic and put her to bed and she's asleep.

Jan. 7. Delossy came this morning at 8 o'clock. He looked so good  
Tues.

to us, did us all so much good. Frank and Frohman & I  
met him and went out to Helen's where we all had break-  
fast. We came down to mother's at dinner time tonight.

The nurse had kept her sleeping most of the day and had  
moved/<sup>her</sup>into her own room. Delos & I are sleeping at her  
house tonight. Snow falling, falling, falling.

Jan. 8. We all stayed with mother most of the day. It is cold and  
Wed.

dessolate and snowy. Aunt Flora Bowder and Cousin  
Henrietta came tonight at 4. Merian, of course, out at  
Helen's with Borghild, through all of this.

Jan. 9. Daddy was buried today in Lakewood Cemetery, about half  
Thurs.

past two. This morning I went to see him and put a pansy  
in his buttonhole. The services were at Lakewood Chapel  
and were beautiful. We had all thought of it just as  
something to be endured but it helped us. The sun came  
out today and the clearness of the air, the brightness  
of the sun on the extraordinary amount of snow made the  
world so beautiful. Daddy would have loved it. Everyone,  
everyone kind and more than kind. Mother is wonderful,  
sad, but so calm. We took a ride this afternoon and all  
had supper with her here. Such a feeling of peace!

Jan. 10 Today Delos & I & Katie lunched with Jack and Bee and it  
Fri. was pleasant to have that happy time in the midst of so much sadness. We brought Merian over here to mother's to night and she is sleeping on the davenport and Delossy and I on the sunporch. She is a comfort to us all, pre-facing every remark with her quaint little "By the way," All the relatives and the Blanpieds came in tonight to see Delos.

Jan. 11. My Delossy left on the Hiawatha at noon today. I lunched  
Sat. with him at the Milwaukee station. Then Borghild, Merian mother and I settled into a routine here. Mrs. Madsen the nurse, went to stay a few days with little Helen who is emotionally more upset than any of us. Mother had a bad time today after the nurse left, but she is as brave as a lion. I don't try to put down what I'm feeling and almost hate to record such sad days.

Jan. 12. This morning I went to Fowlers to a conference with Floyd  
Sun. and John Hasselbalch about daddy's affairs, and then Frank drove mother and Merian and me over to Fosters to dinner. Such a beautiful white world of snow! The lakes are white fields of snow with places cleared for skating, and the open spaces we passed going to St. Paul were unbelievably white and soft and deep. We had a pleasant family time at Katies, Eugene and Merian eating together. But twilight made mother sad and we hurried home. Mrs. Donnell & Mrs. Todd in to call tonight. It has been warm the last few days but tonight it is turning bitterly cold and the wind is beginning to blow.

Jan. 13. Katie, Bee and I out to Ste. Catherines to tea with  
Mon. mother Antonia and Sister Ste. Helene.

Jan. 14. Mother & Katie and I down town, buying cards and  
Tues. various things. To Helen's for dinner. She is better,  
but nurse still there.

Jan. 15. A busy and sad day. Sending off darling daddy's clothes,  
Wed. addressing cards. Katie, mother & I to Lillian Wake-  
fields for lunch and a talk by the fire. Borghild &  
Merian at Blanpieds - their adventures getting there.  
Merian told me something in a story which wasn't there.  
I said, "Why that isn't in the book." Merian, "Oh,  
this is the condensed version!" Merian tearing poin-  
settia petals - "is covering a white liquid." It in-  
terests me to see this mucous come when I tear the leaf. ||

Jan. 16. Warm and snowing softly. Permanent at Donaldson's 9 -  
Thurs. 2.30. Lunch sent in. Met mother & Katie and went to  
Rosemonds. Her little house, so many windows, fine drapes  
outlook of snow. Such a long walk from the car but so  
much sunshine and space for her children. Back to  
mother's for dinner. Froh & Katie here & all of us out  
to Hasselbalch's in the evening. Netee.

Jan. 17. A sad home-leaving after unnumbered happy ones. I pack-  
Fri. ed early and went to town shopping with mother and Katie,  
parting from them casually at Dayton and met Merian  
and Borghild at the train. Mrs. Fowler came, bringing  
us candy and making me cry. The Hiawatha crowded, a  
rowdy crowd going to the prizefight. But ride to Chi-  
cago beautiful. Bare trees brown against the snowy  
hillside<sup>above</sup> about the Mississippi, snowflakes falling,  
big as bits of paper, wintry sky over the river so  
white it was almost the tent of the river which was  
frozen and covered thickly with snow, bluffs along  
river white and brown-purple from the trees. At La-  
Crosse, river very wide, ice covered thickly with snow,  
many islands covered with low trees and shrubs, on Minn.  
side, high bluffs - Snow swirling continuously in fine  
flakes against pane. Snow covering straw stacks, wood  
piles, scrap heaps. Snow descending in unending lines.  
Snow harder now, like diminutive bullets. Roads  
filled with snow. Oak groves with brown leaves still  
clinging. Low round hills, oak groves with brown leaves,  
pines. Merian telling me "The Adventures of Pinky."  
Our rush to the Niagara.

Jan. 18. Ride thru N.Y. State from Buffalo. Delossy met us.  
Sat. Merian's fifth birthday. Supper at home.

Jan. 19.  
Sun.

Woke to find that it had been snowing all night. Roofs, rocks and lawns swathed deeply and thickly. Pines holding great clumps of it. Branches laden and since it is a soft, clinging snow, twigs and shrubs. Dried weeds are coated. We breakfasted in bed, watched the snow falling and great cloudy swirls of snow occasionally blowing across the window on downward flight from our roof. Ten thirty Delos out with snow shovel. Boys with toboggans and sleds. Merian helped Delos shovel. Emma fought her way down this afternoon. And we fought our way back to Sternes for supper.

Jan. 20.  
Mon.

Sun out today, glittering on the snow. Snow melting everywhere. Merian to school and I, busy with accounts and getting adjusted. Betty Floyd, Mrs. Bartnett, Helen Norton and others called. This afternoon dropped in to tea with Emma and helped her to arrange books. Not cold out. Pleasant walking home at twilight through the snow. Emma: "Her stern council of endurance." Delos, a busy evening writing Sun Rays. Daddy left us two weeks ago today.

Jan. 21.  
Tues

Dressed for breakfast this morning, to get myself in frame of mind for work. Now, at 8 o'clock, setting myself down to my long neglected book. The sky this afternoon was covered with clouds. I think they are called cimie clouds. They lie in rows. Tonight, about 5, snow purpling, & behind the lacework of twigs and branches on our hill, the sky is a bright grey-blue with these rows of clouds (like creases in an accordion) slightly tinted by the sun. Roy's birthday. We are going to the Sternes fo dinner - just by ourselves.

Jan. 22. I'm trying to break Merian of her dislike of going down-  
Wed. stairs alone. Yesterday I refused to take her hand - in going downstairs - and she said so indignantly - "What was holding hands invented for if you can't do it going downstairs!" Again, to her great delight, I forgot and took her hand. She looked up at me slyly: "Of course, you know this is entirely unnecessary." Shopped- library - Coggins for dinner, talk by the fire and chess. Rainy in late afternoon. Blowing and snowy at night.

Jan. 23. Cold but our baby in school. I spent morning in bed with  
Thurs. a headache. This afternoon Helen out, Merian and I playing and making a pudding. Delossy home early and we read to Merian out of the new copy of Uncle Remus. So cold that our little house not quite comfortable tonight, but Delossy and I sat with our feet on the radiator, listening to Rudy Vallee's hour. A lovely letter from mother.

Jan. 24. A good morning's work with the table pulled close to the  
Fri. radiator. A black capped chickadee came to perch on the limb outside. Merian home from school with a note which said that she had passed from kindergarten I into Kindergarten II; a triumph. Emma drove me out to shop and up to New Rochelle. Then home where Merian and I had tea, put out crumbs for the birds, and read from an anthology of poems. She learned an Oliver Herford rhyme to recite to Delossy when he came in.

- Jan. 25. So cold these mornings and our little house doesn't  
Sat. heat up any too well, but Merian so rosy and sweet,  
wrapped up in the white shawl at the breakfast table,  
and all of us well. Morning's work. This afternoon  
took Merian to see Robinhood. (Childrens Theatre at  
Pelham High School.) She was enchanted with it. Home to  
bathe her and put her to bed. Then Delos came in and read  
her Robinhood. Then Roy in to dinner with us and after-  
wards boys played chess, and we listened to Al Smith on  
radio.
- Jan. 26. Breakfast in bed - one of the pleasures of life. After-  
Sun. wards Merian brought all her animals into our bed and  
played zoo. Delos wrote Sun Rays this morning and Mer-  
ian played out in the snow. This afternoon D is walk-  
ing with Roy and I am going to listen to the symphony  
and think book. Delos brought Ray back for lunch and  
when Emma and Barbara got back from their weekend we had  
them come, too. Picnic supper and Merian stayed up for it.
- Jan. 27. Light masses of sun-burnished cloud moving lightly above  
Mon. the snowy world. A perfectly fine morning's work. After  
lunch out to market and nearly froze my hands, coming  
back. Going down to zero here tonight. The family writes  
from Minnesota that it is down to 30 below there and  
staying there. Our little house none too warm but we  
draw out chairs to the radiator and keep cozy.

Jan. 28. In bed all day with a headache. It was cold outside.  
Tues.

Emma came in about 5 for sherry - tea. Delossy had tickets for Pride and Prejudice and we went into town. Play charming but did not have the strength of the novel, we thought. Cold, blowy, bitter, but a pleasant evening.

Jan. 29. A fair morning's work. After lunch Laurie came over  
Wed.

to play with Merian - first in the snow and then, with much panting and groaning over removing galoshes, leggins, scarves, mittens, etc. in the nursery. They both made models of a little girl and I had to give prizes. 5 o'clock now. Sky a dull pearl behind brown tree trunks. Out to Sterne's for bridge tonight.

Jan. 30. In bed again with a headache, but took mss. and note-  
Thurs.

books with me & accomplished a little. Betty & Camilla & Laurie in this afternoon. Mild and lovely during the day but growing cold again tonight.

Jan. 31. And bitterly cold this morning. We decided to eat in  
Fri.

front of our living room radiator for a while. Laurie over this afternoon with Merian. In response to his pleading, she gave him a mickey mouse. As he departed with it, she said, "I don't think your mother will permit you to keep it. I don't think she will tolerate it." Roy & Emma & Delos & I had a merry time tonight seeing a terribly poor movie "Captain Blood", after which we ate hamburgers in a diner.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1. Still very cold. Delossy on a late shift and we had  
Sat. breakfast in bed and discussed our book. The talk was so helpful to me that I had a fine afternoon's work. Tonight we spent quietly nursing Delossy's cold.
- Feb. 2. Spent the day in a superhuman effort to keep Merian from  
Sun. catching Delossy's cold. He stayed in bed until she went out to play in the snow; then we hastily ate our dinner. He went up to play chess with Roy while she and I listened to the Philharmonic. Then when she was ready for bed he came home. His cold is much better - nearly gone.
- Feb. 3. Merian at school in the morning and good as an angel in  
Mon. the afternoon, so I had a splendid day's work on the book, lasting until 6 o'clock tonight. Cold, we spent the evening listening to the radio. Notes A play on Golitchnick - the town described in Native's Return.
- Feb. 4. It snowed and sleeted in the night. Delossy on the late  
Tues. shift. So cleaned the walks before he left for work this morning. We kept Merian out of school. At noon twigs on the trees and shrubs all silvered. The snow is melting. I hear the water dripping from the roof. It actually rained for a time. Snow like sugar now that it has frozen again. An icy glaze over it. This evening we went over to Sternes to play bridge and drink mulled wine. Not cold but walks, streets, so slippery.

- Feb. 5. A lovely special delivery letter from mother and a check  
Wed. for Delos from Rockne sales. We think we'll use it to go to the ring. I had a fairly good morning, then went to town to the library. The most curious icy glaze over our snow banks - impossible to describe. It is like a shiny candy. Over to Newsoms to play bridge tonight and we took our car out for the first time since Christmas.
- Feb. 6. Miss Davis sent home word that Merian was entering much  
Thurs. more into school life and had modeled a truly remarkable lion. And this afternoon when Merian and I went to tea with Betty and Camilla Floyd, Betty said that Mrs. Sauer had told her that Mrs. Pendleton had told her of a picture Merian had drawn of the ducks in Loring Park. Delos and I spent the evening discussing our truly remarkable child.
- Feb. 7. Not such a good morning. I can't write well with party  
Fri. ahead. To town about noon to buy curtains and get a shampoo and finger wave. Less cold but still very slippery and icy. Snow forecast but it blew out to sea. To dinner at Barts. with Ruth Aley. A lovely time.
- Feb. 8. A fair morning's work. Warm and melting. Merian and I  
Sat. waded out to shop. Heard Metropolitan Opera broadcast of Tristan this afternoon. Merian listening, too. Then to Hackneys for dinner. It's very cold in the middle west and a fuel shortage in Minnesota. It was 47 below at one point in Minnesota.

- Feb. 9. Woke up at 9 to snow. Snow misting the air, snow loading the boughs, fresh white mounds of new snow on railings, snow falling, snow blowing. At 11 snow seemed to have stopped but sky still grey. Sunday paper says "4 freight trains stuck in huge drifts in S. Minn. complete disruption rail transp. Drifts imprisoned 2 snowplows. Fairmont shut off in every direction." Warmed gradually. Delos and I listened to concert (in bed) while Helen took Merian out. To Rye to Norton's for supper at 7.  
Sun.
- Feb. 10. A good morning's work, please lord! Lesson enacted under my eyes when I threw out some crumbs. Sparrow pounced on one piece of bread and flew away. All the rest followed him madly, unsure that there were other pieces, plenty for all, lying in plain view. These mornings, as I write, I hear a bluejay and sometimes a chickadee. A bluejay in our fir tree now making a positive racket. Something like a caw. Emma over this afternoon. Delos and I tonight had a quiet evening. Bitterly cold again. Jean Anderson died yesterday.  
Mon.
- Feb. 11. Such tales of cold in the middle west. I am pasting one up in the Fairmont notebook. A hard day's work - then out with Emma to market and to tea. Heard the bad news that Mrs. Bartnett is sick. Delossy home late and we had a quiet evening. To bed by nine. I am reading Anne Lindberg's charming "North to the Orient."  
Tues.

Feb. 12. A good morning's work. Not such a strenuous afternoon.

Wed.

A fat bluejay ruffling his feathers on bare branch out-my window. A chickadee in some leafless shrubs. Merian's tale of Thumbelisa - a sequel to Anderson's. The swallows simply couldn't do without her; he felt terrible; so Thumbelisa ran away from him. But it was winter - cold-snowing. She didn't know the road. She ran into a thicket and found a tree which had been cut, leaned it up a tree, climbed up it to the sky, got on the bird's back & flew away. I asked what became of the prince but she was evasive, "Oh he wasn't so charming as you thought," she said. To town to meet Delossy and to see Geo. White's Scandals. (The robin is named Adalia.

Feb. 13. Woke to a white mist of snow in the air. Snowing heavily and covering (but not rendering less dangerous) the glare of ice on our streets. What a winter! A blue jay cawing

Thurs.

through the snow on the branch outside my window. Merian just in from school, played the lead today in Penny Penguin. Helen off for her half holiday and a permanent. Late afternoon, Emma blew in covered with flakes. Delossy stamped in later - Merian and I had baked him a butter-scotch pie. Then this evening Roy and Emma again, saying the weather was wild.

- Feb. 14. And we wakened this Valentine morning to sleet, pound-  
Fri. ing our window panes. Snow so high and the wind blowing. A terrible morning. We had Valentines and heart-shaped cookies with our breakfast, then Delossy called a cab but it stuck in the drifts on the way to us and he missed one train. He's gone now and I'm at work while a boy shovels our walks. At noon. Literally, sheets of sleety rain. Emma to town to Liggetts Ball. She and Roy are staying overnight there.
- Feb. 15. A good morning's work and took the 4:01 to town after  
Sat. Emma and I had spent an hilarious afternoon trying to find Roy to go to Rheingold with us. Failed. Delos and I ate dinner in a Bohemianish restaurant on table with red cloth. Stood in line for an hour, heard 1 act Under great difficulties and bogged down, catching an early train home.
- Feb. 16. Delos and Merian out all morning shoveling the drive-  
Sun. way. In at noon for lunch, red-cheeked and hungry. This afternoon Sternes came over to listen to the Symphony (a lovely Brahms symphony.) and to have tea. Then D and I (getting our car out after much delay & difficulty) drove up to Rye to the Dunns for supper. Our friends the Bridges, and the Burton Roscoes there.
- Feb. 17. Merian to school and I had a grand morning on the book,  
Mon. finishing my chapter. Merian brought home Valentines she should have brought home Friday. In great excitement put them under our plates & Delos & she had a lively time as he insisted upon trying to look before he was supposed to. To bed by 8. Our car, which we couldn't get into the garage last night, still stands in the driveway.

- Feb. 18. Snow falling, the air thick with it; bushes ghostly,  
Tues. branches and twigs of bare trees laden, the pines are holding it on their branches. I am writing a review of a lovely story. Island Magic, and must soon be off to town. Emma and I had a lovely day. Lunch at Woman Pays (heard Gretchen Green and Jean Starr Untermeyer); went to Metropolitan Museum to look at Goyas; to Smith Club for tea. Met Delos on 7:30. Merian learned to darn today. Clearing and colder.
- Feb. 19. Cold - down to zero - but sunny and clear. Sun in eastern  
Wed. sky across the street, sky a blue green, white clouds in a bow, like out-stretched arms, thin, scattered, shimmering. To call on Mrs. Bartnett and take her flowers. Bitterly cold and streets and sidewalks jagged frozen peaks. Took a taxi home. To Sternes for bridge tonight. Winter stars so brilliant. From our bathroom window they shine piercingly bright, above the tall bare trees.
- Feb. 20. Down to zero. Our baby in bed with a slight case of  
Thurs. sniffles. A poor morning's work. Helen off this afternoon. I kept our tunky in bed and read her the Jungle Books. Delossy working so hard. He's doing Lem Parker's column, in addition to his own work. Worked all evening while I ran the steam by Merian. Winter sun in the morning a ball of gold.

- Feb. 21. Merian's temp. practically normal and the cold no  
Fri. worse. We are praying that she can go to her beloved  
and Heidi tomorrow. Bitterly cold. I'm getting tired of  
Feb. 22. this winter. To work at 8. A bad day - a headache -  
Sat. and Merian sick with rising temp. again. Giving M.  
her supper, 6 o'clock, dark, how white and ghostly the  
snow gleams on hillside and rooftops. Merian sick in  
the night - threw up. Called me jubilantly to say,  
"Isn't that the very best thing I could do. Now I can  
go to Heidi." But she can't. Temp. last night of 101.  
This morning 100. And she's breathing badly. The poor  
little tunky. I couldn't keep the tears back (tho I  
didn't let her see them.) when I told her she couldn't  
go to her play. Delos felt as badly as I did. But this  
afternoon while D plays tennis, she and I will listen  
to Meisteringer on the radio. Cold. To work at 8 a.m.  
And surprisingly a fairly good morning. Merian so sick  
today I called Dr. Wightman, who gave her two kinds of  
capsules which put her to sleep. When having trouble  
with her breathing the poor baby says, "I breathe before  
I intend to!" Reading the Grecian Way.
- Feb. 23. Delossy wrote all morning - I was mostly with Merian who  
Sun. is better. After dinner D had to drive to town with his  
copy. I took a-round-the-block and now Helen is off for  
her afternoon and M & I are going to hear the Symphony.  
Delossy home for supper. We had pancakes, syrup, coffee  
and chess.

- Feb. 24. White brilliance of the snow in the early morning, before  
Mon. it is light; I can't account for it. Now (at breakfast time) sky grey; it looks like rain. Wrote this morning; with Merian this afternoon while Helen washed; out to market, it's getting slowly warmer. The walks are mere Indian trails the drifts crowd so close. Delossy and I to bed early tonight. He is through with the Parker column, Came home at 5:30 to surprise us. Reading Kipling's Jungle Books to Merian.
- Feb. 25. An excellent morning at writing - a long marketing as  
Tues. Sternes coming to dinner tomorrow night and I bought for that, too. This afternoon taking care of Merian who is still in bed with a slight temp. and a runny nose. This evening, Delos and I a quiet time - the radio and newspapers. Warmer. Dark grey fat little birds in a flock on our rock - Are they juncos? White tail feathers show in flight.
- Feb. 26. Raining this morning- and so warm I could stand on the  
Wed. porch to see Delos off. This will wash down some of our quantities of snow. Cleared but still warm. Sternes coming postponed until tomorrow night, so Helen took today off. I read to Merian and darned stockings and we had a cozy time. Delos and I tonight played chess and I read "The Greek Way."

- Feb. 27. The slate colored birds we have been seeing are juncos,  
Thurs. and I imagine are gathering into a flock to go farther north. Sign of spring! Delos and I ate breakfast read from Dr. Roberti book about them. The extreme tidiness of the female amused us. Emma and Roy to a festive dinner tonight. E. had been hearing Gotterdammering and said Flagstad was magnificent. Book went very well today.
- Feb. 28. In bed with a headache until 2 when I went to town in a  
Fri. springlike day. Merian out with Helen. Met Delossy at Margaret Widdemer's tea -- to a Child's to dinner and to see Charlie Chaplin in Modern Days. He is a great pantomimist. So heavenly to have it fairly warm again.
- Feb. 29. A poor morning's work. Out with Merian for two hours in  
Sat. a melting springlike day, Merian looking for "signs of spring" and jubilantly hailing every patch of soggy grass, every last year's leaf, every bird "where is the South, Mommie? I want to begin looking for the spring birds." To town on 6 o'clock to dinner at YoCums. A very pleasant time. The Dalton School described by the Chauncey Reillys who were there.

MARCH

- Mar. 1. Not quite so glorious as yesterday but still springlike.  
Sun. Delos and Merian and I out looking for signs of spring in Sternes garden. A quiet restful Sunday. Noon dinner, the symphony, tea, putting Merian to bed and a short walk. Snow gone from our shed roof and thinning on our hillside, lawns and bouvelards still well piled.
- Mar. 2. Merian showed signs of a head cold and back to bed she went  
Mon. to our great discouragement. I had a poor morning's work and left for town about noon. Shopped, got a curl, home for dinner. This evening Delossy read and I listened to the radio programs. Heard some lovely music, too, the duet from Don Giovanni (Margaret Speaks and Nelson Eddy) and a lovely Strauss Waltz sung by Vivian Della Chizza.
- Mar. 3. Wet caky snow covered everything this morning - the pines  
Tues. before our window, the roof of our shed outside the bathroom, Delossy's freshly cleaned walks, the rocks on our hillside. A poor morning's work; an afternoon with Merian, and to dinner with Sternes, taking them Bon Voyage gifts for which I wrote accompanying triolets. They leave tomorrow by boat for Virginia, S. Carolina and Alabama. A treat. Snow gone almost by noon.

Mar. 4. Not a trace of yesterday's snow on anything today (altho  
Wed. of course, we still have our winter's drifts. Clear,  
sharp and sunny. A pale blue sky with thin clouds. But  
at night a fog moving among the trees. A miserable day  
of work - marketing - and listening to the symphony with  
Merian. Delossy and I a quiet night. I try to realize  
that reservoirs are being filled - in my mind, I mean.  
Sternes left at noon. A lovely letter from Katie.

Mar. 5. Fog gone. Snows are melting. Sky is periwinkle blue,  
Thurs. mottled with clouds. A bit from Katie's letter. "God  
grant that this truly awful winter speeds on its way,  
letting us have a little sunshine and out of doors to  
expand in. It is snowing again, great puffy flakes, so  
thick that one can hardly see thru them across the yard.  
We have had the most extraordinary amount of snow. Wed-  
nesday Heaven sent us 16 more inches! We will need boats  
to paddle about in once it starts to thaw. They say the  
ground is frozen so deep that the melting snow won't be  
absorbed. Oh, well, its something to talk about anyway.  
But I hate to lose my life-long joy in a snowstorm and I  
am getting so I want to scream when I look at it." Rain  
here about noon today, turned into a fine sleety hail,  
stinging the window panes. Then into snow - the fattest  
flakes I ever saw, which are covering rooftops, bushes  
and trees so that the whole world is glittering. What a  
winter! Snow is sugary looking, big coarse grains.

Mar. 6. The sun out on our white fantastic world. Shopped for  
Fri. our party. Eileen & Harold Haycroft to dinner. Such a  
good dinner and pleasant evening. Snow melted by night.

- Mar. 7. This afternoon Delossy took me for a ride. There are  
Sat. still drifts of dirty snow, of course. But so pleasant to see clear roads, patches of grass, yellow willows. Home in time to hear Leanora Overture #3 and last act of Fidelio. Tonight me up to see Rose Marie - the picture.
- Mar. 8. Delossy read the book today and began his work on it.  
Sun. He likes it; says he "thinks we have something, Maudie." A springlike day. Merian had a sunbath in all her outdoor wraps, in nursery window. This afternoon the 3 of us listened to the Philharmonic concert. Beethoven's 8th and 9th. The finale of the 9th is like the heavens opened. B. Sterne (who had been to the concert) to supper.
- Mar. 9. When Delossy went out this morning he said that it was  
Mon. thawing and it has been foggy all day. A good morning's work - a happy afternoon with Merian who was dressed and up. Waiting for Delossy now, about 5:30. It has been growing increasingly foggy. Trees swathed in grey mist, distances lost. Delossy & I went walking tonight in the mist. It's no longer cold. So pleasant to like to be outdoors again.
- Mar. 10. And still foggy this morning. Merian downstairs to break-  
Tues. fast. But by 10 the sun was out and shortly after Merian and Helen went out for a glorious expedition. Saw a cat-bird. I went out about noon to market. Such a lovely day. Merian out again after lunch. She seems quite herself again. Delos & I this evening struggling with the income tax. Delossy so tired.

- Mar. 11. To town in the rain. Shopped and worked at the library.  
Wed. To Blanche's where Delos met us for dinner. To a basket-  
ball game at the Garden and home in a rain which almost  
swept us off our feet. It came down in sheets and sheets  
of water swept across the paving.
- Mar. 12. Foggy this morning. Rainy, but rather pleasant. As I write  
Thurs. I hear strange and thrilling bird calls. Thrilling because  
they mean spring. I know these aren't winter birds. Helen  
out this afternoon - Merian and I a happy time - she washed  
and wiped the new glasses to surprise her daddy. He came  
in early and had to write Sun Rays tonight. Reading Wm.  
Saroyan, Negley Farson and Walter Duranty.
- Mar. 13. Sun out; a smiling day; yet as we sat at breakfast a  
Fri. strange short flurry of snow. It melted almost before it  
touched the earth. Our snow is gone now, except in the  
shady places. Lawns bare. The rain washed it away, I  
suppose. A fairly good morning in spite of a headache,  
Merian was out and this afternoon she and I to New Rochelle  
to see Dr. Wightman. Delossy and I to the movies tonight.  
The Petrified forest. Excellent.
- Mar. 14. Sunny and clear but a thin scattering of snow on dead  
Sat. leaves, rocks and newly emerged grass. Soon melted. A good  
morning's work. Delossy home by noon. He and I & Merian  
drove out up the Hutchinson River Parkway. Surprised to  
note how completely the winter's snows have gone. Delos  
says I am confused remembering later Minnesota springs. Saw  
a bright ruddy robin - 2 of them, in fact. Flóyds here  
for bridge tonight.

- Mar. 15. Fighting a headache: stayed in bed all morning; but  
Sun. at noon we started up to Bridges taking a picnic lunch. Lunched in a woody place on a hilltop: uncovered hepatica plants and some fresh green shoots. At Bridges heard a song sparrow and saw black capped chickadees on their feeding station. Drove hom in a sunset, between mauve and plum color, above bare purplish woods. Barbara for supper with us.
- Mar. 16. And this morning robins flying about outside the win-  
Mon. dow at which I sit writing. I feel low - lonesome for daddy - and blue because Delos's copy is so good. He should be writing all the time. Merian in school. So happy to have her back. She and I a quiet afternoon. (Out to get her hair cut.) And this evening Delos and I drove up to call on the Bartnetts.
- Mar. 17. Merian in school again this morning. This afternoon  
Tues. Helen to town to a St. Patrick's dance at the Commodore and Merian and I (in spite of moist wind) to town to the flower show. Delos met us there at 5. We liked best - the ducks (Merian); the rock garden with wild flowers - yellow bells, marigolds, trillion (Maad) To dinner at Kirby Allen and a drive home in the car. Our tunky car sick but cheerful.
- Mar. 18. Rain this morning - crystal drops on the bare twigs;  
Wed. changing patterns of edding in the eaves troughs; the sound of drops spattering. Endlessly, endlessly. A rainy day in Rainbow would have been dreary.

- Mar. 19. Work this morning; Gale out this afternoon; the rain  
Thurs. cleared, then set in again. Helen worried because her fiancée is in the flood district in Pennsylvania. We had a pleasant dinner with Gale. Helen brought in a big bouquet of pussy willows from a tree next door.
- Mar. 20. Dr. Wightman - 2.30. Out walking this morning before  
Fri. starting work. Saw purple and yellow crocuses in bloom on a neighboring lawn; we must plant some. Robins very common now, and our daffadils are up. Took Merian to New Rochelle this afternoon, then Betty and Camilla came in to tea. Tonight Delos and I to N.R. saw "The Ghost Goes West."
- Mar. 21. All of us much concerned for Helen whose fiancée is in the  
Sat. Pennsylvania flood district. Delossy home at noon - he and Merian and I out for a drive this afternoon - and he and I saw another movie tonight - "Follow the Fleet" - it was good, too. Dropped in on Floyds this afternoon; Merian enchanted with their cat.
- Mar. 22. A windy day. There was something autumnal about the way  
Sun. the wind sent battalions of brown leaves scurrying. Delos worked on book this morning. I took Merian out on her tricycle. After dinner we drove up to Ridgewood, Conn. to see the Helms. Countryside very Marchy but we brought back apple tree boughs. I love the distant view of mountains - or foothills - as you drive toward Ridgewood. A distant blue line above a blue lake in a valley.

- Mar. 23. Merian in school - a good morning - but from that  
Mon. point on an ill-starred day. Broke my glasses. And the musicale at Mme. Parker's for Roy and Florence Andrews with its horde of Minnesota people and its auld lang syne made me feel bad. Raining when Delos and I drove home.
- Mar. 24. To town today. To mend glasses. Rather pleasant to be in  
Tues. town to see the styles. Such checks! Had a picnic lunch with Blanche and called on Gale and saw her lithographs. Met Delos and Cy. on the 4.45 and Merian passed canapes and we had old-fashioneds, chess and a good dinner.
- Mar. 25. Robin comes every morning to roost outside my window.  
Wed. Also sparrow and squirrel to drink from the eaves troughs. I wrote all morning and this afternoon took Laurie and Merian out to play. Bought candy Easter eggs and they made nests. Mrs. Bartnett telephoned that Mr. Bartnett's mother died this morning. Delos in charge of the desk. We drove up to Bartnetts this evening - both of us sad and Delossy very tired.
- Mar. 26. Delos, Merian and I a merry breakfast. A fat robin in  
Thurs. view as we ate. Day overcast but springlike. A good morning's work. Day turned out to be so heavenly that I gave Helen the whole holiday. Walked up myself to call for Merian. Hedges show infinitesimal green leaves. Lilacs quite good buds. Mrs. Pendleton and Cindy drove us home. This afternoon Merian and I to New Rochelle to the doctor. Delossy and I a quiet evening - both have sore throats.

- Mar. 27. Fri. Raining this morning and sky very dark. But heard the robin's inimitable song before we were out of bed. D. and I both with sore throats and Merian sneezing. Merian in bed with head cold and sore throat. This afternoon I went to New R. in the rain to select flowers for Mr. Bartnett's mother's funeral and called on Mrs. Bartnett who was sick. The whole thing makes me feel very sad. Tonight D & I over to Welcome home the Sternes. They brought Delos and Irish coffee cup.
- Mar. 28. Sat. I went to the Bartnett funeral this morning - high mass. Delossy home at noon. Grey sent us Bill McNally's new novel "The Roofs of Elm Street" for review. We went for a long ride this afternoon. Countryside cool and bare and beautiful and springlike. Tonight to Haydens Planetarium. Remember new meanings for you of Meridien and Zenith - a little shade of astrology would help one's vocabulary. Merian in bed.
- Mar. 29. Sun. A beautiful warm Sunday. Delos raking and burning leaves. Both of us grieved that Merian couldn't be out but she is better. She sits and draws, draws, draws. I sent mother a big packet of her drawings - one I think especially good: Pine trees with Dog hiding. Another Kanga and Roo at the flower show. Delossy worked all afternoon and I read Bill's book. To Sterne's for bridge tonight.

Mar. 30. Sunny and warm; and our baby out for the first time,  
Mon. on the beach chair, wrapped in rugs. She noticed at once how tiny green leaves were out on the hedges and other bushes - how the big buds on the magnolia tree next door had swelled - our daffs and tulips up. Emma has a daff in bloom. Robins sweet song in the mornings. Delossy working all evening on a most important letter.

Mar. 31. Worked on my review of Bill's book but shopped early  
Tues. as I was giving a luncheon. So rare for me to give or go to luncheons. I was quite thrilled and had a lovely time. Gale, Emma, Anne and I - scrambled eggs, sausages, salad, strawberries and cream and cakes. Gale back to town on the 5.13. Merian out for a short walk today and spent part of the afternoon with us - curly-headed and wearing her new raspberry pink dress.

APRIL

- Apr. 1. Helen greeted us at breakfast - this sunny lovely April  
Wed. morning - with word that the electric icebox had stopped.  
Then shouted April Fool. Merian took up the joke at once.  
not quite, however, getting the idea. "See that beautiful black and white sparrow." "It's flown away." What merriment a child can make in a home! Mother moving today to 2400 Aldrich - S. Helen out this afternoon. I had a hectic time with Merian and Laurie. How diff. boys and girls. Laurie jumping, running, whooping, investigating. A quiet evening.
- Apr. 2. Raining this morning. A bit discouraging as I had planned  
Thurs. to go to town. But I went just the same and had a successful day. Lunch with Gale at Gripsholm; dinner with my darling at Luchows and a gay party. Then to see Ethan Frome, the epilogue of which was the highest tragedy I ever saw enacted. We shuddered all the way home.
- Apr. 3. Sunny, bright and springlike again. The magnolia - if  
Fri. it is a magnolia - next door shows big pink buds. Worked or tried to work this morning. Took Merian up to Doctor and dentist this afternoon. Found it a raw cold windy day. Tonight D. & I listened on the radio to hear Hauptman's fate decided. He was executed at last. My Delossy so tired - I am anxious to get him away on a vacation.
- Apr. 4. Took Merian to her play "The Secret Garden" this after-  
Sat. noon while Delossy had the car tuned up for our trip.  
Roy and Babs to dinner tonight.

- Apr. 5. Took a picnic to Helm's. The weather is bleak. The ride  
Sun. up to Ridgefield is lovely with views of Berkshire foot-  
hills in distance, purplish hillsides of bare forest, pot  
hole lakes, brightly blue. Cozy to eat in Helm's kitchen  
with range warming us.
- Apr. 6. Raining today. Bright drops hanging to the bare twigs.  
Mon. Magnolia buds on the next door swelling and looking pink.  
Pussy willow yellow. Color looks strange in bare, wet, cold,  
spring world. Forsythia beginning to fly into yellow bloom  
everywhere, but ours not quite out. To town shopping, high-  
balls with Martha Ostenso and Douglas Durkin. Pelham for  
the school exhibit. Merian's lion. Pendleton and Sauer drove  
us home.
- Apr. 7. Raw, damp, tho not raining, getting much excited about our  
Tues. trip. Cleaned drawers and closets all morning. Took Merian  
out for an X-Ray (school routine) in the rain this after-  
noon. Delossy and I and Merian all talk south, south, south.  
Merian chants "send a baby alligator home by mail." Spring  
picture - glistening drops on bare twigs, swelling pink  
magnolia buds, yellow forsythia. Robins bouncing everywhere.
- Apr. 8. Clear - but windy and cold. Delossy departs in charge of  
Wed. the Sun after a hilarious breakfast. Mailing Easter things  
to Minnesota and wrote 11 letters. Dear Mother, it will be  
a sad Easter for her. To New Rochelle with Merian this  
afternoon. Bought her shoes - a red beret and sweater. To-  
night Delossy and I called on Bartnetts, and then on Sternes  
where we lingered, playing bridge.

Apr. 9. Clear but so cold and raw. Took Merian to school and  
Thurs. visited there. It was all Easter. Helen's half holiday  
today and Merian and I to New Rochelle to Dr. Wightman.  
Got our travellers checks for the vacation. After Delossy  
got home M. opened package from Irmengarde and one from  
Minnesota. Much rejoicing and jubilation. Rain on the  
roof tonight and cold. So glad to be going south. Colder  
than Greenland!

Apr. 10. Hot cross buns for breakfast. Warm indoors but raining and  
Fri. cold outside. Freshly chill like a spring rain through  
which one sees the daffodils and crocuses in bloom. That  
idea now for packing!

Apr. 11. Rainy but clearing. Cold. Delossy brought car in this A.  
Sat M. and M. & I after a pleasant unhurried morning joined him  
here at Midtown garage, as above. Sun out when we emerged  
from Holland Tunnel. Over the Pulaski Skyways. M. playing  
with her multitudinous Easter gifts. Sourland Mt. Country  
high, rolling, picturesque. Valley of Del. at Lambertton  
and New Hope. Holilong is old and charming. Sun out and  
very warm as we near Valley Forge. Country mountains and  
scenic. First blooming fruit tree at Morristown. At Paoli,  
willow trees in full leaf. Lancaster, brick houses, close  
to sidewalk. White shutters. Like Phil. and the South.  
Still beautiful place. Stopped all night near Gettysburg.  
Heated house and store. Rooster crowing awake us.

Apr. 12. Clear, cold, sunny. Off at 7:30 a.m. Mountains and white  
 Sun. hens. Rain as we near Gettysburg. Gettysburg Battlefield!  
 What a place to be on Easter morning. On again thru Mary-  
 land. Rain like cats paws on the windshield. Mountains  
 getting higher on our right. White-washed houses again.  
 Frederick, Md. low, whitewashed cottages. Bridges down  
 over Potomac go to Wash. Entering Wash. fruit trees in  
 bloom everywhere. Lunch in Alexandria. Trees getting leafier.  
 Dogwood. Still raining but clearing. Red leaved trees in  
 forests. Red buds. Also all flowering trees. Country sandy  
 rolling, low. On to Richmond. In Fredericksburg looks like  
 June, trees delicate foliage. No farms all woods. And in  
 also new green fringes on all trees. Lawns, hedges, pretty  
 homes. Sun out. Hot. Took off my coat. Emporia, Va. yellow  
 mustard in bloom. Live oaks. Into N.C. about 5 p.m.

Apr. 13.  
 Mon.

A fine nights sleep at a lovely big home in Whittaker, N.C.  
 Baths. Orioles. Blooming shrubs. Wisteria. Cows, hens, a  
 rooster awakened us. Colored girl at breakfast - she said  
 the last guests had said: - "You been so nice to us, we must  
 leave you a little present." Cotton bales in sight as we  
 drive away in sunshine. Little darkey cabins. Dogwood in  
 pine forest. Flat country. Mules. Merian's leggins doffed at  
 Williamston while we caught the coast route, #17, Tobacco  
 farms. Little family graveyards, beautifully kept up in  
 midst of fields. Houses of blocks all unpainted. Family  
 of pigs. Merian shed winter coat and saw a butterfly, 29  
 mi. N. of New Bern, N.C. Spanish moss. Women washing out  
 of doors. New Bern on the Trenton River, a place to come  
 and write in sometime. Lovely now full summer. Spanish

Apr. 13/  
Mon.  
Cont'a.

moss on trees along the river. On thru Jacksonville to Wilmington. Country sandy, forested, lumbering seems to be main industry. Blacks everywhere. How their teeth gleam. Mistletoe in the trees in clumps. Now cut over timber country and very dreary. Pretty again. Spanish moss. A cardinal. Bright purple weed along roadside. Our first palm tree! Creamed shrimp and sweet potato pie at Wilmington. A beautiful town, too. On southward. Gang of prisoners working by roadside; armed guard. Cars pass with a sound like canvas tearing. Wild flowers, pink, sprays and small white blossoms beginning along roadside. Investigated Pawleys Island; heard the surf. Supper at Delta Cabins in pinewoods - 2 yellow kittens with holes in their ears. Roses and Verbenas and petunias in bloom. Trouble with lights on car so stayed all night, 3 in bed. What a night!

Apr. 14.  
Tues.

Sunshine. Air like silk. 8 a.m. Bridges, bridges to Charleston. Landed in flood. Scarlet tanger on green tree in flooded red river. These pines are called the Long Leaf pines. Into Charlestown over magnificent bridge. Skirted Charlestown out of it across north down lane of trees hung with spanish moss. Beautiful at noon and soon established in Toby Manse, a waterfront mansion, high hedge, gardens, house covered with climbing flowers. Our room as big as a church. Have learned live oak, magnolia, sycamore, have seen mocking birds, cardinals, a cardinal a denizen of our garden. Happy. It's like midsummer at home. Letter from home.

- Apr. 15. Merian and I out early. How the sweet smells remind me of  
Wed. New Orleans! Is it sweet olive I smell? Or rose Montana?  
Star of Bethlehem in the grass. Every kind of flower in  
bloom - pansies, candy tuft, nasturtiums, roses, azalea,  
what a breakfast (grits also remind me of New Orleans!)  
Unpacking this morning and now off to hear spiritual sing-  
ing at Penn School on St. Helena St. It was nice and even  
nicer, the colored boys and girls marching and saluting  
the flag. To the beach this afternoon, the first swim of  
the season. Remember Cherokee roses - large, flat, white.  
Mrs. Malone at Miss Waterburg's. Saw a white heron at the  
beach and little crabs with the altar and flounce on their  
backs. A big yellow prize cat among guests at Tobby Manse.
- Apr. 16. Merian and I in the garden in the morning while Delos work-  
Thurs. ed. The three of us out to Lands End, a wild lonely beach  
in the afternoon. Met the Cravens. A quiet evening - Miss  
Emmy going out to the movies. Heard Phoebe's and Gerald-  
ines stories today. Naked crepe myrtle trees.
- Apr. 17. We marvel at the politeness of these people; also at the  
Fri. friendliness - black and white they salute strangers on  
the street: also at the trustfulness. Anyone is willing  
to trust you for anything. Called on Emily this morning;  
to the beach, this afternoon. Merian just transformed.  
So well and full of vitality.

- Apr. 18. Off to Charleston to see the gardens at 9:20. Cool and  
Sat. sunny. Saw magnolia gardens - inky pools, cypresses, Spanish moss, azaleas, Cherokee roses. Saw Charleston with its old galleried great houses; its well plastered houses, its courtyards; its waterfront. It is a love of a city. Called on Mary Day. Ate at Henry's. Home at 9. Merian so good all day.
- Apr. 19. A note from Emma says "pink shrub, if low, probably wild  
Sun. azalea - if tall, red bud; still cold and rainy in the north. Big fire in grate to dress by. Morning with Malones. Afternoon explored St. Helena's, a beautiful old church, built 1725.
- Apr. 20. The black boy made a big grate fire for us to dress by again.  
Mon. this morning. Delossy wrote - Merian and I sat out on lawn, watching red-sailed oyster boats drift by, watching our cardinals. The beach this afternoon, talked novel, novel, novel. A wire from mother. She may join us here!
- Apr. 21. Delossy took care of Merian while I worked this morning.  
Tues. This afternoon to the beach to talk novel and hunt little fiddler crabs. Merian at supper, "Daddy, do you and mommie use your friends for book characters?" Sat alone with each other by big fire in drawing room tonight.
- Apr. 22. Jerry the black boy made a fire for us to dress by again.  
Wed. this morning. Worked. This aft. Mr. Lake took us for a ride - old forts, a rose garden, the old Fripp plantation, where we went inside mansion and saw old paintings painted directly on wall. Fields of russet, fields of red wild phlox, china-berry trees in bloom, woodbine in bloom, wild azalea.

- Apr. 23. Mother arrived today looking so sweet; also Gale and Mary  
Thurs. Day drove down from Charleston. We had a gala family luncheon then went for a drive with Mr. Lake. Love old plantations and ruins of Shelly church. Pinky among the dark oaks with Spanish moss, classic, mysterious.
- Apr. 24. Still overcast, fires in the morning. Visited with Mother  
Fri. while Delos. All of us to the beach this afternoon, digging fiddler crabs. Mr. Lake took us through another mansion. By the fire at Tobby Manse tonight.
- Apr. 25. Mother off to Charleston. We put her on the bus about  
Sat. noon, then to the beach this afternoon, making a fire of Spanish moss against the ridges. Another quiet evening by the fire.
- Apr. 26. Warm today like the first day we were here. I worked this  
Sun. morning, while D. & M. roamed and saw a lizard. After dinner sat out on embankment (our car being repaired) and saw a mocking bird's nest in a palmetto with two baby birds just ready to fly. Midge drove us in to read and draw and bathe and rest. Mother back from Charleston about 8, very tired, but glad she had gone. Spanish moss like cobwebs, like mist, like fog.
- Apr. 27. An uneventful restful day. Packed, wrote postal cards, took  
Mon. mother over to St. Helena's church which I love. Have I noted how white and colored folk alike say "good day"? Found a little live swallow in one of the bedrooms. Delos carried it out of doors and Merian made a picture of the scene. Down to see out mocking bird family. One baby left in the nest. Delos & I out to the movies tonight - such a quaint little theatre.

Apr. 28. Loafed about waiting for our car. Cooler, sunny and a breeze  
Tues. which keeps midges away. On bank in front of our house, blue  
white and yellow wild flowers blowing. The blue ones (Mrs.  
Greenwood says) are called Widows Tears and also St. Johns-  
wort. Off at 4.20 after a glass of sherry on Miss Emmy's  
veranda. Soon leave Spanish moss behind. Tourists cabins  
ad -"free lock garages" "shower" etc. Fluffy white flower-  
ing shrub in woods. Pass Edisto & Santee River again, the  
latter in wooded country. Very scenic. Stayed overnight at  
St. Paul, S.C. in Francis Marion Tourist Home - new and  
clean and comfortable. Slept under sheet only. Hot biscuits  
for supper and for breakfast on 7:25 a.m.

Apr. 29. Warm, sunny, mist in hollows. Roses blooming by unpainted  
Wed. negro shacks. Ribbon grass around them. Merian reports a  
strange bird, blue wings, pink breast and a crest. At ---  
a few trees not fully leafed. Saw Spanish moss again, near  
Cypress Lake. Light purple weed colors the landscape. Trees  
the light green of springtime, white flowering trees in  
woods. N.C. Out of Laurinburg, the toplet above the stream.  
Oak leaves. Coming back into dogwood. Pines. Luncheon at  
Southern Pines 12 to 1. Land seems very high. Vistas un-  
rolling beneath us. On thru beautiful woods in pale spring  
leafage. Thru Chapel Hill. Bridal wreath. Hot. Playing  
game of questions. Leaves getting smaller and smaller. Red  
bird & doughwood mingle enchantingly. Tobacco under white  
sheets. Rolling, hilly. Danville, Va. Bright pink fruit tree  
trees. Rolling, scenic, Mts. in distance, woods white with  
dogwood. New cabins, white plastered. Slept at Chatham  
(Mrs. Canada) after an awful supper.

Apr. 30. Off at 7:50 A.M. Sunny, cool, perfect weather. Country  
Mon. rolling and beautiful vistas. Fresh white dogwood, red  
wild azalea, linden tree. Dogwood seen deep in the woods,  
like white creatures. Lynchburg - it's like our June.  
Pink trees with big petalled blossoms. No green at all.  
Clifford - charming spot with Mt. views where we stopped  
for drink of fresh water. Patrick Henry's childhood home  
nearby and apple trees and lilacs in bloom. Bright red  
soil - to any depth. Ride to Charlottesville enchanting -  
rolling, winding road - vistas, dogwood like snow on mts.  
Dark blue color of mts. in distance. Those near at hand,  
Dogwood. Ride from Lynchburg to Charlottesville one of the  
loveliest I ever took. Orchards on hillsides. Charlots-  
ville with U. of Virginia and Monticello. .... in a  
church at Orange. On over bad roads and turned back by  
broken bridges, to Warrenton, Barryville and Round Top  
for the night with hospitable Miss Pitts. (Mrs. Hasbrock)  
Scenery with Blue Ridge in distance and apple trees in  
bloom and sunset.

MAY

May 1. Merian says we're getting back into robins." Beautiful  
Fri. winding country roads. Fewer darkies. Less southern ac-  
cent. Over Potomac into Md. Mad Old Potomas which has been  
causing all the trouble. Jefferson, Md. cleanest town in  
world. Frederick B. Frotchie house, small, sweet by a  
stream. Houses like Baltimore, red brick, close to street.  
On thru Md. again. Dandelions yellow on ridges. Over on  
Ridge road again. Went thru Gettysburg Natl. Park and saw  
first Back now on fat Lancaster Co.  
lands. "Are you beginning to get more doubtless (less  
doubtful) about taking me to the Planetarium." Merian.  
Lunch at The German Village, Lancashire. A Menomite com-  
munity. Mennoite and Aereish costumes on the street. Day  
pleasant, cool, ideal for traveling. On thru Pennsylvaniz,  
New Jersey and (after a small accident, nobody hurt) over  
Geo. Washington Bridge and Pelham at 7:25. Foliage thru  
green mist. Fruit trees Mt. looks beautiful.

May 2. Nothing we saw on our vacation looked so beautiful as home  
Sat. last night. Emma had sent over tulips and Helen had picked  
a bouquet of violets. She was waiting in her white uniform  
and all the lights were on. Today we find Pelham at it's  
loveliest. Our forsythia bush is yellow. The magnolia tree  
next door is in full bloom and the ground white with its  
petals. Green leaves out and we were wakened by the singing  
of robins and thrushes. Merian dressed herself and went down-  
stairs, alone. Today Delossy did a million errands and played  
tennis. Emma took mother, Merian and me to market. This  
afternoon mother took Merian to her play, Beauty and The  
Beast, and Roy and Emma came over for highballs. We went  
over to their house tonight for bridge. Stella and Merian  
going to bed early.

May 3. Robins and thrushes to waken us. Merian soon out playing  
Sun. with magnolia petals over to Sterne's garden. Bleeding  
heart, grape hyacinths, myrtensia, primroses, pansies,  
daphne, daffodils, tulips, rock pink, and I don't know what  
all in bloom. Showers with thunder and lightning all day  
and tonight. Helen out. Along in the evening mother made  
us a crumb cake!

May 4. Raining still, stripping the magnolia. Delossy back to work,  
Mon. Merian to school in a cab, Maudie at G from E at 8.37 ex-  
actly. Cleared and rained until evening, when it cleared.  
Moon behind masses of cloud. D & I walked out to movies.

- May 5. Robin sitting on eggs in nest outside our window. First  
Tues. noticed her on Sunday. Bright and beautiful today. A good morning's work. Mother and I walked to school to call for M. and discuss her costume for school play. Vacant lot purple with violets. Mrs. Pendleton drove us home. All of us to New Rochelle this afternoon and Betty Floyd drove us home. A quiet evening.
- May 6. A glamorous intoxicated day. After a morning of work went  
Wed. with Emma, Mother and Merian to buy flowers while Jim spaded up garden spots: Planted lilies of valley, pansies, shasta daisies, a bleeding heart, and in window boxes shasta daisies and geraniums. To Emma's to tea in her garden with Miss Leary. Delossy writing tonight. Blue phlox in Emma's garden.
- May 7. Thrushes always about our lawn. Raining this morning and  
Thurs. cool. But sun came out. boys played tennis - Emma helped us plant garden and mother cooked us a grand dinner.
- May 8. (The Play.) A day warm as midsummer. A.M. work.P.M. took  
Fri. Merian for haircut; Peg Hackney called; evening, mother and I to see Jane Cowel and our friend Diantha Pallinson in "First Lady." Delossy at the fight; home bursting with news.
- May 9. Delossy out early, me breakfasting in bed. Thrushes flitt-  
Sat. ing outside.Temp. reached 90 degrees today. Excessively warm. D. Played tennis. We ate on the porch. He brought me 2 lovely nighties for a birthday present.
- May 10. A lovely day- Merian, mother and all - in Emma's garden.  
Sun. Blue phlox and the magnetic azalea in bloom. Luncheon there. Tonight with a lump in my throat to the Barbizon Plaza.
- Here's to the GENTLEMEN FROM ENGLAND.

- May 11. Changed my room. Out for coffee. To work at about 10:30.  
Mon. Slept more than I wrote. Trust the sub-conscious is working. Day's expenses \$1.20 (Including, of course, 10¢ store purchases.) Buying at 10¢ is my favorite diversion when not working.)
- May 12. Work under way. Occasional walks in Central Park. Azaleas  
Tues. coming into bloom. Variety of persons and costumes stimulating. I enjoy my sallies out to park or street. But nicest memories of day the one when breakfast comes sliding through the door. Expenses today \$2.23
- May 13. View from my window is lovely but I must lean out to see  
Wed. it - misty towers beyond the park. A grand morning. At noon went up to Yacht Lounge on 30th floor. Park so far below like a Japanese print. Rainstorm, with lightning and thunder. Rain continued so violently that I had to dine in. Expenses \$1.56.
- May 14. Clear and colder. Heat on in my little room this morning  
Thurs. when I started work at 7:45. (Breakfast slides thru the door promptly at 7 and I eat it in bed. Delossy came tonight to take me out to dinner. We went to the little Basque cafe and had the most charming time. Expenses \$1.55.
- May 15. Slept late. To work at 9. Heat on these mornings and it  
Fri. feels luxurious. A fairly good day with a long walks towards evening. Expenses \$1.25.

May 16. Breakfast slipped into the door for the last time on this  
Sat. sojourn. I have degenerated and overslept. Time I was going home. Worked from 9 to 12. Then Stella and Merian came. Merian knocked on the door and looked so sweet in red and white dress, red sweater and beret and blue coat. Looked very solemn and said Kanga was writing a book in the room across the hall but she always took Roo with her. (Said also that Kanga's books had not plot; they were all happy - no suspense.) We had lunch and saw the ducks. Then Delos met us and drove us home. Pelham so pretty - our garden up - robins hatched - bridal wreath and lilac in bloom. My bleeding heart doing well. So happy to be back.

May 17. A beautiful restful Sunday. Cool in the morning but later  
Sun. warm enuf so we sat out for hours in the lounge chairs. Merian and I thinned out our radishes, Delos worked about the lawn. The bridal wreath and lilacs are in bloom everywhere. We have bridal wreath and there is lovely white iris next door. Roy over for supper. Stella made us a cake.

May 18. Wrote in morning. Took Merian up to Dr. W. in afternoon.  
Mon. A hot sultry day. Helen met us at New Haven Station at 4 and I went on to N.Y. to dinner with Delos & Rosina and to see Katherine Cornell as St. Joan with Delos and mother. She is my first lady of the stage. The glow on her face.

- May 19. How sweetly the thrush sings for me. Every morning while  
Tues. I work - over and over again he repeats his song. After  
a morning's writing, an afternoon's care of Merian. Stella  
went to see Charlie Chaplin in "Modern Times." a summer  
rain - something pleasant about it. Merian did her play  
for me, taking all the parts. Delossy home early for a straw-  
berry short cake and all early to bed. Nasturtiums up.
- May 20. Cooler today but sunshiny. Merian off to school and me to  
Wed. work at 8:30.
- May 21. A lazy day. After a fairly good morning's work, sat out in  
Thurs. the sun with mother. Betty and Camilla came down and the  
children had ice cream and we all had fun. Tonight Delossy  
took mother and me to the movies. Will Rogers in Connecti-  
cut Yankee. It's lovely outdoors but cold in the house. Have  
I put down Merian's new phrase "and still and all" (in the  
sweetest little singsong voice.)
- May 22. Mother and I to town for a long day's shopping and a little  
Fri. work at the library. I bought a long wanted white coat and  
white hat. Nannine's sister Myrtle very ill, so Nan didn't  
come out. Roy came over tonight and we played bridge and  
chess and drank cocoa by our little electric heater.
- May 23. Sunny, celestial. Bridal wreath in bloom everywhere, iris  
Sat. in gardens-thrushes on the lawns. We had our new lawn table  
outside. Merian playing out while I try to do a little work.  
Mother staying in bed this morning with a touch of grippe.  
Delossy home in the afternoon for tennis & tonight we saw  
a picture that was good fun. Gary Cooper and Marlene  
Dietrich in "Desire."

- May 24. A very hot day. I was pretty miserable with rose fever  
Sun. (not rose, really, but timothy and plantain). and Merian's sneezing would indicate something similar. Blanche came out and we had a good chicken dinner at night. Delossy worked on the book. Merian "Kanga was called to the telephone in the middle of the night. She doesn't wear pajamas. She came to the telephone as naked as a jaybird."
- May 25. Merian's cold taking the bad turn; a little work, for me  
Mon. this morning; nothing much else today.
- May 26. Mother and I to town early (Merian being well enuf to  
Tues. leave) to buy tickets for Victoria Regina, shop and go to Woman Pays. Me to library in afternoon. Reading D. Brandes "Wake Up and Live. Emma home.
- May 27. Work in the morning. Sat with my baby in the sun in  
Wed. afternoon. She's still under the weather. Mother to town to lunch and a talkie with Blanche. Tonight all of us over to Mrs. Dunphy's for a pleasant homey party.
- May 28. Walked to station with Delossy. A fair cool morning. Irises,  
Thurs. and pansies in bloom. Robins and starlings with beaksful of the little green inch worms. So cold we started the furnace. A good morning's work. Mother to town. Emma came over to play with Merian and me. All to bed early tonight.
- May 29. Still cold, altho' the threes are in full leaf and the  
Fri. gardens in their glory. Out shopping for the holiday. Mother and I to town to lunch with Dode. Tonight with Delossy and the Sternes to see "Mr. Deeds Goes To Town" and here for cocoa."

May 30. A quiet lovely day. Delossy played tennis this morning. We  
Sat. worked about in the garden, put in new plants. Emma gave us  
and watered the others. Noon dinner, then Helen departed on  
her holiday. Delossy took us for a ride and we had supper  
with one of mother's cakes.

May 31. Another quiet day with Helen off. Furnace out again. Weather  
Sun. glorious but one needs to sit in the sun. This afternoon  
we took Merian to her first full length talking picture -  
The Dionne Quintuplets in "The Country Doctor." She didn't  
love it as she does stage plays. Snowballs in bloom every-  
where - so white and luscious.

JUNE

- June 1. A poor morning's work, but our tunky back to school which  
Mon. made me happy. After lunch Merian and Laurie helped me  
market. Then Emma took mother and me on some errands. She  
bought a rhododendrum plant and some harebell for her  
garden. Day warm and summery. All winter I've been read-  
ing (off and on) The Greek Way. Must read the dialogues -  
don't forget.
- June 2. Warm and lovely again. Stella took Merian's costume to  
Tues. school - the kindergarten looks like a carnival. I market-  
ed before going to work and am starting to write at 9.30.  
Emma spent the afternoon with mother and me, a pleasant  
time. Delossy working tonight.
- June 3. A sore throat has been pursuing us and has caught up with  
Wed. me. I wrote this morning, loafed this afternoon, and to  
bed early tonight. Our garden doing quite well - radishes,  
onions, lettuce and nasturtiums up the highest.
- June 4. A great day in the Lovelace family! Merian awake by 6.  
Thurs. Delossy hated to go to work but couldn't help it and mother  
and I went up to the school at 10 to see the play "about a  
Bee." Merian was adorable in her blue peasant costume with  
white fichu. Cindy looked like a little Dresden doll. The  
six little girls went through their dance so sweetly and  
Merian's eyes were like stars when they whirled. She could-  
n't bear to take her gaze away from us. She was so pleased  
that we were there. She spoke out of turn once, calling out  
to Edwin Baker when he hesitated, "Get up, Shail." Delossy  
and Roy playing chess tonight while I laugh over "Around  
the world in Eleven years."

June 5. Mother and I to town for a successful day's shopping.

Fri.

Over to see Roy and Emma, Mary and Laurie tonight. Emma's garden in the twilight with thrushes singing.

June 6. The Fowlers and Dale came - at 3.00 this afternoon -

Sat.

mother still in a housedress after baking, I still in a robe after shampooing, Merian still in overalls. They drove up with Delossy and surprised us. A beautiful day. Cool, sunny, roses in bloom everywhere - even on our little bush. Emma brought over mock orange blossoms for our vases. A grand visit and good dinner and early to bed. Mother is sleeping at Emma's.

June 7. To the Zoo this morning; Merian sick but enchanted.

Sun.

Rhododendrons in bloom. Before we left zoo, she was quite ill, and slept all afternoon. A fine Sunday dinner at 1:30. Then the boys to a ballgame while mother made a cake for tomorrow. A snatch at Sunday night lunch and they were off to town to hear a broadcast. Bats here with us to lunch. Perfect weather and Fowler's visit - so far - perfect. Delossy put up Merian's sandbox.

June 8. Our tunky quite ill so I am staying at home but family took  
Mon.

the boat trip round the island. Later Frank and Delos took a sail with Ann and Babs. All of us to Sterne's to a barbecue dinner. It was lovely. A perfect evening. Roses and columbine in bloom in Emma's garden. Ate out of doors in light clothes. So happy but wished for Daddy.

- June 9. Merian so ill I didn't go to town, as planned, to bat  
Tues. with mother and Merian. They had a fine time - lunch at Wannamakers, a bus ride, the planetarium. I joined them all in town at the Eiffel Tower for dinner. Frank and Dale much amused at the little sidewalk cafe and French dinner. To see Helen Hayes in "Victorian Regime" - her impersonation splendid.
- June 10. Merian wants me to put in an account of the goose the  
Wed. Fowlers saw being led on a leash in N.Y. yesterday. Today the Fowlers, Dale and Mother left us. Emma brought mother flowers. The day a whirl of packing and leave taking. Merian ill and couldn't go to Cindy's party. I had a sore throat. Hard to part with mother but they are having the loveliest trip - Cape Cod, Boston, Maine, N.H. and Vt.
- June 11. Delossy, Merian and I alone again. Merian better. House  
Thurs. seems quiet and I put in the morning settling. Met Emma and Ann when I was marketing. They brought me home. Emma off to Smith tonight to speak. To town in my new tan dress and white coat and hat to tea at Cogginses and dinner with Foxes and the Jimmy Fidlers of Hollywood. Rain tonight. Our garden needs it. Merian much, much better.

- June 12. Landon nominated. Out early to market as Roy and perhaps Roger Hackney are coming to dinner tonight. Still overcast. World drenched, looks refreshed. I am getting to work late but must get to work hard. 9, exactly. Helen's Eddie who is a stair builder (and loves his work) was injured today. A machine on which he was working went wrong and jammed a board into his stomach. Helen went down to the hospital at once and later telephoned me that his condition was very serious. They were performing an emergency operation - and she would not be back tonight. I am so sorry for her. Roy here for dinner. After a fair day it started raining again.
- June 13. And poured heavily all night. And all day today. The rain was badly needed. Helen at the hospital all day. Merian helped me with the housework and even gas quiet while I wrote. Delossy home for afternoon. Helen back tonight.
- June 14. And still pouring today. Pouring just doesn't describe it. The rain is beating down in a great flood. A card from mother yesterday describes a cabin they found just outside of Provincetown, right on the ocean, a fine place - so charming. I am so glad and hope this rain doesn't extend to Massachusetts. The three of us had a most restful homey day. Delossy reading Arctic Adventure. Heard a Wagnerian concert on the radio and played with Merian.

- June 15. An excellent morning's work - thank God! Spasmodic showers all day. After lunch to New Rochelle with Emma. Emma and Roy over to play bridge tonight. The postman tonight beamingly delivered our bonus. Delossy's that is. It goes for most prosaic purposes - to pay old debts, buy furnace for Minnetonka, etc. Yet it was a thrill to get it. After rain stopped tonight, how the thrushes sang! Fireflies in the moist dark.
- June 16. Honeysuckle over our door in bloom. Sunny. Merian out Tues. walking with Helen and Joan, the "new little girl next door." This afternoon she and I (she reluctantly) received Laurie, Teddie, Jacqueline and Joan, while Helen was at the hospital. I meant to go to town early but Helen delayed me and I went straight to Miss Jessie's for dinner. D's going abroad with Jane Cowel. To see Ina Claire in "End of summer", which was slow-moving, but delightful, we thought. I always adore the brilliant Ina with her metallic brilliant voice. Coming home tonight, how sweet the roses smelled in the lawns along our street.
- June 17. Sunny again. A good morning's work (the book is coming on Wed. slowly, thought.) and this afternoon Emma and Lois (Amelia's little girl) came over for tea. Lois read "Mary Poppins Comes Back" aloud to Merian and Joan.

- June 18. Rained spasmodically during the day. Merian to school  
Thurs. to her picnic which went off nicely. This afternoon she and I alone - played school Merian drew "Kanga graduating from Smith College" (in a white dress and sash) and "Roo making his first communion." One of her favorite subjects. Delossy home for a quiet early dinner and Sternes over for bridge. What persistently overcast skies.
- June 19. Still overcast this morning but thrushes singing. I  
Fri. think it is going to clear. I took Merian up for her last day of school. Confusion reminiscent of my childhood. M. not very well, I was glad when Miss D - said I might take her home. Emma drove me up to N.R. to deposit our bonus bonds. Except for that I had a quiet day. My Delossy brought me home a lovely wrist watch. I was so happy with it and he so happy to give it. Writing tonight. Stopped (for D's sake) to listen to Louis-Schmeling fight. Louis won.
- June 20. And still overcast! So sorry, as Irmengarde and Paul are  
Sat. coming out. But it cleared. I had a good morning's work, then M. and I walked out to meet them. Roses in thick bloom along railroad tracks in Pelham. Honeysuckle in blossom. Paul so good-looking and he and M. had fun together. Lois came over too. A chicken dinner with children eating at small table. Thought they had a great joke when they put a placard on our table saying Bad People and one on their table saying good pable. Exhausted when they went. Delossy in a men's bridge game.

- June 21. I just heard Merian say to Delos in the bathroom. "Do  
Sun. you know what Roo's daddy did? He made all the furni-  
and June 22. ture in Roo's room. And there was an upholstered chair;  
Mon. an upholstered chair, mind you!" We had a terrific elec-  
tric storm in the night. I never heard before such giant  
claps of thunder. Sultry warm and sunny today. The first  
radishes from Merian's garden were served to us in style  
tonight for dinner. Tiger lilies blooming in our garden  
and the roses of every kind all over Pelham are a del-  
light. Delossy tired and to bed at 7 after a little smoke  
and rest on the porch. I worked. Barbara Sterne here to  
stay all night.
- June 23. To work early and a splendid morning's work. The day cool  
Tues. the sun in and out. Put Merian into her peasant costume  
and Emma brought her and Cindy wooden shoes. But by the  
time Mrs. P. and Cindy arrived it was rather overcast.  
Doubt if our pictures will be good. Was terribly tired  
tonight and to bed early. Delossy reading Vincent Sheean's  
San Felice.
- June 24. Raining again today. Tiger lily (second one) in bloom.  
Wed. A glorious morning's work. Helen off this afternoon.  
Laurie over. Then Myra and Emma for tea. And this even-  
ing Newsoms for bridge. Merian at her best for them all.  
Told Myra all about Amelia's operations. Told Fritzi that  
she was designing scenery for a play about Mary Poppins.

June 25. Fair today. I woke with a headache but am getting to work  
Thurs.  
about 10. The afternoon mending on the porch, Merian  
quarreling with Laurie and Teddy in the sandbox. The even-  
ing with Emma at the Stadium. Iturbi conducting an all-  
Beethoven program. Albert Spalding soloist. It was beau-  
tiful music - especially 2nd movement of 2nd symphony.  
Colorful ampitheatre, blue, blue sky with stars emerging,  
Iturbi and Spalding trim and remote in white suits, Emma  
and I drinking beer in the intermission.

June 26. A grand morning's work and a glorious day as Merian played  
Fri.  
happily and absorbedly all day with Joan and part of the  
time with Laurie also. Mrs. Shoher asked Merian to have  
lunch with Joan and served it to them at a little table  
out of doors. They played house, rode about in wagons  
and trikes, went to town for ice cream and goodness knows  
what all. Turned warm - Merian into her sunsuit. Delossy  
and I to the talkies tonight.

June 27. Delos to pick up Jinnie at 8:00 in front of Pelham arms.  
Sat.  
Our warm weather changed into overcast showery weather.  
Delos home at 3 looking for tennis - had some between  
showers. Ann brought over some beautiful roses for our  
party for Myra - I shopped for prizes and odd things.  
Cleared about 6, the birds sang and the sky was blue  
again. Our party.

June 28. Delossy played tennis this morning and I worked. This Sun. afternoon we drove in with Merian to call on Miss Jessie Home for a quiet supper and Major Bowes. Rain in the early afternoon. Last night I congratulated Merian on her excellent behaviour and she said, "Yes, but I think I reached my peak at Emma's party." (Emma's farewell for us before we went south.)

June 29. Merian and Joan played together all day, lunched to- Mon. gether. I could hear them as I wrote. This afternoon I played with them a while. A perfect day - sunny, cool, Shober's bank covered with red and pink roses, thrushes about. Tonight to the Stadium concert with Betty Floyd. Drove in with Emma and a party. Scudding dark clouds while we listened to the music. Harold Bauer, soloist.

June 30. A poor morning's work. After lunch, to the village with Tues. Merian. Betty and Camila here when I returned. We had a pleasant time and when it rained the four of us squeezed in on the porch. Summer showers all day. The roses in Pelham are lovely. They use them for borders on the lawns. Roy and Emma over for bridge tonight. Still very cold. Our electric heater running.

JULY

July 1. Weather changed which pleases us as we do want it warm for  
Wed. the fourth. Sunny and lovely today. "My joy and my love,  
My honey also, Her name is Miss Mary, And Laurie's my foe."  
Merian has composed this song and sings it with fervor all  
over the house. Sometimes Joan accompanies her with "Rock  
abye baby." Mrs. Shober and Mrs. Bartnett to tea on the  
lawn. Delos and I quiet tonight.

July 2. It is sunny but so cool. I tremble for the expedition to  
Thurs. Quogue tomorrow. Today, however, turned off beautifully  
warm. (Showers predicted for tomorrow.) Work this morning;  
Mt. Vernon, shopping, this afternoon, work tonight. Finished  
Chapter 1, Book 2. Birds about these days are robins,  
thrushes, flickers, Wild flowers, Tiger lilies, Queen  
Anne's lace. Tame flowers, honeysuckle, roses, everywhere.  
Horse chestnut trees also in bloom all over Pelham, have  
been for sometime.

July 3. Such an anxious breakfast. Skies overcast. Trying to get  
Fri. a weather report on the radio. Never mind! If it rains  
we'll have a good time anyway. Got off on 2.22 from Pel-  
ham. (Emma gave Merian a frog.) Met Delos at Penn Sta.  
Merian so excited and worrying. Ride into L.I. country so  
familiar to Delos and me. Sand, 2nd growth timber, like  
Northern Minnesota. Cooper house old fashioned, clean and  
sweet. Walked down to surf before supper. Sky, sea pale  
mauve, fine white sand. After supper D & M. walking, play-  
ing ball. Sky pink-flushed clouds, Flowers, a field of wild  
tiger lilies. Characteric grey shingle houses.

- July 4. Slept well on hard beds. At the beach all day. Tonight  
Sat. took Merian up from her bed to let her see the fireworks.  
Roman candles, pin wheels, etc. against the dark sky.  
Divine weather.
- July 5. Raining this morning. We sat on veranda of hotel and ex-  
Sun. changed weather prophecies while children under umbrellas  
dashed for Sunday papers and Catholics for church. Clear-  
ed about noon. And after our big Sunday dinner sun came  
out - the weather was divine. We went to the beach and  
Delos and Merian had such fun. Played continuously in the  
surf. I sat and watched the creamy surf breaking. Saw a  
big ship go by in majesty, grow smaller, smaller, dis-  
appear. We stayed on beach until 5, then supper and taxi  
to the train. Didn't get home till 11. Merian just barely  
awake. So good and so happy! It was a most satisfactory  
vacation.
- July 6. Morning went with unpacking and paying bills, etc. Yard  
Mon. full of children all day. Merian telling Laurie about  
Merian Corner - how he could be admitted only by invi-  
tation delivered by writing room duck. Such a beautiful  
letter from mother - I'm saving it.
- July 7. A very good morning. This afternoon Miss Leary of the Pel-  
Tues. ham Sun to interview me. Then she and I and Merian to  
Emma's garden for a Mint Julep. A perfect summer day. The  
heat seems to be holding off indefinitely. Garden so love-  
ly with rhododendron in bloom - roses, tiger lilies. Merian  
and I met Delos at the train. He and I to bed early.

July 8. An interrupted morning - we left at 11.41 for the zoo.  
Wed.

The first hot weather of the season arrived at the same moment. Met. Irmengarde and Paul at the Zoo. Cafeteria and had a pleasant tho hot time. At home went with Delossy to Sternes and were pressed into a suddenly organized dinner party. Our pork chops fed the children and we arrived late to drink mint Juleps in the garden and eat their steak and sherbet. Evening of politics.

July 9. Warm again this morning. Merian in overalls, I in the dark  
Thurs. silk robe Delossy gave me for my birthday and naught else.

To work at 8 a.m. Day broke seasons records, reaching 101. This evening D and I sat on the lawn. Trees olive green against blue sky. Very still, fireflies passing and re-passing. About 8 (EST) sky still blue with scattered white clouds but dim, a few stars appearing. Later many stars in a dark sky. A heavenly breeze sprang up.

July 10. Another day of heat. Emma took Merian and Helen to the  
Fri. beach and I had a fine morning's work. This afternoon I

went out to shop and the cement sidewalks threw up a stifling heat. I ended my expedition at Emma's. This evening Delos took Merian and me to the library. I'm brushing up on astrology. A thunder shower before we went to bed.

July 11. Hot again today. I'm writing in my dark blue silk robe and  
Sat. nothing else! Emma took H & M. to the beach again. This

afternoon tennis and errands. Tonight to Sternes for bridge. Emma said Merian said to her, "Emma, it is useless for you to come for me tomorrow, for there won't be anyone home but Helen."

July 12. A beautiful day on Bert Allen's beach - the big boats  
Sun. and sailing vessels going by and sky and water powder  
blue. Picnicked and swam and enjoyed lovely home. Com-  
ing home, D. M & I had a contest singing the song Mer-  
ian invented for the last day of school: "Now for trips  
to Glen Island - And trips to the fair. Soon we'll be  
lolloping - Free in the air..." M. Said, "Don't make  
your voice so sympathetic, make it high and girlish,"  
To Sternes for peach ice cream and angel food cake,  
over which we planned a trip to Montauk.

July 13. Cooler. Working this morning uptown. With Merian this  
Mon. afternoon. To movie with Delossy this evening, H.G.  
Wells - "Things to Come". Our Shasta daisies tall and  
white everywhere and the rest of our plantings not doing  
so good. Merian has taken to shortening names "It is  
"Yes Mom," "Yes Dad," "No, Hel'". "Hello, Laur." etc.  
It's awfully funny and cute.

July 14. Helen watering down our garden this morning, Merian and  
Tues. I picking yellow leaves from nasturtiums, otherwise  
trying to resuscitate things. To work at 8.30. Warmer.  
When I stopped work, found work from Emma that I was to  
go there for lunch. (John has taken Helen and Merian to  
beach). We ate in the garden - Garden so lovely with  
lilies and phlox. Delossy home early and about 7 a  
terrific down pour of rain, which changed to hail. Streets  
ran rivers, lawns and gardens drenched, world black as  
night, electricity put out of kilter, When storm ended  
about 8 grew light again. Sun still golden above our  
hill and world luminous.

July 15. A warmish but pleasant sunny day. Poor morning's work -  
Wed.

shampoo, shopping with Merian, supervising M, Laurie and Joan. Delossy home (acting City Editor as Bart on vacation.) he napped. Dinner. Then we to the theatre to see "On Your Toes."

July 16. Seems decidedly cooler this morning. I am glad for the  
Thurs.

world but sorry for us as we are planning an expedition to Montauk on Saturday. Merian is tanned darker than her hair. Her eyes, look so round and blue. She looks sturdy, is growing fast. How I wish we could keep her like this in the winter time. A terribly poor morning trying it again at 10:30. Sterne's dropped in tonight to talk about Montauk.

July 17. A headache! It delayed my start at the writing until noon  
Fri.

but now it is going well. This is another perfect day, sunny, gently warm. Merian is singing as she digs outside my window. Chapter finished P.M. Emma and I on a shopping tour in preparations for tomorrow. Tonight the Floyds over for bridge. A merry time. Emma brought Merian 3 zinnia plants which we promptly put into the garden. Ciddy has scarlet fever. I am taking her some little gifts from Merian.

July 18. Rain spattering. A discouraging outlook for the trip, but  
Sat. we are making ready. And what good luck we have had about our weekends this year. It cleared. Delos caught the 1.17 and we and the Sternes caught the 20'c New Rochelle ferry. A beautiful hour's trip - bright waves. Then a three hours ride to Montauk from Riverhead on so familiar. Montauk reminds me of Cape Cod - sandy hills, thick growths of barberry, wild roses, milk weed, elderberry, etc. Engels met us and took us to our boarding house, a cottage directly facing the ocean. We went immediately to the beach, a beautiful white sand beach with surf like soapsuds. We had a picnic supper with a driftwood fire. Sent indoors by a spatter of rain. Can see the sea from our window.

July 19. So Merian informed us when she came to our bed at 6. She  
Sun. colored while we napped another hour. Then a party went swimming before breakfast. After breakfast to Engels, The men played tennis and Kay took us out to the lighthouse. It was the loveliest sight of the trip. A sheer drop from a great height to crashing surf. A fisherman, naked to the waist, far far below, a few bathers and the Atlantic stretching out uninterrupted to Spain. A grand picnic with Engels on our beach. Cocktails first. A fire. Started for home at 5:30 and caught the 9 o'c ferry by a hair. Sun-burned fearfully and happy.

- July 20. Overcast all day and with a hard rain in the afternoon.  
Mon. Our phlox is in bloom. Work this morning, cleaning shelves and drawers with Merian for company this afternoon - to the Library and Bartnetts with Delos and Merian this evening and reading Trollope's "Dr. Thorne" after Delosy asleep.
- July 21. Party with Locridges went off beautifully. Delos beat  
Tues. Dick at tennis; Francis made us Tom Collinses. Merian passed canapes with eclat. Helen's dinner was delicious and the talk was good.
- July 22. A fair morning's work but the book is going too slowly.  
Wed. This afternoon Helen was out. Merian and I on the lawn. It was warm for a while but on the whole the weather is cool. And such scorching heat in the middle west. I wanted to preserve F. Lockridge's story about the unmarried mother of an adopted baby who brought to adoption agency thousands of dollars worth of beautiful old jewelry which had been her grandmother's. She wanted her daughter to have it. Parents were consulted and refused to take the jewelry. Mother refused to take it back, so agency still has it in a safe at some bank.
- July 23. At 7:15 cloudy and cool. A fair morning's work. Met  
Thurs. Hasselbalches, Mrs. Mason and Delosy at Hotel Taft at 5:30. Our problem as to where to take them solved by Sun night club man. The management of the lovely Essex Hotel would take no money from the Acting City Editor of the Sun so we dined and wined and danced in style. After parting with Hs, called on Miss Jessie and rode with her to Grand Central.

- July 24. A headache but it improved and I wrote. Merian and I on Fri. the lawn this afternoon and out in the car with Delossy tonight to the library, etc. I'm reading "Gone With The Wind" a gorgeous colorful tale.
- July 25. Today (altho only about half thru book in finished copy) Sat. began to type final version of book one. This afternoon Delossy, Roy, Clark and Penny plaing tennis. Emma, Irmengarde and I went roaming - finally to Emma's garden and Cogginses and Mint Juleps arrived. Cy's story about Irene and the flit. Garden beautiful - phlox in bloom. We had supper there. Party in hnor of Irmengard who begins new job tomorrow. Paul in camp.
- July 26. Swimming with Dunphys at Westchester Beach Club. A beautiful Sun. day. White sails on a deep blue water. We lunched in bathing suits at outdoor cafeteria. It was fun. And our baby actually swam and floated - kept herself up with and without kicks. Roy and Emma here to supper. An important letter written to Coop. Autumnal feeling in air and Merian had a touch of her trouble.
- July 27. Book 2 Final chapter. A frightfully bad day. To dinner Mon. tonight with Bartnetts on Veranda of Wykagill. Lush shady summer trees in twilight, a moon in a yellow mist. Merian showed a trace of her trouble again tonight when evening chill came on. It is so perplexing.

- July 28. Today the work went better. Delossy brought home tickets  
Tues. to symphony concert at the Stadium and as he was too tired to go, poor darling, I took Emma. It was a lovely program with last night's moon in an almost cloudless sky. Ceasar Franch's Symphony and then the Bach concerto for 4 pianos with Iturbi (who also conducted) Rudolph Ganz, Bauer and Leintski.
- July 29. In bed with a headache until afternoon. To Main Street  
Wed. with Merian and picked up Joan and Mrs. Shober. While Delossy played tennis I to Emma's garden for a Tom Collins with Lewis, Annie Davidell and some others. Phlox in bloom, against rich background of ferns and other greenery. Delossy and I early to bed.
- July 30. A good morning - fairly. After lunch, Helen to town,  
Thurs. Merian and I to market. Delossy home early. Green corn for supper. A ride. Evenings have a hint of autumn. Gave Merian a capsule tonight - can't make out whether the autumnal fog or the swim last Sunday is to blame. Zinnias, phlox in bloom everywhere, We have one thrush almost tame - he perches on our chairs.
- July 31. 7 a.m. Sky dappled blue and white beyond tall trees in  
Fri. full leaf. An excellent morning altho spent in rewriting Chapter two; needed to be done, tho. Wrote later, so a short afternoon. Merian playing "Caravan" out of Wind in the Willows. Delossy home early to take us to dry cleaners & he and I to early show of Nero Wolfe. Merian's breathing thickens up every night. Can it be the fall in the air - or what!

AUGUST

- Aug. 1. Delossy playing tennis this afternoon with Roy, Perry  
Sat. and Clark. Tonight Roy and Emma came over for bridge.  
A highly amusing session and a lunch at midnight. Mer-  
ian, pretending to read aloud from imaginary book.  
"Chapter Two. How Peggy learned to float."
- Aug. 2. Helen brought us our breakfast at 7:30 and by 9 we were  
Sun. at the gates of Playland. We stayed until 10:30 only -  
at that time the crowd began to come - but at first it  
was heavenly. High tide, sea and sky mauve, and swam.  
This afternoon Helen off and the three Lovelaces loafed.  
Drove by Sterne's and Delos honked and asked for a de-  
tective story. They didn't have any and when we got  
home Delos wired them, "Henceforth, have detective  
stories." We went to bed shortly after that and this  
morning, Monday, Aug. 3 find a detective story at the  
front door.
- Aug. 3. Hot again today, but I like it. Book lagging. Lawn full  
Mon. of children - Laurie, Teddy, Joan, Jacqueline. Joan  
adds to the excitement by hitting Teddy with a rock.  
Laurie brings Merian a Dixie cup. Delossy went out to  
Sternes tonight so that I could write but I haven't  
accomplished much.
- Aug. 4. Delossy took me in to the Stadium concert tonight, but  
Tues. we could only stay until the intermission. The concert  
was beautiful. Two Mozart numbers. Driving home we  
talked about the book and then over beer (Maud) and milk  
(Delos) talked some more.

- Aug. 5. About suppertime tonight Merian threw this bombshell.  
Wed. She wanted to go to call on Laurie. She said, "I've never seen the inside of his house." After supper I brushed her up a bit and let her go: Joan went along; they had a glorious time and Laurie ran back to ask permission to buy them Dixie cups. Now Merian wants to call at every home in the block! Growing up!
- Aug. 6. Pouring rain this morning. Water washing blackly down  
Thurs. our roof, singing through the trees. Delossy took a cab to the station. Merian was going down to Laurie's but can't, for the present.
- Aug. 7. A harrid day. A good morning's work but afterwards  
Fri. rushed up to New Rochelle to have Merian's picture taken, rushed back to help Helen Crane Norton house hunt in Pelham, tea at our house, dinner, then out with Delos to call on Sternes (Mrs. Gussin there) and a trip to San Francisco ended in an evening at Newsoms. Phlox in Emma's garden, lilies.
- Aug. 8. In bed all day with a headache. On with excursion out  
Sat. with Emma for a bromo seltzer which didn't help. Had to break engagement with Sternes tonight and Delossy went with Roy to a picture. Sleeping under a blanket. It's coolish morning and night.

Aug. 9. We and Sternes took a picnic to Helm's at Ridgefield.

Sun.

They have moved into the dearest house, over a hundred years old, rock fence around their acre, a little narrow porch with a view. White phlox blooming beside the door (we must have white phlox next year) wild sweet pea in bloom. Tiger lilies. And in Jean's garden tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber, green beans. Water lilies on the mill pond. A big red sun going home. A lovely, lovely day.

Aug. 10. A beautiful day. I marketed before starting to work and

Mon.

enjoyed the blue balmy air. A fair morning's work. This afternoon Merian and I went over to sit in Emma's garden. The phlox in bloom - white, blue, pink and lavender. I love the white phlox best of all. This evening Delos and I out to see "San Francisco" - Clark Gable and Jeanette Macdonald. It's grand melodrama and such good songs!

Aug. 11. A pretty good morning and this afternoon a few of my

Tues.

neighbors in to tea. Mrs. Dunphy, Mrs. Bosley and the two Mrs. Shobers with, of course, the children. The four children had ice cream on the lawn and the rest of us talked water and gas bills over tea and muffins. Delos played tennis with Eddie Dooley. A cool perfect day. A quiet evening listening to the Sinfonietta.

Aug. 12. The book - the lawn - Mr. and Mrs. Bartnett for a

Wed.

chicken dinner and a round of bridge, Tom Collinse - summer. Three zinnias make a garden (whether or not one swallow makes a summer.)

- Aug. 13. A grand morning's work, lasting to after 1. This after-  
Thurs. noon I darned and mended on the porch while Merian played, sometimes with Joan (Mommie and Daddie) sometimes with me (chick and duck). When Delossy got home we rode to the tennis court and watched him play tennis. Thin pyramids, uneven, of hot white cloud edged with gold in a hot blue misty sky. Hot today and hotter tomorrow.
- Aug. 14. Milkman says hot today but when I let Delos out the door  
Fri. at 7 it doesn't seem hot. Just morning fresh. It was hot, however. Helen planned a little party for Merian - Laurie, Joan and Camilla in for supper - and I went to town, riding in with Mrs. Bosley. Tea with Miss Jessie (fun over Tales in the Vienna Woods); dinner at the Gripsholm with the Haycrofts. A really charming day and home in a shower. Merian's proofs are splendid.
- Aug. 15. Overcast - sultry - hot. Squirrels dropping shells on  
Sat. the roof of porch outside my window. Squirrels running stealthily thru the trees. Vacant lots big bouquets of Queen Anne's lace, yellow daisies and golden rod. Garden bright with zinnias, phlox, petunias, gallardia. Delossy played tennis this afternoon. I mailed Merian's picture to mother. Tonight such a pleasant party at Sternes. Tom Collinses in the garden before dinner. Irmengarde and Mrs. Gussin there.

- Aug. 16. This morning while Delossy played tennis again, I went  
Sun. to Emma's garden for second coffee. A very pleasant time. Then after lunch we drove up to Grahams at Ridgefield. The Helms, the Bartnetts, the Lovelaces with innumerable Grahams. Highballs on the porch, then a real country dinner with 3 kinds of dessert. Very warm today. Trees lush and green.
- Aug. 17. A poor morning's work and to town for Mother's birthday  
Mon. presents. Besides Merian's picture we are sending a small percolator, a darling individual breakfast service and "Gone With The Wind". Met Delossy to ride home on 7:30 train. Excessively warm today but a heavy shower in New York (it didn't touch Pelham) cleared the air somewhat.
- Aug. 18. Laurie, Merian and I took Delos to the train and took a  
Tues. walk. Cool and lovely weather. Vacant lot full of Queen Anne's lace, goldenrod and New England aster, the last named strikingly vivid and beautiful. A little work, then this afternoon up on our wild hillside with Merian. Seedling oaks and all sorts of wild shrubs and plants. Mending. Summer peace.
- Aug. 19. Helen's afternoon off. Merian and I up on our wild hill-  
Wed. side and out on the lawn with the children. Roy and Emma over for bridge tonight. The boys drove out for hamburgers and we had beer and milk and a very foolish nice time.

- Aug. 20. Delossy's late hours play hob with my work, so Helen took  
Thurs. Merian and Joan out to the park after lunch and I had a pretty good day. Mrs. Bosley invited Merian and I down for the late afternoon and ice cream as the day was very humid and warm. Delossy home at 8 after Merian tucked in.
- Aug. 21. Thinking of mother all day. Helen took Merian in to the  
Fri. park again, so I could write and I had a good day. Put Merian down with an hour for bath and story which is always fun and Delossy in at 8. I walked up to Sterne's in a misty rain to get him a detective story.
- Aug. 22. Delossy at home until noon, so I got to work late (but we  
Sat. had done the marketing in the car at Mt. Vernon - chicken, peas, melons, grapes, peaches at such bargains.) an excellent afternoon's work. Then washed my hair and M. and I went over to Emma's. Sternes since 7.55 had been awaiting A wire which would tell them either to come or not to come somewhere. It said not to come, so they came over here for plain cake, coffee and bridge.
- Aug. 23. Breakfasting in bed, 7 to 8, observe an overcast and foggy,  
Sun. fallish morning. Mist and a half rain as we start off to Lockridges for the day. Mist hanging above the lakes. Trees grey and cloudy looking. Cleared sufficiently for tennis during the day, but towards evening an electric storm. Lightning in jagged lines; crashes of thunder, the east, a streak of light, below clouds; the west, black as pitch. Then rain in a great downpour, & wind - trees wildly swaying, frantically. Notes on drive yesterday. A few old trees colored. Goldenrod and Joe pye weed predominant on roadside. A few birds - robins, thrushes and wee black and white ones. On the whole it was a misty, misty day. Landscape grey and clouded.

- Aug. 24. A very hot day. Merian to New Rochelle for shoes. A  
Mon. letter from Coop and one from mother telling of her pleasure in the things we sent for her birthday. I walked up to the train to meet Delos tonight. 7 o'clock. real time. Street lights just coming on. Sky grey gold with a half moon like a half slice of lemon in the sky.
- Aug. 25. Writing A.M. Emma and I to call on Irma Pendleton and  
Tues. her baby., p.m. in the evening.
- Aug. 26. To town with Delos to shop and to lunch with Howard Hay-  
Wed. croft and Mrs. Eisele, a Minnesota country woman who is here as a result of winning a prize from Country Home. A real person. Nan out to dinner tonight. Emma joined us for Tom Collinses first. Overcast and even rainy this morning but warm and pleasant later. Merian went almost to the A. & P. alone today.
- Aug. 27. Cold today. Writing in a sweater. Merian escorted Nan  
Thurs. Delos to the station. This afternoon, Helen off duty, Merian and I to town to shop for her. Bought her her whole fall wardrobe and had tea at Schraffts. A lovely day. Merian both good and good company. She begged to stay up until Delossy came (we preceded him home by an hour) then put herself to bed.
- Aug. 28. To town, riding in with Emma, bought a fall coat and did  
Fri. lots of other shopping. Chilly enuf so that the coat was welcome before the day was over. Met Delossy at the Aster and out for dinner. His cold no better. We saw Dead End, a fine photographic play, sharply pointed, of boy life in a New York slum. Home in a rain.

- Aug. 29. Rain which developed into a downpour. Cold when rain  
Sat. stopped. Bridge at Sternes tonight.
- Aug. 30. We had given up the idea of picnicking at Sterne's new  
Sun. farm but this morning was sunshiny. Delos played tennis  
and then we decided suddenly to go. The farm - near  
Wilton, Connecticut, is charming. Clouds profuse yes-  
terday above the swaying tops of their own trees. They  
have a spring and the resulting brook. Home with sunset  
touching the edges of the clouds and a full moon.
- Aug. 31. To work again. An excellent morning's work after my poor  
Mon. week last week. In the afternoon Merian and I strolled  
up to Emma's and spent an hour in her deserted garden.  
Phlox, lilies, summer roses, ageratum, so many other  
flowers I don't know. Fair today but growing very cold  
and autumnal tonight as Delossy writes Sun Rays and I  
listen to a string symphony on the radio.

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 1. Merian lost her first tooth today. After I finished my  
Tues. morning's work (a good one) I took her up to New Rochelle and Dr. Stafford ripped it out. The new one full grown stands behind it. Another quiet evening with Delossy - listening to the radio and thinking about the book. Merian asleep with the tooth under her pillow. She developed slight symptoms of a cold tonight and has been doctored up.
- Sept. 2. Merian all excitement because the tooth turned into a  
Wed. dime. Her cold better but still very much with her. Helen built a fire in the furnace - the weather was so foggy, cold and damp. Helen took afternoon off and I got supper. A quiet evening thinking book.
- Sept. 3. Merian in bed all day with her cold. I worked until 3 -  
Thurs. both Delos and I are in a trance about the book. In the late afternoon drove down to the ball park with Emma. Day warmed into something quite pleasant. Delossy and I quiet again tonight.
- Sept. 4. Gentlemen From England this morning. This afternoon to  
Fri. town for our final fling before delivering first half of mss. Had dinner at Mrs. Gerson's - saw, "Boy Meets" and enjoyed selves.
- Sept. 5. Gentlemen from England - called Emma to say goodbye until  
Sat. next Thursday - had a lovely special from mother, but it is sad how men and women of her generation are dropping off one by one and almost every letter brings the news of the death of some old friend. Merian up today, lively as a cricket.

- Sept. 6. Gentlemen From England. Katie's birthday. And such a  
Sun. grand day of work. Dunphys called us in for a cocktail in honor of Mrs. Dunphy's birthday. Merian all well - at the park with Helen.
- Sept. 7. Gentlemen from England. Delos (writing downstairs while  
Mon. I work upstairs) says it reminds him of the old free lancing days. Only then we didn't have Merian chattering and flying about. Weather summerlike. White clothes suitable. Late garden flowers still in bloom. Sternes brought me an armful of goldenrod, asters, thistles and Joe Pye weed.
- Sept. 8. To school with Merian, who wore a plaid dress, blue jacket  
Tues. and beret, and looked sweet. Then back to work on Gentlemen from England. The robins are back - in a flock on Shober's lawn. Stretched out in the beach chair on the lawn after my hard day's work - is there anything more peaceful or mysterious than the stirring of treetops? Merian and Joan, are acting out a movie "The Claims of Irish" - Merian's title. Weather humid.
- Sept. 9. The pre-first grade group is to meet in the afternoon,  
Wed. so Merian playing with Joan this morning while I work, work, work. Delos and I both worked until 10:30 o'clock last night.
- Sept. 10. Merian up to Dr. Wightman for a pain in her tummy. Emma  
Thurs. drove us. He found her in good shape - she weighs 49½ lbs. He began the whooping cough inoculations. By night (she went to school this afternoon) her arms were pretty sore. An extension of time on first half of book to next Tuesday. Writing like mad.

- Sept. 11. Merian sick today - frowning up and temp. It was Helen's  
Fri. birthday, and she left at 2 or so for her festivities, having liked her presents from us. Gentlemen from England - Gentlemen from England. Delos playing cards at Sternes.
- Sept. 12. Gentlemen from England when the writing goes well - as  
Sat. these days - I think nothing in the world is quite so much fun. Delos at Forest Hills this afternoon to see the tennis matches. Emma dropped in here with flowers for Merian. The day was humid, sultry warm. I worked all evening - until Delos got in at ten.
- Sept. 13. Another summer day. We drove out to take some clothes  
Sun. which Merian had outgrown to Nina Mancuso and saw the Mancuso's real Italian garden. A fig tree. Even came away loaded with grapes, swiss chard, tomatoes, gourds, dahlias and herbs. Merian loved the rabbits. Working this afternoon at Gentlemen from England. Another ride. Trees still green but fields golden oceans of golden rod. A few red leaves among the vines.
- Sept. 14. Gentlemen from England. A coolish morning but a sunny  
Mon. pleasant afternoon. Helen took Merian to the park that I might write. Finished a good draft at 3.30 and heard a pianist on the radio play some Brahms and Copin. Delos home, frightfully tired, but forced himself to revise our chapter. We are getting the first two books very nearly done.

- Sept. 15. A cold rain! To work again on the final typing of these  
Tues. two books which are to be delivered today. Merian frew up her lunch. Me divided between Maternal solicitude and author by fervor. Merian better. To town at 3.57 (Emma took me to train) with 65,000 words of mss. To oculists then met Delossy at Nan's to deliver book. Tea with her. Out to dinner and to see an opening "Golden Journey."
- Sept. 16. Warm and beautiful. Lay abed all morning with Merian play-  
Wed. ing in the room - an enchanting game about a kitten going south on a junco's back. Out about 3 to market and call for Merian. Overcast for a hour or so. In Emma's lovely garden - phlox, roses, babyshreath, lilacs, ageratum and softly waving treetops. Played school with Merian, Joan and Laurie. Delos and I to Sternes tonight for bridge.
- Sept. 17. Emma drove us up to Dr. Wightman at 9 - a beautiful morn-  
Thurs. ing. Merian and I shopped afterwards, then came home to rest and lunch. I had given Helen the full holiday in honor of the books half-completion. This afternoon I visited Merian's school. Merian so big-eyed and sweet. Still pretty much a lone wolf. Tonight Delossy and I listened to Major Bowes on the new hour - rotten.
- Sept. 18. Dark and cold at 6:30 when our alarm goes off. It's really  
5:30, of course. To town in heavy rain to shop. Lunched with Blanche. Rain turned into hurricane which we understand is lashing Jersey coast, bringing down houses. Cozy indoors with wind howling and rain beating.

- Sept. 19. Sterne's to dinner tonight but called away by news of  
Sat. death of Connie Knox. Hurricane is ended. Sunshine.  
Lawn littered with branches and leaves. Nan delighted  
with book. Says "best we have done. More alive."
- Sept. 20. Sat out of doors this morning while Delossy played  
Sun. tennis. Trees still uniformly green. The full summer  
green of trees is olive-tinted. Sky was pale blue with  
thin white clouds. This afternoon D and I took Merian  
in new blue silk to Camilla's birthday party. We played  
bridge with Bartnetts while she was there. Tonight saw  
a good picture "Piccadilly Jim."
- Sept. 21. Walked out to circulating library this evening with  
Mon. Delos. Sky mottled a thin slice of moon. When we re-  
turned, sky midnight blue altho only a few minutes had  
elapsed. Merian today, a props of something she wanted  
me to do later in the week: "I <sup>know</sup> ~~found~~ that just now you  
are working like mad getting back into the mood of your  
book."
- Sept. 22. Am trying as Merian says to get back into mood of the  
Tues. book. She has all her animals on the porch engaged in  
a play called, "The love of Chicken Town." She and  
Laurie playing school after both got out of school this  
afternoon. This evening to Sternes for bridge. So warm  
I didn't need a coat but overcast and misty.

- Sept. 23. Grey and rainy. Word from Rosemond Hart Chapman that  
Wed. she is in New York. Got into book again after two days brooding. Helen off this afternoon. Katherine, Laurie, Teddy and Jacqueline here on a wild time. Pleasant quiet evening with Delossy.
- Sept. 24. A wasted morning (so far as work went, unless story  
Thurs. was rolling around in my head) Taking Merian to Dr. Wightman for third whooping cough injection. Trees still green. Weather cool but sunny. We lunched on the porch. Anne, Babs, Emma and Leon in to tea - a farewell tea to Ann. Delossy and I quiet tonight. Our petunias still blooming. The begonia plant Merian gave me, in full bloom.
- Sept. 25. Cold, sharp, tho sunny. Merian and I took D to train,  
Fri. Merian in sweater, overalls and woolen jacket and she said that her cheeks felt like winter - crisp. To work later. Betty Floyd, Camilla, Merian and I drove up to Greenwich today. Then Merian went to dinner with Joan and Delossy and I slipped out early to see Fred Astaire. Sternes started off to New England.
- Sept. 26. A truly divine day. Cold - we have a fire in furnace -  
Sat. but sunny & air indescribably winey and golden. Trees still green except here and there. Took Delos to train and marketed. Then to work. Nortons to dinner tonight. A good duck dinner and pleasant time. Heard all about their new home. Furnace fire.

- Sept. 27. Merian and I spent morning at Glen Island while Delos  
Sun. played tennis. No sun. Lots of thick clouds of varying shapes hanging low in the sky. A brisk breeze blowing down an occasional leaf. Water rolling in. A convention of gulls on a big rock and lots of watercraft. This afternoon the three of us to Hackneys. Trees still green. Roadside flowers - superb tangle of asters, goldenrod, thistles, etc. Listening to radio tonight.
- Sept. 28. Slightly warmer. Sky brightly blue and white. Walked  
Mon. up to get Merian at 3 and brought Mrs. Baker and Edwin back to tea. The two children had a good time together. Delossy and I quiet tonight, listening to the radio, and Delos engaged in experimenting with his electric razor.
- Sept. 29. Woke with a cold, breakfasted in bed, and as it was a  
Tues. chill rainy day Helen built fire in furnace again. Merian stayed at home, too. Rosemond Chapman out to dinner and we had cocktails and a good time. She looks thin, tired and unhappy and when the book is done I want to have her out lots.
- Sept. 30. Overcast, cold, abandoned plan of going to town to shop  
Wed. and dine and am going in only for theatre. To work now, at 8.30. Merian had Joan over for supper - at a little table of their own. Delossy and I to town to see "Idiots Delight." with the invaluable Lunts. Play didn't go very deep but it makes one think.

OCTOBER

- Oct. 1. Raining this morning but when Merian and I started up  
. Thurs. to New Rochelle at 9, rain had stopped and sky suddenly cleared. It was a robins egg blue with white clouds in it. Sun shining. It clouded over later. Helen out this afternoon. I am alone here and house so peaceful. Starting up now for my tunky.
- Oct. 2. A divine morning. I walked to the train with Delos. A  
Fri. fine day's work. Late afternoon over to Emma's for sherry. Autumn crocuses in her garden. Pale lavender - divine. Merian to Shobers for supper. I walked up to meet Delos. Dove colored clouds in a pale rose sky. Tonight with Sternes to see Sing, Baby, Sing.
- Oct. 3. Merian and I took Delos to the train and marketed. It  
Sat. is a frosty crisp sunny morning. Asters in vacant lot fragile stars but so hardy. Dew on them. To work now - 9:30 a.m. A fairly good day, too. Delossy phoned me that he was going to World Series. Did so rejoice with him. Sternes over to bridge tonight.
- Oct. 4. Merian in bed with a cold. So I stayed in pretty close  
Sun. all day. Delossy had some tennis - and about 4 we went for a ride. Saw two red copper maple trees among many green ones. Fields all plumes of goldenrod and brilliantly lavender aster. Vines red with little blue berries. Thorn apples red trees. Heard Phil Johnson and John McCormick tonight.

- Oct. 5. Call Dr. Stafford to break date for Friday. Call Dr.  
Mon. Wightman about tap dancing. Take velvet dress to Miss Gennine, Mrs. Millá. Merian still in bed so a disturbed day's work. Hard to see her there when the day is so lovely - sunshiny, wild and just faintly autumnal. Delossy working tonight and I'm trying to. Gave Merian capsules at 6.
- Oct. 6. Merian making up a story "They went through the gate  
Tues. into the meadow and then the gate disappeared and they didn't know how to get out. So they thought, 'There's nothing for us to do but wait for someone else to discover this meadow.'" Also told me a story about velvet Ears whose parents were dieting and so poor Velvet Ears got only boxed cookies.
- Oct. 7. A fair morning's work, but Merian still sick. Poor  
Wed. lambie! This afternoon on a futile dress hunt to the Greenwich Franklin Simon's. A few gay branches - a few completely colored trees - asters at roadside gloriously purple. Undergrowth a crimson and gold tangle. Delossy working tonight.
- Oct. 8. Mist and rain and Merian quite sick at 5 a.m. I wrote as  
Thurs. well as I could in the morning, took care of her in the afternoon. She was very sweet. Helen was out and I got dinner - Merian coming downstairs in the white shawl to sit with Delos and me while we wrote. She was ~~Fluffy~~ Cat and her sisters Mary and Marjorie all at once.

Oct. 9. An excellent hart day's work and some hours spent with  
Fri. Merian - now convalescent. Delossy and I out tonight to  
see The Last of the Mohicans.

Oct. 10. Rain and the landscape increasingly autumnal. Delos and  
Sat. I talked G from E and Merian worked on her chick book  
all morning, then I took Delossy to the train and did  
my marketing; Merian up today. Dressed. It looks good.  
This afternoon she and I talked behavior and she said  
she was too intelligent to ask God to help her with her  
faults. Delossy and I to Sternes for bridge. Lea leaves  
tomorrow. Rain in the air - fog.

Oct. 11. Merian out with me this morning (while Delos played  
Sun. tennis) on a short walk to Emma's. Sky an inky blue,  
completely covered with small white clouds like rolls of  
cotton. Sidewalk thick with fallen leaves, yellow and  
brown and red and flashes of yellow in the trees which  
are mostly still green. This afternoon Delossy took us  
for a ride. The trees are superb. Many still green (enuf  
to give variety) but some maples are pure gold or gold  
breath-takingly overlaid with scarlet. On distant hillsides  
the poplars are tall quivering golden spears. The sumac  
is blood red and fields still aflame. Delos made this  
observation. The golden trees, when you are close to them,  
seem actually to tint the air around them - to throw off  
a certain radiance. Music tonight - Kirsten Flagstad on  
radio.

- Oct. 12. Work. Rode to town with Sternes. Shopped. Met Delos  
Mon. at Aunt Jessie's for dinner. Colder. Merian had Joan for dinner.
- Oct. 13. Merian in overalls and beret and Joan are racing up  
Tues. and down sidewalk playing Mrs. Lion and Mrs. Tigger. Mrs. Shober Sr. is raking and burning leaves. A sparrow with a piece of bread outside my window. Work has gone fairly well. Now Merian to school and me to New Rochelle to bank. Shopped for a dress there, but no luck. Nathan Altrowitz and his wife out this evening. Colder.
- Oct. 14. I was in bed all morning with a headache (but worked  
Wed. out final chapter of book) and at last I went to town in disgust. Bought a beautiful spruce blue dress. Met Delossy for dinner at Wana. and we shopped further for hat, shoes, etc. Talked book and had a very pleasant time. Rainy - just a little. Merian had Joan to supper.
- Oct. 15. Mother and daddie's wedding anniversary. We wired  
Thurs. mother yesterday and I had a lovely letter from her. Oct. 9 letter from mother says "the wind is blowing today and it is cloudy and the leaves are falling like a snowstorm. Oct. 13 she says "The leaves all seem to be bright yellow, they are all around my apartment and cast a glow of yellow that seems almost like sunshine." Helen off this afternoon. Merian and I walking, marketing, getting supper.

Oct. 16. Damp and misty but not unpleasant. To work at 8:30.  
Fri.

A fine morning. Merian to school and at 2 o'clock. I got into my new dress and hat and called for Mrs. Shober. Had a glass of sherry with her and went on with her and her mother and Joan to call for Merian and take the two children to dancing school. Merian loved it, and she kept perfect time. Looked just like Delos - both plagued and pleased - as she danced.

Oct. 17. Rain and wind. Rain misty grey among treetops on our  
Sat. hill. Wind sighing in the branches and the trees bending left and right. Delossy to town after a cozy breakfast - me to work - and this afternoon - Kreisler! Heard a Schumann Fantasia, a Bach concerto played without piano accompaniment, a part of a Paganini concerto, and Rimsky Korsakoff as well as a Beethoven Rhapsody for encore. It was lovely but didn't stay by me, somehow. Rosy, Prof. Perry, D. and I had cocktails together. Then R. D. and I dinner and a picture.

Oct. 18. A picnic on Sternes land. D. M & I went via Ridgefield  
Sun. Roads long avenues of light where they are overhung by trees. Distant hillsides masses of color. Some lakes silvery and reflected nothing. Others reflected every detail. Stone fences add to charm. Coming home a superb purple and gold sunset with a thin thin sliver of a moon above. Apples, pumpkins, honey for sale at roadside.

- Oct. 19. A grand day. A fine morning's work - keeping up with  
Mon. the schedule I have assigned for myself. Then up to school for Merian and to Mrs. Mills to try on my dress. Emma found us there and took us up with her to Rye. A lovely ride thru autumn beauty. To Sternes for dinner where Delos - who was supposed to be eating in town - surprised us. Emma and I to PTA to hear Wm. Lyon Phelps.
- Oct. 20. Sunshine. Here's for another good morning! To dentist  
Tues. this afternoon. Got my velvet dress from Mrs. Mills.
- Oct. 21. Work, work, work. Delossy ate downtown tonight. I am  
Wed. reading "Human Personality and it's Survival of bodily Death."
- Oct. 22. Breakfast in bed but headache got better and I had a  
Thurs. good day's work. Called for Merian and walked home from school with her. It was very warm. She was invited to Joan's for dinner. It seemed strange to be in an empty house and for Delos and I to eat alone and to have her come romping in at 7:30.
- Oct. 23. A good day. This afternoon with Mrs. S. to take children  
Fri. to dancing school. Merian, emerging, said : "I just love it." Tonight Delossy and I to New Rochelle to see The Great Ziegfeld. A bit too lavish, but good fun. This afternoon waiting for Merian at dancing school, a low rain-heavy sky pressing down on bright trees.

- Oct. 24. Delos had kango and Roo, darling mother and baby Kangaroo, on a chair waiting for Merian when she came into our bed this morning. She was so pleased - but too much like him to show it. Overcast, near rainy. Tonight I worked, getting a chapter into shape for Delos, while he and Roy played bridge with Newsoms. A letter from MacMillans who seem to think the book a winner.  
Sat.
- Oct. 25. Delossy worked this morning while Merian and I raked and burned leaves. Rosy came out for a duck dinner and afterwards we took a ride. Leaves thinner, dimmer. How inexorably winter comes on! Sternes came over for supper and we passed a pleasant evening. Now there's not a single date ahead of me. Gentlemen from England!  
Sun.
- Oct. 26. Gentlemen From England! But couldn't get chapter started. To town for long session at library and Metropolitan Museum. Rain. But it grew colder, cleared. Very cold to night.  
Mon.
- Oct. 27. And cold today, altho sunny. Extra blankets in night. Merian wrapped in white shawl at breakfast. Now she is out on tricycle and I am working, wrapped in the Mexican blanket. I abhor winter! But my darling Delossy brought home tonight 2 suits of woolly pajamas - one blue and one pink - with sleeping socks to match. So sweet and if they can't reconcile me to winter, what can? We drove down to Mt. Vernon and picked out a gypsy costume for Merian's school Hallowè'en party.  
Tues.

- Oct. 28. Cold but sunny and pleasant. A good morning's work  
Wed. on the Christmas chapter. Merian had Mary here after school. The gypsy costume came and Helen remodeled it. Delossy reading the new Faulkner book tonight.
- Oct. 29. A package from mother today contained a picture of  
Thurs. grandpa and grandma Hart. I am so thrilled with it. Only why couldn't whoever had it all these years finished it off while daddy was still here! He looked just like his mother and Helen looks like her and I get my puffy eyes from her. But all the rest of the famous Hart look comes from Grandpa Hart and not from Grandma, as I always supposed. Merian had a lovely time at the school Hallowe'en party and is having dinner with Joan tonight.
- Oct. 30. Sunny, cold. To work at 8:30 after getting mother's  
Fri. Sunday letter into the mail! A chickadee, the first I've heard in ages, is going "chick-a-dee-dee-dee-dee." Merian in bed all day and missed her dancing class. Delossy at a stag party, so I am working mornings, afternoon and evening. Haven't been out all day which is a pity as it is sunny and clear, although cold.
- Oct. 31. Worked hard, but my chapter balky. Delossy and I both  
Sat. played hooky today - he to a football game; I to town for tea with Helen McLeod Fiske. Merian in bed coloring, and enjoying Minnesota Hallowe'en boxes. A Hallowe'en family supper tonight.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1. Up this morning at 6:30 and while Delossy still slept  
Sun. his Sunday morning sleep licked my balky chapter! In-  
doors all day with my sick baby. Except for a little  
walk at noon. Delossy playing tennis. (probably his  
final fling) and working on the book. Weather warm,  
sunny, melancholy. The brightness gone.
- Nov. 2. A wee tiny brown bird with markings on his head, on  
Mon. the bough outside my window. It frightens one to see  
the big blue jays sweeping along. Cowbirds (I think)  
in numbers on the lawn and of course our sparrows. My  
baby still in bed, coloring and happy. A short walk,  
lunch and this afternoon with Merian. She wants to  
play school, play school, play school, studying "astron-  
omy and botony." This evening Delossy and I to Sternes  
and the library - then D. working. Weather warm.
- Nov. 3. Our hillside with its brown leaves on the ground and  
Tues. its red oak seedlings, so bright in the early morning  
glow. Sky pink. Delos off early to the paper, Merian  
still in bed. Delossy came home early too and we went  
out to vote. Merian downstairs, wrapped in white shawl.  
Sternes over tonight to listen to election returns - a  
landslide for Roosevelt. Weather warm.

- Nov. 4. And rainy. A warm rain this morning, too lazy to drip  
Wed. down the leaves. Streets gleaming. Milkman says -  
"Roosevelt 3 to 1". Delos and I at breakfast speculate  
on the future of the country. Roosevelt seems to have  
a stranglehold. Played school with Merian this after-  
noon. Read poetry to her. She was up and dressed. I  
took a walk towards evening in a spatter of rain. Delosy  
and I early to bed.
- Nov. 5. Delosy set the alarm for 4:30 and both of us up writ-  
Thurs. ing at that hour. A good think too for later, my work  
was delayed. Mrs. Duncan came to get our chairs - \$22.00  
alas! Mr. Batz called for my fur coat. Sun out in a  
periwinkle blue sky full of white clouds. Merian to  
school! I called for her at 3. She had got along fine  
but was ready for bed and the sun lamp when we got home.  
Leaves (what is left of them) seem to grow brighter.  
Russet and ruddy gold and pale greenish yellow.
- Nov. 6. Made out menu, ordered, gave Merian the sun lamp, and  
Fri. now to work at a quarter to 9.
- Nov. 7. A fine morning's work. My hardest work is done. Delosy  
Sat. came home with tickets for horse show. So this evening  
(Merian had Joan in to dinner) we went to town and did  
enjoy it. I was as thrilled by Broadway as though I were  
just fresh from Minnesota. Night a little misty but not  
cold and it was fun to stroll. The horse show itself with  
the Canadian Mounties exhibition, the contests in jump-  
ing and hurdle racing, society, in full regalia in the  
boxes, was thrilling.

- Nov. 8. Delossy worked and I loafed. Heard the Philharmonic  
Sun. a lovely Brahms Symphony. Merian out to dinner at Joans, but the little tunky not feeling so well. Rain bringing down our yellow maple leaves. Delos did almost two chapters.
- Nov. 9. Fair this morning. Leaves drifting down like yellow snow.  
Mon. Merian out on her tricycle and me to work at last after an hour of fiddy-addy-oodling. A good day too. Stopped about 2 to drop in on Emma and call for Merian. Delossy home to get into evening clothes for NBC dinner. Ann Sterne is home for the weekend and not very well.
- Nov. 10. Ann to be operated on for an appendix tomorrow. Delos  
Tues. and I dropped in there a few minutes tonight. Such a grand day on the book. Wept pools and pools of tears. Merian back in bed with another cold and writing a book for Stella. She has reached Chapter 31. Weather still fair but getting frosty and cold. Still a blur here and there of coppery oaks or yellow maple leaves.
- Nov. 11. Spent morning at hospital with Sternes (Ann being  
Wed. operated on) and the afternoon taking care of Merian who is better, pattering around in bathrobe. Helen was off duty. Delos came home sick at heart over a tragic accident to Patches, a Sun Reporter. Bartnetts were feeling so low too that they came over.
- Nov. 12. Helen ill today. I raked and burned leaves; thought, but  
Thurs. did not write. D. & I setting alarm for 4:30. Weather still mild and how I think of Dad as I rake the brown and yellow leaves, esp. as I press down a rakeful of leaves to take them out to the fire. Merian back in school.

- Nov. 13. Helen better. We accomplished a little on book. Merian  
Fri. to school and dancing school. Working this evening.
- Nov. 14. I am at work, very low; Delossy has given up ticket to  
Sat. Notre Dame game, in order to work; Helen is giving up  
her day off tomorrow. All for Gentlemen From England!  
Fair and sunny. Merian out on her bike. Trees very thinly  
clothed now; sunshine thin. A new little girl has moved  
in across the street. Making friendly overtures to Merian.
- Nov. 15. What a day! What a day! Delossy writing downstairs, me  
Sun. upstairs. Helen took Merian to the park. In moments of  
relaxation, we raked and burned leaves. Sky grey and  
everyone says, "snow."
- Nov. 16. And sure enuf it snowed for 20 minutes last night, but  
Mon. all gone this morning. It's cold. Merian out in the wind  
and it brought on a touch of the asthma. So instead of  
going to Donald's this afternoon she is having Donald and  
Joan here. I am working all day but half-heartedly. Delossy  
brought home a request from McMillans for biographical  
dates, pictures and some help on the blurb.
- Nov. 17. Such a grey sky, full of snow. It is cold too. The look  
Tues. of the world spells the word November. Now for my two re-  
maining chapters - one this morning and one tonight. A  
very good day and both D & I worked all evening. Our baby  
miserable. She got a new book from Auntie Helen.
- Nov. 18. Grey, windy, but sky gradually "blueing". Tomorrow is dear  
Wed. daddy's birthday. I wrote mother a special letter yesterday.  
I went to town and tried to buy a gown for our dinner-dance  
on Saturday. Had 3 sent out on approval. To Blanche's then  
for dinner with Mrs. Darragh and Francis and a most plea-  
sant evening.

- Nov. 19. Wrote a while this morning but Delossy is on the late  
Thurs. shift which shortens my day. The dresses came and I immediately loved the black and silver and American beauty dress. All my doubts vanished. Put on a fashion show for Delossy tonight - to Merian's delight. Delossy chose the dress I liked and Helen is tightening it and otherwise remodeling it. .
- Nov. 20. Delossy like an angel rushed me about, taking me to have  
Fri. dress hemstitched, etc. Then I went to town with him and bought my accessories. Merian, much excited by the new gown, wants she and I to put on our evening clothes for dinner some night soon. I told her we would on Delossy's birthday. Merian : "And a little pair of patent leather pumps would go good with my blue silk dress!"
- Nov. 21. The party - or series of parties - pretty well killed  
Sat. work today. But they were fun. Emma and I in adjoining booths at the hair dressers getting made beautiful and shouting silly remarks. I bought gardenias for our coats. And Emma and Roy drove me to town where we met Delossy at Coggins. Coggins party, Fougner's party and dance all were nice and the new dress a dream. And Sternes were called home with interesting news from Mary whose little girl was born this morning.
- Nov. 22. Delossy and I lay abed and this afternoon I played with  
Sun. Merian while Delossy worked and this evening I am working. Wrote straight through from 8 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. Monday. Snow in the grey Nov. air for a few minutes this afternoon.

- Nov. 23. Slept until 12. But Delossy has taken Books 1 and 2  
Mon. to the typist. Sunny. Merian back in school. She is wearing her hair in little pigtails now. Rolled up with a ribbon over each ear. Slept most of the day. Merian invited out this afternoon to Donald's.
- Nov. 24. It snowed in the night. Merian came rushing in at 6:30,  
Tues. all excitement. A beautiful soft abundant snow, clinging to the boles as well as resting on the branches, coating the dried leaves and little withered leaves. Lying on Helen's wash in great soft clumps. To the book!
- Nov. 25. The book! the book! Out first in a crisp day to buy  
Wed. flowers for Ann and do our modest Thanksgiving shopping, very modest, since we are going to Dodies. Merian had Joan in a while, but isn't just herself tonight. Work, work and I'm getting very tired. So is Delossy, poor lamb.
- Nov. 26. We had somewhat to our surprise a lovely Thanksgiving  
Thurs. Day. Merian's threatened attack vanished like magic as soon as we crossed the Triborough Bridge. It is most impressive, by the way. Day cold but fair and the ride lovely. Dodie's turkey superb and her little girl sweet. Delos taking 5 more chapters in to typist tomorrow.
- Nov. 27. A grinding day but doing a middle chapter. Can't one have  
Fri. one dull chapter in a book? Merian well enuf to go to dancing school & Helen took her. I didn't even dress until 5:30. And at it again tonight. Weather fair but cold.

- Nov. 28. Delossy took the day off for toil on the book - and  
Sat. in the evening we went to Bartnetts. Dinner and bridge  
for eight. A pleasant time.
- Nov. 29. We worked on the book until noon. Then dressed and  
Sun. went to Emma's for cocktails and to meet Neal, Roy's  
brother. Home for pancakes and sausage with Merian.  
And out to Long Island with the Dunns to see Nortons  
and Norton's new house. Then we brought the Dunns  
back here for scrambled eggs. What a day! Sharp and  
cold but the drive pleasant with Marshall driving so  
that Delos could rest.
- Nov. 30. Delossy at breakfast table, fixing up the wolf hunt!  
Mon. Me working with my nose at the typewriter and until the  
3:57. To town and two hours more of work at typist bureau.  
Then complete mss. out of our hands!!! I finished the  
book in a great wave of loneliness for daddy. I realize  
how much it helped, in losing him, to have this big  
piece of work on hand. Met Delossy at 6:30 at the Algon-  
quin - too tired even for a cocktail. But relaxed in  
the delightful thrilling Rainbow Grill and afterwards  
we saw John Gielgud in Hamlet (with Arthur Byron,  
Judith Anderson and Lillian Gish.) A splendid perfor-  
mance. Both of us much impressed. Book done, done, done!

DECEMBER

- Dec. 1. Early to town to buy Delossy a blue camel's hair robe  
Tues. for his birthday tomorrow. Also to be washed, waved as to hair, massaged and manicured for publicity pictures. Then home and this evening over to Sternes. Saw Mary's baby which looks like Emma.
- Dec. 2. Snow for Delossy's birthday. A thin white covering thru  
Wed. which the lawns show green. Merian came into our room while Delos was shaving with the Happy Birthday Salutation copied out of Winnie the Pooh. She has spent the morning making paper chains to decorate the table tonight. We had a grand party. Even danced! I don't think Delossy ever had a nicer birthday. Pouring rain all day.
- Dec. 3. But clearing today. I am packing Helen off early and in-  
Thurs. tend to devote myself to Merian. Visited her school etc. It seems strange to have the book gone.
- Dec. 4. Mrs. Shoher Sr. and I visited the famous dancing class.  
Fri. They are getting ready for some Christmas entertainment - Merian is an angel! Delossy tonight brought home a book for me to review and our mss. to be proofread. Helen cleaned out bedroom (the writing room) at last! What a change!
- Dec. 5. Working at the mss. which is in bad shape. This afternoon  
Sat. Merian took Joanie to her entertainment at Belham High School. They came home all excitement about Felix the Cat who had put Joan's hat on Merian's head and vice versa. Let Helen off for supper. Sternes over for bridge.

- Dec. 6. Rosy came out today. We had a lovely time with her.  
Sun. And after she left I worked on the book until midnight.  
Delossy began his winter tennis today. Raining.
- Dec. 7. Delossy took the book to town to Nan who gave it to  
Mon. MacMillans and I got to work on book review. But Bill  
McNally called and wanted us to town to have dinner and  
see his show (Prelude to Exile - Theatre Guild\*). We  
couldn't resist. Enjoyed his play enormously and dinner  
was loads of fun, in his sumptuous (no less) apartment,  
with a pretty actress of his company.
- Dec. 8. To town to shop and to meet mother's train. It was late  
Tues. so we had to take the 7:30 to Pelham but Merian was  
still up in her little brown princess dress with yellow  
ribbons on her pigtails, so shy and so pleased to see  
Stella. Mother looks just fine - a bit thinner - and we  
are all so happy to have her.
- Dec. 9. Visited all day with mother. Out to a movie with Sternes  
Wed. tonight.
- Dec. 10. Helen off this afternoon. Mother fixed us sauerkraut  
Thurs. and spareribs for supper. All of us living in front of  
the radio to hear the news from England. A downpour of  
rain. I went to New Rochelle in it this morning.
- Dec. 11. All of us are agog these days about the abdication of  
Fri. "for love of Mrs. Simpson" of the King of England. Mother  
and I Christmas shopped all day in a downpour of rain  
but got home in time to hear Edward's farewell to his  
people broadcast over the radio. Radio connected in the  
nick of time.

- Dec. 12. Delossy has an infection in his foot. So Dr. Morrison  
Sat. who has attended to it orders him to stay home today.  
Raining. All of us very busy getting ready for our party  
for Rosy tomorrow. Merian has her beloved Mary Chick  
Hicks to lunch.
- Dec. 13. Fair and colder after all our rainy weather. Merian out  
Sun. on her trike again. Delos's foot better. Mother and Helen  
baking for our party. Party was lovely with grand food  
and everybody companionable. Rosy was our guest of honor.
- Dec. 14. Working on the book again - the Cosmos version. Merian  
Mon. in a whispered conference told me what she was making  
for Christmas for Daddy, Stella, Helen. Then she lowered  
her voice, "And listen," she said in a stage whisper, "to  
what I am making for you. A blotter! I thought it would  
be good because of your writing!"
- Dec. 15. The beautiful new bed - Stella's now - it will be Merian's  
Tues. when we have a guest room for Stella - came today and  
was set up amid family rejoicings. I worked this morning  
on the serialization of the book and this afternoon  
mother and I shopped in New Rochelle. Tonight Delos and I  
worked again. A warm clear sunny day. This is perfect  
weather.
- Dec. 16. It grew a little snappy in the night, and we put the  
Wed. puff on our bed. To work again this morning. Merian is  
45½ in. high, weighs 50½ .
- Dec. 17. To town to shop and go to Namine's tea for Patience  
Thurs. Ross, her English representative. Mother had tea with  
the Shoher's - Joan too. Delos and I home late to a good  
Stella-cooked dinner.

- Dec. 18. Mother and I shopping in town all day. Lunched together -  
Fri. at Wannamakers. All in bed with the birds tonight.
- Dec. 19. Getting cards and boxes off - wreaths up - and English  
Sat. copy of G. from E. ready for Miss Ross. Delossy home  
late this afternoon and tonight we played bridge with  
Sternes while mother made Christmas cookies.
- Dec. 20. A little ride this morning up the Hutchinson River Park-  
Sun. way to Rye. Weather still extremely mild. Delos is en-  
joying having nothing - no book - on his mind and this  
afternoon he went to the movies and later played indoor  
tennis. We don't listen to the Christmas Carols this year  
but otherwise are going through the usual observances as  
darling daddy would wish.
- Dec. 21. Mother and I in town shopping all day. A beautiful warm  
Mon. day. Had lunch with Rosy who is starting a novel (after  
much urging by us.) Got home to find Delossy in bed with a  
cold, but jubilant, as the MacMillan Catalogue gives G  
from E an excellent place and write up. Cards and boxes  
arriving. House very gala. Merian at dancing school today.
- Dec. 22. A thin spreading of snow on the ground. Wrapping Christmas  
Tues. boxes. Mother and I to school to see Merian's "Christmas  
Shopping Play." Merian as keeper of the Christmas shop was  
adorable. Afterwards all of us and Joan (who had gone to  
the play) went to Mrs. Jordan's for tea. Delossy came home  
early because of his cold and went to bed. I, out hunting  
books for him this morning.

- Dec. 23. Such a busy day! In the morning to Edwards for my marcel;  
Wed. on to New Rochelle and came home at 4 simply loaded with bundles. Mother had been looking out for Merian and baking Xmas cookies. I had a glass of wine and rested; then got dinner for Delossy. His cold is better. Put all the packages on a card table and covered same with a big pink sheet bearing a card saying: "Do not touch!!! Santa.
- Dec. 24. And did Merian blow up this morning when she found it.  
Thurs. Great excitement as we got daddy off to work. Warm, moisty at 8 a.m. Sky full of small clouds which are still tinged with pink. No sign of snow or a white Christmas. Midge arrived with Delos and we had a lovely Christmas Eve. Merian hung her stockings and went to bed early. Then Santa arrived, in person. She was so excited. Our Minn. boxes so gorgeously tempting.
- Dec. 25. Merian woke us at 5. We all assembled for the lighted  
Fri. tree (after coffee in bed) and Merian's eyes were like stars. But before she would open one of her gifts she wanted Delos to look at the ash tray she had made for him. Such a joy to have Midge with us. We had a grand home dinner. Then we had a cocktail party at Floyds and a Christmas eggnog and supper party at the Sternes.
- Dec. 26. To market, to market, today. Midge went to town and we got  
Sat. house organized. This afternoon Mrs. Joseph and Nan came out. Midge and Sternes arrived for cocktails and we had such a good dinner and good time. Didn't have spell yesterday to record our lovely gifts. I got a crimson brocade hostess coat from Delos among mine. We gave mother one of purple velvet.

- Dec. 27th. Merian out on her new roller skates in our summerlike  
Sun. weather. All of us took walks. Luncheon at noon; then  
eggnog with Shobers; and Midge off to town. We were  
taken tonight to a buffet supper at Westchester Country  
Club - Gerald Dunphy, our host. A perfectly beautiful  
evening but all of us feeling a little too Christmassy.
- Dec. 28. Such mild weather that one doesn't need a winter coat  
Mon. at all. 56 and 58 above - not a trace of snow. Mother  
and I to town early to meet Midge and Dodie for a merry  
luncheon at the Grispholm; then with Midge to Radio City  
where picture and stage show were mediocre. Said good-  
bye to dear little Midgie and home. Delossy still has  
his cold, Mother feeling under the weather and I'm not  
so good myself.
- Dec. 29. Merian and I had a party in town. Mother feeling not so  
Tues. well so she didn't come. I was sorry she and Delossy  
weren't along for Merian was a complete joy. We went  
to Wanamakers to shop and to lunch and then to Carnegie  
Hall for the Mickey Mouse Carnival and she was enchanted  
with everything. Weather slightly cooler but lovely and  
fair. Quiet. Wearing new red housecoat tonight.

Dec. 30. Today it is mild again and slightly rainy. I went out  
Wed. to market early - then gave Helen the day off. Merian  
got an artist's kit from Coop; a beautiful thing. I  
visited her dancing class. Delossy home with further  
news from Cosmo. Now they are trying to decide whether  
G from E will cut into 6 installments. I think they  
are all sadists. Mrs. Shoher brought us in chocolate  
cake. Mother down on the couch tonight.

Dec. 31. Last day of the old year began with a fog so thick  
Thurs. that Delos was reminded of the claim of a liar (at  
the Liars Club) that he had sprayed a fog with ink and  
cut it into chunks for coal. Breakfast with Delos,  
Merian and I was very merry but the rest of the day a  
mess, me in bed with a headache and rain pouring.  
Mother waited on me devotedly and I was well enuf to  
go with Sternes to see Brother Rat. All of us went,  
and then back to Sternes for a pleasant supper. So  
ended 1936, with thinking about daddy.

1 9 3 7

JANUARY

Jan. 1. It was a beautiful spring like day, not a trace of snow,  
Fri.  
and Merian and Joan were out with one roller skate apiece  
and all of us took strolls. Delos has been fighting a cold  
and the rest of us suffering mildly from some queer bug  
which makes us slightly sickish, so we didn't really en-  
joy our good duck dinner. In the late afternoon Delos and  
I left Stella singing to Merian and went to Fairchilds  
cocktail party for a hour or so. Home for duck sandwiches  
and a fresh chocolate cake made by Stella with Sternes,  
but all of us felt seedy and Delossy went to bed.

Jan. 2. Delos stayed at home today. The weather has changed and is  
Sat.  
cold and windy and now about noon is starting to rain. Last  
night Mother was reading "Little Women" to Merian and she  
loved it and later remarked to me that this was a new kind  
of book. "Most books seem to be about animals dressed up  
like people and talking like people but this is about real  
true things." I suggested that her "mittens" book was about  
real people and a real cat but she said "yes, but the cat  
is always the center of attention!" She and mother off to  
the Pelham High School to see the Indoor Circus.

Jan. 3. Woke to find the pavement shining the brown leaves drench-  
Sun. ed. A warm rain. While I took grapefruit and coffee in bed,  
Merian played her Magic Mountain game. She and I and Delos  
are supposedly camping on a mountain. A little white kitten  
comes and guides us into the sky, through three curtains,  
to a camp in the clouds. A quiet day. All of us recuperat-  
ing. Ann Sterne dropped in to help Merian in using the beau-  
tiful artist's kit, Coop sent for Christmas. Delossy off to  
play tennis, then Sunday night lunch and mother reproaching  
us for our desertion of coffee.

Jan. 4. A trifle colder. Sky grey with dark blue splotches of cloud  
Mon. behind the grey trunks and bare trees on our hillside. Brown  
leaves and patches of withered green-brown grass. Later  
the sun came out and for the first time this winter we saw  
the puddles frozen over. Merian had a busy day, dancing  
lesson at 11 and then back to school. Stella and I talked  
ourselves into the blues and cheered up with a pot of  
coffee. Delossy brought home the sad news that Cosmo could-  
n't use G from E. No wonder! You can't cut a 110,000 word  
novel to 60,000 words without ruining it. We refused to be  
downhearted, and taking Stella rode up to Rye to see Pig-  
skin Parade, and back to Sternes for bridge.

Jan. 5. Mother to town early, taking the MacMillan draft of G from  
Tues. E to Nannine and keeping luncheon & dinner appointments. It  
is a delightfully crisp day. Merian is out playing with Joan  
and I have been washing my hair. Tonight Delos and I drove to  
Pleasantville to have dinner with Bridges and Bradfords, the  
latter having come north to show Richard a white Christmas.  
Mary Rose in the hospital with flue but we enjoyed visit  
with Roark.

- Jan. 6. Headache all day. Mother stayed in town last night. After  
Wed. having had dinner and seeing Tovarich with Rosy. She had  
a lovely time but still was feeling the strain of this  
week's anniversary. Emma came over to help us with the  
evening but Mother to bed with a blazing headache. Delos  
and I got the results most complete and thoughtful reading  
of G. from E. by Nan's agent, Miss Ross. She studied  
it for flaws in the English material and made a few valuable  
catches.
- Jan. 7. Mother and I left home in a pouring rain without having  
Thurs. had time to cash a check and almost missing the train and  
all the way to town I made New Years resolutions to emerge  
from this fog in which I am moving. We had a pleasant  
luncheon with Floss, talking Mankato, and later cocktails  
with Don. Nannine was there and we had a very cozy time.  
Delossy joined us bearing tickets for an opening - Max  
Reinhart's Eternal Road. Only moderately good, but opening  
night splendor was fun, with Marion Davies and Gloria  
Swanson and others close enough to inspect.
- Jan. 8. Rain has cleared and it is warmer than ever. Sunshine  
Fri. gleaming on wet leaves and fresh streets. I began a new  
regime today. Dressed for breakfast and spent the morning  
organizing my room, my desk, drawers, closet and also  
my mind. I have been living in a fog since finishing the  
book. Took Merian to dancing class this afternoon and tonight  
Delossy and Stella and I drove up to Rye for a  
splendid movie - Libelled Lady which cheered us all up.

Jan. 9. Helen can't run the furnace low enough and the house is  
Sat. unbearably warm. Raining this morning. Just warm mist rain.  
This afternoon Delos took us for a drive. Down Whippoorwill  
Road and into Chappaqua and we called on Bridges. The  
weather was so warm and springlike one could hardly re-  
frain from looking for crocuses. The paper says there are  
lilacs blooming up state. Sternes over for bridge tonight.  
Mother and I wearing our Christmas housecoats.

Jan. 10. It rained all day. We slept late and this afternoon Delos  
Sun. & I read. (I finished Lost Horizon and love it), and  
listened to the symphony; mother napped and Merian painted.  
Delos off to his tennis at 3 and we all went to Sternes  
to supper with the Cogginses. Merian is fascinated with  
Grimm these days. It is her first real inclination toward  
fairytale although she has loved Thumbelisa for sometime.

Jan. 11. Distinctly colder today. A powdering of snow on each brown  
Mon. leaf, on our hillside and on the roof. Sunny tho' and snow  
soon melted. Merian made up a dancing lesson this morning.  
This afternoon Mrs. Biney and Emma came in to coffee. To-  
night all to bed with the birds. Weather so warm - we can't  
keep the house cool enough.

Jan. 12. Mother and I to town on 10:40 to library, Woman Pays Club  
Tues. and to Hotel Prince George to see Irmengarde. Heard an ex-  
cellent program at the club - John Beck in Impersonations  
and Patience Ross of London, Literary Agency, speaking.  
Depressed by Irmengarde's condition. She is pretty badly  
off it seems to me. Felt tired and went to bed as soon as  
Merian was bathed. Much talk of flu. Weather like summer.

- Jan. 13. For the first time woke up to a cold house. Not that  
Wed. weather had turned, but because Helen had let fire run low. Had a thrilling chase after Delos to the train with his glasses. Morning fair, crisp and Novemberish in the best sense. Mrs. Shober and her mother and Joan over for coffee. Newsoms for bridge tonight.
- Jan. 14. A misty day but Merian went to school, but mother and I  
Thurs. didn't go to town to Rosina's tea nor to Miss Jessie's to dinner. She is leaving Saturday for Africa. Delos went but got home early. I was fighting a headache all day. Got out a few minutes, the air so cool and fresh and sky grey blue and pale above grey treetops. What a January!
- Jan. 15. Raining hard, and black as inside of your hat. "What a  
Fri. winter", Delos said as we woke to the sound of the rain thudding. Weather very warm. House uncomfortably hot. Merian has a cold and missed school and her dancing lesson. Mother, Delos and I out to a movie tonight. A poor one, but it rested Delos.
- Jan. 16. A busy day getting ready for our party. Neither Howard  
Sat. nor Don could come - there is so much sickness about. I ran off in the morning to be received into the Manor Club but except for that, busy all day. The party a great success. Ruth Bladgett came with a grand new game. The girls looked so pretty in long dresses and we had a lovely time. Mother making a tremendous hit.

- Jan. 17. A lovely loafing Sunday with everybody happy and Merian recuperating although still in bed. It rained hard all day. I am reading a book to review "Mortgage Your Heart." Delossy off to his tennis at 5 and a cozy supper just the three of us - at 7. Bobby Jordan and Cindy both sick. 2 words I am reminded of in talking with mother - thimble bee, spoony.
- Jan. 18. Merian came into our bed at 6:30 and we posed an important question. Should we postpone her birthday from day to day until she was well and have the party then - or have a family birthday celebration today and a party in the spring. To my relief she chose the latter course. Half the children in Pelham are sick and I hate to get a gathering together. Rainy and grey-black. Delos off to the station in a cab. Joan came over for Merian's birthday and they had a lovely time. I went up to New Rochelle in the afternoon for favors and Stella baked her a lovely cake. The two little girls in pastel silk dresses at their little table set along side our big one, looked so sweet. Merian no worse for leaving her bed for the occasion. Lots of flu in our Minnesota family.
- Jan. 19. Mother and I went this afternoon to the Manor Club - to which I have been duly elected. The program was really delightful. Francis Moore, the pianist, and Ottilia Schilling, soprano. Von Bos accompanied the singer. Ended with Frank Bibb's lovely Rondel of Spring which we have heard Katie sing so many, many times. She didn't sing it as well as Katie, nor did Von Bos play it as Frank used to.

Jan. 20. Last night I started sneezing with a will and today am  
Wed. having breakfast in bed as I seem to have caught Mer-  
ian's head cold. I am finishing my book review in bed.  
The weather is colder. How friendly a light looks in an-  
other house (even a strange house) in the darkness of  
early morning! 11 a.m..It is snowing in big ragged flakes.  
By noon the roofs and lawns are white, the pines thickly  
sprinkled. By 2.30 roads and lawns seem buried smoothly  
under snow - miles under and air full of flakes. Winter  
has arrived on Jan. 20. Only our hillside, with its many  
shrubs and wealth of brown leaves, looks uneven and shows  
bits of brown. Snow crackling against pane now. I am in  
bed. Helen braved the blizzard on an errand and Merian -  
feeling strange in an empty house - came up to her own  
bedroom. Mother returns to say snow turning to rain, or  
rather mixed with rain. At any rate, the air is now al-  
most completely filled with snow again. It is beautiful  
to look at.

Jan. 21. Knocked out by my flu. In bed all day, listening to  
Thurs. melting snow dripping. World a poster of black and white.

- Jan. 22. Much better this morning, altho I have to give up today's  
Fri. and tomorrow's parties and stay in bed. Out door patch framed in my window and grey with mist, so heavy it is almost rain, with a background of white behind. Mother in town to Carolyn's party, me in bed reading Larson, Duke of Mongolia. Buddhism came into Mongolia thru the conversion of the wife of Kublai Khan by a priest from Tibet. The Mongols look upon Tibet as the spiritual home. Lamson is a compound of black magic, nature worship and Buddhism." It is the national religion of Mongolia. Mongolia is a rolling undulating land, unbroken by the plough, uncut by fences or railways, without towns or villages. Merian just had her first experience with Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." in a musical version over the radio. She is enchanted! Now I am reading "The Trouble I've Seen". What luxury to have the flu!
- Jan. 23. I was up today but of course our dinner is called off.  
Sat. Delos over to Sternes to play there with Roy as Emma is out of town. Mother and I visiting and reading.
- Jan. 24. Rain all day. I was up, in the red house coat, altho with the electric pad at hand. Delos showed me a beautiful sketch he had written, and I typed it for Nan. A peaceful day with Merian pouring over Grimm, Delos playing chess and tennis and mother and I reading, talking and listening to the symphony. Merian said to me in a play-acting voice: "Mommie haven't you noticed how I've changed? I'm so quiet these days. I'm not noisy or silly any more. I used to want just one sheet of yellow paper after another but now I just sit." I think she is imitating Beth in Little Women.

- Jan. 25. Merian into first grade today. She was out of bed and into Mon.  
our room in her shirttail having shucked off her pajamas before she got her eyes open. Delos as excited as if all of us were going to Mongolia. Stella took her to school and put her safely into Mrs. Stanton's hands. It's raining but clearing. Only rims of snow left at the edge of the lawns. Me, with a lumbagoish back going to work on the English draft of G. from E. Passing up Nan's party. And work brought my flue back, so I'm in bed again, with electric pad. Merian far more happy and excited about first grade than she ever was about kindergarten. She says they have real books to read from, art and music lessons from special teachers. There is to be gym! Moreover, she plays on the playground until the first bell rings.
- Jan. 26. Clear at last and colder. Lying in bed to eat my breakfast Tues.  
this morning, looked out at a blue haze of sky and bare treetops. Merian said when she came in from school "today I felt quite grown-up. I looked into the kindergarten at the little children. Also she wanted her mittens taken off strings. Mother to the Manor Club with Emma.
- Jan. 27. Sun shining brightly, morning pleasantly cold. It hasn't Wed.  
been really cold all winter and our snow is entirely gone. Merian off to school beaming with her mittens off their strings. My Own, from a Sun's Ray "She looked hardly old enuf for the first grade, the Principal thought. She bulged bashfully from her snug wool play suit; mittens dangled on strings from her sleeves. But the short braids sticking out on either side her face & a missing front tooth, testified to a probable six summers. Stella to town to have dinner and see "Stage Door" with Rosie.

- Jan. 28. "No flu in this weather," commented Mother returning from  
Thurs. a walk this morning. It is crisp and bright, not a trace  
of snow left. I am up and about. Helen took her half day  
off and mother and I invited Sternes over to dessert and  
coffee. Chess and talk this evening.
- Jan. 29. Mother left on the Commodore this afternoon at 4:20. We  
Fri. all hated to see her go. She is a marvel of courage and  
cheerfulness and simply enchants everyone she meets.  
All our friends call her Stella and love her. I took her to  
town and we had lunch at Wanamakers and shopped before  
going to her train. Then Delossy and I came straight home  
altho I should have called or called on both Rosina and Pat  
Ahlers. In the red hostess gown tonight, while Delossy  
and Sternes went to see "Rembrandt."
- Jan. 30. Sunny and clear. Merian and I shopping in Pelham. This  
Sat. afternoon out in the car with Delos. Bartnetts down for  
bridge tonight. D. and I planned a new book. Am going to  
rest thru February and begin it, March 1. Coleridge de-  
finition of poetry: "For poetry is the blossom and the  
fragrance of all human knowledge, human thoughts, human  
passions, emotions, language."
- Jan. 31. A thin rain on black rocks and brown leaves. Except for a  
Sun. call on Mrs. Dunphy, who is ill, at home all day. Helen out.  
Schumann's Symphony No 2. C. Major- the first two movements.  
Exactly like a river, rushing on, now fast, now slow, now  
a shallow depths, now over rapids. Merian is certainly in  
the fairytale age. She lives with her book of Grimm and has  
begun to investigate a hitherto neglected volume of Hans  
Christian Anderson. Now I want to buy for her Arabian  
Nights, Aesops Fables and Hawthorne's Wonder Book.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1. Tried to make the first day of my month of refreshment  
Mon. as refreshing as possible. It was sunny and brisk and I went to New Rochelle on a variety of errands, mostly pleasant, (such as buying Valentines for Merian and new small notebooks) Had to have nose cauterized again which wasn't so good; but on the whole had a nice time. Am sending Ghost Flower to Household Magazine (Topeka, Kan.) To Sternes tonight for bridge.
- Feb. 2. Colder but still sunny and world absolutely snow-less.  
Tues. Out to market early and home to write Sun Rays, letters and to organize writing room. This afternoon with Emma and Cindy Pendleton to Cindy's dancing class - a contrast to Merian's. Cindy's teacher a typical product of physical education department at Vassar or Smith - Merian's Miss A a typical ex-show girl. Cindy and her comrades in shorts and skirts. Merian and hers in fluffy ruffles. I have no doubt Cindy's class much superior but Merian's more fun! Merian and I to tea with Pendleton's afterwards. Then Delossy brought home tickets for White Horse Inn. How I enjoyed it. It was like a trip to Switzerland.

Feb. 3. Our first really cold day. It was 18 above, I think. Mrs.

Wed.

Jordan, very kindly brought Merian to and from school.

She and Bobby were in to tea - she looking so pretty in a new flowered dress. I am reading Somerset Maugham's Cakes and Ale & Norman Douglas's South Wind. find both a delight. What a biting caustic wit Maugham has! Delossy and I early to bed after a game or two of chess. The writer, says Maugham, is the only free man.

Feb. 4. Merian burst into our room as soon as the alarm went off  
Thurs.

at 6:30, crying: "I'm a rabbit and you are Mrs. Chick & Mary Chick." She literally wakes up playing a game. To New Rochelle this morning, shopping for bridge prizes.

John took me up and Mrs. Shaw brought me back, but I could see that it was cold and frosty. Helen out this afternoon. Merian and Laurie playing. Delossy and I quiet tonight.

Except that I ran in to say goodbye to Mrs. Dunphy.

Feb. 5. Merian ran in at 6:30 as usual, excited by the snow. The  
Fri.

world was white and snow still falling. The other day heard Hampton College Singers. Remember Climbing up the Mountain. Certainly Lord, "I'm climbin' up de Mt. Children I didn't come here for to stay, And if I never see you again, I'll meet you on the Judgement Day." Snow all day. To dancing class with Merian in afternoon. Sternes here for bridge tonight.

- Feb. 6. Children out with their sleds for the first day this winter. It is melting but there is still lots of snow and world so bright and gay. Merian out making a snowman. Delos took her to her school play which was terrible he says. Our party was a success. Food good, bridge gay and my prizes much appreciated. Rosy came out and a pretty girl helps along any party. Earl says they are dining Tuesday night with Dick and Pearl Walsh who are adopting two more children, four in all.
- Feb. 7. Helen brought our breakfast to bed; then Rosy came in to us for the second cup of coffee and we talked there until almost one o'clock. Out to throw snowballs until 1:30 - then lunch - and afterwards drove Rosy down to the Harman Chapmans. Went in to meet them and liked them awfully. Delossy playing tennis tonight while I put our baby to bed.
- Feb. 8. Up to Dr. Smith's at 10. It's not cold, but overcast, grey and slushy. Typical Feb. weather. I can see what Emma means when she says that she must hear the Ring to get through Feb. And just as I record this pessimistic thought, Helen calls me to the bathroom window to see a flock of juncos! A sure sign of spring. Merian has stopped to play with Katherine. I am going to PTA tea with Mrs. Jordan. And last night Delos & I went to call on the Grahams, across the street. She is an artist. She commented on the long tree stems on the hillsides along this street.

Feb. 9. Bird songs in the early morning, these days. To Dr.  
Tues.

Morrison at 9:15 a.m. for a complete physical examination - he finds nothing seriously wrong with me, but says that I am run down and anemic. I am to have a basic metabolism tests and a cardiograph made. I came home intending to go to Manor Club but am going to bed instead. Windows open. I feel that spring is very near. Read Voltaire's "Candide "Let us cultivate our garden." Delossy and Bart going to a first night and I am having dinner in bed.

Feb. 10. Proofs of G. from E. A cold clear day. Reading James  
Wed.

Gray's "Wake and Remember" - a lovely book. Life belongs to the believers." "If we live in a wilderness, men have caught sight of green fields that lie before us. Their strong voices call out above the tumult and the trampling and the wild panic. They are not ashamed to believe I can let their belief increase my strength."

Feb. 11. And "Grief has its own dark chamber. There is nothing to  
Thurs.

do but wait, with the gift of a duty for the door to be opened. To find someone standing outside, ready to use the vitality that grief cannot exhaust, is the only reassurance that the stricken can accept. Wakened today by the Pewee call of a chickadee. Down to 15 above but sunny. Proofs of G. from E. again.

- Feb. 12. Finished the galleys - weeping. Took Merian to dancing  
Fri. school and visited Emma at her office. Also paced up  
and down in exhilarating springlike weather. Tonight to  
town with Delossy for an opening. The play "Call me  
Ziggy" was pretty poor. But one good actor - several in  
fact. The acting was all right. And it was fun to stroll  
on Broadway.
- Feb. 13. I slept till 9:30 - then out to sit hatless in the beach  
Sat. chair in the sun. Merian and Joan making mud pies. It  
is like April. 53 degrees above. And we are awakened  
every morning to sound of bird music pouring in at win-  
dows. Tonight Delos & I to a party at Sternes.
- Feb. 14. A warm rain all day, drops glittering along the twigs.  
Sun. At last it cleared enough to enable Merian to deliver  
her valentines. Miss Dunphy here for dinner. After she  
left Delos and I listened to the Symphony - then he went  
to play tennis and I to work on my review of Manhattan  
Solo. It's 5:10 now and the sun has suddenly come out.  
Sky blue with white cloud where not concealed by moving  
masses of rain clouds. Miss Dunphy told us about Truro,  
where we think we may go for a summer vacation. Now pink  
splotches of sunset all over the west - the white clouds  
tinted pink and the smoky masses of rain cloud still  
moving above.

- Feb. 15. Colder today but clear and Merian off to school so happily. Three or four more Valentines today, and how she loves them! Writing my review of "Manhattan Solo." Merian came in at noon to say, "I don't know who was wishing me bad luck today, but believe me somebody was." She had fallen and humped herself badly, spilled her milk, etc, etc. Helen is scrubbing her up now and putting on a fresh dress for return to school. I rested all afternoon then walked up to Sternes on an errand. The "Tall tree stems" which Mrs. Graham admires so much were black against a sky of mottled bright blue and white - the air fresh, and not cold. Saw High Tar tonight.
- Feb. 16. Mrs. Birney's luncheon party for me was lovely and after it was over we heard papers on the Rosseties & Lord Tennyson and then a musical program - a Russian pianist in a long white dress, very lovely. And then had tea. High Tar last night was lovely. Remember the last lines "And I can hardly wait!"
- Feb. 17. Morning at the doctor's taking basic metabollism tests and having cardiograph made. He gave me a stiff lecture about getting myself built up, as he found blood count, metabollism, everything bad. Said I should get a cane or a dog and get out into the sunshine. How Merian would love it if I chose a dog! Taking care of Merian and Joan today. Emma came in to read me some more of her book. Delossy and I quiet tonight.

- Feb. 18. Delossy still on late shift. Enjoying his liesurely morn-  
Thurs. ings and walking to school with Merian. I called for her  
at 3 today - talked with Mrs. Stanton who said that the  
judge out of fox-hounds had come up in class in connection  
with Geo. Washington's Virginian experiences and Merian  
had announced that there were fox hounds in her daddy's  
and mommy's new book "Gentlemen from England." John N.  
to dancing school. A beautiful mild day. Delossy and I  
over to Shobers tonight for chess and a pleasant evening.
- Feb. 19. Such a summerlike day that I took a long walk and lunched  
Fri. out of doors, with Joan keeping me company and Mrs.  
Shober sending over Gorgonzola cheese. To town about 3  
to meet Delossy for dinner and a play. We saw another Max-  
well Anderson play "The Masque of Kings". It's not really  
so good as High Tar but enjoyable nevertheless and we had  
a very pleasant evening. I love going to town when the  
weather is mild and I can enjoy the glitter of Broadway.
- Feb. 20. Delossy drove us to New Rochelle where we bought Merian  
Sat. two pairs of shoes. This afternoon I took to my bed -  
had supper there, in fact - and am being luxuriously lazy.
- Feb. 21. Grey, overcast. Delossy and I slept late. breakfast and  
Sun. the Sunday papers in bed - while Merian and Helen played  
at homework. This afternoon Merian to Joan's - I listen-  
ed to the symphony and read the Last Puritan - Delossy  
wrote Suns Rays and finally went to play tennis. A good  
Sunday, we agree.

Feb. 22. Walked up to the main street early through a coolish  
Mon. sunny, springlike morning. Both saw and heard a song  
sparrow! Merian and I both shampooed our hair (s) in  
preparation for our parties.

Feb. 23. Euphonia (discovered in the Last Puritan) "the condition  
Tues. of feeling well; a sense of good health "Talked to in a  
cheerful cordial overheated manner which at Great Falls  
was called being pleasant." A springlike day, up to  
New Rochelle and back by noon. Watching two fat squirrels  
with fat white bellies chase each other up and down the  
magnolia tree next door.

Feb. 24. Also from Last Puritan "Here was an ancient, an im-  
Wed. mortal conviction which the modern world chose foolish-  
ly to ignore; the inscrutable, invincible preference of  
the mind for the infinite." With his high complexion -  
a good word. Leafless purple wood, and in the midst a  
wintry sunset spread its crimson and coppery bands and  
touches of fire." And of a group of professors at  
college: "Each of them had some special knowledge or some  
intellectual hobby; and in that academic Noah's Ark  
each had his head out of some window, sniffing at the  
weather outside." P.412 On singing. Relationship sing-  
ing, drunkenness, the taking of opiates - escape from  
reality, into a dream." In remote cases of that formid-  
able program, certain advanced courses were announced  
primarily for graduates. Narrow Mountain paths up which  
learning might be traced to its source, always in the  
green earth, etc."

Feb. 25. Snow in the air but sun shining on glistening pillars  
Thurs. of cloud. To Metro. Museum for lecture on Greek Sculpture.  
Notes appended: First I want to set down two phrases  
which may be useful later in writing - the "archaic  
smile" and the fact (in Greek Sculpture) that "fragment  
is often more vivid than the whole." Our lecturer took  
us first through Egyptian rooms. Points to remember:  
Egypt. Sculpture makes mistakes purposefully, shows  
things not truly visible in order to display beard or  
apron, etc. Relief shallow because of bright light.  
Originally painted. Egypt. Sculptured for def. purposes  
wished permanence - pieces compact; no arms or legs  
sticking out. "Seated in all his dignity in a pose he  
can hold thru eternity." Purpose to all Egypt. art.  
Servant making wine thru eternity." 11th Dynasty grand  
est period. King as a sphinx - everywhere of the chisel  
a purpose - great indiv. of Egypt. sculpture, esp. eyes.  
Always conscious of modeling and shape of eyes. In Greek  
sculpt. "The boxes" "The young athlete." etc. beauty of  
youth. After morning at museum an afternoon with Blanche.  
Snow falling while we napped and talked. Delos joined us  
for sherry. Then met Sternes at Gaston A La Bonie Shope  
and went on to see Maurice Evans play Richard 11. A mag-  
nificent performance. Remember John of Gaunt's words on  
England (wish we had had them for our book) and Richard's  
speech: "For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground. And  
tell sad stories of the death of kings," etc. Also the  
scene between Gardner & Queen "I'll set a bank of me, sour  
herb of grace: Rue, even for nith, here shortly shall be  
seen, In the remembrance of a weeping Queen."

Feb. 26. Read the book I must review "Still is the Summer Night."

Fri.

Visited Merian's school & took her to dancing school.

At school they played a game in which Merian was chosen leader and had to sit up in front and choose another child. She took her time, looking around the room, and Mrs. Stanton tried to hurry her. Tommy Dwyer was waving his arms. Merian said, "Well, one thing is sure, I won't choose those people who want so much to be chosen."

(rolling her eyes the while.)

Feb. 27. Morning on book review. Afternoon on errands with D. & Sat.

M. to New Rochelle. I bought M new roller skates on which she gets along much better. Weather like spring. Bridge with Sternes tonight.

Feb. 28. Merian started Sunday School. D & I drove her up. This Sun.

afternoon she was out on roller skates; D played tennis, and we all had a happy calm day. Warm as May outside. Read Merian (at her request) story of the Resurrection tonight.

MARCH

- Mar. 1. And sunshine streaming across a springlike world. And  
Mon. Merian for some mysterious reason slightly troubled with her bad breathing, enuf so that we are keeping her out of school. She is engrossed these days in "Thru the Looking Glass." I have been writing a review of "Still is the Summer Night."
- Mar. 2. Sunny, springlike. So sorry our baby must be kept in-  
Tues. doors. Spoke tonight for a night school group of writers in Mt. Vernon. Hope I helped them. Tried out the material on the new book. Merian looks every night for a big bright star above our hill. I must find out the name for her. She is learning to type and typed a letter to Mrs. Stanton.
- Mar. 3. Weather still fair, snowless, springlike. Spring fire  
Wed. smoke in the air. Merian still ill. I gave a pleasant little tea party late this afternoon, tho'. Emma and Marion Lennard and Mrs. Grahame from across the street. Delossy writing Suns Rays tonight.
- Mar. 4. Darning, mending, and taking care of Merian. She is  
Thurs. learning to type and is wild about it. (teaching herself somewhat against my will and so likes it better.) A walk or two in accordance with Dr. Morrison's prescriptions. Delossy brought me home M. Ostenso's new book to review. Read it tonight. Sorry it isn't better.
- Mar. 5. A day of letter writing, Suns Rays writing, writing on  
Fri. my book review. 2 or 3 walks. Merian getting better. And tonight I am reading John Shuman's novel, Delossy working on The Pig.

Mar. 6. One of the few times this winter we've seen snow.

Sat.

It's sifting down slowly at 8 a.m. speckling the lawns and rocks and the mat of dead leaves on our hill. Merian wasn't able to go to her entertainment but I bought her a "Learn to Count" book on which she's working happily. Delossy home for a quiet afternoon. Roy and Emma for bridge tonight.

Mar. 7. Merian out today. Delossy drove us to Glen Island where

Sun.

we basked in the sun on the beach shielded by the wall from a sharp wind. John and Rosy out to dinner, bringing wine and flowers. We had a lovely time and later went to Emma's for cocktails (going to her garden to view crocuses, snow drops and aconitie in bloom."

Delossy called for us there after tennis.

Mar. 8. Took Merian too and from school. Finished my review

Mon.

of Martha's book. And this evening Delossy and I called on Bartnetts who are leaving tomorrow for Florida. Took Mrs. B. 2 pretty hankies.

Mar. 9. Marion Leonard drove me up to art section meeting where I heard two good papers on gothic and Renaissance sculpture papers which make me want to continue the subject. Remember to visit church of the Heavenly Rest, Fifth Ave. at 90th St. a beautiful vesper service at 4 and the best Gothic sculpture in America. And remember to read Henry Adams' "Mont St. Michel." Nowadays masons cut the stone in sculpture. The artist model it in clay. The artist used to chisel it of marble. The history of architecture and sculpture is the same. A Gothic church- no steel frame - those arches really support. Beauty subordinated to character & individuality - as opposed to Green method in which everything was sacrificed to beauty. Chartres Cathedral. 12th Cent. sculpture finest in the world - simplicity of art in 12th Century. Mrs. Randall traces history of sculpture as follows: Building instinct. 2. Desire for permanence. (Egyptian tomb building.) 3. Desire to represent beauty; rise of taste (Greeks). 4. Roman appreciation. Romans practical used statues in gardens, everywhere. Fall of Rome put civilization back 5000 years. War, famine, pestilence followed. Due to their suffering, people turned to religion. Roman Cat. church already well established. Building of churches began all over Europe. This was the beginning of Renaissance. Some churches took 100 years to build; hammer, chisel and drill. Church trying to inculcate spiritual qualities so trend away from physical ideals. Elongated emaciated statues. 5. With Renaissance came revival of interest in manor man. Immense vitality desire to expand.

- Mar. 9. Only 1 in 1000 could read. Sculpture in churches told  
TuesCont. the story. Power, luxury, riches. Plain draperies re-  
placed by rich brocades. Every inch of space decorated.  
Finally the development of technique which marks decay.  
Some great names: Pizamus; (father, son, uncle); Quinsico,  
Della Robbia, Verrocchio, San Sovino, Michael Angelo,  
the top. Remember Renaissance sculptors decorated tombs,  
pulpits, choir lofts. A long time before they began on  
their homes or huilt palaces everything enriched with  
carving. Bronze doors. Home in a beautiful light spring  
snow storm. Merian sat for pictures. Delossy and I a  
quiet evening.
- Mar. 10. Only a faint sprinkle of snow remains on pines and lawns.  
Wed. Helen off for her permanent. Read gallant Hill and Emma  
came at the cocktail hour, bringing cocktails a good  
time. Colder.
- Mar. 11. Big snow flakes in the air this morning. Spattering on  
Thurs. rooftops. and Lawns already covered. It continued all  
day. Emma and I to Mrs. Davis party. Delossy and I  
listening to the radio tonight. Merians grade on the  
platform at Assembly today.
- Mar. 12. Sunny, world speckled with white.  
Fri.
- Mar. 13. Nothing.  
Sat.
- Mar. 14. Nothing.  
Sun.

- Mar. 15. Such snow, sleet and rain that Delossy taxied to the  
Mon. station while Merian did not go to school at all. I am working on review of Gallows Hill. Had to go out to mail income tax through sleet and snow. We expected to see copies of the book today - but none yet. On radio heard Debussy's L'Après-Midi d'un faune. Is it the flute which sounds those opening notes? Also Mozart's Jupiter Symphony which is majestic - the muted violins.
- Mar. 16. A slate colored sky with a rim of light at the horizon.  
Tues. Clear. Now at 8 o'clock the sky is a soft bright blue. Spread with thin clouds. Sun out, dazzlingly bright. To town to sell the book's I've been reviewing, to shop, to meet Cecile and Emma and Irmengarde for lunch and to go to the flower show. Met Delos for the ride home but did not see copies of the book. Merian has a sore throat tonight.
- Mar. 17. On this St. Patrick's Day we saw the first copy of  
Wed. Gentleman from England. And it looks swell! I had a hectic day. Appointment with doctor cancelled but I had to leave Merian sick and rush to town for lunch with Ruth Bladgett who is leaving for Boston and rush back to care for my baby. Delos arrived at 5:30, jubilant with the book! Don Bartnett for dinner and the movies. Later we dropped in to Sternes to celebrate with a cocktail. Their darling honey-colored cocker, Mister, killed last night. Windy and cold.

- Mar. 18. More springlike but still raw. I got out this morning,  
Thurs. shopping, but the rest of the day was taking care of Merian as Helen had her half holiday. Merian had an ear-ache in the night - today her eyes are matterating and she has a temperature of almost 101. Emma came in with an advance copy of her new child's book "Miranda is a Princess" for Merian. Talked with Dr. Wightman about Merian and Delossy and I early to bed.
- Mar. 19. So springlike and warm. A joy to be out. Have I recorded  
Fri. that our daffodils and tulips are well up, though not in bloom. Talked to Nan and heard that Latham and the Mac-Millan Sales Mgr. expect a 30,000 sale at least. I called Delossy and we almost burst with excitement. Our little tunky's ear started aching again so I called Dr. Wightman. He finds that she has only a cold but it's a mean one. Delos and I so happy tonight.
- Mar. 20. Started out gloriously; then decided to rain and hail. But  
Sat. the rain had a springlike sound somehow. Out marketing for our dinner party tonight. Merian in bed all day, but getting better. Nannine and Howard Haycroft out to dinner tonight, and the news on the book so glorious. Talk of a second edition - of beautiful posters for the bookshops-etc. etc. Roy and Emma dropped in.
- Mar. 21. A quiet day. Delos and I had a short walk. Day sunshiny but  
Sun. raw nevertheless. This afternoon we listened to Philharmonic concert. Straus's Elektra. Delos at his tennis tonight. Merian up and dressed today. We are planning (to get our minds off the book) a Bermuda vacation.

Mar. 22. The family is holiday mad. Resolving not to talk or  
 Mon. think about our book, we have begun to plan a vacation  
 and I spent the morning sending out cards of inquiry to  
 steamship companies and to hotels and boarding houses and  
 Chambers of Commerce in Canada and Bermuda. Merian and I  
 out of doors a while today. Windy but pleasant with plenty  
 of sunshine. Daffodils or jonquils, pale yellow green  
 sheaths, pushing upward in our garden. People raking and  
 cleaning their yards. Talk of robins. Monday aft. listen-  
 ing to a concert. Heard the Waltz from Tchaikovsky's Sleep-  
 ing Beauty Ballet - very familiar but how exquisite. Also  
 Haydon's LaChasse. Merian said, "What a pity you and daddy  
 didn't hear that before you wrote Gentlemen from England."

Mar. 23. 7:30 a.m. A robin and a junco in Merian's garden. To Manor  
 Tues. Club to hear Mrs. Biney talk on Charleston and Dr. Wiggam  
 on "Who is to Inherit America." Irma Pendleton brought me  
 home. Delossy so tired. But I really believe we are going  
 to take our vacation next month and he can rest on Florida  
 sands. Merian has two loose teeth and her back hair can  
 now all be braided into a magnificent pigtail.

Mar. 24. To Dr. Morrison, who says I need Florida too, and to town  
 Wed. to lunch with Rosy and to shop. Came out on train with my  
 Delossy who was a little less tired tonight and we talked  
 book and vacation.

**And No Bell Rings**

By JOSEPHINE W. JOHNSON

... **AND** no bell rings

Some day when all the little bills are paid,  
 And all the letters answered, and the door  
 Chained and bolted, and the chair  
 Propped under the handle, and no bell  
 Rings.—

In that day we will rise and walk to the window,  
 We will rise and kneel by the window  
 And observe the mountains where the eagles nest.

- Mar. 25. The morning at writing and darning. Helen left at noon and  
Thurs. at 2:15 I picked up Merian at school and Mrs. Jordan took us half way to New Rochelle. While we were on the street car, a storm of rain and hail began. Shopped and bought Merian a divine Easter bonnet. Home to get dinner for Delos. When he went over to see Mr. Shober's radio, I dropped into bed, thinking about Florida.
- Mar. 26. First day of vacation! Hot cross buns for breakfast! And  
Fri. the three of us gabbling about Florida. Sunny but a raw piercing wind. To town while Merian went to lunch with Joan. Met Delos at Wanamakers and he bought me a beautiful traveling bag. Then we went to tea with Miss Hutchinson (MacMillan-publicity), to dinner at The Jumble Shop and to see The Amazing Dr. Chitterling. Most amusing. In a raw wind, home.
- Mar. 27. Sunnier than ever but still with the sharp piercing wind  
Sat. which I so despise. Merian and Laurie to the Main Street with me. For dinner tonight the Dunns, the Sternes and Rosy. A very pleasant time. Rosy is staying all night and for breakfast-in-bed. She brought Merian beautiful white gloves for Easter.
- Mar. 28. Merian off to Sunday School in a new blue poke bonnet with  
Sun. red feather, red coat and sparkling white gloves. Rosy, Delos and I called for her at 11 and Merian and I stopped for part of the real church service. Gave Helen the day off and we got our own lunch. This afternoon after Rosy left Merian, Joan and I colored Easter eggs. Delos playing tennis.

- Mar. 29. Getting a permanent from 9:30 to 2 and this morning  
Mon. (Mar. 29) Merian remarked at breakfast, "Why mommy your  
hair doesn't look as tho it had a permanent in it."  
Shopped until I met Delos at 4.55. To bed with a head-  
ache while Delossy went to the movies with Roy. Merian  
and Joan playing all day. A grand fat letter from Katie.  
Less cold today. Sunshiny.
- Mar. 30. A busy day but a good one all in the March winds. Pub  
Tues. licity stories for Miss Hutchinson. Dr. Smith. Manor  
Club and an excellent lecture by Col. Isham on Lawrence  
in Arabia. Call on Jordans to talk about Florida.
- Mar. 31. Mother gets her copy of the book today. Resting for  
Wed. the tea. Joan and Merian playing together all day and  
every day.

APRIL

- Apr. 1. I went into town at around noon feeling very low, lonesome  
Thurs. for the Minnesota family, especially for daddy. Took one of Katie's Theosophy papers in my bag to brace me up. Went to Franklin Simon's for facial and manicure. Then to Nan's & found a beautiful corsage from Roy and Emma. Got into my long dress and the party began. The tea couldn't have been nicer. It seemed good to see our friends among the "important strangers." John and Rosy took us out to dinner after the tea was over.
- Apr. 2. In bed with a headache as an aftermath of yesterday's ex-  
Fri. citement. At noon Mrs. Jordan, Bobby, Merian and I to town to the circus. It was the small Cole Bros-Clyde Beatty circus; in the Hippodrome instead of the Garden. Only one ring it was like a country circus and the rather mediocre tricks of 2 or 3 trapeze performers near at hand seem more marvelous than those of a hundred swaying in the garden. Delossy came home on our train. The clown talked to Merian. She was very poised altho excited and told him that she went to "Christ Church Sunday School."
- Apr. 3. The circus, evidently was as good as a tonic for I woke this morning feeling happy and well - quite myself again. Went to town to buy a dress and had excellent luck. Bought a beige and brown dress, and shoes and gloves to match. Home to rest all afternoon. Tonight we went to dinner at Hackneys, stopping first for cocktails with the Sternes.

- Apr. 4. A wire from mother saying that she has finished the book  
Sun. and that she is entranced with it." Took Merian to school  
& called at Bartnetts for their copy. M.& B. say it's a  
very fine book. (We needed their copy as we sent ours to  
Mother and can't get more until the 6th.) Blanche came out  
for a lovely chicken dinner & we had a pleasant day. It's  
coolish. Emma's garden is patched with orange crocuses.
- Apr. 5. The bird song in the early morning - 5, 6 or so - is so  
Mon. springlike. So fresh like bubbling water. To town to broad  
cast with Mary Margaret McBride (Martha Deane) over WOR  
at 2 o'clock. Delos and I. It was fun. Edwin C. Hill gave  
his column to book tonight, praising it mightily. Shobers  
called us over for a cocktail this evening to drink to the  
Gentlemen. Book out tomorrow.
- Apr. 6. Publication day went beautifully except for an ironical  
Tues. twist at the end. Morning with Merian who was busy com-  
posing a letter which read as follows: "MacMillan Co. Dear  
Sirs: I am writing Mary Chick and Fluffy Cat. The book is  
about a chick and a cat. Do you want to publish it? Merian  
Lovelace." Delos and I met at Woman Pays at 1 & had a grand  
time. The young Belfriges were guests of honor also & the  
affair went off with a bang. Delos & I celebrated with  
dinner downtown & the play "Tovarich." But when we arrived  
home, tired and elated, here was a wire from Stella saying  
that there wasn't a copy of the book for sale in the Twin  
Cities. A typographical error had caused all copies to be  
returned. Of course we are wondering whether after all this  
blaze of publicity, there are no copies for sale in New York!

- Apr. 6. But thought it too horrible to entertain. Grand reviews to-  
Tues.  
Contd. night in Sun and Brooklyn Eagle. Weather rainy this morning  
but sultry this afternoon and all gay springlike clothes,  
small peaked hats, hats with flowers, wool suits in bright  
pastels, capes over print dresses, etc. etc. appeared on  
street. → Merian to school. I walked up with her. Robins and  
Apr. 7. orange and purple crocuses on every hand. Grand to have  
Wed. book launched if only its on sale. Delos is finding out.  
Helen off so I am taking care of Katherine, Merian & Joan.
- Apr. 8. To Dr. Hafford & then to Dr. Brodhead. Tooth extracted. Home  
Thurs. to bed to nurse my face & revel in grand ads & posters for  
G from E. Emma in with a handful of crocuses. D. & I gave  
Merian a book and she was really moved. Hid her head in my  
shoulder; then clasped book in her arms and stamped down  
stairs to show it to Helen.
- Apr. 9. Rainy. Went to town and arranged for our trip. We are going  
Fri. to Bermuda - heavenly thought! But what with the cold &  
rain my throat began to feel so sore & myself so achy that  
I hurried home & to bed. Delos turned the party down too &  
both of us pretty blue, with bad news from Grace and a very  
bad review of G from E in next Sunday's Times. But our  
vacation is coming - and how we need it.

- Apr. 10. Every morning now a familiar bird call - two notes and  
Sat. then three. So sweet. It comes very early, when I wake at  
4 o'clock and then fall asleep again. From South Wind: "Delve  
deeply; not too deeply into the past, for it may make you  
derivative. Nor yet into yourself. It will make you intro-  
spective. Delve into the living world and strive to bind  
yourself to its movement by a chain of your own welding.  
Once that is established, you are unassailable. Externa-  
lize yourself!" Also "What is all wisdom save a collection  
of platitudes?"
- Apr. 11. Tried to get up for dinner. Back to bed. A nuisance when  
Sun. I want so much to be getting ready for our vacation. Mer-  
ian to Sunday school this morning but staying in this after-  
noon. The weather changeable - first sunny, then snowy, then  
rainy. Delos has been writing Sun's Rays & wrapping books &  
now is off to his tennis. I am reading a book called "How  
to Understand Music."
- Apr. 12. Woke feeling better. Am attempting trip to New Rochelle.  
Transacted my business there this morning but broke my  
other engagements & came back to bed. To add to the tragico-  
mic situation Merian came down with a cold today. Helen  
nursing us both & says that daffs are so nearly in bud  
that we can have corsages for our departure Thursday. Delossy  
keeping our date with Rosy in town. I listened to Mozart's  
Tenth - Jupiter - Symphony again. How marvelous that attack  
and descent, attack and descent in first movement. What in-  
struments do that?

- Apr. 13. To Dr. Morrison who gave me  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour to shop and said I must  
Tues. stay in bed until we leave on Thursday! Merian in bed, too, but bettering (sucking lemons, dear lamb, to help herself.) 3 letters from mother today, 2 of them special. Such is her excitement about the book. Forsythia down the street in bloom, and Shober's magnolia has big fat pink buds. Lying in bed now listening to a robin.
- Apr. 14. In bed - organizing & packing. A glorious day. One of those  
Wed. enchanted days which the unsupported word April summons forth. A green cast to bushes, forsythia bursting into gold, great pink buds on the magnolia, birds chirping and singing morning and evening. Emma dropped in to see me.
- Apr. 15. A happy morning. Mrs. Dunphy sent me a corsage of gardenias  
Thurs. and Emma came bringing an autographed copy of Esther Farbers "Paradise." Hohn drove us to the boat. Sun streaming across Hudson. Delossy met us - Helen left - the boat pulled out. The three of us had tea in the lounge after we had seen the Goddess and the skyline safely out of sight. Everyone wearing flowers, lots of gardenias and orchids. Delos brought Merian violets. Down to our cabin to find a huge, huge box of roses and gladioli from the Sun. Wasn't that lovely! Smart gay looking people in pastels, wools and felts and sweaters. Steward arrives and says to Delos "The Captains compliments, Sir," and will you sit at his table?" But we decided not to since we have Merian. Got rolled up in rugs on cushions in deck chairs. Merian into her blue silk dress. Many dressed for dinner but we didn't. An open ocean by then & feeling a bit sickish, so sought our stateroom. Delossy climbed a ladder to his berth & M & I each crept into our own.

~~Great the~~  
Apr. 16. A choppy sea and we all a bit sick but not enuf to spoil our  
Fri. trip. (forgot to say that last night we had tons of mail from  
Minnesota.) Such fun. Merian - frewed up - in between times  
as livèly as a cricket - but at last fell fast asleep & awoke  
perfectly well. Delos & I invited to cocktails with the Captain,  
but I couldn't leave Merian and we spelled each other off for  
lunch. By mid-afternoon we all feeling fine. M & D took in  
movie, horse races - we changed our clothes for dinner. I  
feel like a new person.

Apr. 17. And here we are in a pink coral house, "The Pebble" on a  
Sat. hillside covered with pines and palms, overlooking a half  
circle of ocean - bright light blue near shore, indigo in  
it's outer rim, & with surf crashing on the shore. Beauty  
of view from our gallery beyond description. We saw Ber-  
muda from porthole this morning, & after breakfast from  
the deck. Amazed by the pines; charmed by bright colors  
of bay, sky and hills with white houses. Miss Bule met us.  
Carriage ride out to The Pebble. Saw roses, easter lilies,  
oleander, hibiscus, palm trees, salt grapes. Population  
Portugese, negro and mixture. Our landlady a negress, her  
husband a Portugese. The house divine. Mrs. Simmons (colored)  
next door will clean & wash for us. Merian & Delos in the  
suff by noon. We devoured milk, bread and cheese for lunch.  
Now cook stove has arrived and we are about to get supper.

Apr. 18. Morning & afternoon on beach. Less windy. How smell of oil  
Sun. stove reminds me of free lance days in the country! Wrote in  
such a hurry last night, amazed to see I have not described  
The Pebble. It is a coral pink plastered house on a hillside  
(covered with pines and palms) 156 yds. perhaps above the sea.  
An arc of greenish blue water with soapsuddy surf foaming on  
the shore. I never saw such color as the water has. Sky some-  
times naked, sometimes clothed magnificently with clouds.  
Delos can throw a stone from our pink gallery into the sea.

Apr. 19. Today divinely warm. Delos, Merian and I took a walk to store  
Mon. & post office. Remember carriages with tasseled tops and col-  
ored drivers, bicycles with baskets on front ridden by blacks,  
by Bermudian English and by Americans in smart tourists  
clothes, remember the guarries with their pinky tinge, the  
pine-clothed hills, the winding roads, often with pinky white  
flower-covered walls penning them in - sometimes hedges of  
blooming hibiscus & oleander. Morning glories everywhere. Houses  
of natives & estates alike are pink or white. Cows, goats,  
ducks, chickens. Organ music from one humble cabin. Colored  
children going to school. Of birds we have seen cardinals,  
redbirds, bluebirds, catbirds and sparrows. Merian gathered  
a bouquet of dainty native wild flowers - will get the names.  
Natives much excited because whales are back - they always  
come in April. Are spouting out in front of our house. Had  
a huge strawberry shortcase for lunch. Bought them from a  
native who refused to sell yesterday because it was Sunday.  
Also eating garden pea and lettuce & carrots. Banana trees,  
but bahanas not yet ripe. English money of course. Every one  
says "good morning" to everybody else.

- Apr. 19. Delos's Bermuda note: Little negro boy lying on porch in sun  
Mon.  
Contd. waving an hibiscus blossom over his nose. --- This afternoon Merian and I stayed indoors in the cool, nursing sunburn, while Delossy bathed. Then all stayed out on the terrace to watch the sunset. After supper Merian all tucked in - Delos and I stepped out on the gallery. Half moon, light scudding clouds seemed to be standing still & the bright clouds scudding. We had mail today.
- Apr. 20. All too sunburned to bathe today but took a hike over our  
Tues. hills to Coral Beach and back. This surfside of Island wild with rough grass (having the little blue Bermudian flower growing in it) Wrote letters & rested in sun on terrace all afternoon. Wind which we had feared was permanent has died down.
- Apr. 21. Up early to go to Hamilton. Day at 7 a.m. warm and bright.  
Wed. Cocks crowing. Walked to Pajet Ferry & ferried over the bright water. Spent morning wandering through Hamilton, a little like New Orleans. And like Porta del Garde & Tierra del Furga. Lunched with Miss Breen and home.
- Apr. 22. One day much like another. Walks, bathing, strawberry short-  
Thurs. cakes. The wind has died down. Things we have noticed. - no squirrels. Holes in ground used by land crabs. Lizards in the trees. Mail from home with clippings about the book. I am reading Paradise.
- Apr. 23. The wind is back again but we mind it less now that we know  
Fri. it only comes in spasms. In morning walked to Warwick. Bathed in afternoon. But driven from the beach by a shower which in turn was soon ended.

Apr. 24. Too tired yesterday so I'm resting today. Delossy brought me  
Sat. my coffee to bed, & I didn't go with him to market nor with him and Merian to the beach. I am writing now alone in the sunshine on the gallery. Merian so sweet with her 2 braids & ribbons and irregular assortment of teeth. She is determined that we shall read her G from E. She lives in her games. She is ducks, chicks, kittens and she uses such big words. "Mary chick is the most beautiful chick in the whole chicken civilization."

Apr. 25. My 45th birthday. Delossy wished me Happy Birthday & vol-  
Sun. unteered sour milk pancakes for the celebration. Merian with characteristic indirectness said it was Mrs. Duck's birthday & she was planning something (my present was the beautiful traveling bag) But we were all very happy. Warm today, so down to the beach early. Very few shells, no crabs, clams, etc. on this beach. Exceeding clean white sand. Sand pipers and beautiful gull-like birds with long tails. People in smart sports clothes change to bathing suits behind the rocks. Have been known to go in "raw". Colored boys playing leap frog. Great simplicity all through the island. Now I am up at the Pebble preparing a picnic to take back to the beach - hard boiled eggs, bread and butter, tomato juice and cake. Tonight the moon overcast, glowing through cloud. Last night a full moon & the stars were brilliantly clear. We saw the three stars in Orion's belt.

Apr. 26. Overcast, but we started off for St. George's. Took the  
Mon. little r.r. at Cobb's Hill. North side of the island wilder and more bleak than ours - but St. George much nicer than Hamilton - a white clean old town with lanes and small winding streets. Browsed in Historical Society housed in a small store house buried in foliage, very old. Saw old St. Peters - easter lilies, smelling up the church but divinely. Somers Park. Town was founded 1609, or thereabouts. Rain began and we lunched at the casino, cheering ourselves with rum "swizzles" (the native drink) and planter's punch. Home in the rain via Hamilton & Paget Ferry & a hansom cab, a rubber robe buttoned across us, colored driver up front. Now at home before a roaring grate fire - all in warm clothes. White caps on our sea & rain on our windows. Bought a copy of "Time." The gull-like birds we see are Long Tails - red beaks, black tips on strong purple wings, long delicate tails.

Apr. 27. It poured all night but was never lovelier than this morn-  
Tues. ing from our gallery - sunshiny & the blue sea just racing in. M & D on beach this morning; I wrote letters. Our sweet faced Mrs. Simmons washing & cleaning for us. Her dog, typical of the island dogs, is whippet crossed with terrier. It was pointed out to us yesterday on the north shore that the water there is red, white and blue. So it is, & so it is in front of our house. Red from what we think is a coral formation: white from the curling surf; & blue from its natural color. Such a blue! It reminds me of clear water into which bluing has been poured. It is sometimes a peacock blue, sometimes the color of sapphires. Delos calls it a milky emerald. Sky overcast this afternoon. Merian has a pet snail.

Apr. 28. Raining, Monday; overcast, Tuesday: Wednesday, a blazing <sup>swirl</sup> ~~gentl~~  
Wed. of a day, until 11. We lay on the gallery in a minimum of clothes. Now Delos & Merian are in the water - the sea is brilliantly blue and tossing into white surf - I can look down from the gallery and see Delos swimming to the atoll. Merian striding along the sand - such a sturdy little figure. Now I am going to get dinner. Then ring the big bell for them to come. Walked this afternoon to Warwick Post Office and back, buying homemade bread, rolls and doughnuts by the way.

Apr. 29. Blissfully warm. Took a picnic to the beach. Washed our hairs  
Thurs. this afternoon. Vacation flying, alas!

Apr. 30. We had intended to go to the Aquarium today, but Delossy was  
Fri. sick in the night & besides the day is overcast & we want a bright day for the fishes. Merian is playing Mrs. Chick & Delos & I (both in bed) are Blackie & Mary Chick respectively. Delos getting slightly bored with his "bad" role. 11 a.m. 3 whales out in the sea in front of our house. Look like black sticks floating on the water. Natives on the hill with a telescope. Delossy & Merian both under the weather. Delos & I reading "How to Understand Music". Interested in Haydon biography. "Kappelmeister music - to characterize the composition of talented mediocrity." And is not this a story: idea on a title Beethoven's Fifty Symphony - supposed to revolve around idea of Man's contention with Fate." And for once there is a measure of substantiation from the creator himself. Regarding the peremptory motive of 4 notes announced fortissimo without a bar of introduction in the first movement, Beethoven

Apr. 30. said: "So fate knocks at the door." Mail tonight - a per-  
Fri.  
contd. fect avalanche - the nicest thing in it a letter from Judge  
Haycroft approving the book!

MAY

May 1.  
Sat.

Up early and <sup>as</sup> sky was overcast, We off to the Aquarium. The fishes really amazing, tho the devil fish (octopus) nauseated one. Spread out he is like a starfish. But he is almost never spread out, always turning and curling. Before your eyes he changes his color. While we watched one horrible one changed from white to brown and from brown to pink. Also ate a shell fish. The golden grouper is a fairytale yellow. The femal sea horse lays her eggs in the pouch of the male. I liked best the beautiful lavender coral fans, the pale grey blue and pink sea anemour, the brain coral which makes the coral rock. Merian says write down about the penguins. They climbed the diving board and dived in furn just like human beings. To Hamilton to lunch and shop and home by ferry. Cold, but had a lovely day.

May 2.  
Sun.

Woke to rain, but by 11 (after sour milk pancakes) the sun is out & blazing down on our gallery where I am writing. But it turned cold and we spent the day mostly inside. At night got got to laughing at the way we went to bed - extra blankets, a bedspread draped at the head of my bed to keep out draughts, Delos in a sweat shirt above pajamas and Merian in the white beret!

May 3.  
Mon.

Warm as summer again. All day on the beach, with lunch on the gallery in bathing suits. Clouds superb today - in mountain ridges, and in isolated puffs and animal and bird shapes. Devoting ourselves to cocconut oil.

- May 4. Warm again. Off to Firth's at 9 a.m. This afternoon to the  
Tues. beach for the S. & S. Club (Merian's invention; the Sun and Surf Club). Met some pleasant people from Silver Mine, Conn. Edwin Giorgi, the artist, & his wife and Mr. Bing. Today was glorious.
- May 5. This morning we went to see Mr. Frith's daughter's garden. It  
Wed. had won the prize for all Bermuda for a cottage garden. Our way led down the so-called Middle Road Walls enclosing beautiful cottages. Mr. Frith himself & his wife live in a big double-galleried house on an acre of land. (speak with English accent). He works at store from 6:30 a.m. to 7 P.M. but seems to have considerable wealth. His daughter lives next door. Fences of stripped cedar. Flowers in profusion. Nasturtiums, Bachelor buttons, phlox, most kinds I didn't know. Banana trees, Pride of India tree, lemon tree, This afternoon we spent on the beach. A strawberry shortcake for supper. It was one of our nicest days. Burning hot sand, wind enough to make sea interesting.
- May 6. Sunny again, and windy. U.S. destroyer "Case" setting out to  
Thurs. sea as we drink our second cup of coffee on the gallery. Delos & Merian to the beach while I wait for grocery deliveries - But I soon joined them and the Georgis. Heavenly on the beach, hot sun and a lively sea.

May 7. A persistent rain upset our plans for today. I was to have  
Fri. shopped in Hamilton & M. & D. were to have joined me for the  
band concert there. But it has been restful to stay at home.  
Delos walked to town last night for newspapers & magazines and  
Merian is busy with her work book. Sometimes the rain stops  
but the air is heavy, humid. Once we saw what seemed to be a  
mist advancing across the sea and in a moment rain was slapping  
our window panes. Mrs. Astwood in:- Island names - Astwood,  
Frith, Smith. Islands which we have been calling atolls are  
here called "boilers." Georgis saw a 6 foot shark between our  
nearest boiler and the beach while M & D. were on said boiler.  
Whale boats were out, the day the whales were here.

May 8. And the vacation's end. Raining but by the time we were packed  
Sat. & off driving in a carriage toward Hamilton, the rain was  
little more than a mist. We took the Middle Road and then the  
bay road, and now the hibiscus and oleanders had come out in  
the rain. Remember morning glories everywhere, big purple trum-  
pets. Shopped for souvenirs, lunched, and then on the boat at  
1:30. We sailed at 3 - the sea was smooth as a plate. I had  
already unpacked and we had changed into white clothes. Merian  
to her pink dress and hair ribbon. We had tea in the lounge  
and at last Merian was put to bed. Delos & I got into evening  
clothes & had a cocktail before going to second sitting of  
dinner. Everyone in such beautiful clothes. it was fun. After-  
wards we danced. Ship sailing along through the mild dark.

May 9. What to take for the boat trip to Bermuda is \* plenty of  
Sun. splashy linens for breakfast; soft wooly sports suits with  
pastelle sweaters and hats for during day; and lots of even-  
ing clothes. Merian and Delos had a strenuous day while I  
luxuriated in idleness (some pleasant people named Jones in  
adjoining deck chairs.) D & M went to church at 11, lunch (all  
of us at 1:15), a movie for them at 2:30, tea (all of us) on  
deck. Then D & M, went swimming in the pool. Merian so fear-  
less. Will we ever forget her on the white rubber horse! After  
we put her down, D & I had rum nurzzies in cocktail room, then  
later dinner and dancing again. Such fun to be (frivolous! Such  
a beautiful vacation it has been.

May 10. Landed at 9 - Delos off to the office, looking tanned, handsome  
Mon. and excited. Merian & I saw the bags through customs. People  
bringing in wooden cases of liquor, easter lily bulbs, etc.etc.  
It was very tedious. We caught the 11:23 for home. Even from  
train could see how world here had changed. So warm, coats un-  
necessary. Trees in full leaf. Lilacs, cherry trees, peach  
trees, wisteria and dogwood in bloom. Jap. cherry trees also.  
Tulips & other lovely garden flowers. But especially the soft  
new green. Helen waiting in clean white uniform. House simply  
radiant. An avalanche of mail waiting. Bustling about seeing  
Shobers & Dunphys & Sternes (after Delos came home.) So happy  
to be back. And a letter from mother has good news about Strut-  
wear and says that 905 is sold!

- May 11. Emma's garden, last night, so lovely. Thrushes singing, calling  
Tues. to each other softly through the scented green dusk, that  
indescribably sweetly liquid tone. Tulips, little yellow prim-  
roses, pansies, phlox, bleeding heart & so many other flowers  
in bloom. We have missed the daffs. Today a vile day at first.  
Headache, shopping. beauty work. But Emma drove me to town to  
tea for Irmengarde & enroute we stopped at Lord & Taylors &  
bought me a beautiful bright tan soft wool suit. The tea plea-  
sant & evening at home alone pleasant also.
- May 12. And we hear the thrushes in the early morning - & see the green  
Wed. leaves outside our windows. Helen had the half day off & I had  
a busy day with unpacking & settling, writing to mother & getti-  
ing souvenirs mailed. It was Coronation Day & we breakfasted  
in front of the radio - at least Merian did - and when I took  
Merian to school found children & teachers in the auditorium  
listening. I was impressed particularly by the King's address  
& his courage in overcoming his stutter. He spoke slowly but  
distinctly & with great sincerity.
- May 13. Emma's birthday. Read Maugham's "Theatre" an improper but amusing  
Thurs. book, & was lazy while Helen took Merian & Joan to the park. I  
sat on the porch and listened to the thrushes. Ought to put a  
garden in. Our present for Emma didn't come & after Delos got  
home we concocted a rhyme. A birthday dinner & bridge at Sternes.  
Rained in snatches all day.
- May 14. Raining today & our baby woke with a sore throat, & inflamed eyes  
Fri. Have been reading Irmengarde's Hop, Skip & Fly to her. It's charm-  
ing. Up to Bartnetts with souvenirs. Raining, spring torrent to-  
night.

- May 15. But today sunny & lilac scented. Merian still in bed & I spent Sat. a good deal of time with her while Delos, this afternoon played tennis. Shobers over tonight.
- May 16. To Emma's garden for cocktails before lunch. The blue phlox in Sun. bloom - so lovely in the sunshine & against the grey rocks. Tulips, primroses, azaleas. Her garden enchanting. Her aunt from Birmingham here. The rest of our day spent quietly at home with Irmengarde here for supper.
- May 17. Sunny and showery by turns. I have forgotten to comment on the Mon. dogwood trees which are in bloom everywhere. To Dr. Hafford for a tooth cleaning. Merian still in bed. D. & I a lovely twilight walk. Thrushes singing.
- May. 18. Merian still sick; thru the divinest day. The world a fairy Tues. land. Robin sitting on her next under our eaves, to M's delight. I gardened, brought black earth down from the hill for our window box and borders.
- May 19. Rainy. Sat with Merian till 3 when went to town to Frick Wed. Museum. Enjoyed the house and rooms as much as the pictures tho a most interesting collection. Cocktail party at Carolyns for Mervyn & Dora.
- May 20. Gardening and I rather enjoy it. Getting black dirt from the Thurs. hillside, setting out plants & planting nasturtiums. This afternoon took Merian for her X-ray. Showery. Robin still on her next. White iris on Shober's hillside. Dogwood & lilacs, tulips & phlox - how lovely spring is. Delos & I tonight listened to Mozart Concerts in A major. Zimbalist playing.

May 21. Up early to walk to school with Merian. Home to spade up  
Fri. our upper garden. Then lay in beach chair in hot sun reading  
Elis. Bowden's "A House in Paris". To Dr. Morrison's & then  
to town with Emma, to Irmengarde's, to Carolyn's and to China-  
town with a party. Narrow streets, bright lights, chinese  
music, foreign signs, small folded Chinese newspapers, souvenirs  
for sale -- carved ivory, bulbs, nuts and ginger, china.  
Ride home to Minnie's chocolate cake.

May 22. Merian has her second tooth out in a week. This is an upper  
Sat. front one, changes her look entirely & gives her a lisp. She  
is enchanting. She & I to Dr. Wightman this morning. (He says  
the removal of the tonsils can wait for June.) Bobby Jordan  
over this afternoon. He & Merian are picking violets on the  
hill & painting in front yard. We with Sternes this evening  
to see Coronation films. Horsechestnut trees, snowballs &  
bridal wreath in bloom now. Orioles, catbirds about.

May 23. Breakfast in bed & Delos off to Sunday School with Merian who  
Sun. looks adorable in poke bonnet & tweed coat. Then D on to his  
tennis & I must dress. I called for M. & Emma brought us back  
to her garden. Mountain Laurel & rhododendron budded. Bridal  
wreath in white cascades. Tulips, phlox, forget-me-nots,  
azalea, oh, the garden so lovely! Delos & I over there again  
this afternoon & a sudden shower drove us indoors. How fresh  
the rain made the grass smell! To call on Bartnetts & home.  
Finished "A House in Paris."

May 24. Morning - Putting Arsenate of lead into garden plot which has  
Mon. Japanese Beetles. Then writing letters. Afternoon - darning in  
the sunshine on lawn. Saw a big black bird with two frantic  
robins in pursuit. Merian and Laurie home from school beaming -  
Merian invited to Laurie's house. The Jordans over tonight.  
Mrs. J. tells us there was a battle in school & Merian pulled  
a chair out from under Bobby Donahoe, our gentle Merian! Merian  
when questioned next morning in an off-hand way as to how school  
went yesterday said "All right. Why? Why do you ask?" But evi-  
dently she came out all right in the affair for she started off  
to school this morning in fine fettle. Delos & I were invited to  
a dinner party for Sherwood Anderson last night but couldn't go.  
Laurie, Teddy, Merian & I planted the garden this afternoon. In  
intervals of the day I read "The Outward Room" - a book full of  
suspense. Some delicately lovely writing - "Webs of Cloud" -  
but not a great book, it seems to me. D. & I. quiet tonight.

May 25. Walked to the train with Delos thru this lovely spring world.  
Tues. Rhododendrons now in bloom, weigelia delicately lovely and still  
the azaleas. Home to make a determined stab at my letters!

May 26. D & I listen every evening to music on the radio hunting for  
Wed. compositions we studied in Bermuda. Listened tonight to a Bach  
Fugue. Melodies pursuing one another. A good simile for re-  
curring conflicting thoughts or emotions.

- May 27. Helen off duty this afternoon & Merian & I had visitors -  
Thurs. first Mrs. Grahame & Sarah Jane, who joined us on the lawn;  
then the 3 Floyds (Betty is to have a baby) for whom (not  
the baby) Delos made highballs & we were all very merry.  
Then Roy & Emma in to plan weekend with us. Bridal wreath  
foaming up all about our window boxes with their gay red  
geraniums. Bleeding heart fading. Our baby robins came to grief.  
Merian and Helen buried one. Reading "Of Mice & Men" Steinbeck.  
Good.
- May 28. Overcast. To town with an umbrella and coat which shortly were  
Fri. entirely useless. Shopped madly all day & bought a new bed-  
spread, Belgian weave, very nice. Also a pique dress and bed-  
room slippers for myself - need uniforms for Helen - & fresh  
sand for Merian's sandbox which Helen has painted along with  
garden table & other things. Met Delossy for dinner and saw  
"Having wonderful time". Overrated but mildly amusing.
- May 29. Delos had morning off. We are all busy with our very simple  
Sat. gardening. Nasturtiums, morning glories, bachelor buttons all  
up & D is building a rock wall to give us a little more garden-  
ing space. Merian to movies with Laurie & with me to Emma's  
garden this afternoon. Engels there. D & I stayed to dinner.  
Beautiful pink Weigelia hedge in bloom and cascades of bridal  
wreath. Tulips are gone & purple iris & blue phlox make a  
subdued and melancholy garden, with thrushes calling.

May 30. This morning Delossy played tennis while Merian went to  
Sun. Sunday school. This afternoon Delos took us on a picnic  
but I'll never let him do so on a holiday again. He was an  
angel but it's asking too much of him. Roads so crowded  
with cars. Camp sites overflowing with low class people.  
Pleasant to see them enjoying themselves but that was only  
pleasant thing about the expedition - except perhaps smell  
of picnic coffee boiling. Buttercups and wild roses in bloom  
along roadsides.

May 31. The heat arrived today - & a threat of open warfare between  
Mon. Germany & Spain. We spent the morning between building a  
rock wall (Delos) decorating a bike (Merian) & getting  
ready for company (Helen & me) at 10 Delossy to play tennis,  
Merian off to the parade and I welcomed John & his mother &  
took them over to Emma's where later we all had rum swizzles  
in the garden. Then luncheon here and Shumans left - Emma  
& I talked in beach chairs & Merian and Laurie sat bare  
footed in sand box. Delos & I both hay feverish.

JUNE

June 1. Out in my dressing gown to water our baby nasturtiums & morning glory plants. Little helpless green leaves turning upward. A very hot day - 101, so Mr. Campion said; 89 according to the weather bureau. I was reading "They Broke the Prairie" all day. Tonight a rain cooled things off. Afterwards from 7 to 8 a yellowish glow in the sky. Sun setting behind clouds - & trees so green & fresh. Later as night came on the leaves & branches were black. Slept without even a sheet.

June 2. Worked on my book review all morning except when I went marketing. It was cooler & overcast. But by the time Ella came it was sunny again. Ella & Hick for dinner, with Emma here for cocktails. It was like the old days to be talking newspapers with Hick. Her comments on the Roosevelts with whom she is so intimate were interesting. I should put them every one down but instead - back to the book review which is finished this morning.

June 3. Or rather this afternoon. Helen had gone & I walked up in a shower to get Merian. Her class had sung six songs on the platform. I asked if it had gone well. Merian said: "Gone well! Well, Bobby Bosworth said he couldn't have done better himself and Bobby is 8 years old." Merian is a bit sneezy - so I'm keeping her in. Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Grahame & Mrs. Boslian have all invited her to come & play.

- June 4. Merian in bed at first - then out in a deck chair in the sun.  
Fri. Cold still with her. It's a beautiful day. Have I said that the rhododendrons are in bloom. Bright purplish flowers. Snow ball bushes in full glory. Peonies out too. Our own little garden is coming up beautifully. We're better gardeners than last year. D. & I. top the Best Seller list in Minneapolis (Have risen from second place) Called at Emma's to say good-bye to Aunt Ida who sails today for Holland.
- June 5. This morning we were doubtful that Merian could go to her  
Sat. Fete & felt so badly as she was determinedly practicing Christian Science on herself and us. But she did get better and the day which was overcast early began to brighten. So she got into her blue silk dress & went. At the last moment she told us she was supposed to bring a doll carriage. Her own having a loose wheel, we borrowed Joan's. But when I got to garden party discovered to my horror that the other baby carriages were decorated. A man in attendance helped me to rifle a basket of flowers. We dumped irises & peonies into the baby carriage, tied a pink bow on top & Merian rolled it proudly out. Delos called for us at 5. I went to a tea in Emma's garden where roses are now in bloom. Sternes here for dessert, coffee and bridge. Planted more nasturtiums today.
- June 6. Delossy playing tennis this morning. This afternoon he and I  
Sun. to call on Bartnetts & Browns; left Browns in a thunderstorm. Out to movies with Roy tonight. Merian still under weather.

- June 7. And again today although we dressed her & let her sit out of  
Moh. doors, until it grew too hot. Nurse from school phoned re-  
sults of that school X-Ray test. Merian's absolutely nega-  
tive. Very warm today. I am reading Greek Mythology aloud to  
Merian & Virginia Wolfe's "The Years" to myself. How beauti-  
fully she writes! Merian has the most furious ambition. Now  
she's concentrating on mythology & wants to learn both the  
Greek & Roman names of all the Gods and Goddesses. Also she  
has an intense romanticism, centered just now on older girls.  
Their fashions of wearing their hair fascinates her. Her  
first question about any woman or girl is "How does she wear  
her hair?" Yesterday she asked me about The Greek Goddesses,  
"How did they wear their hair." Her favorite game is being  
2 not 1 - high school girls who chat in a most frivolous &  
affected manner. And Helen or I or whatever child she is  
playing with have to be the 6 year old who is constantly  
snubbed. Tonight Delos & I took her driving, up to Valhalla,  
to try to drive the asthma out of her bronchial tubes. I  
believe we partially succeeded. Called on Bridges & brought  
back an armful of peonies. Saw the sun set & later the  
mottled clouds reflected in the tree surrounded reservoir.
- June 8. And Merian went to the school picnic. Mrs. Jordan toted her  
Tues. to and fro. Joanie home with a doll for Merian.

- June 9. Emma home with the book finished or at least written thru  
Wed. to the end. I lunched with her in her garden - iced tea &  
sandwiches - & the roses blazing & the mountain Laurel  
blossoms look like white tissue paper. Merian to play with  
Bobbie Jordan after school. When she got home Laurie and  
Joanie came over. It was Helen's day off & by the time I  
put Merian to bed she & I were both thoroughly cross. I  
said, "Merian I don't like the way you've been behaving."  
said Merian, "Well, I don't like the way you've been be-  
having any better than you like the way I've been behaving."  
Impudent but just. Roy over to play chess tonight. Emma &  
I strolled a bit & listened to the thrushes. Our nasturtiums  
six inches high.
- June 10. Have I said that the honeysuckle over our door is in bloom?  
Thurs. Cindy's birthday party - I looked in a few minutes. Merian  
was so happy. Then I came home to finish "The Late George  
Apley." With that and "The Last Puritan" & "Paradise" for  
background I feel I know Boston! Delossy & I took a stroll  
tonight, making plans.
- June 11. Letters & mending. Sarah Jane & Merian playing. Delossy &  
Fri. I to see the new Fred Astaire picture. Also Windsor wedding  
pictures. Cold.
- June 12. Nannine couldn't come to dinner. Delossy & I spent the after-  
Sat. noon building (he did) a rock wall. It was warm & lovely. Bill  
Gerretson passing thru town, came to dinner with us. This  
evening Delos drove us down the new Hendrik Hudson highway.  
The view of the river, of the Geo. Washington Bridge, strung  
with lights, is superb. Merian to Miss Ackerman's dance recital.  
The roses all over Pelham are like stage roses, red and pink.  
Our tame thrush with us again.

- June 13. Delossy, Merian & I off at 10:30 for Nortons at Garden City,  
Sun. Long Island. Over Triborough Bridge & new highway. Wild roses, white and yellow daisies, Queens Anne's lace in bloom along the road. A pleasant family dinner with the Nortons and afternoon on their little flagged or bricked terrace. Then drive home. Special from Mother who is at The Crow over this weekend.
- Jan. 14. To visit Merian's class. Her music class, art class & First  
Mon. Grade. Her smile when she is called upon to recite. She tries to smother it but can't. She read beautifully, did all her sums, and art teacher likes her drawings very much. One of the main activities of the class is tooth wiggling. Whenever not busy reciting these 6-year olds are busy jigging loose teeth to and fro. To town after lunch - bought a brown straw hat and gloves. Sternes over after dinner for rubber of bridge.
- June 15. Dr. Hafford appointment cancelled so I spent the morning  
Tues. writing letters and then to town - to Gripsholm - to meet Helen & Ella. A pleasant luncheon & a visit to the Frick. Liked the details of the Hobleman Villages. Home to find Merian and Joan in play suits sewing on front porch. Delos & I spent the evening on Bartnetts front porch. Fire flies. Very pleasant.
- June 16. Helen off duty this afternoon. I to New Rochelle in the morn-  
Wed. ing to help Emma buy a hat, & get to town. Then John drove me about to do my shopping. Joan & I walked up to call for Merian. The children very busy & happy out of doors these days. But I'm always tired when I've had Helen's usual responsibilities for half a day. I went to bed early tonight & Delos to movies with Roy and Emma.

- June 17. My luncheon was a great success. Emma sent over red & pink  
Thurs. roses, & came early to make cocktails for us. Mrs. Birney, Mrs. McKee, Emma & I - made a good party. After it was over, I to New Rochelle with Emma. Delossy had a short fling at tennis \* then ate cold chicken & tomato aspic & heard all about it. Merian came to the table while my guests eating - plaid dress, plaid ribbons on her pigtails, toothless - she looked darling.
- June 18. Mrs. Jordan called for Merian and then at 9 o'clock for me  
Fri. & we collected the children at school. They very gay, at the beginning of vacation. Merian with hankies for Mrs. Stanton & Mrs. Marion. Merian & I to New Rochelle & she so grown up, reading in childrens department while I roamed about the building & waiting in waiting room while Dr. Morrison examined me. He says I may go to work. Home very tired & napped. Mrs. Shoher & I on the lawn until Delos came home - the children rushing up & down on trike with roses in their hair.
- June 19. A perfect summer morning. Merian & I in our thin kimonos see  
Sat. Delossy out the door. Two thrushes hopping on the hillside. Daisy & tiger lily in bud. Up to New Rochelle with Emma. Doing Suns Rays & other odds & ends. while Delos & Roy went to ballgame & Merian & Joan played. Tonight D & I to Barbara's graduation. She looked adorable & spoke so well. Party afterwards at Sternes. I was impressed with speeches - so timely & modern compared with ours of 1910. We discussed "The Heroines of Shakespeare" "The Passion Play at Abera" but tonight it was The World Enters the Classroom." etc. The Smith's daughter Virginia volunteered to walk with the one negro boy in the class whom every one else was dodging. Grand of her, I think.

- June 20. Delos played tennis this morning while Merian & I walked to  
Sun. the place where sheep graze giving the landscape a pastoral touch & discovered a dear little park. She took Delos there this afternoon. D & I called on Bartnetts to deliver Doris's graduation gift later. Blueberry pie.
- June 21. Back to work on a cold rainy 21st of June. How I hope that  
Mon. it's a lucky day! That the stars are in the right courses (if they have any influence on our lives which I doubt) and that the moment is auspicious. Turning from astrology to religion I hereby say a prayer! And it was answered for I wrote a fine draft of "Through The Turnstile". Reading Berdita Harding's "Golden Fleece."
- June 22. A busy day. Morning on new story. To Emma's to lunch & a  
Tues. terrific automobile accident at her corner. Cool so we ate indoors. This afternoon Joanie's birthday party. The children all so sweet in light frocks. Favors, games, prizes, ice cream, cake! And tonight, the Louis-Braddock fight, Earl & Loji came over.
- June 23. To town early to shop before meeting Ella. Day sunny but  
Wed. coolish. Prints with white hats, bags, gloves & shoes the favored dress. Our play was Clare Kemmer? The Women" mercifully clever. Ella & I agreed afterwards that we wanted immediately to put our husbands under lock & key. Home on the 5:35 to a pleasant evening of talk. The thrushes calling. Merian had been to the park with Joan, sailing boats.

- June 24. In Emma's garden where I lunched with Irmengarde & others,  
Thurs.  
roses, tiger lilies, petunias, canterbury bells, meadow  
eue (fluffy, feathery pink) blue veronica, pansies, Sat out  
on my own lawn this afternoon reading Golden Fleece & hear-  
ing echoes of Lois's party until Mrs. Shober. & I walked down  
& joined it & had some birthday cake. Delossy & I quiet this  
evening. Emma's car is on the Volendam.
- June 25. Working & out to buy Emma a corsage. On lawn with Mrs. Shober  
Fri.  
An early dinner and at 7:30 we called for Roy & Emma. Drove  
them down beautiful Hendrik Hudson Parkway & Riverside Drive  
to boat. Ran into Fran Works, an old school friend. Tourist  
class on Volendam very neat and clean. Also very gay with  
lots of young people. Ohio State Band playing gaily. Usual  
excitement of waving & weeping when boat departed at mid-  
night. We drove Roy home consuming large quantities of Lau-  
burger.
- June 26. Out so late last night that I slept this morning, then took  
Sat.  
Merian to market. Delossy home at noon and off to tennis.  
Mrs. Grahame asked if Sarah Jane might come over & spend  
afternoon with Merian. Said yes, of course, altho twas most  
inconvenient. A lesson to me never to ask similar favor.  
Blanche & Roy for dinner. The administration under fire. Our  
tiger lilies blooming - late. Saw an oriole in Shober's  
forsythia bush.

- June 27. Rainy. Delos & I lay abed until noon while Merian played  
Sun. birds on the comforter spread out on the floor. Delossy kept elec. pad on his strained hip. About noon weather cleared, & Merian & Joan made long talk of expedition to Main St. You would have thought they were going to the North Pole. Delos gave each a nickle which they put in Merian's bag & Joan carried her umbrella. Delos & I this afternoon listened to Beethoven's Fourth Symphony. The one supposed to have been motivated by love, with its lovely rhythmic adajio. Roy in for coffee and chess.
- June 28. Cold out to be beautified for tomorrow and thought about  
Mon. speech. Merian spent day with Joanie. Note from an 1820 newspaper. Young man committed suicide with note in his pocket saying - "What Cald did & Addison approved cannot be amiss."
- June 29. The speech for the advertising Woman's Club in Rainbow Room  
Tues. today went off very well. It was cool enuf so I could wear my brown & they gave me a beautiful corsage. Afterwards I went to Blanche's room & rested. Nannine had good news about the book so Delos & I had a merry dinner with a Tom Collins to celebrate & afterwards saw the most delirious play "You Can't Take It With You." Broadway blazing as every. Communists distributing literature. Merian at Sarah's party.

June 30.  
Wed.

Took Merian to Dr. Smith today to make arrangements for her tonsilectomy. All the talk about Gen. Anaesthetic etc. made me a bit quaky. Afterwards I let her read in childrens library, let her walk up and down the stairs at Wares & bought her an ice cream cone. To town to libray and to Man for a business talk. Home with Delos. Fairly warm today but rainy tonight. Our flowers nearly washed out of the beds by the rain.

JULY

- July 1. Helen off early today to get a tooth pulled. I worked until  
Thurs. she left on thru The Turnstile. Merian & I out on lawn. The thrush is the bird of Pelham. And our thrushes so tame. I love to see them fly through our porch. Many bluejays about too, many robins. Delos & I a quiet evening listening to radio. I am reading Michael Foster's "American Dream."
- July 2. Helen's tooth bothered her so she left early again. Merian  
Fri. & I went over to Emma's garden & picked flowers. Such joy. Roses - red, white & pink, small climbing ones & big thrilling ones; meadow rue, veronica, pansies, petunias, forget-me-nots, lilies. Tonight D & I & Roy to a movie "Kid Galahad." Weather continues cool. Merian so good today.
- July 3. Shobers off this morning. The town emptying. Merian & I did  
Sat. a large job of shopping for Sunday's dinner & Monday's picnic. This afternoon D played tennis and I worked. Tonight we drove down to the Stadium Concert. It was quite cool & bright daylight when music began. But gradually clouds grew pink and faded and the stars came out. Heard the Bach Concerto.
- July 4. A beautiful restful holiday. Day was clear & warm. We breakfasted in bed. (Sorry to see that Amelia Earhart not yet found) Merian came in to play bird. Delos off to tennis & M & I arranged flowers & set of "smokes" in our dooryard. Shobers & others gone; street very quiet. Roy over to a chicken dinner. While he & D played chess & Helen took Merian out I typed "Through the Turnstile" for Nannine. Our fireworks tonight; Sarah Jane setting off hers across the street. Merian thrilled almost as much by the stars & fireflies as by the sparklers & red fire.

- July 5. The second holiday always brings the feeling of full restedness.  
Mon. Breakfast in bed again - a bath. Merian & Delos out to buy a paper & find that radio signals from Amelia Earhart are being received. We had a beautiful day in Sterne's garden. Roy had balloons, favors, candy & ice cream for Merian & Cindy. John built a fire to cook our franks & coffee. Emma brought us home about 4. Delos & Roy at the ball game this afternoon. All of us early to bed after a peaceful day.
- July 6. A wire from mother yesterday, and an air mail & a special from  
Tues. her today. She shares our agitation over our tunky's tonsilectomy. A fine fair day. Merian in good shape for the event. Mrs. Shober driving us up. But she couldn't find her keys and we taxied up. Merian from 11:30 to 11:30 going through all sorts of preparations (& read Mary Poppins to herself in the intervals.) I had rails put on the high hospital bed. At 1:30 they gave her a small glassful of a colorless liquid which put her to sleep, and shortly afterwards wheeled her away when she was returned & came out from anaesthetic, she was so miserable they sent me away. I was back at 3:30 however. Merian said to me "It's so much worse than a sore throat." I had tried to prepare her for it, by telling her it would be like a sore throat.) She slept most of the day & night. Delossy drove up with Kapok pillows and took me home for dinner but I returned to stay all night.
- July 7. And very glad I was here this morning. The interval between  
Wed. waking & breakfast was so long & hard for her. Doctor advised us to get her home early on account of the heat, so Delos drove up for us about 10. She came out of operation splendidly.

- July 8. Very hot. Merian still in bed. But this afternoon I brought  
Thurs. her down to couch where it is cooler. Lovely presents from  
Miss Dunphy, Bobby Jordan, the Shobers. Letters from mother  
& Helen and Mother the Wonder Book out of our family Hawthorne  
set. Delos building a stone wall & me watering flowers;  
then listening to Brahms 3rd Sym.
- July 9. Last night was one of hottest I ever knew in New York. Not  
Fri. a sheet over any of us. Bick says "Maudie, have you for-  
gotten Minnesota fireflies. The valley was full of them as we  
drove up (from Kato to Mpls.) last night." Dr. Morrison dis-  
missed me - perfectly well again. Mrs. Shober & Joan to  
dinner. Roy couldn't make it. Weather very hot so we had a  
cold supper. Later D & I out to a movie & saw "Night Must  
Fall" splendidly acted study of a murderer.
- July 10. Stifflingly hot all day. Delos had morning instead of after-  
Sat. noon free, and after breakfast in bed we sat out on beach  
chairs on the lawn. I walked with him to 11:41 (going the  
long way for the sake of the shade); then marketed. This  
afternoon I wrote letters while Joan & Merian played ballet  
dancers -- hospital --- school. To town on 5:13 to Miss  
Nessie's. Three women formerly high in their professions  
like three ghosts of the past. Miss Jessie - Mme de Torirille  
Delia Akely. Dinner and home. Temp today 95 plus.
- July 11. Another hot night. Poor Delossy sleeping on the floor. I with  
Sun. an iced cloth on my head. This morning he is out in the gar-  
den. Merian in new play suit looking sweeter than a peach.  
Roy came to dinner & this afternoon he & Delos went to the  
ball game while Merian & I had a quiet afternoon. A good talk.  
The boys back for lunch, just as I tucked Merian in. Rain  
tonight.

- July 12, And cooler today. I in town to library and to stores. Was  
Mon. in Franklin Simons when a downpour of rain drenched and cooled the city. It flooded the Grand Central tunnel so that my train was delayed. I reached home between 6 & 7. Merian was having supper with Joan. Delossy home at 8 very tired. It's gloriously cool to sleep tonight.
- July 13. Merian and I to the doctor today. It is much cooler and  
Tues. really pleasant. He finds her in good shape. When we returned had lunch out of doors & loafed there for an hour or so, together with the turtle, a robin, a blackbird, some sparrows and a black squirrel. Mrs. Grahame & Sarah Jane came over, bringing some ice cream. So it turned into a party. Merian & I walked down at 7 to meet Delos who was tired tonight, so we read a little Spinoza and went to bed early.
- July 14. Helen took Merian for a walk & I cleaned & organized my desk  
Wed. for real work. This afternoon Merian, Joan & I walked up to Emma's garden. We picked the fragrant blue and pink phlox - & some lingering forget-me-nots & pansies. The roses are gone. Tiger lilies in their glory. On way home were called into Jenkins for tea. Delossy home late and we to bed early. Cool today with rain threatening.
- July 15. Rained all night & raining this morning. I am wearing lilac  
Thurs. & yellow suit for writing. Tonight we were invited to Shobers to dinner. Merian & Joan much excited at being included in a party. They ate first as Delos came home late. Then we had a lovely dinner & afterwards were treated to an entertainment. Joan played piano while Merian danced; Merian played piano while Joan danced and they both sang. Merian up until 9:30

- July 16. And so slept late. This was also a big day as Delos had  
Fri. promised to take her to the Stadium tonight if there was a ballet and there was! She was dressed in her thin pink dress with pink ribbons on her braids, and sat up on a table while Mordkin & his associates danced The Goldfish and some national dances. The crowd, intermission with ice cream, stars and moon appearing & Bill King (the Sun critic) going behind all added to her delight.
- July 17. Delos had morning free and after breakfasting in bed we sat  
Sat. out on beach chairs & watched Merian, Joan & Sarah Jane play and quarrel. This afternoon went mostly with marketing & taking care of Merian. Roy to dinner. And afterward we rushed out to a movie. A cat killed a bluejay over on Shobers lawn today. It was sad to see a second bluejay flying about afterwards looking for its mate.
- July 18. Breakfast & the morning in bed. Merian joined us & played  
Sun. the chick family visiting the rabbit family. After lunch Roy & Delos to the ballgame. Helen took Merian & Joan to park. Cool again & lovely. Our lawn so pleasant with a view of tall trees moving against the sky. Delos & Roy home for supper at 7 & played chess this evening while I finished Terry's History of Motion Picture.

July 19. So cool I am back in a suit again. My Delossy off early at  
Mon. 7:14 - and won't be home until 8. Mrs. Jordan called & asked Merian & me to come along on a boat expedition. We took a picnic lunch, drove to Rye & cruised down the sound to the east River and Battery. Went to the aquarium and cruised home. Sailboats on the sound like an Indian encampment. Return boat, an entertainment. Ripe, dark girl a pleasant face wide set eyes, thick black hair, olive skin, good teeth, sophisticated. Orchestra leader handsome, dissipated looking, not young. Both good strong types. Delossy left home at 7:14 this morning & didn't get home till 8 tonight. Very tired

July 20. I gave a little tea party this afternoon for Mrs. Shobers  
Tues. mother. Invited the Grahames too. The children dressed up & disported themselves on the lawn. Tonight D & I to Newsoms. Roy sent over a bouquet of yellow daisies & sweet fragrant pink phlox from Emma's garden. To Newsoms for bridge

July 21. To town shopping. Put in a long hard day. Found no dress of  
Wed. type I needed but one darling of type I did not need, marked down. I decided not to get it, then when sitting on home bound train thought better of it - and rushed to phone booth & had Russeks send it out C.O.D. It's a bright red cotton with square neck & puffed sleeves. Roy here for dinner and chess.

- July 22. Merian asked me if I would give her Stella's letters and  
Thurs. let her make a collection of them in her lower drawer! I  
think that's rather sweet. She & Joan & Sarah Jane play-  
ing in an improvised tent, under 2 beach chairs and a  
blanket. Merian & I reading Hawthorne's Tanglewood Tales  
& M reading it to herself. She adores it. Particularly  
The Golden Fleece. Delos very tired but out to a bridge  
party - 4 men - for Roy.
- July 23. Read all morning on old diaries, looking for story atmosphere  
Fri. Merian has a slight head cold - so I cancelled planned trip  
with Jordans to Zoo. Delos home very tired. Played a  
bout of tennis & we spent lazy evening with chess & radio.  
Perfect summer weather. Cool nights, sunny days.
- July 24. Work - Martins. - Mrs. Jordan & her cousin in to get Stadium  
Sat. tickets & ginger ale. Merian in bed but improving & read-  
ing the Golden Fleece whenever we will let her. Delos late  
tonight. Blueberry pie! It's very warm. Phlox smelling sweet  
in the gardens, also coryopsis, daisies. Wild tiger lilies  
in bloom. Remember Martin's oddly shapped little finger.  
Could beat his father at chess at 7. Father used to bend his  
fingers under and squeeze when he saw child making winning  
move. Asked mother what to do. She said "Let him win!" but  
something in him would not permit him to do so. Used to make  
winning move and run. Born CzyckoSlovakia. Family travelled  
thru Central Europe.

July 25. Merian able to go with us today. The head cold phase of her  
Sun. cold ending altho my practices ear detects the other trouble. Delos played tennis this morning and the three of us off for Conn. at 2. I wore the new red cotton of which Delos approves. Merian a new play suit with a swing skirt. Delos has a new suit too - tropical worsted - but he didn't wear it wanting to lie on the ground, which he did. Beane-Greene estate 7 mi from Westport. House over 100 years old. Remote and sweet. Rose of Sharon tree in bloom. Big moon as we drove home.

July 26. Hot last night. After Delos left this morning I took my sec-  
Mon. ond cup of coffee out in the beach chair. Sky overcast, air very humid & oppressive, two robins hopping languidly on lawn. Merian's "bad breathing" is with her today. I to market & home by 8. A letter from Harriett Zerbin. An empty morning tho. I spent it at my desk. A pleasant afternoon with Merian reading her, once again, "The Golden Fleece." She says she is going to make a play of it. Thunder showers today & a heavy rain. Wet sweet smells. Exactly one year ago today I record "Merian has just a touch of her trouble."

July 27. Last night Merian casting her Golden Fleece play wondered  
Tues. who she could have for Opheus. I said I wished cousin Eugene were here - he could play his flute. Merian fairly bounced. "Oh and probably they're coming! Kathleen said they would come just as soon as they could decide what they would use for money!" Decidedly cooler after last night's rain. Delos, still tired after yesterday's hard day. To work on 7:14, I out shopping early & to work. Joanie here for lunch & dinner. Children painting & sewing, side by side at Merian's little table on the lawn. Delos & I to Stadium to hear Tristan in a

- July 27. concert version. Reimer conducting. Florence Eastman & Cont'd.  
Paul Allthouse singing. Music divine & behind us a vivid aqua sky with rolls of cloud first yellow and then golden. Before us sky covered with pale flecks of pink. At last darkness. Effect of color on banked seats at Stadium (in daylight) is lavender. From pink and blue summer dresses?
- July 28. To town marketing for our company dinner tonight. John Wed.  
brought over pink, blue & white phlox. Merian & Joan sewing again. To work at noon. Such a poor day. This afternoon I spent on a beach chair in the sun, watching the children, the treetops, the birds, the squirrels. Carolyn, Cy & Roy here for dinner - a grand chicken dinner/and so to bed!
- July 29. To New Rochelle to shop and go to dentist. Teeth X-Rayed. Thurs.  
Cool enough for brown dress. With Merian this afternoon to Grahames. A pleasant little tea. But Merian not well yet & Delos home with a frightful head cold. All of us to bed at 8:30.
- July 30. Distinctly cloudy and cool today. A poor morning of try- Fri.  
ing to work. Marketing. Then lunch & the afternoon on the lawn with Merian, lying in the beach chair watching the softly waving treetops. Gave our ballet tickets to Grahames & Delos to bed at 7 with "Northwest Passage." I am sleeping in Merian's room, not to catch his cold. Crickets chirping steadily. Sound like fall. Should they?

July 31. A long day with Delos working. Shobers wanted to take Sat.

Merian to Playland but I didn't think her well enuf altho she's better. She and I on the lawn all afternoon. Roy in for dinner - played Winnie the Pooh game with Merian first. Movies tonight.

Women.

Women shop for dresses,  
Stockings, hats and shoes,  
Women pick out wardrobes  
To drive away the blues;

Women shop for knick-knacks,  
Powders, soaps and pills,  
Lingerie and linens,—  
Women run up bills.

Women drab and glamorous,  
Sad and dull and clever,  
Reticent and amorous,  
Women shop forever.

Deaf to Silence speaking,  
They wander to and fro,  
Women, always seeking  
What, they do not know.

AUGUST

- AUG. 1. A lovely day for our expedition with Floyds & Merian well  
Sun. enuf to go. We stayed in bed until noon and then had a  
light lunch & called for them about 3 - Merian in new red  
swing skirt sun suit. The Sound full of sailboats. I went  
swimming for the first time this season. As we picnicked  
about 8, the sky & sea lavender, green lawns clearing,  
children taking last romp, crickets singing. The golden  
evening star.
- Aug. 2. Morning at work. Miss Dunphy invited Merian & me to go to  
Mon. her beach club - the beautiful Westchester Club - this  
afternoon. We had a lovely time. Swimming and coffee. Sail-  
boats on the blue Sound -- clouds thick, white & substan-  
tial looking in low pyramids. Home to find Delossy here -  
unexpected, as it was a night when he usually works late.  
So good to see him. He brought Merian a beach ball.
- Aug. 3. Helen took Joan, Merian and Camilla to the park and after-  
Tues. wards gave them dinner here; while Helen S & I went to town  
- lunch at Schraffts - and later I went to Blanche's apart-  
ment, Met Delos and she took us out to dinner. Weather  
ideal. Warm. The story I heard!
- Aug. 4. Bad news from Nan. Far from ruining my morning it set me  
Wed. to work. This afternoon Helen off duty - I took care of Mer-  
ian & Joan who were playing sand store, a'la Bick & me. Mer-  
ian in overalls with bare shoulders - so sweet. Delossy home  
early & Roy over for chess, bringing a big bouquet of phlox.  
A single one of our morning glories in bloom. Purple. Mari-  
golds in bloom.

- Aug. 5. Moring at work. Afternoon mostly at hair dressers (he told  
Thurs. me about his little boy's birthday party at camp) Merian &  
Joan accompanied me to the Main St. when I was obliged to  
refuse to buy Joan a ball, Merian sai: "Never mind, Joanie.  
I'm going to have an allowance pretty soon and I'll buy you  
a ball." Story of Leonard boy & the gum. With M. Leonard,  
Dot Jordan & her mother to hear Major Bowes Amateurs who  
put on an excellent show.
- Aug. 6. Hot like yesterday and very muggy. One nasturtiam bud on  
Fri. all our luxuriant Nasturtiums. Merian is saying prayers  
before it. She & I have been weeding and watering. Must  
market and go to work. A July 30 letter from Helen says:  
"Country beautiful. Lots of the thrashing done. We had a  
perfect weekend on the Island. One night when the breeze  
kept up, F & I went sailing. We saw the harvest moon rise  
up from the wooded shore and into the clear heavens, & at  
the same time northern lights were silently playing & chang-  
ing on another part of the sky. It was a combination of the  
beauties and marvels of nature. At the same time Eugene  
was practising his flute in the cabin & everytime we approach-  
ed the island those strains floated out on the night air."  
Also baby wren in woodshed story. Dot & Bobby Jordan, Merian  
& I to Wilsons woods pool for a glorious swim. Roy for supper  
with Helen's meat balls, alligator pear & blueberry pie.  
Weather warm and humid.

- Aug. 7. A very sticky night but blessedly cool at 7 in the morning.  
Sat. Marketed this morning. Delossy home to play tennis with Penny. And tonight we & Roy to a bridge party at Smiths. The screened in porch in the evening - like Minnesota.
- Aug. 8. To Wilton on a picnic in John's car. John drove us & furnished fried chicken - while we brought a potato salad, apple pie. Showers were threatening so we ate on the flagged terrace (at Lewis & Mary's). Rum Gollinses first and our lunch delicious. Betsy, 8 mo. old now, with a fluff of reddish curly hair. A baby's delicate transparent skin. Merian in her red sunsuit, plump & tanned, sat in a big chair all afternoon reading "Blue Pigeons." Home early as Delossy not well.
- Aug. 9. Merian (in overalls) and I tool Delos to the 9:03, then  
Mon. marketed collecting "silet", watercress and spinach for lion. To work at 10:30 but work won't go. Delos & I out to the movies tonight - "Emporers Candlesticks."
- Aug. 10. Weather continues hot and very humid. numerous thunder  
Tues. showers which bring little relief. I don't mind it. I like the heat, but Delos comes home very fagged. Mrs. Shober & Joan in this afternoon. Joan & Merian danced for us. We kept Joan all night tonight. The children so thrilled. I heard M say to J - after light was out "Joan, you know the man who built the boat we're going to have in our play. Argo. He had a hundred eyes and only slept with 2 of them.

- Aug. 11. To train with Delos then Mrs. S. & the children picked me up  
Wed. & we marketed. To work late but story seems to be marching  
at last. Why can't one <sup>use</sup> fear to trust in one's <sup>use</sup> house. All my  
worrying for nothing. The story burst through today - I  
have it written through in an excellent draft. Helen left  
for her half holiday in a rain which continued intermittently  
all day and is pouring down tonight. Leaves and puddles  
glisten in the light from the street lamp.
- Aug. 12. Merian & I to the train with Delos through a glistening  
Thurs. morning. M & I marketed. Now to work but not on story - I'll  
let that rest & clear up correspondence. Did I note that we  
had one (1) beautiful nasturtium? The morning glories are  
blooming freely to Merian's delight. Mrs. Jordan and I took  
the children to the pool & started Merian & Joan on swimming  
lessons. Delos & I & Merian all so thrilled. Merian worked  
like a nailer.
- Aug. 13. Merian & I out to market. Another entrancing day. Showers  
Fri. this afternoon. Sarah Jane here playing with Merian; they  
are "dressing up."
- Aug. 14. Irmengarde here for breakfast. We all took it lazily. Then  
first I & then D to town & Merian & Joan with Helen Shober  
to the pool. She didn't go in & M & J had to undress, get  
lockers, take showers etc. When I praised Merian for having  
done it, praised her initiative & independence she said, "Oh  
but Joanie has self-control too." This afternoon M to play  
with City & me to Martins to get made beautiful & then to  
town. D & I had a glorious binge. Dinner at the Promenade Cafe  
at Rockefeller Center, fountains playing, eating in the open air  
then to the Stadium to hear a Gershwin Concert & Tchaikowskys  
4th symphony. Home in a Riverside Dr. bus.

- Aug. 15. Was lovely, too. All of us with Dunphys to their beach club.  
Sun. Ate on a flagged terrace overlooking golf course, then an afternoon on the beach. Merian so sweet in her swing skirt. All of us had a beautiful time. How nice summer is.
- Aug. 16. Cool when we woke at 8 - we were under a blanket. But warm  
Mon. when Delos left at 10. New morning glories every day - deep purple and wine red. Joan & Merian romp while Helen & Shobers hang out washing. I struggle with my work. Twelve o'clock & all's well, only nothing accomplished.
- Aug. 17. Mrs. Shober and I took Merian, Joan & Bobby to the pool for  
Tues. a lesson. Merian swam alone. She weighs 60 pounds. We brought Bobby home for lunch & this afternoon M & I rested preparatory to our trip to town. We took Merian with us to a Stadium concert. She took with her a little home made telescope (2 skirockets tied together) with which she said she proposed to look at the stars. There were no stars, only an overcast moon. But she sat still as could be thru Brahms First Symphony. D was very proud of her, and said at the end. "You ask your cousin Eugene whether he ever sat thru a Brahms Symphony when he was six and a half. Merian said when we were discussing the music "During that first movement I just thought I was in Chickentown - it was so lovely!"
- Aug. 18. Back at story again. Helen off at noon & Merian and I to  
Wed. New Rochelle on errands. Had supper ready for Delos who came in tired at 8.

- Aug. 19. A good morning on story until 10 or 11 when, coolness changing  
Thurs. into cloudy heat, Mrs. J & I took Merian & Bobby to the pool for a swimming lesson. Betty Floyd, Camilla & Cindy here this afternoon. Hot, sticky, no sun, no wind, lots of skeeters. Roy was coming to dinner but telephoned that he couldn't so D & I going to a movie. Saw "I met Him In Paris." Most amusing.
- Aug. 20. Irmengarde & I chose a record breaking day to take the children on the party. Temp 93. Too hot and humid to enjoy anything. We met Paul's train. He comes in alone, carrying his tiny bag. Had lunch at an air cooled Schraffts. Saw "Elephant Boy" - a delightful picture. And bought Paul a book on Haydon for his birthday. The children to Irmengarde's while I shopped. Roy & Delos & I to a movie tonight - a stifling night.
- Aug. 21. Mother's birthday & so hot here. Mrs. J took the children Sat. to the pool. I walked to train with Delos & shopped. But spent the rest of the day nursing a headache. Headache from too many movies or this excessive heat. It is so humid, damp, exhausting. Delos came home to a cold shower & two detective stories I had found for him at the circulating library. Official temp. 92.
- Aug. 22. Rainy & threatening this morning but it cleared enuf for Sun. D & me to take Bobby, Joan & Merian to the pool. Bobby dove and swam beautifully. Rain stopped but sky was overcast and we had pool almost to ourselves. This afternoon Merian played with Joan. Delos & Roy (who had had dinner with us) went to the movies & I worked on "Curly." D & I listening tonight to our favorite - W. C. FIELDS.

Aug. 23.  
Mon.

Back to our early schedule. Alarm went off at 6:30. It was pouring rain & cold. I got into sweater & skirt. Delos to the train in a cab & me to work. Merian has a touch of her trouble (from the chlorine in the pool water, I wonder?) so kept quiet. She & I up to the Main Street when the rain cleared. Delos home early. Spent evening reading "Of Lena Geyer," playing chess, & discussing Hogan Bros. Have I commented on child. How purple, & blue & red of our morning glories. Blue jay keeping out of the rain in chipmunk hole.

Aug. 24.  
Tues.

Pouring rain again. Delos off in a cab again. Me to work again. Merian bubbling all over the house. Psalms 40:3. He hath put a new song in my mouth. Finished my story by working until 5 p.m. Delos came home with such a blinding headache that he couldn't read it. He went straight to bed & I was putting compresses on his head until 10 when he took phenobarbatol & went off to sleep. Poor darling.

Aug. 25.  
Wed.

Rain is over. No sun, tho, & cold as November. Delos's headache gone. He is off to work & I'm clearing my desk. Then to New Rochelle with Merian. Happy routine of the library. Evening dresses at Wares (she loves to look at them) - and an ice cream cone. Helen out this afternoon & Merian asked over to Joan's. A pleasant dinner with the 3 of us & Merian washed the dishes. I am reading Lena Geyer, and love it. It's just my kind of book.

Aug. 26. Rain again but our gaudy morning glories looking up at us.  
Thurs. I want to put down a remark of Merian's yesterday. She had been telling me that the Chicks were so very rich, had 22 children, etc. and I asked, "Where under the sun does Mr. Chick get his money?" Said Merian, the modern child, "He earns it., to be sure. He isn't on relief!" Bridges and a professor botanist friend & Roy were here for dinner. A very nice time. Rain pouring down, pelting down when the left.

Aug. 27. Typed and corrected "I am Curly" now ready for Nan. Mer-  
Fri. ian & Joan playing here this afternoon, while I read Sad House Frontier for review. Rain let up early enuf tonight for me to stroll and children to roller skate. Finished & returned Lena Geyer. I adore it. Delos & I quiet tonight. Roy going to Alabama.

Aug. 28. Summer back again. Merian & I marketing for party with  
Sat. Bartnetts tonight, happy as clams. Gave Helen an anniversary card & hanky. She has been with us for two years. Hydrangeas heavy with their big flowers - rose of sharon still in bloom - & phlox, petunias, gallardia, zinnias, marigolds - To New Rachele with D to have his eyes examined. The Bartnetts here for a lovely dinner tonight.

Aug. 29. This afternoon we drove to New Jersey. Down the beautiful  
Sun. new Hendrik Hudson Parkway & across the Geo. Wash. bridge. Odd to think that this magnificent N.Y. scenery is Merian's birthright. On Jersey side drove through thick greenery - mostly estates, to Lenn Parton's dear old house. Grapes, green & blue, hanging from his arbor. Petunias, zinnias, in the gardens. Queen Anne's lace, yellow daisies & red clover in the fields. Landscape shows only golden rod to tell one of coming autumn. Home by 5 & Merian over to Joans to play while Delos works on "The Pig" Mrs. Shoher playing the piano next door. A special from mother.

Aug. 30. Merian & I to town on a delicious bat. Weather cool & per-  
Mon. fect. We went to the Automat, to Macy's to buy Fosters' birthday present & let M. ride on the escalator, to the Planetarium, to the Natural History Museum, to Central Pk, to let Merian feed the pigeons & so blissfully home.

Aug. 31. Wrote my book review this morning. Merian to the pool; its  
Tues. a warm day. This afternoon, she & Helen to the park. I rested & got ready for tonight. (We're going to the Rainbow Room with Johnsons.) When Delos came home he told me that we weren't dressing I had an amusing frantic conference with Mrs. Shoher. Finally wore my blue wool & brown hat. It was a lovely party. The room is beautiful & the floor show good without any vulgarity. The view from the balconies is simply enchanting. A pinkish yellow glow over the city through which the yellow lights pierce.

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 1. A letter from Helen this morning frightened me about  
Wed. mother who has collapsed in the heat. Delos telephoned Haynes who was reassuring & I am trying not to worry. Mailed my review to Grey; let Mr. Thompson take me out to see houses for sale (old hideous middle aged structures) and tonight Delossy home to begin his vacation.
- Sept. 2. Delos worked on The Pig this warm morning while Merian & I  
Thurs. marketed, wrote letters & tried to keep cool. Another special from Helen with details about mother. We really have no cause to worry & I am very thankful. Delos & I stayed out here in the coolth until 5 o'clock then took the beautiful river drive into the city to Nan's tea. Golden rod on the polisides. Stayed in to dinner & saw Room Service - rowdy and rollicking.
- Sept. 3. A wire from Katie this morning gives reassuring news of  
Fri. mother. So happy about it. Delos & I lay abed late & breakfasted there. Merian just came in to see us. Adorable with her braids and sunsuit. She is like toasted cream. We braved the heat & went to town - to top of Empire State for tea & to see the Prisoner of Zenda at Radio City. Merian loved the ballet of course but glum from the heat. Home late, 8 o'clock, & it's still hot.
- Sept. 4. And was hot today, all of which we spent quietly, Delos work-  
Sat. ing on his Pig with Seven Tails. Hot & humid it has been but tonight after Merian was tucked in bed a thundershower which has helped. I am reading Ondald Peatties Book of Hours. Like it mildly. Marketing fun-such a profusion of fruit, green & purple grapes, red & blue plums, peaches, pears. Peaches & tomatoes both cheap and good.

- Sept. 5. Poured rain all day. A cold drenching rain; Helen left  
Sun. after luncheon. Late in the afternoon Delossy stopped  
work & we asked the Grahames in for highballs. Specials  
from Minnesota almost every day & mother is not improving  
yet.
- Sept. 6. This was a sad birthday for Katie with mother so ill. Delos  
Mon. worked at his Pig in the morning while Merian & I walked  
uptown admiring the day. Sunlight golden & the sky a brill-  
iant blue strewn with clouds. This/afternoon (Helen off,  
Delos played tennis while Merian & I watched from a blanket  
spread out in the grass beside the courts. Tonight I read  
Delos's story and find it delightful.
- Sept. 7. The news from mother is anxious news. Katie & Helen have  
Tues. got in a nurse & mother is - Helen says - a very sick woman.  
Of course I have a heavy heart. I worked all morning typ-  
ing Delos's story & this afternoon took Merian to N.R. A  
quiet evening with Delos. This was another lovely Septem-  
ber day. Sky less brilliant than yesterday but still full  
of clouds. No fall color in the trees yet but scattered  
colored leaves on ground, a very few; grapes ripe, golden  
rod and asters on every vacant lot.
- Sept. 8. Still fair. A bright pattern of sunshine on our hill. Birds  
Wed. making an autumnal clamor - I think they are blue jays and  
starlings. The Bosleys over this afternoon. It was positively  
hot and we sat on the lawn in beach chairs. Had tea there.  
Merian washed and wiped supper dishes again, cleaned sink,  
put dining room in order. It is adorable to see her come  
in and sit down afterwards, trying not to smile.

- Sept. 9. Lay off work on the Pig today to go to town & shope in  
Thurs. temporarily low spirits about mother. But came home to  
find a letter from Haynes which reassures us. Her condi-  
tion is not dangerous. Delossy at work this evening. Mer-  
ian so cute about his story. She is reading it, snatching  
it from the typewriter page by page. Bought size 10  
clothes for Merian, today & a warm breakfast gown for my-  
self.
- Sept. 10. An air mail special from Frank; written yesterday. Mother  
Fri. is better but indications are that her illness will be a  
long seige, so they are renting her apartment. She and  
the nurse will stay on at Fosters & Genie go to Fowlers.  
I am sunk and fighting a cold. To hairdressers this morn-  
ing in an attempt to keep up morale. Typing for Delos all  
afternoon. Tonight D & I to Sternes to welcome Emma home.  
She looks young and well. Brought us laces & Merian a  
wooden horse from Sweden.
- Sept. 11. My cough got worse & worse with result that I'm in bed to-  
Sat. day. Rubbed down with Vicks and drinking hot lemonade. It  
is overcast and cold. Helen is firing up the furnace. I  
have been writing to Minnesota & waiting for a letter.  
None came though. A quiet afternoon in bed working with  
old snapshots - I am arranging a pre-baby book. Delos read-  
ing up in my room tonight.

Sept. 12. The Pig with seven tails was typed complete by noon today,  
Sun.  
wrapped and ready for Nannine. Good luck go with it! We had a noon dinner, then went to Sternes for the afternoon. Supper with Merian and out to see Stella Dallas in the evening. It was sunny - I wore a cotton dress all day - but it gets cool at night. A special delivery from Katie - so welcome - telling us about how they are getting mother settled at her house.

Sept. 13. Cold & overcast for the first day of school. Merian glum  
Mon.  
except when she speaks of Joan - she brightens to declare that she ought to phone Mrs. Shober & remind her to hurry Joan thru breakfast. It started to rain - poured - buckets & quarts. Mrs. J & I took the children to school, came back here & drank coffee until 10, then called for them again. I didn't send Merian back this afternoon & went to bed myself as my cold is bad again. Delos home with a new raincoat.

Sept. 14. Clear this morning & I am up tho' I shant go out. Merian is a trifle appaled by school, I think, not yet being accustomed to the children. She was pale yesterday & this morning a trifle sickis but is starting off happily. And she had a happy day. Mrs. S. tells me that she is leading the class! This afternoon she & I went walking. World still green but a few fallen yellow leaves. Summer flowers in the gardens. D & I reading tonight I have "Coronation Commentary."

- Sept. 15. "That only which we have within us can we see without"  
Wed. Emerson. Worked all morning organizing desk and closet. Put away summer hats, gloves, bags, bathing suits, Weather was so cool that Helen made a fire in the furnace but at noon I sat out in the beach chair the sun fairly scorched my face and neck. I still have my heavy cold. Tonight Merian & I got supper for Delos and M washed the dishes again. A letter from mother today. Nan crazy about The Pig, and sending it to Random House.
- Sept. 16. Breakfasted in bed as I had a headache, but the first in  
Thurs. a long time. Joan was back in school yesterday. Mrs. S. walked up to call for her but she & Merian, returning hand in hand at a breakneck pace, ignored Mrs. S. who couldn't keep pace with them. This morning Merian hurrying to get ready so she can call for Joan. I went to town at noon - to the library, to Blanche's and then met Delos Fernandez was there, she at Miss Jessies for dinner. Bijou. is rehearsing for the new Kauffman-Moss Hart satire.
- Sept. 17. My cold better, but I didn't accomplish much this morn-  
Fri. ing. Merian & Joanie walked to school but Mrs. S. called for them as it was spattering by noon. Paula Grahame & S.J. & Ann Sterne came in to tea. Much talk about modern art & sculpture. Only now and then was there a name I knew. Epstein, Paul Mauship. Delossy & I playing chess tonight. ~~Fernandez was there - she is~~
- Sept. 18. Cold, damp and fallish.  
Sat.

- Sept. 19. In spite of a rain we got away about 11 for our trip to  
Sun. Sernin's in Rutherford, N.J. We took a picnic but ate it  
inside with them. Much talk over the wine. We met Valdi-  
mer Sr. for the first time. He is white haired and ruddy.  
Valdimiir Jr. a glorious sturdy baby. Harriett so pretty  
but worn. Her mother thin but indomitable. Her blonde hair  
still curled. Rain stopped & we walked about the lawn.  
Their house bow windowed, old fashioned. H- gave Merian a  
silver bracelet from Trinidad. The ride home was lovely -  
one can see the tall buildings from Rutherford. And the  
bridge and the river drive in late sunlight were beautifl.
- Sept. 20. A poor morning. Out in the sun - it is Delos's command,  
Mon. for an hour or so. Feeble autumnal rays are surprisingly  
hot on the face. Merian home at 2:15 for Camilla's party.  
I went with her and stayed. The children had a glorious  
time - an out door peanut hunt, pinning the tail on the  
donkey, etc. Emma drove me home. Delossy working late to-  
night. Furnace fire on.
- Sept. 21. A very poor morning. At 11 I went out to sit in the sun.  
Tues. I bundle up with heavy coat and blanket but on my face  
the sun is burning hot. Marigolds bright in our tiny gar-  
den. This afternoon Merian & I playing squirrel, which  
turned into a cat - and Babs here to dinner. Delos got  
home for it which rejoiced us as he thought he would have  
to work late. Cool when we took Babs home.

- Sept. 22. All of us but Delossy, still "whooping" with our mysterious  
Wed. complaint. I hear that it is called "summer croup." Clear  
this morning, sunny, and it continues cool. Furnace fire on.  
I sat out in the sun again from 11 to 12. Mrs. Shober's  
birthday and I took her a little gift. Merian came home  
with a sniffle so I kept her home this afternoon. Peg  
Hackney here. Helen was off and Delos & I had a quiet din-  
ner. & a quiet evening. I am reading Noel Coward's "Pre-  
sent Indications" How little so called advantages matter.  
Letters from Katie and mother.
- Sept. 23. Merian was able to go back to school and although my cold  
Thurs. is still with me I went to town to look for evening wrap.  
Our party at Pierce's next Saturday demands one. My coat  
was soon too heavy. Day golden & glorious. I found a black  
velvet cape for \$18.75 & bought some other things. The  
town was full of Legionaires. Had an appointment with hair  
dresser but Emma persuaded me to break it and go to bed.  
Tonight Delossy listening to fights & I reading.
- Sept. 24. I am neither stupid nor scared, & my *sense* of my own  
Fri. importance to the world is relatively small. On the other  
hand my sense of my importance to myself is tremendous. I  
am all I have, to work with, to play with, to suffer & en-  
joy .. I do not intend to let myself down more than I can  
possibly help..." My mother .. incapable of cheap complaint."  
From Noel Coward's Present Indications. "I'm in bed. Cold  
still with me. Day warm, sunny, perfect. Smell of smoke -  
the September smell in the air.

- Sept. 25. Cold worse than ever & I give up Pierce's in disgust, de-  
Sat. spite the fact that Helen has adjusted the hem on my new  
cape and it looks beautiful. Day which began foggy is  
now sunshiny. Bits of ivy red on our hill. Big plummy-tail-  
ed squirrels dodging each other on tree trunks. A maple in  
front of my window. Sunlit branches rising and falling.  
Leaves moving incessantly and all so silently - for there  
isn't wind enough to make a sound. Merian eating out of  
doors by sandbox.
- Sept. 26. Delossy took Merian to Sunday school & I dressed in my blue  
Sun. flannel dressing gown & came down on the porch. It was  
sunny but leaves are beginning to color and are falling  
This afternoon Delos and Roy went to a movie. Helen & Mere  
ian for a walk & Emma & I visited and she read me poetry.  
They stayed for an impromptu supper. We have been reading  
an American Doctor's odyssey by Heiser. Tales of Leprosey,  
cholere, yellow fever and how huacanic plague is coming east-  
ward on the backs of squirrels.
- Sept. 27. Second Curly Story nothing! I'm in bed and Dr. Morrison  
Mon. says the cough is hay fever, upon which is super-imposed  
a grippy cold.' Emma brought me a pile of books and maga-  
zines. I have a lovely letter from Katie. So I've been  
quite well amused. Merian began her project today - It is  
Indians. Delossy is tired and is re-paragraphing the Pig  
while I read.

Sept. 28. Rain today. Merian off to school in a cab. Lin Yutang in  
Tues. Harpers' "True peace of mind comes from accepting what is  
worst. Psychologically I think it means <sup>a</sup> release of en-  
ergy." Emma & Irmengarde in to see me this afternoon. To-  
night a midnight phone-call from Frank & Helen at Ander-  
son, Indiana. It was so good to hear from them as well as  
to have good news about Foster's property in Indiana.  
First good news in the family for so long I hope it means  
a turning tide.

Sept. 29. And perhaps it does for I feel much better this morning.  
Wed. It's fair again. I am sending Nannine a poem I wrote yes-  
terday - in a melancholy vein. And tho still abed am  
getting to work at my typewriter. I want to put down Dr.  
Morrison's mode of treatment. Atomizer every 2 hrs. pre-  
scription 42106. Argerol - must be fresh - every 4 hours.  
(after atomizer.) prescription 42105. and for the cough  
prescription 42081 every 2, ~~3~~ or 4 hours as needed. also  
stay in bed!

Sept. 30. Merian's class has formed a club. She had to tell the club  
"some of her experiences" and she told them "how me &  
daddy swam out to the atoll in Bermuda." Today she told me  
that she had told them about her visit to natural history  
museum. Apropos of Indians. Indians are their 'project.'  
Came down on the couch last nite (D went over to Sternes  
for dinner after giving me mine & tucking Merian in.)  
heard some nice things on the radio Tchiakowski's Fantasia  
(Romeo & Juliet overture) how familiar it is! And Gershwin's  
An American in Paris & I must put down how Merian took care  
of me this afternoon. (It was Helen's afternoon off) She  
was filled with importance about it & I had to invent  
things for her to do.

1922

Sept. 30. Much better. In fact, I feel entirely well except for the  
Thurs. cough which is seasonal, I know. When I look out the window I am surprised at the transformation which has taken place in a week. The leaves are falling - the lawns quite thick with them. Emma was here all day, had lunch with me. Also I wrote a poem. Am reading "Of Time & The River." Up for dinner.

OCTOBER

- Oct. 1. Delossy came home tonight with glorious news. A raise - and  
Fri. the five day week! We are so delighted. I had spent the day typing my poem, writing letters, riding to New Rochelle & receiving callers - Mrs. Bartnett with lovely flowers for me and Emma. Delos & I very happy tonight. We are putting the John Day royalties into Sun stock. Listened with disquiet to Black.
- Oct. 2. Fair. Merian & I went shopping this morning. First leaves  
Sat. falling, vines turning. Delos played tennis this afternoon & Merian & I played Chickentown school. How beautifully she reads The Minatair. Tonight I ventured out - we went to the movies & saw Thin Ice - Sonje Henie - pretty.
- Oct. 3. Breakfast in bed & then Delos drove Merian to school. She  
Sun. is learning the Creed. When he returned with her I was up & she & I took a stroll. Day overcast & air weighted (or so it seemed to me). Spent the rest of the day indoors. A man with a pony came by & Joan & Merian and the rest went pony-back-riding. Tonight D & I listening to Flagstad on the radio.
- Oct. 4/ The Anderson property is sold. We are so happy for the Fosters  
Mon. Letters from mother & Helen were very welcome; I had waited so long. Began Rain In Bermuda today. After lunch, took a run to New Rochelle with Emma. Then called for Merian & we walked home. The leaves are beginning to fall. The air is thick, heavy. A mulberry bloom on the leaves of our forsythia Delossy home tonight with the family cold in a new version.

- Oct. 5. Morning on the story and to Martins for a shampoo & wave  
Tues. at 1 O'clock. Mrs. Shober called for me there & we sat in the park and talked. Delos home with a temp & a cold. I put him to bed - he had his supper there - and went to sleep right afterwards. I am sleeping in Merian's room.
- Oct. 6. Morning on story. Helen out this afternoon & I walked up for  
Wed. Merian. Many many leaves have fallen now. One scuffles thru when one walks. And the air is golden & thick. But beauty of foliage not yet at its height, of course. It is just beginning. Delos had supper in bed again, altho his cold is better. I heard Rhapsody in Blue with Iturbi at the piano on the radio. Remember the opening phrase - ist it a sax?
- Oct. 7. On impulse Emma & I went to town today & bought me a brown  
Thurs. blouse! She also looked at drapes. We were companions in misery. Home early & a quiet eveing. Merian is reading Padmae Column & Edition of the Odyssey & Iliad. She adores it, and when I put her to bed I read her a chapter or two. The gorier it is the better she likes it and she bounces all over the bed in her excitement when they throw rocks & hurl spears! Nights are cold now.
- Oct. 8. Sunny and cold. I am working in bed while house heats, as  
Fri. fire had gone out. Shrubbery on our hillside (seen from the window.) Yellow. I think we are going to find foliage at its loveliest on our trip!

Oct. 9. Leaving on our weekend I will say to myself: "At nine o'clock  
Sat. on Monday I will begin to write:" Merian was up at 7 asking  
to go over & get Joan. She & Joan are planning great things.  
Helen is going to make pancakes for them. She saw us off  
happily with the Sternes at 9 a.m. We started up Danbury way  
& found the foliage beautiful. Maples yellow & indecently red.  
Pumpkins & apples for sale by roadside. Purple asters. Rock  
fences begin. As we get up into the hills, yellow trees like  
lighted candles. Sky of light autumn blue with clouds. Fair  
crowds in Danbury. Fishermen in boats in Housatonic. Foot-  
hills. One tree, maple, green, spotted with red. Brookfield  
distant blue mountains near bright hills, little fat hillocks.  
Following Housatonic sometimes a hills crowd down to the road.  
Picnic in a field near Kent. Cooking hamburgers on outdoor  
stove, coffee. White birch trunks gleaming among colors on  
hillside. On our way again, listening world series on our  
radio. Blackberry River. Massachusetts now. Thru Shoffield,  
G. Barrington, etc. Stockbridge. Crisp gold maples. Now a  
valley with blue wavy line of hills. Now a hilltop and a mist  
of color in the valley. Lenox for New Eng. society, estates.  
Real New Eng. autumn weather. Rocks around sides of hills.  
Name Bratcher. Williamstown to Bennington. Delos buys a cap.  
Hills getting higher. Spread with mottled red, yellow, green,  
brown. Farms on lower slopes. Maple sugar & syrup, maple walnut  
fudge for sale. Vermont very Vermontish. Aster, sumac, apple  
trees loaded with fruit. Into N.Y. state. Stop for sherry &  
cheese. So sorry sky is overcast. The Adirondacks, in the dis-  
tance, a long blue uneven line. One hill formed up to cap  
which is covered with trees. Fort Edward, Lake George. Stop

Oct. 9. for night at house on lake. Out to dinner where Delos who  
Cont. is suffering from a cold orders milk toast and a double  
order of cocoanut pie." Bridge in dressing gowns in Sternes  
room.

Oct. 10. Misty, rainy. Coffee in bed but Roy & Delos out to breakfast.  
Sun.

In car at 10. Find Lake George lone & narrow with hills  
rising from brim & layer upon layer of mountains behind.  
All hung with mist today. Remember Oak Lawn Lodge, on Lake  
with tennis court. Drive to Ticonderoga, Lake George on our  
right. View from Bolton's Landing - Island, peaks, all with  
mist. From Boltons Landing "14 miles to next gas station  
over mountains." Mts. suddenly jumped nearer. Pause at a white  
fence. Beyond tall dry mullein stalks, an open meadow, one red  
maple, then the lake, islands, colored hills, layers of Mts.  
Winding around tongue Mt. Wet rocks gleaming. Stephen T. Mather  
Memorial Forest. We are drunk with color. Stop. Test your brakes  
Long steep hills, says sign at foot of hill. another glorious  
view of lake. Lake 30 mi. long. Water very still today. Sky  
overcast. North Brook Lodge with cottages, Sabbath Day Point.  
Uncas Point. Sherry spilled. To Ft. Ticonderoga thru woods.  
Read RLS's poem. Mountains. Montcalin "A brave and gallant  
gentleman." Grey walls. Location high between lakes. Geo &  
Champlain. South now with Champlain at our left. Wide valley.  
Read Colpert's Child's History. Running s. between N.Y. & Vt.  
country, simple, not resortish. Wide colored valleys, road  
winding about hills. Cross south Bay. Lake Champlain, Lock  
11 Champlain Canal. Dinner at Granville. World series again.  
Ride down thru N.Y. State loveliest of entire trip. Berkshires  
Ride on a high bridge thru the galley. Almost untenanted; it

- Oct. 10. seems. We feel as tho we had discovered it. Nested hills, contd. dark green pines, beaming bright ones, higher hills behind. Stone fences. Small family graveyard in middle of a field. Cold Skids - Hoosack Falls, Little Hoosack River & a r.r. in our valley. Our dirt road to Ausrerlitz a triumph of beauty. Up among trees goes our golden path. Wild. Now few farms. Green River. Hilldale. Twilight descending. Bold black line of hills as night descends. Remember our wild route #22. Millerton. We buy cheese to eat with our sherry in the sudden darkness.
- Oct. 11. Mon. Delossy's cold very bad but he to work & I to work. Merian & Helen report a fine happy time with Joan. A little fat grey bird with a white belly & yellowish spots on breast looks in window at me as I try to work. Merian and I to dentist and Indian walk.
- Oct. 12. Tues. Work again. Merian to lunch with Joan as today is Columbus Day, a holiday. Mrs. Jordan took us all to the parade. Emma in to sew and talk late. Delossy home still sick with his cold.
- Oct. 13. Wed. Work again on "Rain in Bermuda". growing colder. Merian stayed home this afternoon. The little warbler is still with us, hovering about my window. Merian is deep in the Siege of Troy.
- Oct. 14. Thurs. In bed with a headache until noon. Then to N.R. with Merian. Peaceful evening at home. Year slowly growing colder.
- Oct. 15. Fri. Wired mother. It seems so nice, that Gale & Gwen will be with us on Daddy's & Mother's anniversary. Visited Merian's school and talked with Miss Cartwright to great profit. Gale to tea and Gwen to dinner.

- Oct. 16. Delos's day at home. All drove up the parkway, got out of Sat. car, & walked a little way beside a lake. D to bed early tonight while I listened to Brahms First. Love the melody in final movement.
- Oct. 17. Sunny, crisp, lawn thick with leaves, squirrels busy and Sun. birds gathering. M to Sunday school. This afternoon we drove to town. D to M to Joos European Ballet. Then we all had supper at Automat full of children in rodeo hats.
- Oct. 18. From the Tempest "Lie there, my art." Ref. to astrology - Mon. Act 1, Sc 11. Sleep 'Tis a good dullness." Act 1, SC11. Cediban, attitude of masters toward all servants? Emma to tea. Delossy better tonight. We played chess. I listened to Beethoven's First - like Haydon & Mozart.
- Oct. 19. Irmengarde's tea. To town in the rain. New York stimulated Tuss. me today. The streets, the high peaked hats and veils. The shops. I called on Blanche & Miss Jessie - both sick. Lunched at Woman Pays & heard a fine talk on the ballet. Joined Gale for Irmengarde's tea - a nice one. Later a group of us dined at Guffanti's.
- Oct. 20. Rain to a light wind. Colored leaves smacked to black gleaming pavement. Yellow, tan and red trees waving. Fine red oak seedlings, quivering. All the woods twisting and whispering in the rain. Each little yellow leaf, tugging separately to be free. Balletermaine - look up. Betty and Camilla in for tea. Delos & I quiet tonight. Delos brought me Emma's "Some Plant Olive Trees" for review.

Oct. 21. Working on my story. This afternoon Emma & I to New Rochelle  
Thurs.

to the milliner to try on the two hats I am having re-  
modeled. They look quite in the mode - tall one with a veil  
and one with a quill.

Oct. 22. Merian to Dr. Hafford after school today. Dot Jordan drove  
Fri.

us up. He didn't hurt her & she is proud of her fillings!  
After the dentist we interviewed the doctor who finds her  
in magnificent condition. 62½ pounds weight & a chest expan-  
sion an inch & a half beyond normal. But coming home we  
waited in the N. Rochelle station for a train & Merian saw  
a scraggly grey cat. She said to me "That cat doesn't look  
very well taken care of" and when I turned toward her a few  
minutes later, I found her crying! Delos had me telephone  
Dr. Wightman, on the quiet, and ask him if she might not  
now have a cat or a dog. But he said no - it would be worse  
than foolish to risk it!

Oct. 23. Delos is relaxing & enjoying his holiday, not feeling him-  
Sat.

self, tho. This afternoon I read Emma's book, while he &  
Roy listened to the football game & Merian had Joan & Sarah  
Jane in to a party. To Sternes for bridge tonight.

Oct. 24. I worked all day on my review of Emma's book. Delos took  
Sun.

Merian to Sunday School and then he too retired to the house  
with a hot pad on his forehead. The day was crisp after the  
rain. The leaves are going but one still looks out into a  
bonfire of the world. We heard Beethoven's Seventh on the  
radio. The big news is that Merian is giving a Halloween  
party & I am calling up to invite people, 15 acceptances out  
of 15 invitations.

- Oct. 25. Finished my review of Emma's book & finished telephoning  
Mon. invitations to Merian's Hallowe'en party. Her class is standing on end. 24 children coming. To New Rochelle to shop for decorations, etc. to the PTA tea with Mrs. Shober and tonight to call on the Sauers with Delos.
- Oct. 26. Spent the morning reading the book Grey sent me for re-  
Tues. view - Shadows Slant North. This afternoon Emma, Louise Leteure & I to the Manor Club to see Ruth St. Denis. Very fragile. White hair, skin and robes with scarlet finger tips. Merian had the twins to play. She told us tonight "At school the talk is all party, party, party. Donald Miller asked me if we were going to have ice cream and I told him I was practically sure we were."
- Oct. 27. Working on my review with intervals of shopping - going to  
Wed. Martins - going to Emma's. She & I had lunch together, talking party. We are going to divide the children as owls and goblins. The trees seem lovelier than ever, more delicate as more and more leaves fall. Helen off today - Merian & I got dinner and now I am working on my review while R & D go to the movies.
- Oct. 28. Delos says my review is good. I'm so happy. He is driving  
Thurs. Merian & Joan to school enroute to an appointment with Dr. Smith in New Rochelle. While we wait we talk Hallowe'en, party, party, party. It is raining. Some trees are stripped the color swept to the ground but still radiant there. To call on Mrs. Brown in Brooklyn - summoned home by a wire from Minn. Called Katie.

- Oct. 29. Getting ready for party, worrying about mother, and going to  
Fri. a dinner-bridge at Emma's tonight. Merian says that the whole class is talking nothing but the party. Helen & Merian decorated the dining room while we were at our dinner. Black and orange streamer, cats, witches, etc. An orange paper cloth & orange candles on the table and tomorrow a big decorated cake will stand at either end.
- Oct. 30. We had a perfect day and a grand party. But 24 children are  
Sat. a lot of children. We had witches, cats & clowns, a French soldier, a Canadian Mountie, a Robinhood - Emma helped me with the games & Mrs. Shober came in, dressed as a witch, & told fortunes. The children came down to supper to the music of a music box and ate ice cream, cake and candy, while each child took home a balloon and a dolly. To dinner at Cogginses - and hour late & needing a drink.
- Oct. 31. After a morning in bed, recovering, we had dinner & drove to  
Sun. town. One can ride close to the river all the way now and the sky & clouds & water were lovely. Delos went to call on Miss Jessie & Blanche & Merian & I went to the ballet. We sat in the Duchess of Roxburg's box - next to the stage. Saw Francesca deRimini, Coe d'or & Le Beau Danube. (Ballet Russe.) It was indescribably thrilling; it was intoxicating. The lush splendor of Coe d'or - Irine Baronova as the Queen with her smiling mocking toes, dancing on her toes. Tatiana Riabouchinskae glittering as the golden wickered vine stay in my memory. And Platoff as Malatesta in the Muncesca also the angelic apparition, with Tatiana R. Afterwards we stopped at Blanche's & she gave Merian milk. The drive home with the

Oct. 31. line of lighted cars circling ahead. A beautiful day except that we were heavy-hearted, D & I, about mother. Dance Contd.

cept that we were heavy-hearted, D & I, about mother. Dance was like a poultice to sick nerves again - Irina B with smiling mocking face, long black hair, pink pantaloons, dancing on her toes, a good character for story.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1. A better morning than I had expected on my story. In the  
Mon. afternoon M & I had tea with Shobers and gave Lois some  
trinkets, because of her hurt nose. Indian summer weather.
- Nov. 2. It seems strange (when lying abed as this morning with a  
Tues. headache) not to look out into thick green maple leaves but  
instead at a few tattered yellow ones. To school to visit  
it is election day. To call on Mrs. Bartnett this evening.
- Nov. 3. Lay abed planning a house in Connecticut for weekends now  
Wed. and for our retirement. We need to cheer ourselves up; so  
worried about mother. Emma took me to look at a private  
hospital. We have to find some place for mother to stay un-  
til we can get moved into a larger house. Talking, talking,  
talking all evening. The lawn is now buried in brown leaves.  
We have not been allowed to burn them. But city is going to  
collect them so we are raking them out to the street.
- Nov. 4. Back at the story, and this afternoon Mrs. Shober & I visited  
Thurs. the Ballet class. 2 little girls, costume a brown ballet  
dress braided in yellow, stick out skirts over Merian's  
chubby little legs. It was so cute to see her do the 5 foot  
positions, the 5 arm positions, or a besque pirouette, etc.  
To town to dinner with Miss Jessie and Angela. Growing colder.
- Nov. 5. Ann Goss here after school playing Winnie the Pooh game with  
Fri, Merian. Delos brought home tickets for The Women; and I went  
a second time. Enjoyed it, too. Warm enough to enjoy stroll-  
ing on Broadway where in <sup>can</sup> decent fishes, peanuts pouring from  
a bag and a new sort of electric sign which tells a story  
make strolling fun.

- Nov. 6. Up to Dr. Brodhead this morning to have Merian's toofy  
Sat. pulled. This afternoon we left Delossy raking leaves and  
went to the horse show with Jordans. No good! Roy & Emma  
over for bridge tonight. Reading Merian the opening chapters  
of Genesie, I felt that the story of Adam & Eve was not quite  
in line with other reading, so tried to explain to M that the  
story was probably allegorical. M. answered stoutly "I don't  
think so. I believe every word of it. I believe in Greek  
mythology too."
- Nov. 7. Mrs. Marion drove me up to church with Merian. Christ Church  
Sun. very high church. M will be practically a Catholic. This  
afternoon Delos drove us up to a place on Hutchinson River  
Parkway where we got out of car and walked among autumn  
leaves. Tonight a party at Sternes.
- Nov. 8. Many tall trees bare - Our maples clinging to their yellow  
Mon. leaves. Yeloo leaves on the ground (our tons of brown oak  
leaves have been collected.) Sky grey today as though hold-  
ing snow. An excellent morning at work. Afternoon buying  
Merian rubbers & doing shopping tonight read Isobel Field's  
"This Life I've loved."

Nov. 9. Another good morning on story. In the afternoon Helen took  
Tues. Merian to the dentist and I went to art section of Manor  
Club, then to hear Stokolsky speak advising a "return to  
Capitalism." Delos & I out to see a technicolor movie. A  
thin cold moon. Air growing chill but it has been an October-  
ish November. Art notes follow: (Italian primitives.) Art  
purer, simpler, less pretentious as you go back. Frick collect-  
ion rounded out by 2 pictures worth 2 million, one a Duccio  
(Madonna enthroned?) the other Bellini's "St. Francis in  
Ecstasy." Remember files of prints. N.R. Library. (going back  
to 6th century a.d., all culture and art from Constantinople,  
the Paris of the world. Venice almost a Byzantine city, By-  
zantine Mosaics of St. Marks - brilliant. Young Francis of  
Assisi, out of a dungeon in Perugia, started a monastery.  
Story of St. Francis put on walls of church (at Assisi?) by  
Giotto, first artist of Italian renaissance. Duccio - 3 mi.  
away. These two masters never met. Giotto great pupil of  
Giotto. He took Giotto to Assisi with his (as one of his) ap-  
prentices. Left Giotto in charge. Read Ruskin mornings in  
Florence." Giotto's Madonna enthroned." in Riffizi. Giotto's  
lovely robes, beautiful soft colors. Life of St. Francis in  
28 frescoes in basilica at Assisi. See Duccio in Frick's -  
also Barra of Siena (his third grandsons child, painter)  
story of Jesus being tempted by the devil. A student of Giotto  
Fra Filippo Lippi in Frick. Arezzo chapel at Padua art treasure  
of Italy. Walls lined by Giotto. Jesus & the Virgin. Dante out  
arena in here. Lippi first modern - his madonnas lifelike.  
He married non - his son, Fra Filippo Lippi - Annunciation

- Nov. 9. in Frick. The Hill artists (Sienna), then Venice. Bellini,  
Contd. one of two brothers, in shop with father. His St. Francis  
in Ecstasy.) Giovanni Bellini, a great master. Giorgiani, his  
student Titian." A Young Man" by Titan, in Frick. Piero della  
Francesco, one of greatest painters. In Frick.
- Nov. 10. Helen out. I finished story. Delosy crazy about it. Harriet  
Wed. here to play with Merian.
- Nov. 11. Delos & I to Nan's tea and then with Gale to French Casino.  
Thurs. Less subtle & intimate than I had expected. In fact, any-  
thing but that: A step above Hollywood. Slapstick humor.  
But clean enuf in spite of naked girls. Decor. modern &  
color bright. Weather still nice.
- Nov. 12. Typed story & got it off to Nan. Merian to play on Ann's  
Fri. hillside. They played squirrels. Merian said Ann "Just my  
type - imagination." D & I to play bridge with Sternes to-  
night.
- Nov. 13. Started raining last night & D had to give up going to  
Sat. Philadelphia for his football game. We stayed in all day  
except for a short run to library. I'm reading Kipling's  
"Something of Myself from which, the following: "My  
office work had taught me to think out a notion in detail,  
pack it away in my head, and work on it in snatches in  
any surroundings. The lurch and surge of the old horse  
drawn buses made a luxurious cradle for such ruminations."  
33d. ecclesiastics" so long as thou livest and hast breath  
in thee, give not thyself over to any." Emerson "Wouldst  
thou seal up the avenues of ill? Pay every debt, as tho'  
God wrote the bill."

Nov. 13. <sup>11</sup> Every man must be his own law in his own work." Father:  
Contd.

"Make your own experiments. It's the only road. If I helped, I'd hinder." "A tale from which pieces have been raked out, is like a fire, that has been poked ... note tho' that the excised stuff must have been honestly written for inclusion. I found that when to save trouble, I wrote short, abinitio, much salt went out of the work."

"The personal Daeman of Aristotle & others ... I learned to lean upon him & recognize the sign of his approach."

"If ever held back, Ananios fashion, anything of myself (even tho' I had to throw it out afterwards) I paid for it by missing what I then knew the tale lacked." My <sup>dae</sup> ~~door~~-

man was with me in the Jungle books, Kim & both Puck books and good car I took to walk delicately, lest he should withdraw. I know that he did not, because when those books were finished they said so themselves with almost the water-hammer click of a tap turned off ... when your Daemon is in charge, do not try to think consciously. Drift, wait & obey." "Take nothing for granted if you can check it. Even tho that seem waste work it has nothing to do with the essentials of things, it encourages the Daemon.<sup>11</sup>

Nov. 14. Clear and bracing today. M to Sunday school. This afternoon we parked the car and hiked again, along the parkway. Trees almost entirely stripped now. At 4 or so, to Pelham Theatre to see "100 Men and A Girl." How I wept.

Nov. 15. Merian sick. She reads, talks and dreams Greek mythology.  
Mon.

Nov. 16. Merian better. She and Helen making doll clothes and me  
Tues. to town to a radio forum. Short story idea - radio voice  
love affair. Man listening in frozen north. She not a  
singer but announcer! The actress who spoke today was  
blonde with a soft purring voice. Remember radio more  
commercial than artistic, also, distinctly a family en-  
tertainment. Fads - this year it is Hollywood 80% in-  
crease in Daytime Shows. To Wanamakers and shopped for  
Christmas.

Nov. 17. With Merian. Her make-believe that siege of Troy is  
Wed. being fought on lawn, between forsythia bush and side-  
walk. Story sent back for cutting.

Nov. 18. And today she is up - parading about, draped in towels,  
Thurs. being Pallas Athene! Delos brought me a book to review.  
Vincent Sheean's Short Stories. Growing colder, but  
clear, bracing, pleasant "Rain in Bermuda" cut and re-  
turned.

Nov. 19. Daddy's birthday. Merian went to school this morning  
Fri. & got along beautifully. I worked on my review. I kept  
her home this afternoon & we played we were in Greece,  
characters out of the Odyssey. Tonight the Floyds came  
down for bridge, & the 4 of us went to see Lost Horizon.  
The first whiff of snow today. It didn't last at all.  
But Merian said the children shouted and marched around  
the room at sight of it.

- Nov. 20. It was raining and snowing together today. We drove into  
Sat. town, however, D & I, down the new Hudson River Boulevard. The weather had cleared by then and the river was beautiful. We went first to Nan's cocktail party for Don & his wife. Then to the Brown's party and finally with Bartnetts & Browns to see the Abbey players in Playboy of the Western World and The Train. Merian still Pallas Athene, with a towel around her, and our living room is Greece.
- Nov. 21. Woke up to snow mounding the branches in front of our  
Sun. windows, How white, how radiant it looked. Delos & Merian were soon out sweeping the Walk. Then D & I walked over to Sternes for a rum collins before dinner. Now, at nearly 4, the snow is gone. Only a speck of it here and there on the north side of the house porch roof. Off with Merian to call on the Frank Grahames. Had such a lovely time. They are a story book household. Stayed for supper - a mob of us, including Merian.
- Nov. 22. Still working at my review. Day looks clear and cold.  
Mon. A bluejay and a sparrow pecking at the ice in the trough outside my window. Man scrapping our floors. I called for Merian at school & we had a snack uptown and went walking to let our floors dry. I finished my book review. Delossy has another sinus attack.

- Nov. 23. To town with Emma (but parted from her after coffee) to  
Tues. shop until time for Woman pays when she spoke & very well too. Afterwards I called on Miss Jessie. Then more shopping and home. Helen had taken Merian to her dentist's appointment, ballet class, and a toy gazing expedition. All tired tonight, especially Delos.
- Nov. 24. Merian's holiday began at noon today. She playing outdoors  
Wed. this afternoon in the crisp November air. I went to town to meet Delos at Wanamakers for a little Christmas shopping before dinner at the Jumble Shop and The Gay Blades Skating Review. It was marvelous. Karl Schaeffer dances on the ice so superbly that you forget he is on skates. He looks like a dragon fly with his long graceful legs. The lights float like colored balloons. Cold in the Garden, tho.
- Nov. 25. A sunny crisp clear day. Merian out all morning and took  
Thurs. one of our Thanksgiving favors over to Joan. McCartneys arrived promptly at noon and we had a big dinner and a lovely family day. In the afternoon the men and children went to the movies while Dode and I slept. After supper Roy and Emma joined us. Turkey, pie and everything perfect.
- Nov. 26. Merian woke up with a cold so we didn't go to town to bat  
Fri. with Irmengarde & Paul. She & I wrapped Christmas presents and read The Iliad and Odyssey. Tonight Roy and Emma in for bridge.

N

Nov. 27. Delos up to see Dr. Morrison this morning & while he was  
Sat. there M & I went to the library, to Ware's Toy Department,  
etc. This afternoon Roy & Delos listened to the football  
games. Later Emma came in and we all had rum Collinses while  
Merian read "Famous Men of Greece" Everybody happy. Tonight  
D & I to see Eddie Cantor in Ali Baba but it wasn't much  
good. It was warm and autumnal all day and leaves burning  
up and down the street, but raining when we came in tonight.

Nov. 28. Raining heavily today. Bare branches beaded with drops,  
Sun. lawns soaked. D & M fighting Trojan war in living room  
with pillows for shields. M has D's cane for her weapon  
D has my silver hair brush. He is the Trojans. She is the  
Greeks. This afternoon he went up to see Dr. Morrison & M  
& I read the Greeks & listened to the Philharmonic. The  
Ceasar Franck Symphony which I love so much. D & I quiet  
all evening. Merian's bad breathing seems to be coming on.

Nov. 29. Our twentieth wedding anniversary. No two could have been  
Mon. happier together than we have been; no one could have been  
dearer and better to ~~me~~ another than Delos has been to me.  
Merian had a bad attack last night & I was awake with her  
most of the night. But she seems better this morning. The  
weather has cleared. And so - I went to town. Shopped.  
Rested at the YWCA. Met Delos at the Algonquin for cocktails  
in the lounge, dinner and then a charming play. "Father  
Malachy's Miracle." Met Sternes on the train and Emma gave  
us a blue pottery vase for wedding anniversary present.

Nov. 30. If I had had any idea how nice the luncheon today was to  
Tues. be I would have brought Gale as well as Carolyn. Mrs.  
Roosevelt is very winning personally and a most engaging  
speaker and a grand person. Emma listened with tears  
rolling down her cheeks. After lunch, called on Miss Jessie  
then four of us went to see the **Franz Hals**, strolling  
through the little low ceiled rooms. A rendezvous for a  
story pair? Creating a story reading of fiction stops.  
Much reading of any kind stops. Movies are no good either.  
nor too many parties. (But the last, almost unavoidable  
at this season.)" Rhythm, monotonous and silence."

DECEMBER

- Dec. 1. Worked till 111 Martin. Merian & I alone this afternoon,  
Wed. playing Fluffy Cat and Topsy Squirrel. The former read the latter from Famous Men of Greece. I reached a decision about Delos. I want him to ask to be changed to rewrite staff where his work will be less of a strain.
- Dec. 2. My darling's birthday. Much excitement at breakfast and M  
Thurs. tells me she is planning a ballet for Delos's party tonite. Helen insists on making the cake. Mrs. Shoher & I visited dancing school today; it was pretty terrible. The birthday party was a grand success. Delos loved his presents, pajamas ties & a cocktail shaker with foolish presents from the animals added, and the cake was delicious.
- Dec. 3. To town on the 9:03 and shopped all day buying me a lovely  
Fri. black velvet dress at Macy's Little Shop. To Miss Jessie's for dinner.
- Dec. 4. A beautiful day. Delos & Merian drove me over to do my market-  
Sat. ing. In the afternoon we listened to Manor & in the evening Sauers came over. They're nice. Merian now reading Famous Men of Greece and History of the Ancient world.
- Dec. 5. I woke with a terrific headache, so stayed in bed until  
Sun. noon. M & D got out for a walk, it was a glorious day. Gale came on the 1:01 for dinner looking so lovely in a black dress with a pattern of pink roses around the shoulders. We had dinner here and went to Emma's for cocktails, taking Merian who took Greece along.

Dec. 6. Raining. Delos to work in a cab. Wet brown leaves and shiny black rocks on our hillside with a bright bluejay for contrast. Baeman, help me to find a plot! This afternoon the Twins playing with Merian. And tonight D & I with Emma and the Grahames braved the rain to drive to New Rochelle & hear Zorach. We got a great deal out of it. My notes are appended. Art is a language .. understanding has nothing to do with liking or disliking. Primitive sculpture pure and great - it degenerated. Matisse was a revitalizing influence but not a great artist. Picasso<sup>sub</sup> excelled in his own most highly developed medium, painting. But his sculpture of historical value. (His greatest single influence in modern art.) Brancusi great influence not only on modern art but on modern living. A peasant, the embodiment of modern sophistication. Decadent however. Strength of the primitive lacking. Lipschitz Aubislec, cold, a literary arrangement. Too much support given to museums. Should be given to modern artists. Real sculpture, a profound emotional feeling. Slides. Showed Egyptian, Assyrian, Aztec, early Greek (early arts greatest; purity like a child) Etruscan, Roman (decadent - perfect copies - portraiture good.) Gothic craftsmen rather than artists strong religious feeling.) Showed 2 marvelous Gothic Christs. Archaic Apollo. Greatest piece of sculpture in the world. Cambodian (mystic). Then came the silly business & seation to Matisse. Studied the primitive. Epstein, Maillol, Despiau, Zorach. His statues all chippise & worked by self. His love for object helps to make work good. His mother & child lovely. A painter first, he has feeling for his materials. Wants a little color.

- Dec. 7. Clear but overcast. Now at 9 o'clock a faint faint hint of  
Tues. snowflakes in the air. Beginning "Dash of Bitters."  
Flakes big now, some very big wet, clinging. Perhaps  
half an hour later, lawns, roofs, railings white. Land-  
scape has changed its aspect. Merian in bed all day and  
she and I both nursing sore throats. Helen as well. Much  
snow. Gone by nightfall.
- Dec. 8. Clear and cold. All better. M back to school. Me to work.  
Wed.
- Dec. 9. Dreamed Hey Day last night. Glory be! This afternoon with  
Thurs. Emma to New Rochelle. Called for Merian & Joan at dancing  
class and tonight Merian demonstrated the Fair jetée.
- Dec. 10. Our dinner party for Britts & Sternes. Britts missed train  
Fri. and were late and Roy and Emma both feeling not well, but  
even so the evening went gaily. Merian out of school with  
earache. Weather growing cold.
- Dec. 11. Delossy and I loafed today. Found out that Emma was sick.  
Sat. Went to town this afternoon and Delos took me all around  
Wanamakers to point out what Christmas presents I wanted.  
Then left me in the book department while he - probably -  
bought them! In the early cold dark walked over to Bartts  
cocktail party. A gay one. But home early.
- Dec. 12. Clear and cold. The house cold. Delos & Merian out this  
Sun. morning but I didn't sniff the air till afternoon when I  
walked down to find out how Emma was. Better and up. The  
Sun Party at Bartnetts was nice and the new black velvet  
dress looked nice.
- Dec. 13. It's the thirteenth, all right. Merian back in bed with her  
Mon. earache. An unsatisfactory letter from Helen about mother.  
Very cold. Merian & I ate dinner by living room radiator.  
Delos at Sun Union meeting.

- Dec. 14. With Merian all morning. Dr. Wightman came and says the  
Tues. ear is only secondary. It is the glands which are causing  
the trouble. I napped this afternoon and got ready for the  
party at Emma's, a lovely party where we got Merian's  
"Ferdinand" autographed by both author and artist.
- Dec. 15. Blue about mother and sickbed besides. Merian improving,  
Wed. slowly. After Helen left she and I came down to the couch  
(with her hot pad) Played Greece continually of course. I  
am a modern American dropped down in the ancient world.  
(Her plot) Delos & I quiet tonight. I am reading "Assign-  
ment to Utopia."
- Dec. 16. It rained in the night and at breakfast this morning we  
Thurs. looked out on twigs covered with frozen drops. Our hill-  
side, Merian said, seemed to be covered with silver vines.  
She was up on the couch today but at bedtime proved to  
have a temp. of 101 which frightened me. Delos and I to  
Sternes for bridge tonight but my heart heavy about both  
Merian and mother.
- Dec. 17. Merian up to Dr. Smith this morning, (Emma drove us) and he  
says she has a slight infection in a throat gland which should  
be "treated with respect." Resolved to get my Christmas  
shopping done so that I could devote myself to her, I went  
to town at noon. Shopped successfully and met Delos and con-  
tinued shopping. We phoned Helen & as Merian's temp. was low  
we went to see Ina Claire in "Barchester Towers."

- Dec. 18. Delos's holiday. Merian in bed so we kept pretty close to Sat. home but were out in the car once or twice. Day misty, very misty, in the morning, and the streets gleaming. Driving home from New Rochelle with the two Miss Learys whom we picked up Christmas shopping, we saw a west with embers burning in it below ragged rain clouds. To bed early.
- Dec. 19. A weight seemed to be pressing on me all day. The usual Sun. Sunday special from mother did not come and I am so afraid her cold has made her really sick. Merian's temp. lower today. Delos and I had a walk this morning, it is warm, clear, delightful weather. Not a trace of snow. This afternoon M & I played Siege of Troy. She has made the wall of Troy, all the gods and warriors, and Mt. Olympus out of clay. Delos & I addressing cards and doing small Christmas chores.
- Dec. 20. A special delivery letter from mother arriving at breakfast time made me feel better. She is not sick anymore. Her cold is better. And Merian's temp. is normal. Minnesota packages gone. Merian to Dr. Smith who finds her greatly improved. Emma brought in a book on puppets and some puppet material. Mon.
- Dec. 21. All out of town cards gone. Out in the car with Mrs. Jordan, Tues. & Bobby brought Merian her present from school. A gold cross on a chain (from Horace). Delos & I over to Sternes this evening for bridge & a hot rum toddy. Merian says Santa Claus has helpers in the form of Christmas birds. They take the shape of sparrows & chickadees, but what we think are sparrows & chickadees really are Santa's lookouts. Our wreaths and mistletoe is up. Packages on every mail. Letter from Katie.

Dec. 22. Out to Martins this morning & feeling happier. The day  
Wed. was so fine. Sunny and warm, way, way above zero, that  
I phoned Helen to let Merian walk out to meet me. She  
loved the out of door Christmas lights - even though they  
were not lighted, of course. A quiet afternoon with her,  
reading and singing carols and Delossy in early to try  
to tease her by insisting that there was to be no Christ-  
mas at our house and we must throw away the wreaths.

Dec. 23. Merian better and even out doors a little. I, very busy  
Thurs. shopping in New Rochelle. Packages piling up on card  
table in dining room - cards pouring in by shovels. To  
town at 5 to meet Delos and take Douthirts their pre-  
sents. A bowl full of roses for Miss Jessie and a book  
for W. F. Had dinner with them and then went to the Ice  
Carnival. Many Minnesota skaters under the long moving  
lights which play and interplay upon the scene..

Dec. 24. Emma & I took Merian to New Rochelle to try to match up  
Fri. her old red coat with leggins and bought her a new out-  
fit, rust color with velvet trimmings, in which she looks  
like a little young lady. Raining at time for the child-  
rens church service. Mrs. Marvin drove us up. I think  
Merian will remember the service, vested choir, singing  
the carols, her class singing and marching. Home to hang  
her stocking and sing carols out of the beautiful new  
book Aunt Helen sent. D & I trimmed the tree and filled  
stockings and Roy and Emma came in to hear Flagstad usher  
in Christmas at midnight with "Holy Night."

- Dec. 25. Merian let us sleep till 7, but it was still dark. We had  
Sat. orange juice upstairs and then went down to the lighted tree and stuffed stockings. M loved everything. Dressed and undressed the doll Stella sent; and brought her ship down from upstairs to send her 5 & 10 store swans sailing. It got such lovely things. We talked with Minnesota at 11. Mother, Froh, Katie & Eugene. Drove out to Schraffts for dinner and in the afternoon called on Shobers & Sternes, Delos toting along his corn popper from Frank and popping at everybody's house.
- Dec. 26. Breakfast in bed and then out to walk in a spring-like  
Sun. world. Not balmy, but absolutely no snow. A grey-brown world. Dinner at 1 and this afternoon Merian went to Donald Miller's party. I got into my crimson housecoat and D & I played chess and listened to Tchaikowsky's Fifth Symphony. Clark & Camilla here for lunch - the children eating by the Christmas tree. I am reading all my new books at once.
- Dec. 27. How I love breakfast in Christmas tree light! D, M. & I  
Mon. breakfasted early & now I am going back to work. Really back into Hey Dey, Merian gone to play with Joan. Sparrows breaking the thin film of ice in the eave trough to drink. Starlings (I think) or female blackbirds also or grackles? iridescent also around. Brown with speckled breast. Bluejays and little grey-blue birds with white throats. Black head, black capped Drinking together in my trough. The Grahames and the Shobers here this afternoon for an impromptu party. A quiet evening with Delos.

- Dec. 28. Woke up to snow in the dark early morning world. Our  
Tues. brown rocks and dry lawn thinly covered with a pale glimmer and more flakes coming down. Merian and I raised dressing - Greeks against Trojans and the Greens won. Breakfast by Christmas tree light. A fairly good morning on Hey Dey. This afternoon Merian to Nancy's party and I to Emma's musicale at the Manor Club with Gale who came back with us to dinner. Small boys with shovels out cleaning walks and cleaned ours. Merian and Sarah Jane this morning were out a long while playing in the snow.
- Dec. 29. Today was such a buzy day for Merian, and consequently for  
Wed. her mama. Rehearsal at dancing school in the morning, the play Rumpel Stiltskin and a visit to Jordans. Mrs. Shober helped me buy a steak to give Nan tonight. It was Helen's day out but she prepared grapefruit, salad, greens etc. It was a sunny clear day, some snow still on the ground. Emma came over for cocktails and we had a good dinner by Xmas tree light. Nan brought presents and we had such a nice time.

Dec. 30. A bad morning on the Crock and a broken up day. The whole  
Thurs. afternoon was given up to Merian's dancing school party, getting her there and into her costume, out of the costume and home. But the little dance went well, Merian and Joan both working hard and pumping and kicking, hopping on or with their little fat legs on the instant. Delossy home for a quiet evening. Helen isn't well and thinks she will get married soon, so the new year holds that change.

Dec. 31. The last day of the old year. Delos & Merian and I had  
Fri. breakfast by Christmas tree light. 1937 was good to us in some ways, keeping us all in good health and so happy with each other. It brought mother's sickness and much anxiety ... But oh, on the whole how lucky we are! Day is gray, dim. Snow or rain impending. To market first and to work now at 10:30. Delos & I in evening raiment called for Roy and Emma a little after 6 and drove to town to Irmengarde's, where we had a cocktail. Then to the Lafayette where Partons joined us all for dinner. Then, in the rain to the Battery & back to old Trinity where we said goodbye to the year.

1 9 3 8

JANUARY

Jan. 1.  
Sat.

The New Year came in with us on our knees and the bells of Old Trinity rolling. It was a formal colorful service in a crowded church. Out again into the rain and dropped Partons and Irmengarde and drove home along the river, the rain turning to snow. Slept until 10 and looked out to find the world wrapped (but thinly) in snow. We had breakfast in bed while Merian pretended that she was Achilles, in armor, with Delos's shoe horn for a spear. She got into her snow suit and went to Campions to get a paper for Delos. Now she is playing in the snow. There seems to be frozen rain on top of the snow, a thin sugary glaze. Leg of lamb for New Years dinner - and altho the weather was so bad that people were cancelling engagements right and left. Delossy put chains on our car and off we went to Bartnetts and Fairchilds. The last named give an annual New Years party, and are famous for their Alexanders. The roads were so slippery that we gave up our projected evening. hat with Sternes. They came here for bridge instead. And we stopped at 10 to drink white wine and listen to a radio concert - Toscanini conducting. The Schubert C Major Symphony is the most melodious enchanting composition. It takes one to another world.

Jan. 2. We slept late since the weather prohibited driving to Sunday school, in any case. Merian, Sarah, Jane and Joan on sleds again. We called on Jordans this afternoon, and the Battnetts came down here for an impromptu supper. Then Helen Shober came in. Merian starts back to school tomorrow and looks so well again, pink-cheeked.

Jan. 3. New Year changes began this morning when Helen - who has  
Mon. been with us so long and of whom we are all so fond - told us that the doctor finds her heart in such bad shape that he thinks she should stop work at once and rest until she is married. She wanted to give us notice but we didn't think she should work in her condition so we are paying her up to the 15th in place of a vacation and she will leave on Wednesday. We are so sorry for her. I took advantage of my two days and went to two today doing a two months shopping of household necessities and odds and ends. Tonight D and I dismantled the Christmas tree. The ground is still white but weather very mild. We got a photograph of Eugene and his flute today. I was so pleased to get it, and tickled with Merian's reaction. She is so inclined to hide her feelings, just like Delos. When the package came, I was quite excited and said, "Oh its the picture of Eugene. You don't remember cousin Eugene - do you, Merian?" She said "Of course I do!" I opened it and when we looked at it Merian, without saying a word, gave me a big hug and hid her face in my shoulder.

Jan. 4. I worked on the story with increasing discouragement all  
Tues. day until Merian came home from school and I walked with  
her to Mary Peel's party. Grey wintry day. She wore her  
velvet dress and the new coat suit and with her fresh  
cheeks and shining braids looked darling. I took a walk and  
had a drop of tea with Emma. Merian did not get home until  
7:30. Delos and I had had dinner (Helen baked Delos a cake  
as a farewell gesture. She had had a lovely time. They had  
all told stories, she said, and she had told the story of  
Cireo's Palace. Talked over Hey Dey with Delos tonight. He  
is italizing the characters and rebuilding the plot. I wish  
he would write it!

Jan. 5. I went over to be beautified this morning (for the sake of  
Wed. morale) and Helen left at noon. Dear Helen! She has been so  
good to us all and we are sorry to see her go under such  
bad circumstances. How forlorn and pitiful her life looked,  
as she drove away with her shabby bags. She has been very  
happy here but at best we could do so little for her. I  
spent the afternoon turning out drawers as most women do  
when the maid departs. Roy and Emma came over to get a book  
and stayed for chess and talk.

Jan. 6. This morning surprisingly 'enuf the story got going. Perhaps  
Thurs. the empty house helped. "Silence is a creative element." I  
sat down in the sunny front window (after doing beds and  
dishes) and wrote till 11:30. This afternoon Emma and I took  
the children to and from dancing school and called at Mrs.  
Birney's. Delossy had a sketchy dinner but didn't seem to  
mind. The weather, is positively spring-like which helps him with  
the furnace. Darling Daddy gone two years today. What a sad  
day two years ago with the snow falling. Journalists Wife: A  
German's chief interest is always his personal reactions to  
the mad world spinning around him. "By Else.

Jan. 7. Another good morning of work but more interruptions. Called  
Fri. for Merian at school and she and I walked-~~rode~~ to Bartnetts  
(and walked to their house from the street car through melt-  
ing snow - like spring.) to take Mrs. B. a gardenia. They  
start today for the Carribean cruise. Roy and Emma over for  
dinner bringing us a spray of yellow flowering jassamine from  
Alabama. Bridge.

Jan. 8. Merian, the angel, let Delos and me sleep until 9. After break-  
Sat. fast I did the housework, Delos cleaned the cellar (now it is  
shining) and Merian played out of doors under the forsythia  
bush. After lunch we drove out to see Bill Floyd, aged 3 weeks;  
called on Sternes & had a rum old-fashioned, and came on home  
for supper. D & Roy to a movie & I am going to listen to the NBC  
concert Toscanini conducting. Overture to magic Flutes-Mozart.  
Pastoral Symphony- Beethoven. (How deliciously the Wrook flows)  
Danse Macaue -Saint Saem. I hate it. LeMer, DeBussy- shifting  
moods of the sea. Delos got home in time to hear the concert.

Jan. 9. Merian and I up before Delosy and I walked with her, through  
Sun. a grey snappy morning to the bus which took her to Sunday school. Delos got up to drive up after her at 11. I made a meat loaf and a chocolate pie - fun to be cooking again, but I was tired by dinner time, and enjoyed my glass of sherry. This afternoon the three of us drove to New York along the river to the Natural History Museum and saw the Roosevelt Memorial wing with its scenes of African animal Life and the Planatarium. The theme there this month is the Winter Stars Doion with the three stars in his belt kneeling while he aims at Taurus the bull, while Caster and Pollux and the dog look on. I think I learned that constellation.

Jan. 10. My writing. Delos in charge of the Sun. Merian at school. She  
Mon. got home at 3 in the snow which was just beginning. (It began about noon, really.) Delos brought home tickets for the Beethoven Association concert and as he was too tired to go, I took Emma. Chamber music and a lovely program. The violinists, Erica Monnia, Adolph Busch and Wm. Knoll, Maurice Maredhal, the cellist and two pianists. They played the Haydon Sonota in C, the Handel Sonata in E, and Bach Sonato in C with the Brahms Sonata in F and the Ravel Passacailli (in Menniam) Ethereal lovely music and an audience of musicians and real music lovers. Many people dowdy, but in evening clothes.

Jan. 11. Merian in bed with a wee snuffle. Ground spread thickly with  
Tues.

white and more and more snow sifting down. Organizing desk  
and closets. Mrs. Dunphy brought in baked apples for our  
lunch. After Delos got home three children from Colonial  
School came to interview us - Rachel, Lillian and Hope --  
all darlings. Delos and I quiet tonight, one in the red house  
coat, playing chess, reading and looking out at the snowy  
world. Merian sleeping quietly.

Jan. 12. Ollie here cleaning today and tonight the house is shining.  
Wed.

Merian still at home. Ollie stayed with her while Emma ran  
me up to New Rochelle. Reading "Beloved Friend" the story  
of Tchaikowsky tonight.

Jan. 13. This morning we find a world indescribably lovely. The lawns  
Thurs.

and roofs are buried deep in snow, the bushes, twigs and  
branches are loaded with it. Not a thin covering such as we  
have had before, but a heavy, heavy one. Merian says the  
bushes look like pine trees, they hold the snow so well.  
She and I went up to New Rochelle to Dr. Hafford then I  
dropped her at dancing school and came on home to get dinner  
for Doris and Sue, a friend of hers who is an army girl and  
whose parents used to be stationed at Snelling and who proves  
to be a niece of Tom Fox, of Mankato memories. A very pretty  
girl with a shining curl on top of her head (like Squeezks)  
and a shining bob turned under. Very pretty and poised. beau-  
tiful manners.

- Jan. 14. I didn't get out today altho I meant to. The snowy world  
Fri. is so beautiful and it isn't cold. Merian was playing with Joan this afternoon. Gale came out to dinner and we had such a good one. She brought me tulips - then we had old-fashioned - then dinner. Mary (our former maid) came in to stay with Merian who immediately sat up in bed and began to read her the Odyssey. And we went to town to see Susan and God. I had never seen Gertrude Lawrence before and enjoyed her. Also the germ of truth in the play.
- Jan. 15. Delos's day at home. We enjoyed it to the full with a  
Sat. leisurely breakfast, and after the work was done, a walk to town. Merian had already been out with her sled, coasting (she and Joan) on the terrace. We still have, for New York quite quantities of snow. This afternoon I snatched a little leisure and read in my "Beloved Friend" book. Tonight Roy and Emma came over. We played bridge until ten, then listened to the concert played under Toscanini, The Brahms Tragic Overture, and the 2nd. Libelive Symphony - which Emma calls the most consoling music ever written. Then we toasted muffins.
- Jan. 16. A quiet morning. House serene, snowy world outside. About  
Sun. noon we walked over to Emma's for luncheon. And Merian who has seemed quite well again, didn't eat and acted strange and proved to have a temp. of 102 (103 rectal). We brought her home, put her to bed & rectal temp. stayed at 103† until six when it dropped to 102†. Delos has gone out to movie and I am writing notes, paying checks and things.

- Jan. 17. Merian perfectly well today. But I am keeping her in bed.  
Mon. Finishing up Thank Yous and there are notes of condolence to write too. Delos and I quiet tonight.
- Jan. 18. Merian well enough to go to town on her birthday jaunt.  
Tues. It was turning cold. She and I took the 2.57 and met Delos at the Music Hall. Snow white - an hour of enchantment. Then she took us to the automat for supper. Will I ever forget her striding along Fifth Ave. in the cold, her braids sticking out from under her tiny grown up hat with ribbons behind and the fitted grown up coat. A happy seventh birthday.
- Jan. 19. Below zero this morning. Cream frozen in the icebox and  
Wed. ginger ale bottles in the icebox room had frozen and burst. Our little house not prepared for such weather. But Delos and I breakfasted cozily with oven going. Merian still sleeping off her debauch. Finally she wakes. Delos left and Ollie came. Sunshine brilliant on the snow. A wire from Minnesota that Mother and Katie are coming. Emma ran me up to New Rochelle to buy a mattress. Merian at home all day, but well again. Delossy & I spent a quiet evening. (but happy) close to the radiator.
- Jan. 20. The weather is moderating. Milk not frozen this morning. House comfortable. Merian to school this morning and to dancing school this afternoon. But tonight while we played bridge with Roy and Emma, she woke feeling sick at her stomach.

- Jan. 21. So I kept her out today. Miss C called - they are so sorry  
Fri. to have her miss so much school, so are we. Katie and mother here tonight. Delos brought them out in time for a 7 o'clock dinner. Mother stood the trip quite well. Katie has white hair but otherwise hasn't changed a bit. I had had a wild day trying to find a maid. John finally got me my colored Martha who put on a pretty good dinner. Roy and Emma over to see mother tonight. She is sleeping in our room and D is up in the little third floor room.
- Jan. 22. Wakened at 7 by a little boy who wanted to shovel our walks.  
Sat. We found that it had been snowing heavily. The world beautiful. Delos was at home and all of us visited until noon when Martha came. Delos played squash with Jerry and we all rested. Then dinner, and K & I to town on the 7:46 to hear the Toscanini broadcast. A dear little old man, erect, formal, punctilious. His conducting mechanical except in the Meistersing Prelude. K saw Rockefeller Centre for the first time, and the skaters.
- Jan. 23. Mad confusion in the house with trays ascending & descending  
Sun. at all hours, but fun to be together. When Martha got in at noon we were thru lunch, & started out on a drive which made Katie almost hysterical with excitement. Thru a snowy but melting world, to the Hendrik Hudson Parkway and down alongside the river, showing her the Geo. Wash. bridge in all its beauty & the Empire State. We went way to the Battery, & up thru Wall St. etc. Merian (almost as excited as Katie) Got out at Trinity Church. Home up Fifth Ave. & thru Central Pk. Rested & went to Emma's for a very pleasant supper. Martha, unasked, made us a grand cake.

- Jan. 24. Katie went to town early today for a bat with Dode and  
Mon. what a fine time they had - going up the Empire State  
building and eating dinner at a German restaurant. Mother  
not well, so stayed at home until Delos was here, then  
went into town in the rain to meet K at Nannine's. N  
loaned us an ambrella and in rain and gale we saw Broadway  
in its nighttime effulgence & "You can't Take it With You."  
The rain has washed away our snow.
- Jan. 25. It was raining this morning early but cleared so that Merian  
Tues. and Joan could walk to school and it was quite clear when  
Helen Shober drove Katie to her train. We had all had cake  
and milk as a farewell feast. Later mother and I walked  
out; the weather was balmy (the temp. was 55 above as a  
matter of fact.) The moist warm air was springlike. Delossy  
came in about 6:30 and we all had a quiet evening. Katie's  
gifts of "A Little Night Music" and "Friends & Fiddlers"  
will make amateur musicians out of us. Merian wearing Katie's  
gift of a bangle bracelet with delight.
- Jan. 26. News from Helen, that Fowlers are going into the motion  
Wed. picture business at Forest Lake, Minn. Mother and I digested  
that after we got Merian off to school - then I got to work.  
Clear today, and colder. But sunny with blue skies.
- Jan. 27. Martha's day off. I struggled with a butterscotch pie.  
Thurs. Shobers took Merian to and fro school.(dancing).

- Jan. 28. To town late today, after tucking mother in bed. D - and I  
Fri. met the DeLongs at the Princeton Club. Ed had flowers for Bea and me, very gala. We had cocktails there, then dinner at the old Murray Hill, then saw Sonja Henie skate at the garden. She is very pretty, like a big blonde doll, and how she can skate backwards and run on the ice!
- Jan. 29. Mother fell today, while we were starting out for a ride.  
Sat. I was holding her firmly too but she stumbled on lowest step of porch. Dr. Morrison send her to the hospital for X-rays. A fracture was found. Dr. Carr put her leg in a cast and she came home by ambulance. Oh, dear, dear! But there is nothing to do but be brave about it. She was a very good sport through it all. Will I ever forget the ambulance men carrying her up our inside and outside stairs and swinging her into bed. You would swear they were going to bump or drop her every moment, but as Delos points out, they didn't.
- Jan. 30. A day so warm and balmy one didn't need a hat, and poor  
Sun. mother in bed. But she had a fairly good night. And so did I. This morning Martha didn't show up and Blanche was coming to dinner. I put in the roast at last; Martha then came, and we had dinner about 3. Mother's spirits seem actually to have risen since the accident. She and I and Delos drank tea in her room and planned how she is to learn to knit.
- Jan. 31. A hard warm rain today. Mother & I had a laughable busy morning, sturggling with the problem of elimination and settling it finally by bringing (with Emma's help, in a rain which had become snow) a commode over from the visiting nurse's office. Merian out to play with Joan now. Mother resting. All quiet. Merian went into second grade this morning. She is in Glee Club.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1. I just wrote a Sun Ray about getting Merian off to school.  
Tues. If it's published, I'll paste it up here. If not, I must remember to write down an account of it. Clear, cold, sunny weather, this morning. Mother quiet and I have really done some work - though not on a story. Dot Jordan in this afternoon and Bartnetts and Sternes tonight. Barts bringing us a salad fork and spoon and a bottle of champagne and Merian a beautiful Swedish doll.
- Feb. 2. A very bad day for and with mother and she and I both dead  
Wed. for sleep as awake from 2:30 last night. But Dr. Morrison got here about 5 and gave her sedatives. Delossy went out to a movie tonight so I could sleep. Merian had a lesson on her flageolet today and she wants to be photographed with it, as Cousin Eugene was with his flute. I managed a short walk today and found it beautiful outside - snappy, sunny, no snow anywhere to be seen, of course.
- Feb. 3. It seemed heavenly to sleep last night and this morning  
Thurs. mother and I are both more like ourselves. Emma has sent over a bed table which she is enjoying. A mild warm sunless morning, rain began a short time ago. Martha not in today. Merian taxied to and from her ballet lesson. I wish I could look into the future to see whether they are ever going to do her any good. Mother had a bad afternoon.

- Feb. 4. Today slightly better and tonight after tucking her in,  
Fri. Delos & I drove to town to see Lunt and Fontaine in Amphy-  
train, 38." Martha stayed with mother and Emma was on call.  
We drove into town along the river which was twinkling with  
lights, what a magically beautiful city New York is by night.  
Broadway's night color is now red, rather than white.
- Feb. 5. Mother had a grand morning and Merian and I went out market-  
Sat. ing, drinking in sunshine. The rest of the day, mother's,  
not so good. Merian went to a party at Harriet Herreman's  
beautiful home and came home radiant with a silver fish and  
a tiny fish bowl for favors. Delos and Roy played chess &  
tonight Delossy took a hike while Mother and I read in  
her room. I am reading "The Citadel."
- Feb. 6. Hard to record the ups and downs of these sad days. Delos  
Sun. is an angel, trying so hard to help mother. She was awake  
from 2:30 on last night and is not well this morning, but  
composed and quiet. D. M & I took a little walk after Martha  
came. Commented on how characteristic of New York was to-  
day's weather. Mild, overcast, damp, snowless. Listened  
to the symphony this afternoon. Heard Brahms Fourth which  
we loved, especially the second movement. Delos and Roy  
out to a movie tonight and I finished The Citadel. A good  
solid book.

- Feb. 7. A wet morning, with the sun breaking through clumps of  
Mon. cloud which are still tinted a pinkish grey. Very warm.  
Delossy off to work early. Mother had a broken night but  
better than the night before. And this afternoon was splen-  
did. I had a walk at my marketing and another tonight with  
Delos. Merian learning the Arkansas Traveller in Glee Club.  
I am reading Hamilton's translation of three Greek plays.  
This from The Trojan Women (Euripedes) Great protest against  
war. "O God, did I call to you. You did not help. But there  
is something that comes out for God when trouble comes."  
And this "Count no one happy, however fortunate, until he  
dies ... And this "The fear that comes, when reason goes  
away.
- Feb. 8. Another sunny warm beautiful day. All slept well around here.  
Tues. Doing a little work this morning. Walked out after lunch. And  
got a wave. Then Helen Bartnett came to tea bringing mother  
hyacinth bulbs. Mother so much like herself. All of us quiet  
tonight. Our tunky had .. of all things .. a headache, and  
tummyache and ate no supper.
- Feb. 9. And is staying home today. Mother not quite so well. Sauers  
Wed. here for bridge tonight, it made me feel more like myself  
to have company in and be gay.
- Feb. 10. A beautiful day, warm, soft. I walked up and down in front  
Thurs. of the house, couldn't go farther as Martha was out. Mother  
much much better. Paula Grahame and her mother in this after-  
noon. Irmengarde came out to dinner. Merian better and out  
in the sun today, but Delossy has a bad back.

- Feb. 11. A raw cold day, so I cut short my walk. Mother sitting up  
Fri. every day now, but today could not have the window open.  
Roy to dinner, Martha cooked a pretty good one, and he and  
Delossy playing chess tonight while I go early to bed.
- Feb. 12. Delos & I uptown marketing and to New Rochelle buying mother  
Sat. a bed jacket and valentines for Merian. Delossy stayed up  
to hear the Toscani broadcast, but I too sleepy. Mother  
improving.
- Feb. 13. On an inspiration got out Zehyrine and Delos cut it for me.  
Sun. We called for Merian at Sunday school in the rain and discov-  
ered a sweet house for sale. After dinner, went through it  
although most dilapidated, it seems to be made for us. Emma  
home, her book done and was in this afternoon. We heard  
Tchaikowsky's Fourth Symphony. She likes First movement  
best; I liked the second with its Samba melodies. Mother  
had a good day.
- Feb. 14. And Merian in a great pother taking Valentines to school,  
Mon. bringing them home, making them, sending them and getting  
them by mail. Emma in to start mother knitting. I to town  
on the 5:57. I almost phoned Merian from the station to be  
sure to look out the window at the sky for it was rose pink  
all over and very beautiful. Nannine's party for the author  
of "The Way to His Heart" (pen name, but we are sure author  
is Dorothea Brandt) was a nice party and our play The Star  
Wagon, pleasant for its pictures of 1902. Burgess Meredith  
& Lillian Gish, the leading players. Walking home from the  
station found the sky beautiful again. Startlingly white  
abundant clouds and a full moon. Took Zephyrine to Nannine.

Feb. 15. Merian home with a cold.

Feb. 16. Met Delossy at the Ritz, an Authors League tea for Thomas  
Wed.

Wolfe when it was fun to see. Large, fattish, a smooth boy-  
ish face. Brought Sternes home to dinner which Martha rustled  
up in fine style.

Feb. 17. Reading R F D and housekeeping (Martha out) Mother improving.  
Thurs.

Merian improving. R F D reminds me so much of Delos's and my  
years at Hampton Bays, Lakeville and Minnetonka.

Feb. 18. Beautifully warm today. I worked all morning on my review of  
Fri.

R F D (I like it) and after Martha came did my marketing and  
took a walk, through the old park, so eloquent of Merian's  
babyhood. It was overcast, very warm. No sign of spring ex-  
cept the warm/<sup>air and</sup>moist ground. But Helen Bartnett telephoned that  
her neighbor said that everything was up in her garden. Merian  
went back to school today. Sternes over for bridge tonight.  
Nan likes Zephyrine and is going to try it on good places.

Feb. 19. Up until 1 talking with Sternes and awake again at 6:30 to  
Sat.

give Merian a capsule and Stella her breakfast. Later Merian  
and I breakfasted downstairs, looking out at the soft grey  
rain and watching a chickadee on our bird feeding station.  
He held a crust delicately in his claw. Delos and I took a  
long ride in the rain. (Merian was at Joan's for lunch and  
all day.) Bartnetts for dinner and we had a jolly party. Cock-  
tails in Stella's room.

- Feb. 20. A grand night's sleep and woke between 7 & 8 to get breakfast. Wind bending the pines outside our window and the twin trunks of the oak beside our porch and the tops of the tall trees beyond Shober's house. A little rain turned to snow. Dinner at noon and then Delos took a walk while mother, Merian and I finished Winter in April and listened to the Philharmonic concert. I felt a little coldish to-night and Delos made me a hot toddy. Chickadees around.
- Feb. 21. Sunny today after the rainy weekend. Sunny but cold. Put mother's bulbs, now as high as my hand, into the window. Merian to school, although a bit sniffly, me to work on my review. D & I in to Shobers tonight. News from Europe is sickening.
- Feb. 22. Merian to Bobby's party at 2:30 today. I walked up with her, looking for signs of spring, and looked in on the party. A sea of tissue paper, presents, 26 excited children, and in the dining room red, white and blue decorations. Merian with her hair curled and in braids, wearing her little blue velvet dress, looked demure and sweet. Dot sent home ice cream for our suppers.
- Feb. 23. Our breakfast table conversation with Merian. "The boys have a new game they played at Bobby's party. Even some of the girls played it. It's so silly. They go around and say 'Who do you love?'" "Well, what did you answer?" we asked, trying to hide our amusement for this is the first time sex has reared its head, in Merian's group. "I said, I like lots of people. But I don't love anybody," said Merian.

- Feb. 24. Dot Jordan to see mother, bringing a platin. Helen Bart-  
Thurs. nett bringing cookies for tea and Emma with daffodils.  
Quite a social afternoon. Working on review of R F D. Helen  
B drove Merian to dancing school and reports the following  
conversation: She was driving the Ford roadster which she  
prefers to their big Packard and remarked to Merian by way  
of making conversation, "I don't suppose you're used to  
riding in such a small car as this." She says Merian was  
quiet a moment as tho trying to decide what was a proper  
answer and then she said, "Oh you don't need to apologize  
for this car. I've often ridden in small cars."
- Feb. 25. Delossy took my review of R F D in to town this morning.  
Fri. I to Dr. Morrison and am found with a few troubles. Merian  
to party at Ann Goss's and home with a corsage bouquet,  
her first. Roy and Emma in for bridge.
- Feb. 26. Delos out raking and burning. Chickadees, chickadee-dee-  
Sat. deeing around Merian's bird-feeding station. I went out  
marketing with Merian this morning, Delossy stayed with  
mother. And this afternoon we went for a ride. Dr. Carr  
came to see mother and she walked with a cane a little.  
Tonight D & I to a grand party at Emma and Hoys.
- Feb. 27. Snow and rain in the morning but it cleared by noon. D &  
Sun. I called for Merian at Sunday school & brought the Marvins  
home too. Mother came downstairs to dinner! This afternoon  
Delos and Merian have gone off on a boat together, to see  
Sonje menie in Happy Landings. Mother back upstairs and I'm  
listening to the concert.

Feb. 28. Saw Dr. Addie at 3:30 today and he tells me that I must  
Mon. go to the hospital for three days for a .. something I  
can't spell. Not a real operation. I was somewhat over-  
whelmed, at the thought of leaving mother. But Delossy  
and I talked it over tonight and decided that I would go  
in Thursday. We saw Wagging, a moving picture and called  
on Roy and Emma. What a good friend Emma is. What would  
I do without her.

Feb. 29.

MARCH

- Mar. 1. I wrote to Katie and Helen today and did a hundred dozen  
Tues. things which had to be done. Walked out to market but was ready for Gale by 5. Mother came downstairs again, looking so sweet in her hostess gown. Gale brought her the most glorious flowers, purple sweet peas and yellow roses. We had a lovely time. Merian is to be a thrush in the school play, brought home her lines. There are three of them and she already knows them backwards, but she cherishes the paper, liking the importance of having lines. She was playing with Cindy today.
- Mar. 2. I wrote a long letter to my Delossy today, just in case  
Wed. something should go wrong. Put it away for him in our strong box. He has made me so, so happy. He is so inexpressibly dear. He and Merian and I have such happiness. This morning we had hot cross buns for breakfast, and Merian wanted the chickadees to have some and was so sweet. Helen Shober was in today and brought mother such beautiful pansies. And Emma came in late this afternoon and mother came downstairs to dinner. She is being such a good soldier about my going away. Roy and Emma over for a bout of bridge.

Mar. 3. Sitting up in my hospital bed reading "A little Light  
Thurs. Music." Have been showered and examined and my history  
taken and I just talked to Delos and Merian on the phone.  
And sent my love to Stella. Emma came over to get me off.  
Such a dear friend! I was tired from a long day of getting  
things ready to leave and she brought me my supper on a  
tray and brought over a chicken pie and melon for Delos  
and mother and Merian. I feel happy even though I think  
there is a chance that the doctor may find something wrong.  
I have had a good life, a happy one, and I've nothing to  
be ashamed of. It's a good way to feel, to see your life  
whole, and like what you see. Merian's glee club sang on  
the platform at assembly.

Mar. 4. Modern methods are wonderful! After an unconscionable  
Fri. amount of bathing, changing, douching and taking enemas  
I was given a rectal injection and went promptly to sleep  
and when I woke up, feeling no bad after effects except  
a general dopyness, I had been operated upon and returned  
to my room. I was shortly removed to another room and re-  
member almost nothing of the day. Delos and Merian called  
on me, and Delos sent me some beautiful yellow and lavender  
flowers, and later Delos told me that he had visited Mer-  
ians school. I remember a fearful headache and drinking  
some chicken broth with my eyes closed.

Mar. 5. The dopey sleepy feeling continued today. All this reading I had planned to do in the hospital came to nothing except until tonight when I did manage to finish A Little Light Music. I love the last essay. Roy and Emma sent me sweetheart roses and fressias, so sweet. My darling Delosy here twice and read to me from Tortilla Flat. The big event of the day was that I ate again! One thing to remember about a hospital is how slowly time passes, even when one is not suffering at all and is well content. I think an hour has passed and look to see that it is only ten minutes.

Mar. 6. And tonight I am at home again. The day was more normal. Sun. I wasn't so sleepy. And the rain and snow we have been having changed to sunshine. I sat up, chatted with the nurses and doctors and ate a turkey dinner. Delos took Merian & Sarah Jane to see Snow White again, Again for him and Merian. At 5 or so he came to take me home. Emma was here smiling, Merian in her red dress looking conscious, mother who came downstairs bumpty bump and Martha. All of us happy. D & I spent the evening planning a one...floor... house. Helen Bartnett has gone to the hospital.

Mar. 7. Delos got breakfast for himself and Merian and was off to  
Mon. the office early and Martha came in at 7:30 to care for Stella and me. All the curtains came down to be washed. Sunshine is pouring in. The day seems very springlike. How I want spring and crocuses and daffodils and thrushes calling and flowering trees and me well again. Mother doing so well. Came downstairs this afternoon late. (Emma in for sherry) and spent a cozy evening down there with Delos and me. She is studying Unity very hard and being so brave and good. Merian convulsed me this afternoon when she came in from school. She said the boys at school had been playing "that silly love business." Bobby Donahoe (said she) is really talking about marriage. When I howled, she did too, and said wasn't it silly. She treats the game exactly like a game of marbles. Heard the Caesar Franck Symphony, the two beautiful themes so familiar to me now.

Mar. 8. Feel so much better today but trying to keep to my couch.  
Tues. Weather still sunny. Ground bare of snow of course. When I get out, I may find the spring here. Mrs. Dunphy in, Rushabells and Barbara in to spend the afternoon with Stella, Merian and me, and the Sternes tonight. Merian all absorbed in her school play. She says a professional is teaching them (they had a stage rehearsal) Merian objects because the pro had Katherine, as spring, come on in small steps. Merian thinks she should come running.

Mar. 9. What a storm before Merian finally got off this morning,  
Wed. in tears. I am at fault in not organizing matters better and she is at fault too poor tunky, in being so slow.

Delos gets her up at 6 but she can dawdle and dream for an hour over her breakfast. Sunshine is pouring in our windows and I imagine that I will find the atmosphere quite spring-like, when I get out again. Cold, I know, but springlike. An avalanche of callers this afternoon. We had sherry and quite a party. Peg Hackney and her Cindy, Betty Floyd, bringing sweet peas, Paula Grahame, and later Emma and Helen Shoher. It seems nice to find I have so many friends in this part of the world.

Mar. 10. Denials advised by Unity. 1. There is no evil. 2. There  
Thurs. is no absence of life, substance or intelligence anywhere. 3. Pain, sickness, poverty, old age, death cannot master me for they are not real. 4. There is nothing in all the universe for me to fear, for greater is He that is within me than he that is in the world. Quoted in "Flowering of New England" from father of Prescott, the Historian: "If you wish to be happy, always have ten years work laid out before you." Martha not in today and I up and dressed. Got along well, too. It was cold again and windy. Emma dropped in en route to Wilton and John came to put coal on the fire. Delossy out to the movies tonight.

Mar. 11. Sunny again today. Merian at dinner the other night, remarked  
Fri. thoughtfully, "Do you know, the boys in our class are beginning to look like the big boys, and the girls in our class are beginning to look like the big girls." Very true! Darling Delossy got all our breakfasts today and I lay abed until after lunch. He took Merian in my place to the ballet russe tonight.

- Mar. 12. Dr. Carr came this afternoon. He took the cast off  
Sat. mother's leg. That is the big news of the day. He finds the leg in very satisfactory condition. We are to massage it every day. Martha got the downstairs curtains up. Delos and I had a ride.
- Mar. 13. Merian to Sunday School. Gale phoned and asked to come  
Sun. out this afternoon, which she did, and the Sternes dropped in and we all talked exhibition. Mother walking quite well with a cane.
- Mar. 14. And today Martha got the upstairs curtains up. We are  
Mon. almost housecleaned. I am massaging mother's leg each day. And writing invitations to Gale's exhibition. Emma and I are sending out 75 between us.
- Mar. 15. Mrs. Duncan and her mother in to tea today. Mrs. Jen-  
Tues. kins ran in too, so were busy.
- Mar. 16. I went up to Dr. Morrison today. Emma drove me in, cold  
Wed. wild rain which slashed at the car. After I had seen him, she & I shopped a bit and had coffee & went to the dressmaker. I kept Merian out of school this afternoon because of the bad weather & her incipient cold. Her play comes tomorrow. Some special teacher is coaching it but Merian has her own idea about how thrushes should talk, etc. She is so happy and excited about it & so cute. She wants mother to come & when mother said she would have to come down the stairs bumpity bump and Merian would be ashamed of her, Merian said, "Oh, I could pretend I didn't know you!"

- Mar. 17. This was a great day. Merian's class gave its play in the  
Thurs. auditorium. We had been so worried for fear she couldn't go; and kept her out of school this morning; but by noon she was almost well and she and I rode up with the Jordans, Bobby and Merian both well rouged. The play "The Coming of Spring" was a triumph, Merian's voice rang out like a bell and she made a sweet thrush. Delos called up from town to see how the play went. Dot Jordan and Emma both in for a bit.
- Mar. 18. My first expedition to town. I took the 7:11 in and called  
Fri. on Helen Bartnett at the hospital. Took her a lovely bouquet of tulips, Mimosa and hyacinths. The florists shops are all gala in honor of the Flower Show. Helen looked so pretty in a blue taffeta negligee, thin, but it's becoming. Bart and Doris were there. At 6:30 I taxied to the Waldorf and met Delos, Roy and Emma. We had a nice dinner and a bottle of wine Chez Luia "Bon Sur," says Luia as her guests come in to the little green painted, low-ceiled basement room. Delos and I saw Isben's "Doll House." Ruth Gordon playing Nora and she did a splendid job.
- Mar. 19. Our first real spring day. Delos out raking and burning.  
Sat. Merian and Joan playing on the hillside and shouted out that the bulbs were up (of course they have been for days). I sat out in the sunshine. Mother was driven to the doctors and got a good bill of health. The Herrick Browns in to see us tonight. European situation has quieted down a bit.

Mar. 20. For the first time this year, awakened by a sweet clamor  
Sun. of birds. Robins mostly. I was sleeping on the third floor with Delos and when I came down into Merian's room, found her wrapped in a blanket on the big bed looking out at our hillside where two robins were flying busily about. One sat on a branch, so fat and bright. We were all lazy all/morning. Sky became overcast. But brightened again and this afternoon Stella and all of us took a long ride out into Connecticut. Merian and I got out of the car in some woods, with a thermos and soda crackers, for a picnic. Little green plants underneath the brown leaves.

Mar. 21. Temperature 74 today. It was like summer. I walked out  
Mon. in the morning to have my hair washed and curled. Came home to find the Shobers so affected by the spring that they were starting off to Cincinnati, entirely unexpected. Mother, Merian and I lunched on the porch. Emma decided to drive to town to the opening of Gale's exhibition. We enjoyed the ride and thought me a hat and kerchief to wear with my suit. We saw Gale's pictures for the first time and were much impressed with them. I especially liked the portraits. She was wearing an orchid and looked lovely. Roy and Delos joined us and we all drove home together.

- Mar. 22. This morning in addition to the up and down doodle of the  
Tues. robin, a new bird was calling softly and repeatedly on a single note. How I love these mornings! A happy breakfast with a robin on the branch outside and squirrels monopolizing the bird feeding station. Merian and I raked the leaves off our garden beds yesterday (should have done it long ago) and the daffs are fairly leaping up in green spears. I joined Merian and Ann Goss after school in Emma's garden. They came with their sweaters knotted about their waists. Ann had a jumping rope. The crocuses purple, yellow and white are out in great splotches. We saw some snow drops too. Back to our house where Mrs. Goss called for Ann. Mother and I sitting outdoors off and on all day.
- Mar. 23. Another warm lovely morning. Emma says she can never re-  
Wed. member spring from year to year. Neither can I. Out marketing and home very languid and tired. Merian Leonard here for tea. And Blanche for dinner. How Merian loves to play out on the hill.
- Mar. 24. Every day this week mother and I have sat out in the sun-  
Thurs. shine in the morning and with Merian - lunched there. Merian always comes home bearing a greenstwig. The hedges are getting greener. Robins are everywhere. At breakfast today we spoke of bluebirds. Merian said she remembered her first bluebird. She had seen it in Bermuda. Wasn't off the lawn today - as Martha out. Emma and Roy back from Boston tonight.
- Mar. 25. Sunshine again - altho it's slightly colder. At breakfast M. & D. & I watch the squirrels raid the bird feeding station. Mother & I sat outdoors, this morning. This afternoon I went to town & met Delossy Chez Luia & later we saw "Our Town" which did not really touch me tho they did get a wonderful effect with a bare stage.

- Mar. 26. Rainy today. We took mother out for the first time to a  
Sat. movie. Saw Robert Taylor in "A Yank At Oxford." Delossy went to another one tonight.
- Mar. 27. Colder but sunshiny and lots of crocuses everywhere.  
Sun. Daffodils in bud at Hackneys where we went to call this afternoon. Mother wore her new print dress and seemed so fine, just like herself. Merian to Sunday school. Pink shows in the buds on Shobers' magnolia tree. Big robins everywhere.
- Mar. 28. Trying to decide whether mother shall or shall not go to  
Mon. hear Mary Pickford tomorrow. She did get her hair washed cut and curled, and walked home. I marketed and sent flowers to George and Mary (our old maind - Mary) who lost their baby. Delossy so tired - he went to bed right from dinner.
- Mar. 29. We decided finally that mother should not risk going to  
Tues. town. So I went alone and shook Mary Pickford by the hand. Her personality is very winning, sincere and sweet. And across the room she is very young and pretty. But close up looks too much massaged. I even suspect she has had her face lifted. Shopped and came home with Delossy. Shobers home from Cincinnati and Merian and Joan reunited. Mrs. B. home from the hospital.

Mar. 30. Raining hard. Cold, too. And the Sternes have rented their  
Wed. house & will be leaving Pelham for Conneticut shortly. I  
was right when I said in opening my journal that this was  
to be a year of changes. Emma was blue, I think, and so was  
I. So both of us acted cheerful. She stayed here for lunch  
with mother and me, drove Merian to and from school and all  
of us to New Rochelle. Mother is so well, just herself  
again. But Delossy has a cold and is a little blue. What  
with willq, the red housecoat and a warm house we achieved  
a cheerful-chessful evening.

Mar. 31. Rainy at breakfast but clearing. Merian danced off to school  
Thurs. in a new dress. The boys had a fight at school yesterday.  
While Miss C. was out of the room, one held the door while  
two more fought and the little girls squealed. Shobers  
forsythia yellow and their magnolia tree has big pink buds.  
Mother baked an apple pie for dinner.

APRIL

- Apr. 1. I met Merian in Emma's garden after school (crocuses and  
 Fri. squirrels) and we went to a vesper service at her church.  
 She loves church. Delos, mother and I to a movie tonight.
- Apr. 2. Merian had a make-up lesson at dancing school. Delos and  
 Sat. I drove her up. Rainy and cold. Roy and Emma in to play  
 bridge tonight. We saw plans for the new house and Emma  
 created the garden.
- Apr. 3. Delossy brought my breakfast to bed. All of us out to  
 Sun. to bring Merian from Sunday School. Weather has cleared.  
 Shobers are raking leaves. Forsythia everywhere are  
 golden, squirrels and crocuses out, magnolia almost budded.  
 Delossy feeling badly with sinus, so we very quiet and  
 talking moving. We are going to reduce expenses by leaving  
 Pelham.
- Apr. 4. Back to work. Mother and I, with Mrs. Jordan went to  
 Mon. Colonial school visiting day and P.T.A. tea. Had a lovely  
 time. Mother, in the print dress we gave her for Christmas,  
 looked so pretty. She was taken for the mother of a second  
 grader. Dr. Carr's bill came today and almost floored me but  
 somehow Delos & I feel optimistic and happy, as though the  
 cloud which has seemed to be over us has lifted. We heard  
 the reason for the way the boys in 2nd grade picked on little  
 Donald Miller. He talks against God - they say!

Apr. 5. Sunny. Happy. Betty Floyd & I went to the Manor Club and  
Tues. heard a program of French music. Modern music "An arrangement of disso names" - stimulating. Not relaxing. But very beautiful, at times. Berlin the pioneer, Cesar Franck, Bandi, DeBussy & Ravel followed. Debussy's "Claire de lure" was played by a young pianist; then a minuet by Ravel. Mary Gell Hafford, violinist played Cesar Franks Sonato. It was superb, I thought. Then two violins, a cello and a viola played the Ravel Concerto in F Major. 4 decks in lamplight and the rain of fiddles.

Apr. 6. Working, or trying to, every morning. Mother, not quite so  
Wed. well. Today it is snowing. Snow on the golden forsythia, snow on the almost blossomed magnolia trees, snow on our budded daffodils, snow and more snow. Emma and I to New Rochelle and home for tea. By that time the pines were weighted down. The landscape wintry. She stayed to dinner, as Roy in Boston, but he got home in time to come over for chess.

Apr. 7. Great folds of snow on our hill and on rooftops. And more  
Thurs. snow falling. I got out to have my hair done. Merian out of school with upset tummy.

Apr. 8. Merian dressed today. It is melting and raining. Mother  
Fri. and Emma and I to Mrs. Willa's tea at Manor Club and heard readings from Edna St. Vincent Millay. "Renascence" and other poems which made us cry. Delossy a little under weather too, so a quiet evening. Wired the Fowlers who are opening their theatre at Forest Lake today.

- Apr. 9. Raining hard this morning when D & I took Merian to her  
Sat. make-up lesson at dancing school and did our marketing.  
But weather cleared during afternoon. Called at Sternes.  
Irmengarde there - but home early as Delos not well.
- Apr. 10. Merian and I took the bus to church for Merian's Palm  
Sun. Sunday service. I took communion for the first time in  
twenty years - thus do children lead one back into  
orthodoxy. Mrs. Marion drove us home. At 12.15 Mrs. Shober  
and Joan, Delos, Mother, Merian and I started for town and  
the circus. It was grand, as always - the children angelic,  
and mother got along through it all without cane or medicine.  
We all dropped into bed right after dinner.
- Apr. 11. Working on a book review (Barrett novel). To town on 2:11  
Mon. and met Emma to shop. Bought a new white silk blouse which  
I wore to Irmengarde's tea.-cocktail party. Weather still  
raw.
- Apr. 12. Shopping and book reviewing. Weather still cold but Merian  
Tues. picked a dandelion. Forsythia (yellow) and magnolia (pink)  
look so colorful and bright in the chilly out of doors.  
Daffodils and hyacinths are blooming too.
- Apr. 13. And today is lovely, but I - alas! having finished my re-  
Wed. view have gone to bed with a cold. Am reading and adoring my  
flowering of New England. Emma came over to dinner, as Roy  
is in Boston.
- Apr. 14. Merian and I went up to her church and put white flowers  
Thurs. on the altar. Then I dropped her at dancing school. Delos,  
Stella and I over to Emma's with Cys and Willas for a  
dinner party.

Apr. 15. Very, very warm today. Merian went up town with me to do  
Fri. the marketing - then we went to New Rochelle hunting for  
an Easter hat for her, but couldn't find it. Mother sat  
out in the yard and walked up and down. Children playing  
even without sweaters. Delos and I to town tonight and  
saw the Garment Workers' Union "Pins and Needles." Fresh  
and delightful. The songs "Sing me a song of Social Sig-  
nificance" & "Sunday in the Park." were very good and the  
skit about "Good Little Angels. Temperature - 81.

Apr. 16. Cooler than yesterday, and the world divine. Forsythia  
Sat. golden everywhere- great clumps of gold! Magnolia trees  
in full beautiful pink bloom. Fruit trees in bloom - plum  
and Japanese Cherry and another - I think it is almond.  
Gardens yellow with daffodils - hyacinths blooming too. We  
took Merian to dancing school, bought her a new blue  
straw hat and this afternoon while Delos played tennis,  
I helped Merian and Joan and Sarah color eggs. Mother got  
a beautiful hydrangea plant for Easter. And Merian has  
made a nest for the bunny in her duck cart!

Apr. 17. Today fair and lovely when Merian woke us at 6. All  
Sun. trouped downstairs to see what the bunny had brought.  
And Merian had chocolate egg and bunny surprises on the  
table for all of us. Delos and I went with Merian to the  
special service for children at her church at 9. Very  
sweet. Merian so sweet in her gray and navy coat, navy  
straw bonnet with flowers in the front and white gloves.  
"Golden harps are sounding.." she sang it all the way to  
Long Island. Little leaves coming out on the trees, fruit  
trees in bloom, the world beautiful along the boulevards.  
Stopped at Nortons and had an old time reunion with the  
McCartneys and turkey for dinner. Elmer gave me some real  
Sioux moccasins.

Apr. 18. Joanie played here all day - stayed for lunch. I wanted to  
Mon. keep her for lunch but our larder was pretty empty. I  
called out to Joan. "Do you like oatmeal." "No!" (emphatically)  
"Oh, dear!" said I, "I had wanted to keep you for lunch,  
but Merian is having oatmeal." A whispered conversation be-  
tween Merian and Joanie, Then, "Well, I don't like it, but  
I can eat it." You never saw such a playroom as they left,  
full of jelly beans and peanut shells. Helen S. I drove  
mother and me to New Rochelle to dentist. I stayed on to  
shop and came home in a torrent of rain. Emma at Wilton, to  
transplanting the dogwood which Cy and Roy took up yesterday.

Apr. 19. Rain gone and world golden again. Mother, Helen S. & I  
Tues. to Mt. Vernon & found me a brown sheer print ensemble. Had coffee there. Merian and Joan out to a church supper and entertainment. Home at 9 when Delos and mother were both in bed. Did she feel proud! Merian and I go out on the porch these mornings to see Delossy off and see the magnolia tree shedding its blossoms, the forsythia in bloom, the daffs in bloom and budding, the lilies of the valley shooting up, the dew on everything and the air so fresh it is lovely. I finished and loved my Flowering of New England. It would be fun to collect the New England authors.

Apr. 20. Mother not so well this week. Merian and I went up to the  
Wed. Marionette show at the church - took Camilla who looked so sweet in a green and white checked gingham dress with white straw hat and white gloves. To Emma's to dinner tonight - mother, too. We all dressed and it was fun. Then went to a big benefit - Helen, Morgan, Eli Culbertson, Ripley, and ever so many other stars. Joan came last night for dinner and all night.

Apr. 21. We here for breakfast and lunch and Merian there for dinner!  
Thurs. Mother and I out to Mable Robinson's party for Emma. Heard all about the Professional Children's School.

- Apr. 22. This afternoon up to help Emma pack books. Found her and  
Fri. Margaret on the bench overlooking the garden. I joined them there and looked down at the budding trees - more than budding - the newly leafed trees and the blooming fruit trees and shrubs. Afterwards we packed books and drank Tom Collinses. Mother, Delos and I out to the movies tonight. Merian picked a handful of spring beauties and violets on our hill. She loves the hill and stays up there all the time that she isn't playing with Joan.
- Apr. 23. Buds on the trees are almost out. Small dainty green clusters.  
Sat. Some of them look grey-green against the sky, Fruit trees are in their glory weeping mulberry. In Emma's garden, primroses maroon and gold and yellow, grape hyacinth, narcissi (starlike) jonquils and daffodils, bright blue forgetmenots. I reproached myself as I sat there for having let Merian go to a picture show - of all places! on such a day. But it was a special treat, as Joan's guest. Blue phlox in bloom.
- Apr. 24. A crazy mix-up about dayling saving time. We drove Merian to  
Sun. Sunday School, two hours late. Straightened out at last. I worked in garden. Delos played tennis & Merian made pilgrimages to Emma's garden. Cool but fair and delicious. Emma and Roy came to supper. Ann, too. It was their last night in Pelham and all of us felt a little low. Mother had made me a delicious birthday cake and they brought me a bottle of champagne, so we have quite a time, enlivened by Merian coming down stark naked except for the ribbons on her braids to ask if she should wear a shirt!

Apr. 25. 7:30 A.M. Delos just left. The Sternes have a beautiful  
Mon. day for moving. Sunny and cool. A robin is singing his  
tipsy little song outside now. And I was born 46 years  
ago tonight (around midnight ... shortly after.) Sternes  
moved today. Emma was feeling badly and so was I. She came  
here for lunch and I drove with her to the village when the  
vans had gone and she started to Wilton with a loaded car.  
Both of us wanted to cry and didn't look at each other.  
I had my birthday presents tonight - such lovely ones.  
Silk nighties from Delos and Merian, silk stockings from  
Katie and Helen, a set of tomato ju. cocktail cups from  
mother, an ash try from Mrs. Shoher and a stamp box from  
Joanie. A happy party.

Apr. 26. To town with Emma. (I shouldn't have gone) to Woman Pays  
Tues. Club. Gertrude Lawrence and John Golden, guests of honor.

Apr. 27. Mrs. Dunphy and Helen Shoher in for lunch with us.  
Wed.

Apr. 28. Working on a book review. Visited Merian's dancing school.  
Thurs. Our hillside is blue with violets. Emma drove by a moment  
in a packed and jammed car. They are lonesome at Wilton  
as we are here, for them. I think she thinks now that  
their going was crazy but they will like it when their  
house is built and they are settled.

Apr. 29. Our party was lovely. I was working off and on during day  
Fri. on my book review (Roark) of Wind Over Wisconsin, but found  
time to buy lilacs & to put in pansies. Emma who was in  
Pelham dropped in. Then she and Roy came to cocktails with  
our party which included Gale and Howard Haycroft, Nannine  
and Fred Clayton. And Sternes stayed to dinner which made  
it jolly. Mother made us rhubarb pies.

Apr. 30. Merian and Joan and Sarah are running a Spring Store to-  
Sat.

day. (Merian's idea) They sell violets and spring beau-  
ties, green pine tips and new leaves and grasses. Delos  
and I took her up to New Rochelle for shoes. This after-  
noon Delos played tennis. Sternes around all day and  
dressed here for a formal dinner somewhere. It was showery  
all day. But oh how beautiful. Pelham is in the spring.  
Every lawn has flowering shrubs or trees. Emma brought us  
great sprays of yellow strawberry bush. The weeping mul-  
berry is lovely too. And all the banks are gay with rock  
pink.

MAY

May 1. For the first time this season, I heard the thrushes. I  
Sun. was up with Delos in his little third floor room with  
casement window. Their sweet plaintive four divisioned  
call gave me oddest feeling of remembering. Odd, because  
it is the first time I have had that feeling about any-  
thing in the east. (The meadow larks give it to me when I  
hear them in Minnesota.) We drove to Sternes for a barbecue.  
It was a cool day but sunny and their familiar white lawn  
furniture sat atop the hill where the new house will be  
built. Driving we saw the parkway in bloom with so many  
kind of flowering shrubs. And Stern's woods were in all  
stages from tight buds to thin leaf to full leaf. With  
dogwood gleaming white. Violets, white swamp violets and  
trillium in bloom along their brook.

May 2. My sweet thrushes again this morning. They make me think  
Mon. of Merian's babyhood. Wisteria, the purple wistfulness of  
wisteria. We must have wisteria on our new home. To the  
dentist and home. Merian brought Bobby to pick violets on  
our hillside and mother and I had Mrs. Bartnett and Mrs.  
Jordan to tea.

- May 3. Merian brought Miss Cartwright to lunch today. It was a  
Tues. great occasion. I had the table beautifully set with the lace cloth, Martha was in full uniform, everything was perfect but when the Spanish Rice was served Merian said anxiously to Miss C, "It isn't usually quite so brown." Miss C assured her that she liked it brown and all went beautifully. Walking down Highbrook today I observed that the maple trees were in full luxuriant leaf. Delos happier tonight and superstitious at tea with Shobers this afternoon.
- May 4. Stated REMOTE MANSION. So happy and thankful to be back at  
Wed. a novel. And this afternoon after taking mother and me to lunch Mrs. Jordan and her mother took us to Bolton Primy Gardens (notes elsewhere) which fitted in with book.
- May 5. To town to a tea at Tommy's. Sinclair Lewis was there and  
Thurs. Princess Kropatkin with whom Delossy fought, Marjorie Schuber who is starting a flight around the world; and of course Nan. Delos and I had a moderately good time and I wore my new brown sheer.
- May 6. To town on 2:58; Emma met my train and we had coffee,  
Fri. shopped until time to have dinner with Delos and Nortons at Chez Luia, ate out of doors on sidewalk. Delos and I tonight saw "On Borrowed Time." Dudley Diggs was splendid and the little boy Peter Holden.
- May 7. A busy Saturday morning marketing for myself & in afternoon  
Sat. with Emma. I visited dentist also & boys played tennis. Tonight Sternes here to dinner and all out to see "In Old Chicago" Merian gets up early these Saturdays before we do. Gets into clothes and out upon her beloved hill. I have pansies and lilies of the valley from my own planting. Bridal wreath is coming into bloom.

- May 8. Mother's Day with many wires and presents for mother. (We  
Sun. gave her flowers last night.) ~~Out driving~~ after collecting  
Merian at Sunday School (We didn't go to Sternes barbecue)  
weather cold and fitfully overcast but world still radiant  
with pink and white dogwood, lilacs, wisteria, bridal  
wreath just budding etc. Concert this p.m. Leonoran Over-  
ture #3, Beethoven. Concerto Grosse, D Minor - Vivaldi.  
Aria from Tosca (Martinelli singing) "The stars are bright-  
ly Shining". Stella resting & Delos and I just being quiet.  
Martinilli is getting an ovation on the radio. Encore  
(Pagliacchi). Then Symphony #3 in C Minor for piano, organ  
and orchestra.
- May 9. Merian and I finished "Pilgrim's Progress" what a vision  
Mon. of glory in those last pages! I want to remember the oft  
repeated phrase "Then I saw in my dream" and the final  
sentence, "So I awoke, and behold it was a dream."
- May 10. White iris on Shober's hillside! How beautiful white gardens  
Tues. are! But weather is cold today - and rainy by snatches. I  
worked at the library all morning. Mether, Merian and I to  
tea at Grahames this afternoon. Delos and I quite proud  
today as we received word that Merian had done the work of  
a year and a half in one year. She and her little group  
(four others) will go into third grade next year.
- May 11. Snowballs in great clumps hanging from the bushes. Bridal  
Wed. wreath in full bloom & the white iris make this a white  
moment of spring. I suppose there are white lilacs too, about  
now, but none in our view. Merian played at Ann Goss's today.  
I walked up to call for her. & Mrs. Goss and I modestly con-  
gratulated each other (Ann being in the "rapid advance" group  
too.) Delos and mother and I quiet tonight. Weather cold.

- May 12. Rain this morning. Delossy went off in his raincoat and  
 Thurs. Merian in Shobers' car, but it has cleared now (by 10)  
 Can't work because of headache. Started sneezing a bit.  
 which must mean that timothy or plantain are in bloom. Cold.
- May 13. Shopping as well as reading in New Rochelle. Bought Merian  
 Fri. a pale blue organdy party dress for Maureen's party next  
 Tuesday and all accessories. Delossy in town to see a prize  
 fight (Took Frank Shober). Mrs. S, brought us in a big  
 bouquet of white iris. Cold.
- May 14, Dentist for Delos and Doctor for me this morning. This after-  
 Sat. noon the Sternes and Aunt Budda. The boys played tennis  
 but were rained out. Cocktails here & gale, in evening.  
 She and Uncle Charley leaving for Europe. "Help yourself  
 to Happiness" which I got from library for mother has some  
 helpful words. To wit: "Learn to stop talking about your  
 problems endlessly, pointlessly, " "In thousands of lives  
 volubility substitutes for action and wind is never used  
 for effort." "If you fret and do nothing, nothing will re-  
 sult. You cannot correct nohing." "No great deed is done  
 by falterers who ask for certainty" Geo Eliot. "Gossipers  
 are murderers of the spirit." "One of the most important  
 negative habits to break ... is the tendency to draw a re-  
 stricted circle in which we limit our lives. This confine,  
 once established, shrinks constantly ... expand your con-  
 fine a little every day."

- May 15. Yellow breasted warbler and a catbird in our evergreens  
Sun. today. Rainy and cold. House hunted in Mamaroneck and Larchmont. Delossy has a cold tonight. He and Mother and Merian all upstairs and I am listening to the symphony concert. Overture to Merry Wives of Windsor.
- May 16. "Learn to give up external values wherever they come into  
Mon. collusion with internal purposes." To New Rochelle for eye examination. More shopping for Merian's party outfit. Mother Mother is refitting slip and embroidering socks. Hope we aren't making too much of this. Delossy came home and went to bed with a cold and then Roark and Mary Rose Bradford and the Bridges dropped in. Brought out mother's cookies, dripped Roark some coffee, D came down in his bathrobe and we had fun.
- May 17. Merian came home from school and took a shower dressed  
Tues. for her party with mother and I in his state of excitement. I took her up in cab and when we got out of the cab the assembled little girls cried "Oh, Merian looks the prettiest of anyone at the party." She was radiantly happy but I wondered whether it was very good for her to have us all work in trying to make her party nice. I bought her a bird house to take to Maureen and the new pal blue organdy with ribbons to match. Mother put on little French flowers and embroidered her socks. She had a beautiful time.
- May 18. Mrs. Bosworth, Irma Pendleton & Cindy to see us.  
Wed.
- May 19. To Shobers to bridge and for tea with Mrs. Dunphy and  
Thurs. Mother.

- May 20. To Tom Paine's House today. Helen S. & Joan, Merian,  
Fri. Mother & I. Notes elsewhere. To White Plains tonight  
to hear Philadelphia Orchestra, Brahms first, and the  
Bach Air and other nice things. Marion Leonard drove me  
over through rolling Westchester Hills and the rough  
green alley of trees along Bronx River Parkway. Delos  
playing bridge with Pendletons and Sauer.
- May 21. Delos had a cardiograph made this morning and his heart  
Sat. is all right. This afternoon he and Roy and their gang  
played tennis and Emma was here. They stayed for dinner  
with us and we had fun. Mother made a cherry pie. Wygelia  
bush pink bloom, bridal wreath and snowball - white.  
Petunia, tulips, iris white and purple. A very nice  
world but cold.
- May '22. We woke to the sound of rain and were afraid we could  
Sun. not go to Sterne's, but it cleared finally. It was so  
cold and damp when we started out that mother and I even  
took overshoes, but out on their hill we did not even  
need coats. Had a steak cooked over charcoal. Down by  
the brook big wild looking skunk cabbage, high ferns,  
rocks and moss. On hill, craw bill or wild geranium, de-  
licate lagender flowers in bloom, buttercups, chokecherry  
trees are white. Wygelia pink. Birds twittering busily.  
Do not seem to be singing to make music as they do night  
and morning. Very marshy and wet down by brook. Merian in  
up to her ankles. D & I to supper at the Herrick Browns  
tonight.
- May 23. Trouble with glasses. Dr. T. made a mistake and is trying  
Mon. again.

- May 24. The day on Long Island with Helen Crane Norton and I  
Tues. am greatly drawn to the idea of moving to their corner  
of it. Sweet new homes to be bought on the rent-pur-  
chase plan. We visited cheaper gardens and lunched at  
an old mill in Roslyn.
- May 25. I visited Merian's school - music - art. Miss C. and I  
Wed. talked about her creative writing and she is to write a  
story a day for ten days.
- May 26. Dot Jordan and I took Bobby and Merian and Katherine  
Thurs. Shaw to the Zoo in the rain. It was spring opening and the  
animals were giving a party (according to Bill Bridges  
who sent Merian the tickets. Day was terribly exhausting.
- May 27. Getting ready for three holiday days.  
Fri.
- May 28. A card from Emma saying that the poor lamb has poison ivy  
Sat. and can't come in to our party. So sorry. Day warm and  
lovely. Marketed this morning. Delos played tennis this  
afternoon. Cogginses and their mother and Roy were with  
us for supper and our mother made shortcake. A lovely  
party.
- May 29. The four of us out early to Long Island - over the new  
Sun. Triborough bridge - to the Mott Development near Garden  
City to look again at houses. The little development shin-  
ing in the sunlight, flowers and flowering shrubs, young  
trees & very new spick & span houses. We looked at houses  
large & small, and picnicked on Norton's terrace. Looked  
at some more large & small houses & came back to Nortons  
for coffee. Then home to a good dinner. The smaller houses  
are more attractive architecturally, but we need 4 bedrooms  
to live efficiently with mother, Part of the household & we  
want her & want to be prepared to have her as much as she  
will stay, so we lean toward a model called the transient

May 29. house, but if we buy that will have to build as none are  
contd. available. There is one very desirable lot - southern exposure; dimensions 70 x 100 by 76 and with birch tree and a maple on it. If we could get that would be tempted to take the plunge. We haven't yet seen this lot as heard about it the last minute.

May 30. Helen N. phoned that the lot (we wanted her approval of  
Mon. it) was all Mr. Erhorn had represented and we are much inclined to buy and build. But we looked today in Conn. to see if we could better ourselves. (Couldn't) Picnicked on a hillside above the new Merritt Highway. View of the highway from a hilltop crowned with birches and lined with wild (I think) azalea in bloom.

May 31. Delos told me to tell Mr. Erhorn, if he telephoned, that if  
Tues. we could have the lot we would take it. So I did! This happened about 5:30 after a happy afternoon. Mother, Mrs. Jordan and I took Merian, Bobby J and Bobby Donahoe to Playland. Picnicked and "did" the amusement park. Merian had a glorious time and mother and I went with her upon the Ferris Wheel, such a view of Long Island Sound and Long Island Shores! Mrs. Erhorn phoned just before dinner. I made cocktails and greeted Delos with the news. But Delos still had a few qualms and we are going to look tomorrow morning in New Jersey. Sacrificing our promised \$50.00 deposit if need be.

JUNE

June 1.

Wed.

1. The Lovelaces own a lot and are to have a house upon it by -- we hope -- September 15th. This is written after the note for Wednesday night, June 1, Delos and I were so tired we were groggy, but happy and with a feeling of having done right. I took a half day off and we spent the morning driving thru N.J. The lower towns are too unattractive for us, and the upper ones with views of the mountains too expensive. We lunched at the Old Ball Mansion (now a tea room) and returned to New York City satisfied to buy in Long Island. I was so tired and went to Blanche who let me undress and rest and made me a cup of tea. On to Long Island at 5:30, saw the lot and loved it, decided on the 4 bedroom house, and home to Pelham at 11:30, tired but triumphant. God Bless our Home!

June 2. I was utterly demoralized today- but feel good about our Thurs.

our new home. Both Delos and I have a "master of my soul, Captain of my fate" sort of feeling we have stopped drifting, and taken command of our own destinies by moving to a more modest community where we can soon own a home, (soon in 20 years) save money, send Merian through school and (an excellent school system, too) with children of her own income level where we won't be made unhappy or feel inferior by her companions having more than she has. Also, God willing, we can save for good camps & a college education for her! So! Helen Shober in all morning to talk house & this afternoon Mother & I went with Jordans to Colonial School where Merian's class gave a "health play". Merian took the part of milk! Also she & Bobby & Katherine played a trio on the flageolette. It wail all lovely. Bobby was a king! Delos, mother & I talked house all evening. Warmer, beautiful today.

June 3. Rained all night. I slept on the third floor with Delos  
Fri. and woke up to its patter. Rain clouds hanging mistily  
over the treetops.

June 4. Such a day! Left Merian at home with Shobers (Martha to  
Sat. take over) and made an early start. 7:30 or so. Spent the  
day frantically debating the outside of our house and in-  
specting sketches, etc., in Manhasset and Long Island.  
Mother and I had coffee and sandwiches in the car. Delos  
is dieting. It was raining to add to the confusion. Roy  
was here when we got home and Emma came later. They had to  
be told about our house. We let Martha go and spent the  
evening talking house. We are going to bring Connecticut  
and Long Island close together somehow. It seems like a  
dream that we will not have dinner in their garden again  
nor - very much longer - play bisque bridge in our living  
room on a Saturday night.

June 5. Took Merian to early church and came home to find no  
Sun. Martha. So got dinner. All of us out this afternoon to see  
Gary Cooper in Marco Polo. Cheap and poor. The roses are  
in bloom now. Masses of red and pink ones at Mr. Ackerman's  
sunny corner. How the individual blooms stand out, startling-  
ly colorful and distinct. Our beautiful talisman rose is in  
bloom.

June 6. A busy morning at my work. Noon and no Martha. So a busy  
Mon. afternoon at housework. Delos in early, in fine spirits,  
All of us thinking and talking about our house. Merian  
took Stella to her dancing class. We cut a talisman rose,  
coppery pink.

- June 7. Summer is here today. Weather, softly warm outside. A hot  
Tues. breath in our upstairs rooms. I was supposed to start for Long Island at noon, but mother has what seems to be a small infection on her ear and Dr. M. is coming to see it, so I am waiting for him. It turned out to be nothing so I left at 2:58. Had supper with Dodie and met Delos at Garden City to pay down money on our house! A most exhausting day. Dodie was so good to me! Had such a grand supper and I was famished.
- June 12. Smelle of honeysuckle in the rain.  
Sun.
- June 13. Am writing a story a day until I write one good enuf so that  
Mon. I want to stop and develop it. This morning did "A Vacant Lot in California." Mother and Merian and I to tea at Bosworths' today. Their garden is enchanting. A summer house a rose garden from which she cut us three lovely roses, a weeping mulberry tree, forget-me-nots, a white rabbit and other attractions. Merian fell in love with it and tried to express to me the charm it had for her. It's "not formal ..." she said.
- June 14. Delos and I had dinner with darling Aunt Jessie. So good to  
Tues. see her back. She told us that she was going to will Merian her piano, that treasure on which she accompanied Lilli Lehman, Calve, Nordica, Cavalieri, etc. I hope Merian doesn't get it for many years but am thrilled to think of her owning it some day. She'll have to be a good musician to live up to it. There never was such a gold spring.

- June 15. A persistent and continuous bird whistle out of doors these  
Wed. days. A little monotonous. I think it comes from an oriole  
but must find out. Wrote a story today which is so good that  
I'm going to develop it. "A Man in her Room." Busy getting  
ready for company - the Perrys - who came about 4. Both of  
them are nice, young. We had a good time. But I am under a  
strain about our house - financial.
- June 16. Started rewrite on my story. Getting ready for Merian's  
Thurs. school picnic tomorrow. How she is looking forward to it!
- June 17. And they had a nice day for it. She was so happy when she  
Fri. started off with her little box, sandwiches, cherries, cookies  
and chocolate marshmallow cake. She had a lovely time. She  
and Katherine and Cindy ate together and she said that the  
chocmarshmallows made a "terrific hit."
- June 18. Out to Long Island, where Merian had her first view of the  
Sat. lot, and she and I set foot on it for the first time. It  
looks very big and grand. Three trees. We all enjoyed the  
ride but came home so tired. D and I partly from the  
nervous strain of okeying the white sheets. Sternes here to  
dinner and it was so grand to see them, to be drinking Tom  
Collinses before dinner and playing bisque bridge afterwards.  
They brought us lettuce and radishes from their garden. In-  
vited to Nortons to a party tomorrow but can't go. Delos is  
an angel!
- June 19. Delos and mother, Merian and I to see "Robin Hood" which  
Sun. is very good - done in technicolor.

June 20. Working on "A Man in Her Room." Weather warm and muggy.  
Mon.

Honeysuckle at the side of our porch in bloom. Thrushes call, sing and trill, night and morning. Horse chestnut trees are dropping their blossoms all over the sidewalks. At last warm enuf so I can lie out on a blanket in my bathing suit.

June 21. Marion Willard Everett and her cousin Lillian Hutchinson  
Tues.

out to dinner. Cindy, Merian and I walked to the train to meet Marion who looked just the same, pretty legs, a slim figure, a naive personality. We had a pleasant time talking old days. D and I walked to the train with them tonight. How sweet the honeysuckle and roses smell along Mr. Ackerman's lawn. It was warm today.

June 22. Rain threatened all day and we and the Shobers in a con-  
Wed.

stant state of agitation for fear it would rain on Joanie's birthday party. Balloons strung on a line out of doors, tables set there. But sun came out and the party was a success. Pinning the tail on the donkey, ice cream and a silk dress makes a party for a child. Roses in bloom on Shober's hillside and also lots of garden flowers. Delossy tired tonight from the muggy day in town. We listened to the fight - Louis knocked out Schmeling in the first round. I finished "A Man in Her Room" today. Merian took her book of short stories to school.

June 23. Typed "A Man in Her Room" which Delos read before breakfast,  
Thurs.

and liked, but he thinks it will sell to a minor magazine. So muggy and damp, I almost hated to make up the beds, they seemed so damp. To town to have tea with Latham of MacMillans (Delos and I) with Nan.

June 24.

Fri. Pendleton's over for bridge tonight.

June 25. Sternes here to supper, Spanish rice and blueberry pie.

Sat.

A very merry time.

June 26. It was excessively warm when Delos and I started over to  
Sun.

New Jersey for lunch and tennis with the Perrys in Glen Ridge. Excessively warm for most people, I mea; I like it warm. Their house old and pleasant with a hedge of spirea in front, two dogwood trees, (one pink and one white - not in bloom now, of course) and a beautiful hedged in lawn, and garden behind. We had Tom Collinses on their porch and after tennis a cold lunch which was delicious but would have been better warm as by then the rain was pelting down.

Mother and Merian went to see "Kidnapped." Mrs. P's suggestions for our hedges:- holly, male and female planted close; and spirea, mock orange, pink and white dogwood, flowering crab and laurel.

June 27. Delos had taken today off to take us all to Jones Beach  
Mon.

but it poured a cold rain all day long. But we took a picnic anyway and went to Garden City & Manhasset for exhausting but satisfactory conferences about our house. Picnicked with Nortons. Never, I believe, was there such a cold icy spring and summer. Paper says it will go down to 55 tonight. Our tiger lilies in bloom. They came from Emma's garden and I am going to take them to Garden City.

June 28. And it certainly did and all of us tired from yesterday. But in the afternoon Mother and I went over to Shobers for bridge and tea. Now and then the rain would stop but drops could be seen hanging along undersides of the twigs and Mrs. Dunphy said that woodsmen had told her that always meant the rain was not truly over and sure enough it would start up again. The view from Shobers Solarium was lovely even through the rain - their hillside is covered with roses. They had their furnace running. Merian and Joan played at our house.

June 29. Stella and I to town but found Aunt Jessie ill, very ill. Wed. Saddened by that. We went on to our matinee and saw The Two Bouquets, a delightful musical piece with stage sets out of Godey's Ladies' Book.

June 30. Martha gone. Mother made us a shortcake. Thurs.

JULY

- July 1. Shobers, the women and Joan, off to New England on a holiday bat. We feel quite isolated with their house closed.  
Fri.
- July 2. To Long Island (Manhasset) today to struggle with bathrooms. Discovered there is more to bathrooms than meets the eye. Home exhausted about 4. Emma and Babs here, Emma fixed me a rum collins, also advised me about bathrooms as did mother and Delos when he came in (the poor dear worked today). Sternes couldn't stay to supper and we went up to N.R. to a picture.  
Sat.
- July 3. A beautiful day. Restful too and I was so tired. Restful party because Merian was good as an angel. We went up to Sternes about 11 and had a lovely ride up the new parkway. Left mother and Merian at the cottage and went over to the land in search of our hosts. Surprised by finding Dunns, Nortons there, and all had a mint julep together. Then lunch out at the cottage, sitting on the lawn in the sun while the rest bridged and a barbecue in which Tilling Laets joined us. White and yellow daisies are tall now. Red clover out. Roses in thick clumps. In Sternes garden the corn is knee high and the peas, tomatoes, broccoli, all doing splendidly.  
Sun.

July 4. Another lovely day today. Martha gave us a good lunch at  
Mon. noon. And this afternoon we went over to the Jordans, to see the new home. Beautiful set on a rolling half acre. They kept us for supper. As we politely resisted the invitation, Merian cried, "Oh, do stay, mommie; you know daddy put our fireworks in the car thinking they might ask us!" Some people named Vaughan joined us and we all had a lovely supper on the porch and afterwards - to the children's delight - pin wheels, Roman candles, fountains, sparklers, etc. I have seldom seen Merian so happy.

July 5. So cold this morning that I lighted the oven for breakfast  
Tues. and I put on my suit for the trip to L.I., but while I was at the village, marketing I was so warm that I hurried home, in Dot Jordan's car, and changed to my thin brown. The trip to L.I. less tedious than usual. Helen Norton met me at the train (Manhasset) and we dispatched the bathrooms with no difficulty and started on the papers. We lunched later, festively, at a roadside place. Shobers home tonight and Merian assisting at still more fireworks. She and I stayed up latest of all and Delos and Stella, tired by all the festivity, to bed with the birds. Fireflies competing with fireworks.

- July 6. Mother and I had the Shobers and Mrs. Dunphy to tea. "The  
Wed. Two in One Bridge Club." Delossy home in time for sandwiches with us. Over to Sauers for a few minutes. Their lawn very pleasant with its flower border in full bloom. A beautiful vivid sunset. Pink gold. Pendletons, a day or two ago, sent over Cindy's hut for Merian to use this summer. Merian, Joan and Sarah keeping house in it madly. Have planted white and yellow daisies, for landscaping about its door. Not roots, but stalks which will be withered tomorrow. Warm today.
- July 7. But cool again this morning. Helen's birthday. And mother  
Thurs. had a special from her with her breakfast.
- July 9. All to Manhasset today to pick out wall paper - delightful  
Sat. but exhausting. We went on from there to Jones Beach. Had a sandy picnic - mother dozed and Delos and Merian swam. I was exhilarated by the breakers. Wish I could sit and watch them for hours. Home to find Sternes here, but they couldn't stay to supper.
- July 15. Walked to train with Delos. Overcast. Air had the smell of  
Fri. the sea. Mr. Ackerman's reddish-purple, purplish-pink phlox border has been in bloom for some days, beautifying all the neighborhood. A little shower and then the sun came out. No Martha today. Charles phoned. I went to town to see Miss Jessie. We had dinner with her and went to see - Delos and I - "I married an angel." Vera Zorina was delightful.

July 16. No Martha. We marketed this morning. This afternoon D  
Sat.

played tennis - or rather watched tennis with drops in  
his eyes - as Dr. L examined them today. I took Merian  
to Barbara Sauer's party and then visited with Emma.

Sternes here for a picnic supper and we had a merry time.

July 17. No Martha and B. Shanon here to dinner. But mother cooked  
Sun.

grand food and we had a pleasant informal kind of time.

Betty said it was heaven to be out of the city. She looks  
old and shabby - how different from the piquant Betty with  
whom we lived at Hampton Bays thru such a happy summer.

Our daisies in bloom. Weather warm and sticky.

July 18. Day given over to Martha who has finally, I believe,  
Mon.

passed out of the picture, and to Batterson to whom I made  
two trips to get Delossy's glasses. Delos came home happy  
for he did fine things with the story of Corrigan's Flight.  
We are supposed to be having a heat wave, temp. in the 80s,  
but it's damp rather than hot. Mother and I are rather  
enjoying getting our own meals.

July 19. Copied "A Rendezvous with Same" to send to Nan. Day over-  
Tues.

cast, warm, muggy. Interviewed a new maid, tall, slender,  
black, with teeth parted in the middle and a bright smile.  
Believe I'm going to like her, she's coming tomorrow.

July 20. Mother having a bad down spell. And the new maid though  
Wed.

as sweet as a peach (her name is Sugar Plum) can't cook  
at all. She had a hard day, poor child, for mother and I  
were over at Shobers to a little party for Helen's mother;  
she had charge of Merian and Joan and was trying to wash;  
and it was trying to rain. Delos came home tired and blue.

It was a blue day.

- July 21. Mother still not well. Cora struggling with the problem  
Thurs. of laundry in the rain. She served better tonight tho,  
and is going to turn into a good maid, I believe. Light  
footed and soft of speech.
- July 22. To town in the rain, mother, Merian and I and mother  
Fri. feeling miserable. Lunched at Wanamaker, looked at model h  
houses, and went at last to Radio City Music Hall where  
Merian and I left mother and went on to the Natural His-  
tory Museum, saw a performance at the Planetarium and fed  
pigeons, having a happy time. Delos and I to the movies to  
see "Kidnapped" tonight. Nan wants "Rendezvous" rewritten.
- July 23. A furious downpour today as a climax to our week of rain.  
Sat. Poor Cora is almost in despair about getting any laandry  
dry enough to iron. We did get our ruffled drapes ironed  
and up tho' and with clean slip covers on the furniture,  
look very well ready for our party tomorrow. Rain comes  
down in sheets; in torrents. Streets running rivers. Mother  
not so well today; Delos drove her up to see Dr. Morrison.  
He had to go to New Jersey tonight, to a party at Lem Partens.  
I hated to see him drive off in such a torrent. Little  
thrush comes to our door to be fed.
- July 24. And this morning at 7 we woke to a continued downpour. Went  
Sun. back to sleep and at 10 discovered that the rain was over.  
Day still grey and dampish tho'; mother better, Cora came  
early and we all united in getting ready for our party.  
Jordans, Bartnetts and Grahams for dinner and a very plea-  
sant time. Mother cooked such good things to eat.

July 25. Bart back to work and Delos not quite so tired tonight.  
Mon.

Mother not well.

July 26. Mother still not well. And Delossy home tired. All of us  
Tues.

to the library tonight.

July 27. Summer again. I woke to a curious dream - some small bird  
Wed.

or animal was dead on a roof. I saw it. A bluejay perched beside it and dropped dead also. Merian indignant because Joan does not want to save pennies for a trip to Bermuda but is going to save for a bicycle instead. "All right for you!" Said Merian in tears. "If you are more interested in two wheels and rubber tires than in a beautiful place like Bermuda." Mrs. Shoher Sr. is taking Joan and Merian to the park.

July 28. This summer is a sad one, but we have had so many happy  
Thurs. ones we shouldn't complain. And today was very happy for all of us but mother (though of course our happiness was shot thru too with pity for her.) We went to Long Island .. Delossy had day off .. and we found the foundation of our house laid. It looked small but sweet and so well placed on the lot. Lots of room for lawn and garden. Merian brought some of the dirt and a leaf from the maple tree. We picnicked at Nortons and arriving home tonight put Mother to bed to see whether a rest cure will help her. Apples on Norton's apple tree.

- July 29. To see Dr. & M. this morning. This evening D and M and I  
Fri. to the Stadium. Heard Tchaikovsky's "Fifth Symphony" and  
The Scheherazade. And we did enjoy it so. Not many stars,  
It was warm and overcast.
- July 30. Delossy worked. Roy and Emma and Roy's visiting relatives  
Sat. in for a moment. Hot.
- July 31. A hot quiet Sunday. Delos talking to mother and trying to  
Sun. help her. He is an angel and so good to her.

AUGUST

- Aug. 1. Delos took the day off. So glad to have him as it was  
Mon. hot. He and I out marketing and to N.R. in the morning.  
He played tennis in the afternoon and as he was fasting  
and mother in bed Merian and I ate supper on the porch.  
Delos a good doctor (and good son-in-law) to mother.
- Aug. 2. Mother better tonight. All so glad. Got statement from  
Tues. Nannine, sketch of our door from Mott Brothers, and  
letters from Minnesota. Hot. The children thrive on ice  
cream.
- Aug. 3. Thermometer reached 92, I believe. Anyway it was hot. I  
Wed. typed Easter Bunny for Nan this morning and went to hair-  
dressers this afternoon, while mother entertained Mrs.  
Dunphy with ice cream. Delos and I working out a jig saw  
puzzle which we bought for mother and are monopolizing  
ourselves. Mother better.
- Aug. 4. Extremely hot again today. But it cooled off marvelously  
Thurs. last night. I was sleeping on third floor, but needed a  
sheet before morning. Merian and I made an early trip to  
New Rochelle and bought me some fixings for Van Dyke's  
party tonight. It was a beautiful party. They have several  
acres of land at Momaroneck and an old colonial house full  
of lovely things. We had Tom Collinse in the garden until  
9 o'clock. Then a cold dinner, as it was very hot. Bart-  
netts, Dudleys and some people named Butler (of Liberty).  
The garden full of phlox.
- Aug. 5. Pete phoned Delos that our house is up and roofed over.  
Fri.

- Aug. 6. Sat. Pour rain to break our heat. Reading Just for Life, the novel about Van Gobb and want to remember what I have read about the impressionist painters. Degas I know (light and air) and throbbing vivacity. Ballet girls in primitive reds, greens and blues.) Manet, luminous landscapes. Darkest color he used a dozen times lighter than all brickwork in Holland. Manet, people. Scandal of his picnic of the grass and Olympia. Reminded him of Zola. Lantree Toulanse did women. Gangien, The South Seas. Pisamo's & Sisley's work hasn't been described. Cezanne seems crazier than most. Seurat had a theory of painting a primitive. Roy & Emma to a joyous cool supper. Their house and ours running neck and neck.
- Aug. 7. Sun. We drove to Long Island and saw our house which was up! Roofed over! Window frames in! looking darling. Delos and I climbed to second floor and walked into all the rooms. Merian danced over everything and mother prowled and read the House Blessing out of Unity. Called on Nortons and got home to dinner at 2.
- Aug. 8. Mon. Mother and I planned that I am to find time to do a story in August. All of us working jig saw puzzles. Daily communicating from Mott Bros. Authorization steps to be signed, discussions of the leaded glass fan light in which we are placing Merian's astrological sign - Capricornus, the goat. Golden rod on our hill.
- Aug. 9. Tues. Specimen to New Rochelle. Walked home from car and planned the story and got to work. Delos and I went for a ride alone tonight and bought White Castle hamburgers and drank milk and had a talk.

Aug. 10. Wrote this morning. Got a rough draft of a short story.

Wed.

Talked with Helen Shoher. Rain tonight. D & I took Cora to the car.

Aug. 11. Dot Jordan and Bobby, Mrs. Vaughn, Merian and I went to  
Thurs.

Playland today. Last night's rain which didn't stop until this morning made the world a bit cooler and kept the crowd away from the beaches. We went up at high tide and it was lovely. Had coffee and hamburgers in beach cafeteria.

Aug. 12. Cool this morning. Trying to write up in the third floor  
Fri.

room and a fresh breeze came in at the open window. Fresh enough so that I really ought to close it. Mother better. The four of us drove in to Stadium concert tonight. Heard Beethoven's 5th and a great moon rose while we listened. Delos and Merian sat up high and Mother and I down in chairs. Merian is planning to be a professional beauty, so she says. She is assiduously taking cold baths, brushing her teeth and giving her hair a hundred strokes. Also riding up and down on the trike to improve her figure.

Aug. 13. Delos working today. Frank Sauer and Perry in for bridge  
Sat.

tonight. Hot mosquitoey weather.

Aug. 14. Mother feeling badly again. Otherwise this was a happy day.  
Sun.

for we drove to Garden City and our house has stairs and celotex and plaster board and looks lovely. We were all in ecstasies. Very hot and the traffic bad. Delossy cancelled his ball game plan with Perry but got in some tennis. Heard Straus's Death and Transfiguration and Beethoven's 7th to-night.

Aug. 15. Working on my review of Cliff's book of poems and on the  
 Mon. landscaping plan for our house. In connection with that,  
 a good joke! While doing research on early New York, was  
 intrigued with references to tulip trees. Have been asking  
 everywhere to have one pointed out to me and never suc-  
 ceeded. At same time have been trying to identify a tree  
 on our lower hillside which had yellow blossoms in spring  
 and big green buds. A very messy tree - Joan and Merian  
 adored it. And discovered yesterday from my book that that  
 is a tulip tree. Very hot 93. So that I am sleeping down  
 stairs on the couch tonight and Delos in Merian's room,  
 while Mother has prickly heat.

### TULIP TREE

(*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

SHAPE with a small pyramidal head; up to 190 ft. tall. TRUNK straight and often massive (to 10 ft. thick) sometimes clean of branches for 100 ft. BARK brownish gray with short, deep vertical furrows and rounded ridges. BRANCHES slender, curved, the lower drooping; twigs erect, shining brown, many bearing the flowers like candelabra. LEAVES turning rich gold or russet in autumn. FLOWERS 3-4 in. across, blooming in May and June. RANGE: Southern States (exc. Tex. Okla. and s. Fla.) to s. parts of Wis., Mich., Vt. Also n. centr. Mass. and n. shore of L. Erie. By lumbermen called "Yellow Poplar" on account of its restless leaves and yellow wood, this lively tree is probably the most valuable American timber tree (aside from the Conifers) and certainly the tallest in the eastern States. The wood is light, soft, but not readily shrinking or splitting, used for boat building, shingles and boxes.



Tulip Tree

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Aug. 16. Very very hot. Breakfast on porch as usual. Delos off to  
 Tues. work in his thin shirt and Merian and I uptown to shop  
 while day was still bearable. Windows and shades closed  
 and children not playing out.

- Aug. 18. Delos got home at 7 and we hurried into the car and drove  
Thurs. to Wilton. Picked up Roy and Emma and all went to musical festival at Silvermine. Open air concert. Beautiful evening clothes (the new high hair dress) combined with Bohemian gypsyish costumes. Music was beautiful. Heard Brahm's Fourth Symphony but both Delos and I found atmosphere too social to permit real absorption in the music. Went after concert to Sternes for egg sandwiches and old fashions a lovely midnight ride home.
- Aug. 20. Roy and Emma down to help us celebrate mother's birthday.  
Sat. I had to go to Jamaica with Delos this morning to pick out lighting fixtures, but got home in time to plan dinner. We gave mother her gifts with the cocktails and avoided birthday cake associations. Had, on the whole, quite a happy time. Merian and Joan these days play that they are professional beauties. How they are rigged up. Merian is assiduously taking cold baths these days and scrubbing her teeth to get beautiful.
- Aug. 21. Mother not able to go to G.C. so Delos and Merian and I  
Sun. started off alone. Found the house looking wonderful. Stucco on. First plastering. Door frame set. We met our neighbors, the Hurtells, young and nice. She is very sincere and sweet. Went over their house and talked planting. Dropped in on H.Norton too. Although we had celebrated mother's birthday yesterday we felt that today was a bit gala too and went out to a movie tonight - Coop's "Toy Wife." Listened to Beethoven's Ninth coming from Silvermine by radio.

- Aug. 22. Merian and I to New Rochelle to have her teeth cleaned  
Mon. by Dr. Haffords assistant and I saw Dr. Toleski. Shopped for drapes and had coffee (and ice cream) at Lofts.
- Aug. 23. Delos on his late schedule and all of us enjoying treat,  
Tues. but mother ill. These are dark days. I had to go to town, shopping for electric ice boxes and such. Met Delos for a drink at the smart Rockefeller Plaza restaurant and dinner at the automat. Saw a good picture "Four daughters" and oh, the little hat did me good!
- Aug. 24. The two-in-one at Helen's today. Mother and I had declined  
Wed. but Mrs. Dunphy came through some inadvertance and I pinch hit for Helen. We sent coffee and cookies over to mother. Herrick Brown for dinner and D and I drove him home.
- Aug. 25. Cora not in. Mother slightly better and she and I and  
Thurs. Merian and Shobers to see Shirley Temple, the child star whom Merian had never seen before. Mother too tired, however.
- Aug. 26. Mother ill. Delos stayed in to have dinner with Aunt  
Fri. Jessie but I decided not to go. Took Merian and Joan to Mt. Vernon looking at refrigerators and pin-it-up lamps. Reading Riggs' "Intelligent Living" which Helen Norton thought might help mother. It is very helpful to me.
- Aug. 27. Mother very bad, and Cora sick, so that I sent her home,  
Sat. & company coming for dinner. (Hackneys) but mother rallied & made us a blueberry pie, & she and I got a good dinner on. Peg and Roger arrived about 7 with an armful of gorgeous gaudy flowers for us, Zinnias, phlox, petunias, I can't name half of them.

Aug. 28. Mother still sick. Delos, Merian and I had to make our  
Sun. weekly trip to Garden City, so left her in Cora's care  
and started off about 9:30. A cool sunny day. The house is  
progressing in whirlwind style. Found it plastered ready  
for papering, upstairs floors in, mantel and cornice set.  
Looked unbelievably beautiful. Talked with our neighbors,  
Hurtells, who had just put in two Rose of Sharon bushes.  
Called on Nortons who sent home an armful of vivid cranpey  
summer garden flowers. Home for dinner at 4. Delos played  
tennis while Mother and I talked. When D got home we wrote  
to Motts about the things we had seen at the house which  
needed attention. A sickle moon.

Aug. 29. Our early routine began again 6.30. Merian in one of those  
Mon. fancies of childhood had gotten up before us, set the table  
on the porch & gone out to view the world. She saw some  
streaks of pink in the sky and told us proudly that she  
had been up to see the sunrise. A happy breakfast in the  
autumnal air - baby thrushes and bluejays about. Helen  
Shober and I to New Rochelle to buy cretone for mother's  
bedroom drapes. Cora and mother both sick.

Aug. 30. Cora still away but will be back tomorrow.  
Tues.

Aug. 31. Mother in bed this morning & I had to leave for Garden  
Wed. City before Cora came in. but left her in charge of my  
"perfeessional beauty" & called from Penn Station - Cora  
was there. Helen Norton met me at Loesers & we shopped for  
Venetian blinds. Saw the house & was blinded by the beauty  
of a steam roller grading our lawn, painted woodwork, stone  
terrace, a man putting in our stair rail with a blow pipe.  
Met Delossy, home so tired that I went straight to bed...  
but dreaming about the house.

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 1. Woke with a headache. "Man in Her Room" back for revision.  
Thurs. Blanche and Tommy (Tommy back from summer in England.)  
coming out Saturday.
- Sept. 2. Spent the day with shrubs. Letter from Motts enclosed our  
Fri. planting schedule (it was all wrong) with the trees and  
shrubs we are to get named in Latin. I had a book on shrubs  
sent down from New Rochell Public Library. Mother and I  
over to Paula Grahams for coffee and chocolate cake.
- Sept. 3. Early this morning Delos and I, Merian and Joan off to  
Sat. Garden City. House looked lovely. They are beginning to  
paper. Blue linoleum on kitchen floor and work benches.  
Terrace laid. We tried to straighten out matter of our  
shrubbery. Attended to other things and came home for lunch  
Joanie being sick in the car, poor lamb. Golden rod in  
bloom along the roadsides and birds flocking. Tommy Aldrich  
and Blanche out to dinner tonight. We drove them home, down  
the Hendrik Hudson Parkway which made quite a bit of driving.
- Sept. 4. Delossy brought my breakfast to bed as I had a headache.  
Sun. Cora came in to get us a noon dinner. All of us very very  
quiet, listening to Charley McCarthy & Olivia deHaviland tonite
- Sept. 5. A beautiful day, but cool. Out on and in sun, part of the  
Mon. time. Merian playing Loretta Young. Delos playing tennis  
with Eddie Dooley. Mother working on her drapes for her  
room. Cora got us noon dinner & departed. All of us think-  
ing about the new house.
- Sept. 6. Cold! Two blankets in the night. Gas oven going for break-  
Tues. fast. I've been revising a Man in Her Room & haven't been  
out yet, but it looks lovely. Merian dressed for breakfast,  
hung up pajamas and did 2 columns of arithmetic before she  
came down this morning. On an angelic bent.

- Sept. 9. Emma phoned early to make sure that we were coming to Wil-  
Fri. ton tonight. We are. And by six -leaving mother with Cora  
and Merian, were skimming along the parkway to the Sternes  
hillside. Went over their house, which looks exactly like  
them, and had a steak dinner cooked over an open fire, pre-  
ceded by old fashioned, followed by chocolate pie and  
coffee, & accompanied by corn and tomatoes from the Sternes  
garden. While we were eating around our fire, a full moon  
came up. It was a lovely evening.
- Sept. 10. Yesterday the Sternes showed us their house & today we  
Sat. showed them our house which they loved. Leaving mother to  
guide them to Garden City, D, M & I started off early thru  
a perfect morning. They arrived soon after we did bearing  
two bridal wreaths for our back boundary. The house looked  
so fresh, clean, pure and empty. It will never be quite so  
pretty as now in its fresh immaculate spotlessness. We had  
cocktails at Nortons & were given a buddlea, to cover our  
telephone pole, then picnicked on our own terrace. Pelham,  
tennis, dinner, bridge with the Sternes for the last time at  
69 Highbrook.
- Sept. 11. Delos has a bad shoulder from shrub planting. A quiet day,  
Sun. though Pendletons phoned and other people proposed things.  
Mother has decided to go back to Minnesota.
- Sept. 12. Merian turned up her nose at all the children starting back  
Mon. to school - but was a little lonesome, I think. I began to  
organize for packing & cared for mother. We went into Shobers'  
for tea.

Sept. 13. Packed mother's things and saw her off with such a sad  
Tues. heart. She had improved since making the decision to go, but just before leaving seemed very feeble and confused. Helen Shoher took us to the Pelham train and Delos met us in N.Y. After her train pulled out, we went to Aunt Jessie's for dinner. Jimmy Langness is having mother met and escorted from train to train in Chicago.

Sept. 14. My heart was heavy about mother and so, although I should  
Wed. have stayed at home and packed, Delos took me with him & Merian to the new house. Capricornus up over the door - he is darling. Blue blinds on. We were all in ecstasy! Tonight Merian is staying all night at Joan's. D and I to dinner at Bartnetts.

Sept. 15. Delos and I off alone at 7:30. A beautiful morning, & red  
Thurs. and yellow and bronze trees along the parkway as we rode to L.I. Went over the house, then to Manhasset and took title. Back to Garden City and got the keys for our beautiful home. An emotional moment. To our little bakery in Mineola for lunch. To N.Y. to shop for kitchen cabinets, door mats and other things. To Nannine's tea for Sylvia and home along the parkway. A sunset. The day had grown warmer and misty. We now own 63 Wyatt Road. Garden City, L.I. Cora cannot come to help tomorrow.

Sept. 16. Day before moving day. The dirt of my kitchen revealed -  
Fri. proved indubitably that I should be writing novels. Delossy organizing and packing books, dishes, clothes. Merian running about like mad part of the time, the rest playing with Joan, Sarah and Vivian. Mary (Merian's old nurse) and George came to see us. Betty Floyd called by telephone. Others called. Delos and I stopped at 6 to bathe and dress & go to Shobers to dinner. Grahames called there. Home to pack until 11:30. Our last night in Westchester where we have lived for 7 years and three months or so. It was a beautiful day and a rose blooming on our lawn. Card from Mother from Chicago.

Sept. 17. Nothing comes so promptly as a moving van. But we were up  
Sat. and had coffee early, a black girl named Anna Stevens came to help. By 9:30 the big van was moving away. D. & M. and I said goodbye to Shobers, Grahames, Dunphys - good neighbors all. We arrived at L.I. before the truck and Mrs. Hurtel took me out to shop for kitchen utensils. There were flowers in the house from Nortons and Dodie arrived with a spaghetti dinner for us. We had brought shrubs from Sternes garden along with the moving van. Soon we were unpacking, settling and Delos planting shrubs. Rain began at a good moment after our furniture was in the house.

Sept. 18. Misty this morning. Rain threatening. But grey skies  
Sun. looked beautiful beyond our very own windows. Lawn full  
of blackbirds. Delos planted lilacs last night. This  
morning is working on dogwood tree, mock orange, honey-  
suckles, forsythia, hydrangea, bridal wreath, etc. I must  
now go to work. Dodie and Elmer here to lunch. The Nortons  
all called earlier and had sherry with us. Brought bricks  
and logs for our fireplace.

Sept. 19. Annie here washing. Raining, so we have to dry clothes in  
Mon. basement. She is helping me settle, too. Took Merian to  
school, and called for her again at 12:50. She has a sweet  
teacher; Miss Dunne; a little fat boy named Everett says  
he lives on Wyatt too and will walk home with her. She  
likes school but "did not know it would be so easy."

Sept. 20. Merian has a cold, so I'm keeping her at home and in bed.  
Tues. Settling progressing in the rain. Dodie sent over a fresh  
green apple pie. All of us happy.

Sept. 21.

Sept. 21. This was a strange day. Merian was out of school, still in  
Wed. bed with her cold, and our rain developed into a hurricane. Delos had to go for Annie and by the time he returned it looked as if he would never take her home. Rain and wind raging, our little new shrubs lashing to and fro, Hurtels porch furniture blown off (Delos rescued it) rain getting in at our windows and doors (Delos finally tied the doors) and phone reports from Dodie and Nortons told of trees down and roads washed out. The reports on the storm alternated with radio reports on the European crisis. Poor Czecko-Slovakia was dying all day & my proud ~~report~~ <sup>god</sup> for the British Empire dying with it. At 5 D took Annie home and brought back a paper. Storm slightly better. But this evening electricity all went out. We had to light candles. I haven't told how grey the sky was all day. Webs of grey and in late afternoon dark storm clouds scudding when the lights went out in our house we went out of doors and saw dark houses up and down our little street. Before we went to bed, the stars were out.

Sept. 22. And this morning a pink sky. Merian up. D out straighten-  
*Thurs.* ing up bushes. Merian went to school & in the afternoon she and I out to Loesers and Bests to shop. Nortons and Leslies called this evening. Leslies brought us a little piece of Swedish glass - luck for the new house.

Sept. 23. This beautiful evening, with the evening stars in a pale  
Fri. yellow pink west, Delos, Merian and I, sitting in our peaceful living room heard dispatches from London, Paris, Gotenbarg, which probably mean war. Hitler would not cooperate with Chamberlain in spite of the enormous concessions England, France and Czecko-Slovakia were willing to grant. All of the great nations are mobilizing & armies on the march. We feel sad, so sad at the prospect of so much suffering and terror ahead. And I am solemn too because I feel that the world will never be the same again. But Delos thinks the world may be even better if the democracies fight for what we all know is right, and would slide back into darkness if Hitler were allowed further power.

Sept. 24. Mary McCartney in to stay with Merian and D and I off to  
Sat. dine and dance at Pierre's in honor of W.F.'s birthday.

Delos did the Lambeth Walk, and we looked on or participated in a giddy round of Big Apple, waltzes, rhumbas, tangos, etc.

Sept. 25. Delos and I and Mary and Merian foregathered at 9 & Elmer  
Sun. joined us for coffee. Dodie later. A warm beautiful day. We have sun in front in the morning, in back in the afternoons. Sat doing nothing with McCarneys so late that no work done when Shobers drove in to surprise us. Glad to see them just the same.

Sept. 26. Annie came. Is prettier without her hat. Has quite golden-y  
Mon. frizzy hair. Went into action at once while Delos and I went to Loesers to buy a desk (the desk on which I hope to write the tales which will pay her salary.) This afternoon we listened to Hitler - as much as we could bear to. The young Hurtells came in to have sherry with us before dinner. Delos and I out to look at the stars before going to bed. I love the Island - so much sky. Our neighbors all day long working on their lawns. Much talk of top soil and this and that.

Sept. 27. Our new maid is a jewel. Delossy's cigarettes laid out be-  
Tues. side his plates. The table immaculate. Merian busy planning her doll's birthday party. Off to school in the sunshine along our open sky-ey street. A very good day of settling. of tying up shrubs bent in the storm, of sitting in the sun on the terrace, with Anna here to do the work. She told me later in the day that she had been sick. I can see that she is very low - like her so much I don't mind (from my point of view) sorry for her.

Sept. 28. Delossy's vacation is drawing near its end. Made him take  
Wed. breakfast in bed, & hope he will stop his furious rushing around. We sat on the terrace in the sun today. The carpenter was putting our doors in shape & Delos drying dirt for some mysterious purpose. Talked with Emma on the phone, it seemed good. Over to Nortons tonight to sit by their fire. Love the streets of our little new settlement at night. Mrs. Clarke gave me a spring of her Crown of Thorn which she has given to all her neighbors, She says

Sept. 29. It seems certain tonight that war is averted. If only  
Thurs.

Hitler hasn't been given so much power that he will be a menace in the future, what a triumph. It is a load lifted from hearts everywhere. D. & I sunned ourselves on the terrace; he painted and I settled. Anna had her half day off and Merian had Marion Leslie here for tea. A sweet little girl; long lashed, blue eyes, chunky and sturdy. Delos made a dirt screen. Fall flowers in the garden but maples showing touches of yellow.

Sept. 30. Rain again and our little trees waving in the cold wind.  
Fri.

Am giving Delossy his breakfast in bed, trying to make his vacation restfuller.

OCTOBER

- Oct. 1. "Wouldst thou seal up the avenues of ill? Pay every debt,  
Sat. as though God wrote the bill." Emerson.
- Oct. 4. Starting a new story today. By God's grace it must and will  
Sun. be finished in time.
- Oct. 5. Bick and Charles Kirch drove in this afternoon, took Merian  
Mon. and me on a drive down the Island. Bick pale as she uses no  
make-up, & has a little anxious look in her eyes, but they  
can sparkle with fun too just as in the old days. When  
Delos got home we had a gala time, steak and ice cream and  
lots of fun and talk. Put them to bed in the maid's room  
which was fortunately empty.
- Oct. 6. Clarke's lawn and our's full of birds. Brownish, speckled  
Tues. birds. Starlings, I think. They are flapping in Clarke's  
birdbath. Beginning to rain softly. Bick and Charles are  
gone, Delos gone, Merian in school. I have been doing  
housework and must now go to call for Merian.
- Oct. 9. So thankful, so thankful, so thankful that Gertrude is so  
Sun. so good. She wept a little today, telling me her story, but  
is happy with us and wants to stay. I love her already. D  
Delossy had a bad sinus and we expected to be very quiet  
but Don O'Connor called. Nan was out then for the weekend  
and they wanted us for cocktails so we drove over, to Ros-  
lyn. Countryside beginning to show autumn colors. Saw real  
coppery and all pure gold maple. O'Connor's tower cottage  
a Spanish house furnished with Spanish furniture. Dodie and  
Elmer here for Sunday night lunch.
- Oct. 10. Gertrude and Wanda, both splendid. I started work on a  
Mon. story.

- Oct. 11. Reading two books I must review. Gertrude is a treasure,  
Tues.  
Thank God for her. Delos and I supposed to go for cocktails to Nortons but broke our date because he is being troubled with sinus. These mornings early a luminous huge full moon in western sky.
- Oct. 12. A happy breakfast. D & I out in our garden afterwards, looking  
Wed.  
at the shrubs, salvaging nails and a little rib from house they are building behind us. The sun here is like a prairie sun. Trees are beginning to turn. Gardens are full of late summer flowers. In the early morning the grass is covered with a dew which looks like frost. Worked hard all day on review of Eliz. Madox Roberts' "Black is my True-love's Hair." Wrote a very good one. D & I over to McCartneys tonight. Talked, scientific talk for a change. Coffee and rye bread with cheese.
- Oct. 13. Saw Delos off this morning (from our door) and again Long  
Thurs.  
Island's prairie sun was blazing and grass covered with a silvery dew. Finished writing my review of The Mandrake Root. Sat on the terrace with Merian at lunch. The new houses in back of us spring through their various phases. Yesterday walls being nailed, today the roof is going on. Merian and I invited to Nortons for coffee. Merian and Hope are finding a common interest in their drawing. Delos home very tired and early to bed. White daisies or chrysanthemums also lavender in our vases.
- Oct. 14. Merian & I batted in the village & registered her at the  
Fri.  
Cathedral House for Sunday School.

- Oct. 15. Shobers & Mrs. Dunphy surprised us this afternoon, a golden  
Sat. afternoon. We gave them tea and had a lovely time. Then  
D & I hastened off to New York to the ballet. Marieue. They  
danced the New ballet set to Beethoven's Seventh Symphony.  
We didn't especially like it.
- Oct. 16. Merian to Sunday School. Delos and I drove while she was  
Sun. there and enjoyed the yellow leaves. Garden City's arches of  
gold - golden loops. To a tea party at Leslie's this after-  
noon, all of us. An interesting group there.
- Oct. 17. Warm today. Temp. in the 80s. Had a splendid morning at my  
Mon. desk and drafted. Thrushes calling. To Hempstead shopping  
for Sternes visit. They came for dinner and all night  
bringing 100 daffodil bulbs and a bottle of Scotch. Angels!  
We had Yorkshire pudding and roast beef for dinner, played  
bridge and had a lovely time.
- Oct. 18. This was a joyous morning. After Delos & Roy left, Emma and  
Tues. I planted the daffodils. All around the front of our house  
and all around the terrace. Gertrude brought us tea in the  
midst of it, which we ate with rolls, cheese and jam in  
our sunny front doorway. Then back to the daffs, joined  
by Helen Norton. I drove to town with Emma. Foliage sober-  
ing. Shopped all afternoon. Bought a tea kettle for Sternes  
and a tea pot for Gertrude. Home with Delossy to be met by  
Gertrude, Merian and Jackie. Warm as summer today.

- Oct. 19. But overcast and cold this morning. That didn't last, however. After Merian came home from school & we had lunched on the terrace, we put in daffodil bulbs until almost 5 when the sun was low in the sky. Planted them around all our shrubs & around the kitchen entrance. Delos to bed before dessert - so all of us quiet. We opened the packages from Gimbels; put up our new lights & gave Gertrude her blue cloth and teapot.
- Oct. 20. A beautiful morning, I was in bed with a headache when Thurs. Delossy started off. And stayed there until 2 or so when Gertrude was gone. A lost day.
- Oct. 21. A very busy day for me. Writing in the morning. To the Fri. village to get my hair dressed at 12:15. To school to confer with Miss Dunne at 2:30 and to meet Blanche at Mineola at 4. She adored our little shining settlement and our house. All the Mott planted trees have lost their leaves but our big maple retains its leaves still.
- Oct. 22. Gertrude gave a tea party today. Her brother printed little Sat. invitations and she and Hope and Merian and I initiated the new blue cloth and teapot in the kitchen. It was very merry. Afterwards she taught the children English games. Delos was mowing the lawn and putting down flagstones most of the day; I was reading a book for review. In the evening we put on gala clothes and went to New York to Radio City and saw as well as heard Toscanini broadcast. He did the Fifth Symphony of Beethoven. D & I had a heavenly time.

- Oct. 23. Breakfast luxuriously in bed. Delos worked out of doors  
Sun. most of the morning. Merian went to Sunday School & I  
read the book I must review. After luncheon we took a walk  
around the development. Merian invited with us to tea at  
the Nortons. Miss Overton there. We had a pleasant time.  
Beethoven's Fifth played again today; by Philharmonic, this  
time.
- Oct. 24. Raining this morning. Gertrude drove Delossy to the train  
Mon. and soon Merian will start off in her new raincoat. For me,  
2 pages, at least, in "Thrushes calling" and a book review.  
This afternoon Merian and I played chess and otherwise  
amused each other.
- Oct. 25. Worked very hard. Too tired tonight. Finished my review.  
Tues. The beautiful new desk came. D & I to play bridge with  
Nortons.
- Oct. 26. First day at the new desk. Hope came to lunch and to spend  
Wed. the afternoon with Merian. I went in to a party at Mrs.  
Quinn's. Notes elsewhere. Delos and I listened to Dewey  
tonight. He was speaking at Mineola. I walk to the train,  
partway, with Delossy these mornings. Have frost on the  
ground. Garden flowers still bright altho most of the leaves  
have fallen. Venetian blinds down in all the pretty little  
houses. A hut built by boys in the lot back of one of the  
homes.
- Oct. 27. Worked only at settling my new desk and at interviewing  
Thurs. Gertrude's sister on material needed for my story. Our house  
looks so lovely, our beautiful clean blue and white kitchen.  
I have been enjoying it, as Gertrude is out. She is such good  
help, just the one for us. Her sister has great braids of  
hair rolled into two buns behind the ears.

- Oct. 28. Worked until one. Then to bed with a headache. Merian sat  
Fri. on my bed and drew on one of her endless books about cats. They are darling. She is coloring them now. It is rainy today. Gertrude took Delos to the train and Merian to school and back. Pete and Helen Norton in for bridge. Raining still but we are planning on the trip to Sternes.
- Oct. 29. It has been raining and blowing all night but sun is out now,  
Sat. and in any case we are persisting in plans for our weekend. Merian to Joanie's and us to Sternes, etc. We are taking teakettle for their house and a basket in which to bring home mulch. Started about 10. The trees are lovelier than I expected them to be. There are still bright gold trees, scarlet maples. We followed the Northern State Parkway to town. Left Merian and her bag at Pelham. Followed the Hutchinson River Parkway & the Merritt Highway to the Sternes. The first glimpse of their house, white with white shutters a row of long windows opening on to their hill. A happy day. Babs & Ann both home. D. & I sleeping at Lewis & Mary's.
- Oct. 30. Lewis & Mary are perfect hosts. Their guest room & bath are in  
Sun. their old barn. We had a marvelous bed, hot bath water, A D. Sayco Detective story & black coffee brought to bed later. More coffee at Sternes. Then all of us laid the terrace, in the sunshine. I wished for a camera. Emma & I explored in the woods & found a flat stone where her grandchildren can take picnics. A marvelous dinner, me sitting facing their oversized windows which was open, with the view practically marching in a gray background for bright green pines & flashes of gold & scarlet. Back to Pelham to pick up Merian who had had a lovely time & been good as gold. Put Babs on her subway & home to our own white house.

Oct. 31. Writing. Story not finished. Busy in the afternoon getting  
Mon.

Merian ready for her Hallowe'en party. Gertrude made the costume, out of orange and black papers, left from last year's party. Thru a mischance Merian and I had to walk to the school while Gertrude called for Delos. I will never forget how she looked. Hair tied back in two bunches under a little orange cap, cheeks tinted pink. Eyes blazing, Floating black and orange draperies - an orange ham. We took some Hallowe'en goodies over to Jackie, too.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1. To town to confer with fire department on my story. Helen  
Tues. N. and Dodie in for coffee.
- Nov. 2. Finished my story today "Thrushes calling" I think it is  
Wed. good. Lunched with Merian on the terrace and admired my  
3 new lilac bushes. Gertrude drove us to town for the  
shopping. Stewart Ave. is still overhung with a canopy  
of gold. Delos writing tonight.
- Nov. 3. Delossy set the alarm for 5:30. Got up and read my story.  
Thurs. He's crazy about it, and how happy that makes us both.  
A jubilant breakfast with lots of orange marmalade. And  
now he has started off to work through a crisp morning  
sun bright through a light haze. Hoar frost on the ground.  
Typing story. Marilyn here to play with Merian, a new child.
- Nov. 4. To town altho' I shouldn't have. Shopped. Bought us a  
Fri. golden wheat breakfast set. Dinner at Aunt Jessie's. She  
looked lovely in a rose brocaded house coat. Home early.  
Merian had Hope, Jackie and Marilyn to tea. Climbed on sand  
pile and had a blissful time.
- Nov. 5. And very busy today getting ready for our party. Weather  
Sat. still warm, mild. Lots of trees still have color (Our big  
maple bare at the top, gold green lower down.) Nan came  
out this afternoon and we had a quiet house-coated dinner  
and evening. Merian in bed with cold.

- Nov. 6. Nan likes my story, more than likes it, says she nearly  
Sun. woke me at 3:30 a.m. when she finished it. Party a great  
success with Sternes punch bowl and Nortons copper coffee  
service and Nan's sandwiches, and a fire in the grate.  
It rained off and on all day. Clear tonight. Roy and Emma  
are staying all night and we just went out to see moon in  
a new-washed sky. Merian still ill with cold but came down  
to party in her velvet dress. Showed Max Lief her drawings  
and talked lots with Sylvia and Mrs. O'Connor and others.
- Nov. 7. Roy and Emma breakfasted on trays in their room, with me  
Mon. keeping them company. Then off to town thru a beautiful  
morning. Temp. 75 today. I stayed in most all day tho as  
Merian's cold took the bad turn. Sat out in the sun when  
I could. Nortons in while D & I were at coffee. Merian  
drawing her sages of cats and dogs, house almost snowed  
under with them. Marilyn offered to write stories to go  
with them. Marian said crushingly (I overheard) "In the  
first place my pictures don't need stories. In the second  
place, if they did, I'd write them myself."
- Nov. 8. Rain off and on all day. Like spring. Managed to get in a  
Tues. pleasant walk and saw the new houses springing up every-  
where, fresh as daisies. But D & I voted in a downpour.  
Over to Nortons tonight to play bridge and listen to  
election returns. Dewey seems to be defeated.

Nov. 9. A pale moon in a light blue sky when I wakened Merian  
Wed. this morning. She is better, came down to breakfast.  
Talking with much interest about "growing up" which she  
looked at for the first time yesterday. Merian and I  
going through old boxes. A glorious time. Also had a  
little walk, she was that much improved. Gertrude out.  
Delos came home to tell us that the Frank Grahames are  
giving Merian a cat.

Nov. 10. Heavy frost (as predicted) last night. Silvery glaze on  
Thurs. sacks Delos has tacked down so neatly around the dogwood  
tree. Frost on roofs and lawns. Merian thrilled. Merian  
says she is going to name her kitten, if male, Kismet;  
if female, Mitzi. And that is interesting. She says a  
little girl in their class is named Mitzi and "it sounds  
like a cat." Hanni who was Merian's nurse for two years  
and talked German to her, always called a kitten a Mitzi  
Katz. We didn't go to Nannine's tea today for our furni-  
ture came from Minnesota. It was a great day. Delos  
phoned from town about 10:30 to tell me not to come in,  
and he took the train out here at noon. Dodie came over.  
We waited and made coffee, and about 5, in the sunset,  
the van drove up. The sweet green rug that Delos and I  
were married on, daddy's arm chair, our 2 little rockers,  
the walnut table, boxes of books, papers and old published  
stories, letters. Merian wept because we said we were going  
to destroy our love letters, written during the World War.  
Much excitement and how homelike the house looks tonight.

- Nov. 11. Settling all day. Tonight to dinner at Jacqueline Over-  
Fri. tons in Westbury. Little old house with a fence.  
Martines by the fire and a good dinner. Met some plea-  
sant people, named Conants. Armistice Day today. It  
meant more to Gertrude than to us, I saw, tho' un-pack-  
ing the Minnesota things brought back the war.
- Nov. 12. A fair breezy day. Shobers and Grahames to lunch. Fun  
Sat. to see the three children together again. The atrocities  
being committed against the Jews in Germany sickening,  
appalling.
- Nov. 13. To Sunday lunch with Ralph and Fanny Graves whom we knew  
Sun. years ago at Hampton Bays.
- Nov. 14. Marion Leslie here this afternoon to play with Merian,  
Mon. a grave, chunky little girl. D & I listened tonight to  
a radio broadcast of protest against the treatment  
accorded Jews in Germany.
- Nov. 15. Dodie sang for Helen and me at her house. Brahms, Straus,  
Tues. it was beautiful.
- Nov. 16. Barbara and Allen for dinner. Notes elsewhere.  
Wed.
- Nov. 17. Going on high today. Idea for new story 9 to 1. With  
Thurs. Helen and the children to Westbury Children's Library.  
2:30 to 4:30 With Eliz Leslie to Co-op. 4:30 to 6. Delossy  
home then and a family dinner. Rained this morning only  
a few yellow leaves on our maple. But flowers, marigolds,  
still gay along Mrs. Clarke's house.
- Nov. 18. Very misty this morning. Helen called for Merian to take  
Fri. her to school by car. Sky overcast at 9. Dodie in for  
coffee, Helen, too. Talked about college and cosmetics.  
Nortons for bridge in the rain.

Nov. 19. Delos & Merian & I drove to Wilton to see the Sternes.  
Sat.

Passed lake surrounded by russet oaks. Water clear. Reflections under pearly overcast sky. Bare trees fernlike against the sky, like black ferns. Misty rain when we left New Rochelle at 1 (after calling on Bartnetts) Pines and bare trees, leafy brown underbrush, birches, red bushes, green golf courses, rocks like our hillside, wet among brown leaves. Grove of slim white birches on hillside above a lake. Grass on actual parkway still very green. String of horseback riders in the rain. A hearty welcome from Sternes. Put Merian down before dinner.

Delos sleeping in Ann's room, I in Barbara's.

Nov. 20. And what a view I awoke to! I breakfasted in bed, Emma  
Sun.

sitting with me. Overcast when we woke. Now, 11:30, sky brightly blue, long spout of white cloud, islands of cloud, continents of cloud & scarves of cloud about the treetops of valley below. Air invigorating. Came in, leaving others outside, to lie down and look at sky. Drove Margaret Gelders to subway, on our way home, and stopped by the Grahames for Merian's cat. A dear little grey striped kitten named (now) Mitzi. Took some milk from her mother before she left. Merian and I took turns carrying her all the way home.

Nov. 21. Wanda and the usual Monday confusion. Story doesn't come.  
Mon.

Discouraged. Mitzi cries for her mother but Merian and Gertrude almost kill her with kindness.

- Nov. 22. Began, as the note above says, Betsy and Tacy; let's see  
Tues. what comes of it. Delos, tonight, brought home a scratching post for the kitten. A log set on end with a play mouse swinging from a wire. She was funny with it, climbing to the top and reaching for the mouse with a cat's incredible grace. She almost had meat tonight. Helen and Pete in, and we all talked (because of our impending 21st anniversary) about romances.
- Nov. 23. Lost today with a headache.  
Wed.
- Nov. 24. And it's still with me this morning but it's a happy  
Thurs. Thanksgiving anyway. Gertrude made toffee for Merian, a hat for Merian's dollie and muffins for our breakfast. Delossy putting up curtains. An overcast sky and very cold weather when we drove to McCartneys. Gertrude off to have dinner with her family in Belaire. We had a gorgeous dinner and happy time. About 5 it began to snow and sleet. When we left to go home at 8, we could hardly clear the windshield of its icy sheet and hardly start the car. World white and <sup>w</sup>familiar. But got home safely.
- Nov. 25. Snowed all night. Woke to find world covered with billows  
Fri. of white. Our Canada Hemlock and other evergreens laden. Delos could neither get the car down the drive nor, for a long while, get a taxi. He and a neighbor got off finally in some sort of a car. Sun came out. Now Merian clamoring to go outside. All day long sun sparkling on white snow. Neighbors, both men and women shoveling, walking to work. Milkman borrowed dark glasses. Snow plough. Bread to birds. Sunset burnt orange. A thin cold moon when D & I to bed.

- Nov. 26. Breakfast early & D. out shovelling. Drove to Pelham to  
Sat. call on Floyds and have dinner with Shobers. Snow even deeper there than here. Great drifts.
- Nov. 27. Drove down the island to Brightwater for the christening  
Sun. of Christopher Laurence Perry. Sun was sparkling on the deep drifts when we left. (G. and Merian were making a snow man.) but we ran into snow as we progressed. Made the trip safely, however. Delos ad proxy Godfather acquitted himself with his usual poise. Lots of champagne at the luncheon. Forgot to say that it snowed still more in the night while I was still having coffee in bed, Delos was out shoveling.
- Nov. 28. Took Merian to town. It was the first time she had seen  
Mon. the big New York stores' Christmas display. I took her out of school at 11 and Gertrude drove us to the 11.13. Lunch at Wanamakers, then the toy department where she saw Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs and Santa Claus. He asked her what she wanted for Christmas but she was terribly confused and murmured "Now let's see. There was something I wanted but I can't remember what it is." Afterwards we bought her a ski suit (the children had called her a sissy in leggings.) And we went to the train, via Macy's windows which show a Child's Dream of the Future. Met Delos and she told him all about it coming home on the train.

Nov. 29. Merian playing in the snow after school. School, by the way  
Tues. was exciting as Merian and a little boy named George, the teacher, Miss Dunne, stood out against the rest of the class about the existence of Santa. I gave Merian the famous Sun Editorial to take to school. She played in the snow, so hard that Mrs. Quinn took her in and changed her shoes and stockings.

Nov. 30. To town for Christmas shopping at Abraham & Straus. To  
Wed. lunch with H. Bartnett at Sterns, and with her to see The Fabulous Invalid, a delightful play detailing the history of a theatre. Home with Delossy to find that Merian had written words and music of a song The Catnip Tree

DECEMBER

- Dec. 1. Gertrude out today after taking me to hair dresser and  
Thurs. back. Busy getting ready for Delos's party. Merian at home with a cold.
- Dec. 2. A very busy happy day. I helped Gertrude stuff the tur-  
Fri. key, and I made the birthday cake with my own hands. Roy and Emma came for dinner & for dessert and coffee the McCartneys, the Nortons & the Leslies came. Good talk by the firelight and Roy made a toast to Delos. Such a dear husband.
- Dec. 3. It was such a happy day yesterday but I lost Saturday, the  
Sat. third, out of my life with headache and nausea. Delos even called the doctor - we all had a scare. Merian in bed with "bad breathing." Gertrude so good to us all.
- Dec. 4. I was up in a dressing gown today, but wasn't able to take  
Sun. Merian to church as per the above note. The Hardons dropped in to see us. Delos trying to get Paddy and Mitzi to make friends.
- Dec. 5. Last night in bed I read Delos's mother's record of her  
Mon. heroic tragic life. What a novel it would make! I am working today - Merian still at home. H. Norton came in for coffee and Gertrude has put up the living room drapes. We are almost settled. Raining.
- Dec. 6. The rain has melted the last vestige of snow. Lawns green  
Tues. again. I look out at ours and can hardly wait until summer. Worked this morning, to Loesers shopping & to Nortons for coffee this afternoon. We are having fun with our Mitzi. Delos loves to play with her. She leaps into the air when he flashes his handkerchief at her.

- Dec. 7. Merian at breakfast sang another song she has composed  
Wed. about Mitzi. A good morning on Betsy-Tacy. My neighbors  
in to tea. D & I out to play bridge with the Nortons to-  
night. A big moon coming home and orion from our doorway.
- Dec. 8. 6:30 color all around the sky. A moon surrounded by mist  
Thurs. in the west. Lawns covered with frost. I look out of Mer-  
ian's window at our cozily tucked in dogwood tree and love  
our home. Delos off on early shift. We are making Christmas  
plum pudding from a recipe which has been in Gertrude's  
family since 1779. I am buying fruits and spices, etc.  
molasses, which she calls treacle. Came home from Norton's  
tonight to find her cutting up suet. Merian and I shelled  
the almonds.
- Dec. 10. While I was in town yesterday Gertrude's 2 sisters and  
Sat. Merian continued operations on the plum pudding. The "loyds  
brought us a Christmas angel for the mantelpiece. Over to  
Nortons this evening for bridge.
- Dec. 11. Merian to Sunday school. Us to Nortons for coffee with  
Sun. Bill and Peggy.
- Dec. 12. Delos and I and the Nortons with the Leslies to a talk on  
Mon. the Co-operative Movement - Adelphi College.
- Dec. 13. Busy with Christmas. Delos suffering with sinus still. No  
Tues. snow, world green, sometimes overcast and rainy but never  
very cold.
- Dec. 14. Working on Betsy Tacy. Helen and Dearest in for sherry.  
Wed. Delossy to bed again with his bad sinus.

- Dec. 15. Another chapter of Betsy-Tacy. Dodie in, bringing her  
Thurs. sewing, and a bureau and dress for Merian. A cozy afternoon talking about Mankato. Two stories I mustn't forget. They concern the Moorish Cafe' in Mankato. The first time she went with her father he left a tip. Dodie thought he had forgotten the quarter and carried it home and gave it to him. Also Katie in high school told Dodie with great excitement that she had gone to the Moorish Cafe and had cocktails. What kind?" asked Dodie. In answered whisper, "I don't know," said Katie, "but they had oysters in them." For curly stories.
- Dec. 16. Lunch with my darling. Emma in town, then an afternoon  
Fri. shopping. Met Delos at Wanamakers for high tea and on to the Maurice Evans uncut Hamlet (6:30 to 11:30). He is a superb actor but we liked the Gielgud Hamlet better - were moved by it. I like the cut version better, too. Nannine called to say that she loves Betsy-Tacy. Wants a second copy. Took Emma her pudding.
- Dec. 17. Delos drove me out for shopping this morning and we bought  
Sat. our wreaths and got them up. Shoher family to see us today. Joan and Merian exchanged packages.
- Dec. 18. At 9:30 to the Cathedral for Merian's pageant. Sat with  
Nortons. A mob of children & much confusion, but service was sweet. This afternoon D drove me over to hear the Messerials. Such a beautiful service it made me cry. Dodie's radiant face as she walked up the aisle! Going home D, M & I admired the lighted outdoor Christmas trees, the lighted wreaths & candles. One house has an electric Merry Christmas sign which goes on and off.

- Dec. 19. Mailed Minnesota box when G took Delos to the train. It was Mon.  
raining, not Christmassy weather. Worked on story for Miss Tighe and at typing a second copy of Betsy-Tacy. Delos's train delayed tonight. Merian says that at school they are doing nothing but work on Christmas presents. Cards flooding in.
- Dec. 20. Finished typing first five chapters of Betsy-Tacy. and got Tues.  
them off to Nan along with all Michigan boxes and a heap of Christmas letters. Gertrude drove me. Also bought our Christmas tree. Came home to find a box of greens for the mantle from Emma's woods. They look so sweet. Nortons in tonight for bridge by firelight. Mitzi goes out of doors now. Runs up trees and has a fine time.
- Dec. 21. Last day of school, for this term. Merian started off with Wed.  
her present for Miss Dunne. During the morning, an overcast grey morning. Snow flake or two appeared. Then more and more. Now, at noon, ground is pale green from thickly scattered snow. Light film of snow on pines. Have been unpacking Christmas things, our Santa who hangs in the doorway, etc.
- Dec. 22. Gertrude's holiday, but she worked until 2:30. We are so Thurs.  
very busy. Merian and I went to Hempstead to do her Christmas shopping. (mostly for dogs and cats.)

Dec. 23. Did not go to town after all, as Miss Jessie sailed for  
Fri. Panama today. I was very, very extremely busy with getting  
ready for Christmas. Day overcast & looks like snow but  
forecast is rain and warmer. Delos home for his 3 day holi-  
day. So grateful for it. All of us feeling so Christmassy.  
Have I said that we have wreaths up and holly and mistletoe,  
Sternes garland of pine and laurel on the mantlepiece and  
our little Santa hanging from doorway? The trees up and  
down Wyatt and Huntington Road are magically beautiful  
and there are lighted wreaths and candles, a Santa Claus  
guarding one door and even a Merry Christmas in lights -  
winking off and on.

Dec. 24. Merian is in bed, with one of her bad breathing spells; we  
Sat. fear it is the cat. But from her room she shared all day  
in our Christmas preparations. I was helping Gertrude in  
the morning. Later D & I went shopping for candy canes, etc.  
and at 4, when we had a fire blazing in the grate and the  
house was the picture of Christmas, Allan and Barbara came.  
We had a beautiful time. After dinner Merian came downstairs  
to be wrapped in the white shawl. Alla read from Dickens'  
Christmas Carol; Barbara read from Nortons (they brought it  
over) copy of Twas the Night Before Christmas. Delos read  
from the Gospel According to St. Luke. And at Merian's  
suggestion each one chose a Christmas Carol. Then the  
stockings were hung.

Dec. 25. Merian was very ill all night and from 3 o'clock on begging Sun.

to go downstairs - all of us. But I restrained her until 6. Then Delos went on ahead to light the fire and all of us trooped down to see a tree to the ceiling, blazing with lights, a fire roaring in the grate below the row of stockings, all of us, including Gertrude and Mitzi had lovely things. It was one of the loveliest Christmases I ever had in my life. The new house, Delos & Merian so dear, Allan and Barbara perfect guests, so young and gay. Dear Blanche couldn't come for dinner but Nannine came, and she always contributes so much. We had a procession of guests all morning, couldn't get out of bathrobes until noon. World green. Went out for sniffs of it. Gertrude brought the pudding in burning. Delos & Allan, Pet and Geo. Hertell at games all day. Merian in heaven with all her things, especially the doll clothes from Mrs. Hertell. Nortons in tonight when Delos took our guest to the train. Mother sent me the silver set Uncle Jim gave her and daddy on their fifth wedding anniversary. Also Hampton Austin's tea set. Katie & Helen candelabra which we'll use on our mantlepiece.

Dec. 26. Belos had a holiday. We rested, ate scraps, enjoyed our Mon.

tree and presents and had coffee with the Nortons.

- Dec. 27. Back to work with Chapter Six of Betsy-Tacy. Delossy back  
Tues. to work, too. Wanda here. Irmengarde and Paul came to  
supper. Gertrude, Merian, Hope and I met them at train  
and tried to make Paul guess what our dessert was. Geo  
Washington ate it; wine in it; Trifle. We had a pleasant  
time, lit by firelight and Christmas tree light. The  
neighborhood is lighted by outdoor Christmas trees, so  
effective. D. & I saw one bright red one with a star at  
the top and we think we'll decorate our Canada Hemlock like  
that next year.
- Dec. 28. Cold. Merian and I took the dolls for a walk. Our household  
Wed. is game-conscious these days. Hop Ching - parchesi, a cer-  
tain game where you throw quiets. Merian in to spend the  
afternoon with Mrs. Clarke and a 15-year old girl, which  
pleased her. When we take the dolls for a walk Merian raves  
on about how they thought at Christmas that our house was  
the world world. But now they think that the Mott develop-  
ment is the whole world.
- Dec. 29. World bare and cold. An excellent morning on Precious  
Thurs. Silver. Gertrude went out and Merian and I had lunch and  
took the dolls for a walk. Then a nap and got dinner for  
daddy. I love breakfast these mornings with Christmas  
tree light.

Dec. 30. It snowed in the night, altho it has stopped now. 7:30 A.  
Fri.

M. Sky a pale opal to match the world which is thinky,  
palely covered with snow. I finished Precious Silver. Went  
in to Mrs. Clarke's to a neighborhood tea and on to town.  
Delos and I had dinner with Blanche and went on to see  
Argentineta & her company dance. Her beautiful classic face  
like Katie's, rounded body, castenets, sumptuous costumes;  
her assisting artists good too. I especially enjoyed the  
guitar.

Dec. 31. Tired ending 1938. It's been a hard year. But it brought  
Sat.

us our dear new house which we all love. As for work, I  
did two months or so of research on a novel which I think  
I shall never write, 3 good short stories, and 1/3 at least  
of a juvenile book. Not so bad for a year in which I took  
care of mother and was sick myself, but oh, I do so hope  
and resolve that next year will be better. Delos and Mer-  
ian are perfect. We called on McCartneys this afternoon.  
Now D. & I. in gala clothes, off to town. To meet Roy and  
Emma in Grand Central for dinner (we missed them and ate  
alone, but gayly at the Murray Hill.) With Sternes to see  
Spring Meeting.

1 9 3 9

JANUARY

Jan. 1. Sun. When the New Year came in, we were at Irmengarde's, with Roy and Emma, with whom we have spent New Year's Eve for 7 years, barring the year Daddy was so ill & I was in Minnesota. We drank "to 1939 & us", the Burmans came in, we played silly games and took the 2:40 train for home. Train crowded and hilarious. Three middle aged married couples, slightly tipsy, singing for the amusement of the car. Home at 4, kissed Merian, put a Quiet, please, sign on the door, and went to sleep. But Merian woke us at 9:30 searching for her Sunday School envelope. Gertrude took her to the Carol Service. New Years Day so warm I could stroll up and down in front of the house bareheaded, with a fur coat over my housecoat. After dinner D & I to Jackie Overton's for a New Year's Day party. Helen & Pete over for bridge tonight & Gertrude gone on her holiday. Snow almost all melted.

Jan. 2. Mon. Breakfast in bathrobes downstairs, then Hop Ching and the business of burning the Christmas wreaths. A quiet day.

Jan 3 Tues. Gertrude had to go to the city, so we were alone again. I typed Precious Silver & got it off to Nan. Merian has a new friend, Marilyn Scaff with whom she has been playing in our green unwinty out of doors. She & I had dinner alone, as D stayed in to the tennis matches. She has been such an angel, about eating & everything, that I think she must have made some New Year's resolutions. We have been reading, out of the Bible & Emily Dickinson, & I finished Theatre Street.

- Jan. 4. Gertrude, who returned this morning, paid us a very nice  
Wed. compliment today. She said "You would have enjoyed reading  
a letter I wrote to my father, I said to him "This is just  
like The Home on the Range, "There never is heard a dis-  
couraging word!" Back to work on Betsy Tacy. Delos & I drove  
over to call on the Haydons in their little new home. She  
in cheap housecoat. Material for Woman's Day?
- Jan. 5. Our early morning. Gertrude drove Delos to the station  
Thurs. while world was still dark.
- Jan. 6. Merian & I & the scratching past went to have dinner with  
Fri. the Michies today. & while we were there got a wire that  
mother will be arriving tomorrow. When we got home, bring-  
ing Mitzi who was too much trouble for them, we found a  
second wire and she is flying.
- Jan. 7. A summerlike beautiful day & Delos & I & Merian started  
Sat. at 1 o'clock for Newark. Mother left Minneapolis at 8:30  
this morning by plane, left Chicago at 1 (about the time  
we were leaving Garden City) and arrived at Newark at 5.  
We were all thrilled to see the big plane descend from  
the sky.
- Jan. 13. A perfectly wild day, getting ready for our dinner to-  
Fri. night (Overton, Nortons, Graves.) But the dinner went off  
successfully, although it was late. Mother came down to  
eat with us. When our guest left around midnight, big snow  
storm, drove Jack home.
- Jan. 14. World buried in snow this morning. All of us recuperating  
Sat. from the party. Gave Gertrude the afternoon off. Merian & I  
out to see the C.D. (Clinton Dell) which she & Gertrude  
discovered. Pines have thick cushions of snow. To Nortons for  
coffee and Nortons here for bridge.

Jan. 15. Delos out putting up a radio aerial in the snow. Merian  
Sun. & Stella & I out deliverying Birthday Party invitations  
in the snow.

Jan. 16. Betsy-Tacy in the morning. Hempstead in the afternoon,  
Mon. shopping for the party. So tired. But got into a house-  
coat & had a pleasant home evening.

Jan. 17. A glorious day. Sun shining on our quantities of very  
Tues. white snow. Betsy-Tacy this morning, but mother & I both  
had walks & after school Merian played out with Susan,  
building a snow house. In the twilight., Merian & I in the  
oriel window, wrapping favors and prizes for the party.  
Delossy home & ring trola & Chinese Checkers going on.  
Am reading Mrs. Caufield's Splendid "Fables for Parents."

Jan. 18 Nothing has been talked of for days but Merian's birthday  
Wed. party & now the great day has arrived. At breakfast she  
received her doll carriage, pillows from Gertrude, & a  
school bag from her grandmother. Delos so happy. All of us  
happy. She got home from school promptly & was dressed by  
2:30 & the first little girl arrived at 2:30 (invitations  
read 3.) It was snowing & Joan couldn't get over from Pel-  
ham but there were Merian & Hope, Susan, Priscilla, Janice,  
Margaret Smith, Marilyn & Marion Leslie. Gertrude & Mrs.  
Hertel helped with the games. Dodie & Ann McCartney came to  
help too. Delos got home just at 5 when Children were march-  
ing thru house singing Happy Birthday enroute to table. Cake  
had a bouquet of flowers & two birds in the frosting with  
"Happy Birthday to Merian". It was a glorious party & Merian  
is properly Eight Years Old.

- Jan. 19. Worked on Betsy-Tacy until Gertrude left. Walked down to Thurs.  
meet Merian through a warm noon & a world of white snow.
- Jan. 20. No Gertrude for a day or two. Business keeps her away. I Fri.  
did the housework & read the book I'm reviewing - Phil Strong's "Long Loves." Walked up and down in front of the house in the sunshine which was warm & beautiful. Great droves of shaggy birds on the telephone wires. Merian out of school with a slight cold, Stella in bed, so we're a quiet household.
- Jan. 21. Snowy & wintry. I didn't go out all day. The sky at even- Sat.  
ing was fathomlessly grey as though it held more snow and rain too within it; but it was clear; and there was a lemon colored light glowing. No Gertrude and Mother & Merian both slightly ill. I did housework and rested ditto & ditto, all day. Nortons came over for bridge in the evening. We wired Roy whose birthday it was.
- Jan. 24. Am getting on very well without Gertrude, having good meals, too. Weather miserable, snowy and slippery. But what an evening! Dodie & I drove in to hear Yehudi Menuhin at Brooklyn Academy. A solid quiet dignified young man, he plants his feet far apart, bends down his head to his violin, closes (I think) his eyes, seems oblivious to everyone & everything and what divine music flows forth. Such purity, delicacy, utter worldness in his Bach. We heard him play the Brahms Sonata No. 1 in G. Major and the Bach Sonata No. 1. in G. Minor, the latter unaccompanied & it was divine. Among Dodie's comments "That is how the Stars move in their courses." and "I never need to hear another violinist. I've heard perfection." My feeling was how he was leaning on God, as all artists should.

- Jan. 25. Wrote all morning. Discouraging news from Nan. Woman's  
Wed. Day story didn't click but Miss Tighe wants me to try  
again. I will. Chloris Hertell ran me over to town. Other-  
wise day spent inside, writing & housework. Lot of fun,  
the housework.
- Jan. 26. A terrific wind last night and cold this morning. Delos's  
Thurs. early morning and he took a cab. Called for me that is,  
but it didn't get here, and he stole a ride with the  
bakery man. This about 6:30. The east a deep brilliant  
medley of purple, gold and reds behind the lighted gas  
tower. One brilliant star in sky. Morning spent at work.  
Merian and I had a walk this afternoon. Down to 7 above,  
a new low, this morning. But doesn't seem cold. Bart sick  
and Delossy got out the paper.
- Jan. 27. Morning spent in ironing and in trying to think out a  
Fri. story for Miss Tighe. Sunny. Patches of green on lawns and  
boulevard along our little curving street. Dinner at  
Norton's tonight, formal, which is fun.
- Jan. 28. Another early morning as Delossy still filling in for  
Sat. Bart. Wanda here cleaning. Delos got home about 2 and we  
were out with the car doing errands. Merian in bed with a  
sniffle but so good. Mother improves every day. Merian is  
learning to write (instead of print) and very set up about  
it.
- Jan. 29. Rain started about noon. D & I had slept the clock around  
Sun. 8 to 8 & a half hour to boot. A happy day getting ready  
for evening when Elmer & Dodie came for sandwiches &  
coffee & cookies by the fire. Dodie came bringing an  
apple pie.

Jan. 30. A perfect down-pour of rain on soaking leaves, grey with Mon. water and white with patches of snow. I I don't mind I have a plot.

Jan. 31. Gertrude back. Snowing. A blue day. Merian up tho, that's Tues. cheerful; and Delos home early. But I didn't try to go into Brooklyn for my concert. D into old clothes and shoveled our walks. Putting bread out for the birds.

Jan. 27. Morning spent in ironing; and in trying to think out a story for Miss Tighe. Sunny. Patches of green on lawns and  
Jan. 28. Another early morning as Deforest still filling in water  
Jan. 29. Rain started about noon. I had blizzed the clock stand  
to be a half hour to boot. A happy day getting ready  
for evening when Elmer & Dodie came for sandwiches &  
coffee & cookies by the fire. Dodie came bringing an  
apple pie.

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1. About 7:30 sun blindingly bright, a real ball of fire,  
Wed. coming into sight below the water tower. Our street white and clean, glittering in the sun. Gave Mother the sun lamp and Merian her breakfast and now to work:- An excellent day. Had a little walk too in the sunshine. But discovered that Merian (who had been dressed today and yesterday) had a temp. so back to bed she went again. H. Norton in for coffee.
- Feb. 2. Walked out to close the garage door after Delos 6:30. Sky  
Thurs. the divinest mild grey-blue; air soft; lights on water tower still shining. (It's really a gas tower.) 9:20 big, big flakes coming down now, thicker and faster, from grey depths of sky. Finished "I --- love a parade."
- Feb. 3. Mist last night, rain today. The snow is gone already.  
Fri. Delos read "I --- love a parade" before breakfast. Likes it. G & I drove out in pouring rain to buy a printer ribbon. I typed the story and got it off, but have a queer feeling in my chest.
- Feb. 4. The flu. I am in bed on couch at window. G bringing fruit  
Sat. drinks and being so kind. Aching thru my body & sharp little pains and a low temp. Delossy home at noon, went to bed with a sinus in big bed. So we have a hospital here, as Merian, poor lambie, has been in bed for a week.
- Feb. 5. Delos in one bed, I in another & Merian in a thrid. Mother  
Sun. & G toted trays & went driving. I am much better & Delos going thru his routine of nasal douche, nose drops, heat pad & sun lamp. Read Daphe Du Maurier's "Rebecca." Hooey, but fun.

- Feb. 6. Tried to get up but found myself groggy and went back to  
Mon. bed. Day springlike. Mrs. Clarke out looking at green  
shoots. Merian back to school & Delos home tonight feel-  
ing himself cured of this attack. Mother went to dinner  
at McCartneys. D still acting city ed. & half the office  
sick.
- Feb. 7. 7 o'clock. Delos just left. I breakfasted in bed because of the  
Tues. recent flu, & just looked out of doors to see fairyland sky  
neat and white, world covered with white, tree trunks seem  
to be drawn with a thick black line and a thick white line  
above. Shrubs & pines covered. Lawns, walks, roads cover-  
ed, with the purest, softest, whitest snow. From snow cover-  
ed roofs to sky is from white white to grey white. Just a  
shade's difference.
- Feb. 8. Worked on Love Lies Bleeding - accomplished nothing. This  
Wed. afternoon mother & I went in to have coffee with Mrs.  
Clarke. Merian and Priscilla played Kanga's House with  
Popsy & Tiddles. Delos & I & the Hortons out on a business  
expedition tonight, tracking down taxes. 7 bulbs are up. In  
the morning, from mother's room, a pink sky, sometimes  
diversified with clouds, behind the big tower and from our  
room the moon. A little later sky calm and pearly.
- Feb. 9. A beautiful sunny day & I'm going to town. Had rather a  
Thurs. dreary time of it, tho. Dinner with Roy & Emma, Chez Lina,  
& then with D to the Academy of Music. Heard the Bodin Sym-  
phony in the Mozart Symphony in A (for strings & 2 oboes)  
like butterflies in airy flight & dance & combat. Rather  
lovely. A concerto for cello & Tchaikowsky's Fourth which is  
a grand thing, really. Haunting melody. The concert was nice.

- Feb. 10. Nortons for coffee. Mother and me. Bridge with Helen and  
Fri. Pete tonight.
- Feb. 11. Joanie sick, so we didn't go to Pelham. To Nortons again  
Sat. for coffee.
- Feb. 12. A very quiet day. In bed till noon, when we bestirred  
Sun. ourselves to call for Merian. Delos up earlier washing his  
basement and we went on a prow for Zinc Suphate. Heard  
Beethoven's Enrica Symphony today. And Charlie McCarthy  
(sublime to ridiculous) tonight. Merian making Valentines.  
Very happy. Ate her supper at little table downstairs.
- Feb. 13. A blue day (bills) but spring like out of doors. I worked  
Mon. this morning and this afternoon Stella and Merian and I  
took a wqk. Air balmy. Not a grain of snow. Both daffodils  
and crocuses are up all around our house. Delossy so tired  
tonight. Emma phoned late that Roy's brother Neal had died  
and she and Roy were flying to Alabama.
- Feb. 14. Such a happy Valentine's Day. Morning with Valentines all  
Tues. over our table & Gertrude's and Stella's tray. Those little  
family festivals are sweet - worth all the worry of income  
earnings and income stretching. How happy we were! Delos &  
I later paced about our basement planning decorations.  
Ground covered with hoar frost, and at seven the sun a great  
red ball in the east. Mrs. Hertell gave a Valentine's tea  
to which Mother & I invited. Gertrude made a little party  
for Merian & Hope. Mother got a big bouquet of violets and  
roses from Minnesota and all of us happy.
- Feb. 15. I to town tonight with D. to a first night, Tallulah Bank-  
Wed. head in The Little Foxes. I needed the change and enjoyed  
it. Delos & I talked over my routine and decided on a new  
one.

- Feb. 16. Delos taking a holiday today and tomorrow. Resting, painting  
Thurs. in the basement. Dodie drove mother and me to town today. I called on Nan and Blanche and then used Emma's ticket to Walkerie. Heard Flagstad, Melchior and Rethburg. It was divine. The fire rising at the end. Merian inspired by my account of it, read the 4 Ring Operas. I wish she could hear them.
- Feb. 17. Delos visited Merian's school today. He is enjoying his rest  
Fri. and painting like mad. Saw 3 or 4 flickers, puffed out with cold, on our back lawn.
- Feb. 18. Shopping for the weekend. Delos working with his beloved  
Sat. aluminum paint. Merian out playing and calling on Hertells. Two nursery men trimming our maple. Heard Tristan on the radio today and Toscanini playing an all Sibelins program tonight.
- Feb. 19. Spring birds this morning. I don't know what they are. But  
Sun. there are numbers of robins and song sparrows about. Sounded mighty sweet. Day was so mild, Delos, Merian and I put peat moss on our crocuses and daffs which are way, way up. All the Nortons over for supper tonight. A very happy time. Heard about Allen's recipe for happiness. He lives one day at a time, does a kindness for someone every day before noon, and divides his life to get work, rest, exercise and play into every day.
- Feb. 20. It rained in the night but is clearing this morning. A yellow  
Mon. blur in the cloudy east, where sun is coming thru. Air mild and tender. Our trees are budding, spring is in the air.

Feb. 21. Gertrude told us about this, but not in time to have pan-  
Tues. cakes. Must do it next year. Quiet balmy day. Chloris Hertell in for coffee and D. & I and the Nortons to church supper tonight. Merian & Priscilla & Barbara and the fend with Hugh.

## Celebrating Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Bell Still Rings in Some Parts of England—  
Appropriate Recipes.

By EDITH M. BARBER.

For centuries the week before the beginning of the Lenten season has been celebrated in many countries with a gay carnival. In our own New Orleans, the Mardi Gras fete is the gayest period of the year.

Visitors fill the hotels to overflowing and enjoy the fun either as onlookers or as participants. Even after a century and more, Mardi Gras in an American city carries out many of the traditions brought from Europe by the Spanish and French settlers.

In some parts of Europe Shrove Tuesday, the day before the beginning of Lent, rather than the whole week, is celebrated as a holiday. The pancake bell still rings at noon in some places in England to signal that the time has come for con-

suming these cakes which for some long forgotten reason are associated with the day. According to an old custom the first six pancakes were set aside.

"The pancakes made of milk and beer  
Are made for no one present here;  
There's one for Peter, two for Paul  
And three for Him who made us all."

In Holland and Germany, doughnuts or fritters, known as fast-night cakes, replace the pancakes.

Feb. 22. Rain and snow and blow today with sun peeking out now and  
Wed. then. But it didn't peek much. Mother & Merian took short dashes out, but I stayed in until late afternoon (was writing review of an excellent book, "The Stricklands.") To town on 5.10 and Broadway was bitterly windy and cold. Met Roy and Emma and Lea for dinner Chez Luica. Merian these days is wrapped up in her Animal Town.

Feb. 23. Cold but fair. Yesterday's snow spotty on the ground.  
Thurs.

Feb. 24. Merian nauseated & having diarrreaha all day. We hated to  
Fri. keep our dinner date with Michies, but as she quieted down we finally went, late in the afternoon. Cold, bitter wind.

Feb. 25. Merian still nauseated and running a low temp. She un-  
Sat.

doubtedly has intestinal flu. Mother and I on a 10<sup>00</sup>  
store shopping bat a while today and Delos & I over to  
Nortons for bridge tonight; After Merian asleep.

Feb. 26. An anxious Sunday with Merian still sick. She slept off.  
Sun.

and on. Was nauseated. Dr. Breed prescribed the follow-  
ing treatment: a laxative (1 tbsp. Agarol) plenty of water,  
fruit juice and tomato juice as her body, he says, is pro-  
bably badly dehydrated.  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. soda, bicarb, twice a day  
or else 5 gr. capsules of same, 2 of them, twice a day.  
Poor little lambie. Mother had made Delos a big spice  
cake, so we had Elmer and Dodie in, and heard about Cuba.  
A rainy day & we built up a big fire to cheer ourselves.  
Stars out, tho, when we went to bed.

Feb. 27. Following all the doctors instructions & our baby recover-  
Mon.

ing slowly from her intestinal flu. Joined Delos in town  
to go to Graves for dinner. Anagrams.

Feb. 28. Mother & I to town tonight to hear Flagstad in recital.  
Tues.

Marvellously as she sings, it is her personality which  
affects me most. So free, radiant and joyous. Her child-  
like bobbed curtsies, her smiling pleasure in our applause.  
She sang an operatic group. Some German Lieder, some Strauss  
& some Norwegian songs which she obviously adored singing.  
Merian better.

MARCH

- Mar. 1. Merian better. Delos and I drove down to call on Jackie.  
Wed.
- Mar. 2. Gertrude's day off. Mother made spareribs-sauerkraut  
Thurs. dinner and Jackie came to help eat it. Helen and Pete in for cocktails. Merian up and dressed today.
- Mar. 3. Worked on LTB. Merian went to school, the darling. To town  
Fri. on 5:10, Walked to Country Life Press, missed train, took bus to Mineola and got another one. A good party at Partons. An associated Press foreign correspondent and a Spanish refugee doctor and his wife made good talk. 2 snowdrops up in Mrs. Clarke's lawn and a bunch of purple crocuses, an orange crocus at Hertells. Merian furious because we held ours back. Heard spring birds this morning.
- Mar. 4. Mother, Merian and Gertrude saw us off to Wilton at 11. We  
Sat. reached her at 1. Talked story all the way. Conn. not so springlike as L.I. But oh so beautiful and Sternes house so sweet. Such a happy day with firelight, talk, Chinese Checkers, grand food and drinks, bridge. ~~and~~ Ann & Babs here too. Heard Brahms Fourth on phonograph.
- Mar. 5. Woke in our ground floor room, looking out upon brown woods,  
Sun. flashes of green pine, the new stone wall, rain. (during the night it was fun to wake and look out into fog.) Read Address Unknown. Had breakfast in bed and talked over Emma's book, D & R out in rain after mulch. Went to Westbury, to the Dunne's for cocktails. Back to Sternes for Sunday dinner. Started home, driving Babs, about 3.

- Mar. 6. Midge's birthday. Worked on my birds. Helen Norton in for  
Mon. coffee. Delos came home so tired he went straight to bed  
and had dinner there. Chinese Checkers. A high wind outside.
- Mar. 7. Sunny this morning altho we had a high cold wind last night.  
Tues. Merian at breakfast asking for a rope on which she can play  
Tarzan crosses the River, pleading to go without ski pants.  
Crocuses before budding, look like little bundles of brown  
straws. Mother, Merian and I to Children's service at church.
- Mar. 8. Hope here with Merian as Helen in town. They played out of  
- Wed. doors. Our daffs almost ready to bud. Yellow crocuses on  
Mrs. Symington's yard & circling the Hertel's tree & purple  
crocuses by Mrs. Clarke's door. Merian dreamed that we had  
an orange crocus by our front door & I dreamed (strangely  
enough) that we had a purple one beside the terrace.
- Mar. 9. Delossy at home, in bed with sinus. Snow, a light one, gone  
Thurs. by noon. Mrs. Symington's yellow crocuses lifting thru the  
snow. Delos Batt very ill with peritonitis and pneumonia.
- Mar. 10. Delossy still in bed & Gertrude sick also from hair dressers  
Fri. yesterday. Merian playing indoors & out with Jumper, Tiddles  
and the red-headed doll. Mother and I to Brooklyn tonight  
to hear Boston Symphony. Beethoven's seventh, always a  
great experience. An icy wind in Brooklyn. D read Love Lies  
Bleeding and likes it.

Mar. 11. Heard in the night that Delos Batt had died. Had known  
Sat. he was seriously ill. It is such a tragic death, he so young  
and Grace so sick. Busy this morning with Merian's church  
school bake sale. Mother made a cake for it and Merian  
Marguerites. Delos bought a rope for her and put it on our  
maple. 4 p.m. snowing. World white now. Snow blowing down  
off Clarke's roof and away in wraithlike swirls. Michies  
coming to dinner. They are going abroad and we are to have  
their radio in their absence.

Mar. 12. Woke up to find the world wrapped in snow, sugar snow-  
Sun. glazed surface. The branches and twigs of trees and shrubs  
were sheathed in ice. Our shrubs and the dogwood bent so  
low that we were worried. Delos waded out and removed the  
icy stockings, which sheathed the twigs. Merian to Sunday  
School and back but except for that were quiet all day.  
Working on income tax. Heard Schnoble play Emperor concerto  
on radio.

Mar. 14. Mother & I & Merian to Cathedral. Childrens Lenten Service.  
Tues. Liberia.

Mar. 15. Helen drove us, Mother, Merian, Hope and me, into town to  
Wed. the flower show. Mother went to Waldorf Astoria while we  
wandered through the flower show, blissfully. All ate at  
Automat & the rest came on home while I met Delos, had  
dinner at Wannamakers, looked at pianos and went on to  
Brooklyn Academy to hear the Roth String Quartette. Lovely  
fragile music.

Mar. 16. Helen in for coffee. A beautiful sunset with bars of dove  
Thurs. grey cloud across the west.

- Mar. 17. A rope Delos put up for Merian is attracting children in  
Fri. unbelievable hordes. Trampling on lawn and Merian got kicked  
in the eye! Fun, though. To town, bought a new print  
dress, had dinner with Delos at Chez Luia & saw "Awake and  
Sing." My first clifford Odets. It was sad.
- Mar. 18. All of us to Pelham today to see the Shobers. Cold but clear.  
Sat. A regular old home week in Pelham, cocktails first with  
Dunphys. They still have snow there. Delossy took the rope  
down this morning. Merian suggested that he do so, and put  
a cord and posts around our lawn till it is grown. Saw  
robins today on our way to Pelham.
- Mar. 19. Sunny but cold. Delossy had to go down to write Lem Parton's  
Sun. column. Michies & all of us, including Merian to have tea  
with Nan at O'Connor estate in Roslyn. Four dogs, trout, a  
pheasant. It was fun for Merian and fun for all of us to  
have an elaborate tea before the fire. Michies here to have  
supper and to listen to Charley McCarthy.
- Mar. 20. Robins on our own lawn. Merian to play with Priscilla after  
Mon. school. European news very grave and all of us alarmed.
- Mar. 21. Merian in bed with a temp. Yellow crocuses in bloom all  
Tues. around house. One yellow one by the door and Merian said  
"Don't you remember how I dreamed that one was coming?" Delos  
and I in to the Academy tonight to hear Enesco, violinist.

- Mar. 22. Merian better. I am back at Betsy-Tacy. A low temp. continues,  
Wed. however. Out walking today (it's sunny, but air is like ice.)  
Saw and heard many spring birds, especially around Mrs. Sym-  
ington's. One little song sparrow, flying with a beak full of  
grass. Another singing so jubilantly, from a shrub near her  
door.
- Mar. 23. And this morning her feet and buttocks are broken out with  
Thurs. something like hives. Some allergy, no doubt! But what?  
Helen Norton and Dodie in for coffee.
- Mar. 24. Jimmie Langrees of Minneapolis & Jackie here for supper. No  
Fri. work.
- Mar. 25. Our first day of spring. It was warm, divine. Two daffodils  
Sat. in front of our house will blossom any minute. Crocuses in  
bloom beside our driveway and all around our house. D & I &  
sometimes Mother driving madly around to buy lawn seed and  
tools. Delos working on the lawn. At Nortons tonight but  
he and Pete too tired to play pingpong. Merian well & able  
to be out.
- Mar. 26. Delos dug rose holes. Hertells were out too & Chlorice walked  
Sun. with me around our shrubs looking for signs of life in the  
ones that seemed dead to me. She thinks they are all alive.  
Lilacs are budding & also some of the shrubs Motts put in.  
Her dogwood has little buttons on it which will be blossoms.  
This afternoon D & I to Michies to bring back the beautiful  
radio-phonograph we were storing for them while they are in  
Europe. Mother meanwhile baked rolls and coffee cake.

Mar. 27. Overcast. A few raindrops spattered as we were at breakfast.

Mon.

Went out to the terrace. A pair of robins on our lawn; singing, too. When Delos started off, we followed him to door.

The clusters of crocuses are like little nasegays around the front of the house. Now the robin is in our bare maple.

Spring like moist feeling. Oculist, Optician. Grey sent me K. Cornell's book for review.

Mar. 28. Pouring rain this morning. Delos said at breakfast that he wished he had the day off. He would put on his raincoat and

Tues.

plant his grass seed in the rain. A big shiny robin poking into the puddles on our back lawn. I'm not supposed to be using my eyes, so will stop. How we are enjoying the phonograph. Merian likes best The Mikado. Prelude to Rhinegold.

Ride of the Valkeries.

Mar. 29. Finished the K. Cornell biog. but could do no more. Eyes. This

Wed.

afternoon took Merian out on roller skates. Daffs & crocuses make a yellow rim around front of our house. Delos home at 5:30 and immediately out at his lawn and shrubs. Barbara & Allen moved today. Left apartment, stored furniture, are off to Washington tomorrow & then Europe. Came here for farewell dinner. Very late. Played favorite records over to say goodbye.

Mar. 30. Rain but during breakfast played Beethoven's Coriolanus Overture twice and the Rhinegold Prelude. (The latter for Merian.)

Mar. 31. In Hempstead on a ten cent store bat. Mother & I had such  
 Fri. fun getting Easter things, and so on. Had coffee there &  
 shopped for our weekend, but Roy has a cold and Sternes  
 aren't coming. D. & I to Brooklyn tonight. Heard Konsseirt-  
 ski Conduct the Boston Symphony again. Loved it. Thought  
 of Genie when flutist took a bow after Afternoon of a  
 Fawn.

APRIL

- Apr. 1  
Sat. The four of us drove to Hicks at Westbury and bought two rose bushes. New Dawn. They are very small but are supposed, eventually to cover our side wall with glory. Delos digging and working around the beds. A quiet day by ourselves & Beethoven's Fifth in the evening. Merian at little Eileen's party.
- Apr. 2.  
Sun. Mother and I to church for Palm Sunday. Wind, icy cold. But world so lovely with crocuses in bloom. Yellow crocuses & daffs all around our threshold. Tonight the Leslie's came for supper and we had the loveliest time, playing records, eating sandwiches, cake and coffee, the children drawing and playing games.
- Apr. 3.  
Mon. To Hempstead, all of us, to buy an Easter hat for Merian. G. keeps mother and I waiting  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour while she looks at pianos, (for and with Merian). She is a card. Cold. A raw wind. But our crocuses and daffs make a yellow rim around the house.
- Apr. 4.  
Tues. Merian in bed with a snuffle. All of us so worried about Thursday when she has a date to go to town with the Leslie's. She amused herself today by making up a play. "The Crazy Gardner." Two gardeners are working in a garden and one drops a water can on the other one's toe and he goes crazy. He runs around and acts crazy but the lady of the house (that's me) won't believe he's crazy. That is the end of Act 1. In the 2nd act he is planting crocuses in the snow and he catches a cold & sneezes & he thinks it is a gun going off. So he gets a gun & shoots "Bang, Bang, Bang." But still I won't believe he's crazy. And so on. In the last act he jumps off the Empire State and then she believes he is crazy. Cold. Geo. Hertell to dinner.

- Apr. 5. Merian improving. Mother & I to town to see Mr. & Mrs. Vernon  
Wed. Castle (Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers) at the Music Hall.
- Apr. 6. Merian left at 8 with the Leslie's and got home after dinner  
Thurs. tonight. They went to the Metropolitan Museum and when rain  
prevented their going on to Central Park Eliz. took them to  
the circus.
- Apr. 7. Merian & I to Good Friday service this morning. Emma arrived  
Fri. this afternoon at 5 bringing a pine tree to Merian for an  
Easter present and a hyacinth for mother. We had such a  
happy dinner and evening with the Sternes. But I am always  
dreading their leaving (like a parent with children home  
for the holiday.)
- Apr. 8. Priscilla and a little friend in to help us color eggs,  
Sat. after Roy and Emma left.
- Apr. 9. Up at 5 to see what the bunny had left. Our Niel window was  
Sun. picture with the big green nest full of eggs, the bunny &  
so forth. Breakfast tables, too, both Gertrude's and ours.  
We went to early church and came home through a brief rain.,  
snow storm. Coffee at Nortons. Graves in to call afterwards.  
Italians have taken Albania and we all reading up on Albania  
all day.
- Apr. 10. Merian saw her first stage show tonight. The Leslie's took  
Mon. their Marion and we took our Merian in to the Brooklyn  
Academy to hear The Mikado.
- Apr. 11. Dearett & Hope to dinner. Merian roller skating, sofa jump-  
Tues. ing. Our roses, budding (the leaves, of course) Flowers on  
our honeysuckle. Flowering prune (down the street) in bloom  
since Friday.

Apr. 12. Sunny these days but the air like ice. Yellow daffs, yellow  
Wed. and purple & striped crocuses in bloom all around our house.  
and terrace. I went out early to coddle my bleeding heart,  
transplanted from Pelham, and just showing reddish brown  
leaves above the ground. Working all day on (until 12:45  
tonight) my book review of the New Louis 16 biography.  
Sunset noteworthy. Heavy clouds edged with gold and the  
sinking sun sending up rays in a semicircle.

Apr. 13. To town after a busy morning for a busy afternoon of shop-  
Thurs. ping. Assisted Irmengarde at a pleasant cocktail party.  
Delos & I to bed as soon as we reached home, so tired.  
Mother & Merian had gone with the Leslies to see A Little  
Princess. European situation threatening. Mrs. Clarke's  
forsythia distinctly yellow; ours beginning to be yellow.

Apr. 14. A new bird call in the early morning. Three notes and an  
Fri. ascending trill but not the song sparrows. Nan & Joan came  
out with Delos to dinner. Joan and Merian bolted upstairs  
together and started to play furiously.

Apr. 15. At noon today Merian (who had complained during the morn-  
Sat. ing of a cold) seemed ill & I took her into our room and  
put her to bed. She had a temp of 101 and seemed to have a  
faint rash but we couldn't be sure. Shobers came, as  
planned; had dinner and took Joan home.

- Apr. 16. Our baby has scarlet fever! When we woke this morning we  
Sun. found her fiery red with a just perceptible rash which was rapidly deepening. Dr. Breed came and said that combined with sore throat, earache and fever it was certainly scarlet fever and we rushed her off to the hospital. Meadowbrook the only one which receives scarlet fever patients. We have been over there three times today, can talk to her through a window. She was perfectly willing to go to the hospital seemed interested and happy. We have taken her a little toy dog, some flowers from our own garden, and are going to write to her and see her every day.
- Apr. 17. Warmer and very sunny and springlike. Delos & I out on the  
Mon. terrace to look around and wished Merian could see everything.
- Apr. 18. I see Merian twice a day and take letters, clippings, and  
Tues. small gifts. Today she asked for crayons. She is moved into the ward, with a 3-year-old boy named Arthur. Looks so sweet, her braids neat, a clean bathrobe. She seems happy and interested.
- Apr. 19. Pouring rain. So dismal and our house seems so gloomy. Took  
Wed. Merian a begonia plant. Mother & I put on our pretty robes and had a grate fire to cheer Delossy, who needed cheering. Dale and Gene won't stay with us next week.
- Apr. 20. Sunshine at last, so we feel better. Took Merian the usual  
Thurs. letter and small gift. Gertrude out so I could only go once. Mother feeling badly. Most of our daffs are out. Forsythia makes golden barricades all over Garden City. Mrs. Clarke is putting out pansies. I am working on Betsy-Tacy.

- Apr. 21. And still sunshine, tho' not very warm. But many trees  
Fri. show a thin green, forsythia glitters, daffs are every-  
where. Worked out with Mrs. Clarke, who sent Merian a  
snow white doll. Merian seemed well and happy when I saw  
her. Mother sent her a plant.
- Apr. 22. Delos & I working on lawn a bit. Saw Merian twice. Nannine's  
Sat. & Don ignored our scarlet fever and barged in.
- Apr. 23. A glorious day D & I in bed until noon. Over to see Mer-  
Sun. ian twice. Intern spent on lawn (I was working on Merian's  
garden.) Took M. a spray of flowering crab, red flower buds  
& a spray of forsythia (it is blazing gold all over Garden  
City). Our maple tree has fat, very fat, green buds, cluster  
of little leaves, in brown shells. Honeysuckle bush & lilac  
both just bursting into leaf. Willows covered with green.  
Chloris home.
- Apr. 24. Took Merian my birthday cake. Mother made it, it looked  
Mon. darling. Rainy and cold.
- Apr. 25. I was sick abed but mother went to town early to meet Dale &  
Tues. Gene for Radio City Music Hall. I joined them at 6:15 for  
supper. A very warm day. Two boys so good looking. Dale very  
poised, old for his age. Gene young for his age but growing  
tall, fine carriage with broad shoulders & small waist.  
Bright red pompadour & bright smile. Boys so happy, people  
turned on Broadway to look at them. We took them to Chez  
Luia for dinner & then sent them to see Outward Bound. Mother,  
D & I walked down Broadway thru theatre crowds. When I got  
home found more flowers than I ever saw in my life. A tub-  
ful from Sternes. Got a poem & handkie from Gertrude & a  
handkie from H. Shober & the beautiful silver coffee pot from  
D. A happy birthday. Saw Merian just a few minutes. Getting  
on finely.

Apr. 26. Dale & Gene & the McCarneys to coffee in the rain.

Wed.

Apr. 27. G took me over to Merian early as she went off duty early.

Thurs. Merian is opening a parcel a day from Helen Bartnett and so happy with 2 new children in the ward. Mother got dinner tonight and I almost finished Betsy Tacy.

April. 28. Too cold to enjoy it, but world at most enchanting stage.

Fri.

Fruit trees in bloom, magnolias, etc. Trees a light green fluff. Gardens gay. Delos & I over to the Conants. Like them. Saw Merian very late today as car was being repaired and could only take a moment in the rain, but she was happy with the other children. Her class wrote her letters. Finished Betsy Tacy.

Apr. 29. Called on our baby at the hospital and then drove down the

Sat.

winding sweet old road to Oyster Bay where G & Mother left us at the ferry. Crossing took 2 hours. Boat old. Very clean. Little white-painted salon with red oil cloth covered tables. Warm enough so that we could sit out & Delos stretched out in sun & slept. Sternes met us. Their garden - bright blue hyacinths & yellow crocuses and pansies in raw new garden. Wall about it. Taking shape. In woods, yellow bellzoin bushes and the flowers, hepaticas, trilliums, (red and white) tiny white violets. Tightly rolled ferns. Had a heavenly ramble. Guessts for cocktails, dinner and bridge.

Sleeping in Barbara's room with garden clean in the moonlight.

Apr. 30. Breakfast in bed, with Emma, in pants, for company. She had been

Sun.

out planting. Sunny, glorious. Now Tillinghack & Bosworths are coming to initiate the tennis court. Name Eunice. We saw the Bs and the Ts, played tennis, ate lunch and were off for home again. All had gone well here.

MAY

May 1. Forget the day except that we went to Leslie's this evening  
Mon. to call on Elizabeth's mother.

May 2. Finished Betsy Tacy. From Steinbeck's "Grapes of Wrath",  
Tues. Desc. of Tom's mother. "Her full face was not soft.; it was controlled, kindly. Her hazel eyes seemed to experienced all possible tragedy and to have mounted pain and suffering like steps into a high calm and a superhuman understanding. She seemed to know, to accept, to welcome her position, the citadel of the family, the strong place that could not be taken. And since old Tom and the children could not know hurt or fear unless she acknowledged hurt and fear, she had practiced denying them in herself. And since, when a joyful thing happened, they looked to see whether joy was on her it was her habit to build up laughter out of inadequate materials. But better than joy was calm. Imperturbability could be depended upon. And from her great and humble position in the family she had taken dignity and a clean calm beauty. From her position as healer, her hands had grown sure and cool and quiet. From her position as arbiter she had become as remote and faultless in judgement as a goddess. She seemed to know that if she swayed the family shock, and if she ever really deeply wavered or despaired the family would fall, the family will to function would be gone.

May 4. We go daily or twice daily to see Merian. Today mother and I  
Thurs. to town after our call. Bought her a housecoat and mother a corset.

- May 5. Merian came home today. Chloris Hertell drove me over to  
Fri. get her when the hospital telephoned (much to our surprise) and said she was dismissed. She was being bathed and washed when I got there. I got in to help her dry her hair and was glad to get my hands on her. Mother and Gertrude had a welcome sign on the door and her room looking lovely, filled with flowers, all the dolls and animals in gala attire. Merian was happy I think but tried not to show it.
- May 6. Merian is a semi-invalid. Takes rests twice a day. But Dr.  
Sat. Breed who called this morning said she could get up and dressed. She looks sweet in the housecoat. She has a pile of unopened presents. Is opening one daily. D & I off on a batt to the World's Fair today. It is beautiful. We tramped gay endless miles. Ate cold pancakes in Norwegian Pavilion. Drank tea in Jap. Pavilion. Saw Billy Rose's Aquacade.
- May 7. Still tired from the fair.  
Sun.
- May 8. Now the glory of our street is the crimson azalea in bloom  
Mon. in front of every house. I want lots of it. How Merian is enjoying working with her garden and sifting dirt for a second bed, destined for lily of the valley and tiger lilies. Heard the Duke of Windsor broadcast tonight. King and Queen of England on the water.
- May 9. To Nortons to coffee, mother & I. Saw their garden which is at its loveliest. Apple trees in bloom. Tulips & grape hyacinth & Virginia Bells & all sorts of lovely flowers in bloom in their border. D, Mother & I listened to Information Please and it was quite amusing.

May 10. Mrs. Clarke took Mother, Merian and me this beautiful day  
Wed/ on a trip to Oyster Bay. Past the big estates, along the sound, where Merian gathered stones and to see the entrance to Sagamore Hill, the Roosevelt grave and bird sanctuary. Pink and white dogwood in bloom everywhere. How beautiful they are against the dark cedars! The daffs are gone but the tulips in full glory. Lilacs are beginning to bud. Noted an estate named the Chimneys. Nice? Saw catbirds, chickadees.

May 11. Mrs. Clarke sent lilacs in to mother, which was nice as  
Thurs. she was having her bridge foursome in today. Our honeysuckle bush is showing small pink flowers. Merian's painted daisies budding. Merian has quite a garden and every evening all of us enthusiastically water, garden, shrubbery and lawn. Told Gertrude that I was letting her go (yesterday) She was very much upset. Tho' I explained that it was only because I was not going to keep a maid at all for a while. I offered her three weeks notice and a vacation with pay. But she is weeping about. It is harrowing.

May. 12. Walked to town after work today. Stewart Ave. so beautiful.  
Fri. Azaleas in bloom everywhere, tulips, dogwood. We are sprinkling the lawn every night with fine new sprinkler. The sunsets are so lovely. Strips of white along the west change to bright pink, sometimes. We see it from the Oriel window.

May 13. Delos & I to a party at Nortons. Their garden so lovely with  
Sat. tulips, creamy white, red, pink, gold. Virginia bells. The early phlox. Grape hyacinth, pansies, etc.etc. Jack and her sister & the Conants at the party. Gertrude left (surreptitiously) tonight.

- May 14. Mrs. Hertell putting out petunias. All of us skittering  
Sun. about doing things to our lawns and gardens. This afternoon Merian made her re-entrance into social life in a garden party at Nortons. The Leslie's there too. We all talked heatedly about Grapes of Wrath. D. & I for it, the rest, except for the Leslie's, against it without reading it.
- May 15. I packed Gertrude's things this morning and her sister came  
Mon. for them this afternoon. She has met, (Gertrude) nothing but kindness in this house and she showed nothing but kindness until now. It's too bad she should leave in this way. But she seemed to take it as a personal insult that I had decided to try to do my own work. Merian, darling, back to school. Delos painting the trellises tonight.
- May 16. Try to order and simplify your life. All the wrong things  
Tues. you do are from your being tired. Try not to get tired and yet to do your duty. Keep yourself and your home and your work all ordered and the atmosphere serene. You can do it if you don't get tired and you can keep from getting tired only by eliminating and by systematizing. Worked on birds. Dearett and Mother off to a movie and all back here for coffee. Miss Heilker came tonight to tell us about Merian's camp.
- May 17. In bed reading Helen Hull's Frost Flower, writing on birds.  
Wed. Merian came in from school, so sweet with her blue kerchief on her head, climbed on my bed and after her usual pause told me that they were learning "Men of Hale etc" in school Aunt Jessie is back and asked us to dinner, but I didn't feel able to go, so Delossy is going alone. And Mother, Merian and I will be by ourselves. Frost Flower is a good novel.

- May 19. Delos & I drove to Hackneys for dinner. In gala mood but  
Fri. little Terraplane acted up. Leaked water and smoked and we thought we'd never get there, or home again.
- May 20. We got ready for Bartnetts today. Polished up house and also  
Sat. Delossy drove us to a nursery and we got lilies of the valley and petunias (which we set out around our tree in front) Barts lost their way and arrived very late. Just in time to avoid a thunderstorm. We had a chicken dinner and some bridge and they took movies of our house. We are looking at cars.
- May 21. More looking at cars. Chicken dinner, re-heated, on the  
Sun. terrace. Lots of fun. The Conants over tonight for talk, bridge, coffee and music. A beautiful time.
- May 22. Delos at home today.  
Mon.
- May 24. Mother & I to town on a bat, with arrangements made to send  
Tues. Merian to Nortons. It was a lovely day. We had lunch at Wanamakers and then went to see Judith Anderson in Family Portrait (a study of the family of Jesus). It was a memorable performance. So good of Delos to get us the tickets.
- May 25. Mother went over to have coffee with Dearest this afternoon.  
Thurs. Delos home early to take Merian to the Cathedral.
- May 26. Working this morning. Down to interview Miss Dunne this after-  
Fri. noon. Merian has the mentality of a child of 13 (and Miss Dunne loves her, which is more important.) But she is dreamy and won't work at arithmetic. I talked with her and she promised to improve. Mrs. Clarke in for coffee. D & I out for a walk tonight. Development looks so pretty. Snowballs, bridal wreath, weigelia in bloom.

May 27. Merian off to Sunday school picnic with Priscilla. 6000 children,  
Sat.

dren, all the Episcopalian children of Long Island, marched and were reviewed by the Bishop, had an open-air service and (Merian's group) picnicked in the Dean's garden. It was a perfect day. I wrote on P.I. review and watered lawn. Delos worked today but when he got home he clipped our hedge. We have a little bridal wreath in bloom. Bridge with Nortons tonight.

May 28. Merian read the lesson in Sunday school. Stella and I went in  
Sun.

to hear her. She read it beautifully (of course) and looked so sweet in a blue pique dress and white straw hat with ribbons. Later a strange little boy got up and said that no one had ever read the lesson as well as that little girl. Delosy dieting. The rest of us at on trays and as it was very warm, rooms dimmed. I finished review of Prince Imperial. A divine sunset flooded west with gold. Garden City white and pink with bridal wreath and weigelia.

May 29. Breakfast on the terrace, Merian in her little housecoat,  
Mon.

the perc. bubbling and perfuming the air, and the morning sky a deep blue with thin rows of clouds and the sun breaking thru. Bouquet of blue lupin and pink painted daisies from Merian's garden, our rhododendron budded. Azalea gone.

May 30. We had a lovely holiday. It was warm but pleasant. Delos  
Tues.

spread mel - or ganite all day. Then went to a polo match with Elmer. The McCartneys here for a picnic supper. Dodie's potato salad with cold ham, fresh rolls, ice cream and cake, all of which mother had made.

May 31. Good news from our Minnesota investments which I telephoned  
Wed. to Delos. We had a very hot day. Mary hear cleaning under  
mother's direction. I was typing. Merian came in swelter-  
ing and had to go back to school in afternoon. Delos typ-  
ing tonight while Mother, Merian and I watered, inspected  
new rosebuds, planted lettuce, Mrs. Clarke gave Merian, etc.  
I typed for Delos until 12:30.

JUNE

- June 1. Finished typing second copy Betsy-Tacy. Mother and Dodie off Thurs. to dentist but back to lunch. Lazy afternoon. This evening watering and weeding. Tiger lilies budding. Our fringe tree and rhododendron blooming and a pinkish shrub which looks like lilac. Merian convulsed us with a rendition of Poddy McGinty's Goat which she intends to sing at the Sunday School stunt night. Our roses budding.
- June 2. Terrific excitement tonight as Delos's copy Wins with Elliott Fri. Roosevelt and he is asked to write material for his broadcast for 13 weeks and perhaps stay on a year with him. He had dinner with E. R. tonight. So happy and so proud of him.
- June 3. Merian to Nat.Hist.Museum. New blue and white chair came Sat. from Wanamakers. I sat there most of the afternoon (morning in bed with a headache) Stella went over to see Dearest who isn't well and Merian told me about the story of Lucy, the cat queen. Our French lilac and buddleia in bloom. Mrs. Clarke sent over roses and Merian has vases filled with painted daisies. Delossy home late. Had been to hear Elliott R. rehearse. We listened in at 7:15 and D's copy sounded swell. Bridge with Nortons.
- June 4. A lovely day. Delos aluminum painting chairs and writing Sun. Roosevelt copy. Mother and I cooking and me lying out in my new blue & white chair. Merian (who has a touch of her asthma) gardening & playing about. Mrs. Clarke sent in 3 beautiful red roses. What roses they grown on Long Island! D is going to take his vacation in order to write E.R's stuff. Begins Tuesday.

- June 5. Merian off to picnic at Mrs. Wlash's. I am cleaning desk and  
Mon. bureau, getting laundry off, etc. before D's vacation tomorrow.  
Mother & I to Garden City on a shopping orgy. Went to get a  
gingham suit and came home with a black sheer and stunning  
white mesc. jacket. M's account of the picnic hilarious. She  
is in bed now. Delos painting terrace furniture in basement  
and Mrs. Conant's mother to call.
- June 6. Merian to see Dr. Breed who finds her in perfect condition.  
Tues. She loved the old spacious Garden City Hotel. D talking to  
White House all very exciting. Broadcast came over beauti-  
fully tonight & D's copy sounded magnificent.
- June 7. D & I to town on his business. Called on Aunt Jessie. Mock  
Wed. orange in bloom. Merian these days tells me a story endless-  
ly. It concerns King Callie & Queen Suzy. Once when I could-  
n't listen she said, "But there isn't any story when you  
can't listen!" The typical author's plaint.
- June 8. Merian and I just breakfasted on the terrace. So cool and  
Thurs. quiet. D. already pounding his typewriter. Mother, Merian,  
Delos & I to the World's Fair. Drove out at 3 o'clock. Delos  
arranged for special passes and we saw the Gen. Motors  
Futurama, the Perisphere. Had supper at Toffoneth's and Mother  
& Merian explored the Swedish Pavilion while we listened to  
"our" broadcast. Then saw the Acquade and the Polish Ballet  
and the fireworks. Home at midnight.
- June 9. Delossy to town. With his script which I helped him type.  
Fri. Merian told her class all about the World's Fair. All of us  
tired and to bed at 9.

- June 10. Got the white furniture with blue cushions out on the porch.  
Sat. Dodged in with the blue cushions whenever it tried to shower. Dashed about with Delossy looking at cars. Mary came for a half day's cleaning & Dearest came to dinner. Nortons for bridge. The young Hertells took our tickets and went to see the King & Queen. Their car flew past at 40 miles an hour so they didn't see much. Roses bright red and so theatrical looking climbing up houses. Peonies gorgeous.
- June 11 Up at 9 after a restful sleep. It is going to be warm. Mer-  
Sun. ian and I breakfasted on the terrace. Next door neighbors spraying peonies and roses. Now we are hastily wrapping packages for Father's day. Delos and I to a party at Leslies. Strawberry shortcake in their garden. Remember their vibamum bushes. The birds like them.
- June 12. Delos & I car shopping to town and to Floral Park and finally  
Mon. jubiantly bought a beautiful maroon colored Hudson. It was a very hot day but we were happy. Tonight transplanted a spirea bush which Hertells gave us. Took dessert and coffee on the terrace. And later looked at the stars from that vantage point. Our neighbors lighted windows dotting the night landscape.
- June 13. The most vacationlike day we have had, altho Delos worked on  
Tues. his Roosevelt stuff. I washed Merian's hair this afternoon. D. took Mother to see the new car. Tonight out walking in the pretty development. Red roses climb in profusion up walls and trellises. Gardens are in their glory and trees green and thick. Merian has flowers on her calliopsis.

June 14. Rain in the night. This morning as Merian and I ate breakfast on our bespattered terrace, our neighbors out looking approvingly at drenched lawns and gardens. Mrs. Clarke brought us a handful of roses. Mott Bros. (nurserymen) putting in a Douglas Fir to replace the one which died. Car delivered at about one minute after six (which minute seemed half an hour long.) Hardens came to call just then, and after they left we all went for a joyful ride ending at Johnson's for hamburgers and cones.

June 15. Merian slept late after last night's excitement, so after breakfast on the terrace (in sight of all our neighbor's roses) we drove her to school in the big red car. We went to her school music program tonight. She sang in Men of Harlech and other choruses. Remember how Norton's wisteria persists in turning south.

June 16. D & I to a lovely dinner at the Conants. Met the Henneys. Like them all. Thomists & Thomison. Have I put down my anecdotes of two men gardeners, George Hertell won't go on vacation until his gladioli bloom. Mr. Symington wanting scarlet Paul roses over a garage door because they look so lovely in light of headlight when you drive car in at night.

June 17. Got away about 3 after a busy morning of putting house in  
Sat. order and packing. Over new airy Whitestone Bridge. Dropped  
Mother & Merian at Shobers. Joan & Merian off at once to  
the Sunday School picnic and D. & I in the beautiful new  
Hudson out the tree embowered Parkway. Emma's garden which  
comes up to the terrace windows bright with petunias, sweet  
William, pansies. Her herb bed now shows its plan. Smelled  
rue, fernel, etc. Cocktails on the terrace with its divine  
view over garden and hillside and dinner with Wennigs and  
Gelders. Silly games afterwards.

June 18. To the brook with Emma. To the vegetable garden for straw-  
Sun. berries, lettuce, radishes. Am & Bahs about. All in shorts  
or slacks. Lots of tennis. A big strawberry shortcake for  
lunch. Tonight and to a big party for Nannine at Lillian  
Laufferty's and James Wolfe's. And home. Remember La-  
Boetagner.

June 19. Merian in bed with a slight cold. Delos slept most of the  
Mon. day. Has dropped the Roosevelt job and is busy resting.  
Nan phoned with good news about Betsy Tacy. Rain. One of  
our roses in bloom, pale pink. Another almost. Emma sug-  
gests for our hedge 1- stagger the shrubs for thickness.  
2 use hemlock. Am. Cedar and any small trees among the  
shrubs. I want white birch and dogwoods only, pines at the  
corners.

June 20. D & I to town. To income tax bureau and to lunch with  
Tues. Aunt Jessie. Met a young pair from Hong Kong, the Hoades.  
They are sailing tomorrow on Queen Mary. Want to loan us  
"Finnegan's Wake."

- June 21. Merian to Shobers to celebrate Joanie's birthday and the rest of us to Bartnetts for dinner. Saw motion pictures of our house and selves.  
Wed.
- June 22. Shopping for Merian. Mother, Merian & I. It was very strenuous. Buying slacks (long pants which she will wear to Emmas) shorts, shirts, sweaters, socks, shoes, etc.etc.etc.  
Thurs.
- June 23. Merian home hot and beaming with promotion card and lovely letter from Miss Dunne. All of us to village. To the beach. We found a lovely part of Jones Beach where there is water edge parking. Clean white sand, not too big a crowd. Merian and Delos so happy.  
Fri.
- June 24. We drove to Connecticut today, arriving at Sternes for lunch. Roys sister there. Emma's garden so beautiful with herbs & old-fashioned flowers. We had lunch on terrace and after tennis the Smiths and Ramseys came for a picnic supper in woods. Merian had a blissful time. I reminded her softly to tell Emma and Roy that she had had a nice time "Which I had" Merian added emphatically (as tho' she often didn't.) She has a new phrase. "You said it."  
Sat.
- June 25. Merian over to have waffles with Hertells. Her "go-abroady" trunk stands in her room. I am busy getting it piled. She chose two books for camp. (She was limited to two\* Kiplings Just-so stories & "Real tales of Real Dogs."  
Sun.
- June 26. Darling Delossy's last day of vacation. Have I recorded Merian's comment about the Queen Suzy, KingCallie game? "That is my project for this summer. My first project was Mary Chick. Then came Greece. Then Loretta Young & now it's this." To the beach. Merian wearing Hope's bathing suit. Her trunk went today.  
Mon.

- June 27. Mother, Merian and I to World's Fair with Emma & Roy's sister.  
Tues. They came her first for second breakfast on our terrace. Delos  
back to work.
- June 28. Walked to the village today to let Dr. Breed examine Merian,  
Wed. and to cut Merian's braids. She looks darling with short  
hair. She was very much excited at having it cut and thrilled  
with her looks after it was done. Letter from Michies was  
followed by their arrival. They came back to take an apart-  
ment again. For Barbara finds she is going to have a baby,  
so she can't go to Europe with Allan. They are upset but  
happy.
- June 29. Michies will be staying with us for a few days. We are hav-  
Thurs. ing fun together & are very busy getting Merian ready for  
camp. Perfect weather, cool at night, altho warm during day.  
a Big moon.
- June 30. Raining this morning, the big day of Merian's first home-  
Fri. leaving. She decided to take her doll & Stella, at the last  
moment, sewed tags on all the doll clothes. Merian went to say  
goodbye to Clarkes and Hertells, her little white hat on the  
back of her head, big girl style, wearing a pink playsuit  
with button-on skirt. She & I to town. Got some ice cream and  
met campers at 3 O'Clock. She was talkative, keyed up, per-  
fectly happy tho. I felt sunk when she departed. Met my  
Delossy for dinner Chez Lina and "Leave it to Me."

JULY

- July 1. Delos went to work at 11 after a leisurely morning with Michies.  
Sat. I very busy all day getting ready for the weekend. Calliopsis in yellow groves around our neighbors yards. Our roses open shell pink, but fade to white. No birds these days but song sparrows, bless them! Lake Minnetonka property is actually sold at last. Rather "given away" but we are happy to have matter closed.
- July 2. A very full day. Breakfast on the terrace. Blanche here for  
Sun. dinner. Lots of music in the afternoon (Tchaikowsky's Fourth & Mozart's G Minor). Then we took Blanche for a ride and to the train and Barbara like a darling washed the dishes while I typed copy for Delos. It was a beautiful day & we all supposed frequently that Merian was having fun. A picnic supper is scheduled for Sunday evening. I believe. A big moon tonight. How lovely on her lake.
- July 3. The mornings & evenings are so cool here. It was positively  
Mon. crisp this morning as D & I sat on the terrace in the sunshine with our coffee. Our neighbors flower borders make bright rims to their lawns. We were planning our own hedge with gusto. Barbara drove Delos to the 7:10. Again a busy day getting ready for tomorrow. Michies have found an apartment. Hertells in tonight.
- July 4. Snap, crack, bang all day in the warm air. A gay dinner with  
Tues. shrimp & rice fixed by Barbara, salad by me & rolls by mother. It was Allan's birthday & later Nortons came in for birthday cake. Evening on terrace, how early it grows cool! Fireworks were blossoming in the air, their soft thud, from all our neighbors lawns.

- July 5. D & I breakfasted on the terrace in the divine stillness & coolness of early morning. Eastern sky held rows of white cloud and scattered bits of white cloud through which sun broke through while we were eating. I watered roses and new Douglas Pine before coming upstairs to work. Mother to town to have lunch with Ballards. D got them tickets to Radio City.  
Wed.
- July 6. A real letter from Merian. I am saving it! She will soon be a "poliewog." She is learning to row. Her room mate's name is Arden. Her counselors name is Jane. The lake is lovely! We were so happy to get it. Chicken and dumpling with caramel pie for dinner. All of us gorged and sat on the terrace this evening in comotose condition. Had a farewell concert on phonograph with prelude to Parsifal and Beethoven's Fifth.  
Thurs.
- July 7. Michies moved today. Got away about 11:30. We loved them, but were so glad to have them gone. It was hot, I'm afraid for poor little Barbara to settle. Delos loaned them our car to make it as easy for them as he could. Dodie and Mary in to coffee and we took them out to dinner, to Borgholm, a Swedish place. Merian's camp director called and gave us happy news of her.  
Fri.
- July 8. Worked for two hours out doors. Watered, transplanted, tied up Merian's calliopsis. Tomorrow I must transplant daffs & Daddy's vine and stake up gladioli. Delos writing tonight. He's ghosting Ed. Hill's column. It was a very hot day.  
Sat.

July 9. And was hotter today. For the first time in our sojourn here  
Sun. had no cool breeze. I wore nothing (sic) but a dress and sandals while I cleaned the house & prepared supper. We met Dursties at 2:30, took them for a ride and then brought them home to have Tom Collinses and supper on our terrace. Ralph & Fanny graves too. All of us had a pleasant time. Hertells hollyhocks are glorious. We must have some.

July 10. Annie here. I am getting to work at 9. Thought of a book I  
Mon. want to write, a child's book, fantastic about birds. Showers, allaying our heat. Dodie here for dinner. Afterwards we sat on terrace and watched the sunset. Lots of grey blue clouds flooded with peachy light behind, clouds shifting and color changing. At last it was pink, with silly tiny balls of pink scattered below. But for the greater period clouds were large and magnificent.

July 11. Our hot wave seems to be ended for the air was delicately  
Tues. icy as Delos and I ate breakfast on the terrace this morning. World looked so beautiful and fresh. Our grass newly cut begins to look almost turfy but as we ate D made plans for more top soil, peat moss and grass seed. Hempstead. Got mother a permanent and shopped for her. Lunch at Dodie's.

July 12. I am a professional writer! I keep four hours a day, 8 - 12,  
Wed. s. sacred to writing. Don't spread them. letter writing, bill paying, menu making. If a short story goes dead, plug away at the novel. If work in progress goes dead, take out your juvenile. But work at creative writing. And so I started "The Tune is in the Tree."

- July 13. Robins like the red berries on our honeysuckle bush. I wish  
Thurs. so much, for my own sake, that I had found time to go to the  
C.D. with Merian, or up to that street she loved in Pelham.  
I am bound and tied with other duties but should throw them  
off in order to enjoy her childhood. She can take me into an  
enchanted land, if I can only find time to go. Sitting on  
terrace this evening as we love to do, watching the changing  
colors of the western sky, a little rabbit ran across our  
lawn. And this morning we saw him again. A shower around  
breakfast time but now sun again.
- July 14. Called on Michies, took them their silver, and saw such a  
Fri. sunset. A flaming red sun.
- July 15. Sternes didn't come. Mother, Delos & I to a movie "Lucky  
Sat. Night." Stars beautifully clear.
- July 16. Went to see Merian today & were surprised for she seemed  
Sun. absolutely transformed. Ran instead of walked, could swim  
& float, joined in all games & Delos says will make a good  
ping pong player. Looked brown & a little strange. Is losing  
her "tummy". She was glad to see us, held tight to my hand  
while she showed us the camp, her room, the dining room, the  
workshop, the roses, the place they swim. Was wearing brown  
shorts & brown & yellow sweater. Camp a pretty lake surrounded  
by trees, pines, cattails. Canoes, rowboats, tents, give it a  
camplike look. I had a bad headache but a glorious time.  
Sunset, a great wing of grey, deep blue grey, beneath which  
out spreading rays of sun and much color below, a flow of  
gold.

- July 17. Delossy came home to dinner, napped & now is writing. Mother  
Mon. writing letters. I have been watering in a dove grey world. Gladiolas (next door) budding. Roses still beautiful. A song sparrow watched me. Earlier, at sunset time, tiny clouds went up as tho' climbing a stair.
- July 18. Shobers & Mrs. Dunphy to lunch. Leslies this evening to call.  
Tues. Such a sunset. Sky was an average pearly grey, cloudy and sun a blaze of gold going down but after sun disappeared the sky became turquoise blue, the clouds pure peach color and in the east clouds pastel pink. In west among the peachy clouds an almost invisible moon like a wire drawn into a half circle.
- July 19. How I enjoy our breakfasts. D & I alone on the terrace. The  
Wed. grass drenched with dew. Sun just warming things up. After he goes I water, transplant and can hardly bear to come in doors to start work. Working on "The Tune is in the Tree." To Nortons, mother & I, for coffee. Planned a party this evening. A cocktail party for Bartnetts.
- July 20. Mother & I on a bat to Hempstead after I finished work today  
Thurs. and she to a movie. I bought a new hat. This evening H. Norton came over and sat on terrace. After sun went down that same effect of pale pink clouds against turquoise blue sky, and a new moon, gold, shrouded in cloud. Chloris called me over this morning to look at first gladiola in bloom.
- July 21. A fine morning on "The Tune is in the Tree." Have moved my  
Fri. desk out so that I can look into our big maple. Starlings, robins and song sparrows to watch. An army of starlings on the lawn, searching for the Japanese beetles. Brown and ragged looking. Song sparrows sing all summer.

July 22. A grand day. A cocktail party for the Bartnetts with Nortons, Sat.  
Leslies, Conants, Graves and Dodie. Then a real New England dinner at The Maine Maid. Then the ride home through another of those marvelous sunsets, a sapphire blue sky with peach gold clouds turning to pink.

July 23. Down to see Merian this afternoon. She had been crabbing, Sun.  
and they had given a play. The Kings Breakfast, by A.A. Milne, which they repeated for us. Merian was the Queen. Her swimming had improved a bit and she looked grand. So pretty with big blue eyes in a tanned and sunburned face. Our drive home. Sky full of small cloud fishes who changed at last into a giant fish. Hertells on the terrace this evening.

July 24. Picking pansies this morning early. I though what a lot they Mon.  
give. Flower all summer long. We must plant more next spring. Chloris brought over an armful of gladioli to show us. Merian's are budded. Cool but beautiful. Annie here. I am getting to work at 9:30. Tonight Mother and Chloris to see "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" Delos & I to the fair to a dinner given by the Ford Company. Some nice people named Bridge. I like the fair at night. The colored lights, warm air, people.

July 25. The first of Merian's gladioli bloomed. White. She has cosmos  
Tues. and chrysanthemums in her garden still to come. A poor day's  
work. Very hot. Katherine Conant and her mother Mrs. Baumberger  
over to coffee. Mother baked little biscuits with cinnamon  
and nuts in them. Tonight D. & I over to Leslies for green  
beans off their vines. Vines climbing up poles which look  
quite picturesque in their garden. Forest of tomato plants.  
We sat on the terrace and looked at the moon and looked at  
it through Richard's telescope too. It looked like our own  
globe seen in relief, edges seemed rough.

July 26. So foggy this morning that we thought it had rained. Drops  
Wed. clinging to screens, blue porch table and arms of the  
chairs beaded with drops. But it wasn't rain; drought still  
unbroken. Song sparrow sings, sings, sings as I work. Mother  
& I to town. Bought me a dress, a suit and a pair of slacks  
for \$6.50.

July 27. Nortons here for dinner tonight. They were so tired, pack-  
Thurs. ing for their trip down the island. Spatter of rain these  
days. But no real rain.

July 28. Nortons left for their vacation today, running in to say  
Fri. goodbye and to leave us the spoils of their garden, roses,  
zinnias, marigolds, etc. Mrs. Clarke drove mother and me  
to Hempstead to the chiropodist for mother's foot.

July 29. Our darling Sternes to dinner tonight. Brought us an arm-  
Sat. ful of their garden, bachelor buttons, zinnias, petunias,  
rose geranium, etc. Oh how good it seemed to see them!  
They are sleeping here tonight.

July 30.

Sun. Plans for Jersey cancelled. D. & I after breakfast drove the Sternes to town D. had work to do at his typewriter; later we all drove down to see Merian. She has been to the dentist and had two teeth out. She was looking prettier than a picture with her beautiful rosy tan. We saw her swim and stayed for picnic supper beside the lake. She hated to see us go tonight. They had had a wild flower show which she enjoyed.

July 31  
Mon.

Very worried these days about Fosters, as Froh is sick and has lost his job (due to political upheaval) and they are considering going out to California, a move of which all here heartily disapprove. Mother & I tried to forget it all by going to town & buying my (Delos's and my bedroom furniture.) So tired tonight. We sat on our terrace and watched the stars come out, mother & I sat, Delossy stretched out on the lawn. It was a hot day.

AUGUST

- Aug. 1. It was very hot today. I watered before going up to work,  
Tues. and sat on terrace staring into sky which seemed deeper than usual and was banked with white summer cloud. Gladiola and zinnia in Merian's garden. A wall of marigolds across at Mrs. Clarke. This afternoon Mrs. C. drove Mother and I out to Doctor; then we had sodas at Klipps in the famous Long Island breeze. Tonight D & I (with some people named McWade) on Leslie's terrace, as sky lost its bright pink.
- Aug. 2. Delos and I up early, as he had to be at office early. Golden  
Wed. moon, its mountains plainly visible, still shining in western sky. Merian's pink gladiola has bloomed. Lost the day with a headache. (worry about Minnesota.) sounds which mean our home neighborhood, sometimes (very rarely) reveille and taps from Mitchell Field. (A cuckoo clock). The Quinn baby crying, A little girl practicing the piano.
- Aug. 3. Up at 5:30. A misty but golden east. At 6:30 a round pure-  
Thurs. outlined ball of gold. At breakfast looking out at flowers, marigolds, petunias, cosmos, gollardia, gladioli, roses. Delos off to town and an appointment with Sam Goldwyn. I met him in town. Called on Aunt Jessie first, then D & I to the Cotton Club. Had a gay time together. Rain, just a little, in town, but none here.
- Aug. 4. From my window just identified a starling in juvenile plumage  
Fri. Starling, song sparrows and robins, as usual, have possession of our tree. Sky overcast today. A little rain. How heavenly it seemed. Riding after dinner. Ordered a "Minnow" cake for Merian.

- Aug. 5. Mother & I upset all day by letters from Frank and Katie  
Sat. which make it pretty clear that Fosters are going to leave Minnesota. I had a bad headache. But I've got to step all this and will. Cleaned & got ready for Conants tonight. My beautiful new Vanity came from Loesers. Our house and our neighbors borders full of flowers, marigolds, cosmos, gladioli, dahlias, gollardia, etc. A bright tangle of mid-summer flowers.
- Aug. 6. Delos off to the beach with the Conants. I just took meloq  
Sun. and coffee on terrace; now must settle my vanity & get ready for our party with Leslies. It's going to be warm.
- Aug. 15. Hydrangeas in bloom. Baby robins, or rather young robins,  
Tues. scraggly and pale and awkward everywhere. Summer flowers in heydey, cosmos, gollardia, gladioli, day lilies, zinnias, etc.etc. Busy when not writing, re-organizing upstairs. Nortons in this evening sat on terrace with us. Hot, dry.
- Aug. 16. Mother & I to town, with Delos. Bought bedspread and a  
Wed. bed, and arm chair. It was very hot and muggy. It rained in town and there was a cloud burst in Queens but no rain in L.I. we discovered when we got home. (Had been also to Radio City, saw Carole Lombard & Carey Grant in In Name Only.) Delossy so very, very tired. He needs a vacation.
- Aug. 17. Our drought and our heat still unbroken. Delossy woke re-  
Thurs. freshed, after a bad start in getting to sleep, had a good night. Breakfast on terrace. Then I watered and came up to write.
- Aug. 21. We are celebrating mother's birthday later but Helen Norton  
Mon. came over with a big bouquet of flowers for her.

Aug. 25. This was the great day when our baby came home from camp.  
Fri.

It was rainy this morning. We all thought immediately of the play, that it would have to be given indoors. It cleared (but play was given indoors.) Mrs. Hilker drove us down and entertained us with tales of Merian and one Bill Culvenor (who seem to have had a grande affaire) The play was Robinhood and Merian took the part of a grandmother-narrator. She was in the marionette show, too. All of us stayed to dinner & she entertained us & her Bunk. Delos drove down for us. She departed among many farewells & references to "next year". She seems to be very popular among the children. The home-coming was fun too. It was dark when we got here, but she made a tour of the lawn. A gladiola was in bloom for her. She had presents for us all, a belt and candy dish for me.

Aug. 26. Our postponed celebration of Stella's birthday. Barbara  
Sat. came out with Delos (Allan sailed yesterday into the war scare.) and we had a fine birthday dinner with a cake from Dugan. Merian gave the silver pin she had made.

Aug. 27. Barbara here. Delos working madly on his dramatization  
Sun. for screen of Gentlemen from England. Weather cleared & Barbara, Merian and I to Jones Beach this afternoon. Merian & Delos swam out beyond the breakers. Merian swims, floats, dives, just beautifully. Delos so proud of her. I swan for the first time this year. Floated and let the breakers bring me in. Water beautifully warm & sky a summer blue, full of cloud.

Aug. 28. Merian has changed quite a bit. Is very self-reliant, makes  
 Mon. her own bed without being told. She lost weight and added  
 height at camp. Is very tall & looks lovely. We spend most  
 of every day at the radio. There is appalling news from  
 Europe all the time.

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible, appearing to be a continuation of a journal or diary entry.]*

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1. Germany attacked Poland in the night (night here, I mean.)  
Fri.

I turned on the radio when I went down to get breakfast and we heard the news. Later Hitler was speaking but we couldn't listen to his war-mad shouting speech. I think he is mad truly. Work. Helen drove me to Hicks about lawn and shrubs. Nortons here for bridge tonight.

Sept. 2. Delos working today. Mr. Vossburg of Hick's here to help  
Sat. me plan our shrubs. And Merian and I on little picnic to the C.D. Day pleasant in weather. Sad in war news. Germany bombing Polish towns, marching into Polish territory. Great Britain and France still hesitating. Fosters started for California yesterday and mother sad about that too.

Sept. 3. We came downstairs at 7 (which Great Britain and France had  
Sun. set as hour when ultimatum expired) but were too late to hear Chamberlain who had spoken at 6:15. We heard a transcription of his speech, however, which impressed me very much. It was so full of feeling, so measured in judgement, so sad. What a contrast to Hitler's frenzied shouting of day before yesterday. The second world war is begun and we can hardly take it in. I didn't think it would happen again in my lifetime. The 4 of us spent the day at Wilton & except for the war shadow had a lovely time. We drove out through a misty morning (stopping for coffee.) After we reached Sternes the sun came out so that we could eat on the terrace overlooking Emma's garden with its gay display of zinnias, asters, roses, sempri vivum nicotiana, and the herbs in flower. Emma, Merian and Dixie and I walked down to the brook & had an encounter with a black snake. Katydid as we ate our supper. That lovely subdued look of the garden after nightfall. Home at 11, too late to hear the President's speech.

- Sept. 4. Woke this morning to news of German torpedoing of an unarmed  
Mon. passenger vessel carrying English and American tourists.  
Hitler disregarding another promise and vile of civilized  
warfare. A quiet day with Delos working in town. I sat in  
the sun a while. Merian reading Little Men. Word from the  
Fosters who are moving westward.
- Sept. 5. Annie here. Overcast. Merian reading her flower book to  
Tues. help me with The Tune.
- Sept. 7. Daily letters from Katie to Mother, enable us to follow  
Thurs. her trip to California.
- Sept. 8. Our dear friends the Townsends, Glen, Edyth & Jinnie, our  
Fri. God-child, came to dinner tonight. Barbara, too, of course.  
It was good to see them. I told Delos that altho I was quite  
talked out with them when they left, I did hate to part  
with them. Old friends are dear. Jinnie, the god child, is  
delightful, not pretty but radiant, out giving, like K.  
Cornell. An electric storm today.
- Sept. 9. Delos had a Saturday at home at last. He enjoyed it and so  
Sat. did we all. Neighbors all out doors talking lawn, lawn,  
lawn. Delos dashing to hardware store to buy this and that.  
(Peat moss (& sugar) seem to be affected by the war already  
and are hard to get. Mother, Delos and I to a supper party  
at O'Connors at Roslyn. Drinks on the terrace and superb  
food, music.

- Sept. 10. Rained at intervals during day. We drove Mary McCartney home around noon. Delos slept all afternoon. A quiet day, Sun. spent listening to war news on the radio and Merian doing arithmetic. When rain stops world is revealed as still summerlike in appearance, gardens full of flowers. Robins about. We heard from Angela. Aunt Jessie is ill, so our engagement to lunch at Waldorf tomorrow is broken.
- Sept. 11. Our alarm went off at six and Merian was out of bed as Mon. soon as I was, dressing for school (little red and white print) and doing arithmetic. They were supposed to do work up to page 75 during the summer. Mathes' for lunch.
- Sept. 12. Mother at the Fair with Matheses. Delos brought John Tues. Shuman out to dinner. Good talk.
- Sept. 13. The Mathes's for dinner. They met Delos at last and he Wed. charmed them. Warm, beautiful weather. I am reading "All this and Heaven Too." Delos begins a 10-day holiday tomorrow.
- Sept. 14. Delos & I began our 4-day holiday this morning. Leaving Thurs. Mother, & Merian (who had many happy plans, dinner at Dodies tonight, the Mineola Fair, Carol's birthday party) we started off about 11, arrived Wilton at 12. Sternes drove in from Mass. at 1 & we had a gay pancake lunch on the terrace. Much bridge & sunning & badminton & then drinks, Olson in the garden & dinner at LaBoetagne. That is on a hilltop, overlooking the Sound & the Berkshires. A beautiful sunset, long bands of gray & scarlet, peaceful serene, and when we came out from our French dinner (after Delos & Babs had learned to make crepe suzettes, the sky was brilliant with stars. We are sleeping down at Lewis's in the woods.

- Sept. 15. And today (the 15th) is perfect weather again. It is even  
Fri. warmer than yesterday. Delos has sat in at bridge and  
Emma & I have been down in the woods. The meadows have  
dolden rod and asters, butterfly weed, berries on elder-  
berry? False solomon seal. The garden is blazing and a  
hum<sup>m</sup>ing brid in the petunias. Sikes coming for dinner. This  
evening, drinks in the garden. Sunset dimming the colors.  
Then dinner on the terrace and The Game.
- Sept. 16. Spent the day (it seems to me) discussing Lindberg's speech  
Sat. The talk has clarified my ideas. I know I am an isolation-  
ist. The day spent in the garden and under the trees. Delos  
playing tennis and bridge.
- Sept. 17. Lewis and Mary sent coffee to our cottage. I slept badly  
Sun. (all the war talk). Had an hallucination in the night. I  
thought there was a statuette of a little girl fleeing  
placed outside our window against a tree. I would like to  
write a short story expressing the isolationist viewpoint.  
But my feeling seems to be purely intuitive. Not logical.  
War is wrong, not just for American boys, but for Polish  
boys, and German boys. It is intolerable, Our divine  
weather & the houseparty continue.
- Sept. 21. We unpacked mother's dishes which have come from Minnesota.  
Thurs. We must build a cupboard to hold them. We made a big display  
on the dining room table. So many old dishes I remember.
- Sept. 22. Leslies in for bridge. I love them. Delossy enjoying his vac<sup>e</sup>  
Fri. cation which is drawing to a close. I didn't put down the  
war news. It's too horrible.

- Sept. 23. To Pelham. Called on Floyds, Sauers & Pendletons (who had  
Sat. moved.) Dinner at Mrs. Dunphy's, Helms in for cocktails.
- Sept. 24. With Merian and Stella to Graves for dinner. Samey is  
Sun. going to give us some shrubs.
- Sept. 25. I reached the Barbizon Plaza about 4, unpacked and napped  
Mon. until Delos came at 6:30. The hotel room with its view of  
the park & high buildings so pleasant that we almost hated  
to go to the party. The dinner was the best I ever ate.  
Hotel Pierre, and I sat next to an Episcopalian (ect a old  
and sweet. The party was nice and my new dress pretty but  
the hotel room most fun of all.
- Sept. 26. Our early breakfast shoved thru the door at 7. And later  
Tues. another by mistake. We robbed the second of extra coffee  
and ate happily in bed. In fact I stayed in bed until noon  
with a headache but even so I had a good time and made 3  
good resolutions. To the Woman Pays Club for lunch. Gladys  
Hall and Polan Banks of Hollywood & a Doubleday Doran  
editor. It did me good to go.
- Sept. 27. Expected Merian's piano teacher but she didn't come. Busy  
Wed. getting organized. I wrote Helen and Katie about Betsy-  
Tacy. Delos back on regular schedule.
- Sept. 28. Clearing my desk. I go to work in earnest on The Tune Oct. 1  
Thurs. Mother & I are interviewing workmen about cupboards. Dodie  
in after lunch. And I walked to town to mail a story by  
Susan Crag to the S.E.P. Weather beautiful. Gardens still  
full of petunias, cosmos, morning glories, marigolds, zinnias  
Mother & Merian & I to tea at Nortons. Mott planted 3 caton  
casters.

Sept. 29. St. Michael and all angels! What a beautiful day. I am  
 Fri. out watering the new shrubs. It is overcast but warm.  
 Doing odds and ends at my desk to get ready for next week's  
 dash into work. Merian had Carol here for supper.

Sept. 30. It rained in the night and while sipping our coffee  
 Sat. (which Merian, by the way, made fo us) we peeked out at  
 the three cotoneasters which the Motts planted for us  
 Thursday. They show fountains of red berries. War news,  
 Germany and Russia make a ridiculous peace proposal.

OCTOBER

- Oct. 6. Mother & I took Merian to the Fair and we had the loveliest  
Fri. time. Merian fooled us by taking her doll. We noticed going  
to the train and waiting for it that she was acting funny  
and she proved to have the doll between her legs. We went  
first to the Old Masters, then met mother at Home Bldg.  
Ate our picnic lunch outside Brazil and went in for some  
Brazilian coffee. Spent hours in the French building and  
then to the Amusement section where Mother saw Bill Robin-  
son & Merian and I Titania's Palace and other things.
- Oct. 7. Merian came in and sat on my bed this morning & told us a  
Sat. story she had made up about the doll who was lost at the  
Fair. She told it as though reading it from a book. When  
the doll discovered she had been left, she did so and so.  
She went back to the fair and rode on the back of a cat  
(which we had seen at the Town of Tomorrow.) went to  
live in Titania's palace and had other adventures. A love-  
ly day. The Conants in for bridge tonight.
- Oct. 8. And today was again lovely. We & the Leslies (after the chil-  
Sun. dren came home from Sunday School) went to the Beach. Delos  
& Richard went swimming (actually.) The rest of us built a  
fire and roasted frankfruters, made coffee; the children  
collected shells. One scene I remember is slate blue water  
in a little pond, a stretch of beach beyond, then the ocean  
& the sky. All dove blue. The stretch of beach was full of  
gulls. White & blue with touches of black. One was dragging  
a crab. To Leslies for supper.

- Oct. 9. Today I went to New Rochelle to see Helen Bartnett. Spent  
Mon. several hours with her. We sat in the sun out of doors. I made the trip without even a coat. She is being very brave but looked pale and bad. Buster wrote her every week and she always had a letter from him on Saturday, so it was hard for her on Saturday when no letter came. Mother said a little boy rang the bell this noon, had come to walk to school with Merian. Everett.
- Oct. 10. Fighting a headache. I've started to read Unity again and  
Tues. it's doing me good. Spent morning with nursery-man from Country Life Press and got in to Woman Pays to hear Delos's Mr. Block. Sat opp. him at table and talked trees, shrubs and vines. Walked down Fifth Ave. & saw the curtains on women's hats, the snoods, the ropes of jewelry. It was a warm day, over 80 degrees. Home with Delossy. Nan let me see what Messners (my publishers) let her see. Confidential reports from teachers and librarians on Betsy-Tacy very good.
- Oct. 11. Merian's first music lesson.  
Wed.
- Oct. 12. And this was Merian's holiday and I took her to town for a  
Thurs. grand bat and jamboree, including lunch at the automat. A trip thru Saks Fifth Avenue, the Metropolitan Museum and Central Park (to feed the squirrels). Delos took her then to see The Wizard of Oz and I went to Mele. for a wave and manicure. Weather windy and raw.
- Oct. 13. Took the Conants to a supper dance in the Serf Room at the  
Fri. Waldorf. Dressed. It was fun.

Oct. 14. Rosie came unexpectedly to lunch. We had to cut our sleep  
Sat. short but she is worth it. A darling person, soft voiced,  
a broad calm brow. She and Delos played at the piano while  
Mother & I got some lunch and then she had to hurry off.  
Merian by the way seems to love her music. She practices  
beyond the required practice time. Trees turning. Gardens  
still full of flowers. Butterfly bush and hydrangea in  
bloom.

Oct. 15. Mother's wedding anniversary. We gave her silk stockings  
Sun. and she had wires, letters and presents from K & H. About  
we started for High Bridge, N.J. and Harriett. Rose Cottage,  
a little stone house on an old mine road. Covered with  
roses and honeysuckle in summer. A grape arbor, two big  
tulip trees, butternut trees. The foliage in the moun-  
tains beautiful but lots of green in it still. Air cool  
and we had a fire. Had brought a picnic, but Harriet had  
hot food for us too. Volodia darling. We were happy.

Oct. 16. I have a very happy day. This morning I finished Chapter  
Mon. three of The Tune. This afternoon, which was sunny and  
pleasant, I went looking for trees, guided by our Mr.  
Pollitt. Selected a linden (memories of Lake Minnetonka),  
a dogwood and 2 hemlocks. Tonight I took Delos over to  
look at the dogwood which was situated near the street at  
Country Life Nurseries. It has a broad spread and lots of  
buds. The leaves now are red, of course.

Oct. 17. Shopping for wool dresses. Bought a red and blue one and a  
Tues. blue hat. Mother & I had coffee in the village. Home to  
get dinner for our Delossy. Merian practices her full half  
hour every day & seems to love it. Gertrude called to say  
goodbye, going to Canada.

Oct. 18. Such a happy day, cold, sunny. The Country Life Nursery  
 Wed. came to plant our trees (and the shrubs Fanny gave us.)  
 Now we have a beautiful dogwood overhanging our terrace,  
 a linden to give shade when we are dead and gone, two hem-  
 locks in the hedge and a beginning made on Merian's pine  
 tree semi-circle. She will sit on the bench there between  
 flowering almonds. I was so happy. Excited. And what with  
 painters working on our new cupboard in the kitchen, nursery-  
 men out of doors and Merian taking a music lesson in the  
 parlor, it was a highly involved afternoon. Mrs. W. says  
 that Merian has "decided aptitude" for the piano! Tonight  
 D & I to Brooklyn to hear the noble piano playing of Joseph  
 and Rosina L. Levine.

Oct. 19. Note: Eliz. says plant *corlesii viburnum* near terrace or  
 Thurs. under windows for fragrance. To town to Nan's party for the  
 Garretts. O.H.P. Garret mag & screen writer. He is nice and  
 so is his wife. We stayed on after the party to talk Treasure  
 Trench and eat salad. Bought a new light blue wool dress.

Oct. 21. A DOGWOOD BY OUR TERRACE.  
 Sat.



*Eastern Dogwood*

#### EASTERN DOGWOOD

(*Cornus florida*)

SHAPE very broadly round- or flat-topped, up to 40 ft. tall. TRUNK slender, short, inclined to lean or twist. BARK black and roughish. LEAVES clustered toward the ends of the erect up-curved twigs. FLOWERS consisting in many little green florets enclosed in the 4 big, petal-like, greenish or white (or, exceptionally, pinkish) bracts. March-May. RANGE: Me. and Que. w. to Minn., s. to Fla. and Tex. The bark has been used as a substitute for quinine. This enchanting little tree, best developed in the s. Appalachians, unfolds its great starry blossoms while the leaves are yet small. WESTERN DOGWOOD (*Cornus Nuttallii*) is a taller tree with broader leaves, the undersides downy, the bracts ("petals") even more showy, and 4-6 in number. It ranges from B. C. to s. Calif.

Oct. 22. We had the McCartney family for supper tonight. They are  
Sun. moving to New Jersey and we shall miss them.

Oct. 27. Rain and mist again. Styles prevailing at the moment. Cor-  
Fri. sets are supposed to be coming back. Bustle like effects. Bales of jewelry worn, heavy ropes of gold. The hats have curtains and heavy fish nets to hold up the hair behind.

Oct. 28. Delos and I drove into town this afternoon, and he tried on  
Sat. suits at Wanamakers. We saw Mr. Smith goes to Washington and then, at 10 went to hear Toscanini conduct the NBC symphony orchestra in an all Beethoven program. Heard the 1st. (reminiscent of Haydon and Mozart) but charming and the Eroico. Must mention the foliage on the drive to town. Startlingly lovely. Feverish reds and glittery yellows.

Oct. 29. Busy with a company dinner. Richard took the Sunday School  
Sun. turn today. Delos returned McCartneys fireplace impliments and worked outdoors. Our dogwood is beautifully red, our maples yellow, Clarke's brick yellow. Kay and Barbara came at 4 and Leslies at 5 for cocktails. Kay interesting looking with very shiny black hair, Chinese eyebrows and a satiny skin. A beautifully erect carriage. Barbara looks lovely tho'. Bruce only a money away. a pleasant party.

Oct. 30. H. Norton back from Stockbridge. She dropped in a moment this  
Mon. morning with Hope's teaset for the doll party. Then mother & I to work. Started raining at 3 exactly, so I taxied to school for the children. They party was a great success (noisier than a circus.) Then sewed for their dolls, gave an entertainment for them, played games. Mother at the piano. Chloris came into help. At 5. we served them ice cream and cake and parents began arriving. They played charades.

Oct. 31. Rained all night. Delossy off to work in raincoat, driving.  
Tues. Our dogwood almost stripped of its red leaves and the linden of its brown ones. Merian off to school with raincoat, umbrella and rubbers. A pair of blue jays, the first I've seen near here, among our starlings today. All of us to Stewart School in a downpour for Merian's Hallowe'en party. She dressed as a Colonial lady and looked so sweet, make-up becoming to her.

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 1. Bright sunshine this morning of All Saints' Day. It is welcome after all our rain. Mother to town to meet Mrs. Shober for lunch & matinee. Merian and I to the Cathedral. We walked back, had lunch at Klipps, fun. Remember the lemon-colored maples, long golden avenues in Garden City. Names of the dead read out in Cathedral service. Merian wants to write a series of books about Foxy. Title of 4th book is "Foxy strays no more." Nortons for bridge.
- Nov. 2. Sky covered with clouds like marshmallows. Mrs. Clarke Thurs. brought in a big bouquet of yellow and maroon chrysanthemums. We have some in our own garden, too. I cleared out the garden of some dead annuals, pruned, etc. It was warmer & sunny. Lovely to be out. Chapter 5 cleared up today. We are investigating storm windows.
- Nov. 3. A wild day, took M. out of school to go to the dentist and Fri. discovered my appointment was for Monday. He saw us tho' and said that it would cost \$700 to remodel Merian's mouth! Tonight with Conants to hear Chamber music at St. Mary's. Beethoven Trio in C Minor and Dvorak's Dunky Trio Op. 90 especially lovely. Over to Cafe Conant for highballs, coffee and pumpkin pie. Fun!
- Nov. 4. Kay & Barbara to lunch at 1. Our house still full of Sat. maroon & yellow chrysanthemums. They dry up but do not fade. Other flowers still in gardens, too. Trees still yellow and red. Thrush in the dogwood. We to bed early.

- Nov. 5. Off in a spatter of rain to Wilton at 9 o'clock. Arrived at Sun.  
10:40. Rain increased in violence and a wind came up. Cozy in the Sternes living room with a fire blazing. Emma and I drove over to pick up Irmengarde at Norwalk. Juncos and chipping sparrows on Roy's bird feeding station. A big turkey dinner and a lovely time, but the drive home was hard on Delos Leaves way past their glory except for the oaks.
- Nov. 6. Merian woke up with a sniffle. Staying in bed. She and I walked Mon.  
over to Dr. Springsted's office this afternoon however. Day sharp but sunny. Trees still glorious. Tonight D & I to Brooklyn to hear the Trapp Family Choir which was delightful. A mother, 5 daughters and 2 sons all tall and sweet singing music of the Renaissance Pouch, Palestrica, etc. Also playing on recorder and viola da samba. Especially impressed with personality of the mother who was tall, a little rangy, sweet, and sang with such happiness and zest her hands folded, sliding up opposite wrists, head thrown back.
- Nov. 7. Merian in bed all day. Mother in town all day (drove in with Tues.  
Nortons.) Delos got home early and I met mother at Town Hall Club at 7:30. We saw Kath. Hepburn in "The Philadelphia Story." Acting better than the play.
- Nov. 8. Merian better, but still must stay in bed. Sun pouring in our Wed.  
windows. Dodie here and Mrs. Wallace for a music lesson.

Nov. 9. Merian still coldish. Hertells putting in a dogwood tree.  
Thurs. Mrs. Clarke took mother & me to a needlework guild meeting to hear and meet Mrs. Theo. Roosevelt. Merian stayed with Chloris. Delos late tonight. Union Meeting, & I walked up Washington Ave. to meet him thru a cold starry night. Merian plays a piece with two hands!

Nov. 10. Merian still out of school with her cold but able to be  
Fri. dressed and out in the sunshine. I worked on "The Tune," Chapter six. And wrote some business letters. This afternoon, mother & I went over to have coffee with Chloris. We walked over barehead, mother without even a coat. Have I mentioned the dogwood tree they planted right under mother's window? It is full of blossoms, and will be so beautiful next spring. D home for the weekend. Conants in for bridge tonight, and we were discussing the complexities of modern and especially New York life. How hard the men work, how little we seem to get for the money we earn and spend, and I expressed almost involuntarily what must be my true opinion - "we must free our own souls." There is no other real escape for human beings. Trust, serenity, and a continual enjoyment of what comes to be enjoyed.

Nov. 11. D & I to the beach between 11 & 2. today. It was cold but  
Sat. sunny. We spread a blanket & wrapped ourselves in a blanket apiece & watched the glittery sea and the uncurling surf while eating sandwiches & drinking hot coffee out of a thermos. We talked & rested & Delos said it drove the cobwebs out of his mind. Dearest for dinner. D & I planned a story: "Gib Acht." Nortons for bridge.

- Nov. 12. Still fair, sun blinding. D & I to the beach again. Sat on Sun. one blanket, wrapped two more about our shoulders, making a little tent under which we sheltered ourselves from the wind, drank coffee and ate sandwiches. Later called on Hardons came home for dinner & went over to Leslies to hear records.
- Nov. 13. It is strange how we think of other people only in relation Mon. to ourselves, I couldn't have been much older than Merian when I last saw Gracie Nelson on a farm in Minnesota, & now here she is, a mature woman, somewhat goddesslike in appearance, singing a difficult & sophisticated program in Town Hall. Mother & I went behind to speak with her. I told her I had tender memories of her as a child. Said, "Gracie, I always loved you." And she said "Maudie, it was mutual."
- Nov. 14. In bed all day with headache. Tonight D & I drove to Bklyn Tues. to hear Lotte Lehman in a program of German Lieder. She was such a contrast to Gracie whose appeal was purely cerebral. Gracie wore an evening suit severely tailored, black and grey material, arms and neck covered up. Lehman wore pale blue showing much buzzum, carrying a large pale blue hankie. She looked pretty although she's much too large. And sung with much warmth. Delos said she reminded him of a flower garden in pastel colors & when she gave all she had it was only burying your face in an arm full of white roses. She sang Witmung but not as Katie sings it.

- Nov. 15. Morning on work. Afternoon to dentist. Mrs. Clarke drove  
Wed. mother & me over, but I walked home. It was a balmy day. Trees are bare now but there are still flowers especially great clumps of chrysanthemums, pale lavender. Merian's music lesson, coffee for Mrs. Wallace and us all. Delossy home and applejack for supper!
- Nov. 16. A heavy hoar frost last night. But a warm beautiful day. I  
Thurs. worked out of doors covering roses and pulling up old cosmos. and calliopsis. Tonight we & Hertells took a picnic supper and some presents for the baby, out to Barbara's.
- Nov. 17. Morning sky like a dove's breast. To town at noon leaving  
Fri. Merian with Stella planning to mold out biscuits. I had a joyful day in town. Christmas shopping began as usual with buying Merian a doll, Studied at the library, Met Emma and the Sternes & Lovelaces had a reunion at Town Hall Club, D & I then to see Abe Lincoln in Illinois, a very fine play very well acted.
- Nov. 18. We drove Merian to her dentists appointment and the rest of  
Sat. us did errands. It was a divine springlike day. This afternoon mother took Merian, Hope & Susan to see "Oliver Twist." at school. Tonight D & I played bridge with Nortons, We listened later to Toscanini. Another Beethoven program. In addition to the Egmont Overture we heard a delightful septette. One movement took both Helen & me back to childhood piano studies. It must be arranged for piano.

- Nov. 19. Mother brought our breakfast to bed! Fresh rolls too. Such  
Sun. a luxury. Then D took Merian to the Cathedral. It was Cathedral day & they saw the christening. About 11:30 we started off for Westchester. Called on Bartnetts & then arrived at Shobers for a homey time. Good food & drink and such a warm welcome. It was pleasant to spend Daddy's birthday with good friends. The moon when we got out of the car after our trip home was circled with brown and beyond that ring after ring of white cloud.
- Nov. 20. I wrote this morning and visited Merian's school this after-  
Mon. noon. Met Miss Reed and the children I hear so much about. Gray and blowy walking home but great clumps of lavender chrysanthemums still show in the garden.
- Nov. 21. News that Helen & Frank & Eugene are all coming for Christ-  
Tues. mas. Of course we are all thrilled. Walked to town this afternoon to order my turkey and other Thanksgiving things. Very cold & snow-looks in the sky. Dead brittle leaves heaped along walk. Over to Graves to talk by their fire, Fanny just back from a month at John Hopkins.
- Nov. 22. Such a busy day, getting ready for tomorrow. Mother stuffing  
Wed. turkey. D & I to Hempstead this afternoon looking out for Christmas cards. D playing pingpong with Pete tonight, the rest of us early to bed, Its work but fun getting the house full of good things, the bustle of preparation. Weather grey with a sky which looks to be full of snow.

Nov. 23. But it turned into a positively summer like day. And posi-  
Thurs.

tively also flowers were blooming in our garden. Mother baked pumpkin pie and put the turkey in the oven. I set the table with a big dish of fruit and mother arranged nuts and comquats about it. Small Thanksgiving facors full of candy. Merian made place cards. It was all fun. And Mc-Cartneys arrived at 1 for a long day of pleasure.

Nov. 24. Another Merian day in town. I always love them. Delos  
Fri.

drove us in thru a sparkling (but not with snow) morning. He had engagements so mother & I took Merian to see Wana-maker's toy department, Santa Claus, etc. We had lunch there. I saw a policeman arrest 2 little boys when they were coming down the run way after speaking to Santa Claus. It saddened me. In the afternoon Merian and I went to see The Picasso exhibition. I like him when he paints straight, especially in the "blue" period. His people so pitiful. And some of the abstractions such as the 3 musicians, I like, too. But I can't follow him into his last period. Met Delos & Mother again for Ninotchka with Garbo and then D & I to Brooklyn to hear Kowsseirtski. More modernism with music by Carpenter, Hill & Foote. Heard Dorothy Maynor the new negro singer. After the intermission K played the Caesar Frank Symphony which I love. And D & I drove home.

Nov. 25. Cold. Merian playing out with Janice, spreading automobile  
Sat.

rugs on the terrace. D. drove mother & me on errands. This afternoon we played bridge with Nortons, tonight tired from yesterday.

- Nov. 26. The last day of Delos's vacation. Richard took the children to Sunday School, so Delos slept late. A quiet day. Sun.  
Leslies dropped in tonight.
- Nov. 27. To town early, but couldn't go at once at Christmas shopping, as Delos had asked me to do an errand for him. I did get Mon.  
in a full afternoon, however. And met him on the 6:25 with a gigantic bundle from Kress'. Mother had a good dinner waiting, turkey soup. Merian had just been tucked in bed.
- Nov. 28. A large lopsided moon in the sky when I woke Merian about Tues.  
6:15. The world was very dark. Finished Vorsicht this morning; walked to town this afternoon, it was a beautiful day. Mild. Met Mrs. Clark who brought me home. Mother & I had coffee and Chloris ran in to return my evening wrap. Merian stayed at school to art club, and came home to play with Susan, & came in to practice. Delossy home, a happy home evening.
- Nov. 29. We have been married 22 years today. Only the 29th fell on Wed.  
a Thanksgiving day in 1917. Delossy has invited me in town to dinner tonight in honor of the anniversary. It has been a perfect marriage. Nothing in it could have been sweeter, so far as our personal relations are concerned. And now we have such a darling child and so enjoy having mother living with us. How fortunate we are!

DECEMBER

- Dec. 1. Chapter 6 this morning. Annie came to clean and at evening the Sternes (Roy, Emma & Dora) and John Shuman to celebrate Delossy's birthday. We had a very happy time. There were Chrysanthemums from Merian's garden to grace the occasion & mother made a cake. We gave him his presents this morning, mine was music lessons. One sad happening today tho', we heard of the death of Ralph Graves and both D & I ran in there.
- Dec. 2. Fanny in bed yesterday with a trained nurse, but came downstairs to the services today. She looked so sweet, a white collar on her black dress and her hair brushed back. Many flowers and many people; and rain. D & I to see Michies this afternoon. Allan told us about his flight on the clipper and brought us gifts from the Azores. Barbara's baby not here yet but expected momentarily. D & I, on the couch listened to Toscanini conduct the 9th tonight.
- Dec. 3. It is still raining and we are all so glad. Our land is very dry. Merian to Sunday School. Delossy played ping pong with Pete all afternoon.
- Dec. 4. The Tune! and Christmas presents! And tonight with Delos to hear Emanuel Fenerman who is said to be the world's finest performer on the cello. Delos thought it a sullen instrument, resisting stubbornly & the result hardly worth the effort. It was beautiful but could it have been achieved more easily & better with another instrument? Perhaps not., for the cello has a deep voice of its own, a peculiar beauty. I liked the Beethoven Sonota.

- Dec. 5. A happy day. K Conant, H. Norton & E. Leslie in to coffee.  
Tues. Mr. Fleming brought the tops of our beds. D & I drove to the village to inspect our Christmas cards. D had his first lesson on the piano. Sunny. I sat in our doorway for half and hour in the sun. The sky was full of clouds like curdled cream.
- Dec. 6. Remember that you wrote one excellent radio play. You can  
Wed. write others. Like the days of "The Three Roses" and up to "Vorsket". You have shown an interest in that brief climatic sort of story. Try it! Good news about my work this morning. Nan several days ago took Betsy-Tacy away from Messners who were neglecting it, I gather, and transplanted it with Crowell Co. It is beginning a lucky association, I feel. Rain and a party with Mother at Mrs. Vande Waters. Merian & Delos in for cake. Merian in a blue snow suit with blue scarf and such blue eyes.
- Dec. 7. 7:20 A.M. Ground silvery with hoar frost. Sky silvery and  
Thurs. rose. And in that different corner of the east where the sun rises in wintertime, a red round sun. No rays. Mrs. Clarke and I to Hempstead.
- Dec. 8. Book, Christmas wrapping & Merian home from school having  
Fri. forgotten her belt, her mittens & her shoes, the peak of forgetfulness. As a result, she cleaned her room & tried to get order into her life. Windy. Growing cold. But oh such lovely skies, full of clouds which in the morning were peach & mauve heavy tints, not pastels as in summer & in the evening purple & rose again. And all moving in the wind.

- Dec. 9. Coffee in bed, and grand news from Nannine about the Crowell  
Sat. contract. They seem to be grand publishers. Delos off to town & mother to the village & I must, inelegantly, shake a leg. At 4:30 west (or that corner of the sky which is west in winter) covered with a long dove grey cloud. At 4:32 this was suddenly cerise. At 4:30 it was dripping with gold, rows of golden cascades, one above the other. Sky bright blue above with peachy clouds, back to a red again, but duller. And now burned down to fire embers, smouldering below ashes of roses smoke. There is sometimes a pale green or blue, like a thrush's egg, in the sunset.
- Dec. 11. When Merian started to school the sky was dark and there was  
Mon. a cold spatter of rain. Now the rain is slanting across the air beyond my window and looks as though it were turning into snow. It is snow. The world is full of white flakes!
- Dec. 13. We all left the breakfast table to look at the sunrise. We  
Wed. knew it was lovely for the white houses we see from the oriole window were tinted pink. East was all pink. Millions of tiny clouds all pink.
- Dec. 15. Story put aside until after Christmas. Annie here cleaning,  
Fri. Gale to dinner.
- Dec. 16. The new maid came, Helen, small and neat, soft voiced. Mother  
Sat. out to have her hair fixed to dazzle the Fowlers. Delos & I shopping & mailing packages all day. Weather so warm that leaves are unfolding on our lilacs & the snowdrops I planted are coming up. Barbara in the hospital.

- Dec. 17. Awakened by news that Barbara's baby had come. A little  
Sun. girl, "a beauty," Kay said, with yellow hair. Very busy all day. Spent most of it addressing Christmas cards while Delossy paced the floor & listened to radio reports from the Graff Spee. It was scuttled just outside harbor at Montevideo. Christmas lights & trees are beginning to blossom all over our neighborhood. We see them from every window.
- Dec. 18. The day is like spring, just the kind of a day mother or-  
Mon. dered for Frank & Helen. She & I worked this morning on her pension. This afternoon on the dinner. I sat in the sun a few moments. At 7 o'clock, we had the lights all on & fire blazing in the grate & Frank & Helen drove in with Delos. Grand reunion. Merian in her red wool dress with yellow bows in her hair behaved admirably.
- Dec. 19. Visiting in mother's, now Fowler's room. To Jones Beach  
Tues. to see the ocean. Getting ready for Christmas.
- Dec. 20. All in town in a pouring rain. Lunch at Wanamakers. Then  
Wed. I shopped while the rest went to Radio City. The Christmas rush is on. (In our lives, I mean; not the shops.)
- Dec. 21. Frank in town for a record breaking day. Mother & Helen  
Thurs. joined him for two broadcasts tonight. Delos & I with Merian to her school. The black night spangled with Christmas trees. The children's play and carol singing very sweet.
- Dec. 22. The glitter of the Rainbow room.

- Dec. 23. This was a lovely day. We all drove to Sternes, all but Sat.  
Merian whom I longed for. Their house was decked with their own greens (they sent a box of greens for our mantle, too.) We walked in the cold woods & sat by the warm fire & ate a marvellous dinner, goose & sea food & Delmonico pudding. Place cards had jingle bells attached with our names indicated by poetry. Emma so happy with Ann and Babs home.
- Dec. 24. The day began with the Manger Play at the Cathedral. M was Sun.  
one of the children and spoke her lines beautifully. Home to dinner, then Helen (the little maid) left with her presents & the rest of us worked at this and that getting ready for tonight. Merian, Helen & I decorated the screen & put it up between the dining room & living, decorated the table, laid the fire had a Christmas Eve ceremony of Carols, reading and stocking hanging. After Merian to bed we reared the gorgeous tree.
- Dec. 25. It was a nice Christmas. But we have been so busy, the holi- Mon.  
day has passed so quickly, that I couldn't savor it. Merian woke us at 6:20 and we all trooped down to the lighted tree and piles of presents. Coffee in the new Silex, mother's rolls & sausage set out on the table & we ate as we looked. Hertells in, Nan & Allan, Leslies. Frank's turkey & mother's pies superb. We fell into bed exhausted about 9, turning down numerous invitations.

- Dec. 26. Up early again. D & I breakfasted alone by Christmas tree  
Tues. light & I had an hour alone at my desk which was snowed  
under with letters to be answered, bills to be paid. Fowlers  
to town. Dodie & Merian to lunch. Irmengarde & Paul, the  
Leslies & the Fowlers again. And after dinner all of us to  
the Clarkes house to see Mrs. Clarke's beautiful colored  
motion pictures & Frank's films.
- Dec. 27. Cold for the last day of the Fowlers' visit. But we are  
Wed. thankful it held off so long. Helen came in at 10 & we left  
Merian (in bathrobe but well washed & brushed) playing by  
the Christmas tree. Drove to town through a haze of snow.  
But it didn't develop into a real snowstorm. We shopped  
Saks Fifth Ave. lunched with Gale at Maurice Raviol, (3 E.  
43 st.) Helen dropped into the library, we met Frank, Delos  
& Aunt Kate at the Penn Station & Put Fowlers on the train.  
In the evening I retired to bed with my new "Life of Greece.  
Delossy with Mark Twain.
- Dec. 28. Weather clear. The eastern sky full of scarlet colored  
Thurs. clouds when Delossy started off to work. I turned off the  
Christmas tree lights & came upstairs. Merian still sleep-  
ing, & her doll sleeping too in the dining room, on a shoe  
box covered with the carriage robe mother knitted. The house  
is peaceful.
- Dec. 29. With M to Dr. Hillyer; we stopped at Lofts & enjoyed the num-  
Fri. erous walks & bus rides the trip entails. I got off a number  
of business & thank you letters. To Nortons for bridge tonite  
Merian plays endlessly with the new doll. Dresses her & un-  
dresses her, puts her to bed, plasters & doctors her, takes  
her out riding. She is keeping house under the Christmas  
tree & Grandpa Palmer's table.

Dec. 30. Woke to snow. Snow on roofs, twigs, branches, lawns. Sky Sat.  
still thick with it & the sun like a blurry orange. All the children soon out. Merian with them. She changed stockings and shoes, 3 or 4 times & Delossy took her to Loesers for new galoshes. I shopped & got ready for tomorrow. Sun going down a blurred orange again. Three most popular songs this last week of 1939. Scatterbrain, My Prayer, Lilacs in the Rain. (Hit Parade.) Popsy home from dry cleaners.

Dec. 31. To celebrate the coming of the new year, Delossy & I lay abed till nine. Then called out to Merian to start some coffee perking. Stell was already baking in the kitchen. We ate breakfast in bathrobes & I thought about the old year. Delossy made a lot of money & pulled us out of debt; I finished a new book & placed it (after my discouragement;\*) Stella got well; Merian had scarlet fever, went to camp & started with the ortho dentist ... I went into 4th grade, got to be almost nine; and began to learn to play the piano. We bought a piano in 1939 & planted a dogwood tree. On the whole it was a good year for us but bad with the world. Roy and Emma to dinner to celebrate its passing and friends dropping in until midnight.