

*Glenn
Sheehan*

INTERVIEW WITH DR. LUCY A. BAGNALL, 1940 - 26 A St. W., CALGARY, OCTOBER, 1955.

(For details of 1912 experiences see ^{copy of} Dr. Bagnall's diary.)

Rev. Herbert Bagnall finished his theological training in Boston and came to Heath Baptist church in Calgary. Rev. McLaurin asked if Rev. and Mrs. Bagnall would consider going to the Peace River Country to open a church and farm in a Baptist community. They agreed and Mrs. Bagnall remembers how they were down on their knees on the rug, looking at the map to see where they would be going. Rev. Bagnall was the first Baptist minister north of Edmonton.

He bought a team of horses at Okotoks and fitted out their prairie schooner - a double grain wagon with canvas top - for the long trip. Its contents included a spring and mattress; a small stove (four holes and an oven); a \$1.35 rocking chair which, although lacking arms, as a luxury; a telescope organ, donated by Calgary First Baptist Church; one trunk; a .22 rifle; a ~~big~~ keg of nail; and enough food for six months. They ~~xxx~~ Bagnalls did not take books until the following year. They drove from Calgary to Edmonton and Athabasca Landing, where they arrived the day the last spike was driven in the railway (end of June, 1912). First Baptist Church in Calgary had donated money so that they could ship from Athabasca Landing to Grouard, but the boats could not take stock for six weeks as freight had piled up and the water was low. The Bagnalls drove, and Mrs. Bagnall remembers that they got stuck three times. They would unhitch the horses and haul the wagon out with a one hundred foot length of rope. They upset once. Going uphill Rev. Bagnall would often zig-zag the team. She carried a stone to put behind the wheels to hold the wagon when the horses were being "breathed". Going down hills the young couple put a small tree trunk through the wheels so the wagon would slide rather than roll. One of the horses had a bad shoulder and, although a veterinary had lanced it, Rev. Bagnall had to syringe the shoulder each night. The Bagnalls caught the boat from Sauteux to Grouard where they left most of their load. They had no idea where they would settle, but knew of a Baptist homesteader, D.M. Kennedy, at the Waterhole. They continued from there to Grande Prairie.

There were a number of Baptist settlers near Saskatoon Lake, ^{with} ~~near~~ whom the Bagnalls decided to settle. They chose an abandoned homestead three-quarters of a mile east of Lake Saskatoon. Before fall they had to build a house and put up hay, as well as start a congregation. Fred Appelton told them of dead timber in his slough three miles from their building site, and there they got logs. Rev. Bagnall took the box off his wagon and hauled the logs on the frame. She remembers how, clad in heavy wool skirt and sweater, she helped him with the heavy lifting. Their house was 18x23 feet with sod roof, lumber door and floor, and two windows. They had a hard time mudding it. Someone told them that soil from a fox's den made good plaster, but they found lime was best. Mrs. Bagnall remembers chinking for four cold days in October. She mixed the plaster with icy water and had to sling it between the cracks.

The Bagnalls carried the organ over to the home of a Mr. Roberts, neighbor to the Cranstons, where the first Sunday service was held. She remembers Mr. and Mrs. Van Schaick and their five boys came three miles over the prairie on a stone boat pulled by two roan oxen.

That winter (1912-13) Rev. Bagnall went to Edmonton to buy supplies which he freighted from the end of steel. He also brought two yoke of oxen, a piano, and material for a church. Mrs. Bagnall's brother, Frank Lowe, came to help with the farm work. Bill Sharp, and Rev. Bagnall found good logs for a church and second house. The church was built by volunteer labour at Hermit Lake, about three miles from the Bagnall homestead. Its rubberoid roof was financed by the Baptist board. Mrs. Bagnall remembers how a piano was dragged three miles on a stone boat for the church opening. The choir consisted of Willifred Trimming, Bill and Alf Field (all English boys), Bill McLevin and his brother, and G. Cranston. These men would come to Bagnalls' on Saturday night for supper and choir practice. They slept there and had breakfast and lunch before they and the Bagnalls all went to church together. Mrs. Bagnall played the organ and after her little boy was born, her husband held him during the hymns. The child was born in May of 1913, and until a month before that ~~xx~~ Mrs. Bagnall travelled to the scattered services with her husband. in a buckboard.

The Bagnalls spent Christmas of 1912 with the Shaprs and Cranstons. The dinner meat was prairie chicken and ham. The following Christmas all the Baptists (12 or 13) ~~xxx~~ gathered at Bagnalls'. Mrs. Bagnall remembers borrowing dishes so that she would have enough, and that they had "real" chicken. Each person received a present, though it might be only a sealer of fruit. Christmas 1915 there were gifts from "outside" on the tree.

Mrs. Bagnall remembers that there was a Baptist Ladies' Aid of eight members, and an active Sunday School. She and her husband were paid one hundred dollars a month. Both had double degrees and were graduates of Acadia University. She was a high school teacher.

A church was built by volunteer labour at Deep Creek about 1915, and another at Clairmont in 1916. Sparks from Roberts' thresher burned the Bagnall crop, so Mr. Roberts paid the damage by giving lumber for the Clairmont church.

The Bagnalls lived in Grande Prairie for one year (1914 or 1915) and the next year in the back of the Clairmont church. The Church Board was sure they would not be able to finance the Bagnalls for the rest of the year, so Rev. Bagnall took a position the first of July, 1916, with the Temperance union. Mrs. Bagnall joined him at Nelson shortly after. From Nelson the Bagnalls went to Medicine Hat. In 1920 Rev. Bagnall was killed in an automobile accident. Mrs. Bagnall went back to high school teaching and has written several books ~~xxx~~ which have been used in the schools. One is Contemporary Problems.

During the summer of 1914 ^{or} ~~xxx~~ 1915 the Bagnalls travelled in a buckboard about one thousand miles with their two-year old son to campaign during the temperance vote. They were gratified when the Peace River voted for temperance.

By Mrs. Bagnall

*Glenbow
Sheehan*

Copy of Diary
Dr. L.A. Bagnall
1940 - 26 A St. W.
Calgary

MAY, 1912.
19 Sunday

Our last Sunday with the Heath Church. Morning sermon - "They that wait upon the Lord etc." Dull day large congregation in the evening. Sermon "Choose ye this day". Not sorry to be through.

20 Monday

One of the hardest days I ever put in. We stored our piano at Mrs. Roy Lea's sister's, our books, dishes etc. in Mr. Freeman's, and took our trunks, etc. over to Roy's. Reached there eleven at night, very tired, but our house is left behind.

23 Thursday

Herbert went to Okotoks and brought the broncos home. ...

26 Sunday

Herbert preaching at Lethbridge. ...

27 Monday

Herbert home again. Preparing all day. Started at night for Edmonton - about sunset. He rode on until two in the morning.

29 Wednesday

Herbert got home at four. We did our business up. Sold the house to Lebeau. In the evening, the Baptists gave us a farewell at the First Church. We both spoke also McLean and McLauren. They took up an offering of \$267 to put us on the boat from Athabaska Landing to Grouard. It only costs about \$150. They also gave us a telescope organ, and Mr. Stains gave Herbert the set of harness. It was a grand time.

At one o'clock we said Goodby to Bessie and Charlie and started.

30 Thursday

At four in the morning we reached Innisfail, rested an hour and then started on the trail. The horses were very nervous. Nance kicked twice over the trace and tied us up pretty badly. We took the wrong trail for a mile or so, and had two miles across country which was very bad. But we got along with safety and camped for the night. The day quite cold.

31 Friday

A day pretty full of bad roads. Eight or ten miles near Hobbema perfectly frightful. Muskegs galore. The broncos are dandy to pull and to skip over the holes. Camped near Millet for the night.

JUNE

1 Saturday

Drove the last thirty miles, and reached Edmonton about 3:30.

Had a warm welcome from Edd and Matilda.

find Edmonton a very pretty city. So many trees, etc.
Went in with Matilda shopping in the evening.

2 Sunday

Convention Sunday. ...

3 Monday

Spoke at Convention in the afternoon. In the evening Herbert gave a good address. I also had to sit on the platform and speak a few words. We had a jolly time coming and going on the cars. Edd and Matilda were over with us.

4 Tuesday

Had our pictures taken over in Strathcone - all the delegates, with Herb and me sitting in the seat, of our prairie schooner.

In the afternoon we bought a new wagon, trading off the old one. The Convention thought the old one not strong enough.

In the evening I had a fine canter on Betsey. ...

5 Wednesday

Bought the groceries, Herbert and Edd bought the hardware. I had a good sleep in the afternoon.

In the evening I had another canter on Betsey. Gordon rode Nance again, and warned Herb not to ride her.

6 Thursday

...Finished my shopping. ...

7 Friday

Baked bread. Under Matilda's direction I made a fruitcake - her gift. Boiled the tongue. Spent all day in preparation.

8 Saturday

Struck out on the Edmonton trail. Betsey balked on us, and we had a very nerve-racking time getting started. Everett like a dear boy put us on the right trail. Came fourteen and a half miles. Drew up in a French Canadian's yard. A heavy thunder storm came up lasting some hours, so we travelled no further.

9 Sunday

Nance's shoulder pretty bad looking. Thought it right to go a short distance. By noon reached the Sturgeon River, and decided it was not wise to drive Nance any further. Engaged a young fellow, Dick Gibbon, to take our load to the Landing, - 75 miles for \$25. Then rested easy. In the morning I was given a lift of six miles in an auto, but I walked back one to meet Herbert.

In the evening, we went to a home - DeWiss's, and had some music-hymns on the organ, and then the boy played on the violin.

10 Monday

Up bright and early. Got butter and eggs at DeWiss's. Started at eight. Road real dry, and dusty. Very hot in the middle of the day. Reached Stony Creek by night - a place of half-breeds, etc.

11 Tuesday

Another hot day. Reached Athabasca Landing by nine o'clock. Drove to the Livery. Found at the transportation office that they would take no horses, because river was low and freight piled up. Very much disappointed.

12 Wednesday

A day spent at the Landing a town of about 400. Many negroes, French and breeds. Unloaded our stuff, packed some of it over, and crated some. Deposited in the freight shed. Had a good dinner at the Big Moose Restaurant.

Decided to take the trail to the Portage anyhow, and then try to get on the Lake boat.

In the evening met and had a good talk with Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong the Methodist missionaries.

The river here is very beautiful. ...

13 Thursday

Fine again. Early in the morning wrote the business letters - ...

At eleven, crossed the ferry, and started on the long desolate trail. Wound around the top of the river bank of the Athabaska, and soon struck into the bad trail. About two, as it began to rain, struck into the camp of men doing road work. Spent an interesting two hours with the German cook Joe, the Irish foreman, the Dutch-Irish and the young English homesteaders. At four or five started on again. Soon a thunder storm came on. We drove on through a timber forest, safely thro' God's good Providence. About nine reached the vacant stopping place of the breed, Jackknife. Made ourselves at home in barn and house. Went to sleep in the rain, hoping against hope that the rainy season was not on us, yet trusting that Joe's "Old Gentleman above us" knew best.

Thankful for safe descent of the steep slippery hills to the river.

14 Friday

A dull gray morning. Had a bath in Madame Jackknife's kitchen. About two started on the trail, bad and slippery after the rain. At 3:30, discovered the axe had been left behind. Herbert went back to Jackknife's, and I was alone with the horses. Made fires to frighten Master Bruin away, fed them oats, pulled grass for them, and didn't allow myself once to look at the watch. At 4:30 I welcomed Herbert with the axe. Our way led over indescribable stumps, and through eight or ten miles of muskeg. We upset the wagon in a muskeg, between a hole and a stump. Neither ourselves nor the horses hurt. Grateful to God for this goodness. Drove on and on and finally encamped on the border of a slough. Herbert fed the horses until eleven or so, dug a well, and then tied the horses. He slept very little, and early in the morning we started again. Had another thunder and rain storm.

*There had been
some hunting
the day before
so
the fact it
was due to
a bear*

15 Saturday

Another start. A couple of miles of the worst stumps and ruts yet, and then a little improvement. Had to cut trees and move wires from across the road. Probably near the start lost the bag with my two black hats, and Herbert's hard hat in it. The 'bull-dogs' something terrible, and the horses bleeding from the little black flies - myriads upon myriads. About 10:30 came to Tomato Creek - 12 miles along - Stopped at squatter's - Goodvin's and Mrs. Perry's - Two little children growing up in ignorance. Found we were 43 miles from the Landing. Rested and slept until about five in the afternoon. Think of that distance from doctor, school and church. About dark - no, eight o'clock after much muskeg, got stuck in a bad one. I went ahead to spy out the road, and had a vain scare concerning a bear. Got the wagon pulled out, and hating to camp there, drove on. Struck five miles or so of splendid road - over the top of a dry ridge. Should have camped there, but hoping to make Moose Portage drove on.

Found ourselves in tall timber. Drove on and on. At eleven gave up in despair camped in the forest until four.

16 Sunday

Started at four. The stumpy road through the forest seemed interminable. Finally about six came to a slough and a fine camping place. Gave the horses their full of lush grass. Had terrible fight with flies. Burned big fires - smudges. Put blankets on both horses. Nancy got scared of Betsy, and started to run away from her, but rope brought them both up, and there they stood staring at each other. Very funny.

Smashing of the standards of the wagon completed. Back spring broken down, and part of the front seat broken down, standing as it were on three legs. My dress torn nearly to the bottom. Both hats wrecks. (A year ago today (52 wks.) our first Sunday with Heath Church). ...

17 Monday

Up at three. On the road at four. Some of the road fine - some atrocious. Found a horse on the road, led him, and finally met and returned him to his owner, an Indian. Within a mile and a half of Mirror Landing, got stuck in muskeg twice. Met the Lower boat there. Rested the horses until 11:30. Then drove the 16 mile portage - largely good road - not feeling well. Reached the boat in time, at Saulteux, and got on with our horses. Boat will bring next trip our wagon and goods. A pleasant trip - evening beautiful - the river mostly wooded down to both banks - river bending in the shape of figure 8. Armstrong and bride and Woodworth, Meth. missionaries, on with us. Had a big sing from my little organ just at sun set. Mosquitos terrible. All slept on deck.

18 Tuesday

A smooth day on deck.

Spent time writing letters - to Bessie, Mother Bagnall, and Mr. McLaurin - and in sleeping.

Reached Grouard about eight - put our horses in Armstrong's wagon, democrat, and landed the people and our little stuff at the Methodist parsonage - Woodworth's shack just back of the little Methodist church. Armstrong and wife slept in the shack, Woodworth, Herb and I in the church.

19 Wednesday

Hot day. Prepared our meals in the shack and ate in the church. I washed our terribly dirty clothes. The boys went in swimming. We made mosquito bars for our protection during the night.

20 Thursday

Hot again. I baked bread. Mrs. Armstrong washed.

Herbert and Woodworth drove out to Prairie River, 25 miles, to Mr. Becker's, the one Baptist. I rested, read some, made another mosquito bar. In the evening, Brother A. put a team he was trying into his democrat, and took his two wives for a drive - up past the Hudson Bay Store, and into the grounds of the Catholic Mission. A brother gave us some lilac and phlox and we bought fifty cents worth of lettuce.

21 Friday

Still hot. Repaired my dress for the trail. Mrs. A. not feeling extra well. I read Kingsley's "Two Years Ago". Herbert was welcomed home at six o'clock. Had had a very pleasant time out at Beckers. Had supper at Dan Hayden's. Mrs. Becker sent

me a few eggs and some butter.

22 Saturday

Cooler somewhat. Had just two meals. I washed a bit more, and cleaned up the shack. The boat came in early. We tried in vain to get hats.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong went to Dr. Donald's to spend Sunday. We worked until midnight sorting our baggage, and packing our load.

23 Sunday

Rather cooler. I baked a little bread, swept the church, rested, took a bath. Herbert preached in the evening. Twenty-eight present. Mosquitoes very bad. Mr. Armstrong in the chair. ...

24 Monday

Up at 3:30, and on the road at five. Mosquitos very bad as far as the English Mission. Trail very good - a little rough in some places.

Camped 4 or 5 miles beyond the Heart River, at a deserted Indian Stopping-place. Put the horses in the stable.

25 Tuesday

On the road again at six. Another hot day. The Armstrongs overtook us after noon, they travelling lighter. Passed Lampley and VanMeter, going out to file on their homesteads near Cold Springs.

Camped with the Armstrong's at Keiths, about 12 miles from Peace River crossing.

Paid A. 2.40 for the oats Herb got from Woodworth, who said they were 1.00 per bush. instead of 50 cents as Herb had understood.

26 Wednesday

Got into Peace River Crossing about noon. A most wonderful sight, where the Smoky joins the Peace, enclosing several small islands. A very long steep descent to the river. The crossing has 3 stores, a hotel, postoffice and quite a number of houses. We stopped to enquire for letters, telegrams (none), bought bread, post cards, an old sailor hat like the squaws; met a young fellow Martin from P.E.I.

Crossed on the ferry - the river 1600 ft. wide. Wound along the river for 12 miles - then almost at twilight came to the steep ascent. Talked to Burch from Toronto, whose brother, a squaw-man, has much land there. Had some milk climbed the steep hill by short stages, I carrying a stone for the wheel up almost two miles. It rained steadily during our ascent. Drenched, we drove on and camped near the Armstrong's.

27 Thursday

Wet day. Always dull, sometimes showery. Started at ten. Stopped at Old Wives' Lake for dinner, enjoying McDonald's fire. Parted there with Armstrong's. Drove to Burnt River and stopped in the rain. Got a good fire and warmed up. Made my first bannock. Bought a quart and a half of (separated) milk from a little Indian boy, for 25 cents. Herb fixed the wagon cover fine, tying bows together at the top.

28 Friday

Drove on to Water Hole. Cold and heavy, mist, chilled to the bone. Heard there that Mr. Kennedy was away to Spirit River. Drove to his place - tent and unfinished barn, and took charge. I dressed and cooked our first prairie chicken, made biscuit. A neighbour came over to see what we were doing, but retired satisfied. Herb put up our tent.

At night we walked a mile over to French's, for water and milk. Had a lunch there - butter-milk, bread, etc. Played on her organ. They were still living in the cabin in which they came into the country from Stettler last winter. After we came home, I set bread, and we went to bed, thankful to be sleeping within our own tent.

Armstrongs passed through in the afternoon.

29 Saturday

Clearer and cool. Herb fixed Nancy up, and we went over with the mail, for water. I picked a cup of gooseberries, amid myriads of mosquitos. I baked eight loaves of bread, rolls, beans, rice, ham. Looking for Mr. Kennedy's return.

Louis Otterson, Mr. K's Swedish neighbor, came over to see us again. Mr. K. came home at dark, and there was no doubt of our welcome.

30 Sunday

A fine Sunday. Two meals. Had a good sing from my little organ. At 3 P.M. held service at Mrs. Chalmers' home. Twelve present. Mr. and Mrs. French, Johnstone family, a Norwegian, Chalmers family, ourselves. Herbert gave us a good talk on "Christian Character building." After service, I had a fine little sing with the children, teaching them some hymns. Came slowly home.

I read "Table Talks of Jesus".

JULY

1 Monday

Herbert left early in the morning, going to Cold Springs. Had a good time there. Won a prize in the broad jump. 14'3". Met many, and arranged for a service there next Sunday. I felt the effects of the trail - simply got the meals and slept. Went over to Mrs. French's in the evening. Saw her calves, garden, new house. She gave me fresh milk and butter.

Mr. Kennedy shot two prairie chicken, with the help of Nell and me.

2 Tuesday

Herbert came home at two in the morning. We slept late. Herb and Mr. K. drew water from the water hole. I got up a big dinner - dressed two prairie chicken, cooked prunes, made cocoa. Dinner much enjoyed, especially by the two bachelors, Mr. K and Louis Otterson.

In the evening, while the boys got water, I visited Mrs. Chalmers. Got some milk there. Met and talked with Mrs. Dawson.

Betsy kicked at Nancy, and made her jump against the wire fence. She got a few scratches.

Reading and enjoying Jefferson's "The Character of Jesus".

3 Wednesday

Herb and I did a big wash. Baking bread, beans, Herbert helping Mr. K. fence, as yesterday. I washed my dirty hair - reading Jefferson.

In the evening, we three very much enjoyed reading several chapters in "The Character of Jesus".

In the afternoon there was a thunder storm, but the wished-for rain amounted to no more than a few drops.

4 Thursday

Fricassed chicken, and dried fruit pie, much enjoyed by my three men, - Herbert, Ronald, and Louis. Fencing going on at a great

rate. I 'cleared up' our tent, and mended the clothes. Beginning to feel rested.

5 Friday

Herb fencing in the morning, tired in the afternoon, so I made him lie down. I went over to Mrs. Johnstone's and helped her a bit with ironing etc. Had a cup of cocoa and fresh bread. At six a heavy shower came up and Herbert came after me with Betsey. Wrote letters.

6 Saturday

Baking in the morning. We left about two for Cold Springs - 26 miles away. A rather monotonous trail. We mistook a wood road for the short cut to Mr. McNab's, and lost an hour nearly. Reached Mrs. McNab's about seven - had tea. A family of rovers, Klondykers, one boy born in Dawson City, another on the trail at Grouard. Slept in a house, the first time since May 29th. Prefer the tent.

Had Scotch songs in the evening.

7 Sunday

Dull, but no more rain. The organ kept busy all morning. Service in the hall at 3. 23 present, largely young people. Hall lacking door, window, floor, seats. Good service, however. "Let each man take heed how he buildeth thereupon".

Had tea at Mrs. Eaton's - and such a nice one - just like down home. Met a Mrs. Rockwell, just settling there. Started home at seven, and reached here at eleven. Found Mr. Kennedy sick and unable to conduct the service.

8 Monday

Dull again. Trying to get ready for the trail. I was baking and washed in the afternoon. Mr. Kennedy lay around sick all day.

Herbert helped Louis with the fencing.

9 Tuesday

Baking done about noon. Hoped to get off in the afternoon, but rain made us decide against it. I had to dry my clothes on a clothes-line in the tent. The boys decided my bread was better than Donald's.

We thought some of my staying at the Water Hole while Herb went on to Grande Prairie, but we decided against it.

10 Wednesday

Started out early in the morning - or at least in the forenoon. Stopped at Dunvegan for dinner. It is a town not built yet. At the river there is only the Hudson Bay Post and the ferry. On the south side of the river, we climbed the steep hill, and fought mosquitos. Got a fine pint of saskatoons.

We drove on to Spirit River Settlement - liked it the best yet. Made our way off the trail five miles to Welch's - whom Becker's had recommended us to visit. Disappointed to find them away to Grande Prairie. Helped little Verbal with dishes, etc, and Herbert helped the boys and played with them.

In the afternoon, when just up the hill, we struck a very heavy thunder storm - and got soaked - as did also out oatmeal, sugar, bread, etc..

11 Thursday

Got a rather late start - came through desolate country and over stumps, thro' mudholes etc. Passed Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong on.

the road. They were making their way back to Dunvegan, Water Hole, etc. They warned us about the mosquitos at Beaver Dams, so when we met them there, we pressed on four miles to Mr. Anderson's - a very prosperous family - Swedish grocer from Minneapolis - three fine boys and a girl. Had some music on a piano - perfectly grand. They have things so comfortable. The Welch's arrived and spent the night there also. So we had quite a party. We slept outside - our mattress on the ground.

12 Friday

Waited until nearly noon. Read half of "Freckles", and brought the book along. Drove in to Grande Prairie City, mostly thro' the rain. Found a blacksmith shop, bank, land office, barber shop, store, post-office, etc., meat shop, hospital.

Met Mr. Forbes, Pres. minister, Miss Baird the nurse, Land Agent McLean. Mr. Patterson the Merchant and Post Master brought us upstairs and very kindly gave us supper and bed space on the floor.

Had such a pleasant evening. Read the Journals.
Got letters." ...

13 Saturday

Nearly noon said Goodby to the Patterson's and drove on toward Beaver Lodge. Canon Smith acted as our Guide, and dropped us at Mr. Ed Appleton's. Found no one at home, so settled down to await his coming. Several men called and we found he had gone to Grande Prairie City.

In the afternoon Herbert rode away to look at some land, and did not get home until nearly dark. I cleaned up a bit and read Dawson's "Meeting Place of History and Science".

Found the nucleus of a splendid little library - Spencer, Drummond, Dawson, Shakespeare, Dickens, Scott, Walt Mason.

14 Sunday

We had a grand restful day. Fred Appleton, the owner's brother, came along and was properly astonished but very cordial. Later Mr. E Appleton arrived and made us feel quite welcome.

He will soon have proved up a whole section. In the midst thereof is a lake, a regular birds' paradise. The woodpeckers wake us in the morning, on our own roof. There are blackbirds by the thousand, and constant calling of "conquerees". The mud-hens on the lake have a cry which is perfectly appalling. I am on the scent of the sheit-poke, but though they are there, I haven't yet had the pleasure.

15 Monday

Herb and Mr. Appleton away looking for land. I had a baked and dressed Jackfish, and mashed potatoes for dinner - and, raisin pie. Mr. E.A. said it was like Xmas for him. The boys saw one section they liked fine, although it had no water. But to be better satisfied they went off north in the afternoon, and found nothing to their liking. We had several turns at Walt Mason - Uncle Walt.

16 Tuesday

Herb rode in to Prairie City and filed on N.E. 5-72-7 W of 6. Paid \$60 for the improvements - 15 acres broken. Got back about four. He met several Baptists, and we find quite a number of bachelors around who seem inclined our way.

I baked bread, and had a quiet day, as Mr. Appleton was away.

I wrote the home letters - or was it Wed. - and made quite a start on David Copperfield.

17 Wednesday

Mr. A. got back with Mr. Williams, had dinner and started off again. Mr. Roberts, a P.E.I.er formerly with Herb in the bank, called.

In the afternoon, Herb and I rode all over our farm. I am charmed with it. It has a fine slope south and east, several little bluffs, and a grand view to the east of Hermit and Bear Lakes. We called at Mrs. Coston's, where it is arranged I am to stay while Herbert goes out for our stuff. Reaching home, found it sundown. Had to get supper, and then start bread.

18 Thursday

Fine still. Busy morning baking and washing. I stiff from my seven miles' ride of yesterday - Herb did get off late in the afternoon. Poor boy - well both be lonely, he with a 500 mile trip alone - I here with strangers. Mr. Lister and Mr. Roberts put up a little A tent large enough for my mattress back of Mr. Costons. (CRANSTON)

Mrs. Braybrook, the mother-in-law has only one arm, the result of a street car accident. She is very sensitive about it.

I had tea with the Coston's who are very kind, indeed too kind - and went to my little bed. I hope Herb is at Mr. Anderson's for the night. (in a tent)

19 Friday

Actually stayed in bed until noon. Won my point about feeding myself - the Cranstons are certainly kind. Got the supper for Mr. Roberts. (Reading)

Trust Herb is as far as "Spirit River Settlement".

20 Saturday

Dull still. After tea had a very heavy electric storm with quite a shower.

Washed my hair. Made a raisin pie ... some time.

Mr. Roberts shot what he thinks is a young eagle.

21 Sunday

No improvement in the weather.

Had prairie chicken for dinner. Bathed and put on my black dress. Mrs. Cranston and I rode on Mr. Roberts' horses, while Mr. C. walked over to Canon Smiths' to church. I like the service and the Canon. Met Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, the Misses Anderson, Messrs. McLevin, (Trimming).

After we came back, Mr. A. and I had a short gallop.

Stayed at Mrs. C.'s to supper. Wrote part of a letter to Grace.

22 Monday

Weather the same. Grass very wet. Finished writing to Grace, - wrote to Herbie.

In the afternoon, worked a little on Mrs. Cranston's skirt. Reading RobRoy.

In the evening Mr. R and I had a big temperance argument. Whether the evil ever will be crushed?

Mr. Will Cranston played the violin for us.

23 Tuesday

Still dull. Cooked a bit.

In the evening Mrs. C. Mr. R. and I went for a ride, over our farm, picking a site for the house, etc. I had a miserable time of it, having lost my nerve completely. Glad to get home.

24 Wednesday

Finer. Mrs. Braybrook proposed that I make her mauve waist, and her black and gray dress. I agreed, glad to do a favor, and to fill in the time.

Made the legs for our kitchen table. Thought I was using the rip saw but wasn't - a delusion which cost me aching shoulders.

Mr. Roberts got fresh beef, and brought us the mail - card from Herb, ...

25 Thursday

Sewing at the mauve waist. Cooked in the morning. In the evening Mr. Roberts and I rode as far as Thompson's - I enjoyed the ride immensely. Dick was not quite so keen, and I felt more confidence. Rode nearly seven miles.

26 Friday

Fine, as was yesterday, but the wind sounds like more rain. Did Mrs. C.'s ironing. She and I were going to drive to the post, but Sam (Mr. R's horse) was out of commission, so we abandoned the project, and I devoted myself to the needle. By nine-thirty had the last dome fastener on the mauve waist. They seemed quite pleased with my work - so I was - fairly.

27 Saturday

High wind, yet fine. Mr. Cranston caught a wounded mud-hen. We saved the breast - a perfect beauty. I washed my little wash. After dinner I went away to look for raspberries - away out N.W. of our farm. I tried to find the big slough of Young's west of our farm, but failed in it. I arrived home "tuckered out" and had a nap.

28 Sunday

Fine hot day. We had planned to call on Mrs. Grant, but Mrs. Braybrook was sick. In the afternoon Mr. Ed Appleton came over and called on me. He stayed to tea, - I dispensing the hospitalities in Mr. Roberts' absence.

29 Monday

Hot days. I suppose Herbert started at daybreak from Grouard. I wrote my letters - ...

I made oatmeal bread. In the afternoon, I walked over and had a nice call on Mrs. Campbell, and Mrs. Lyster.

Mr. Parker was to supper. In the evening, Mr. Roberts and I went out riding, but after we went half a mile, I got off and walked back home. Dick was crazy, dancing etc. - just a little too swift for me.

30 Tuesday

Hot. In the forenoon, Mr. Parker's horses got stuck in Mr. Roberts' slough. Mr. Lyster, Mr. Campbell, Mr. McLevin, Mr. Parker and Mr. Roberts hauled one out - the other walked out. I had four men to dinner.

Spent the afternoon lying down and reading at Mrs. Cranston's. Had supper there. Mrs. Braybrook feeling much better.

31 Wednesday

Hot day. In the afternoon I walked and walked - to and around the big slough on Mr. Young's homestead, getting the few berries in sight. Then back east to the slough on Mr. Lyster's - The prospect for water for us seems pretty poor.

Came home and met Dr. Higbee, in attendance on Mrs. Braybrook. Kind but absent-minded.

In the evening came a heavy thunder-shower - Mr. Cranston's roof leaked like a sieve. There was one terrific report, but no known damage done. I slept with Mrs. Cranston.

AUGUST

1 Thursday

Up rather earlier. Day very hot, apparently not cooled off by the thunder storm. I made raspberry shortcake, for breakfast, raisin pie for dinner, and chicken pie for supper - enough pastry to ruin our complexions.

Reading "The Sword of the Lord" - gives a good historical account of Martin Luther.

Another heavy storm and drenching rain in the evening. I slept on the floor in Mrs. Cranston's kitchen.

2 Friday

A fine cool day after the storm. Prairie chicken coming up to the door, whistling to be killed. Mr. C. off to Prairie City to meet the Doctor.

Mr. R. brought the mail - a letter from Alice ...

3 Saturday

Fine thro' the day. ...

In the evening there was rain, thunder and lightning. I went to sleep on the floor in Mrs. Cranston's.

About halfpast twelve Herbert came to the door, greatly to my amazement. He had been searching for the trail and house from about ten in the evening. He left his load down north of McLevin's and found his way with the horses. We took the bed out to the tent, and talked until nearly morning.

4 Sunday

Fine hot day. Herbert cleaned up in the morning, and looked a little more like himself.

In the afternoon we walked over on our farm, trying to decide on a sight for the house.

In the evening went over to Mr. Cranston's. Had a nice visit with them, and a cup of tea. A very happy day.

5 Monday

A strenuous day. Got the load from the trail below Flemmings. Brought it up to our farm. Went together to the big slough and cut sixteen large logs, and some small ones. Put up four tier of logs, and the tent on that. Herbert worked like a slave all day. Late in the evening we drove over to Roberts' and had some supper - very tired and hungry. Brought our mattress home and slept in our own tent.

Northern lights magnificent - lilac, pink, green - and exquisite in shape and motion.

6 Tuesday

Another day devoted to home building. Made the wagon-cover into a leanto - a sort of kitchenette. Put stove, boxes and provisions in it. Felt very much set up when we had this all done.

Mr. Roberts called and had a cup of tea with us.

7 Wednesday

Mail day. While I baked, Herbert went to Appleton's, and

sent and received mail through Fred. ... Herbert brought the mower home from Appleton's, where he had dinner.

8 Thursday

Fine and hot. Herbert mowed in the morning. Mrs. Cranston called after dinner with some buttermilk. Then Herb and I drove to Meade and Grant's - Had a nice call and cup of tea with Mr. and Mrs. Grant. Bought 13 pounds of lovely beef. Then drove to Ed Appleton's. Got some new potatoes - his rake and hayrack. When we got home, raked and put up the hay - two loads. I coiled about half. Came home at 10:15. Cooked steak and potatoes. Didn't sleep well after. Heavy and long continued thunder storm.

9 Friday

Dull day. About three in the afternoon, we arrived on Saskatoon Island, using Mr. Grant's boat. Picked 22 quarts in 3 hours. Got home after seven. Dressed and visited the Campbell's. Took her 3 pts. of berries.

Brought home some new potatoes. Had a real nice call.

10 Saturday

Mr. Appleton here helping Herb put up the hay. I picked over my berries. Ate a good many during the day. Stewed 7 quarts ready for the sugar. Had a nice roast for dinner, and meat pie for supper. Mr. Appleton stayed until quite late, and we talked "World in Boston".

11 Sunday

Showery day. Mr. W. McLevin brought us from Canon Smith an invitation to the picnic. He stayed to supper. At quarter to six we started for Van Schaick's - a full three miles away. Called on the way at Fred Appleton's. Pleased with the Van Schaicks - five sons - Floyd, Chester, Glen, Foster, Clifton.

On the way met Mr. and Mrs. Sharp.

Coming back made a call on the Cranston's. Reached home late and very tired.

12 Monday

Uncertain weather, yet Herbert and Mr. Appleton put up 4 loads of hay. Had raisin pie for dinner - beans and berries for supper. I put up 7 quarts fruit - made oatmeal bread.

Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Cranston called with Sam and Dick.

In the evening I wrote to Mary and Bessie and this diary.

13 Tuesday

Rather uncertain weather early, turning out to be a fine day. Mr. and Mrs. Cranston and Herb and I went to the island for saskatoons. Were wet up to our knees in the grass by the time we reached the boat. We two picked a bushel. The Meade - Grant - Thompson party came over on a picnic. I wonder if it is to celebrate an engagement. Betsey helped to land our berries, after the juice had stained the whole family.

14 Wednesday

Spread my berries out to dry. I baked - had splendid success with my bread.

I helped Herb hay in the afternoon. At seven he left here to go to Appleton's for the cow and calf, loaned to us while Ed A. was away hauling poles. It was eleven o'clock when I started out to see if I could find him. It was dark, but I took my bearings by the stars.

After 15 or 20 minutes met him - delayed by the non-return of the wagon. Put the cow and calf in Robert's field.

15 Thursday

Herbert mowed in the morning. After dinner we drove to the post - got stamps, saw-handles and mail. ... We called at Cranston's, leaving the mail.

After coming home, Herb met South's, Britains, etc. returning from berrying.

16 Friday

Drove over to Mrs. Cranston's in the morning for the milk can to use as water barrel. We brought Mrs. Cranston and Peter back with us to spend the day. Enjoyable all round, I think. I helped her in the afternoon with her hat. A rain shower came up in the afternoon, but Herb worked on alone at the hay and got it all up. Mrs. Cranston and children came over and we took all back in the wagon. Got home just ahead of a heavy shower.

17 Saturday

In the morning preparing for the picnic. After dinner took Mrs. Cranston Velma and Freddie, and drove over to the Church picnic at Canon Smiths. There were 65 for supper. I took biscuit, ham and lettuce sandwiches, and raisin pie. Mrs. Moxie and I were hostesses at the table. Met some fine ladies - Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Fletcher Breedin, former missionary. Ball game in the afternoon. After supper solo by Mrs. Breedin, and some hymns.

18 Sunday

Very hot day. Feeling rather loggy. Mr. Cranston and Mr. Roberts in in the morning. Mr. Cranston, Herb and I cleaned out Roberts' house, put benches in, and made it ready for church. Tried to rest in the hot tent in the afternoon. Mr. Powell a Baptist young man came along and accompanied us to church. The little organ did fine service. Herb preached a good sermon on Abram's call. ... Twenty-one there - all deserving mention at this the first meeting - Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Cranston and 3 children, uncle Will Cranston, Mrs. Braybrook, Van Schaicks' - (7), Messrs. Bosfield, Trimming, Powell, ourselves Mr. Powell came in and we had a simple lunch.

19 Monday.

Hot again. Mrs. Cranston made an early morning call. Herb got wash water. Then mowed, raked, and I helped him build and stack two loads hay. I washed a good sized wash, and put my household in good order. Are still enjoying the milk of Mr. Appleton's cow.

20 Tuesday

Finished washing. Ironed the most of my wash.

Herbert working at the hay. I made a chicken pie. Only fair. Prepared two chickens for tomorrow.

21 Wednesday

Started out early - Herb and I - (left a pail of milk with Mr. Roberts) - went to the Island. Had a nice lunch with milk, chicken, eggs, berries. Herbert went to the Post with letters, and went after the mail. Crossed to the Island in the wagon. Just one bad boggy spot. Berries nearly done. Got quite a few, but lacked enthusiasm.

Heard in the mail that our house was not sold. Things looked pretty blue.

Herbert took home Mr. Appleton's cow.

22 Thursday

Finished getting in the hay. Just ahead of the rain. Glad enough to have that finished.

23 Friday

Herbert made an early start and went to the mill on the Wapiti, for lumber for flooring, doors and windows, furniture. Had some interesting talks along the way - heard some fellows express themselves freely in regard to the ministers.

...
In the afternoon, or after supper went over to Campbell's. A heavy shower delayed me there. I got home to find Herbert had been here, and had gone over to Cranston's looking for me.

24 Saturday

Dull, rainy betimes.

Herb ground and returned Roberts' axe.

I starched cuffs, and finished my ironing. In late afternoon we started out - called on Mrs. Cranston (on the road) shot some prairie chicken for her - started for McCoslins' but heavy shower turned us back. Started for South's but got no further than Van Schaick's. Found young Foster kicked by a colt. Mother nervous, and sticking plaster not forth coming. We hurried home, and Herb rode back with plaster, peroxide, cotton, gauze, and officiated.

25 Sunday

Herb rode over to Van's to see how Foster was, and on to South's. In morning visited Roberts to see about place for service - all serene. Mr. R. proposed some co-operative ploughing - We are much pleased.

Perraton and Matheson here for supper.

Service - 16 present - rather cool. Sermon - Gideon - "They stood every man in his place round about the camp".

After service Mr. V.S. and Floyd and Glen rode over, and I got a lunch.

26 Monday

Herbert went after logs.

I cleaned house - everything O.K. In afternoon, I helped twitch out logs, and load one load. Got 13 home.

27 Tuesday

Rainy morning. In afternoon got 4 logs home. I baked. Perraton to supper, real good, beets lettuce, etc. Made quite a visit.

...

28 Wednesday

Quite cool. I washed. In afternoon went to the woods again. Twitched out more logs - Brought home 12. Home late.

Got the mail. Nothing exciting, save our pictures on post card.

Mr. Carter, looking for land, here for dinner. Prefers this to Pouce Coupe. Told us sad tale of woman's drowning as the family were crossing the Rockies to Pouce Coupe.

29 Thursday

Decidedly cool. Ironed and cleaned chickens and duck. Mrs.

Cranston and Fred over in morning.

I went with Herb in afternoon. Got home 22 logs. Mrs. C. went to Post.

I shot my first prairie chicken - also two more.

30 Friday

Baked seven loaves in the morning. Went with Herbert in the afternoon to finish getting the logs.

31 Saturday

A dull day. Herbert in doubt what to undertake. Sharpened ax at Mr. Campbell's and brought me home potatoes, lettuce, peas, carrots, parsnip, turnip.

He helped me prepare for Sunday's dinner, and I got ready vegetables, and dressed nine fowl.

In late afternoon, Herbert rode South looking for logs for stable. Heavy frost - nipping many gardens.

SEPTEMBER

1 Sunday

Dull, showery early, but a fine evening.

I wrote Mrs. Frizzle, and Mrs. McLean concerning S.S. helps for the little ones. Got ready for my expected company - Messrs. Roberts and Appleton. Neither arrived. So at the last moment got Mrs. Campbell over to supper.

Had twenty at church - building warm, a little fire - quite cozy. Glad to see Fred Appleton there, and delighted to see Mr. Campbell. Sermon on Paul's "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision".

Mr. C. helped carry organ home, and stayed for lunch and chat. Ice on our basin.

2 Monday

Herbert and I spent the day in the woods. Got out (home) ten stable logs, and cut quite a number more. I beheaded and belimbed the trees - working harder than I scarce ever did with Mr. Cranston's two faced (Meth) ax.

Started reading Dr. G.A. Smith's Minor Prophets. Showery betimes.

3 Tuesday

Misty in the morning, turning out to be a beautiful day. Mr. R's faith failing him because of his hay getting wet. We laughed at him.

Two more long sessions in the woods. Have 38 logs down, and 25 home.

4 Wednesday

Fine, clear, after a mist at sunrise.

I baked and cooked chickens. Nancy and Betsy out of sight, resulting in a wasted morning. I was proud to find them N.W. in M's and G's open field.

Mr. Perraton here to dinner. To the woods again.

5 Thursday

Finished getting out the logs - about sixty.

6 Friday

Herbert chased around after plough, horses, evener, etc. and

started in the afternoon ploughing our broken land. He had Nancy and Betsy, Sam and Dick. The horses took some time to settle down to work.

The arrangement is to use Roberts' and our horses together to plow equal amounts, he supplying plow and oats.

7 Saturday

Herbert ploughing.

We wanted to go to Prairie City for a little drive to celebrate our anniversary (tomorrow), but decided to put work before play.

8 Sunday

Fine. A quiet Sunday. Evening service - "And I if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. Smaller congregation - Mr. Roberts, Fred Appleton and McLevin there. Singing good. We called with the team to take Mrs. Campbell to church, but she did not feel equal to it, thinking she had to walk.

Three years married - so many sad changes, and yet our married life has been nothing but joy.

9 Monday

Herbert stacking for Mr. Campbell - Mr. Ray ploughing here - going rather slowly about it.

I called for Herbert in the evening.

10 Tuesday

Still stacking. I was invited to spend afternoon at Mrs. Campbell's. Finished and wore my little green dress. Quite pleased with the result. Had a fine time with the ladies. Planning about sewing for Mrs. Lyster.

Herbert and I walked over to Mrs. Cranston's. Sent our letter off.

11 Wednesday

Herbert stacking in the morning. Mr. Roberts' horses taken off the plough at 10:30 - Mrs. Cranston drove them in to the fair to get Effie Flint, but instead brought Mr. and Mrs. Flint home.

x Herbert and I rode in to the fair in the afternoon, on Betsy and Chub - quite a nice display. Met Mr. and Mrs. Patterson again - also Mrs. McCoslin - Miss South, some of the Beaver Lodge people. On the way back had tea at Mrs. Cranston's.

x (Next afternoon)

12 Thursday

The preceding happened this afternoon - Herbert stopping stacking at noon - we to the fair in the afternoon.

13 Friday

Herbert finished stacking at noon. In afternoon dug up stones - dug a well up at slough. Mr. Lyster brought his oxen and hauled stone and laid foundation of our house.

In the evening, we walked over and chatted a bit at Mr. Lyster's.

14 Saturday

I hustled my work for three hours - then went over to Mr. Roberts to get dinner for the six men stacking there - Messrs. Campbell, Lyster, Ray, Bagnall, Roberts, Will Cranston - Such a strenuous morning - everything needed washing - chickens to pick, etc., and only half enough time

to do it. Had to make a hurried trip home for more bread, etc.

Called at Campbell's on way home - brought home on the grain wagon - had a cup of tea there - Herbert finishing stacking at Mr. Campbell's - in the evening. I went home and prepared for Sunday.

Mrs. Braybrooke visited me after dinner.

15 Sunday

Another peaceful day. I had some dinner cooking. Mr. Appleton came to supper - chickens, creamed carrots, peas, beets, potatoes, pie, oatmeal and white bread, Xmas cake, cocoa.

Herbert preached on temptation - about eleven there.

(Roberts and Campbell away to the mill for lumber).

16 Monday

Herbert got me wash water. I put out a large wash. He cut some oats with the mower for Mr. Campbell.

Mrs. Braybrooke walked over after dinner. We took her up to the house on the drag; she stayed while we laid stable foundation. Then back for a nice little tea. We took her home in the evening and made a little call.

17 Tuesday

Herbert away to the woods for two loads - poles, rafters etc. My pipe came down in the terrific gale, so I could not iron. In the afternoon I went over to see Mrs. Cranston about arrangements for Mr. Roberts' thrashing. We cleaned up his house and dishes - cooked meat, and partly prepared pudding. Herbert and Mr. Cranston drove off to a big prairie fire, N.W. of Lake Saskatoon.

I waited for him - we drove home late. My back tired.

18 Wednesday

Mrs. Cranston and I got dinner for 15 men at Mr. Roberts - Had things good and ready in time. Herbert thrashing there all day. In afternoon, I went over and helped Campbell's - They had the men for supper - a busy day.

19 Thursday

Over to Mr. Campbell's - Thrashing finished by about 1:30 or 2. Twenty-two of us there for dinner.

Then Herbert took his team and followed the outfit to Meade and Grant's. Got along fine with them - but was sworn at by the fireman on the engine - Mr. Campbell stepped up and settled Mr. Fireman. I rested and mended in the afternoon.

20 Friday

Herbert thrashing at Grant's - away from six in the morning until 8:30 P.M.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Cranston - and I walked down and called on Mrs. Sharpe, who is not well. Admired her new log house very much - the best I have seen in this country. Had a fine call in every way.

On our way back, called at Mr. Roberts' house - saw him and his oats.

(Machine broke down - no work from 11:30 to 3:30)

21 Saturday

Herbert still thrashing.

Mrs. Campbell gave me some vegetables in the morning.

Mrs. Braybrooke brought me over some buttermilk, and she and

Velma and I went over to Mrs. Campbell's.

I went back with them and took tea at Mrs. Cranston's. Was rather afraid of the horses going over, and of the cattle on our Limberlost coming back.

22 Sunday

Very disagreeable day. Raining most of the day. We stayed in bed to keep warm.

In the evening went over and had a little service - just Mr. Campbell and ourselves extra. Herbert talked on the "Friendship of Jesus" John 1 -

Spitting snow in the morning before we were up.

23 Monday

Next three days - Mon., Tues. and Wed. Herbert and Mr. Campbell worked at our house. Put up 5½ rounds of logs. I carried up hot cocoa in the afternoon.

Herbert and I had a big hunt for the horses -

Tuesday I found them about a mile to the N.E.

On Monday I rode over on Betsy to Appleton's with the evener. Brought home a can of milk. Enjoyed my ride very much.

24 Tuesday

As yesterday.

25 Wednesday

And as yesterday.

Got dandy mail - Word from Mr. Newcombe that the house is sold to H. Jenkins. Such a weight off our minds - not much profit, but no loss, and a chance to crawl out of debt.

Mr. Roberts recalled his offer re horses and plowing. Pretty plain language used, or was it Tuesday?

26 Thursday

Mr. C. not here. We went South to the Woods for a load of poles. In the afternoon Mr. McL. plowed the fire guard. I was busy chinking.

Sat up until four the next morning coaxing my bread which got chilled in the tent.

27 Friday

At ten A.M. gathered up Mr. W. Cranston and Mrs. Braybrooke and started for the fair at Prairie City. Drove over in 1 hr. 46 min. Made a campfire and ate a dandy dinner out of doors - potato salad, chicken, creamed parsnips, caramel cake, cookies, saskatoons, cocoa. At the fair, met any number - were much with Mrs. Ferguson.

On the way home, ate our lunch in Mr. Forbes yard, while Mrs. B. and Mr. C. interviewed the Doctor at the Hospital. Had a nice chat with Miss Baird and Dr. Higbee.

Drove home in the glorious moonlight - cool enough

28 Saturday

Mr. W. Cranston came over, and helped at the house - working mostly at the roof. I finished chinking north and west walls - The post supporting the ridge-pole gave way and hit me on the head - it seemed miraculous I was not worse hurt.

29 Sunday

Fine day - rather milder. Mr. A. called to let us know threshing was on next day.

Service - "The Witness of Stephen" - one of Herbert's best.
Canon Smith and Mr. McL there.

30 Monday

Mr. Cranston and Herbert finished putting on the roof in the morning.

At noon we started for Mr. Appleton's - taking dishes, beans, pork, etc.

Prepared supper for nineteen - had roast beef, brown gravy (delicious), potatoes, beets, cabbage, fried carrots, apple and raisin pie, apple, peach, bread, buns, tea. Herbert helped me serve. I cooked all except bread and buns.

Then kept fire going much of the night to bake beans - trying to sleep between times on a hard straw mattress on the floor - Oh!

OCTOBER

1 Tuesday

Up at 4:45. Prepared breakfast for twelve - beans, cold beef, fried potatoes, creamed cabbage - apple, tea, bread and rolls.

Saw the last of the men with joy. Got home about noon with two of Appleton's horses, and Mr. Cranston's plow. Plowed about three hours. The horses did not work well on the plow, especially Betsy.

2 Wednesday

Tried them again, but gave up inside five minutes. Tied them up, and got Mr. Lyster's black oxen. Most satisfactory.

Rain in the night.

3 Thursday

I washed a large wash. Sam and Charlie carrying Mr. Cranston's sulky plow along fine.

In the afternoon, we had to turn out and fight a prairie fire, on Mr. Will Cranston's, where he had started brush. A dash of snow or hail helped settle it and put it quite out.

Mr. L. and Mr. C.C. and messrs. W. and G. Cr. and Mr. K. and ourselves - Mr. McLevin came later.

4 Friday

Herbert tried Mr. Campbell's plow, as the sulky had gone home. No good at all.

So at noon we went down to Campbell's to see what - and got McLevin's walking plow - all right again.

I drove Sam and Charlie to start a furrow, and could hardly "Haw" right for laughing.

Fred Appleton here for dinner - left me some carrots.

5 Saturday

Baking day - hence a long one. H. plowing. At noon we went to Lake Saskatoon for a load of sand. I put the horses out myself for the first time.

In the evening wrote up this diary for two weeks back.

6 Sunday

Fine Sunday. First afternoon service - at Mr. Cranston's. A good attendance there. H. preached on Kadesh - Barnea.

Mr. V.S. came over and took tea with us.

Mounted Police after Mr. Cranston for starting fire.

Mrs. V.S. gave us a pound of butter.

7 Monday

Fine, but rather windy.

Herbert and I drove south to Spring Creek, and got a load of coal for Mr. Campbell for sharpening plough shares. Called at the door of Mrs. South, and Mrs. Ray Johnson. Had considerable difficulty in locating the coal. H. had to carry it up the bank 250 paces. I got dinner with a fire out on a ledge of rock in the little stream. We went some distance - to a Mr. Watson's - to inquire the location of the coal.

8 Tuesday

Quite considerable snow on the ground. So we determined to let ploughing rest, and get into our house. Set right to work.

9 Wednesday

From this on to Friday night - just hard work - nothing more or less - chinking, plastering - that was such cold work - took us two full days - digging cellar - getting sand and mud - putting down floor.

One day Mrs. Campbell invited us over to roast goose dinner. Certainly very kind of her.

11 Friday

Moved in late in the day. Our first sleep in our house.

12 Saturday

Busy all day, until midnight, making furniture - cupboard, mantel bed arrangement - table etc. By Sun. A.M. had curtains at the windows.

13 Sunday

Too tired to rest, even. Yet enjoying warmth and brightness of our little home.

Mr. Campbell our first visitor.

Mrs. V.S. at church at Mr. Cranston's - brought me half a dozen eggs, and a can of milk.

Herbert preached from James 2 10(?) How great a wood is kindled by how small a fire!

14 Monday

Jobs. Blacked the two stoves and straightened the carpet - two big jobs. Herbert started the stable - got 3½ logs up - very good indeed. Mrs. Braybrooke over in the afternoon. Very warm and sunny

15 Tuesday

Much like yesterday - and fine sunny days.

16 Wednesday

Fred Appleton here helping Herbert at the stable - finished rounds, and got ridge poles on. I built cozy corner, and had up shelf and corner bracket. Fred and I practised "Saved by Grace" - Tenor and Soprano Duet.

Mrs. Cranston called with the mail.....

17 Thursday

Herbert away to Appleton's all day. I went over to Mrs. Campbell's, and invited her and Mrs. Lyster for supper.

Wrote a long ten page letter to Mrs. Hoffman.

Herbert brought the cow home from Van Schaick's.

18 Friday

Real milk on our porridge.
Snow.

20 Sunday

Quite decidedly cold. Service here in the afternoon.
Herbert preached on
Mrs. Braybrooke and Mr. and Mrs. Van Schaick stayed to supper
and for the evening.

21 Monday

Fine weather following until almost the end of October.
Herbert got 27 pounds beef at Mr. Grant's, and 18 cabbage also
5 bushel potatoes at Mr. Campbell's, paying for five more. Such feasting
on beef steak.

22 Tuesday

Mrs. Braybrooke over. Settled that service in evening should be
at Mr. Cranstons.

23 Wednesday

Mrs. Cranston for the mail.
Mr. Lyster brought ours,
Letter from Don Kennedy. Hope to see him in December.

25 Friday

Over at Campbell's for a few minutes. Mrs. Lyster gave me three
eggs.

26 Saturday

Darling baby's first birthday.

27 Sunday

Mr. C. called and we went to service at Mr. Cranston's. A fine
Thanksgiving sermon. "In everything give thanks".
Mr. Cranston gave us a fine rooster for our Thanksgiving dinner.

28 Monday

Herbert plowing with Mr. Lyster's oxen.
I ran over and asked the Cranston children and Mrs. Braybrooke
over to thanksgiving dinner. Had a bad time with smoky stove, but
dinner was fine.

29 Tuesday

End of the plowing. Pretty hard frost all day.

30 Wednesday

Returned oxen.
We attended Harvest Festival at Mr. Moxhay's. Had dinner and
supper there. Service in the church in the afternoon when all the
ministers on the Prairie took part.

DECEMBER

5 Thursday

Herbert and Mr. Forbes started at noon for Red Willow. I went
over in the afternoon, to Cranston's, and worked on the bonnet for
Mrs. Sharpe. Brought Velma back with me. The chinook was fiercely
strong, and we were soaked to the knees. The wind storm raged all
night.

Herbert had a good time at Red Willow, and spent the night at Dixon's.

6 Friday

A busy day, - baking etc. Herbert did not get home from Red Willow until five o'clock - the snow being nearly gone under the influence of a chinook.

The Canon, Mr. Forbes and Herbert arrived together. Providing Canon and Herbert with dry foot-gear, and taking Velma as she was, we hurried off to Mrs. Sharpe's, where our Xmas dinner was held.

Nineteen sat at the table, those absent being Cal, Roberts, Grafton McLevin and Fred Appleton. Our dinner consisted of: roast beef, roast chicken, gravy, potatoes, turnips, cabbage salad; plum pudding with sauce; raisin pie; bread; raisin loaf; Xmas cake; tea. Candy galore. Followed by "Up Jenkins". Music, thrilling adventures.

7 Cranstons, 2 Sharpes, 2 Bagnall's, Canon Smith, 1 Ed Appleton, 1 Wm. McLevin, 1 Blake, 2 Norley, 2 Bousfield.

7 Saturday

Up late. In the afternoon called at McAusland's. Had a nice supper, and a fine call. Mr. South also there, and dissuaded us from trying to reach his place that night. Drove down late to Mr. Sharpe's to arrange about the boys going to the woods on Monday, since the snow had not come.

8 Sunday

Glorious day - real warm. We had an encouraging time at Pine Creek. Herbert talked to them of a church, and a committee of three - Hunskor, Hendry and Kyley - agreed to take charge of the getting of logs for a church.

In the evening, we had nineteen at service - a delightful number of young men - Hodgins, two Fields and Moore, and Mr. (Cinnamon) Smith.

Herbert preached on "Lots' Choice".

9 Monday

A busy day - the last at our house for a time. I baked my bread, washed, dried clothes, cleaned my house, had a bath. Herbert was busy getting the feed down to Mr. Sharpe's, getting his moccasin half-soled, etc. In the evening, we moved down to Mr. Sharpe's, getting there about ten.

(The result of the elections for councillors were - four herd law men, and one anti-h-l).

10 Tuesday

Early in the morning, our men left us. They took tent stove and provisions and made for the bush - down toward the Wapiti, about twelve miles.

We felt rather disconsolate but consoled ourselves with the chores, and a little reading. Otherwise, an easy day. ...

My thirtieth birthday. A great milestone.

13 Friday

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson came on horseback in the afternoon. We did enjoy their call, and made them stay to tea.

Before dark, a knock at the door announced Donald Kennedy. He was warmly welcomed. He helped with the chores. In the evening we had a grand sing.

14 Saturday

Morning spent in baking, etc., mixed with a little Browning.

About seven o'clock our men arrived, and were hilariously received. They reported 168 logs cut - all of good size. Mr. Sharpe insists that one set goes to each man, and that the church logs be considered as cut by them both.

Herbert looked what Mrs. Sharpe called - a "gaein' about budy".

15 Sunday

N.E. wind blowing, yet not strong enough to bring snow. About 12, Herbert and Kennedy and I started for Pine Creek. Service at 2. About nine or ten there. A new comer, Mr. Wood. Herbert preached well on 'They stood every man in his place round about the camp'.

At the evening service here Donald talked on "Jesus' Talk with Nicodemus". Eighteen present.