

# Frances Cron Diary, 1913 – 1917

Broomfield Depot Museum 2015.18.2

Transcription Revised March 2016

*[There are occasional instances of coded short hand writing throughout the diary, which could not be transcribed or deciphered. Instances of short hand are noted.]*

March 2nd [1913]

I have been so busy all this year that I haven't had time to start my new journal. It might be just as well as I didn't start in but here goes anyhow. It's not the first time I've done things that I knew would be better left undone. I spent my Christmas vacation in Mitchell and when I came back from Mitchell I moved down here to 1429 Cherokee. But I have been so lonesome. I never knew a person could be so horribly lonesome. I haven't got acquainted here much

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and I could just bawl my eyes out sometimes. I am so lonesome. I had a pretty good time in Mitchell, went with Mike Keisel most of the time. Had some dandy buggy rides and one horseback ride. Last time I was home I went to a dance at Broomfield. Had a pretty fair time. Clara Naeve came up and we went together and stayed with Gertie all night. I ought to write to Cary too. Oh, how I miss that kid. I am mad at that Allen Walker and I think we are very liable to end up with a good old quarrel and quit for good. In fact I know we will unless he changes his ways a good deal. He came

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to see me real often just before Xmas [Christmas] and took me to a good many places. We went skating one night and when we came back he said a good many funny things and asked me a lot of hard questions. But he finally decided that he was engaged to the other girl and was going to keep his promise and hasn't mentioned the subject since. He comes in about 8:30 every once in a while but doesn't stay very long and acts [acted] so funny the last week or so that I think I'll tell him if he is tired coming he knows what he can do. There is a play out home next Friday night and the next Friday night our Missionary Club Social. This is a pretty good start.

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Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Things seem to be moving along just about the same as ever. Not much change as I can see. Oh, Stella and Harrison were here for a few days but have gone on now to Calif [California]. I was awfully glad to see them. Stella and Louise stayed all night and Tuesday night. Lottie and I went out to supper with them and later came and stayed all night with me. Allan came last night and took me out to supper. He stayed till nearly eleven o'clock. We don't seem to be awful mad just now. Anyway I don't suppose anyone would

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call it that if they had seen us last night. Every time he comes he acts as though he thinks more of me and yet to hear him talk, he hasn't the slightest idea of breaking that promise.

*[Seven lines of short hand writing follows]*

I am in the A Class now. I certainly wish I had a job. Lottie's folks have moved over to near Rocky Mt. Lake. I may go over there and board later on. I get so lonesome here. Allan brought me 3 books last night. I think they are pretty good. Goodnight.

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Apr.8

When I'm alone I'm lonesome as Evelyn says. I'm pretty sure I'm alone tonight and I'm pretty sure I'm lonesome too. I stayed here Fri [Friday] night and didn't go home. I didn't expect Allan because I didn't think he knew that I was going to stay but he says I told him. I had been to the Ford show with Elsie and Maizie and couldn't eat any supper so we just stayed here. We had a fuss that is (Allan & I) and I cried & cried. I just couldn't stop. He said he was sorry and was a brute to make me cry so. I don't know why I got so mad that

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about that girl I guess. Then when he left we shook hands. It seemed so funny I wonder if he will come to see me tomorrow night. Maybe he won't come any more. I hope he don't [*sic*] think I am still mad at him, I'm not. Charley and the kids were over home Sunday. Charley is just as mean as ever, nearly squeezed my hand off and yelled ouch!, at the top of his voice. Mr. Johnson was there to dinner. We played jacks all afternoon and tore around outdoors. It's only 8:30, guess I'll read a while. Think I'll start "The New World". I imagine it is good. Eva Burgan & Earl Wamisley were married last week, crazy kids.

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Apr 23

I just don't know what to do with myself tonight. I am just so lonesome I'm sick. It seems as though I just can't stand to be alone any more. I expected Allan would come tonight, he has been coming on Wed. for quite a while but he didn't come. I have been swimming a couple of time lately. Magie, Elsie, Helen and I all went down to the bathhouse last Friday and Evelyn and I went last night, and I guess we are going Friday again. Evelyn came home with me, and we had supper and she called Arch up and he came down about nine o'clock.

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I went to the dance at home last Sat. [Saturday] night. Clara was at Gertie's and I stopped in there and Clara & I went home and got my clothes and we came back to Broomfield on the car. We didn't have such an awful good time. Evelyn wants me to go to their Lodge dance May 9<sup>th</sup>. I don't know whether Allan will go or not. I think I will. I think I shall look for work this next week. I think I'll move somewhere when I do. I sure wish I could shake off this horrible blue spell. I expected to go out with Lottie tomorrow night and see Belles new baby, but guess I'll wait till Monday now.

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May 23

It just don't [*sic*] seem like I'm ever going to be real happy again. I am so horribly lonesome here. Bess is back in Denver. Her Mother died and I guess Arthur is getting a divorce. It's not one place there's trouble it seems. Bess stayed all night with me last night. I have been working for a couple of weeks now, down in the Gas & Electric Bldg. [building]. I am so glad tomorrow is Sat. [Saturday] so I can go home. I miss the kids at school just awful. Evelyn and I eat together every noon. I saw Selma today. Allan and I were out to her birthday party a while ago. That's

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the last time I saw him. Guess he isn't coming to see me anymore. I know he is awfully busy, for he is working now, besides carrying his paper route. But still I think he could come to see me if he really wanted to. I am just awfully tired of Denver. I wish I wasn't so lonesome. Stella and Houston were here a while ago on their way home from the South. Jimmie Knight was here with them. I wish Nathan would come out here. I guess this all I have to say. Guess I'll go to sleep. That's the only time I ain't [sic] lonesome.

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June 4<sup>th</sup>

I had to work until 15 minutes to seven tonight and I am pretty tired. Mr. Bovee left on the evening train and I had to stay and take dictation. I may lose my position there. I told him a while ago that I didn't think I could stay so he put an ad in the Post. Four girls were in today to see about the position and he may take one. An old homely one about 30. He said he would let me know when he got back Sat [Saturday]. I haven't seen Allan for so long. I know now that he don't [sic] care the least bit about me anymore. He surely wouldn't treat

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me this way if he did. I guess I'll have to write to him and tell him to stop sending the paper, and to quit coming here altogether. Oh, I just feel so bad about it. It just seems as though I can't get over it. I don't know why, but I just can't no matter how I try. I don't know why I persist in being so foolish. I am sure it is far better for me that things are the way they are, but as Larena used to say, "I may see where I'm lucky someday but I can't see it now." I have been thinking about moving out home for the summer, but am not sure about it.

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July 12<sup>th</sup>

Well I really did move from 1429 Cherokee and I am not near so lonesome since I have been with Selma. Nicky is a good deal of company for us two all though [sic] he is kind of funny. Anyway I'm not nearly so lonesome and have been going out a good deal. I left my position at Bovee's or rather he let me go. That other woman took it. The f[illegible], Evelyn & Arch, Jim & Elsie Wilson and Mr. Davison and I all went up Mt. Lookout on a picnic and we had a dandy time. Mr. D. has an awful case on Evelyn. I went out to

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City Park with him last Sunday night. He has gone away now, I got a card from him the other day. Bess and Arthur didn't get their divorce. They have to wait till Xmas [Christmas]. I worked for a few days out at the Salzer Lumber Co. but it seems as though I'll never get anything steady. Allan has forgotten all about me I guess. He came out here one Sat. [Saturday] night but I was gone, and he never came again. Well "I should really get thin like a needle and have but one eye". Wish I really could take it that way and not care, but I can't even yet. I went up to the Gas & Electric

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to see Mr. Taif and Mr. Holden was there. He made a date to take me out to Wash Park swimming today. I didn't know what to say so I said I'd go and forget about today being Sat [Saturday], so I guess all I can do is go up to school. I'd just as soon not go. Guess this is about all the news.

Aug 12<sup>th</sup>

I have been a pretty busy girl since I wrote in my journal last. I am working again but haven't a very good place. Oh Fred is nice enough to me. He let me off today for the Knights Templar Parade. I went up to Evelyn's office and saw it

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from one of the front windows of the Kittridge Bldg. Denver is so crowded with people that one can hardly move. Saturday night Rosella and I stayed in to see the lights and went out on the last car. A while ago Jimmie Knight and a friend of his were here in Denver. Lottie and I went out to Lakeside with them one night and had lots of fun. I liked Compton just fine and I guess he liked me too, because he said he did, and then Jimmie told Lottie that he did. The next night we went out to City Park with them and then they went to Salt Lake. I have only received one card from Compton so far. Lottie says they are going

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to Texas now and I said they were coming back to Denver in about a month but I know they won't ever come back. I never hear a single word from Allan any more. I got a card a while ago signed "a friend" but I don't think he sent it, but I can't figure out who on earth did. If anyone had told me a few months ago that Allan would act to me the way he has I just couldn't have believed it. He came over that evening to get the address to send the paper to me, so he said, and not a sign of the paper ever came.

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It seems so funny. I guess there is no use trying to understand it all. It seems to me I am so different from most girls. I don't care a rap for these good for nothing fellows that loaf around, or these sissies you meet every day, or these liars that lie to you faster than a horse can trot. As for meeting a good sensible fellow with a "smidgen" of brains, well nothing like that ever happens to me. Selma is working nights during the Conclave week. This was the first night I have felt very lonesome. I got a long letter from Anne Brachman the other day. Lizzie has been married some time now.

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Aug 26<sup>th</sup>

Things seem to be grinding along just about as usual. Last Sun [Sunday], Selma and I went and had our fortunes told. I'll try and write a little of it down so I'll remember it. She told me I had a strong will and had been stubborn at times. She also said that I didn't take up the profession I was fitted for which was the stage. I was to take a trip west shortly she said, and will marry inside of 2 years, be left a widow very young and marry again. Will always have plenty of

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money she says. Will come into money twice by inheritance and the last time I will have to go into the courts to get it. She described a fellow that had been in my life and the description just tallied with Allan. The first man I'm going to marry "that's going to die" is to be tall and dark. Sounds real, well only I don't

want him to die. That's about all. A few unpleasant things but I don't want to remember them. Fred's brother came down to the office today and Fred never introduced me. Clarke was in but he didn't say anything about going out to supper when Fred is there.

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I think Evert is kind of nice. He brought a picture in for me to see that was taken Sun. [Sunday], when he went up the Moffat with a crowd. Mariam and I went up to the picture Show tonight.

Oct 3

Well, I haven't been at the Colo [Colorado] Ranch for some time and have been out of work for quite a while until I took this position and it may not be steady. I am working at the Battin Roberts Supply Co now and getting \$1.50 per day. I worked for a little Dutchman Mr. Schuster for a couple of days. He wanted to take

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me out to supper & for an auto Ride, and I guess I would of gone, but he had to go away to his ranch in North Park and I never heard any more from him. Last night I went up to see Bess. We went to the picture show and coming back we went by the Emerson apts [apartments] after and walked right up [*illegible deletion*] the porch and sat there a long time. It brought back old times so. We talked about the good times we had there and about Arthur & Allan and that w/ [with] all the funny things we did and laughed about them. I really was happier then than I have been any time since I have been in Denver.

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Frank was here a while ago. A week ago Sun. [Sunday] night I was coming back to town on the 9 o'clock car and was at Burgess's. Just then Frank came back from Churches and after Ellen & Blanche went home Frank just wouldn't let me go. He took me into the house and took off my coat & hat and made me stay. Then we all came into town in the morning. He went to C[*illegible*] monday evening. I didn't go home last week. I am so glad tomorrow is Saturday.

Oct 22

Its funny how some days the world seems like a

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nice place and I like every body and every body likes me and then other days. Oh I could just cry & cry all night tonight. I wish my feelings were not so easily hurt. Even when someone that I can't bear that I nearly hate does some mean trick or says something mean about me I can't pass it off. I just simply have to cry about it. That red headed Don called up at the office today and wanted me to go to the dance to-night but of course I didn't get to go. It seems this is always my luck. Seems as tho [*sic*] I am never happy any more. Bess came over last night and I had a better time and enjoyed myself more than I have for so long.

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I hope I don't lose my job very soon. I'll be home sure enough then. Bess told our fortunes with tea leaves last night. She told me I was going to feel blue about something. I bought me [*sic*] a coat today. I hope I'll

like it. Rosella came into the office today we went to dinner together. Its only a little while till my birthday. I'd [sic] almost forgotten about it. I got a card from Frank the other day. It says "All that I haf [have] and half [have] not yet is yours." It's a good thing I have some good things to

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tell once in a while or this book would be a "Tale of Woe" sure enough. I used to write mostly good things but now Cary is gone I can't seem to find any one else that I really trust enough to confide everything to. I just keep still about my biggest worst [sic] trouble of all. and perhaps that's the best way.

-1914- Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>

I'm not making any excuses. I seem to be too lazy to write anymore. There is quite a good deal I should have written about. Dee was out here about 6 wks. [weeks] ago & we went to dinner & to the Denham. He wrote

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to me after he went back & I ans.[answered] but haven't heard from him for a long time now but "Iska fibble" [sic]! Oh yes and there was Tom. He is mighty cute I think. I hope he comes back to Denver pretty soon. I want to see him again. Lottie didn't get married after all. I feel so sorry about it. I heard at the factory that Madison sent her a telegram saying he would come here and that was the last she ever heard of him. I wrote to her the other day. I am not so awfully crazy about my job as I only get \$8 but I get Sat. [Saturday] afternoons off & it is better than the Rearden [*illegible deletion*]

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Company in that way. Mr. La-Plare is real nice to me. I like Mr. Cox pretty well too, only he is rather "fresh" and Mr. LaPlare isn't so I like him best. I still seem to get awfully discouraged & blue sometimes, but I guess I shouldn't but I ought to be thankful that I have a job, and if I haven't a beau "I should worry" about that. I sure do like the Post-man that comes to Dass Bros. but don't seem to care about me. More then likely he's married. Selma has a red headed fellow again. She met him at G\_\_\_\_'s [sic]. Hush! That's a secret. Mrs. Stevens & I go quite often lately, but its Lent now & Selma can't. I guess I'll meet Bess tomorrow

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night & we will go to some picture shows I guess. They got their divorce. I am getting pretty cold so [I] geuss [sic] I'll ring off.

Mar. 29<sup>th</sup>

It is Sunday night and I just got back from home. It has rained all day & I didn't go to Church or anywhere. I can't see as there is very much change in things. I am working at the same old place & worst of all am getting the same old wages. I got a letter from Cary tonight & she sent me some pressed Orange Blossoms. Gee, but I would love to see the kid. I got a letter from Mr. Shirn

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the other night & he called up Friday from Elbert, Colo. [Colorado]. While he was in Denver we were on the go most all the time. I saw several good plays. "Within the Law, & "The Deep Purple" were fine. We also went to the Edelwiess [*sic*] to supper & to the Orpheum [Theatre] one night. St. Patrick's night we went out home to a supper & he had an auto meet us & take us to Lafayette to a dance. He seems to be pretty struck on me but I don't care anything for him. I don't seem to make any headway with the Postman or Grant either. Johnny looks in the window & smiles every night. Thurs. [Thursday] night Evelyn, Selma & Edith & I went swimming.

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Then Edith & I went to the Paris. I bought me a new blue coat Sat. [Saturday]. Poor George has been sick, & he is thinking of selling out & coming out to Sterling or Denver. Guess this is all till next time.

June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mr. S. is supposed to be here a a [*sic*] few minutes so I don't know how long I'll have to write. I am mad at him. We went out to Blanche's graduation Friday night & he asked if I wanted to go to the Auditorium Monday night. (I guess he didn't come on this car either.) I never heard a word from him since last Friday

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night till tonight one of those girls at the house called me up & said Mr Shirn wanted me to come up there. I asked her why he didn't say so himself so she called him to the phone & he knew I was mad. We talked awhile and then I hung up. A little while after he called again & wanted to know if I'd [*sic*] see him if he came out. I finally said yes & it looks like now he was going to break the date. He just can if he wants to for all I care. "I should worry." Last week I had to work nights and had to work so hard & never got a cent extra. I couldn't hardly stand

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it till I got home & then I just had to cry. I just must get a better place.

June 17, 1914

Well Mr. Shirn and I made up again and went to El Dorado Spgs [Springs] a week ago Sunday. We had a dandy time and every-thing went along real nice until last night. He had told me Sun [Sunday] night that he had something to tell me Wed. [Wednesday] night. He couldn't come till rather late & he acted rather quiet & funny when he did come & we went to

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the little Park out here. He told me some things about his past life his mother & father and etc. & told me that he cared for me. I didn't know what to tell him. All I could say was that I didn't know. Oh, how I wish I did know for sure. He said he wouldn't come any more till I sent for him. Selma & Red are out in the park tonight. Don't know what we would do without that Park. Ha Ha. I got a letter from Blanche tonight. I don't know what to tell them at home about this affair. I only hope it will all turn out for the best.

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July 7<sup>th</sup>

I surely don't know what will become of me if I keep on being so disconted [discontented]. Perhaps if I only had something or someone to be contented about, Ide [sic] be contented but I don't seem to. Frank S. is mad at me I guess. I think he must be going with someone else. I never supposed he would treat me like this. I haven't heard from him for a week, and he never took me anywhere the 4<sup>th</sup> or anything. I don't think I can ever forgive him this time. I geuss [sic] its not safe to ever

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believe what a man says. He couldn't have meant the things he told me or he wouldn't act this way. I thot [sic] if ever the truth was told he surely told it. He seemed so in earnest but if he really cared so much I don't see how he could give up so easy. I went to the picnic the 4<sup>th</sup> but didn't have much fun. Frank G. worked all day and we were going to Denver for the evening but such an awful storm came up & we didn't go. We stayed home & sang and talked and – well we were lonesome so we sympathised [sic] with each other.

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I guess there was nothing serious about it, and I know I hadn't better let myself get serious for he isn't I know. I wish I had some one to sympathize now. I feel so blue I could just cry my eyes out. Its awful when nobody loves you. I geuss [sic] Ill be at 424 Quincy a couple of wks [weeks] yet. Miss Wallar is back but I am going to stay while Miss Sheubir takes her vacation. Rosella & George Gingerly are engaged and she has a real pretty pearl ring. I went over to Mothers Sunday & Gertie was there and she made me go home

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with her. She is going with the new storekeeper. He wouldn't be so [much] worse if he wasnt cross-eyed. I hope Frank will be there next Sat [Saturday] night. He makes me think of that song "Mr Dream Man" [One line of shorthand follows]. He sure does [One line of shorthand follows]. Oh the other night F.S. was out, and he got real serious. [One line of short hand] I haven't been alone with him since I saw Elsie Miller a while ago and she tells me Allan has been married for a long time. I geuss [sic] he went to Canada last summer and married her. I only wish him happiness even tho [sic] he did cause me a good

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deal of heartache. I wonder if he loves her and if he is good to her. Here's where I ring off.

Aug 28

I sure did have a streak the last time I wrote. I haven't anything good to write. Prospects are pretty discouraging. I come back from home last Tues. but don't see any sign of a job yet. Everything is so dull. This awful War is making things worse. I surely had a good time out home. I went visiting quite a bit. Went to see Lilly her new baby & Burgesses & Gertie & Malholms. I went to a social at Mitzes, and Sophie Clay gave a party and we had



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a pretty nice time at that. Then we gave our play "The Milkmaids Convention and it went off pretty good. I stayed with Rosella that night & Frank stayed there too. A bunch of us went to El Dorado one Sunday on a picnic. Harold Ketner from Denver went with Malholms and he sure was a nice fellow. I thot [sic] he rather liked me. Mr Shirn came up to El Dorado that day & thats the last I saw of him. I called him up when I got back & he was going to meet me down town & but he called up again & said he couldn't get off. I don't think he wants to get off, at least he could call me up once in a while & while I was out home he never wrote & only came out once. I am

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going home tomorrow as soon as I get thru [sic] ironing. I hope Ill even have a job and be able to write a more cheerful tale than this.

Sept 25

Well I don't seem to have a more cheerful tale to write at all. I havent any work yet and at times I get so blue. I cried most all day last Sunday. Frank G. has gone away I guess. He was to go yesterday Somewhere in Wyo. [Wyoming]. Frank S. has gone too but it is time for him to be back now. He went to Pagosa Spgs [Springs] to survey some timber land but never a word has he written to me while he has been gone.

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I don't see any use carrying this farce any further so I geuss [sic] the only way is too have it out when I see him again. Mr. Barkley is here in town. Stella is still in Crews but they haven't been living together for about a year. I was so sorry to hear it. Houston told me yesterday afternoon. We went to a couple of picture shows. Then today he called up again & we went to dinner and after dinner were walking down Champa & met Lottie. She had just got a job. She went with us to a couple of shows. I think Houston was going to take her out tonight. I am getting pretty discouraged about not getting a job. They say "while there's life theres hope"

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but I surely havent much hope left.

Oct 9

I am still in town and no job yet but tomorrow I am going to put my appli-cation in the stores and put an ad in Sunday. If I don't get work then I haven't fully decided what to do but I may have to go out home. I expected Houston out Sun, but he didn't come and I haven't heard from him yet. He said if he left town he would write to me and I said "then you won't forget." He said "Do you think I will"? Of course I had to say "No" but I'm from "Missouri"

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and I won't be sure about it till I see his writing on the letter. Shirn has been gone 5 wks [weeks] tomorrow and he hasn't sent me a word. Of course if he does come back & call me up now, I'll have to tell him what I think of the way he has acted & also tell him about Houston. I tried to do a little missionary work and get them to make up but it didn't work. We went out to Bowles Park Fri [Friday]

and stayed all day. Not all day cause we didn't get there till 12 oclock but we took lunch. He told me all over again that he wanted to marry me after he & Stella got their divorce. He surely seems to be serious but

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one can never tell. Look how FS. did. Houston says if I will consent I can expect all the necessities of life, that he can always get a good job and whatever he has will be mine, but he wouldn't want me to take him for that, he would want me to care for him as I should. That is all very reasonable if it wasn't for Stella. I like Stella and wouldn't say a word against her. I can't bear to think of it on her account. He says if I feel that way about it I'll have to choose between him and Stella. That is pretty hard too, because I could

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think a whole lot of him under different circumstances. Maybe I will anyhow. I think I could care for him enough if we could only get along. He says he is sure he cares for me, and he even gave me to understand that he has for a long time. He re-membered the time when he grabbed me & kissed me good-bye when I left Mitchell, and asked me why it was I always acted rather cold to him and why I wouldn't kiss him that time. I told him he was always married when I knew him before. After he brought me home that night we sat on the porch awhile and he said he had a good time that day but

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hadn't got the answer he wanted and that was what he wanted to go out there for. I told him I wished I could give him the right answer but I couldn't for a while. He seemed to be quite disapointed [*sic*] and [*Two lines of shorthand follow*]. I went to see Buelah yes-terday. She has changed so. A married man by the name of Johnston (he made such a handsome picture, all he needed was a frame) came to see her. He kissed her too even if I was there. She lets on to me she just flirts but keeps straight but I'de [*sic*] hate to be in Archs boots. I went with

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Mrs. Mackern to the Billy Sunday meeting last night and after the sermon Rodeheauer held prayer meeting. It certainly was a fine meeting. I geuss [*sic*] enough is a plenty so think I'll write a letter to Geo. [George]. He still likes me I think.

-1915- Feb. 7, 1915

I havent had my book out here until just a few weeks ago. I am sorry for I would have had many interesting things to write. All about Richard and Pinky & Gertie and I going to the Halloween dance, and we sure had one circus. I liked Richard better than any of the boys who have been here. Dee is gone and Ellen seems pretty lonesome. Francis took Blanche to church tonight.

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Blanche is getting to be an outrageous little flirt and she is getting so pretty and cute. We had quite a lot of excitement here the other night. Orson & Percy went to Louisville and got drunk the other night. Fannee was rather foolish too. Gertie and Van went down to Vines so Walter and the kids and I were here alone. We tried every way possible to keep out of their way. When we went to get coal they locked us down [in the] cellar and we came out the other door but they had gone down town. After awhile when we were in the lunch room we heard them coming so we blue [*sic*] out the light to make sure they wouldnt

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come in but Orson came right in anyway. Walter tried to put him out & send him to bed but he wouldn't go and right there was a scrap on hand. I was so mad at the Mutt I wouldn't [have] cared if Walter had most killed him. Now Orson don't [sic] speak to either Walter or I and I am glad for that is the only way I can get along with him. I geuss [sic] this road work will soon be done now and then Ill go home for a while. George still writes to me and he sent me such a pretty white Ivory brush and comb for Xmas [Christmas]. Gertie and van are sitting out in the kitchen spooning. Geuss[sic] Ill go to bed as we have to get up so early.

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Mar 29<sup>th</sup>

I have been home for over a month now. The camp moved to Platteville and Walter and Frances H. went to Idaho Spgs [Springs] and are working in the mines there. I have had several letters from W. H. & they seem to like it fine up there. Percy is still at Gertie's, and works here some of the time and at the mill sometimes. Selma is here (or in Denver rather) getting ready to be married the 21<sup>st</sup> of Apr. [April]. Ellen & I went to Denver Sat [Saturday] & got goods for them [sic] new dresses. Ellen is making hers. We met Selma down town & I went out to the house that eve & stayed till Sun. [Sunday] night.

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Van comes down every once in a while to see Gertie. She seems to be enjoying herself between Van & Percy. I intend to start to school about next week. I will have to practice up some before I can hold a job now. It seems pretty lonesome here now. I am doing a little sewing to pass the time away. I saw Elsie Miller Sat. [Saturday] in the Denver. She told me that she saw Allan & his wife & baby. She said his wife was so nice. The baby is a girl. I suppose they are outrageously happy. Geo. [George] writes to me quite often. Geuss [sic] I will close for tonight.

Apr 19<sup>th</sup>

I started to school last Monday and I geuss [sic] I will soon be starting the same

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old hunt for a job. I do hope I am more successful this time. Selma is to be married next Wed. I am going out there ~~the~~ 21<sup>st</sup> tomorrow evening after school to take her a wedding present I got for her. It is an 1847 Rogers butter knife and sugar shell. She came out and stayed Thurs. [Thursday] night with me. Ellen and Dee are out buggy riding tonight. Van and Gertie have had a fuss. She says she don't [sic] love him any more. He was over here Friday night with Dee. We went walking and he told me all about it

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and says all he wants is an explanation. Blanche & I were over to Broomfield this afternoon and she told me how Van felt so bad and is all broken up about it. Sure is funny to hear both sides. Francis H. came from Idaho Spgs [Springs] to see Blanche. I hadn't heard from Walter for some time till Fri [Friday] night I got a letter from him. I thot [sic] he was mad but he didnt seem to be. I am not going to ans. [answer] his letter in any hurry tho [sic] maybe not at all. I don't know why he didn't write for so long but I don't care extra much either.

May 2<sup>nd</sup>

This is Sunday and the wind [is]

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blowing just awful. I think I will go over to Burgesses. I have been going to school 3 weeks now. I have improved a lot on my [shorthand]. Quite a few things have happened since I wrote last. Frank Hunter died a week ago today. They buried him in Denver. Blanche and I went to the funeral. Francis came out to see her Fri. [Friday] night. Thurs. [Thursday] I got a telephone call at school. I was very much surprised to hear Mr. Shirn's gentle voice. He met me that day and Fri [Friday] he took me to dinner and he met me after school and we went to a picture show. I stayed with Mrs Macken Fri night and we went to the

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Denham and saw "Tess of the Storm Country." I answered Walter's letter yesterday. I don't think he intends to stay up there much longer. Geuss [sic] he is tired of the mines. Gertie and Van didn't make up I geuss. He has gone away now I think. Percy still loves her I geuss. They have been cleaning house. I got a letter from Geo. [George] this morning and he thinks he will soon sell out. I just wonder if he will come out here. Mr. Shirn has not explained yet why he didnt write but I think he will be called upon to explain very shortly.

May 20

I am still going to school & hunting a job, but there is no

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use of putting all my troubles down here, for this book will be a "trouble book" if I don't have more cheerful things to write. the girls went to Louisville for the Graduation Exercises tonight so it seems rather lonesome. Walter & Francis are both back now, and they have both been here several different times. Last Sat we all went out to City Park & had a real nice time. It has stormed this whole week. There was a lot of snow fell [sic] and its real cold. I geuss [sic] I haven't written since Selma was married. She is living in Antonito now. I haven't heard a word from O S. for weeks. I tried to call

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him up once or twice & couldn't get him so he can just go straight [shorthand] for all I care. I am madder at him than I ever was. I got a letter from Van last week. He wanted to make a date with Gertie. They are to meet in Denver tomorrow. (that is if he got my letter in time). Francis H. said last night that GE is real worried about W&I. [One line of shorthand] Oh, well it will all come out in the wash I geuss [sic].

June 27<sup>th</sup>

Today is Sunday. The most beautiful day that could be I have been working two weeks at the Fritchle [illegible] My hours are fierce. 3:30 in the afternoon until 11:30 at night. Walter was over

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Monday night and of course I wasn't here. He hadn't got my letter & didn't know I was working. He is supposed to come over today if he don't [sic] have to do some repairing on his engine. I am afraid he isn't coming tho [sic], and I have to go back at 5 o'clock. Edgar Watson the deaf fellow that worked for us is in

serious trouble. He read about the "Candy Kid" in the papers and has held up a lot of drug stores in Denver. They caught him Wed [Wednesday], and papa went in to see him. I am staying with Mrs Macken and would like it alright if I only had a day job. I have a lot of fun at the

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Garage. Sammy is a rather cute kid and all the boys there are real nice they take me home in an Electric [car] every night.

July 18

It seems to be a case of off again on again, gone again, Flanagan with me and my job. I am no longer at the [*shorthand*] Co. I quit so that I wouldn't get fired. Mr F. didn't like me I geuss [*sic*] [*illegible*] he wasn't satisfied with my work. He said I wouldn't take dictation fast enough. That was a lie for he only gave about 75 wds [words] per min and just last Fri [Friday] the Remington lady gave me a test and I made 99 per min. I couldnt stand that night work very well anyway so I am glad I am

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away from there. Sammy is the only one I miss. Since I wrote last Evelyn and Arch were married a few weeks ago. and I don't believe that it is recorded in this book chat for the past two months. Miss [*illegible*, *probably Geo., George*] Evans has been Mrs Percy Dobson. It seems I am to be left an old maid all by myself alone. There is Rosella yet. She and George have never made up yet. I wish they would. Last Tuesday Walter called me up & wanted me to go out home Tues. [Tuesday] night. I went & he and Francis came over right after I got there. They were going up to Nederland to work in the Mines. Walter and I had a little fuss. I haven't heard anything from him yet but Blanche got

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a card from Francis and he is back in Denver. Don't know where Walt is but Francis said there was no work at Nederland so he is probably back at Westminster. Mr. Shirn was down at the Garage one night & walked home with me. He called up at Burgesses the 4th and wanted me to go to El Spgs [El Dorado Springs] with him. Rosella told him I was going to El Spgs on a picnic & he went up there & looked for me all day so he said. I was with Walter up Coal Creek Canon [*sic*], and we sure had one splendid day. I went out Sat night & stayed all night with Walters cousins. They are very nice girls, and I certainly did like them.

Sept 20<sup>th</sup>

Nearly 2 months since I have

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written in this book. I really ought to do better than that. Quite a few interesting things have happened too. I have been working for Mr. Pierce nearly 2 months now. I don't know how it will finally turn out for his business is in a pretty bad shape now. The last I heard about Walter he was out at Bennett. He has not written a line to me, but that suits me alright. I don't worry any about it. Mr Shirn went away I suppose. He said I would see him again before he went to Greeley but of course he lied again. I don't care now whether I ever see him again or not. Mr. Flood has

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been quite nice to me lately, but I can't seem to find out whether he is married or not. He brought me home in his car one night last week and Sat. [Saturday] he came up there at 1 o'clock and we went to the Home Dairy and had lunch, then he took me home to Broomfield. He didn't come in the office today. Last night Blanche and I went over to Wesley Chapel with Russel and Jack. I like Jack the best but Blanche always gets to go with him and I have to go with Russell. There isn't much other news I guess [sic].

Oct 18 '15

Here it is 9 o'clock and I sure

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intended to go to bed by 8, as I was up till 12 last night. Russell & I went to church and he came in and stayed till 12 o'clock. He was in town Friday night and we went down town to a picture show. Guess [sic] he will soon go to Mich. [Michigan] now. I found out that he is a lot younger than me. It beats all how I do pick up with real young fellows. Jack came in town on the car I did this morning and never sat by me. Made me kind of mad. I'll bet he is in town tonight too. Mamie is working tonight so I am here all alone. Mr Pierce is down in Placerville with that

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Mr Litner from [shorthand], so Mr Herrmann & Mr. Woods and I are taking care of the office. It looks as tho [sic] Mr. Herrmann was going to have some business pretty soon, so guess [sic] I'll stick a while longer and see how things turn out. Mr H. sure is grand looking. A regular picture, and all he needs is the frame. He is married of course. I never imagined he would be so handsome. Gerty & Percy have moved over to their ranch. I haven't heard any-thing from her but have an Idea she will write. I sure miss my little "Sugar Pie" Ruth. If I had a kid like she is I would love her to death. That horrid Mr F.

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never comes near the place any more. A week ago last Thurs [Thursday] night we had a party here. Mr & Mrs Sweat, Harry Ferd, Sue Esther Pearson, Mr Stacey, and Mary and I. We had a dandy time, and Ferd & I sure had a grand dance. Oh, yes Billy B was here of course. A couple of weeks ago Mrs Morrison gave a party for Sophie and I don't know when I had such a circus. We got a lot of pictures and they are fine. Guess [sic] this is all the news for this time.

Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

Well I am left without a beau again. Russell went to Mich. [Michigan] last Tues [Tuesday] night & Mr Wheeler left the same

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time. I went to the Depot with R. He bought me a real pretty leather pennant. I have had 3 cards from him, but no letter yet. Mr. Woods has gone, and it sure seems lonesome without him. I got to think a good deal of him. Mr. Pierce is getting pretty cross, and money matters certainly look awful around there. Mr. Flood told me to put in my application with H.&B. and I believe I will. Mabel came home to dinner with me Sun. [Sunday] and Rosella was there to Supper. I missed Russell out home. He said he was sure Jack

would be over to see me, but there's no sign of him so far. I wish he would. Last Wed. [Wednesday] night I went

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out to Edna Linbeck's to supper. Then we sang about 40 songs. I haven't heard from Evelyn for a long time. I am working some pillow slips for her for a wedding present. I sure was on the go last week, but geuss [sic] I'll stay home for a while now. The last sat. [Saturday] night Russell was here we drove to Louisville. We had quite a plain little talk that night too. Its surprising how wise some of these kids are. Geuss [sic] Ill ring off, as long as I don't know any news.

Dec 8, 1915

Not much interesting news to write. I am still at Pierce [shorthand] Co. Haven't had any money for over three weeks and it sure makes me pretty blue.

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Mr. Pierce has been sick with the Grippe [sic] and today is the first time he has been to the office since last Tue. Mr. H. had it too but was only out a couple of days. The folks out home have been sick. Blanche & papa & Annie have all had the Grippe [influenza]. Last Sunday afternoon Blanche & I walked to Broom town & Jack brought us home. He had a date with that darned old widow of his tho [sic]. I geuss [sic] Mr Hanner will move pretty soon. I dont like for him to go for it is awful lonesome around there anyhow. The Martin court boys are real nice and talk to me a good deal. I am working a lunch

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cloth with blue birds on it and they are all very much interested in the birds. Mr H. was rather lonesome this evening. He asked me what I did in the evenings. I thot [sic] perhaps he was going to ask me to go somewhere but he didnt do it. Went with his nurse girl I suppose. Mamie went to church tonight and it is so lonesome.

-1916- Jan. 19/16

I wonder if this year will be like the last few years. I hope it will be a better year for me than the last few have been, for I haven't been so very happy. Had a nice Xmas [Christmas] & got some nice things. Geo. [George] was supposed to come

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out here right after Xmas [Christmas] but I dont hear a word from him. He was to stop in Crawford and Alliance & said he didn't know how long it would take but I can't imagine why I don't hear from him. I am looking for another job. Mr Pierce can't keep up expenses, and Mr. H's business seems to be at a stand-still, so I will have to get some-thing else - Here's hoping I get a good one. Mr Hanner has been giving me a little work. I hate to lose it now. Mr. F. was in a week ago Sat. but hasan't [sic] been near the place since. I would like to see him to tell him I am leaving Pierce's. Cook died just a few days before Xmas [Christmas]. Papa found him dead when he went to call him in the morning. I can't get used

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to the place without him. Selma is back to stay a couple of months while Ed builds their house. She was up here to supper one night. I geuss [*sic*] she is out at Lena's now. I went home with Mabel to dinner Sunday. I was invited for the Sunday before but went out to Gerties Sat night. They have a Ford now, so they met me and then Sun. we went over to Broomfield in the machine. I had a letter from Russell a while ago. also his picture. I got a letter from Ida Deal and Walter is out at Goodwich, Colo, [Colorado] on a sheep ranch. They have all moved out to Bennett.

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Apr 4

I could hardly believe my eyes when I looked at the date I wrote last. Lots of interesting things have happened, but I seem to be having just about the same old luck. I don't know why it is, for I certainly try hard but I geuss [*sic*] I missed my calling all right when I took up Stenography. I had two places where the pay was good. Both film Companies but I wasn't fast enough. Mrs. Mackern is at the Metro now. I think she will be able to hold it, for she has had good practise [*sic*] all winter & lots of experience. Mrs Crosby seems to have it in for me, in spite of the fact that several other girls fell down on both those jobs. I have been doing some sub work but am not getting rich at it.

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Geo [George] was out here but didnt stay quite a week. He has a job with the CB&Q [Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Railroad] and sold out his plumbing business. Had a letter a few days ago. Selma was here the same time he was and the tailor from Antonio was here & we all went out to the Park one Sat [Saturday] off. I saw all the [*illegible, possibly "Radium"*] exhibits that R.F.H. fixed up and was very interested of course. Mr Pierce has another girl in the office. She sure is pretty. I was in there one day & Mr P. promised to pay me some, but haven't seen anything of the money yet. Hermann came in while I was there and just barely spoke to me. But I should worry about that. Last Sat [Saturday] night Molholms gave a dance in their new granary.

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and we really recieved [*sic*] invitations. Had quite a nice time. Jack & Fred brought Ellen & I home in Jack's buggy and Blanche & Gus walked. The Embroidery [*sic*] Club meets here tonight. Geuss [*sic*] this is all the news, except that I had a 10 page letter from Russell. I sure don't know what to make of that letter. He said his future plans depended upon my answer, & to base my ans [*sic*] on my feeling for him & a lot of junk like that & said he was coming back to Colorado & did I want to have a talk with him & have his company for a while. I don't know what to make out of it, or just what he means. Gerty & Percy were here one night in their machine. There is to be a party of Nissens in the Garage next Sat [Saturday] night. I am invited & may go.

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Apr 24<sup>th</sup>

Sunday was Easter and I went home of course and had a fine time. Dr Scott was there in the morning and there was an Easter song service in the evening and the girls sang. Sat. [Saturday] night I had quite a surprise. Some one knocked at the front door and I took a match to see who it was and it was Russell. Everything went fine for a while and we had a nice talk but before he went we had it out about that letter. He had some pictures of himself and Esther, did they sure looked like two days of rainy weather. I finally got to understand part of what he



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meant by the letter. He seemed to think I had some strings on him, and he wanted to get engaged to Esther, but most of all he wanted to find out what I had to say and still not say anything himself. He sure did beat around the bush and I told him so. Then he wanted to know if he could come over Sun. I told him it might not be treat-ing Esther right so he had better not come. He didnt intend things to turn out just that way, but he didnt come home with me Sun. [Sunday] night, so I don't know wheter [sic] I'll see him before he leaves to go homestead-ing or not, and sure don't care much. I went into Pierces last week and he paid me, so I bought

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a new checked coat and Annie got my skirt done, so I have a little bit to wear now. However, I need a new hat & waist pretty bad. I have had quite a number of surprises lately. Got a card from Plunse Stallins a while ago, also a letter from Faye Crass, & she may be here in Denver soon. She says Barklays are at Newry, Nebr. [Nebraska]. Another surprise was a letter and the snapshots we took the 4th from Walter. He was sure a long time writing but I geuss [sic] I will answer. Mr Suan died a few days ago & was buried Sunday. I got a job today up in the Kittredge [shorthand]. They are lawyers. It is supposed to last about a month. Old Bimy

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at the Metro fired Mamie too. He sure is a crazy simp [sic]. I geuss [sic] we are going to see Evelyn tomorrow night. She is going to Colo Spgs [sic] to live pretty soon.

Oct 24 /16

Well, I just couldn't believe my eyes when I looked at this book and seen the last date Apr 24th/ Of course I didn't have my book out home, but I came back to town in August and have been working ever since at Bon [illegible words]. Like it pretty well but it sure is hard work. Boni gave me a little raise Sat. so am getting 11.50. Don't know why he didn't make it 11.49/ Well, I am thankful for it anyway, as I need some new clothes. I sure had

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a fine rest out home this summer, but good things can't last forever. The Grange Hall is done and there has been 3 or 4 dances already. I went to several with Helen & Happy but Russell was here for the last one and he took me, but he didn't want to much. He was down here about 4 wks [weeks] but it didnt seem long. We sure sat up late and I got so tired. We have just about half decided that I am to live on the homestead too, in about a year, according to present plans. He has 320 acres up there, and I geuss [sic] it is nice land. I really believe we could be happy, if we just

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had a start and could see our way clear to make a living. Russell is building a little house on it now. He will live on it a month and then work all winter. There is no telling how it will all turn out, but I don't see why I couldn't be happier than I am now, all alone the way I am. I do get so lone-some, and I sure was glad to have R. here. Lottie has gone up to Canada and Edna has gone back east for a visit. Grace W and Frank were married Conference Sunday. I haven't heard from George for so long. Can't imagine why. Ellen was in town all last week. She worked a couple of days. We went out to Aunt Lizzie's last Fri [Friday] night.

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1917  
Jan 4

Well, I wonder if this yr [year] is going to be like all the others. I wouldn't be surprised. I am feeling rather blue tonight. I got a letter from R. last week that certainly made me feel bad. He told me he was learning to dance, & of course I was glad to hear that, but he also told me that he was going with a girl there. I just can't write to him, for I keep thinking of the things he said. I don't know why he acts so. Sometimes I think he don't really care for me as he should. I am not sure I do either, but still it hurts me when he does such

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things. He sent me a set of chocolate spoons for Xmas [Christmas]. I got them the same time I got that horrid letter, & have never even written a word to tell him I got the pkg [package]. There was a dance Sat. [Saturday] night and I couldn't go. I took a funny spell Sat afternoon and almost fainted. I fell down on the floor. Mr. Hasson & Boni picked me up and put me in a chair, & I got better after while & came home but didn't get to go out home till about noon Sun. [Sunday]. The girls went & said they had a fine time. Eliz. [Elizabeth] Has been home for two days, but we have an-other girl in the office. She is working for Hasson. Arthur is just as nice as ever. He sure is a cute kid. Mamie & I went to the Dutch mill

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For supper tonight & she stayed at the office to do some work for her "Cookie." He is a pretty steady visitor lately. Geo. [George] sent me an ivory powder box and hair receiver for Xmas [Christmas], so I have the whole set. I ought to write some letters, but cant seem to settle myself down to it. I intended to go out to Aunt Lizzies tonight but Mary telephoned that they are all sick with the grip [*influenza*], so that I had better wait. Blanche & her children are there. Well, I geuss [*sic*] there is no use crying over spilt milk so I might as well make the best of it & go right on working every day. I am going to plan to take a vacation next summer and that is about all I will plan on.

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Sept 14, 1917

This sure is some stretch. Haven't written since Jan 4<sup>th</sup>. I am taking my vacation this next week, and I really don't know whether I will go back or if Russell & I will get married. I haven't seen him for so long and I feel so unsettled. Ellen & Dee were married July 11<sup>th</sup> [*Five lines of shorthand*] I got an announcement from Frank & Grace tonight. It is a baby girl. Russell's name is on the draft list and I don't know what would be best for us

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to do. I am going to visit Ellen & Dee, and Gertie and then I must go out to Aunt Lizzies. I have so much to do so geuss [*sic*] I had better quit.