

Diary (Michigan)

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1921

Title Statement

Diary (Michigan)Guide to the Diary (Michigan) SC 00946

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 00946

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/218

Unit Date

1921

Language

English

Extent

0.01 Linear Foot

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

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Diary (Michigan), Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Scope and Contents

Diary, 1921, written by a young man who lived in or near Fowlerville, Livingston County, Michigan. From entries in the diary it can be concluded that he was a railroad worker who lived with his parents on their farm. In brief daily entries he mentions which work he did on the farm and on the railroad, other chores around the house, the health of his mother, the weather, etc.

For excerpts from the diary, provided by the seller, see folder link below.

Keywords

Diaries

Michigan--Social life and customs

Railroads--Employees

Young men--Conduct of life

Description of Subordinate Components

Diary

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Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/23156

Unit Date 1921

Mixed Materials Small Collections Box 59 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)

Scope and Contents

The following excerpts and list of names mentioned were provided by the seller and have not been verified for accuracy: "1921 "January 2nd, I tended gates. Went to Charles Washburn's funeral. He was fetched home from France. Went to Mrs. Harvey to see well man. Ma done housework and rested. Pa done chores. Cloudy, cold. The ground is frozen hard." "January 25th, I done housework. Waited on mother. Went to town saw where they had big fire last night in William Farnsworth Store. Mother has a good deal of pain. Pa tended gates, chores, rested. Very cold. Changeable wind." "February 4th, I kept house. Waited on mother who is some better. It makes me nervous. Mr. Frank Chapman is drilling as close to window. I went to town and spent 50 cents for medicine, 70 cents for groceries. Mr. Chapman has drilled 90 ft. no water. Pa tended gates, chores. Rain, snow, rain, mild south west wind." ".....Mother sat at table for 1st time in 4 weeks." "February 26th, I worked on RR. Done housework. Went to see the income tax collector about my tax but he said that I not tax to pay. I have earned \$1085.84 on R.R. in 1920. Ma got meals, don't feel well. Pa done chores, tended gates. Big snow storm. 6 inches more on level. We cleaned switches. Mild." "March 15th, I worked on R.R. putting plates and gageing track east of sand cut. Brighton helped us. Got wet by big shower. Done housework. Ma cooked the meals. Pa split wood, tended gates, got his \$37.50 pay. Put

\$37 in bank, chores. I got my pay \$23.70 which goes to pay expenses. Cloudy, thunder showers at night. Warm like spring." "March 26th, I worked on R.R. getting ties and about noon I got thrown from the flat car and was hurt that I did not know how it was done. Frank took me to R.R. doctor Brown and I did not know it or when I got home. The doctor came at night. Ma got meals. Waited on me. Pa tended gates, sold eggs 3 ½ doz, 66 cents. Mrs. Petterson called in, also Mrs. Farnsworth." "April 29th, I tended gates. Got Dr. Brown to make out a statement to send with the one I made out to Mr. William Meirs about my getting hurt to get my insurance. Done the housework, cooked, went to town. Lots lots of work. Made coal fire. Pa done chores, is better. I called on Bert Holmes who is sick. Ma has a very bad queasy. Cannot eat or drink, has not for 3 days...." "June 11th, I and pa tended gates. I picked berries, looked after the car. Went to town and got a fan belt, 50 cents. Put carbon remover in cylinders. Got chair seats. Ma baked bread, pies, sewed, housework. Pa cultivated, rested. Pleasant, changeable wind. Warm, dry." "July 21st, I and pa tended gates. Ma and I took a ride to Long Lake. Called on Mrs. Sweet. Picked berries, mowed. Ma baked, sewed, housework. Pa raked and bunched hay. William Ellis came to see about trading his manure for our hay. Clear and very warm." "July 22nd, I and pa tended gates. Ma and I went to Oak Grove a riding. I and pa went to Oak Grove for a ride and went up Byron Road and came home on cement road. Ma baked and crochet on rug. Pa rested. Worked on strawberries. William Ellis drew 9 loads of manure. Clear and warm." "September 1st, I and pa tended gates while I was tending the gates I had an auto go through the gates and break them and then stop on the track and the engine on passenger pushed them off the crossing only burst a tire. Dug ditch. Ma dried sweet corn and sewed. Pa dug potatoes. Pleasant warm." "September 26th, I and pa tended gates. I washed and moped and painted. Took claim agent for p.m. R.R. to see Mr. Cook to get his statement about train No. 17 hitching auto in fair time on crossing. My statement too. Ma baked, housework. Pa picked corn, cut up stalks. Clear, very cold night. Use fire." Some of the many names mentioned are; Charles Washburn, Harvey, James Farnsworth, Fred Hall, Maggie Smith, Frank Chapman, William Burns, Glenn, Dr. Huntington, Eastman, Charles Vines, Frank Jaszewski, Critchfield, Willie Sexton, Sweet, Petterson, Ed Thorne, James Rolf, Lew Seger, Ned Seger, Briggs, Van Fleet, Dr. Avery, Dr. Sigler, and more. "