

Frances Cron Diary, 1910 – 1912

Broomfield Depot Museum 2015.18.1

Transcription Revised March 2016

1910 – 1912 (age 21)

Jan 11th

It has been so long since I wrote that I never can tell it all. I haven't written since Nov. 4th. My boil is better than goodness. Altho [*sic*] there is a mark there yet. I had a pretty good time Xmas [Christmas] & New Years. I went to both trees at the School & The Church. Blanche came over New Years & we went to the Reception at the Church New Year's Night. Then Sunday afternoon Richmond Barbour came over and went back with her. I got quite a few Xmas presents. George sent a burned wood handmirror. Cary gave me a tidy [*sic*] & Mrs. Burgus a pretty scarf. Then I got lots of other things. F. didn't come back for N. Y. [New Year]. He couldn't get there at Sterling in time. He is in Denver now. Tho't [*sic*] sure he'd be at Church Sunday but he wasn't. I am going to

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Aunt Lizzie's Fri. [Friday] night I guess. I would like to go the Stock Show but I have so much to do. Cary & Mrs. Sharp are going, & Rosella is going. Al Boon is going away. He is so stuck on Cary he can hardly bear to go, I guess F. sent Cary a Xmas [Christmas] card, but I haven't heard since Thanksgiving. He never has sent me one from Sterling. Grace works in the P.O. [Post Office] there. They have the floor in the basement at the Church now. It is awfully nice. I shall try and write of there now.

Jan 31st.

Well I went to Aunt Lizzie's and had a fine time. Hattie and Dave have the dearest little baby girl. We were nearly burned out last Tue.[Tuesday] night. The train set the field a fire

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west of the barn, & it burned everything but the house and granary. That was an awful night. The wind blew terrible. Papa got his arm hurt while trying to move a load of hay. It fell on top of him. We tho't [*sic*] sure the house would go. Mrs. Burgess was so good to us. We stayed there till Thursday morning. I went to Dr. Writermayor last Sunday. I am feeling better now. The 19th of June I went to the Stock Show. A crowd of us went. I met a fellow that had been work-ing at Hosmers. His name is Mr. Curtice. He was awfully nice. When we came out of the amphitheatre [*sic*] he & Al Coon was [*sic*] sitting on a saw horse. Al jumped up & offered me his

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seat but I declined. Then he dared me to sit there, so of course I did. Then the whole crowd came in and had lots of fun at our expense. I said I wished I had one of those badges & he said he would bring one back with him. Well, he had to go home to Ohio (his father was very sick) & Fri. [Friday] I got a card from him. He said he was very sorry he had to leave so soon, but would send me the badge if I wanted it. I answered his card & told him I'd [*sic*] like to have the badge very much. Mr. Huett has his granddaughter Laura Green here keeping house for him. I didn't like her much. Mr. Y was out to Church a week ago yesterday but I went to Denver so didn't see him. Haven't heard from Geo. [George] for some time.

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I don't care so much if I only hear from "Curly" that's what they all called Mr. Curtice. We have Grange Thurs. [Thursday] night. We have Installation. I was elected "Chaplain" ah[*illegible*].

March 3rd

Well I did hear from Mr. Curtice. Got a letter & the badge, and a pretty postcard too. I haven't heard for a long time the now [*sic*] and I guess he was forgotten me. I had my picture taken the other day. It is real good too. We have a cow stable and horse stable built now, & are digging a well. John, a fellow from Aley's and Rex Mock are digging it. All of Mocks & Aleys & Jacksons came into the Grange tonight. Frank was out nearly three weeks ago. Fela came with him. He don't hurt himself coming out here. Belle Stibbins is to be married the

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23rd of this month. I am going to the wedding I guess. There was a basket Social at the Church Feb. 20th. Mr. Murdock got my basket, & Gard Bauer got Cary's. We all ate together, and had a picnic. Withams are going away, and Hosmers, Cary, Rosella, Mr. B, Charley Parsons & myself are going over Friday night. I hate to have them go, they are so nice. Laura Green has gone to Denver, & Mr Hewit is going to as soon as Bill Eduards gets me one to take his place.

March 7th

This has been a fearfully lonesome day. I had an awful cold yesterday and it isn't better yet. Mr. & Mrs Witham, Kenneth and Rosella came yesterday afternoon. Laura

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was here too. She was coming up this afternoon she said, but she hasn't come. Joe Dibble & Ethel Parke didn't come today, they are thru [*sic*]. John went to Louisville for dynamite for the well this morning. Rex was here all morning but they both went home at noon & didn't come back. Rex is awfully nice. Blanche thinks there is no one like him. Mrs. Mock & Mrs. Dibble were over here the other evening for a while. I wish Zella had come. She is just as cute as she can be. There is to be a hard time social at the Church Friday night. I have to wash tomorrow, I have to go to Denver one day this week too. I shall be awfully busy.

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How I wish Cary or someone I think a lot of was here now. I am so lonesome for some reason. I ought to write to Cary the poor little kid is sick. Cary asked all how old Layton Curtice is and he said he was 25. I'de like to know why he didn't write, so I would.

Mar. 28th

Lots has happened since I wrote. Had a fine time at the Oyster Supper and also the "hard time" social. Bernie got the prize at the social. I had a circus with Mr. Valentine. He tried to take me upstairs and I wouldn't go. We had a great old time, He's awfully cute. He was at Church yesterday too. When we shook hands, I wasn't shaking very much & he said "Now

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[At top of page, a note is written that states: (Mrs Burgess' name must be Annie – sister of Amie – and wife of Wm. Burgess) see Edward Collum." The writing is likely from Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington, who made the note at a later date.]

shake" and we sure did too. I had a fine time at the Wedding. Belle looked too sweet for anything. She is the dearest girl anyway. Eric is awfully nice too & good looking. Lottie looked real nice. She had a pretty pink dress. Ella & I put up the decorations. Ray is getting to be *[illegible]* fine. I always did like him anyway. Lottie expects to come over soon. Frank was out yesterday, Mrs. Burgess's mother died a few days ago, & she brought her sister Amy out with her yesterday. When I went to Church "Mother" came out & asked me to stop as I came home, but I said I'd have to hurry home and get dinner but would be up in the afternoon. I didn't know Frank was coming

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[Note at top asks, "(Frank who?)." Note was likely written later by Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington, at a later date.]

there. They fixed up a joke on me. When I got there he was not to be seen & pretty soon there was a knock at the front door. Rosella answered it & said "Frances there [is] a gentleman to see you." Of course I was surprised and peeked thru *[sic]* the curtains, but I didn't really know what it was. I went in & it was Frank. Oh, how we laughed. He saw me peek thru the door too. We went for a walk, then after supper he came home with me & took the car at Burns. We met a fellow that asked where Broomfield was. The moon was shining over that way, & Frank said "Over there where the moon shines." I couldn't hardly *[sic]* wait till the man had gone to laugh.

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Apr. 15th

I have just finished making an apron for Blanche and its not quite supper time so I thot I'd *[sic]* write a little. Lettie came over the 6th and stayed till Monday (11th). We didn't get to go any place but to Broomfield, Church, and Burgusses. We took dinner at "Mother's" Sunday. Then Monday Papa & I went to Denver with her. We had some ice cream and then Lottie took the 12 car home. We got a sanitary couch for the girls and a new rug for my room. I am anxious to get my room fixed up. I am mighty lonesome today for some reason. I wish I had some-where to go. I do get so lonesome, and the wind howls something awful. It never does stop blowing

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lately it seems. I got a letter from Blanche today. I was awfully surprised. She is working pretty hard I guess. Poor kid. One day is just like another here lately as there isn't much to write. Ted Jones is home to stay now. Oh, Rex has gone away, I don't know whether he is coming back or not. Oh, I forgot about the Open Grange. We had it April 2nd. Had a lovely programme *[sic]*, quite a crowd. Leah came out & played. She stayed with me that night. That little Mr. Pope was with her again. Mrs. Dibbiesuter [Dibble?] & cousin Cara were there too. Lilly Burgess had a baby boy. I am going to try to go to see her tomorrow afternoon.

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Apr. 25th

I had a lovely time yesterday. Went home with Cary from Church. I had such a good time, Ted was there, but went to Denver after dinner to see his wife he said. Sybil & Bennie fixed it up that Ted, Mr. Murdock, Cary, & I were to sing a quartet, Children's Day. I don't think it will go. Ted says he won't. Cary & I went down to the creek & sat a long time and talked. Then we hitched up & she brought me back, and when we got to Burgess's there was Beulah & Mr. Witham & Frank. After [a] while we all walked up the hill. We had more fun. Cary & Frank threw ants & stones at each other, and then he & I got to playing ball with rocks. We started with a little pebble & got a bigger one, and bigger all

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the time, till finally we had rocks as big as a teacup throwing to each other. They wanted me to stay there for supper but I didn't. Frank had a joke book there & wanted me to stay & he'd read me some dry jokes. Some way Beulah heard all about that moonlight story. We were joking & going on about the moon & she said she heard all about it. Frank said to me "You've been tell-ing tales out of school." But I didn't tell her, I told Cary & mother. Mrs. K. can't help me clean house till next week so I'll have to wait I guess.

May 12th

The expected had happened, George was out here to see me today. He

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is poorer & skinnier than ever I hardly knew him. He brought me some nice candy tho [sic]. Maybe he is coming out tomorrow & [can] go to the school picnic. He came at 10 this morning & stayed till five. I have so much to do. I have my cake to bake yet. Tomorrow night there is an entertainment at the hall. Some DU [*likely Denver University*] people. Maybe Grace is coming up Sunday. I got my housekeeping done all right [sic]. Maggie Dueflar helped me. Next Tue. [Tuesday] night is Graduation exercises. There isn't much to do. I forgot to ask Geo. [George] when he was going back. But more than likely he will be out tomorrow.

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May 20th

Well this is an unusually, miserable day. The girls have gone to the Dry Creek School picnic & I am so lonesome. Cary & Rosella are going to some D.U. [*likely Denver University*] exercises this evening, I suppose either Bennie or Frank invited them. Grace & Geo. [George] were out Sunday. Leila was out too & about 4 o'clock Frank came. Cary was there. We had a nice time. We all, except Cary & Leila, went down to the Auditorium to the Dry Denver meeting but we didn't come home so very dry. We were head over ears in mud. Grace waited for that 3 o'clock train. Her and Frank acted a fright. Got a letter from Geo. and he says he wishes he was back in Denver for he wants to be where I am at. How very sad that he can't be where I am at. It worries him more than

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me. Tue. [Tuesday] night was the Graduation exercises at the Hall. Christina came and went with me & stayed till yesterday morning. Last Friday was the picnic & that night the D.U. [*likely Denver University*] entertainment. Had a fairly good time at both. The Graduation was fine, and the Hall was packed. Oh, I

have such a blue spell today. I simply can't throw it off. Sunday is Children's Day. I'll never forget last Children's Day, or rather the day before. I guess Mr. Buhler [is] going away for a while so of course they had to have it a couple of weeks earlier. Mr. Valentine was at the D.U. Social.

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I thot [sic] he was mad, because at the Church Social a while ago I called him an Irishman and teased him till I thot he was surely mad, but he was cutting up as bad as ever the other night, so I guess he isn't.

June 1st

We have had just beautiful weather the last few ~~weeks~~ days. Last Thurs. we all went to the D.U. [likely *Denver University*] Commencement exercises. Cary and I went down at three. We fooled around & had lots of fun. We were to meet the crowd at the Shultz Drug store, so we called up where Frank works & left word for him to meet the crowd there at six or seven. Cary & I were sitting there talking and he came in. He couldn't go

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tho [sic]. After [a] while Rosella & Lettie came & then we went & met the rest of the crowd. Cary stayed all night with me. Sunday we had the Children's Day exercises. The Church was just packed. Frank came out. Mother invited Cary and I there to Dinner but Cary couldn't go & couldn't till afternoon because Charley & the kids were here. We had some fun that afternoon tho. He had a little stick & kept fooling around & Rosella & I took it away. We had a good old scrap. I took the magazine & went out on the porch to read & pretty soon he came out too & sat down by me. He started about my ring again. He thinks Geo [George] gave it to me I know

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and I just let him think so. He said "Let's see your ring" & took my hand. Then he said he'd tell my fortune. He looked at my hand awhile and said, "You're an awful flirt" I said "not so very." Then he said I was too, or I wouldn't let him hold my hand. He is the horniest kid. I slapped him with my paper. I want to go to Aunt Lizzie's Fri [Friday] night. I have a lot of work to do today, [I] am baking & ironing.

June 13th

It is trying to rain. [I] Hope it does for everything is so horrid dry [sic]. I washed this morning. Papa & the girls and I all went out to Lakeside last Friday. We had a real nice

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time. We went out with a boat & I almost learned how to row. I got the goods for a linen suit & expected to get Amy to make it, and now she can't for an old lady, a friend of hers has a broken hip and Amy has to go and take care of her. I am so worried I don't know what to do now. I went over to Aunt Lizzie's, Blanche was gone to Greeley. Her & Carrie are going back to Ill. [Illinois] soon, they said they would try to come over before they go but I don't expect them. Cary has that old Hay Fever again. Poor little kid. We had Grange a week ago Thurs [Thursday] night. The men got supper and they had baked potatoes, cheese, crackers,

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lemonade and oranges. George Graves was there and we had a nice talk. He is going to stay at Ft. Collins all summer I guess. I guess Frank is coming out in a couple of weeks. I sent him a card from Aunt Lizzie's. There was a social at Gratham's Tue. [Tuesday] night. Had a nice time.

June 22nd

Well I have a good deal to do so haven't long to write. I got my suit made after all. Mrs. Mock made it. My it is hot work cooking these days. I bake bread again now too. I don't know what we will do this 4th yet. Geo [George] wants me to go to Sterling. He is in Alliance Nebr. [Nebraska]. I guess I would have a nice time

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if I went to Sterling, but some how I don't feel exactly the same to Grace as I used to, since she was up here last I know I ought to go but don't see how I can leave very well now. Mr. Witham is working here, I went to a social at Frank Church's Sat night. Beulah, Rosella, Mrs. Fielder and I all went in the car. I was feeling awful tired and worn out, and Cary went off to talk to a friend of hers & the rest of them were off in the alcove, so I didn't have much fun the first part of the evening. After [a] while I went into the alcove, & pretty soon Mr. Valentine comes in. He was just as funny as usual. Mrs. Hosmer offered to let me ride

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home & I didn't go, I didn't know what she thot [*sic*]. Rosella & I went out in the hammock on the porch and out came that Mr. V. & sat down by me. Mr. Church came to the door & teased a while. He went to the car with me and got in & rode to Church's & paid my fare to Burns. I told Cary Sunday. She nearly died laughing. Beulah teases me all the time about Mr. V. haha.

July 17th

We went out to Luna Park the 4th. Had a pretty good time nothing extra. Rosella & mother went with Frank. I expected Blanche over this week but they all went camping Thurs [Thursday], up near Estes Park, so I don't know when she can come.

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Tuckers are up in the mountains at Cardinal near Eldora. I think I shall go up there after the play is over. The play will be July 27th & is "The Trouble at Satterlee's." I have the part of "Kathleen" an Irish girl. Eleanor is coming down for the play and I may go back with her. We want to get Maggie to keep house. I hope she can come. I am just crazy to go. Sybil is going up tomorrow. A week ago Friday, Jones', Withams, Morse's and Rosella and I all went on a picnic to El Dorado Springs. Oh, yes, and Mr. Buhler too. We had the best time, climbed the crazy stairs via Harmon

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Falls and came back the other way. Ted tried to poke my finger in some pitch pine and we had a scrap. I got a lot on my hands & had to grease it to get it off. They were just going on about the p[*illegible*], & Mr. Joule said he walked the wire over the canyon July 4th. I don't think any of them has guessed who the

p[*illegible*] is, and I hope they never do, no one but Burgess and I know and mother told Frank. Geo [George] Kalberer has been sick 3 weeks with Typhoid, but is some better now.

July 28th

Well the last week or so certainly has been busy. July 21st was the Grange Picnic.

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A big crowd went from here. Graves, Eddie & Mariam & Viola & Henry, Mrs. Dibble, Zella & I. We didn't get to Ft. Collins until about noon. George G. came and ate dinner with us but he had to work that day. We sure had some fun coming home. Clarence stole a beauty of a pink geranium, and if we didn't have a scrap over that. We sure had some fun. We fought over it all the way home. That Fri night was the social at Mrs. Frank Churches. We had a lovely time, only I couldn't get away from that Valentine, Cary just can hardly breathe for him. Frank came out to the social.

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He rode here with us. We took Burgess and Mock. He sat in the front seat and of course couldn't sit up straight. Graves came out Sunday. I was up home. Frank came out for a while too. Then Monday Night Mother, Rosella, Cary, & I all went to Denver, and Graves, Frank & Bernie met us and we all went out to City Park and saw the fountain and heard the Band. We took a ride on the Steam Laurel and then when we got down town, Bernie took us all to a Picture Show. Last night we gave the Play, we got there with it pretty good, Rosella recited the Quartet

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song, Viola recited, and Miss Rudolf sang. Eleanor & Harriet played a duet & Sybil played. There is a house party of Denver Society folks at Zang's Club house and the whole bunch came. Flora Bloedt whose name is always on the Society Page is one of the bunch. Mrs. Murdoch had all us girls to supper last night. We sure had a nice time. I am going up in the mountains with Eleanor tomorrow morning. I hope I'll have a nice time.

Aug 9th

I went to the mountains and surely did have a fine time. We had some fine rides. We rode out

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with Mr. Tucker to Salt the cattle one day and I got into the bog with old Shin, and when he got out of the bog, he ran off home and I had to ride in the wagon. We took another long ride to a Tungsten Mine, and coming home we found a lot of Marguerites [*a type of flower*]. We gathered armfuls. We rode about ten miles that day. Sunday we took a ride to Liars Cabin. We went thru [*sic*] the cabin and it was a delightful ride. Then one evening Mrs. Tucker, Milt, Eleanor, Bud, Alice, and I went into the tunnel of the mine near Cardinal. The tunnel is 1800 ft. It was awful wet. We pushed a car in and rode out. They mine

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gold, silver, and tungsten in that mine. We rode up to Nederland several times. The day before I came home, Eleanor and I went out on the range with old Charley Murphy and we climbed old Bald Mountain. It was so cold up there we nearly froze. We found some snow and went over to it across a rock pile, and

made a snowball. A little farther down we found some Columbines, and we picked a great armful apiece. Then a storm came up and we had to stop in an old miners cabin near an old abandoned mine. It thundered and lightnined [*sic*], and hailed, and rained. Eleanor and I amused ourselves by singing, and

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jumping over a bench. We got home about 4 oclock and we certainly were hungry. The next day I came home, Sybil was on the car, and she gave a Columbine to the conductor and she wouldn't give the break man one, so I took pity on him and gave him one. Mrs. Kalberer has Typhoid and is very sick. They thot [*sic*] she couldn't live yesterday morning but Rosella and I were up yesterday afternoon and she was better.

Sept. 19th

It has been an age since I have written in my journal. Frank Lewis was married Thurs. Sept. 13th. He married Gail

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[A handwritten note at the top of the page reads, "(Grandma – Sarah Burton?)." This note was probably written by Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington, at a later date.]

Hoskinson. She is such a dear little girl. The wedding was so pretty and they got some lovely presents. There were only about thirty people there. I wore my new blue dress that Amy made. It is real pretty. I went to school Fri. [Friday] with Blanche. She has a nice little school. Then Fri night there was a social at Felch's. Richmond took Blanche, and Carrie, Mary, Coretta, and I all went together. Mr. Yeager was there. He came up to marry Frank and Gail. I come home Sat.[Saturday]. Grandma is coming over this week. I couldn't get ready to go to Church yesterday morning. We have a new Minister. His name is Johnson and he is a married man. The

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Church was plastered a while ago. Frank was out yesterday. I went up in the afternoon and he was there. We sang "Garden of Roses." He heard me playing it and came in, and we sang it. We sang later of other songs too but nothing is quite as lovely as "Garden of Roses." He was reading from that speaker of his and pretty soon he said "here is something for you Frances, I think it was written for you." What should it be but a lovely poem about a dear little maiden, who was always happy, and loved by everyone, and welcome everywhere. I never was as surprised. To think he would say that. I shall get that book and copy the poem, for altho [*sic*]

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I know it isn't like me, it is a lovely bit of verve, and that was the prettiest embellishment I have ever received. Mother, Amy & Frank came home with me. We came up alone from the railroad. Mother and Amy waited for him to come back. He took the car at the junction. He shook hands when he said Good-Bye. In fact I think he would have shook hands for five minutes, pro-viding I'd [*sic*] have let him, and it hadn't been car time. I got a letter from Jessie yesterday. Some money has been left me all of us [*sic*] by Mrs. Agnes Howatson, a kind of great aunt to me. It will be a year before we can get it I guess. It will be about 5 or 6 hundred

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[A note at the top of the page reads, "(If Grandma is Sarah Burton she would have been 76 and would have lost Thomas Burton May 31, 1908) Janet." The note was probably written at a later date by Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington.]

dollars, Jessie thinks. Jessie wants me to go out there when I get it and make a visit. If I only had it now, I'd take a Business Course I believe. Then I have thot [sic] some of Dress making or [illegible word, possibly "midwivery," sic.]. George sent me a Mexican opal in a stick pin. It is quite pretty.

Oct. 15th

Grandma has been here on a visit and we had a lovely time. She visited [the] Goodhues, Hosmers, Colmans, Burgesses, and Mrs. Church, and went all over. We had a lovely time at [the] Goodhues. We met Paul G's wife. She is the cutest little girl I nearly ever saw. Last Sunday we took dinner at Mother's. Then we went down to

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Cary's in the evening. Mother, Amy, & Grandma drove and Rosella and I took the car. We missed the ten o'clock car home so Ted brought us home. He brought me home two weeks before that too, when I was down to see Cary. He was kind of flirty both times. I had to sit on his lap that night. I hated [it] too, but he said he was bassing it and so I thot [sic] "Beggars musn't be choosers" and sat there. He got a new ring for his birthday and he showed it to Mother and she tried it on and then passed it to R. & I. When I put it on he said "oh I got it too big." Just a minute before that he had said that he left it blank (it was a real ring to have his wife's

[At bottom of page, a note is written that states, "(two pages over)." The end of the page, continued at the top of page 40, reads "it was a real ring to have his wife's initial put on."]

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Oct. 24th

Well this last week has sure been dreary and lonesome. I had an awful cold all day Sunday and couldn't go to Church or any-where, and have been home ever since. I guess Mrs. Jackson is coming tomorrow to help me wash and clean house. A week ago Sunday, Frank was out but now he has gone to Grand Junction. I haven't heard word from him yet but I guess she must have. I went up "house" in the afternoon. Frank came back with me. When he went to say good bye he kept right ahoid of my hand, and then I tried to get it away he got ahoid of the other one and we had quite a scrap. The flirty little rascal. I went to Denver last week and

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got a new hat. It is a big blue velvet Spratts one going away for good I guess. I do hope the people who come here will be nice. There really isn't any thing worth while writing about anymore. Just read a card from Mother.

Nov. 3rd [entry continued on last half of page 40]

A good deal has happened lately. I got thru [sic] with my housecleaning. Mrs. J. helped me. Sat. [Saturday] Cary drove over for me and we went and decorated the Church for Halloween. Sunday

afternoon Rosella came down and told me to get ready we were going to Grattan's to practice. I flew around and got ready and I didn't have any money so R. said she thot she had enough. We took the 3 o'clock car and so did [Sybil and Harriet]. *[End of sentence continued on page 40 by November 3 entry.]*

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[At top of page, there is writing continuing from page 37, "initial put on." The full statement on page 37 and 40 reads "it was a real ring to have his wife's initial put on."]

Oct. 15

Last night was the basket social. Ted got Eleanor's basket. He was bidding Charley P. up and Charley quit and Ted had to take it and he said "Oh I didn't want the basket." He thinks he is mighty smart. Mr. Jorgenson got mine. Mr. Patton got Cary's, and the P.C. School teachers and Mabel's. I didn't have any fun.

Nov 3rd *[entry continued from page 39]*

[Writing continued from page 39 – "Sybil and Harriet." The full statement on page 39 and 40 reads "We took the 3 oclock car and so did Sybil and Harriet."]

Well of course the only young fellow that all the girls like was there with his new rig and what did R. do but run out & ask him if we could ride to Loraine and take the car from there. She had a dime left. I stood at the gate waiting for her & she hollered

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"I've found the car fare." I said, "Well the next thing to do is to take the car" and walked over there, and Ted says, come on *[illegible words]* the horses won't stand. I was so mad I didn't know what to do. We went scouting by Sybil & Harriet and Ted acting the fool as usual of course. When I got in Ted said "You have to sit on my lap and drive," & I said "Well I won't" and I didn't. He brought me clear home. Monday he fixed it up with H. He brought her home from school & gave her carnations & ate supper with her. In short he had never seemed so very devoted before. I was afraid she would be mad at me but she didn't seem to be. I had a good time at the supper.

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Had my fortune told. It says I shall meet my fate at a large party & it will be love at first sight Ha Ha. Just as I was going home I ran downstairs into the kitchen to get my pie pans and Ted walks in after me singing something about "When dreams come true" and then he says "You've been talking about me." I said "Oh I don't believe it" & skipped out of there. Edgar Pierce died in Wyo. [Wyoming] and Mr. Pierce brought him out here to bury him. He was buried Tue. [Tuesday]. The funeral was in the Church. George and Clarence Graves came down to it. I had a little talk with George. It seemed good to see him again. It really was refreshing after such fancy flirting

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[Note at top of page reads, "(Leyden mine fire Dec 1910)," likely written by Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington at a later date.]

as Ted and Frank can reel off. Just got a letter from Laura Hewitt so will quit and read it.

Dec. 17th

What an age it has been since I wrote. Papa & Ellen are in Denver and Blanche just went to practice so I'm all alone. I am so busy getting ready for X-mas [Christmas]. I have a Brass set and am making Brass work for presents. An awful thing happened at Leyden the other day. The mine caught fire and there is [sic] ten men in it yet so far as I know. I went to an entertainment at the Hall Wed. [Wednesday] night, to Grange Thur. [Thursday] night, and to a basketball game at Westminster last night. That made three nights for me.

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We had Election of Officers at Grange. I am Pomona. There was dancing after grange. I nearly learned to waltz. Mr. Thompson and Leonard Graves were teaching Marvin and I to waltz. There is to be an X-mas [Christmas] tree at the school house next Friday night and one at the church for Sat [Saturday] night. Clarence Wyant is home now. Sybil and Clarence are nearly as thick as Harriet and Ted. I guess Geo. [George] is coming after New Years. There is to be an open grange New Years Eve. They will dance. I hope I can go.

1911 Feb 17th

I am getting worse and worse. It has been so long since I wrote. I had a

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real nice X-mas [Christmas]. Geo. [George] gave me a lovely hand bag, but I hated to take it. He is in Denver now and comes out about every two weeks. We are going to see the "Virginian" Sat. [Saturday] night. Since I wrote last an awful thing happened. Anatolia Wenderle was shot and killed by a fellow she went with about 2 years ago. I was in to see the girls in Dec. [December] and had such a good time. Rosella, Lilly Berger, Ana B. & I all went to her funeral and took flowers. Lottie was out last Sat. [Saturday] & Sun. [Sunday] & Geo came out Sunday. Laura Newitt was out a few days. I was so glad when she went back. There was Grange last night. Limbys came over and they danced a little after Grange. That foolish John Murphy

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came with Limbys. He goes with Ima. Leonard asked me for the first waltz. It was fine too. Bob and I tried to dance a quadrille, and had a circus laughing at our selves. I like Bayers at the Depot so much. Mrs. Bayer is the cutest little woman. Clara Legault has a baby girl about a week old. We are giving a play in the Grange. Mrs. Nock & Leonard Graves, Mrs. Dibble & Joe, Eldro, & Marion, & Bob, & I have the parts. The name of it is "A Quiet Family." Frank is still in Alamosa and Bernie is in Calif. [California]. They were both at Church one Sun. last month. I never hear a word from Frank any more. I think he is mean never to send me a card.

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I am thinking of going to Penn. [Pennsylvania] this spring. That is if I get that money in time.

Apr. 8th

I have promised for the last two months to write in my journal, but I certainly am neglectful. Jessie says that business is liable to be settled in about two weeks. When it is settled I intend to start for Penn as soon

as possible. We will have to have a housekeeper, of course. Ellen and I are just getting over the mumps. They are not so very nice. Not much has happened lately. I have been to a few parties, had company and visited some. Selana came and stayed a few days with me, and Blanche and Richmond were over a few weeks ago. They may be married

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this summer. Every one is getting married, but we girls right around here. I guess we are doomed to be old maids. Geo. [George] still asks me to go in to the theatre every once in a while. Saw "The Three Twins" & "A Gentleman From Mississippi." He don't come out any more tho [sic], I am going to break up with him. I went to a party at Snook's Monday night. I certainly enjoyed myself. Emery Venette was there, and we danced all but one dance together. He is real nice looking I think. Real tall and dark. There is to be an Easter Social Apr. 14th at Grange. I hope he will come to that. G.G. might be at that too. I would

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like to see him. I really consider him a very fine sense able [sic] fellow. I don't know what he thinks of me but not much I guess.

Apr. 30th

Well Geo. [George] and I have quit. I wrote and told him I thot [sic] a change would be good for both of us. He seemed to take it pretty hard. Said he intended to marry me and I spoiled all his plans. I answered and told him that I was sorry he felt that way about it but he hadn't ought [sic] to have made those plans, that he should have asked me first if I would marry him. I don't know whether he will ans. [answer] or not. Mortimer Livey has been studying so hard and it has unbalanced

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his mind. I had a letter from Grace and she said he don't [sic] seem to be any better yet. Charley and the kids came over Friday night. Charley and I went to the dance at Broomfield. Christina & Clara were there. Terry has teased Emery V. till he was afraid to speak to me the other night. He never asked me for a dance until nearly time to go home. Then we nearly ran over each other, and so had to speak. Then he came and asked me for the next dance. We talked & had a nice time. It was all too short to suit me. Ha ha. I guess he was only bashful. He is only nineteen. Rob talked to me quite a while but didn't ask me to dance. Mr. Powel was there. I danced with him

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and that little Mr. Linger was there too. He is real nice. I had a splendid time. It started to rain Sat. [Saturday] morning and has been raining and snowing ever since. It's really cleared up now tho [sic]. I got a card from Stella today. I was so surprised. She is at Mitchell Neb. [Nebraska] now.

May 5th

Last night Molholms came into the Grange and after Grange Lilly Aley had a birthday party. A good many folks were there. We danced a while. I heard Viola Crooks has a baby. I am so sorry for her everyone was talking about it at Grange. They say it is some one over at Arvada or Ralston Creek. There is to be a lecture and candy

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sale at the Church tonight. I have to make my candy yet. Emory and Rob didn't come. I don't know whether Lilly invited them or not. Ethel and I stayed a little longer than papa & the girls. Then Ethel came home with me. I had a letter from Jessie and she said she thot [sic] the lawyer would forward me some money right away if I wanted him to. I wrote and told her to ask him. So I may go to Penn. [Pennsylvania] in a few weeks. There's no telling.

June 2nd

Last Sat. [Saturday] I got a check for \$100 from Mr. Anderson, and I guess I will start for Penn. about June 12th. I am awfully busy getting

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ready. There was a supper at the church Tue. [Tuesday] night. There was an awful crowd there. We went to the Dry Creek last day of school Sat. [Saturday] night. I had a pretty good time at them both. The girls' school was out last Friday. They had a picnic. Harriet & Ted sang Tue. night & made a regular show of themselves. The Swan boys played and it was just dandy. Boyers are going away next Tue. Sybil is going about the time I do. I resigned my Secretaryship [sic] last Sun. [Sunday]. They elected Van Golstadt in my place. Van is going to take it to like a good little boy. Geo. [George] has gone home to Nebraska. He sent me a card but I haven't

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[At top of page, a note is written stating "(Frances to Penn.)." This note was probably written later by Frances Cron's daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington.]

answered it. I heard from Grace and she wants me to stop off at Sterling as I go east, but [illegible]. I guess I'll go right thru [sic] to Chicago.

July 6th

I ought to have written before this. I left home at 9.45 P.M. June 12th. Papa and the girls came to Denver and stayed until about 8 o'clock. Rosella and Lottie came to the train with me. I had a fine trip, only I got so sleepy. It was so cloudy and smoky in Chicago. I came thru [sic] some lovely country. Mabel met me in Scranton. We have gone quite a good deal since I have been there. It will soon be a month since I left home. I hear from the girls

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quite often. They say they are lonesome without me. I'd love to see the folks at home all right. I want to go to N.Y. [New York] before I go home. I never saw such awful hot weather. It was 99° one day, and it is so hot nights I can't sleep in bed. I sleep on the parlor floor. I have met several nice people here. I like Eva Schoomer real well and a girl by the name of Tessie Golden. Rose and I went to Moosic Lake the fourth. It is beautiful there. There is a fellow [who] goes to their S.S. and lives near here, who is about as handsome as I ever saw. He goes with a girl by the name of Allen, a granddaughter of Mrs.

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[Top of the page has note, “(Grandma’s folks would be the Faradays. Arthur and John Faraday?)” The note was likely written later by Frances Cron’s daughter, Janet Ridsdale Justice-Waddington.]

Allen in Pittston. His name is Steve Farrir. We met them in the glen at Moosic Lake, and I have seen him so many places, but never got an introduction. I am going to Pittston on Tue. [Tuesday] to stay with Aunt Fannie awhile. I will have quite a little visiting to do in Pittston. I am going to hunt up Grandmas’ folk, too. I shall write further after this.

Nov. 1st

Well, I’m [at] the limit and what’s more I know it. I think it’s a shame that I didn’t write more in my Journal while I was in Pa. [Pennsylvania]. I did find the Faradays. Arthur lives in Kingston and John in Old Forge. Arthur has a daughter Harriet who is about the prettiest girl I ever saw.

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He also has a crippled boy. John has two boys, Earl and Herbert. I liked Herbert the best, but Earl was very nice to me too. In Pittston I saw so many folks that had once known me. The Van Dugers and Anne Hastie, and then I stayed two weeks with Hattie Smith in Bridgeport, Conn. [Connecticut]. It seemed so nice to see Aunt Fannie. How I would love to see her again. Jessie was quite a little like that. She would be only not quite as dignified looking. Rose is just the sweetest kid. I sure did have such good times together. I didn’t care for Mable as much as the rest but liked her husband, Glen, pretty well. When I came back, John Faraday

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came with me. He certainly was nice to me, and I did enjoy the stop over at Niagara so much. The folks were pretty glad to see home, and now it all seems like a dream. Stella and Louise came over & stayed two wks. [weeks] with me. I was so glad. I expect to go to see her in a couple of weeks. I know I’ll have to start to Business College. We went to a Halloween Party at Clarkson last night, the program was just splendid. They gave a play to represent a Husking Bee. Naeves were all there. I only got to stay for one dance, & it snowed all the way home. I had the fortune teller tell my fortune.

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She was real obliging & told me such a nice fortune. She said I had a good lifeline & not much sickness. That I was very fond of the beauty & music & art. She said I’d have money left me & would travel a good deal. That I was very popular, especially with the boys & every one liked me. That I did many favors for people that didn’t appreciate them. Then she told me some stuff about a dark complexed fellow, and there was to be a broken engagement & me [sic] wedding & that I would be successful in business life. That fortune was sure worth a nickel alright. Ha ha. Leonard Graves has gone to Oregon. I got a card from him the other day.

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Feb. 19, 1912

I’m certainly getting no better fast. I’m so sorry I don’t write oftener [sic] but it’s just no use promising myself, for I don’t suppose I’ll do it. I sure had one glorious time in Mitchell. Stella is the dearest kid, and Nathan is awfully nice too, but mercy me what an outrageous flirt. Guess he wasn’t so awful much worse

than I was, tho, [*sic*] to be honest about it. He took me to the show a couple of nights. Fern Cross too, was the dearest kid. I just had a circus with her. I simply hated to leave Mitchell. Nathan is at G[*illegible*] now I guess. I got a card from him a while ago, saying he loved me in the same old way.

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I have been going to M.S.B. since Dec. 11th. I am taking bookkeeping & like it pretty well. Have got quite well acquainted with some of the students. There's a real cute fellow called Gast, and I rather like Jones, and there's a[n] awful flirt called Castello. I intend getting better acquainted with him. I got a valentine from Fern's brother Jim & I answered it tonight. There was the cutest fellow in the P.O. [post office] at Mitchell called Van Elliot, that sent me one card, but I guess he has forgot[ten] me now. There is a Birthday party at the Church Thurs. [Thursday] night. Maybe I'll go home for it.

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May 7th 1912

The same old story. But it's really a shame. I just love to read over this journal. There's some of the funniest, craziest things in it. Guess if any one ever was to see it they would think I was a perfect loon. Ha ha. Well a person does have a good many funny thots [*sic*] and they look funnier on paper. Mrs. McCarty & Bernice are over here tonight, I thot I'de [*sic*] rather come upstairs & write. Bernice is playing. Mostly "Everybody's Doin It." Every time I write I introduce someone new. Last time it was Nathan and Fern. This time it's the kids at school. It's funny, but I never mention

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Evelyn. We are pretty good chums. We have gone together ever since we first met. She went home with me Fri. [Friday]. We had lots of fun. Went to the Ball Games Broomtown, got beat tho [*sic*]. Ellen graduates the 15th. I guess Lottie & I will go out [to] the exercises. I certainly did a lot of trading today. Mr. Walker sold me a lot of M[*illegible*] for 25¢. Hank teases us nearly to death. He wrote Walker such a dear little note today & signed my name on it. They had a pair of goggles there, and I put them first on me, then on Elsie, & then on Florence Haas. It was lots of fun watching the girls.

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It's bed time so guess I'll ring off. I'm really going to write soon next time.

June 4, 1912

Since writing last Ellen graduated. I went far for the exercises [*sic*], and they were real good. Sybil & Mrs. F. Church, Mrs. Wright & Ella have all gone to Calif. [California]. I just didn't get any work done today. Had company nearly all the time. Even Hank came & sat beside me & talked. Then besides there was Earnes, McMulty, & Walker. Every time any one else talks to me, Hank hollers "here, here cut that out, & go on home [*illegible*]." I even made a hit on the new Janitor. Ha ha. I had about the best time

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I've had for some time last night. Right after school was out Walker came over and said "Say let's go out to the Park." I felt sort' a inclined to parks & shady lanes & etc. myself so we went. We went down town first & the kids all seemed to know it this morning. We went & saw the animals first, then went thru [*sic*] the Museum. It was fine. Then we had supper & about dark got a boat and went out. The fountain worked

& the band played too, and we stayed out till the bell rang after for all boats in. We would run away out in the middle

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and then drift in to shore. It was a simply perfect night. The lights & the stars & the music were grand. I didn't have any coat so had to borrow Walker's . I really thot I'd *[sic]* forgotten how to flirt, but a little practice does wonders sometimes. Hadn't had any practice since I was in Mitchell. We walked home from the Park. I enjoyed it all (most all) immensely.

July 1st

Mercy how the time does fly. I'll be gray headed before I know it. I have been in the office two weeks now, and will be there about that much longer I guess.

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Here it is almost July 4th and I'm still book keeping. I don't suppose I'll go any where the 4th. There is a picnic out of Church's but the folks aren't going & I don't think I will. Gee I get lonesome evenings. Don't know what to do with myself. Ellen was in a few weeks ago & we went & had our picture taken. Maybe I'll get them tomorrow night. Since I wrote last Geo. [George] Graves has got married. He married a Fort Collins girl. Of course I was sorry, but guess I'll survive. Mr. Earnes *[is]* in the Office now too. He is real nice & if it wasn't for Daisy, I think I could make a hit. Fri [Friday] afternoon

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it was awfully hot in the Office & Mr. Earnes said "Lets go and get some ice cream Miss Cron." Of course I went, who ever heard of me refusing ice cream? We got back without Segar even missing us. Mr. Segar is quite sick and there was *[sic]* no classes today. Of course that made the work awful heavy today. I don't like Mr. Walker very well any more. He is too smart. Most all the boys down there are pretty smart. I don't like hardly any of them.

July 16

I am just as lonesome as I can be tonight. I have been ironing all evening. Lottie & Leana went over to Barnes & Bella &

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Eva went out. La Verne & Fred brought me an ice cream cone and it sure tasted good. There was an awful flood here Sun.[Sunday] night. Cherry creek over flowed & flooded the lower part of Denver. I am not in the Office anymore. Guess I'll finish up many books tomorrow & go into shorthand Thurs. [Thursday]. I want to take a vacation so bad but I don't know where to go. I would go to Mitchell if it didn't cost so much. I got a card from Nathan a while ago & he expects to come to Denver the 1st of August. I do hope he gets his vacation. I am going to see Mrs. Witham tomorrow night. I don't know a

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single thing to write. There was a social out at Frank Church's tonight. I wanted to go so bad but I would [have] had to come back all alone & it costs so much to go back & forth so much. Gee I feel so blue. Guess I'll go to bed & sleep it off.

Aug 16th

I am blue again tonight too. I don't know why in the world it is, but I most surely am. Evelyn & I are expecting to go up Gray's Peak tomorrow. We tried to get a crowd from school but I am afraid we didn't make a scene of it. We tried to coax Eames, & the car conductor, but I don't think they will go. I wish Walker would go, but

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he wasn't there all morn, & we never got to see him. Miss Jacoben & her brother may go. It is thundering & I am afraid it will rain so we can't go at all. I am a judge of election this year. Tue. [Tuesday] is the first day. I got a letter from Nathan a while ago & Lottie got me yesterday. He hasn't got his day off yet & it don't [*sic*] look like he ever will. The other night Mr. Eames & I went down town to a picture show. I was talking to Walker quite a while that same evening, but he is working for a photographer now, & when he left Eames asked me to go down town with him. I haven't seen Walker since to talk to, but I'll bet

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Eames told him. There was something about us in The Bulletin today. Something like this: "Since Miss Cron left the Book [*illegible*], Mr. Walker, the charming inklinger, spends his time fussing Miss Weber. Better watch him Frances." I guess Pete did it. The Smarty. Walker does like Stella Weber. I am ahead of Mr. Gaff in shorthand now. We had so much fun meeting together. He talks to me quite a lot. Walker still thinks he wants one of my pictures. He tried to make me promise I'd give him one before I left school. I told him maybe. The folks here are going to move the first out in North Denver, & I'll have to pay car fare. I hate to leave this party town. It is storming awful. I am afraid we won't get to go.

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Aug. 29th

We did try to climb Grays Peak, but didn't make it. Somehow I felt it in my bones we wouldn't. I guess I won't describe the expedition that failed. The loop trip was good tho [*sic*]. We met Hank on the tram, going to Idaho Springs to see his girl. Walker is going to take Evelyn to the circus. She asked me if I cared. I certainly don't care. I just hate him. Anyway I wish I did [*Half a line of short hand follows*]. Mr. Goff talks to me quite a lot. He is always pulling my chair around. We were talking today in the typewriting room, & Fair, Peterson, & Ricbold all stopped working & hollered, "Cut that out now, [*illegible*] it," & Goff said "Aw shut up."

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I am going home tomorrow night I guess & [will] stay till Tuesday night I guess. We are going to move Mon. [Monday] to 2700 Umatilla. I want to go to Cary's Sun [Sunday].

Nov. 21

Oh, gee, how is it, that when I am feeling unusually blue and miserable I come to my journal & tell it all. If any one ever got ahold of this I'd be sorry I spose [*sic*]. I haven't written since Rose and I have been keeping house, and so many uninteresting things has [*sic*] happened. We like it fine, but I am afraid it is of short endurance, for Arthur Garland is the minute

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carrying a marriage license in his back pocket, and coaxing Bess so hard. But we sure have had some fun here at 1358 Emerson. I have been going with Mr. W. quite a bit here lately. It's too bad I didn't write about the carnival for we did have so much fun, especially in the mask parade. I spent one night with Rosella. The next with Bess & Arthur, and the last two with Walker. We went to the "Fortune Hunter" last Thurs. [Thursday] night. It was just great. There is Literiary [sic] tonight. I just can't make up my mind weather [sic] to go or not.

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If I do I'll have to go all alone. Clair M. is still going with me. Miss Barty's sister Lorene is there at school. I like her fine, also Geneva Moore. It is now nearly 6.30 and no phone call or anything of the sort, so Miss Cron, you see if you are going you will have to go alone. Well, of all the lies that could be told in 30 minutes, either Elsie or Walker most surely broke the record today. Which one of them is lying I can't quite make out and neither can Geneva, but I would like to know because if there's anything on the face

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of the Earth I hate more than a[n] out & out liar, I don't know what it is. I have a notion to call Evelyn up & see if she is going tonight. Evelyn has been working for some time.

Dec. 6th

Same old story, lonesome again. Bess & her mother are over at Kelly's, and I am here all alone. Bess and Arthur are to be married Sunday. She just called me up and she says she is so nervous. She quit work and has been getting her clothes ready this week so I guess it's a sure thing this time: I think I'll stay
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[Note at top of the page states, "Go to pg. 80." The writing from page 77 is continued on page 80, and then comes back to page 78 as seen below.]

tease me awful, and say that there is more to it all than we let on, and its not a bit of use preaching to them, about him being engaged. There's one thing sure tho [sic], you couldn't tell it from his actions. We had quite an argument the other night. I told him it wasn't right for him to act so when he was engaged to another girl. It seems I just can't keep him from kissing me. He seemed to think it over real hard. He hadn't been here since. I hope he doesn't take my advice too seriously, for I do miss him. Well, I've warned him now, and I can't be

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expected to keep looking out for that other girl all the time. I wish he was here tonight, just because I am lonesome. I guess he thinks I went home, or perhaps he don't care a rap weather [sic] I did or not. I guess I'll have to invest in a new book for my Diary. I must have some way to get rid of my tales of woe. Now Cary is gone, there is no one that I absolutely confide in. Perhaps it is best that way. Never can tell. "Least said soonest mended." I feel lots better tho [sic], since I have written this.

[Diary ends here on page 79; this is the last part of the final entry. Text on page 80 is a continuation from page 77, which then directs back to page 78.]

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[Continued from page 77] here till Xmas [Christmas], and then go back to Stebbin's I guess. I was up there to supper the other night & Lottie wants me to come back. I guess I'll go to Mitchell in Xmas vacation. Evelyn came out to Supper last Mon. [Monday] night. Walker came up too. We three went down to a Picture Show about 9.30 and then took Evelyn home. Mr. Babcock was here, and she and Bess rented room 24 that night. Allan came in a while and talked to me. He wasn't at school today at all. It seemed kind of lonesome. Bess and Arthur [Note follows, stating "(back a page)(Go to pg 78)." The text continues on page 78. The diary actually ends on page 79.]