

THE 1949 JOURNAL OF
CHARLES WESLEY FITCH

TRANSCRIBED
SEPTEMBER 2010
BY

BY DONALD G CHINNERY

INTRODUCTION

CHARLES WESLEY FITCH MAINTAINED DAILY JOURNALS OR DIARIES, IF YOU WILL. THE 1905 DIARY - GRANDPA REFERS TO THEM AS DIARIE. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW MANY REMAIN TO THIS DAY. THIS TRANSCRIPTION WAS UNDERTAKEN TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO DESCENDANTS OF GRANDPA FITCH, THESE EXCELLENT RECORDS OF LIFE NEARLY A CENTURY AGO. CURRENTLY WE ARE TRYING TO DETERMINE HOW MANY OF THE JOURNALS REMAIN AND THEIR CURRENT WHERE-ABOUTS.

FROM A GENEALOGICAL STANDPOINT I HAVE ADDED FOOTNOTES THAT ARE PRINTED AT THE END OF THIS TRANSCRIPTION. THESE FOOTNOTES ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY. MANY OTHER NAMES ARE REFERRED TO IN THE JOURNAL AND ARE NO DOUBT RECOGNIZED BY MANY AS INDIVIDUALS PROMINENT IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF THIS AREA OF MASON COUNTY. WE RETAINED THE SPELLINGS AND PUNCTUATION AS RECORDED IN THE DIARY, EXCEPT FOR ADDING PERIODS OR HYPHENS TO SEPARATE ENTRIES FOR CLARITY PURPOSES. CONSEQUENTLY, SPELL CHECKER COULD NOT BE USED, AND WE HAD TO RELY ON MANUAL PROOF READING TO CORRECT OUR TYPING ERRORS

TRANSCRIBED BY DONALD CHINNERY, GRANDSON OF CHARLES WESLEY FITCH

DONALD CHINNERY
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010

JANUARY 1949

1. Sat.

Moved a double switch by our front door. Grace and I took George Sterns and John Houk up to Wm. Fredericks to get one half bushel of grapefruit. Mrs Frederick fed us pumpkin pie on a table outdoors.

2. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching, also to church in the evening.

3. Mon

I went down to the church and helped Ralph Blackman take down a manger scene. Called on Lloyd Brodens Put building paper and one piece of sheet rock on the west wall.

4. Tues

Grace and I went to Clearwater put an advertisement in the Clearwater Sun to rent our apartment. We bought some groceries. Spaded in front yard.

5. Wed

Spaded in front yard. Grace and I went to a carry in supper at the Methodist Church. Went up to Sterns and spent the later part of the evening.

6. Thus

Burnt weeds and grass in the back yard in the first part of the day. We took George and Mamie Sterns to Tarpon Springs.

7. Fri

Spaded in front yard Alex Benedict came up I took him back and mailed three Insurance letters.

I took Fred Campbell to Bay Pines Hospital to see his brother.

8. Sat

Spaded in front yard. We went down after groceries and 8 gallons of gasoline. Mailed letters to Jerry and Lois and Ivan Pelter and Ray Johnson.

9. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday school and Preaching Service Edith Duglas took our picture Wrote to Thomas Gatke¹. We went to Church.

10. Mon

Raked the front yard over three times went down to clearwater city dump and got cement blocks to hold dirt back on jones lot. Mailed letter to Joe Nagels

11. Tues

Set out Saint Augustine Grass in the front yard got it from neighbor Fred Campbell.

12. Wed

Grace and I went to a retired Civil Service Club at Clearwater there were about 80 there. We went to carry in supper at the church.

13. Thurs

Set out some more Saint Augustine grass in front of the house.

14. Fri

Finished setting grass in front of the house.

¹ Thomas Gatke first cousin to Charles

JANUARY 1949

15. Sat

Burnt weeds brush and grass in the back yard.

We went down town after groceries.

16. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday school and Preaching Service after dinner we went down to Gulfport to see Mr and Mrs Hoenes from Lyon Lake.

We came back in time for church.

17. Mon

Went to Dunedin Dump Ground and got some pieces of cement to make a walk from house to sidewalk.

Alex Benedict was here for dinner after dinner I took him to Largo to hunt for pipe for well casing.

Mailed a letter to Bensons, Nageles and Alfild².

18. Tues

Patched up the hole around the stack by the bathroom, fitted a piece of sheet rock under the sink.

Alex was here for dinner.

Watered the new grass and garden.

19. Wed

Put bolts in the windows and on north side of house also put hooks on two screens

20. Thurs

We went down to the church to help get tables ready

After dinner we went to Clearwater and bought a two burner electric plate and some dishes and looked for sheet rock.

Watered the grass

We went to our class party and a carry in supper.

21. Fri

Went up to Kenneth Kibbeys to see how Walnut Sheetrock looks on a wall.

Went down to Clearwater and ordered 4 1/2 sheets of plain and 8 sheets of walnut finish sheetrock.

Moved shelves for electric plate and dishes from south side to north side of kitchen watered the grass.

22. Sat

Burnt some shavings on some bad grass. Counter sunk some nails in the front room.

Went down town got groceries and gasoline

Watered the grass and flowers.

23. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching service.

It was Tourist Sunday at our church and Michigan had 62 persons there and got a prize one half pound jar of honey to each family from House and Haynes.

Hoenes's from Marshall and St. Petersburg were up to see us.

24. Mon

Plastered on ceiling of our front room.

25. Tues

Put up a piece of sheetrock.

Alex was up to see us about going after fish.

Grace and I went over to George Sterns and spent the evening.

² Alfild Tallefson, daughter of Grace.

JANUARY 1949

26. Wed

Went over to George Sterns and got eleven 2 x 4
Mr Hayes called on us in the forenoon.
We put one sheet of sheetrock³ on the ceiling of kitchen and a little piece in front room.

A. Benedict was here - we went down to Clearwater Beach and Alex bought a four pound Kingfish(\$1.20) and we three ate part of it for supper.

27. Thurs

Finished plaster seams in ceiling of front room
Sanded on ceiling of front room.

28. Fri

Finished sanding of the ceiling of front room
Put up two pieces of sheetrock on kitchen ceiling.

29. Sat

Helped Grace clean up some of the dust we have been making.
We are having a nice little rain. 3/10 inch

30. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and preaching
We went to church.

31. Mon

Worked at figures for income tax - rained 0.5 inch
Alex was here we went to Post Office and mailed letter to Willard.
Bought two quarts of ivory paint \$2.20

³ I have been trying to ascertain when Charles purchased the property in Dunedin, FL and started construction. Joyce Herrick can remember a large load of lumber being loaded in the 1940's for Grandpa to use. Best we can determine the lumber was cut and dried at Herricks Factory in Ludington. The house had two one bedroom apartments, Each with a front and rear entrance. There was a common door between the two apartments, that could be opened when relatives were visting, and staying over night. There was only one bathroom shared by both apartments. Construction seemed to be an on going as was the usual continuing maintenance that one experiences taking care of there home. One of the later diaries mention purchasing an electric plate, and having a electrician wire a connection for this plate in the adjacent apartment. We believe that renters could very well have had access to the main kitchen. Even as late as the 1960 diary, one gets the impression that accommodations probably not much more than rustic. dgc 14 September 2010

FEBRUARY 1949

1. Tues

Pulled nails out of some sheetrock, I want to take off.

Painted the ceiling in front room

Bailey Sabins started for home.

2. Wed

Started to put on walnut finish sheetrock on sides of front room.

Winbeckers moved in our apartment

We went to prayer meeting.

3. Thurs

Put more wallboard on sidewalls of front room.

Grace and I went to a 60 cent supper at our church.

4. Fri

Finished put the walnut finish wallboard on the sides of our front room.

5. Sat

Wrote letters to G.A. Swanson, Abrahamson Nerheim Co, National Bank and Michigan Public Service.

Winbeckers moved out of our apartment.

Grace and I went to clearwater got groceries and an Electric Heater.

6. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching

We called on Lloyd Broders in the afternoon .

We went to Clearwater Chain of Missions with John Houk

7. Mon

Wm Hazenbacks moved in our apartment I varnished two side walls of front room.

8. Tues

Finished put the studing in between kitchen and dining room.

9. Wed

Grace and I went to Clearwater to the all States Retired Postal Employees Club.

10. Thurs

Took the Chevrolet to Clearwater and got the brakes adjusted.

Took some nails out of four large boxes and brought them home from one block south of here.

Mailed letters to Charles Jr., and Carlton Benson, received letters from Arlene, Gertrude, MarianJohnson, and a roll of papers from Alice and a money order.

11. Fri

received letters from Alice, Waunita, Mrs good and National bank.

Sent package to Elsie Fitch, Letters to Norway, Edith, Nageles, Telephone Co.

Made a small house in backyard with one of the larger boxes to store stuff in.

Grace and I went to a VFW Fish Fry.

12. Sat

Cleaned up the back yard, moved paint cans, nails and other things from the house to the new paint house.

We went to Clearwater after groceries bought a light for the front room. \$3.95

Received letters from josephine and county clerk Johnson got license plate.

13. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching.

We went to preaching in the evening.

14. Mon

Went down to Clearwater and ordered 6 sheets of sheetrock and it was delivered at noon.

Grace and i put up three sheets in the kitchen.

Mailed a letter to Alice.

FEBRUARY 1949

15. Tues

Grace and I put three sheets of the Walnut finish on the front room and that finished that room.

16. Wed

I put varnish on the walls of our front room.

Helped Underwood put on two 8x10 sheets of Homersite⁴ on Bedroom.

Mailed letter to Alfild.

17. Thurs

Helped Mr Underwood put on three sheets of of homersite.

Set out flower plants

We received letters from Alice, Susie, Elsie Henry, card from Wittbecke, and papers from Alice.

Mailed letter to Mrs Henrys, Martha Herrick, Hedvik Balstad, Ivan Pelter and a card from Hoenes.

18. Fri

Waunita Arlene and Bernice.⁵

Helped Mr Underwood put cornish up under the roof of new bedroom and we put two 8 x 10 sheets of homersite on south wall.

Went down town got a 16 inch length of stove pipe, 2 screen door braces and a 100 watt bulb.

19. Sat

Plastered some joints in kitchen ceiling
We went down to town after groceries.

20. Sun

Grace and I went Sunday School and Preaching Service.

After dinner we went to largo and made two calls, but the people wasn't home, then we drove down the Haines Road to hunt for Stoners but did not find them

21. Mon

Painted door pulls and casing and window, also put a glass in our bedroom window.

Robert Wittbeckers move in our apartment. Mr and Mrs Young from Largo and Mirmn called on us.

Grace and I and Mrs Wittbecker went to Clearwater to hear Sam Moris give a temperance talk.

22. Tues

Grace and I took Mr and Mrs Wittbecker and Alex Benedict to Gulfport to a Mason County Reunion, there were about 130 there.

Wrote a letter and check to Albert Swanson.

23. Wed

Washed West end and north side of the house outside.

Wittbeckers moved out.

Got letters from telephone Company. Mary Lunde from Miami Fla. and Edith grant.

Wrote to Lundes, Nageles and Jesse Barton

We went to Prayer meeting

Hazelbanks moved in again.

⁴ Probably what we call homesote wallboard.

⁵ Not sure what purpose is. The three names written in pencil between date and text in ink. I would guess received letters.

24. Thurs

Painted our bedroom window outside.
Took Alex Benedict down to Clearwater to
get an electric shaver.
Grace and I took Mr and Mrs Hazenbank
and Mrs Douglas and Edith to our class
carry in supper.

25. Fri

I took Mr and Mrs Underwood to
Clearwater to get a rug for their bedroom.
Painted our kitchen and bathroom
windows on the outside.

26. Sat

Went over to Ralph Blackmans on
Broadway and he gave me a pink turks
cap and a flowering vine. Painted some
of the cornish on the house.
Wm Hazenbank moved out.
Alex Benedict called on us.
Received letters from Elsie Fitch,
Waunita McDonald, and Anna Fitch.

27. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday school and
preaching service.
We went to church.

28. Mon

Grace and I went to Clearwater and
bought nine dollars worth of groceries. I
took tin cans and glass to the dump and
brought back pieces of cement to put on
the line between Jones and us.
Mailed letters Edith, Gertrude, Charles.
I painted cornish on east end of our
house. Received water bill
William Johnson and Jacob % Mary
Lunde came to see us.

MARCH 1949

1. Tues

Brother William took us to the Bok Tower and Cypress Gardens, we ate in a restaurant in Lake Wales at noon and our supper after we got home.

Received a letter from Wm Hazenbank

2. Wed

We went through the juice plant and to Tarpon Springs - ate dinner in a restaurant in Tarpon Springs.

We went to Clearwater Beach and to Indian Rocks got some Kocanoes

Called on Kenneth Kibbey and George Sterns.

3. Thurs

William and the Lundes started home a little after 8 o'clock

Watered the lawn and Garden.

Received lettered from Mrs J Nagele, Edith, Susie Hamilton & Mary Dawson from Norway and Gertrude Johnson and light bill from Ludington

Wrote to Charles air mail.

4. Fri

We are using wood this morning - so I am sawing some.

Put some cement blocks on line south of house and moved some of the sand to the east part of the lot. Received letters from Alfhild and Bernice and my W.S. Check

Mailed letters to Mary Fitch, National Bank, Michigan Public Service. Sent roll for pictures and 2 pkg Talerines to Fred Hanson.

5. Sat

Painted the cornish the second coat.

Received letters from Gertrude and National bank.

Mother wrote letters to Waunita McDonald and Norma Pelter.

6. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday school and Preaching

Mother called on the Douglas's

We went to church

7. Mon

Plastered on the kitchen walls. Received a special airmail from Willard.

Put shellac on knots in window frames.

Received letters from Arlene.

Sent our income tax \$25.60

Grace and I went to meeting at the Baptist Church.

8. Tues

Grace and I went down to the Dunedin Times, Got four gallons of gasoline and air in the tires. Mailed letters to Elaine

Henry, Elsie Henry, Gladys Davis, Willie, Benjamins and Heyse's

Painted the windows and one door ate more turnips from our garden.

9. Wed

Grace and I went to the retired Postal Workers Club at Clearwater.

Grace and I went to Revival Services at the Baptist Church.

10. Thurs

Painted the west window in north side of the house. It rained a few minutes.

Got letters from Elsie Fitch, Gladys Herrick Edith Grant

Sanded on Kitchen Ceiling.

11. Fri

Wrote Gunder Johnson, Helen Burmeister, Gertrude Benson, Bernice, Benjamin, Charles Hamilton.

Finished paint the windows.

Dug some bad grass out watered the grass.

Grace and I went to a fish fry and the Revival Service at the Baptist Church.

MARCH 1949

12. Sat

Grace and I went to see Dorothy Douglas, The Bank and to get groceries at Dunedin and Clearwater
Received letters from Josephine, Alfhild and Ernest Kriger.

13. Sun

Sent McCabe, Alice Chinnery Letters
Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching service
We went to Donald Petersons for Dinner and Supper.
We went to church.
Got night letter from Marvin announcing the arrival of Jack Wesley Rotman

14. Mon

Went down and paid the water bill
Pulled weeds in the lawn
Received a letter from Gertrude
Sent letters to Carlton Benson
Edith Grant and Mary Lunde
Marvin Rotman

15. Tues

Put up a shelf in the bath room.
Sent letters to Arlene Dixon
Rev. Harold Clark
Moved a little sand south of the house
Pulled moss off one Oak Tree
Alex Benedict was here for dinner
Received a card from Wm Hazenbank
We called on Underwoods

16. Wed

Worked at the cubbard in east kitchen

17, Thurs

Worked at some cubbard doors.

18, Fri

Grace and I went Deep Sea Fishing with George and Mamie Sterns, Charles Hoise and another man.
We went out fifteen miles in the Gulf of Mexico. I was sick about one hour.
We got about 100 pounds.

19. Sat

Glued the two cubbard doors
We went to Clearwater and seen Donald Petersons and bought 3 pounds of pecans for 99 cents.

20. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching Service
We called on the S. Falls that live in Skinner Orchard.
We went to church

21. Mon

Painted the cubbard doors
Moved some sand from the south side of house.
Worked at cubbard in South Kitchen
Got a letter from Wm Johnson
George Sterns was here for supper.

22. Tues

I took some trash to the Clearwater Dump and brought back some pieces of cement.
Mailed a letter to Wm Johnson
Grace and I took George Sterns and Donald Petersons over to Wm Fredericks for a fish fry.

MARCH 1949

23. Wed

Moved some sand and put in some pieces of cement south of the house.
Mailed letters to Arlene, Helen and Bernice
Painted the two cubbard doors and our kitchen table
Grace and I took Mr Douglass and Edith to Prayer Meeting.

24. Thurs

Took my suit to Clearwater to get dry cleaned and brought back some pieces of cement.
Mailed letters to Charles and Alfchild.
Alex was here for dinner
Received a letter from Arlene
Put the two cubbard doors on
Took Grace to church and went after her.

25. Fri

Moved some sand and placed some pieces of cement south of house.
Mr Noise put in a push in receptacle in the kitchen for the electric plate.
Received letters from Edith and Alfchild
Glued a chair, a wiener fork and a knife handle.

26. Sat

Finished moving dirt and placing cement slabs south of house.
Sarted to build a cubbard in the middle wall.
Grace and I went to Clearwater after my suit and to the Beach to see fish boats come in.

27. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and Preaching brought Wm Fredericks home for dinner.
Mr and Mrs John Inahanson and Mrs Ralph Knudsen and Mr and Mrs Christ Knudsen called on us.
We called to bid George Sterns goodbye.

Grace and I went to Church to Easter Program.

28. Mon

Finished Build the cubbard in the wall and painted it.
Edward Wrights called on us.

29. Tues

Weeded garden
Alex was up. I went down to get a check cashed before dinner
Painted the cubbard second coat. Took Alex with me and went after Grapefruit and a six pound KingFish at 30 cents a pound.

30, Wed

Put some shellac above doors outside where paint was coming off.
Grace and I paid our electric bill and went to the juice Factory to see a man to rent our house.
After dinner I went to G. Sterns, to see Jackson at work, up to Kibbeys and Fredericks
We went to Prayer meeting.

31. Thurs

Painted a little on outside of house where the paint was coming off.
Washed one window outside Grace and I and Mrs Campbell and Mrs Pell went to Clearwater.

1. Fri

Got the Chevrolet greased and oiled.
Paid for Dunedin Paper for a year, payed
water bill, Saw the police.
Bought some Talerines
Took Alex to his lots, we put in six iron
stakes.

Grace and I priced electric refrigerators
and went to Palm Harbor to see about
fruit to take home. Mrs???? took us out
for supper. Then we all spent the evening
with Bert Leonardson and sisters.

2. Sat

Started to water the grass, then raining a
little.
Done some packing, wrote to Alice C and
sent check to Michigan Public Service.

3. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and
Church
Wm Fredericks were here for dinner.
We went to Church in Evening.

4. Mon

Went to Post Office and got letters from
Alfhild, Gertrude, Ethel, and Willie and
W.S Check.
Started home a 11:30 AM stopped three
miles north of Perry at a cabin \$4.00 188
miles

5. Tues

Left our cabin at six thirty drove to
Sylacouga Ala Stayed at Cook's Tourist
Home \$3.50 ate supper at Whites
Restaurant \$1.50

6. Wed

Started at 6:40 AM and arrived at Fred
Deans about 7 PM
Millie called Hazen and they came over.

7. Thurs

Got up late. Fred worked in the
Forenoon, Millie showed us around their
farm.
Fred brought home 250 little chickens.

8. Fri

No entry

9. Sat

No entry

10. sun

Mother and I went to the two services
with the Bensons and after dinner we
went with them to make calls on two sick
people.
Carlton had the young peoples meeting
at their place.

11. Mon

Mother and I left Bensons at 8:45 AM .
We dropped Beverly off at her school. We
stopped at the Kellogg School and saw
Allen. Arrived at Rotmans at noon.
Had dinner and started for home at 2 PM.
We stopped at Burmeisters for supper
and at McDonalds on way home.
Had coffee at Charles and stayed all
night at Tallefsons in the twin beds.

12. Tues

We unloaded our Chevrolet, went to
James Cassans for dinner after dinner we
called on C W Fitchs Jr, Arnie Grant had
coffee there. Stopped at Benjamins called
on R J Fitchs and ate supper at William
Fitchs, Stopped at Hiram Herricks and
came home and seen eclipse of the
moon.

13. Wed

Grace and I went to the bank, gas company, telephone company and got groceries.

Worked in the asparagus bed.

Went down to the Hamiltons for supper, to meeting at the Baptist Church

Called on Clifford Johnsons

14. Thurs

Raked the lawn

Put a new Threshold under door upstairs.

We went to meeting at the First Methodist church.

15. Fri

Took the Chevrolet down to the Chevrolet Garage to get a grease and oil job. Miles - 79283

We went to Church Service at the Community Church

Took Grace to Edith Grants, I went to see Charles W. Jr he is in bed sick. We went over to Arthur Benson in the Evening.

16. Sat

Scraped the loose paint off the ceiling of kitchen closet and painted it.

Put gasket on kitchen faucets

Grace and I went to a Gleaner Meeting at Carl Christisens

17. Sun

Grace went to Bethany Church

I went to the First Methodist church

We were at Alfred Chinnerys for dinner Floyd McDonalds were here for supper.

Mother didn't feel good, I went up to James Cassans his mother was there.

18. Mon

Painted the walls of closet in kitchen peach color - water paint.

Sent checks to Florida Power, Blue Cross, Kansas City Insurance, Great Southern Insurance and City water

19. Tues

Paint the woodwork in the closet off the kitchen

Went over to see Charles Jr., he is some better he was up.

Grace and I went out to Glen Benjamins for supper.

20. Wed

Started to spade the garden

Mother went to Manistee.

21. Thurs

Fixed three faucets upstairs

spaded in the garden

Put side air rings in the Florance Heater Stove

22. Fri

cleaned kitchen walls with wall paper cleaner

Took some flower plants to Ethel Cassan and Edith Grant

We got groceries, some razor blades and two ball point pens

23. Sat

Went out to Herricks and loaded two loads of wood and Hiram brought them down to me,

Grace and I went to the funeral of Georgia Thomson

APRIL 1949

24. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church took Ethel and her two children⁶ to the 1st Methodist Grace and I went to the Free Methodist church

25. Mon

Painted two walls of the bath room flat white also a chair.
Spaded in garden
I mailed a package to Arlene
Grace and I went over to Fred Dostals to spend the evening.

26. Tues

Went down to the post office to see the rural carriers about going to our RLCA Meeting tomorrow night.
Paint Bath room walls

27. Wed

Painted the kitchen walls and ceiling Buff Oil Paint.
Grace and I went to RLCA meeting at Raymond Heyse's

28. Thurs

Sun shiny but cool
I painted the oil cloth on the kitchen walls.
Worked in garden
Mother and I went out to Herricks

29. Fri

Elsie Fitch and I went to the Green house and ordered flowers for Mrs Herrick⁷ Funeral.
Layed in bed awhile
After dinner I spaded garden

30. Sat

Planted some onion sets, radish, parsnips, carrots, swifts chard, lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, spinach and beets.
We went to the funeral of Mrs Herrick
Had coffee at Ediths

⁶ Julie and Jane Cassan - ages 4 and 3 at this time.

⁷ Lucetta Gamertsfelder mother of Hiram Herrick husband of Gladys Herrick nee Fitch

1. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church, I went to the First Methodist church. Charles Jr seated us Dona Fitch, Lucille Chinnery and me.

We wrote to William Johnson.

2. Mon

Spaded around the Pie Plant
Grace and I went to town I bought 210 feet of electric to replace wires from the house to garage and one quart of cream enamel for the kitchen woodwork.
Started to paint.

3. Tues

Finished paint the kitchen woodwork.
Grace and I took Mrs Molly Parsons to Pomona Grange at Elin Flats School House.

4. Wed

Cleaned the dinning room walls and ceiling with wall paper cleaner.
Grace and I went to a carry in supper at the First Methodist Church

5. Thurs

Cleaned the side walls and ceiling in the front room with wall paper cleaner.

6. Fri

Hoed the pie plant⁸
split wood.

7. Sat

Split wood and put in the basement.
Hoed flowers out in the lawn.
We went after groceries.

8. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to the First Methodist
People who called on us, Gladys stopped and left 3 plants for mother; Alice Chinnery, Charles and Elsie Fitch, The Burmeisters, the McDonalds, the Henrys, the Cassans

9. Mon

Hoed amongst the flowers, mowed the lawn.
Had a tooth put in my plate.

10. Tues

Spaded a little in the garden
Planted a few morning glories
Grace and I went up to Roy Henrys for supper and to a program at the Custer school.

11. wed

Spaded some in the garden went and brought Joshine up here. Tighten up three dining room chairs.
Grace and I went up to Ediths and to the church, but there was no prayer meeting.
I dont feel very well.

12. Thurs

Finished spade the garden
Put lime or ground lime stone where I spaded.
Varnished three dining room chairs
I dont feel too good yet.

13. Fri

Tightened up dining room chair and varnished it.
I went to see Doctor Paukutis. He said heart OK, Lungs OK temperature OK Blood Pressure 140 OK gave me two kinds of medicine but I'm not well yet.

⁸ Probably what we know as rhubarb. Excellent for pies and sauces.

14. Sat
Fixed two chairs and varnished them
Grace and I went to Robert Hulls
wedding.
Ethel was here a little while after supper.

15. Sun
Took Mother to Bethany I went to 1st
Methodist
We ate our dinner in Gray Hall
Grace and I called on Clifford Johnsons,
Steve Nerheim, and Albert Moline.

16. Mon
Took my blue suit down to Babbion the
Tailor
Repaired and varnished the dining room
table
Raked in the garden

17. Tues
Raked in garden
Planted beans and radish and sun
flowers.
Scraped loose paint off outside of sun
porch.

18. Wed
Painted on outside of sunporch
Grace and I went to prayers Meeting at
bethany Church

19. Thurs
Put new number 12 wire from house to
garage.
Grace is gone to Grand Rapids
I went to bed at 8 o'clock
tired out

20. Fri
Painted bathroom woodwork Buff Enamel
Changed the soil around the North
Evergreen in front of the house.
Grace and I took Ethel Cassan and
Donna Fitch up to Custer to see Doris
Henry [graduation].

21. Sat
Painted on outside of sunporch
We got about \$9.00 of groceries at
Hollick and Carlsons
Grace and I went to 9th district RLCA
meeting at Bitely with Alton Hayward.

22. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany and I went to the
First methodist Church
In the afternoon we ate at Cassans, C W
Fitch Jr., Herricks and Clifford Johnsons.

23. Mon
I painted a small ice box white
Bought 4 1x4x14 for to repair garage
roof \$3.71
Planted 7 cabbage and 13 tomatoes
Plants some lettuce and sweet corn.
Mowed the lawn
Mother went to Mother and Daughter
Banquet . I helped Arnie Grant take a
window out.

24. Tues
Trimmed around trees and edge with
grass shears.
Went to bed right after dinner don't feel
good.
Mother has gone to church.

25. Wed
Puttied and painted two windows in the
garage and put a new pull chain socket
on the extension cord.
We went to prayer meeting.

MAY 1949

26. Thurs

Put two patches on barn roof. also one piece of cornish on eves of barn, Grace and I called on Henry Agens and Frank Beebes ate supper at Beebes.

27. Fri

Painted three windows in sun porch. used up all the paint.
Grace and I took Dorothy Swansby to Rural carriers meeting at Edward Karras's South of Freesoil.
there was thirteen men there.

28. Sat

Went over to see Alice Chinnery. Painted the small Ice box Enamel
Hoed garden
We went after groceries stopped at Jacob Lundes and Arnie Grants.

29. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church and Ethel, Julie, Janie and I went to the 1st Methodist.
Mother went to Music Recital at Oriole Hall, I laid down most all the afternoon.

30. Mon

Mother and I went up to the cemetery.
Hoed garden
Guner and Gertrude Johnson called on us.
Floyd McDonalds were here for supper.

31. Tues

Went to the post office mailed a card to Grace Hubble and birthday cards to Willie and Richard.
Removed paint from White Ice Box.

1. Wed
Removed paint form Ice Box and painted it.

2. Thurs
Worked⁹ at Herricks making Centers for quart crates 8 hours
Grace and I went to Womens Society Meeting at Bethany Church

3. Fri
Painted two Ice Boxes
Bought a pair of brown work shoes for \$8.57

4. Sat
Painted one ice box put doors on one.
We went down and paid Electric Bill also Gas Bill
Went to Paul Hansons Wedding
Went to Mason Grange at C.A. Parsons

5. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany Church
Ethel and her two Girls and Sister nora to 1st Methodist
We up to cemetery
Wrote to brother Ernest and Carlton and Gertrude Benson

6. Mon
Made centers for quart crates at Herrick Factory

7. Tues
Worked at Herricks Factory

8. Wed
Worked at Herricks Factory

9. Thurs
Worked at Herricks Factory

10. Fri
Worked at Herricks Factory making centers for quart crates.

11. Sat
Took Bernice and the three boys down to the lake after sand for the sand box
Finished put the ice boxes together
Planted one row of lettuce, some beets and spinach.
We all went to Charles Jr. Elsie gave us a nice Fish Supper

12. Sun
Took Bernice and her two oldest boys , Ethel and her two girls and Waunita to Sunday School.
Bernice and I stayed for church
Our family of near forty had a big dinner at the State Park
They gave me a real nice Dress Jacket¹⁰.

13. Mon
Worked in the Factory making Centers for quart crates.
Planted six hills of Dahlies
Set out about 15 one row of early tomatoes and one row of and one row of early cabbage.

14. Tues
Made quart crate centers at Herricks factory.

⁹ Grandpa after retiring with a postal service pension was not elgible for social security. He needed credits from 12 quarters. All that was required was working one day within a 3 month quarter. Thus during summers he could get in 3 qtrs. I became aware of this when my first summer from college -1948 I was looking for a job and ended up calling grandpa and getting a ride to Herricks. Was hired immediately so for three summers went to work with grandpa. I didnot drive at that time. dgc

¹⁰ Probably birthday celebration because he was 71 on June 6th

15. Wed
Made centers for quart crates at Herrick
Factory
Rained in the night
Grace and I took Bernice and her four
boys out to Herricks for supper.

16. Thurs
Made centers for quart crates at Herricks
Factory
Bernice and her son Jack Wesley
Baptized at Charles Fitch Jr
Elsie had a real nice lunch for us
afterwards

17. Fri
Made centers for quart crates at Herricks
Factory.
Marvin Rotman came in late afternoon.

18. Sat
Cut the lawn, hoed some in the garden
The Rotmans went over to Charles W. Jr
s for dinner and started home right after.
We went and got almost \$10.00 in
groceries and meat.

19. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany. Ethel and her two
girls to the First Methodist.
Willards, Arnies and us ate our supper at
the Waterworks Park.

20. Mon
Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went to a strawberry
ShortCake Supper at Bethany Church.

21. Tues
Worked at Herrick Factory
Went up to the cemetery and sprayed the
baskets with D.D.T. Charles helped me
move our Bed over to his place.

22. Wed
Worked at Herrick Factory
My feet hurt and my throat is sore.

23. Thurs
Worked at Herricks Factory

24. Fri
Rained
Worked at Herricks Factory
I am feeling better

25. Sat
Rained
Transplanted some petunias south of
House, also some cabbage and tomatoes
plants
Tore a gas range apart to get lower part
for a table.

26. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany Church - Ethel
and her two girls to the 1st Methodist.
We ate dinner at Charles Jr, they had
Willie and Anna there too.'
We took Willies home and attended
church at Summit
Called on Richards

27. Mon
Worked at Herricks

28. Tues
Worked at Herricks

29. Wed
Worked at Herricks
Brought Charles Clauson 10 bushel of
kindling wood
Grace and I went to prayer meeting.

30. Thurs
Worked at Herricks

1. Fri
Worked at Herricks, we run 3 logs into veneer.
Loaded a load for Benton Harbor¹¹
Nancy and Martha went with Hiram

2. Sat
Hoed in Garden
Repaired Garage Roof and put some Roof paint on the east side.
Got our groceries
Bought a 34 pound watermelon \$1.70

3. Sun
Took Mother to Bethany Church and Ethel and her two daughters to the 1st Methodist
We ate supper at the waterworks Park with bensons, Grants and Janius

4. Mon
Washed the Chevrolet.
Went down and saw the parade.
Ate dinner at 2 o'clock with Arnie Grants at WaterWorks Park.
Grace and I went to the beach to see the fireworks.
McDonalds and Henrys called a little while.

5. Tues
Worked at Herricks Factory
I am tired went to bed at 8 o'clock

6. Wed
Worked at Herricks Factory
It is a hot day
Grace and I went to Prayer meeting.

7. Thurs
Worked at Herricks Factory

8. Fri
Worked at Herricks Factory

9. Sat
Worked at Herricks Factory
We got our groceries and a haircut after supper.

10. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany Church
Ethel and her two daughters to the 1st Methodist
I sat with Charles and Elsie
Grace and Janice and -----??

11. Mon
Run the little saw in the Boiler Room at Herrick Factory
Voted at School election
Grace and I took some Ice Cream up to Sister Nora Hayes.

12. Tues
Run the saw in the Boiler Room at Herricks Factory
Mowed the grass
Fixed 4 bushel crates

13. Wed
Worked at Herricks Cut off slats on saw in Boiler Room

14. Thurs
Helped Herricks
Sawed half a day and made centers for quart crates in the afternoon.

15. Fri
Helped Herricks
We loaded a load for Benton Harbor

¹¹ Benton Harbor was location of a basket factory initially run by Hiram Herricks father, Frank Herrick. The truck would be loaded with baskets ready for sale and also supplies to assemble berry crates and fruit boxes on location in Benton Harbor. Mr Herrick died in 1948. Lois and Jerry Winsemius started the management of the Benton Harbor operation and did so for many years. dgc

JULY 1949

16. Sat
Worked on garage roof
Hoed in garden and watered some of it.
Charles and Elsie , Grace and I went to
Harold Williamsons to a Gleaner Meeting

17. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany Church, Ethel and
her two girls to the 1st Methodist, Dona
was there and sat with me.
Helen and Clarence Burmeister also
Jerry came and ate dinner with us.
Grace and I went to the Methodist Picnic
at the State Park.

18. Mon
Worked at Herricks

19. Tues
Sawed slats for jumbo covers at Herricks
in Boiler room.

20. Wed
Sawed slats for jumbo covers at Herricks
in Boiler Room.

21. Thurs
Helped Herricks

22. Fri
Helped Herricks
We loaded a load for Benton Harbor

23. Sat
Worked on roof of garage
Hoed in garden
Grace and I went to Grange Supper at
Waterworks Park

24. Sun
Took Grace to Bethany Church and Ethel
and her two daughters to the 1st
Methodist
I sat with Charles Jrs - McDonalds were
here for dinner and supper
We seen a number of old autos, some of
them made in 1914 and they all could go
on their own power.

25. Mon
Worked at Herricks
Thinned our beets and pulled half a
dozen good sized ones.

26. Tues
Worked at Herricks
It rained over two inches this afternoon
and night.

27. Wed
Worked at Herricks
Grace and I went to Prayer Meeting

28. Thurs
Sawed slats for jumbo covers at Herricks
factory
Wrote to Doris and Lesie James¹²

29. Fri
Worked at Herricks Factory
We loaded a load for Benton harbor
Grace and I went to a R.L.C.A. meeting
at the WaterWorks Park

30. Sat
Worked at our garage roof
Went down and paid gas, telephone and
light bills
got \$8.00 groceries

¹² Doris was a niece of Charles. born Doris Lucille Dean

JULY 1949

31. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany church
Ethel and her girls to 1st Methodist
I sat with Donna Fitch
Mother and i called on Mrs Margaret
Olsen - tried other places but people
were away.

I wrote Fred and Millie Dean¹³
We went to a 24th Wedding Anniversary
on Hiram and Gladys Herrick.

¹³ Millie was Mabel A Rose, sister to Ethel Vivian Rose. Fred and Milie were parents of Doris mentioned above.

AUGUST 1949

1. Mon

Worked at Herricks sawing slats for
Jumbo Covers

We wrote to Mary Zoll

I wrote to Blue Cross - Detroit

2. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory

Cut slats about all day

3. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory

Cut slats about all day

Had the Grants and Tabors here for
Supper.

Grace and I went to prayer meeting.

4. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory

Doris James came out to see me.

Mowed part of lawn

5. Fri

Worked at Herricks

We loaded a big load for Benton Harbor

6. Sat

Repaired some on Garage Roof
a wet morning

Went down and got grocers

Alfred and Alice took Grace and I down to

Leslie James two miles north of

Pentwater for supper

7. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to
1st Methodist

We were over to Charles and Elsie's to

eat dinner with Andrew Petersons,

Francis Hayes, Manley Omans and Will

Fitchs

We took Willies home.

8. Mon

Cut slats for Jumbo Baskets covers at
Herricks Factory

Clifford Dixons Family came were here
for supper.

They stayed nights with Charles's

9. Tues

Sawed slats for jumbo covers at Herricks
Factory

Sister Mary Fitch¹⁴ died this morning at 3
o'clock

Took Grace to a shower on Chesters wife
and I went out to Richards.

10. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory

Grace and I went out to Richard Fitchs

11. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory one half day.

Grace and I went to sister Marys funeral.

Elsie and Elaine Henry called here a few
minutes

Hazels were here for supper.

12. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory

Grace and I went out to Herricks and

picked 12 quarts of beans they gave us.

13. Sat

Worked at Herricks Factory. We loaded a
load for Benton harbor

Mother canned 10 quarts of Beans

We went down town and bought a shirt
for Pa and stockings for Ma

¹⁴ Mary Fitch nee Peterson wife of Richard Fitch brother of Charles.

AUGUST 1949

14. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church
Ethel and her two girls and Doris and
Judy Dixon to the 1st Methodist.
Grace and I went up to the State Park
and ate dinner with the Florida Bunch and
then went over and visited with the
Morton School People.
We ate supper at Charles Jr. Lawn
because Arlenes family are here.

15. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory one half day
Grace and I went to Grand rapids in the
afternoon, to the National Convention of
Rural Mail Carriers. We have a room at
Rowe Hotel \$5.00. We are meeting a lot
of friends.

16. Tues

We attended the convention in the
forenoon, Grace was in the Memorial
Service with about 75 women. Started
home at 2:30 PM. We have Waunita
McDonald with us. Stopped at Bernice's
in holland a few minutes. We stopped at
Clarence Burmeisters and bought a
bushel of cucumbers.

17. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Alice brought us a bushel of sweet corn
from Burmeisters, so we canned that
before we retired.

18. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went to the hospital to see
Mrs Susie Hamilton

19. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory

20. Sat

Helped Herricks
We put a load on the truck for Benton
Harbor
Grace and I went to the Market Basket for
groceries
We stopped at Jacob Lundes

21. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany church
Ethel and her two girls to First Methodist
We ate out supper at the Water Works
Park with Nerheims and Johnsons

22. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
Elmer and Myrtle Johnson were here for
supper, after supper we drove up to the
cemetery and Bailey Sabins Resort.

23. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went up to Clifford Johnsons
in the Evening and had coffee and cake.

24. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went to Prayer meeting

25. thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
I am real tired tonight

26. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Ate supper with the Rural carriers at
Water Works Park

27. Sat

Got my Chevrolet Greased at Chevrolet
Garage
It rained more than two inches today.
Got groceries and Edith fixed mothers
hair.
Went to Pere Marquette Grange
We were the committee.

AUGUST 1949

28. Sun

Took Mother to Bethany Church - Ethel and her two girls to 1st Methodist.
Ate supper at Water Works Park with Bethany Church People. Grace and I called on Susie Hamilton.

29. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
I went over to Charles Jr and had some typing done.

30. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went out to Brother Richards and got three bushel of Hale Haven peaches at \$1.00 a bushel.

31. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Mailed Polices to Great Southern Insurance and Kansas City Insurance Co.
I am extra tired tonight
Grace and I went to prayer meeting

SEPTEMBER 1949

1. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Mowed some grass

2. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Mowed some grass

3. Sat

Worked at Herricks we loaded a truck for
Benton Harbor
We went down and got groceries
Its raining

4. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to
the 1st Methodist
Grace and I was at well and went to
dinner
We made four calls
Shutins ate lunch

5. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory

6. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Worked on Kitchen Ceiling upstairs with
spic and span in water

7. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
I used wall paper cleaner on Kitchen
Ceiling upstairs

8. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Cleaned ceiling of kitchen upstairs

9. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Cleaned the ceiling and walls of
Bathroom upstairs.

10. Sat

Worked at Herricks Factory
We loaded the truck for Benton Harbor
I painted the ceiling and walls of
Bathroom up stairs Buff Color.

11. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went
to the 1st Methodist
Mother didn't feel good and went up to
Edith and Arnies we were there for
dinner.

12. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
Alfhild cleaned Dining Room Walls and
ceiling upstairs.
Moved bathtub out of Bathroom upstairs
and Took Grace to Bethany Church up
the old linoleum.

13. Tues

Rained
Worked at Herricks Factory
Gail Caplon put new linoleum in
Bathroom upstairs.
Charles helped me replace the bathtub
upstairs.

14. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Edith painted woodwork in Bathroom
upstairs flat white.
Alfhild painted in Dinning room
Painted Ceiling of dining room upstairs
Peach color water paint.

15. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Turned on the water upstairs and painted
medicine cabinet and some quarter
rounds for bathroom upstairs with flat
white paint.

SEPTEMBER 1949

16. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Painted medicine cabinet and quarter
rounds the second coat

17. Sat

Worked at Herricks Factory
Put the medicine cabinet back in the
bathroom upstairs, also the strip around
the base board
Grace and I went to Grange Meeting

18. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church Ethel and
her two girls to the 1st Methodist
The Grants and Tallefsons were here for
supper.

19. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory started to
make apple boxes
Took some canned goods to the West
Michigan Fair

20. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory making apple
boxes

21. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory making apple
boxes
Grace and I went to Prayer Meeting at
Ted Tallefsons

22. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory making apple
boxes

23. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory making apple
boxes
Grace and I went to the Western
Michigan Fair after supper.

24. Sat

Worked at Herricks Factory we started to
make Bushel baskets again.

25. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church Ethel and
her two girls to the 1st Methodist.
We had dinner with Arnie Grants in the
afternoon we called on Lena Olson,
Captain Johnson, at Brother Richards -
he was not at home, and at William Fitchs
and Delbert Filers¹⁵. We stayed out for
Church Service.

26. Mon

Worked at Herricks
Charles and Susie Hamilton called a little
while in the evening.

27. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Got new cable put on the car battery
\$2.83

28. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Picked a peck of green tomatoes it looks
like it would freeze tonight.

29. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory

30. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went to R.L.C. A. Meeting at
Raymond Heyses

¹⁵ Ruth Filer would be first cousin once removed of Charles's. Ruth being daughter of Clarissa (Clara) first cousin.

OCTOBER 1949

1. Sat

Got a heat indicator put on the Chevrolet.
Paid our city tax \$33.66 water bill and
Gail Caplon #23.00
Paint on garage roof
Grace and I took Mr and Mrs George
Mallison and Mrs Ida Longfeldt to a
district R.L.C.A.. meeting at Walkerville
Mich

2. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to
the First Methodist Church
Floyd McDonalds and Charles Jrs were
here for dinner.
Grace and I ate supper at Steve
Nerheims

3. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory

4. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I took Clinton and Mollie
Parsons to Pomona Grange at Pere
Marquette Hall

5. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory

6. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I was over to Charles Jr for
supper, it was Charles Rogers birthday.

7. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went out to Brother Richards
and got one bushel of Gold Drop
Peaches and 3 bushels of Macintosh
apples.

8. Sat

We went down and got our groceries
5 lb of plastic putty, 1 set of butts four
gallons of paint and 1 qt of turpentine.
Painted boards on edge of garage roof
cleaned 7 paint bushes.

9. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church Ethel and
her two girls to 1st Methodist Church
Grace and I went to carry in supper at
Bethany Church

10. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went down to the library to
her Ruth Wittbecker give a book review.

11. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
We made two batches of soap put one
cup of borax in one with the boards in - 2
cups in the other.

12. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Made a batch of soap put 1 1/2 of borax
in it
We went to prayer meeting

13. Thurs

Painted the ceilings in dining room and
front rooms also one wall in front room.
Carl and Emma Christianson were here
for dinner
Mrs Heny Mottle was here for the
community chest

14. Fri

Painted in the pantry and the three walls
in Front Room

15. Sat

Painted the south wall in dining room
Grace and I went to the wedding of
Jessie Quinn and Jack Robbins

OCTOBER 1949

16. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church - Ethel and her two children to the 1st Methodist After dinner Grace and I took Alice, we went to Scottville to meet Marvin and Bernice than down and called on Brother Richard.
Mother and I ate supper with Alfred and Alice

17. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
Otagan Albright painted on outside of our house.
Grace and I drove out to see willie and Anne about going south.

18. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory
Albright painted on outside of our house.
Wrote to Mrs R B Day
Great Southern Life Insurance Co.,
Kansas City Life Insurance Company and
Utility Realization Corp.

19. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
I am real tired we are staying home not going to prayer meeting

20. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I took sister Nora down to Hart Hospital to see Brother Willie but Nora got sick on the way down and we didn't go in to see Willie

21. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory

22. Sat

Painted the walls in the dining room
pastel Blue

Grace and I went to grange at Pere
Marquette Town Hall

23. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church, Ethel and her two girls to the first Methodist.
We went out and ate dinner with Carl and Emma Christisen¹⁶
they took us to the Danish Lutheran Church in Victory and also down to walter gensen's.

24. Mon

Worked at Herricks Factory
Glued the toilet seat.

25. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory

26. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory
Grace and I went to a carry in supper at the 1st Methodist Church

27. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory
It was real windy today
The Bensons, Grants, and Tallefsons were here for supper

28. Fri

Was laid on the shelf most of the [day] when not in bath room.
I took grace, Dorothy Swansby and Mr and Mrs Raymond Heyse to RLCA meeting at Edward Kuras's near Freesoil

29. Sat

Got dressed at 12 noon and am some better
Put on some storm windows

¹⁶ Not sure of spelling here. He uses Christisen, Christainsen, etc

OCTOBER 1949

30. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to
the first Methodist Church
Grace and I ate our dinner out at Art
Hansons Restaurant with some people
from Morton School District.

31. Mon

Painted four storm windows.

NOVEMBER 1949

1. Tues

I am feeling good again
Cleaned off the asparagus bed and put
some ground bone and lime stone in the
soil.
Put in five storm windows and painted
one.
Went over to see Will Olsens water
heater.
Art and Alice Benson were here in the
evening.

2. Wed

Washed the storm windows for upstairs.
Got a sign Furnished Apartment for rent
and put it in window.
Changed the front left tire on the
Chevrolet put one on with a boot in it.

3. Thurs

Put nine storm windows on the upstairs
and one cellar window.
Put glass in one garage window.
Wrote to Lyle Wheaton, Muskegon Sec of
the 9th District R.L.C.A.

4. Fri

Split some wood.
Painted two windows for the garage took
Grace down town
We went out to Brother Williams for
supper
Wrote to the Dunedin Chamber of
Commerce

5. Sat

Went down town, Charles went with me
to get some veneer boards to make
drawers for a cupboard in the Florida
House.
Started to take the roof off the shed on
the garage.

6. Sun

Grace went to Traverse City with Willard
I took Ethel and her two girls to Sunday
school
Went over to Charles and ate a second
dinner.
Burmeisters and McDonalds were up.
McDonalds were at our place for supper.

7. Mon

Took the boards off the roof and sides of
the shed on the garage.
Edith had a coffee party for mother I ate
supper there
I went to Pomona Grange with Parsons.

8. Tues

Worked at Herricks Factory

9. Wed

Worked at Herricks Factory

10. Thurs

Worked at Herricks Factory

11. Fri

Worked at Herricks Factory

12. Sat

Tore down the rest of the shed of the
garage
Got my hair cut.

13. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church I went to
1st Methodist Church.
I directed 16 Christmas Cards
Grace and I went over to the Bethany
church for Supper and Service.

NOVEMBER 1949

14. Mon

Ties up boxes for Norway and mailed them
Painted two windows for the garage
Put gaskets on the two kitchen faucets
Split some wood
Arthur Benson and wife were here for supper.

15. Tues

Put some wood in the basement
Painted two garage windows the second coat.
Painted one chair
Split some wood
Elmer Abrahamson died age 76
Put a piece of enamel Iron behind our heating stove to protect the wall.

16. Wed

Took Grace to Bethany Church Put some siding on east side of the garage
Painted a large chair
Helen was here a few minutes
We ate supper at the Bethany Church and stayed for a prayer meeting.

17. Thurs

Finished paint woodwork in our dining room Flat White
Painted one chair white
Took the Chevrolet to Chinnerys Garage

18. Fri

Snowing
Split some wood
Fixed the bottom on a table lamp with Brick Cement
We went to Elmer Abrahamsons Funeral. Helen and Jerry and Alice and Lucille were here for supper.
Grace and I went to a Temperance Meeting at the 1st Methodist Church.

19. Sat

Raining, split some wood.
Put three Ladders up stairs in the garage.
Grace and I went to Frank Beebes Funeral.
Edith and Debbie were here for lunch.
Edith tried a new dress on her mother.

20. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church and Ethel and her two girls to the 1st Methodist.
Wrote to Bernice, Arlene and James.
Grace wrote to Gertrude.
Grace and i called on Charles Hamiltons in the evening.

21. Mon

Fixed the toilet seat
Painted one chair white enamel
Fixed the seat of the large chair for upstairs.
Mother was at Edith's getting her hair fixed up.

22. Tues

Painted the toilet seat
Put 3 panes of glass in a window sash
Alex Benedict was here for dinner
I took him out to his farm and we went to Willies

23. Wed

Finished the window and painted it
Put some siding on the garage
Trimmed the white chair with blue paint also pantry shelves

24. Thurs

Took the doors off the cubbard in the pantry and dressed them down so they would fit better
We went out to Hiram Herricks for a Thanksgiving dinner Family gathering 31 ate dinner here.

25. Fri

Glued some Dutchman onto the cubbard doors.

I went to the funeral of Charles Sibley
Mother went to a party on Gertrude Johnson and her mother.

26. Sat

Put a window in the garage
Puttied up a mouse hole in the pantry
Bought a pair of dress pants
Went over to Charles a few minutes

27. Sun

Took Grace to Bethany Church Ethel and her two girls to the 1st Methodist.
Addressed some Christmas Cards
Grace and I called on Gertrude Johnson and her mother also called on Stanley benson he walked out of the bedroom by himself.

28, Mon

Fitted the cubbard doors in the pantry
Put an advertisement in the Daily news,
Furnished 4 room apartment for rent
Made out my first will.

29. Tues

Painted some doors in the pantry white
Had Chinnerys put a 161 thermostat in the Chevrolet.
I went with Clinton Parsons to Harmony Hall to Practice with degree team for the Grange

30. Wed

Put 16 new cross chains in our set of tire chains
Took Grace down to the 1st Methodist church
Painted outside kitchen door and cellar door.

DECEMBER 1949

1. Thurs

Fixed the light in the clothes closet
Painted the cubbard doors in the pantry

2. Fri

Chored around the house in the forenoon
Rented our downstairs for 4 months
Got the Chevrolet greased
and a new US Royal Tire

3. Sat

Started to pack up to go South
Took a Christmas box up to Herricks and
bought two jumbo baskets
Fixed my fog light it was loose
Mothers three daughters and families
was here for supper.

4. Sun

Took Mother to Bethany Church - Ethel
and her two girls to the 1st Methodist
Sunday School
Grace and I went to Roy Henrys for
Dinner
Stopped at Herricks on way back
Our telephone won't work
Called on Charles Clausons

5. Mon

Had a bad tooth pulled
Went out and seen Brother Richard
ate supper with Tallefsons and Grants
Stopped at Cassans to bid them goodbye
Called Charles Jrs and had lunch

6. Tues

Had breakfast at Al Chinnerys and started
for Florida at 7:30 AM
Stopped at Rotmans in Holland and had
lunch at 10 AM
Got a night cabin at Greenwood Ind
342 miles cabin \$3.50
Cabin was too warm

7. Wed

Left Greenwood [IN] at 6:30 AM had a
good day, arrived at Manchester[TN] at 5
o'clock PM 334 miles had a good supper
for two \$1.28 - Cabin \$3.50
Bought 23 gallons of gas today and 2
quarts of oil

8. Thurs

Left Manchester about 7 o'clock
bought 18 gallons of gas and 1 qt of oil
Got a cabin at Americous Georgia for
\$3.00 Supper for two \$1.70

9. Fri

Drove to Thomasville [GA] before we ate
Breakfast about 95 miles.
Entered Dunedin about 4 o'clock and to
433 Loudon Ave about five
Neighbors came and told us they were
glad to see us.

10 Sat.

Got up at nine o'clock swept out the
Chevrolet and pulled some weeds.
Took Mr Underwood down town and
brought home some ice.
Grace and I took Willies apples up to
Edward wright and then went to
Clearwater
I wrote to Albert Swanson

11. Sun

Grace and I went to Sunday School and
preaching at Dunedin Methodist Church
The people seemed as friendly as ever.
Wrights and Mrs Campbell called on us
We wrote to Willie and Anna
went to church

12. Mon

Burnt weeds in back yard it was about
like clearing land
Wrote to Charles Fitch Family on Dexter
St Ludington Mich

DECEMBER 1949

13. Tues

Worked at the cubbard drawers for the South Apartment
Took Mrs Underwood downtown
Wrote to Dixons

14. Wed

Went down and got 50 lb of ice - 30 cents and mailed about 50 Christmas Cards
Grace and I went to potluck dinner at Clearwater of Retired Postal Workers
Wrote to Ernest, Richard, Hiram and Helen. Grace and I went to Prayer meeting

15. Thurs

Went down to church and help put up tables
worked on cubbard
Grace and I went to a carry in Supper at the Church

16. Fri

Took Santa Claus place at the kindergarten room at the school also went in another room and sang jingle bells
Took Mr Underwood down to the Express Office after a package
Finished the cubbard drawers and painted them first coat
Wrote to Alice and Arlene

17. Sat

Painted the drawers the second coat
Grace and I went down and got groceries and went to George Sterns for supper.

18. Sun

Grace and I went to church morning and evening
Grace wrote some letters
We went over and called on the Goods

19. Mon

Mr Blackman came and took me to the Chamber of Commerce Dinner at the Juice Plant
Put the handles on the drawers

20. Tues

Worked in the yard
Acted as santa Claus to the Brownies Scouts
We were William Merceraus Guests at a high class restaurant on the beach.

21. Wed

Pulled and burnt weeds in the back yard
Went down town
Washed the Chevrolet
Watered the lawn

22. Thurs

Went down town bought an electric cord for the iron
Fixed the old cord
Pulled and burnt weeds
Watered the lawn
We rented the South Apartment for one month for \$70.00 to Harold Strand

23. Fri

Finished burn weeds
We went to Clearwater bought \$7.00 + of groceries, a small electric plate, a lamp for outside the front doors and three common chairs.

24. Sat

Went to Dunedin Pines to see Mr Raunyon to do some wiring
Stayed around the house waiting for the electric man

DECEMBER 1949

25. Sun

Grace and I went to church
We wrote to Mary Zoll, Dean Hansen, and
Janius Houk
Campbells came over
Went over to Campbells

26. Mon

Set out 4 Cherry Bushes Mr Campbell
gave me
We wrote to Betty Herrick and Charles Jr
Grace and I went over to the big Tree and
to the Davis Causeway

27. Tues

Mr Raunyan came and ran a wire from
breaker box to the South Apartment for
the electric plate cost \$5.10
We wrote Gladys, Gertrude and Bernice
I might be OK but I dont feel like it.

28. Wed

Went down and mailed three letters
Changed tires put an old one on the left
front wheel
Don't feel at my best
We wrote letters to Alice, Edith and
Florida Power
Grace and I went to Prayer Meeting

29. Thurs

Borrowed Campbells Lazy Boy and cut
the Grass in Back yard

30. Fri

Grace and I went down to Parnels and
got groceries
Wrote letters to Ethel and Elsie Henry
I transplanted 4 peporion plants
watered the lawn

31. Sat

Grace and I went down and got some dry
beans, salt port, catsup and sugar
We called on William Merceraus and J.
Goods
Sawed a little wood Mr Underwood gave
me
Watered the lawn

APPENDIX 1949

Rather than try and footnote the who's who of children, I am including here a Family Group Sheet for Charles and Ethel . Data is current from my genealogy database. I have also included what I have for Grace and here family.

Name: Charles Wesley Fitch¹

Birth: 6 Jun 1878 Woodstock, Oxford Co., Ontario²
 Death: 12 Apr 1962 Ludington, Mason Co., MI³
 Burial: 16 Apr 1962 Ludington, Mason Co., MI⁴
 Burial Memo: Lakeview Cemetery
 Occupation: Rural Mail Carrier
 Cemetery: Lakeview
 Religion: Methodist
 Father: John Henry Ficht (1847-1916)
 Mother: Harriett Cecilia Lano (1849-1926)
 Other spouses: Grace Johnson
 Marriage: 29 Oct 1902 Summit Twp., Mason Co., MI⁵

Spouse: Ethel Vivian Rose^{1,6}

Birth: 26 Jan 1881 Evart, Osceola Co., MI
 Death: 29 Feb 1940 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Burial: 3 Mar 1940 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Cemetery: Lakeview
 Father: Andrew Jackson Rose (1839-1908)
 Mother: Mary Melissa Heath (1838-1923)

Children

1 F: Gladys Mabel Fitch^{6,1}

Birth: 18 Sep 1903 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 16 Sep 1979 Ludington, Mason Co., MI⁶
 Spouse: Hiram Frederick Herrick

2 F: Alice Rose Fitch^{1,7}

Birth: 27 Oct 1904 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI⁸
 Death: 7 Sep 1993 Ludington, Mason Co., MI⁹
 Spouse: Alfred Donald Chinnery

3 F: Lucille May Fitch⁶

Birth: 13 Feb 1906 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 1 Aug 1906 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI¹

4 F: Elsie Loretta Fitch¹⁰

Birth: 10 Jul 1907 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 13 Nov 1982 Ludington, Mason Co., MI¹⁰
 Spouse: Roy Henry

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5 F: **Hazel Marguerite Fitch**¹¹
 Birth: 16 Jul 1908 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 3 Nov 2006 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Spouse: Robert Floyd McDonald

6 M: **Charles Wesley Fitch Jr**
 Birth: 2 Mar 1912 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 26 Jul 1986 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Spouse: Elsie Lorine Peterson

7 F: **Helen Ruth Fitch**
 Birth: 16 Nov 1914 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Spouse: Clarence Leroy Burmeister

8 F: **Bernice Evelyn Fitch**¹⁰
 Birth: 21 Apr 1917 Riverton Twp., Mason Co., MI
 Death: 6 Sep 1995 Holland, Ottawa Co., MI
 Spouse: Marvin Robert Rotman

9 F: **Arlene Doris Fitch**
 Birth: 15 Aug 1919 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Spouse: Clifford Earl Dixon Sr.
 Spouse: Lafayette Brant

10 F: **Ethel Vivian Fitch**
 Birth: 29 Aug 1923 Ludington, Mason Co., MI
 Death: 1 Jan 2005 Muskegon, Muskegon Co., MI
 Death Memo: Hackley Hospital
 Spouse: James Thomas Cassan

Notes for Charles Wesley Fitch

Charles Wesley Fitch notes:

NOTE: Charles Fitch was a SR as an adult. We have removed the suffix for our record because our goal is to use the name they were born with.

Charles Wesley Fitch Sr. formerly of 322 N. Rowe St, Ludington MI was born June 6, 1878 in Woodstock Canada. He spent his childhood in Antrim Co. In 1882 he moved to Mason County (age 4) and lived in Riverton 1886-1919 as a farmer. He moved to Ludington in September of 1919 - rural mail carrier 1919-1945 and retired in 1945. Married Ethel Vivian Rose on October 29, 1902. Married Grace Jacobson nee JOHNSON November 24, 1942 and spent his winters at Dunedin FL. Surviving were 1 sister Mrs Rex Young and brother Ernest of Albuquerque NM. 31 Grandchildren and 23 great grand children. (per afc notes).
 Note that birth record in Ontario shows Norwich Twp as birth place. Woodstock is in Norwich Twp.
 Listed parents as John Henry Fitch as Pump Maker and Harriet C. Lano living in Norwich. (ref:SLC-135)
 Marriage of Charles and Ethel was witnessed by David Grover and Nellie Fitch (ref:Red-51)
 Charles Fitch Sr. Dies Thursday

APPENDIX 1949

Charles Wesley Fitch Sr., 83, formerly of 322 N. Rowe St. for many years, died Thursday evening at Paulina Streans Hospital where he had been a patient for a few days. During the last two years when Mr. Fitch was in failing health he had made his home with his son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Fitch Jr. of 805 Dexter St. The deceased was born June 6, 1878, in Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. He spent his early childhood in Antrim County and came to Riverton Township with his parents in 1886, where he lived until 1919 and engaged in fruit farming. In September 1919, he moved to Ludington and was a rural mail carrier from January, 1920, until he retired Dec. 31, 1945. He first used a horse and a cutter for winter deliveries and later had a snowmobile which he used on his route. After he retired, Mr. Fitch built his own winter home in Dunedin, Fla., where he spent winters until two years ago.

He was married Oct. 29, 1902, in Summit Township to Miss Ethel Rose who died in February 1940. His second marriage took place Nov. 24, 1942, in Ludington to Mrs. Grace Jacobson who died in July 1960. Mr. Fitch was a faithful member of First Methodist Church in Ludington where he had been a Sunday School teacher for many years. For many years he was a member of the church board. When the family lived in Riverton Township, Mr. Fitch was Sunday School superintendent at Morton School. He was a member of Pere Marquette Grange, Pomona Grange, Mutual Arbor of Gleaners and Rural Letter Carrier's Association.

Surviving are a son Charles W. Fitch Jr., eight daughters Mrs. Hiram (Gladys) Herrick of Ludington Route 2, Mrs. Alfred (Alice) Chinnery, Mrs. Clifford (Arlene) Dixon and Mrs. James (Ethel) Cassan of Ludington; Mrs. Floyd (Hazel) McDonald of Ludington Route 1, Mrs. Roy (Elsie) Henry of Custer Route 1, Mrs. Clarence (Helen) Burmeister of Hart Route 1 and Mrs. Marvin (Bernice) Rotman of Holland; three step-daughters Mrs. Willard (Alfhild) Tallefson and Mrs. Arnold (Edith) Grant of Ludington and Mrs. Carlton (Gertrude) Benson of Kalamazoo; a sister Mrs. Rex (Harriet) Young of Ludington, two brothers William Fitch of Ludington Route 1 and Ernest Fitch of Albuquerque, N.M., 31 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and several cousins in Ontario. Mr. Fitch was preceded in death by his wives, his parents, a baby daughter, three sisters and a brother. The body is at Dorrell Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday from First Methodist Church.

from newspaper: 14 Apr 1962 "Ludington Daily News"

Final Rites Held for Mr. Fitch

Funeral services for Charles Wesley Fitch Sr. who died Thursday, were held Monday afternoon at First Methodist Church with the Rev. Mark D. Graham of Bethany Methodist Church officiating. Mrs. Walter Schmidt, accompanied by Mrs. Lloyd Coolman organist, sang "No Night There" and "Lord, I'm Coming Home." The Rev. Mr. Graham held a family prayer service at Dorrell Funeral Home at 11 a.m. Monday.

Pallbearers were Earl Dixon, Charles R. Fitch, Robert Rotman, Dale McDonald, Carleton Chinnery and Alvin Henry, grandsons of the deceased. Burial was in Lakeview Cemetery. Those who came from out of town to attend services were Robert Bannister of Hepworth, Ontario Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Stevens of Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Rotman and family of Marvin Rotman and family of Holland, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Burmeister and family of Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald DeCicco and family of Ann Arbor, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Brown and family and Mr. and Mrs. James Burchett of Nashville, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Winsemius and family of Benton Harbor, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Fitch and family of Flint, Mr. and Mrs. James Snell of Lansing, Mr. and Mrs. Dale McDonald of Montague and numerous relatives and friends from Montague, Hart, Scottville, Custer and other places in Mason County.

from newspaper: 17 Apr 1962 "Ludington Daily News"

Notes from Elaine Henry, June 18 2001

I spent about 6 days in Ludington a week ago, 2 days with Aunt Arlene at the Court House. We checked on many names she wanted checked. We looked up

Grandpa Fitch's farm. It seems he had it before he married Grandma Ethel V. Rose, (this may have to be checked for accuracy) He had a note that was due in 5 years, discharged in 1908 or 1910. He sold it in 1929 to Frank

Sullivan. Book 104 page 417. Other books checked were Mortgage book 1, book 6 page 103, 565, book 40 page 433, book 43 page 552.

January 5, 2008
 Draft registration for WW 1 C21-6-16
 made copy
 September 7, 1918
 Roll 1675814

Notes for Ethel Vivian Rose

Geer #107-3-2-2-4
 Ethel Vivian Rose footnotes:
 Have not been able to find birth record in Oseola Co records.
 Current information except as noted from afc notes

Sources

1. Charles Wesley Fitch, Genealogy Notes and Information including personal diaries
2. Ontario Vital Records-Birth #22481/78 Norwich Twp.
3. Mason Co., Michigan Records of Deaths Liber 6/#1877.
4. Donald Chinnery, Gravestone Inspection August 1993.
5. Mason Co., Michigan Records of Marriages Liber 3/#174/#2194.
6. Fitch Family Genealogical Information
7. Alice Rose Fitch Chinnery, Genealogical Notes and Information
8. Mason Co., Michigan Records of Births
9. Death Certificate, Certified Copy
10. Gladys Herrick and Alice Chinnery, Notebook of Descendants of Charles Wesley Fitch Sr.
11. Hazel Mc Donald, Family History Information

 Last Modified: 4 Aug 2010
 Created: 15 Sep 2010

Don Chinnery dongeni@tampabay.rr.com

GRACE LAURA JOHNSON JACOBSON

Name: Olaf Jacobson

 Father: Carl Jacobson
 Mother: Gracie Mattison
 Marriage: 25 Nov 1909 Ludington, Mason Co., MI

Spouse: Grace Johnson

 Birth: 7 Nov 1888
 Death: 21 Jul 1960 Ludington, Mason Co., MI

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Burial: Ludington, Mason Co., MI
Cemetery: Lakeview
Father: Gunard Johnson
Mother: Laura Nelson
Other spouses: Charles Wesley Fitch

Children

1 F: Alfild Jacobson
Birth: 1910
Spouse: Willard Tallefson

2 F: Gertrude Jacobson
Birth: 1913
Spouse: Benson

3 F: Edith Jacobson
Birth: 1917
Spouse: Arnold Grant

Notes for Grace Johnson

1930 Census
dgc V page 76
Grace was a widow in census
Grace as age 52
Alfild 19
Gertrude 17
Edith 13

Last Modified: 11 Aug 2010
Created: 15 Sep 2010

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