

Volume I.

My Diary.

Esther Allen

Sept. 13, 1916.

Sept. 1916 - March 1920

September 13, 1916.

Esther Allen.

To-day I am fifteen years old and so I am going to start a diary and keep a record of what I do in my sixteenth year.

Arose about 5:30 this morning and studied Geometry a while before breakfast. Started for school about 8 o'clock. Everything went well at school. Ate my lunch at school. Helen McCarty (Peggy), Catherine Seybert (Betty), Louise Jonke, (Dolly), and I (Jean) make up an organization called the "Quadrilaterals". We are organized for the purpose of friendship, good times, and our general welfare.

Peggy drove the automobile home for dinner and Betty and I met her on the way back to school. She took us up town and Betty went into the "Gift Store" to make a purchase. When she came out she had a present for me, in honor of my birthday, from the Quadrilaterals. I opened the box she gave me and found it contained the prettiest Sterling silver spoon with the girls initials and the date of my birthday on the back of the handle.

I think I shall use it as a starter for a spoon collection for my "hope box." Grandpa Allen gave me a silver dollar for my birthday which I am going to put with other money to buy a ring for my little fingers.

Jean.

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September 14, 1916.

Prepared for school early this morning. Peggy and I walked to school to-gether. Peggy, Betty, and I walked up town at noon to be weighed. Betty weighed 153 lbs. and Peggy and I ~~at~~ weighed 109½ lbs. each. I guess we are twins when it comes to weight, but not in height. I am 5 ft. 9 in. and she is probably 5 ft. 5 inches or near that.

We thought we were going to be late to school and ran nearly all the way back, but when we got there, we found all our running to be useless, for we had about 10 minutes yet. Walked home from school with Billy. She went home with me to get some green apples to eat, which she likes but I don't. When we got home we decided to eat grapes instead.

Mother went to Martinsville, Ind. to-day to bring Mrs. Elderkin (a lame woman) home from the sanitarium. Father went to Indianapolis to a Telephone Convention. Elizabeth McWilliams came to-day to keep house. She will be here all winter.

Jean Stewart,

September 15, 1916.

Everything happened as usual at school to-day. Billy walked home with me to ask mother if I could go back with her to play tennis. Mother would not consent to my going, so Billy had to go back home by himself, but with her hands full of grapes. Father was at Indianapolis again to-day to attend the Convention. When he came back, he brought us a box of chocolates. Awfully cool this evening. We are expecting our first frost to-night.

September 16, 1916. (Saturday)

The Quadrilaterals, as well as the Pendleton High School Domestic Science girls worked at the Canning Factory to-day peeling tomatoes. The money they made ~~was~~ is to be spent on equipment for the Domestic Science Laboratory. They made \$5.30 to-day and hope to work there again next Saturday. The Quadrilaterals had a picnic dinner at the noon hour. It was so cold we sat out in the sun. We had a heavy frost last night. Peggy walked up town with me & treated me to ice-cream.

September 17, 1916.

(Sunday)

It was cold and rainy when I awoke. Every one but John was too lazy to go to First Day School this morning. He rode on his bicycle but the rest of us kept company with the kitchen stove as we have not put up our other stoves yet.

Stayed at home all day. Grandpa drove around in the automobile this afternoon. I have a sore throat which isn't very comfortable. Going to bed early to-night, J. S.

September 18, 1916.

(Monday)

Everything as usual at school to-day. The school building offlay cold. My sore throat was worse this morning but better now. It worried me some as there is a case of scarlet fever broken out near here. Came home for dinner to-day. Am going to all week, I think. Father ran a nail through the sole of his shoe and into his foot at noon but it isn't very bad. Mother is doctoring it to keep poison from setting in. Received a birthday letter from some cousins, Lucy & Nellie Allen in Snow Camp, N. C. yesterday. I had not heard from them in five or six years.

Jean Stuart.

September 19, 1916.

Everything happened as usual to-day, all his well at school. We are studying, "As you Like It," by Shakespeare in English.

Sept. 20, 1916.

To-day has been an ideal fall day. We had a heavy frost last night. We put up one of our winter stoves as it is getting so cool. Peggy and I walked up through town after school this evening. Jean.

September 21, 1916.

Warmer to-day than it has been. Took my bunch to school as I thought we were to have a class-meeting to-day, but it was postponed. Peggy went home for dinner, so Betty and I had it all to ourselves at noon. Walked home with Billy this evening. Father's foot is about the same. J.

September 22, 1916.

Nothing unusual happened to-day.

Sept. 23, 1916 Saturday

Stayed at home all day to-day. Peggy called up this afternoon, asking me to bring my Latin and come over to her house, but was so busy I could not.

September 24, 1916. (Sunday)

We all went to First Day School this morning. There were about 30 there.

Grandpa and grandfather came home from meeting with us for dinner. I studied on Latin this afternoon. Grandpa took Frank, John, and I, a ride in the machine just before supper. Studied hard this evening.

Sept. 25, 1916.

The Juniors had their pictures taken to-day. I hope it will be good. We had a class meeting at noon and elected our new officers for this year. They are: Helen Cook, President
 Esther Allen, Vice Pres.

Helen McCarty, Secy. and Treasurer.

I am hoping our class will get along better this year than it has been. I have a bad cold in my head which is causing me a lot of trouble.

September 26, 1916.

Everything has gone alright to-day. Everyone is friendly and in a good humr. I hope it will continue so. To-day has been an ideal autumn day. Nothing eventful has happened.

Jean

September 28, 1916.

A strong wind has been blowing all day. We are having thunder showers now, which we have needed very much. Mother has been going to the doctor to have her (the lightning made the electric lights go out and I had to stop for a little bit) head treated. It is better now. Mary Anderson came here after school this evening as Aunt Lula & Uncle Chester were at Anderson in the machine. They came around after her about 4:30. The man came around to school to-day with our class picture. It was good of all of us. Father gave me .25 to get one to-morrow.

Sept. 29, 1916.

Everyone in a good humor to-day. Much cooler than usual. Stayed up until 10:30 with my lessons this evening. Jan.

September 30, 1916.

Washed windows for mother this morning. Studied Latin this afternoon. Edna Wilson of Magnolia, Ill. is here to spend the week. I went to the first of a series of meetings to be held at Spring Valley throughout the week, this evening. Mary Whitson was there. She called me Queen Esther. I wish I could be a real one.

Sep October 1, 1916.

This is an ideal October day. I believe Oct. is my favorite month of all the months of the year. Frederick and Morris Swain, the Gaddy boys and I walked to First Day School and back this morning. Edna went with the folks in the carriage. Edna stayed at Rebecca Swains for dinner and walked back - I met her part way. Grandpa and his housekeeper, Katie Foust called this afternoon. As I was going to meet Edna, I came across Billy with Company from Anderson, who had started to call on me. So instead of going back home, they accompanied me part way on my journey. Studied this evening.

October 2, 1916.

Everything well at school to-day. Edna and Frank took me part way to school at noon. Came through town with Billy this evening. I stayed so long that I came very near missing the meeting at Spring Valley this evening. Edna, father, John Fox (the dog) and I went this evening. It was a good meeting.

October 3, 1916.

Edna was sick this morning, but better now. This has been a beautiful day. Billy and Betty went home with Peggy this evening to spend the night. They are going to practice in the Choral Society to-night. I took them a piece up the railroad. Stayed at home this evening and studied. J. Stuart.

October 4, 1916.

Had a test in English to-day. I am anxious to know what grade I made. The first issue of the Papyrus, our school paper, came out to-day. Billy had a story in it. Grandpa took me out to Spring valley in the machine to-night. They had a good meeting.

Oct. 5, 1916.

Everything as usual to-day. Walked home from school with Billy. On the way home Grandpa came along in the machine and took me the rest of the way. Father, John, and Edna have gone to the meeting at Spring valley. Edna will stay at Rebecca Swain's to-night.

October 6, 1916.

We have had another perfect day. Father and I drove in the buggy this evening, to the last of the meetings at Spring Valley. Mary Whitson and Edna Wilson will leave for Richmond, Ind. to-morrow.

October 7, 16.

Edna went to Richmond at 1:07. John went walnut hunting to-day. He got several. Prepared my lesson for the primary class at First Day School tomorrow. I am to be substitute teacher to-morrow.

October 8, 16. (Sunday)

This has certainly been an eventful day - little bit too eventful for my comfort. I rode Lark out to First Day School this morning, and on the way back, (about two squares from home) we turned too quick a corner and her feet slid out from under her. I skidded across the cement pavement and made a bad bruise on my forehead and on my knee. Lark got up and trotted on home and I hobbled along behind. Am pretty stiff now. Had great success with the primary class. Stayed at home the rest of the day, but father, mother, & John went to Grandpas.

October 9, 1916.

Everyone asked me at school to-day what had happened to me to make that big bump on my forehead. Of course I had to tell them how Lark and I fell down.

Oct. 10, 1916.

The Juniors had a class meeting this morning; Mr. Routh made a speech to us. We are in a bad financial condition and will have to hustle if we give a banquet at the end of the year. My right eye was swelled almost shut this morning and I had to hold a handkerchief over it all morning. They had an account of my fall in the "Anderson Herald," this morning. It provokes me so I don't know what to do. I didn't want everybody in the town to know about it. I don't think they were hard up for news.

The Mad Filaterals went to Bely this evening, and played tennis. We got some interesting information also. I was so stiff I couldn't run very well, but managed to a little bit. My eye is nearly all the way open now. I hope it don't swell up any more as it looks so disagreeable. Jean Stuart

October 11, 1916 (Wednesday)

Mother visited Geometry class this morning. She came in while we were reciting and I didn't know it until the class was nearly over. I didn't get to recite much.

Peggy and I came through town from school this evening to buy a spoon for Betty's birthday present. Billy could not come to help select it. It is to be ready by to-morrow noon. I took Peggy a piece upt to Lussels this evening. She is evidently dissatisfied.

Mother went to Grange this evening but I stayed home and studied Latin. J. S.

October 12, 1916.

Betty is seventeen years old to-day. The spoon was not engraved by noon, so we will have to give it to her to-morrow. Peggy was awfully disagreeable with us to-day. We will have to give her a slip to get her back to good humor. Discussed the past, present, and future with Billy after school this evening. We have no plan for settling things especially Peggy. She needs a little jolt or two and we are going to give her one as a sample. Jan.

October 13, 1916.

I am fifteen years and one month old to-day. Pendleton High School basket ball team plays the first game of the season to-night at Plainfield. Certainly hope they win.

Peggy was better to-day so we called off our plans. Hope we won't have to execute them. Gave Betty her spoon to-day. J. S.

~~October 14, 1916. (Saturday)~~

P.S. We had a class meeting this morning and decided that our class dues should be \$25 & a month instead of .10 &. Billy has spoken for me.

October 14, 1916. (Saturday)

Mother washed my hair this morning. Went to Triangle Club at Billy's house to-day. Neither Peggy nor Betty were there. It was a fairly good meeting. I had to tell the story of Moses. We had our first oyster soup this season for supper. Am going to try to make next week a perfect one and really do some good. Jean.

October 15, 1916.

A dreary day. John and I walked to First Day School. Grandpa brought me back in the machine. Stayed at home the rest of the day. Wrote a letter to Grandpa Allen and to Katie Allen.

October 16, 1916. (Monday)

Prepared my lunch for school to-day but came home at noon to get my class dues so I ate it at home. The girls are out at Betty's this evening to go to Choral Society. October 16 J.S.

October 17, 16.

Mr. Wischart told me that I was making exemption grades in Geometry, which relieved me. Helped Peggy clean the shelves in the cupboard in the Domestic Science room at noon to-day. She has asked the Quadrilaterals to come to her house Friday night and go to a Basket Ball game with Plainfield. Billy doesn't think she can go but the rest of us can. Grandpa took me to the lecture course this evening. He took the rest of the folks as well as me in the machine. It was a good number. Peggy and Betty were both there.

October 18, 1916.

Everything as usual to-day.

October 19, 16.

Billy says she can go to the Basket Ball game but must go home after it instead of going home with the Peggy as the rest of us are. Certainly hope it will be a good game.

Lucy E. Allen 15 yrs. on 11 Oct. (Nellie Allen - 13 yrs. on 3 Mar.)

October 20, 1916. (Friday)

Fall Creek Township Fair is being held at the School Building to-day and to-morrow.

The Domestic Science Girls are got out of school all day, but I had to sit in the assembly most all day. We had a sudden, & hard snowstorm to-day. It is much colder than usual. We went out to Peggys after school and then to the B. B. game. It was a good game and extremely exciting, but we were beaten by Plainfield 16-14. It certainly was humiliating. Got to bed about 10 o'clock.

October 21, '16.

Certainly had a good time at Peggys. She has improved immensely, washed home through the woods and gathered acorns for my S. S. class to-morrow.

Took a cherry pie to the Domestic Science for them to perve with their dinner. Sewed and crocheted this afternoon. Going to bed early.

Oct. 22, '16.

John walked to First Day School this morning, but the rest of us rode. It certainly is cold, but a pretty day. Stayed at home the rest of the day.

P.S. Father was 55 on the 20th of October 1861

October 23, '16.

Everything as usual. Mother is thinking of going to Bloomingdale to-morrow for her vacation.

Oct. 24, 1916. (Tue.)

An Athletic Association meeting was held before school this morning. Betty, & Peggy being but Billy doesn't. Harvey Ashbaugh is president.

Peggy drove the machine to school to-day. She took me part way home at noon. Came very near being late at noon, but was not.

Exemption will surely mean a lot to me this year.

Mother left at 10:00 clock for Indianapolis, and then for Bloomingdale. She took her art material with her so she can paint some of the pretty scenery there. Father has gone to a church meeting to-night to decide about a series of tabernacle meetings. Jean S.

October 25, '16.

Every the same to-day.

Oct. 26, 1916.

Received a telegram from mother this morning that Hannah Newlin died this morn. Father and Frank started for Bloomingdale about 10:00 clock. They will come back Saturday. Elizabeth and I went to the woods this P.M. to school to-day and to-morrow because



Top Row

{ Mother
Albert Wood
E.A. (Pamer) (later)
Essie Hallowell

Front Row

Morris Swain

Frederick Swain

John Allen

Picture taken on the
small front porch of
our house on the South
Side (of our house)

(FRANKLIN STREET)