

Collection Information:

Item: Handsaker's Annual: pictures, family, the war, and especially-Michael, 1944.

Series: Albums.

Collection: Handsaker, Willard Nelson. Handsaker's

Annual family albums and slides collection.

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pictures
family
thewar
and especially-Michael

THE STORY OF OUR YEAR

April; then, after three days at home, she went to Dayton, Ohio as a civilian technician at the Air Base. at Wright Field.

She and five other girls moved into a unique "log cabin" (see pages 58.59) in the fall; she had a week at home in June and was home for Christmas.

Betsy was at home with Mike. She had a couple of temporary jobs and near year's end she took a traveling recruiter's job for Army office help. Mike was such a happy baby that we all liked to care for him. I bill finished his first year and started his second at high school. In summer he worked at AH&D and in Christmas at the post office.

In my work I had two trips to Seattle, four to Montana and several shorter trips At home, I finished the redwood in the sun room, with vacation time and week-ends. I haunted old book stores for books with eneravings.

Bertha had a good visit in Seattle in August and

September, going alone.

The war reached a climax on June 5th with the invasion of France, and on the other side of the world we smashed the Japanese sea power in the battle of Leyte Gulf, October 23rd to 25th.

Photography: Film was in short supply and there were some wartime restrictions on picture taking. Most of my photos were taken with the 21/4×31/4 Kawee used as a plate camera with cut film; some with the 31/4×41/4 Graflex, vest pocket Ihagee and the Leica (color slides). No new equipment.

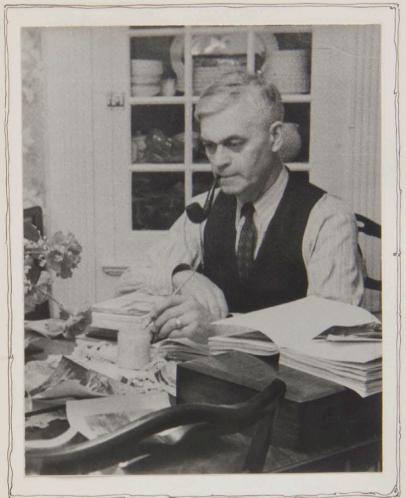
A mild, dry month - around 30° above, or warmer, half the month; up to 53° on the 25th; but the first two nights it was 10° below zero. I worked at the new room in my spare time, and took less than a week of vacation the 21st-26th. I got the reduced walls up, the window sills and cupboard for records; but there is still a lot of moulding to be placed.

I was in Duluth the 4th; and on the 28th I was in Grand Forks to look at the timber piers of Bridge 95. In the office, the report on Bridge 36 continued to be my steady job; I also made some estimates and specifications and summarized the Form 134.

Paul Skartvedt, Norman's boy, who's a flying lieut. stationed at Hobbs, N.M., dropped in on us Feb. 1st.

The war went on, with more landings in Italy; and a rather disestrous bomber flight over Germany the 10th or 11th; we lost at least 63, mostly big bombers

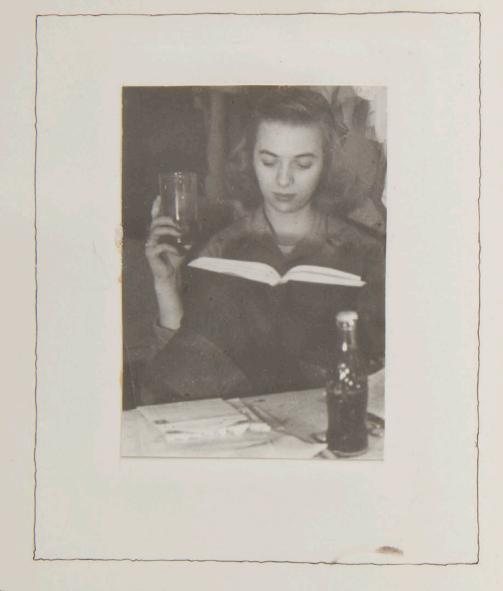
Photographically, I only took a few prictures of Michael and a couple of backyard shots. But I put in some time printing a lot of office portraits, mostly taken by Owen. They're in the 1943 volume.



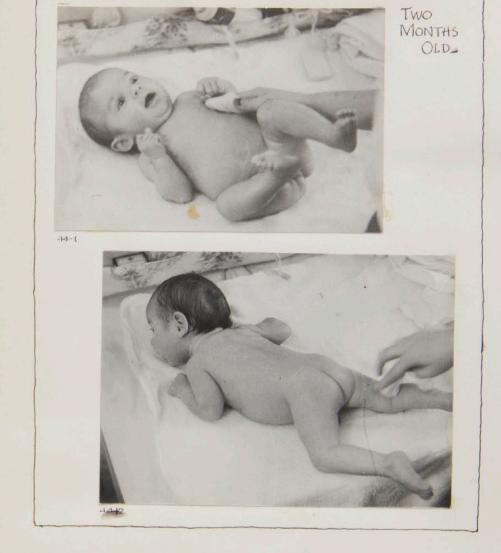
44-15

Nelson Handoakers

January



Penny at Purdue



Michael William Hennon

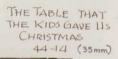
P44-4 VAP Kodak

21/4×31/4 Kanee





THE TREE SHACK
JANUARY 25
44-10
(Grafies)





BETSY AND BERTA-AND THEIR INFANTS JANUARY 25 44-13 (Graflex)



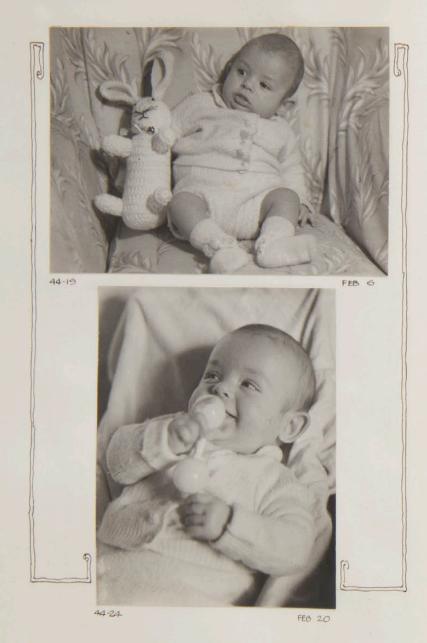
GRANDMA'S BABY

44-8 January 23



MAMA'S BABY

44-17 Feb. 6





212/-7-1

44-2

Talen with Graffex 21/4 × 3/4 / cut film

FEBRUARY 22ND

Cut Til

The month began and ended with temperatures above freezing and for the most part it was a mild month with some spring-like weather. It dipped to 5° below zero the 11th, 10° below the 12th, and 8° below on the 18th.

I went to Greycliff to look at the coal dock, being away the 13th, 14th and 15th, being on the train most of the time. The Soo Ore Dock Contract came to life again and I spent a good part of the month studying that, finishing up with more work on Bridge 36. There were also the usual run of estimates and odd jobs.

At home, I got the remaining mouldings - most of them, placed in the new room, and made a closet and a cupboard door. It's nearly done except finishing the wood, etc. Rigged up the bed, too.

I already mentioned Paul Skartvedts visit Feb 1st on account of fag over his home airport at Hobbs, N.M. They hopped to Kansas City, and the fag continuing, they were told to keep going, so they came up here. In the war, our landings in the Marshalls made steady headway.



44-28

FEBRUARY 27TH.

AUNT BETTY HENNON, GRANDMA HENNON AND MICHAEL





MARCH 1974

MINNEHAHA CREEK



MINNEHAHA FALLS



MARCH 19TH



MARCH 27TH

MINNEHAHA CREEK

NORTH DAKOTA SCENE

The 19th was a perfect winter day - 15° 30' above, calm, sunny, and snow on the ground. It was Sunday, so I hurried to Minnehaha Park and took pictures till noon. The 21st was really a spring day.

I worked, off and on; at staining the wood work in the new room, and did a little more carpenter work on it. Dennis gave me a lot of old photographic magazines, and I filled in most of the gaps with some I found at the Salvation Army book store, and bound some of them.

I worked on my Bridge 36 report, on the pins mostly; and on odd jobs, including the start of a revision of the engine restrictions, which turned into a big job.

One trip, to Garrison, Mont. - see picture opposite - on account of the coal dock. Went out on No.3; had Interesting visit with Bert Heidel of Broadus, Mont. Left the evening of the 24th, got home on No.2 the night of the 27th.

I went to a dinner meeting of the St. Paul Engineering Society, with Ekberg, the 13th; we went thru the Donaldson Co's air cleaner plant, where Bob Larson has become an impurtant employe. He was the guide of our group.



44-50

MARCH 26TH

MARCH

PALACE OF JOY

21/4 × 31/4 Kaws

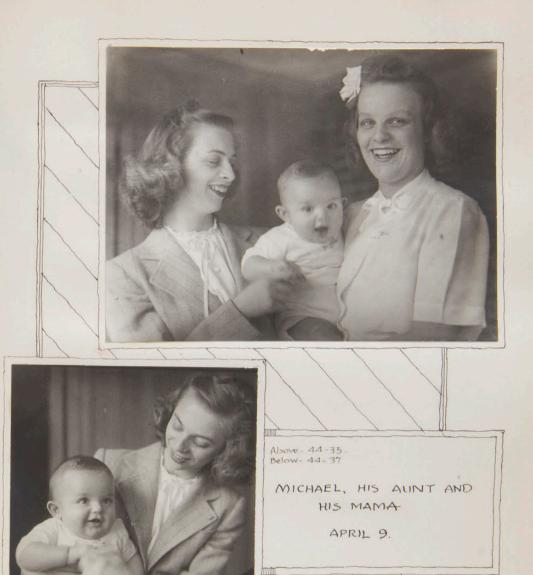
APRIL

The month started with a touch of spring, 65° on the 6th then it rained the 13th & 14th, and snowed all day the 16th then we had several days with rain and it was about 80° on the 28th.

I guess the month's biggest event was Peggy's visit home, from Purdue University the 7th, 8th and 9th. We had not seen her since last December 10th. Michael was christened at Plymouth Church, the 2nd. The evening of the 3rd, we went to Mary Manners's wedding and reception at St Clement's Church. I attended lodge-1st degree-the 6th. That doesn't happen once in five years.

There was another interesting meeting of the Engineers the 10th, when we went thru the airplane-propeller plant at the Fair Grounds.

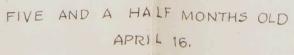
The Northern Pacific Engineering department was reorganized with Harold Peterson principal assistant engineer; John' Hoving office engineer, Jim Derrig to stay in Seattle. Hackenberg's Assistant District Engineer. Yager's office moved to Derrig's old room, so Pete can be close to Blum; and a new Middle District under Bennett, from Mandan to Garrison.







HE CAN SIT UP- SOME TIMES - BUT MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, HE GOES OVER, LIKE THE PICTURE ON THE RIGHT: THAT'S FUN TOO!



3"x4" Graflex





MIKE AND BETSY - APRIL 23.

APRIL 20



Lots of Toys

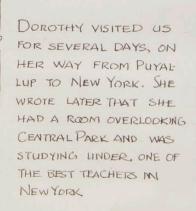


41-59

APRIL



DOROTHY WAS
HERE FROM
APRIL 22ND TO
25TH: THESE
PICTURES ARE
FROM HER FILMS,
TAKEN IN TAKOMA,





AY- A week of everything from heat to snow; a week of hot weather; a cool, showery week- and the last week I was in Montana (back for Memorial Day.) The report on Bridge 36 being out of the way, I revised the pocket bridge list, which kept me busy until Basil and I left for Marent Viaduct the 19th, in a compartment. Basil did most of the work at the Viaduct; we had lots of trouble with 1200' of new rope. We visited Bob Rhode at Bridge 232 and I rode around the loop to Paradise on a motor car with Footer, and returning, stopped at Townsend, Bismarck and Valley City.

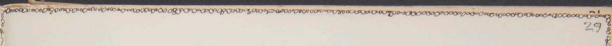
At home, the year's yard and garden chores began; I raked leaves on the 6th, started planting beans the 7th, and transplanted anemones the 12th. I did a little work completing the outside trim on the house addition.

We visited Hennons Sunday the 19th, at Mound, and went on a neighborhood picnic at Highland Park on the 30th.



All on these 2 pages







US AND OUR GRANDSON MAY 14TH, AT MOUND _ 000000000



44-48



W 44-4



1 44-49

JUNE Usual hot, humid & rainy weather - and on the 1st and 13th we had cloud bursts that flooded the base-

ment, We drove to Pine Bend the 4th Peggy was home again the 10th to 18th, through at Purdue, and went on to Day-ton to go to work.

Mosquitos were bad, in the yard, by

the 8th. Worked at office on Bridge 36, the Ove Dock contract and preparation of a force account contract for Fielding and Shepley.

In the war, the invasion of France began the 6th, and was successful.

On the 18th 1 started west (Powell and Ainey aboard.) Some delays in Seattle caused by west end plans gave me a week of miscellaneous field and office work, & plenty of time to visit all the relatives and old friends. I rode to Yakima the 26th in Supt Burgess's can Reached home the night of the 30th.

W44-5



Allied Forces Land In France



Arrows Indicate Where Nazis Say Second Front Opened

LITTLE OPPOSITION TO LANDING, AIR OBSERVER SAID

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BULLET

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The second secon



minute at Puyallup the 22nd; on Sunday the 25th 1 colled on Aunt Alice, had dinner with her and Ama and Ralph at the Meany Hotel, & later went by bus with Ama and Ralph, visited the place on the hill, had a steak supper at a restaurant and spent the night in Dorothy's vacated apartment catching the Yakima train next morning

I saw Ama for a

Ama and Ralph~

Other visiting-Agnes, Lola, & at Elma's the 20th, at Lola's the 21st. George and Margaret Hepkins the 22nd. Lola's the 22nd (Rob was home from a trip) Freemans for supper, with Hopkinses, Converses and Ornburns the 24th, at Elma's again the 27th. Supper the last evening the 28th, with Skartvedts and Carmans.

From Spokene to Missoula "Steve" Stang was on the train, to visit Tom, who has been quite ill at the hospital, but is about ready to go home.





44-73

JIM MEACHAM, BEN ORNBURN

At Yakima-June 26th



NP film

The weather was mostly very pleasant, warm and fair, with a few hot days and a couple of showers.

We had an absolutely quiet holiday at home, the Fourth; I tied up my beans and tomatoes. On Sunday the 16th there was a picnic in Como. Had a time finding the gang - Ryans, Manners's, Mae Smith &c. I took the streetcar home early.

On the 5th I went to Garrison for more coal dock data, just stopped there between trains; returning I stayed overnight at Livingston and on the 8th visited the new Bozeman tunnel with Shoemaker and Riedesal Returned on No.4. Aside from this trip, I worked mostly on some further exhibits for my report on Bridge 36, and on a revision of the pocket bridge list.

At home, I was feeling too lazy to do much. Glued and oil-stained the old walnut chest Bertha got. Found a few more steel and wood engravings, and spent a few evenings cataloguing and mounting them.

Bill worked most of the month as a laborer in the American Hoist and Derrick plant, getting in lots of overtime and earning a lot.



44-16A



14-64



44-69



MORE OF MICHAEL

Sued!







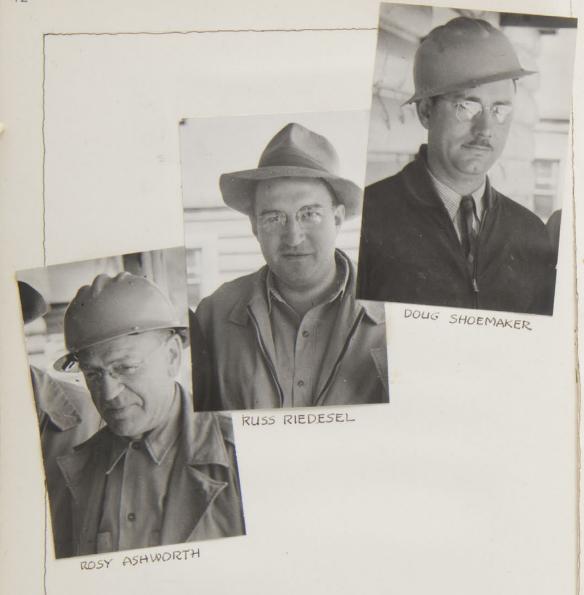


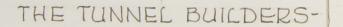
Michael, of course!

44-71 44-72 VBI Stramed July 12th Rullation











AND THE TUNNEL.

ugust

First half of the month hot and dry, a soaking rain the night of the 15th; then it was mostly pleasantly cool. Betsy left for a week at Detroit Lakes the 6th, & Bertha left ten days later for her visit in Seattle; she got home Sept. 9th. I took no trips.

I worked on ore dock "units" and other things in connection with the Soo contract, a little on Bridge 36, finishing my report (!) and a good deal of etcetera. Inspected the Hamline Ave footbridge the 16th & got a hot cinder in my eye.

The 28th, I began a week's vacation, to be around home when the tile was put in the bathroom, as well as to take a cance trip, but that belongs to September.

Bill and I had dinner at Knights' on the

Americans and British invaded France from the south, the 15th and in 2 weeks, had fought halfway to a junction with our northern invasion.



Michael again

44-76



August 5th



so Bill & I sat all day in the Taylors Falls depot, then 24 hours in a picnic shelter on the Wisconsin side.

Catching some drinking water from the eaves.
Chopping fire wood. Fortunately there were dead sticks that would burn.

Down the invertion the hill over our shack.
The last day it was fair, and we got to Stillwater.





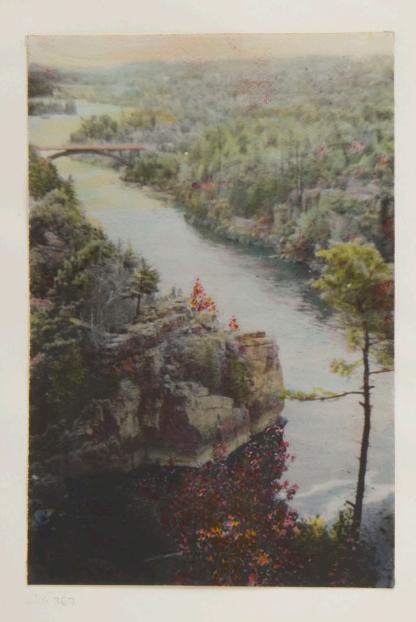






44.92





ST. CROIX DALLES



"Sees I can walk!

September

It was Aug. 30 that Bill and I went to Taylor's Falls to paddle to Stillwater; we made most of the trip-Osceola down-Sept. Ist. After that end-of August rain we had a very cool month with frequent drops to the 40s; Indian Summer.

Wagner the plumber left our bathroom torn up until after Bertha got home. Betsy's army friend Maggie Posten visited us from the 8th to the 21st; then Betsy went to Pocatello with her, also visiting in Seattle.

I drew up several specifications, worked on a division of the contract valuation of the ore dock, and took two trips: to Grand Forks the 11-12, 20 to Winnipeg the 20th for one day.

At home I was all over the lethargy that bothered, me in July and early August. Painted sash, waxed wood, made shelves, and nailed rigid insulation under the floor of the new room. I started putting up storm windows on the 30th.

All summer the 7th Street cars ran on 4th Street, - while 7th was repaved. Sept. 7th the cars moved back.

The war in Europe didn't move as fast as last month after we reached the main German defense line.





17 90

Maggie Posten and Michael were very friendly during her two weeks' visit with us in September



44-82 B



OCTOBER

Amonth of very good Indian Summer, except that there were quite a few showers the first week, Roofs were white with frost the first time on the 9th,

As Goldbarg was moving onto Robert St., I was in his old store looking for bargains quite often: old bound Centuries at a dime.

Betsy got back from the Coast the 11th; Ama and Ralph visited us the 15th, 16th and 17th, on their way from a visit in Boston and Virginia...

I took 2 one day trips-Rush City and the St Croix trusses the 20th, and Duluth and the Ore Dock on the 26th. That was to become more familiar with the proposed accounting property units. My principal office work was the Soo-NP ore dock contract, bridge contract proposals and a study of heavy car loadings.

At home, I painted the bathroom. As usual, too many coats, trying to get the right tint. It's cheaper as well as better, to hire it done. Started work on storm windows.

Bill's Skull-and-Keys put on a dance at the Saint Paul Hotel the 7th and made some money. The 21st & 22nd he hunted pheasants at Mound: brought home six.



· The Saint Croix



The state of

Come get me, Mommy! I'm too little to sit alone -



5



P44.56



The Log Gabin



A Good Time was had by All



Table Tennis





The Barbecue Pit-There's a Fireplace too.

P44-61

P44 59



NP FILM

- I was there Oct. 26th

Carl and the Shanghai Boys



44-3

Raphael Ensui Ting

Carl Ekberg

Basil Sourochnikoff

NOVEMBER was, I believe, a milder, Indian. Summer kind of month than October. In fact, the whole fall was about perfect except the wk. in Sept. we went canoeing. Our first snow was on the 23rd-Thanksgiving-but it melted like a frost, in an hour. By the 27th it was gray, freezing and a little snow. The next day I saw snow as far west as Missoula, enroute to Spokane.

There was one other trip, to Brainerd, Ironton & Staples the 1st and 2nd. My work was mostly Ore Dock contract, engine restrictions, &c.

Made my 10th blood donation at the Red Cross the 3rd, then began a series of checks of blood pressure at the N.P. Hospital, which ended in a verdict of OK.

Election day was the 7th. The bad news is opposite
The 11th we had a dinner party for the Stanley Smiths,
the Thumas and Mrs. Neff. I had exasperating luck at
bushouse rummy, afterward.

I continued painting the bathroom, coat after coat, and also did a little outside painting,

Bob and Mora Manners were over, the 19th. I made my Christmas card design the 22 nd.

The end of the month I was in Pasco, after stopping in Spokane, Sand Point and Clarks Fork. But I got out of Pasco the same night, avoiding the hotel problem. there. It's the worst in the West and getting worse minutes.



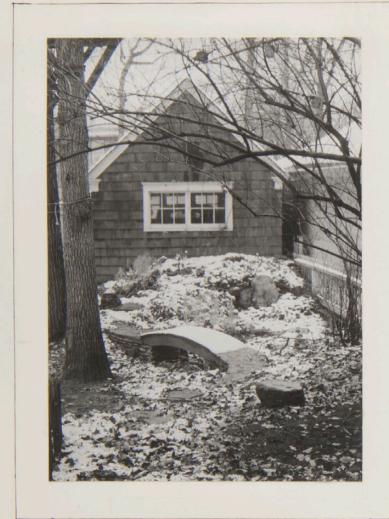




MICHAEL ONE YEAR OLD

November 14 44-96 21/4 x 3 1/4 Kenser Cid-film

44#998 Opal G, Steamed Copy of (44.99 × 24 × 34)



NOVEMBER GARDEN



LITTLE BRITCHES



2/4×3/4 out film 21/4×3/4 Konee 44-108 Cut- film

...DECEMBER.

was in Seattle when the month began. Between trips with Ben Ornburn, I got in visits with relatives and friends. All the relatives were well. Hopkinses have been living in a haunted house. Sat, evening & Sunday the 2nd-3rd I visited Ama & Ralph in Tacoma & had dinner with Herbert & Ethel Beers. In the evening I saw Hazel (Locke) Olden, and Helen Lee, Uncle Maurice's daughter. Ornburn had a tunnel inspection on the United Rys at Portland. We drove there, and inspected bridges on the way. Saw Jane & Howard Rogers and the kids one evening. Returning east, I had Margaret Hopkins for company most of the way. Found Peggy home. She stayed till the 27th. Weather was fine, no rain on the Coast, and mostly mildly freezing in St. Paul; & below, the 21st.

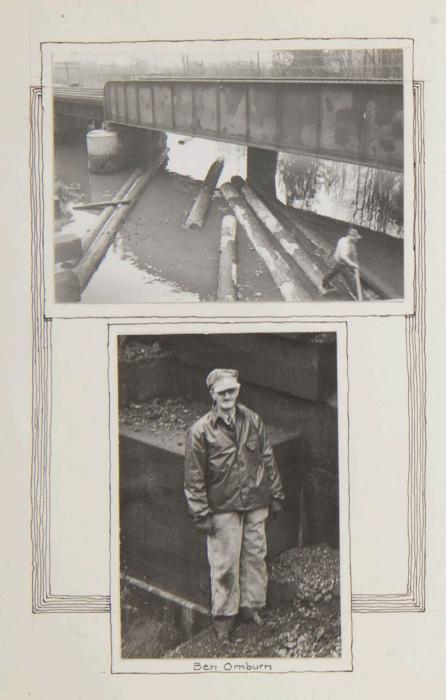
Bill worked at the Post Office; earned quite a lot but was off account sickness a few days.

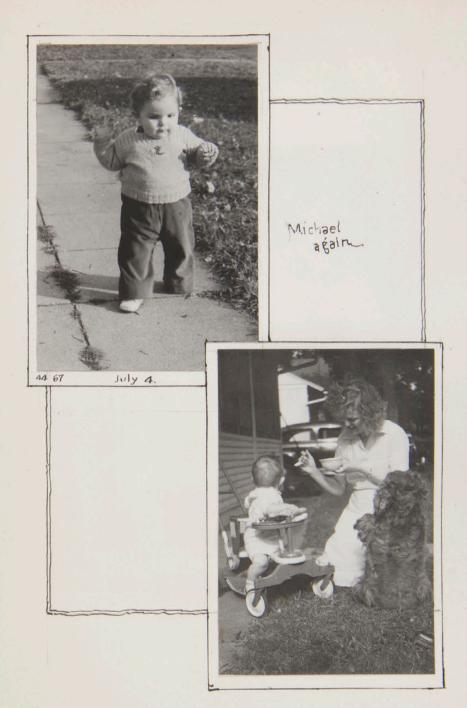
Christmas was a pleasant day, with the whole family home, and Hennons in for dinner, Michael had a fine time: but he always does. By the way, he had his first haircut the 26th; so his pictures'll look different.

The war went badly; the Germans broke our front lines in Luxembourg and for a while it looked like their bulge had a chance to go a long distance.



Neighborhood Girls "On the Rocks," Tacoma, about 1902





from photos I took for the N.P. Ry.





Muchael's Second Christmas























St. Paul Pioneer Press

Allied Forces Land In France



LITTLE OPPOSITION TO LANDING, AIR OBSERVER SAID

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