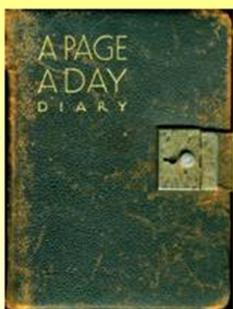
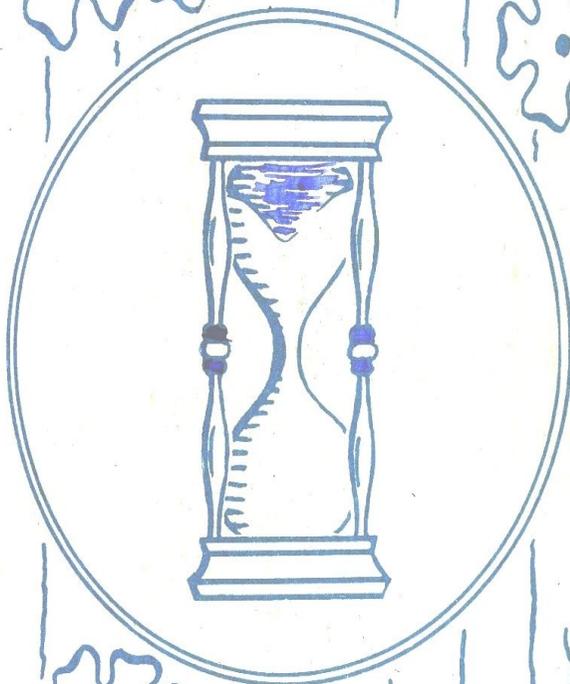


# My Most Amazing Year

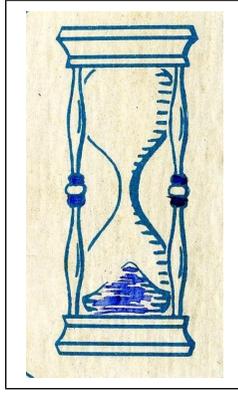


The 1942 Diary of Eleanor Law Scruggs

# **My Most Amazing Year**



**The 1942 Diary of  
Eleanor Law Scruggs**



**My Most Amazing Year**  
**The 1942 Diary of**  
**Eleanor Law Scruggs**

Transcribed  
by  
her daughter  
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by  
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**Bluefish Books**



**Cowart Communications**  
**Jacksonville, Florida**

[www.bluefishbooks.info](http://www.bluefishbooks.info)

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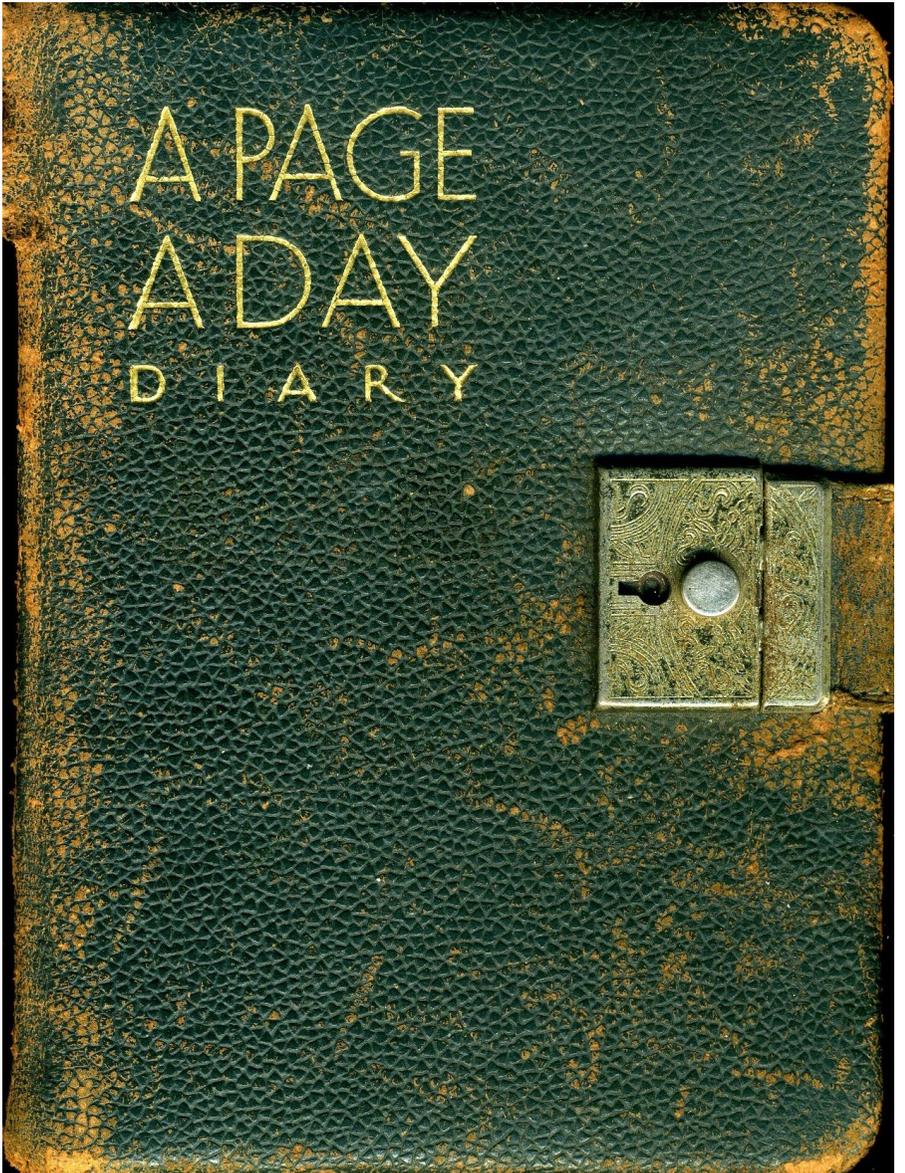
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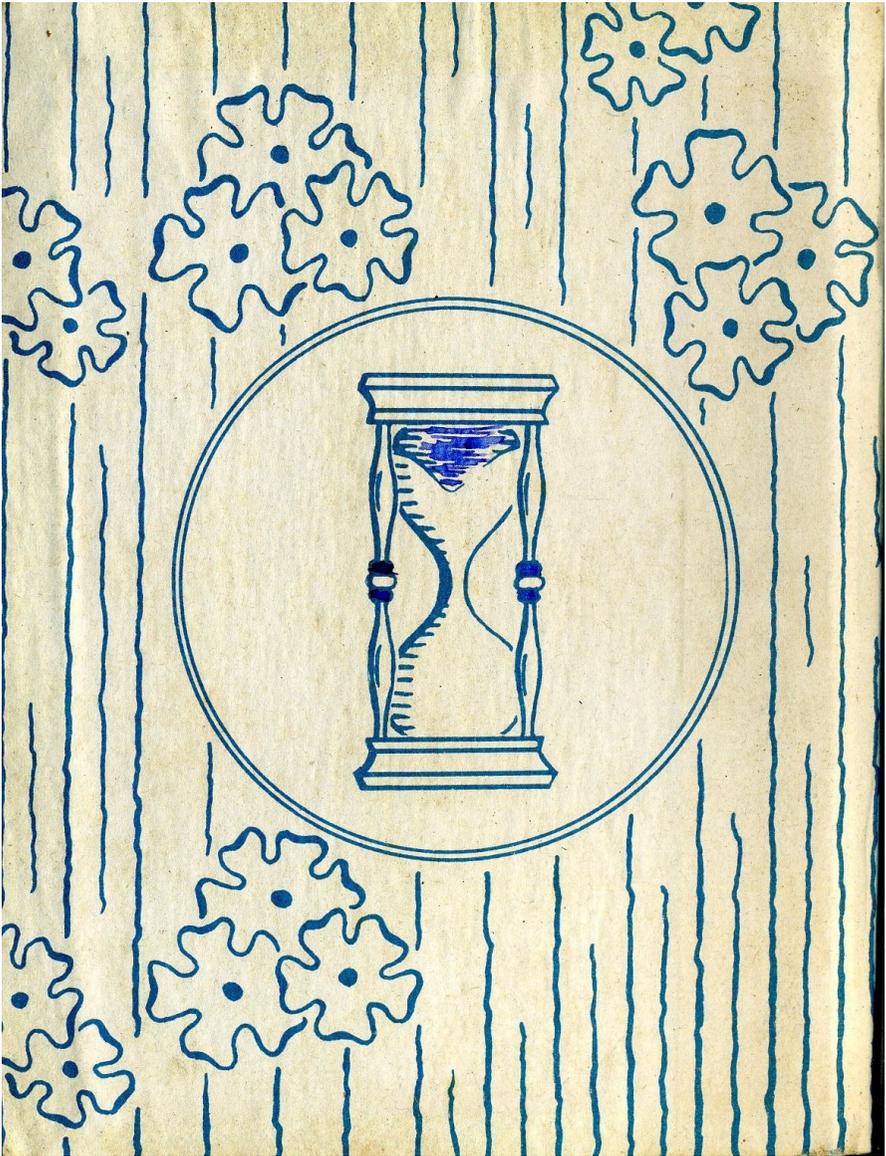


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**Diary's Leather Cover**



**Diary's Hourglass End Paper**

Bless us! What a day - a regular corner  
of errors! About noon we went out to  
the NATC with Shirley Smith & got off  
the bus at the Officers' Club. But what  
did we find - it was closed for the  
day! So we got a ride back to the  
old officers' club & got a nice lunch there  
then walked back to the new "O.  
Club" & had a real nice swim in  
the bay or inlet or whatever it is.  
Then we dressed & walked back to  
see the free show they have there.  
We had to leave in the middle  
of the show 'cause we had to be at  
dinner by 6:30 but when we got on the bus  
we found Shirley had lost her pass & we  
couldn't get off the station without it  
back to the theatre we went. But we  
couldn't look for it til the end of the  
show, so we saw the end of the feature  
I did in kind it so one

Typical Diary Entry



## INTRODUCTION

by

**John W. Cowart**

Only 24 days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor forced the United States into World War II, Eleanor Law began her diary.

At the time she studied at Robert E. Lee High School in Jacksonville, Florida, and worshiped at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd.

In breathless school girl fashion she finds her life and world “amazing”--a word her diary uses constantly.

Events in 1942 introduced the world to Spam, to Duck Tape, to instant coffee, and to the most popular song ever recorded: Bing Crosby’s *White Christmas*.

In 1942 it cost three cents to mail a first class letter. The average new home cost \$3,770 and Pepsi Cola was five cents a bottle. A pork roast was 45 cents.

A new Ford Coupe could be bought for \$850 and gasoline to run it cost 15 cents a gallon.



The average working man's wage was \$1,880 per year.

As the nation geared up for war, in 1942 a rationing system was begun to guarantee minimum amounts of necessities to everyone and prevent inflation. In January, tires were the first item to be rationed. Soon everyone needed government-issued ration coupons to buy typewriters, sugar, gasoline, bicycles, clothing, fuel oil, silk, nylon, coffee, stoves, shoes, meat, cheese, butter, lard, margarine, canned foods, dried fruits, jam, and many other items.

Some items—like new automobiles and appliances—were no longer being made for civilians.

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, the same day Eleanor began her diary, President Roosevelt coined the term *United Nations* when 26 governments signed the Atlantic Charter.

On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, the FBI uncovered the Duquesne Spy Ring, 33 German agents planted in key U.S. jobs to gain information and conduct sabotage.

By January 20<sup>h</sup>, the Japanese had taken Manila, German submarines lurked off the U.S. coast, and Nazi officials at the Wannsee Conference in Berlin decided that extermination was the “Final Solution to the Jewish Problem”.

Thousands of young Americans joined the armed forces. And as the nation tooled up for war recruiting posters urged women to work in defense industries. One government advertisement asked women “Can you use an electric mixer? If so, you can learn to operate a drill.”

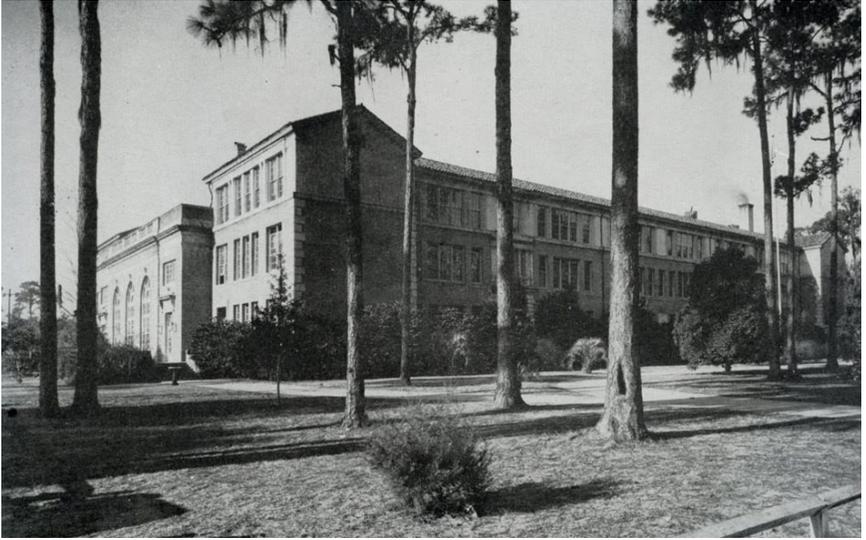


Yet amid wars and rumors of war, 1942 was, for school girl Eleanor Law, an amazing time, a magic time, a time of wonder, a time of love.

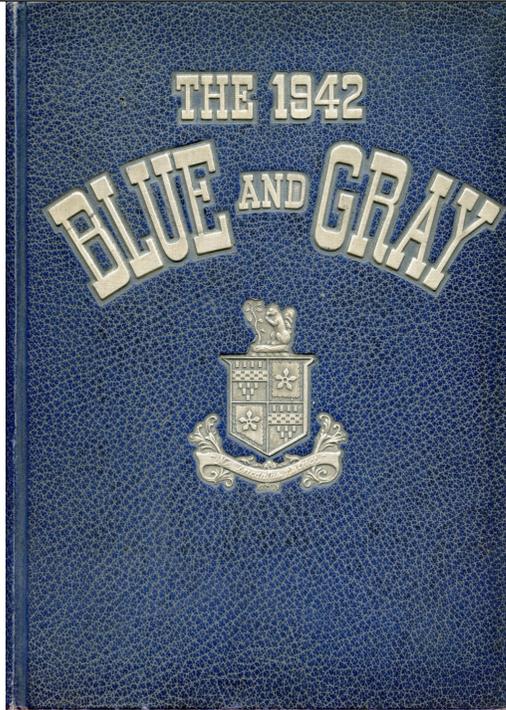
She said, “What makes today special is that I feel like it's sort of getting time to begin to sum the year up - & it's undoubtedly the most amazing year I've ever lived! I never tho't that when I came to college I would be in love - & so much in love! But not only that, but that someone loves me. It's really marvelous & wonderful & a little frightening, too”.

This was the year she fell in love.

Her diary tells that story.



**Robert E. Lee High School, Jacksonville, Florida, in 1942**

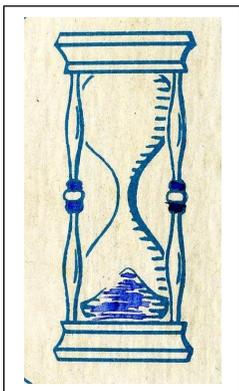


ELEANOR  
CORDES  
LAW  
Honor Student,  
Soph. G.C., J.G.C.,  
S.G.C. Science,  
French & Spanish  
Clubs, Archery

Lee HS 1942 Yearbook—with Eleanor’s listing

# **My Most Amazing Year**

## **The 1942 Diary of Eleanor Law Scruggs**



### **JANUARY DIARY ENTRIES**

#### **JANUARY 1 - Thursday**

After taking a holiday from diary writing for a whole year, it feels sort of good to start keeping one again.

I got up late again this morning - I don't know what I'm going to do when school starts again -I got up in time to set the table for dinner! The Cordeses - Dar & Pa - came over for pork & cow peas. After dinner Tish & I went over to Margaret's to play bridge with her & Rosemary. Tonite Daddy & Mama & I went to Uncle Fred & Aunt Alice's to take them their Christmas presents. Late, huh? Tish wants me to go canoeing with her tomorrow but I really don't want to go.

#### **JANUARY 2 - Friday**



Today was Papa's birthday so tonite Uncle Fred & Aunt Alice, little Alice, & Uncle Rob came over for birthday cake. Everyone sounded like they had a good time -they can really kid each other!

This afternoon I went walking with Margaret to deliver Presbyterian Communion Candy! Never have I done such a thing! Afterward Margaret came home with me 'cause I had to take down the Christmas tree & clean the living room for tonite. After watching me work awhile she exclaimed in an amazed tone of voice, "Why, you're efficient!" Sandy called me for a blind date tomorrow nite. If I'm only a hit!

### **JANUARY 3 - Saturday**

Tonite I double-dated with Sandy - a blind date with a cadet named Dave Something. I didn't have a very good time. We went to "Keep 'Em Flying" which was a pretty good comedy.





Then we drove around - out to Orange Park & parked. Of course he wanted to get a little sentimental but I didn't let him come anywhere near kissing me. He was awfully full of himself & rather a drip - he won't be back! I forgot my key, but Mama left the door open. About 12 I developed a headache & by the time we got in at 2 it was a sick headache & I felt terrible. Worked this morning & went to show this afternoon with Lu - in the rain.

### **JANUARY 4 - Sunday**

Yesterday was Alice, Jr's birthday & so the Colemans invited us over today for them to celebrate it. Gay was quite loving & I was quite pleased when Aunt Alice Elwes said, "Gay certainly is crazy about Eleanor."

Speaking of crazy, I think I am. I've never felt like this before but, somehow, I want Charlie to notice me & date me & all, & he doesn't like me anymore. He said at first that I was cute but he paid practically no attention to me tonite. But it's my own fault - I was rather a drip Monday nite. But someday - somehow I've got to get him back!

Someday I shall burn this page.

### **JANUARY 5 - Monday**

Back to school - what a mess! Darn, but I didn't want to go. I worked all day on the English homework I should have done over the holidays - and then she didn't take it up! I got A- on my account book so I'm afraid I won't get my A average in Homemaking -heck!

Alice Jr. came in tonite after her lesson so we took her home. Aunt Alice was awfully surprised when we walked in!

I heard something today - of course it's probably not true - but Elizabeth said that Bob said that Dave What's-His-Name (Saturday nite) said that was the first time he'd ever talked for hours and really enjoyed it!

**JANUARY 6 - Tuesday**

Well, two days of school have gone by - glory but I'm beginning to hate that place. Last nite I kept one of my resolutions - to study an hour every nite - but the other one had to suffer for it. (The other one being to get to bed at a decent hour). But tonite I did better - I did my hour's work, came up to bed at 9:30 & I've washed a pair of stockings since I came up - isn't that something?

Laura Wallis called Mama today to tell her she had some scrapbook material, so we went & bro't her home from work & paid her quite a little visit in the car. It was rather nice to see her again.

Mama said tonite she was jealous of the diary!

**JANUARY 7 - Wednesday**

I'm really quite proud of myself today. I went to school this morning with all of my homework done - it felt wonderful and I did all my work for tomorrow, except English, in school. And I did my English tonite so now I've got tomorrow with a study hall so I'll get some more advance homework done.

This afternoon I had a music lesson & Mrs. Orchard said it was a better one than usual and I even watered my plants! The only fly in the ointment is that we had a French test that I'm afraid I didn't do so well on.

Tonite I've taken a bath, studied, & washed a pair of hose & now I'm all ready for bed and it's only 10:30. This new leaf I've turned over is swell!

**JANUARY 8 - Thursday**

I had just convinced myself that Charlie wasn't enough to bother myself over - that I would just go on in League as if he were not there - and I had gotten myself quite ashamed of last Sunday's outburst when - he called me tonite! It's amazing! All he wanted was to ask me to go to church with him



Sunday but we talked for over a half an hour & he practically told me his life history. He must have been lonely!

School rocked along about as usual today - I had to memorize about 32 lines from Macbeth tonite so I'm a little late but nothing really important happened except Charlie's phone call!

### **JANUARY 9 - Friday**

Nothing particular has happened today - school as usual, of course. This afternoon I washed my hair as it's all drooly now.

Tonite all Dar's Sunday School teachers went over to her house to make books with hymns & prayers for the kids. So of course Tish & I went, too, even if my hair was hanging curl less down my back. This afternoon Elizabeth came over for a while after school & before Mariner meeting. I do like Liz so much! But I envy her her attraction for the cadets, too. Even if she does make me feel like an insignificant little girl, I still like to be with her.

It's pretty late & I'm going to work tomorrow, too.

### **JANUARY 10 - Saturday**

Well, I struggled up this morning and went to work - but O! was it cold & windy on those street corners at 8:15! As usual the tariffs were awfully boring, but the time finally dragged by & I met Charlotte for lunch & a show. Lu couldn't come because her mother's in bed with the flu.



"Babes on Broadway" was awfully cute & so was a part of the newsreel called "Waltz Them Around Again Adolph!" I nearly split my sides laughing! Charlotte came home with me & stayed for supper; then Cody came in to get her.



Tomorrow I'm to go to church with Charlie - O! I pray that I can be charming & lovely or whatever it takes to make him ask me again!

### **JANUARY 11- Sunday**

Well, Charlie really can shoot the bull! Glory, I'm wonderful, attractive, talented, & everything else anyone could want! But I don't believe a word of it! Still, it's sort of nice to hear all those things. We went to church - with a coke before - & when he bro't me home he said he'd come by for me for league. Well 6:30 came & went & he didn't show up so I went over to the church. Billie Martin met me with "Charlie's just gone to get you!" When he came in he said "So you walked off & left me, eh?" But we went to the Service of Lights together - & held hands & wrote notes on the program all thru it - & then he came home with me & had cocoa & stayed 'til 11:30!

### **JANUARY 12 - Monday**

*Today* at lunch Sarah Dozier who usually doesn't ever deign to speak greeted me with, "Who was that boy you were in church with last nite, Eleanor?"

I said, "Charlie Scuggs."

Then "Does he go to school here?"

"No."

"Well, he sure is good looking!"

Now, what do you make of that?





Then Elizabeth said she had a message for me from Billie Martin. Said message ran thus: "Charlie really strings a line, Eleanor. Beware!"

Now is that a friendly warning or a bit of jealousy?

She looked awfully disgruntled in church last nite.

Today has been rather hectic - I was terribly sleepy & I hadn't done a lick of homework. Someday I'll study!

### **JANUARY 13 - Tuesday**

Charlie said Sunday that he would call me this week, but I didn't tell him we'd be over here this week, so even if he does call he won't be able to get me. That probably means that he'll take Billie to church & to breakfast - next Sunday is Corporate Communion -and to Virginia's - she's invited us to her house after the meeting. Heck! Now I'll have to convince myself all over again that he's no great loss.

School has been rather uneventful except that I haven't done my homework all this week & I have memory work for tomorrow, I'm in the doghouse with Mrs. Eccles because I made 80 on a French test.

### **JANUARY 14 - Wednesday**

Once again I went to school with no homework done - and believe me I had had plenty! I was in a state of mental agony all day, but somehow I lived through it & got thru it apparently o.k. But of course the grades haven't come out yet. So tonite I turned over a new leaf and did my geometry - that's all the work I had. So I guess tomorrow will be easier except that I have a six-weeks French grammar test coming up. This afternoon I had my music lesson & I did pretty well but I think I'll have to turn over a new leaf & practice an hour a day. Charlie said Jax. girls were easy to get so maybe not being home this week will be a good thing - If he calls.



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## **JANUARY 15 - Thursday**

For the first time this week I went to school with my geometry done - that's all I had for homework. And it was really quite a wonderful feeling. And I got tomorrow's done before I left school so all I had to do tonight was memory work - and I did that! I'm getting back into my new year's resolution again.

Nothing much happened today. School was about as usual - Tish has been going to school early to help Miss Venable so she hasn't been riding in the mornings, but she did this afternoon & visited us for about a half an hour in the car. We really cussed and discussed the homemaking department! I got my hour's practice done this P.M.

## **JANUARY 16 - Friday**

When we got out of school this afternoon, Mama greeted us - Tish & me - with the news that Miss Sarah Corbett had some work for us down at the bishop's office. So down we went, worked all afternoon, ate supper downtown, went back & worked some more, & finally got home around 9:30. But we each earned a dollar!

School was, as usual, boring, except that none but Mr. Lancaster gave us any homework & I got that done in Spanish class so now I've got a whole weekend with no worry about homework!

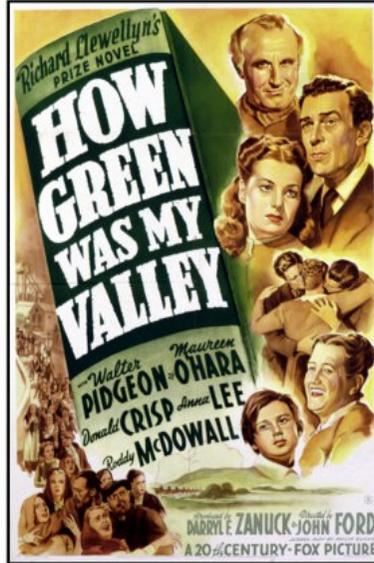
The first of the week Mama said she didn't know what was wrong with me, that I had no pep. She didn't know it but I was mooning over Charlie - foolish me! But now I've completely decided that he's just not worth bothering myself over - & I've gotten back my pep & I feel swell!

## **JANUARY 17 --Saturday**

Of course Tish & I went down to work this morning & then Charlotte & Mary Virginia & I went to see "The Little Foxes". We did some shopping & I bought 2 pairs of brown shoes - I'm taking back the Cohen's ones



Monday. When I got home Daddy said Charlie had phoned me so when he called again around 6 I said I'd go to the show with him. We went to "How Green Was My Valley" and then for a coke & then home - we talked - it's now 2:00 & I'm just getting to bed - 7:30 Service, too!



### 1942 Movie Posters

#### JANUARY 18 - Sunday

Ever since Larsen invited the League over to her house tonite - she presented the invitation two weeks ago -I have been hoping that Charlie would take me. Well, he did. And then he walked home with me & finally left about 11:30.

I got to early service this morning, but Charlie didn't, & after Sunday School I was walking home with Sarah & I met him coming to 11:00 Service - so I went there with him. I've really seen quite a bit of him in the last 24 hours.

Tonite Jack Hendry asked me to go with him to take Lorena home so he wouldn't be lonely on the way



back. I don't think Lorena liked his putting her in the back & me in front with him!

### **JANUARY 19 - Monday**

I told everyone tonite that I was going to open up a nursing school. First Tish came over to borrow one of our reference books and I helped her look up what she wanted, then Lu came over for the evening so I could help her with some dress designs for homemaking, & then Lucille came over to study while her mother was at circle meeting (I was supposed to hear her her algebra, but she didn't know it). I'm afraid I acted pretty much like a fool, - talking about Charlie too much. Tish & I went down town today & took back my shoes. We got out at 2:30 today & it was wonderful! More wonder - I didn't miss any on my geometry test today!

### **JANUARY 20 - Tuesday**

Tonite Mama, Mrs. Orchard, Tish & I went to hear a string quartet over at the Friday Musicale. It was really quite good - in fact, I think I enjoyed it more than I have any other violin I've ever heard. But of course I didn't do any homework; I've really wasted today -I didn't practice any either.

School was about the same as usual; we're still having the pictures in French & Spanish -I'm sorry Elizabeth is missing the ones on India. Mrs. Eccles asked me to get some money for her today & I felt awfully funny going down the hall with \$9.85 of someone else's money.

I've got to quit talking about Charlie so much! I'm not really wild about him, but it is the first time anyone has really dated me. He said he'd call me this week - I hope he does.

### **JANUARY 21 - Wednesday**

I'm feeling rather down in the dumps tonite - my homemaking is piling up on me, & I came awful close to flunking an English test today. All of which doesn't



make me particularly happy. The only bright spot is that Mrs. Orchard did say I was doing quite well with my music - I had a lesson this afternoon.

I washed my hair tonite & Charlotte called while I was in the process. When I called her back she practically told me I was a nut. Of course she had to know all about dear Charlie & she said she used to think I was a good girl - I think she's just jealous, though!

### **JANUARY 22 - Thursday**

I did something this afternoon which I have never done before - there was some kind of missionary supper down at the First Presbyterian Church & Mrs. Croom wanted to take a carload. So she told me to phone Charlie & some of the others. So I had to phone him! Incidentally, he didn't go, but he asked me for a date Saturday nite. Larsen went tonite & she told me that Billie Martin had said of Charlie: "Oh, he's good for a couple of picture shows but he doesn't last much longer!"

I'll wait & see.

I hope it'll be a little longer!

So far I haven't missed any in geometry & Robert & Margaret have both missed one! I'm so thrilled! But I hope I can keep it up.

### **JANUARY 23- Friday**

Today hasn't been particularly interesting - except that I didn't flunk my six-weeks English exam like I tho't I had - I made 90 on it! And then our group in homemaking made the only A in the class on our budget! And I still haven't missed any in geometry - I hope it lasts!

This afternoon I didn't do much besides practice; Lucille spent the afternoon with us because her grandmother's in the hospital. Tonite I had to usher at a rally - oh! what boredom! Tish was supposed to go with



me but she went to a skating party that I could have gone to if I hadn't had to usher. Charlie tomorrow - I hope it's not the last!

## JANUARY 24 - Saturday

Tonite I had my "second movie" with Charlie - according to Billie that means it's the last, but I sincerely hope not!



We went to see "Tarzan's Secret Treasure", then got a coke, & then came home. When we were talking at home after the show I really put my foot in. He said I must stop calling him "sir", & so I foolishly asked him what he'd do if I didn't - and he said he's kiss me! To make matters worse I slipped twice & called him "sir"!

I could have died!

But I asked him not to, so he didn't tonite. I'm afraid this is about the closest to love I've ever been - because I got a queer feeling inside when he held my hand..

## JANUARY 25 - Sunday



I went to Sunday School - I'm feeling more encouraged about my class - & then to church with Sarah - Charlie said tonite that he was there but I didn't see him. This afternoon I typed up all my minutes & then went for a walk with Tish & Margaret. And then to Service League. I didn't avoid Charlie, but when the program began I went back & sat with Sarah & then left before he could walk home with me. Sarah said he was mad with me for not sitting with him during the program, that he hadn't listened to it for watching me. She said I didn't give him half a chance - but I don't want him to think I'm chasing him! Still, I hope he's not mad.

### **JANUARY 26 - Monday**

I'm feeling rather morbid tonite - I missed my first problem in geometry this morning, and tomorrow we're having a big geometry test. Today was rather ordinary - Mrs. Eccles is sick, so we had a substitute - but otherwise it was just as usual. Except tonite. We had a cabinet meeting & Charlie was completely indifferent. I guess that means that he won't call me this week & he won't take me to the wiener roast - and I did so want him to! I could stand it better if we'd had a fight - but he's just not interested any more. It's awful! Billie, Carol, Tish & I discussed Mr. Mac on the way home - How I loathe him.

### **JANUARY 27 - Tuesday**

We had the most amazing English class today - and the most amazing Miss Durrance! We all chipped in and had a party in class with cokes & ice cream & all & then we all had to either tell a joke or recite a poem - and there were some awfully cute ones! We had loads of fun & Miss Durrance was really fun!

This morning we had our final geometry test - 30 problems. I only got 28 of them finished and I really felt absolutely dizzy when I finished! It was awful!



Tonite we finished up the books for Sunday School & I actually helped. And I've been working on crossword puzzles -I love them, but they make me angry.

### **JANUARY 28 - Wednesday**

I sure wish we could have holidays every week - not going to school has been wonderful. I slept 'till about 10:30 this morning & then went over to the house & practiced. Then after lunch I played bridge 'til four at Elizabeth's with her & Sandy& Renee. Then, of course, I had to go home for my music lesson. Tonite I've done nothing more than knit & do cross-word puzzles & be lazy.

Ever since we've been taking Mrs. Orchard back to the home after my lessons I have been hoping I'd see Charlie.

Well, today I did.

But there was nothing to it - he said "hello" & I said "hey" - & that's all.

I'm afraid Charlie for me is just in the past tense now - but how I wish I were still his "girl".

### **JANUARY 29 - Thursday**

This morning we only had to go to school 'till 9:00 - wonderful! And I made all A's - A honor roll average, too! I was so thrilled - isn't it simply marvelous? I was hoping for it, but I really didn't expect it.

Margaret walked home with me & then spent the morning with me telling me about Russell - her sailor. The rest of today I haven't done much more than knit - I've been having an awful time with my yellow sweater - and practice and mope. Today's the day Charlie used to call me & tho' of course I wasn't home I don't think he did. So I've been feeling rather morbid - I've got to snap out of it!

### **JANUARY 30 - Friday**



Today was the first day of my last semester in Lee - I'm now a high senior & it feels so queer! Life is strange, too. For years I've been crazy about Lamar & dying for him to be in one of my classes & he never was! Then I fell for Charlie - & Lamar doesn't mean a thing to me. I don't care now whether he's in any of my classes or not - & he was put in my geometry class! Maybe I'd better concentrate on him & forget about Charlie - Charlie seems to have forgotten me at any rate!

We got out at noon so this afternoon I practiced. Tonite Tish, who just got back from Tallahassee, came over to tell me all about it. I washed my hair tonite, too.

### **JANUARY 31 - Saturday**

The last day of January - I've actually kept my diary up for a whole month! Tish couldn't go down to work today, but I went & I shocked myself by doing all the work I expected both of us to do! It was raining when I went to meet Charlotte so we went to the show first and then got lunch about 3:30. When we came out of the theatre, the sun was shining bright - but of course walking to it the rain had already ruined my curl. We saw "Son of Fury" - it was quite good. When I got home I didn't do much else but knit. I missed Charlie something awful, but I have determined to forget him, so I swear that this is the last time I shall mention him in this book. Last Saturday nite everything went wrong - but I was confident that he would come back, and he didn't. So now he can't be anything more than a memory. The bad part is that I'm afraid he thinks I'm jealous - but I don't know whom I'm to be jealous of! I could stand it if I had someone else to take me out - but I haven't. Perhaps someday I shall find someone else who likes me enough to take me out a little. I'm really worried about myself - all the other girls seem to be able to get dates.



## **FEBRUARY 1942 NEWS EVENTS**

On the first day of February, radio station *Voice Of America* began broadcasting into Germany. Newsman Joe Caldwell, later the military reporter for the *Jacksonville Journal* newspaper, served at the station. That first program opened with *Battle Hymn Of The Republic* and the pledge: "Today, and every day from now on, we will be with you from America to talk about the war. . . . The news may be good or bad for us – We will always tell you the truth."

By the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month Japanese troops overran Singapore taking over 50,000 British soldiers captive.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of February the Japanese opened fire on Australian nurses in the Banks Island Massacre, killing 21 nurses.

On February 19<sup>th</sup> President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 opening the way for the relocation of Japanese Americans to interment camps as fears of an invasion increased.

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Japanese submarine shelled an oil refinery at Santa Barbara, California.



In Britain, on February 25<sup>th</sup> Princess Elizabeth registered for war service.

That same day, anti aircraft fire opened in Southern California in what was known as *the Battle Of Los Angeles*.

Watchers and air raid wardens reported a slow object in the sky at about three in the morning. Fearing an air raid, the Coastal Artillery began a barrage triggering a wartime blackout over most of southern California. The anti-aircraft fire continued for hours but no airplanes were brought down.

However, three civilians on the ground were killed by the anti-aircraft fire as the military poured over 1,400 shells into the sky. Three other people died of heart attacks brought on by the bombardment.

This incident came only three months after Pearl Harbor and only a day after the submarine attack on Santa Barbara—a time when fear of invasion gripped hearts.

Investigators found no sign of attack or enemy aircraft.

Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, declared the entire incident was a false alarm due to anxiety and "war nerves".

Newspapers accused the government of a cover-up and some suggested the UFO which triggered the gun fire was an extraterrestrial spacecraft.

In spite of the panic, the show must go on.

The next day, February 26<sup>th</sup>, at the 14<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards, *How Green Was My Valley* won the Best Picture award. And Greer Garson was named best actress for her role in *Mrs. Miniver*.

Walt Disney's *Fantasia* also won two Oscars: one for outstanding sound advancement; the other for "unique achievement in the creation of a new form of visualized music, thereby widening the scope of the motion picture as entertainment and as an art form".

# 1942 Lee High School Bulletin Board Notice

## WHAT DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND PUPILS SHOULD DO DURING AN AIR RAID

OFFICIAL -- BY THE U. S. OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE

### EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCHOOLS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

#### 1. What to Do When the Air Raid Warning Sounds.

Big Jim—5 blasts, 15 seconds each, 45 seconds between  
South Jacksonville—5 minutes continuous blast  
Fire Engines—Same as Big Jim

Sound the school fire alarm in a special way (short rings, etc.) Have each class leave its room in order as in fire drill. Conduct classes to the Air Raid Refuge.

DO NOT permit any pupils to leave the building.  
DO NOT allow any pupils to return to classrooms until "All Clear" signal is given.

DO NOT SEND THE PUPILS HOME.

\*\*\*

These protective measures will require organization, planning, training, and drill. They should be started at once.

#### 2. Air Raid Drill.

Use your fire drill organization to get pupils to the Air Raid Refuge. Have them file from the classroom the same way, in the same order, under the same leaders. But take them to the Air Raid Refuge.

#### 3. The Air Raid Refuge.

The chance of a direct hit on any individual building is very small. You must guard against the blast of nearby high-explosive bombs, and incendiaries and falling fragments of aircraft shells.

You must get away from windows, and from open doors. The large inside halls of most schools are suitable for an Air Raid Refuge. Do not use the halls on the top floor of the building. The cellar is a suitable Air Raid Refuge provided there are plenty of exits and provided any windows to the outside can be protected by a layer of sandbags.

Select the most protected places in the building—be sure they provide enough capacity to hold everyone without crowding. Be sure there is more than one exit.

It is important, too, that the Air Raid Refuge should have easy access to drinking water and toilet facilities.

#### 4. What to Do About Incendiaries.

Be sure the fire extinguishers are in proper working order. Be sure you have enough people—teachers or older pupils—

who know how to use them. Appoint these people as fire guards. Have them take assigned posts when the Air Raid Drill sounds. Appoint a Chief Fire Guard.

If incendiaries hit the building, the fire guards should try to handle them, and get them out with water spray. If the fire gets beyond control, the Chief Fire Guard should sound the regular fire alarm. All pupils should then be conducted from the building as in regular fire drill. Class leaders should conduct them in an orderly fashion to shelter in nearby homes. Leaders must keep the pupils in control.

#### 5. What to Organize.

Do these things right away—they are essential now:

(a) Select the Air Raid Refuge—more than one if necessary. Be sure there is more than one exit.

(b) Determine how the school alarm will be sounded for an air raid.

(c) Assign a refuge space or refuge room for each class or classroom. Assign class leaders to conduct the drill—the same as for fire.

(d) Publish full instructions; have them read over and over again to pupils. Have them posted on bulletin boards. Be sure every teacher and pupil understands them—now.

*These things should be done at once. We are suddenly, unexpectedly, at war. When you have completed all of these things, it is time to organize your long-range planning.*

#### 6. Here Are Some of the Steps to Take.

The Department of Education or other school authority, under the direction of the local Defense Coordinator, should plan and adopt a war program for the duration. Here are some of the steps to consider:

(a) Appointment of school building wardens, whose duties should be coordinated with their local zone or district Warden Service.

(b) Special transmission of Air Raid Warnings from the control center to school buildings.

(c) Fire Defense—Adequacy of present equipment, appointment of fire watchers (or fire guards), and special training in combating incendiaries.

(d) Protective Construction—Quick and simple measures to provide additional security.

(e) Study of alternate Air Raid Refuges for teachers and pupils in case of fire. Depending upon location, suitable buildings in the neighborhood may be available for use as Air Raid Refuges.

It is desirable to explore this possibility in order to effect dispersion where it can be done without undue exposure to the children.

#### 7. What to Do About Training.

Start your training now. Don't wait for the final plan. Drill your pupils to behave on an Air Raid Alarm just as they do on a Fire Alarm. Hold drill every few days until they are thoroughly accustomed to it.

Keep up the morale of the pupils, so that if a raid occurs you will have experience in keeping them occupied. Organize first aid training for selected groups. Organize fire defense training for the fire guards.

#### 8. Are We in Danger?

The answer to that is—we don't intend to be caught napping again—anywhere or anytime. We are not going to say again—"It can't happen here."

Don't rush around, don't worry, but ACT! These are simple precautions. Read them again. Think how you will apply them to your school. Then take the necessary action—today.

### PARENTS! Read This!

If an air raid should come while your children are at school, see to your own safety. Stay home, go to your refuge room, stay away from windows.

Do not try to reach the school. You could accomplish no good. You could do a great deal of harm by such action.

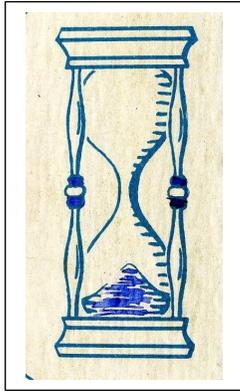
In an Air Raid, Rule Number 1 is to stay off the street, get under cover. On the street, there is the risk of falling shell fragments, racing cars, and fire apparatus. Stay indoors.

Do not try to telephone. The wires must be kept clear for the wardens, the police, and the fire department. You might prevent an urgent message from getting through.

This is hard advice. It's not easy to take. But it is for your best interest and for the welfare of your children.

W. DANIEL BOYD, Superintendent, Public Instruction, Duval County

Approved by Duval County Civilian Defense Council



## **FEBRUARY DIARY ENTRIES**

### **FEBRUARY 1 - Sunday**

Today starts a new week and a new month, and I've felt gayer than I have in weeks! Maybe it's because I went to bed at a decent hour last nite.

I'm really quite encouraged about my Sunday School class. I had five out of the six there this morning - they all seemed fairly interested - tho I'm afraid I dragged out the lesson too long. Then I went to church with Sarah, & even if I felt awful doing it, we left before Communion. This afternoon I actually wrote Margaret McCormick, after all these months, but I didn't have her address so I'll have to mail it tomorrow. Y.P.S.L. tonite.

### **FEBRUARY 2 - Monday**

Mama has been sick all day with fever & no voice, so I've been chief cook & bottle washer. When I got back from school this afternoon I washed the dishes from breakfast, lunch, & last nite. Then I went to the store, went to see Pa, took in the clothes, & even managed to squeeze in an hour of practice. Then tonite Johnny bro't



Lu over when he came to Scout meeting, so I washed the dinner dishes while she knitted & then we made some devil's food cake. I've had loads of fun. I love to pretend I'm efficient! But I have decided that I talk too much. I told Lu all about everything—and I'm determined to stop!

### **FEBRUARY 3 - Tuesday**

Mama is still feeling bad so this afternoon I washed the dishes again & went to the store & practiced. Tonite I even studied a little so maybe I'm improving a little. I'm taking Trig this semester & it entails so much algebra that I don't remember that it scares me a little. But I've simply got to make honor roll average again this semester!

Billy came in this afternoon - he's a first class cadet now, - he needed the band on his cap fixed. I never tho't I'd see me stitching on a cadet's hat-band!

We had a fashion show in homemaking - a drippy affair. Why can't they show us some cute things?

### **FEBRUARY 4 - Wednesday**

Mrs. Orchard has a cold so she didn't come to give me my lesson this afternoon - & I didn't practice either, so as far as music's concerned this day has been nil. But I did get one thing done - I went to the library & got Lorna Doone for my book report on the 16<sup>th</sup>. I'm really quite proud of myself for getting it so far ahead of time - in fact, I even started it tonite! Maybe someday I'll even overcome my procrastination. Mama is feeling better today but she still hasn't been out. Daddy came home with the news that the gov't had taken over all the fertilizer, so that doesn't look so good.

### **FEBRUARY 5 - Thursday**

Trig is becoming more befuddling every day - and I haven't done my homework in it tonite. If I make a "D" in it I'll drop it - but I hope I won't. School is rocking along about as usual otherwise, tho'. This afternoon Tish & I walked home again - I had quite a load of books but I



really sort of enjoyed it. Then this afternoon I got in my hour of practice, even if I didn't get in my hour of homework. I did quite a bit of knitting - in fact I've gotten up to the beginning of the "V" on my yellow sweater. But all in all today has been a very ordinary day. Thank goodness it did turn warmer, tho; it was really a little too cool for comfort yesterday.

### **FEBRUARY 6 - Friday**

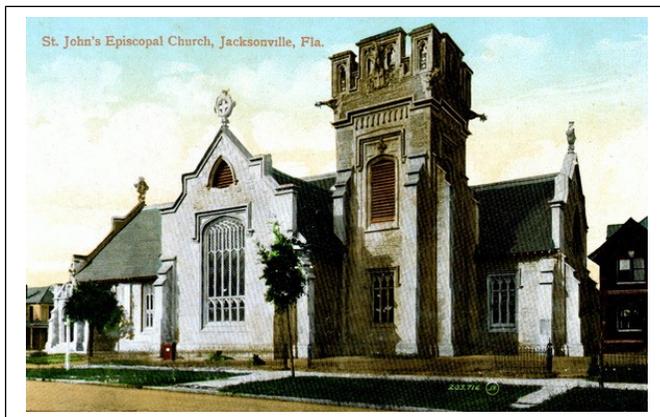
School wandered along about as usual - I made 95 on my English test, tho! And I had to take gym, too. The archery class was full this semester so there was no alternative. Miss Clemans - that drip! - said we had to have regulation gym suits, so Mama made me some white shorts & bro't them over to school - they aren't regulation, but they're close to it. Then I played an hilarious game of volley ball - the only time I touched the ball was when it accidentally hit me! Tonite I went over to Margaret's for her party for her Tallahassee girls staying with her. It wasn't much fun - I had a rather drippy time 'cause I wanted to go to a Service League weiner roast. But it rained so maybe it's just as well I went to Margaret's.

### **FEBRUARY 7 - Saturday**

Tish & I didn't go to work today so this morning I slept. Then this afternoon Tish, -Charlotte couldn't go - Lu, & I went to see "Bahama Passage".



Sarah Bloodworm had given us the tickets & it was pretty good, the techni-color was anyway. Then tonite I went to the dance for the Servicemen down at St. John's.



I really had quite a good time - I sat out just exactly one dance & that was near the end so I'm practically dead. There were lots of sailors & marines, a few soldiers & RAF's & 3 cadets - & I danced with all of them!



General scene of the dance, held in Lee gymnasium. Company flags and Battalion flag hang from the walls for decoration. Notice the stag line at the left of the picture.

## Eleanor's Diary often mentions joys and trials at dances

### FEBRUARY 8 - Sunday

Today's the day - to be exact tomorrow at 2 A.M. - that the "war time" goes into effect, so tonite we turned all the clocks forward an hour. Glory, but it's going to be hard to get up in the morning - especially since I haven't done any homework!

I really had quite a shock today - one of the sailors I met at the dance last nite called me for a date. I told him I already had one - I did with Tish for Duval Assembly. Bishop Remington spoke there & he was very good. Charlotte was there, too - she's been too sick to go to school, but she wasn't too sick to go out with George - & did she blush when I rubbed it in tonite!

### FEBRUARY 9 - Monday

I was weak today - I let temptation get the better of me! When I woke up this morning I was so sleepy & I had a headache & I hadn't done my homework so I just



asked Mama if I couldn't stay home - so she let me. And I haven't done a thing all day but loaf! Now I have to go to school tomorrow & face the music with no work done just the same. Margaret called tonite - I was afraid she was angry with Tish & me because we went to St. John's Saturday instead of going to her house, but she wasn't. Thank goodness! She never really asked us anyway!

### **FEBRUARY 10 - Tuesday**

School really wasn't half as bad as I tho't it was going to be - but trig's getting awfully dense - I hope I come out of it before the end of the six-weeks. We had a pretty good speaker today, too, so we had a special day.

This afternoon Tish & I went down after school to see "The Corsican Brothers". I think I liked it better than "Bahama Passage", but it was pretty much like most of the stories of that period.



I have made up my mind to wash something or clean something up every day - a little industry won't hurt me! Last nite I washed my hair; tonite, some stockings.

## **FEBRUARY 11 - Wednesday**

I could have joyously died in trig class today - & shot Mr. Lancaster to boot! He opened up the class with, "Well, Miss Law, can you prove the 32<sup>nd</sup> one?"

So I answered truthfully, "No, Mr. Lancaster," & he said, "Well, then, we have the whole class to show you how. Arthur, come up & prove it for us."

So he did & when he finished, Mr. L. said, "Now you should have a lot of questions to ask, Miss Law, since you don't even understand it."



And I said, "I know so little about it I can't even ask an intelligent question, you'd better do the asking."

Well, he didn't accept Arthur's proof, so John & Bill both tried & neither one of them could prove it; then it turned out that no one could prove it, not even Robert! Except, of course, Mr. Lancaster. Then I got an idea.

So it was Miss Law who "didn't even understand it", & with her slip showing nearly two inches, who went up to the board & proved it. I don't think I've ever before flushed so much in one hour!

### **FEBRUARY 12 - Thursday**

Today we started going to school at 9:30 & getting out at 4:00 - I liked it, but Tish was furious! Of course it did cut the afternoon sort of short - but it was joyous getting up at 8:30!

This afternoon Miss Durrance sent me with the following message: "Ask Mrs. Jackson if she's still mad at me & if she's not how soon she'll be leaving." (I quote the "mad at" because Miss Durrance is an English teacher)

And I bro't back this message to her: "Tell her I'm still mad at her, but I'll let her ride on the back seat & I'll be leaving in about 5 minutes." Now, weren't those strange messages to recite?

### **FEBRUARY 13 - Friday**

About two weeks ago I vowed that I would not mention Charlie again in this diary. Well, I wish to amend that statement - I won't mention him unless he calls me or I have a date with him. Tonite he called me - all he wanted was the addresses & phone numbers of the leaguers, but we talked for quite a while & he said he'd come by for me to go to church Sunday.

We had an English test today - I was scared but I don't think I flunked it

**FEBRUARY 14 - Saturday**

I was really quite proud of myself this morning - I was not only on time, I was early to meet Dar (I'm usually the last one & have to be waited for) Well, Tish & I worked & then came home - we did not go to the show this afternoon. Instead I went out to the farm with Dar & Pa & Mama. Charlotte was sick in bed so we paid her quite a visit & then we told Cody goodbye. He's a second lieutenant & he's gotten his orders to report to a camp in Arkansas so he's leaving this week.

Tish is spending the nite with me tonite - something which hasn't been done since we were both five!

**FEBRUARY 15 - Sunday**

This morning was the Service League Corporate Communion & breakfast - & the large congregation of six were present! After that I went to Sunday School & then Charlie came by for me & we went to church. All afternoon I have read Lorna Doone - I just got to the half-way mark & it's 11 o'clock! Of course tonite I went to Y.P.S.L. meeting - & we didn't have any counselors there! It was really amazing. It was raining so hard Virginia Carter bro't me home. Charlie was in the car so he walked up to the porch with me - he said he'd call me, but I doubt if he will. Sinclair White came & sat by me in Service League - Charlie seemed a little surprised to see us together.

**FEBRUARY 16 - Monday**

For my book report - which is due tomorrow - I very foolishly chose Lorna Doone. Well, I started reading it almost two weeks ago, but on Friday I had read only 80 pages of it. I read a little Friday nite, all Saturday nite, & all Sunday afternoon & evening & managed to get half-way thru it. It is, incidentally, 700 pages of fine print. So today - thank heaven we had a holiday because of registering the men - I have been reading steadily ever since I woke up, with only time out for



meals. I'm pretty well fed up with reading tonite & I still have 75 pages left to read!

### **FEBRUARY 17 - Tuesday**

I gave my book report today - at least most of it; I didn't finish it. I hope she'll let me finish it tomorrow. But what thrilled me most was that I got it all read except for the last six pages. But believe me I'm going to lay off reading for a few days!

This morning we had a test in trig - a horrible thing! I don't know whether I flunked it or not & to tell the truth I don't really even care! Isn't that awful?

Otherwise today has been very ordinary, except that it has rained like heck. The Doziers rode us to school this morning & Sarah had a "T.L." for me - she overheard Mr. Mac say to a boy: "You're missing something if you don't know Eleanor Law - she's one of the best looking girls in the school!" That coming from Mr. Mac of all people! Ugh!

### **FEBRUARY 18 - Wednesday**

Today has been rather full. Miss Durrance let me go back & finish my book report so I didn't have any vacant period. Then this afternoon I had my music lesson - with the "war-time" making us stay in school 'til 4 o'clock I didn't get thru with my lesson 'til nearly 6. There was a meeting of the Y.P.S.L. (Young People's Service League) over at the church at 6:45 to plan the dinner for Dr. Lockhart, so I rushed over there. I got home about 8 & the Lewis Cordeses were here so I didn't do any homework.

### **FEBRUARY 19 - Thursday**

I have completely wasted today. I've had a pain in the middle all day - I still have - so Mama said I could stay home from school. All day I have done nothing but knit - except that tonite I washed my hair.

This afternoon I went to the library to return Lorna and get a book for my next book report. Mama said for



heaven's sakes not to get anything as long as that was so I decided on Prescott's Conquest of Peru. I had no idea how long it was & I couldn't find it on the shelf so I asked the librarian for it. She bro't it out from behind the desk - in two volumes! So now I have 2 volumes of 450 pages each instead of one of 700 pages!

## FEBRUARY 20 - Friday

I didn't go to school again today. I could have gone, I suppose, but I still had a stomach ache so Mama said I'd better stay in bed & if it didn't get all right go to the doctor. I would have felt awfully silly going to him just for a stomach ache, but, fortunately, it got all right.

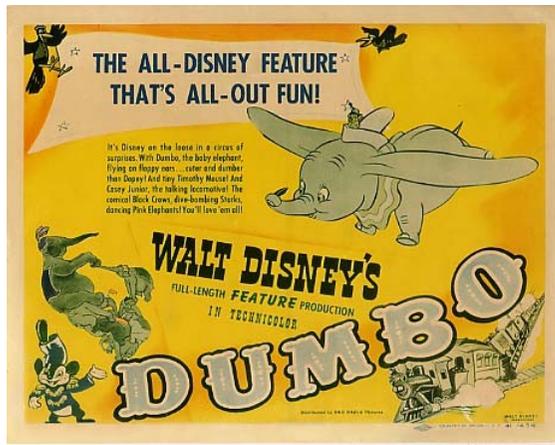
Tonite it wasn't hurting so Mama let me get up & go to the Lenten Institute - the first of the classes they're having every Friday nite during Lent over at the church. Bishop suggested that we call it a "Consecration Camp". Tonite we all met together, but I decided to take Judy Criswell's course when we break up into classes next week.

## FEBRUARY 21 - Saturday

Today has been a rather ordinary day, & in spite of the fact that I haven't really accomplished a thing, it's 11:30 & I'm just getting to bed.

I slept late this morning - which was rather delightful. Then I helped Mama move around & drove out to Aunt Alma's to get some sausage meat for her. I do love to take the car out by myself- it gives me a sense of freedom & of doing something completely on my own.

Then this afternoon I went with Lu to see "Dumbo" - it was pretty good. I





didn't really think mother was going to let me, but she did.

Tonite I've just knitted.

## **FEBRUARY 22 - Sunday**

Today wasn't quite so ordinary. Of course I went to Sunday School & then Sarah, Tish & I went to church. And we sat right next to the cadets I met at St. John's. I didn't speak to them but I'm sure it was they!

When I got home mama said a boy had called me. He didn't leave his name & he never called back.

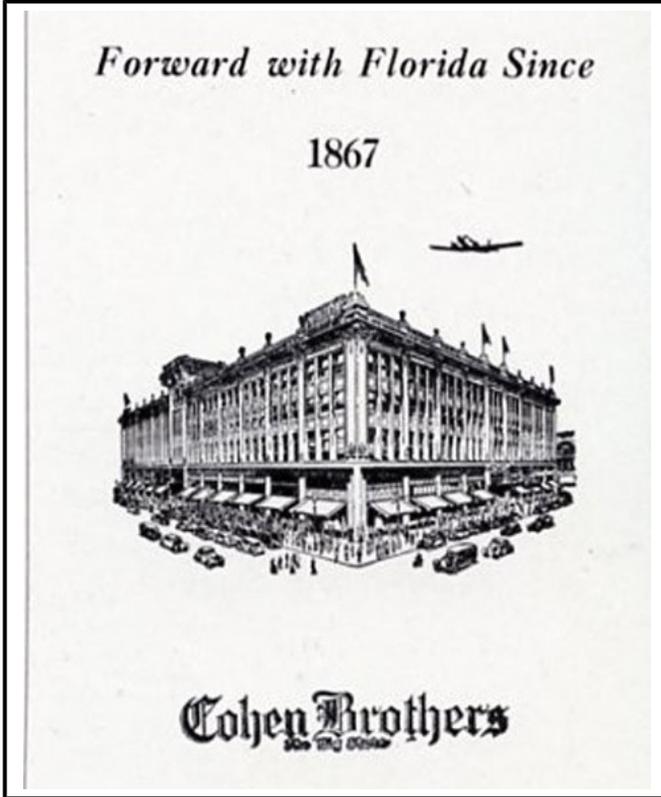
Tish & I went to walk & then to Service League tonite. And then Mama, Sarah, Charlie & I went to the first of the United Lenten Services at the Church. He came home with us afterward & we got some ice cream. He said I was the kind of girl his mother would have wanted him to marry. Such blarney!

## **FEBRUARY 23 - Monday**

Today has been quite a day. I really dreaded going back to school, but it wasn't as bad as I expected.

This afternoon Elizabeth came home with me from school & we went down town to buy Tish's birthday present. I wanted to get her an Oxford edition of the Bible with the Apocrypha, but I couldn't get it so we had to make a pair of stockings do instead. Then for about a half an hour we browsed thru Cohen's novelty department. It was lovely!

Then tonite Johnny bro't Lu over to spend the evening & they both stayed to hear the President speak at 10:00. So it's sort of late now.



**Cohen Brothers Department Store—shown in this ad from a 1942 Lee High School Yearbook—was long Jacksonville's favorite shopping spot.**

**The building—designed by architect Henry Klutho—now houses Jacksonville's City Hall.**

## **FEBRUARY 24 - Tuesday**

Today was Tish's birthday so when we got home from school she came in & we gave her her present & then put some candles on a little 25 cent cake & had a little party. Then we drove to Five Points to get some things & afterwards I went over to Pa's for a little while. When I got home it was nearly 6, so I went up to get ready for the supper. Mama bet me a defense stamp that I couldn't wash, dress, & be ready at 6:30 to take the rice over for the dinner. And I won it!



Then I went over to the dinner - the one the Y.P.S.L. gave Dr. Lockhart because he's going into the Navy..

### **FEBRUARY 25 - Wednesday**

Tomorrow our six-weeks French grammar test comes up - & I'm honest-to-gosh worried! We took up the past subjunctive & some other phases of the subjunctive during those two days that I was absent & I really should have studied tonite - I did for a half hour & another half-hour on my English - but I washed my hair. So now I must go to school tomorrow with no trig done, knowing about half of what I should know in French, & with my English barely started - and no study halls! Glory! But it's a gruesome outlook! Today has been rather ordinary - except that we got out at 2:30 instead of 4. I had a music lesson this afternoon, too.

### **FEBRUARY 26 - Thursday**

Sarah & I were supposed to go to the basketball game over at the church tonite, but she 'phoned & said she'd been sick all day so she couldn't go. I had really been looking forward toward going but it really was just as well that I couldn't. The French test wasn't as bad as I'd tho't it was going to be, but tomorrow we're going to have an English test that's really going to be a stiff one. And I'm scared even stiffer. So I really had no business even planning to go. I tried not to be too disappointed anyway. I skipped gym today - it's the first time I've ever done that - but I don't think Clemens caught me - but I felt like a chased mouse!

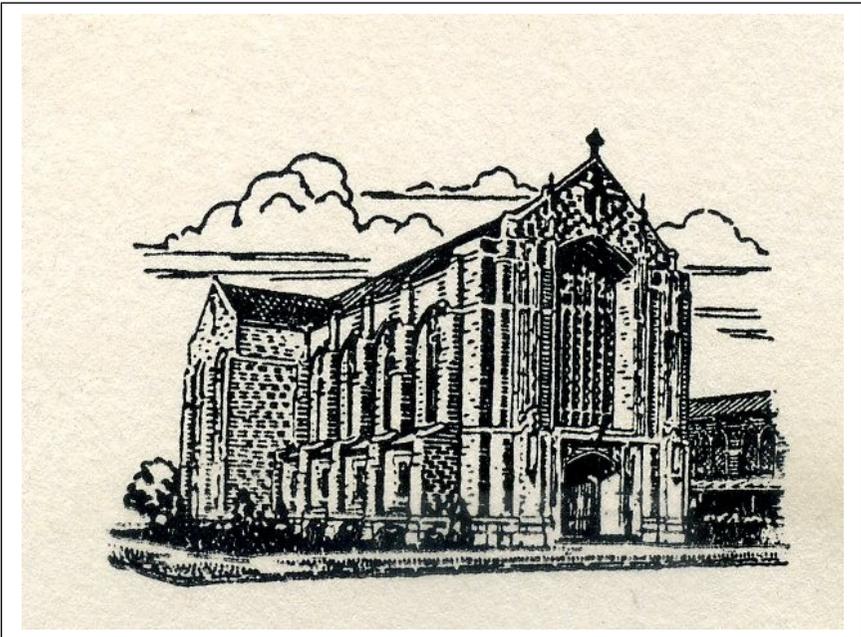
### **FEBRUARY 27 - Friday**

Today we had our English test & tho' I don't think I flunked it, I know I made a pretty bum grade on it. All I can hope is that it's not too low to keep me from getting "B" on my report card. French class was



also rather awful -I made "88" on that big French test, which wasn't so good.

I've been rather rushed today - we barely got home from school good before we had to rush over to the church for the children's service & then tonite we went over to the Lenten Institute. Tish & I stopped after church this afternoon to help Guinny (Louise Gehan) with some stuff & then she took us to the drug store in the station wagon to get a cone. I do like her so much!



### **Good Shepherd Episcopal Church**

#### **FEBRUARY 28 - Saturday**

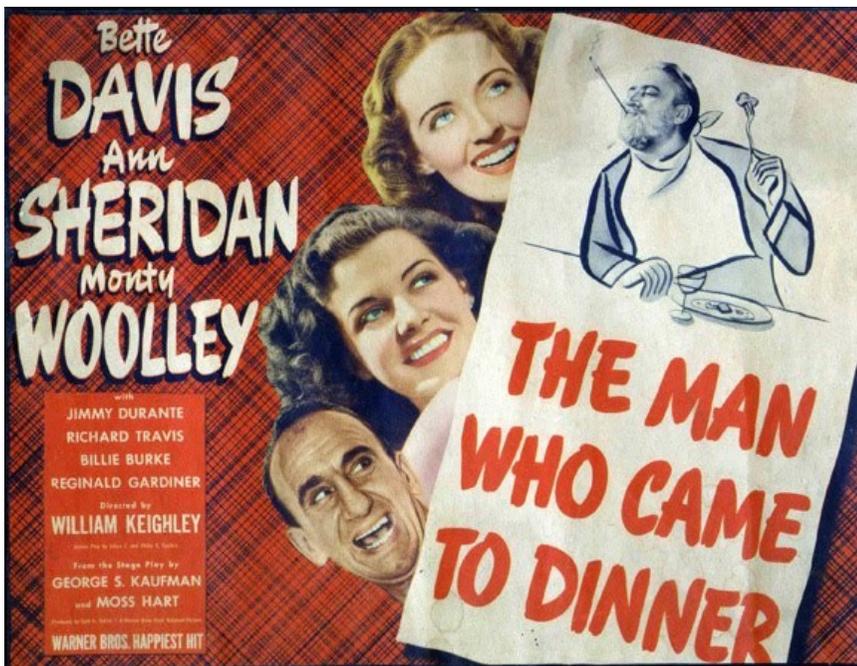
I'm just like a little girl when my birthday comes around - it just sort of gives me a thrill!

Of course today isn't my birthday but I've had just as good a time. Tish & I went down to work today on the bus - Dar had so much extra work that she went down at 7:30 with Daddy. And after we got down



there we didn't do any filing at all - we got the tariffs marked & then helped Dar get out some letters.

Then I met Lu & we went to lunch & to see "The Man Who Came to Dinner". It was really, I believe, the best comedy I have ever seen - I nearly laughed myself sick!



## **FEBRUARY 29—Sorry—(February 28<sup>th</sup> Con't)**

Dar had said that I could go buy something for my birthday & she would pay for it as her present, so Lu & I went to Cohen's & bought a lovely piece of wool plaid for a skirt. It is blue & yellow with a pale gray background so I think it will go beautifully with my yellow sweater. Then we went to Levy's & got a lipstick that Mama had said she'd give me for my birthday. While I was there I even bought a defense stamp which brings my total up to \$10.00. I think I must be a plutocrat 'cause I just love to watch money collect! When I got home I found a birthday card from the Browns and a letter from Aunt Katie with a \$2.00 check enclosed. Then at supper Daddy gave me a check for \$3.00, so I'm sitting pretty!



The Turners are in town and the Cordeses are going out to the Skinners' for dinner tomorrow so we had my cake tonite. It was quite nice - angel food.

Tonite I have been knitting & it's now 12:10 - it's a shame I didn't have a date to write about when I had some extra space.

I have decided that the main reason why I'm not popular is that I think too much of myself & not enough of others - so I'm going to truly try to think of others & forget myself!



## **MARCH 1942 NEWS EVENTS**

By March 5<sup>th</sup>, under new laws in Britain, both men and women up to age 45 are subject to the Draft.

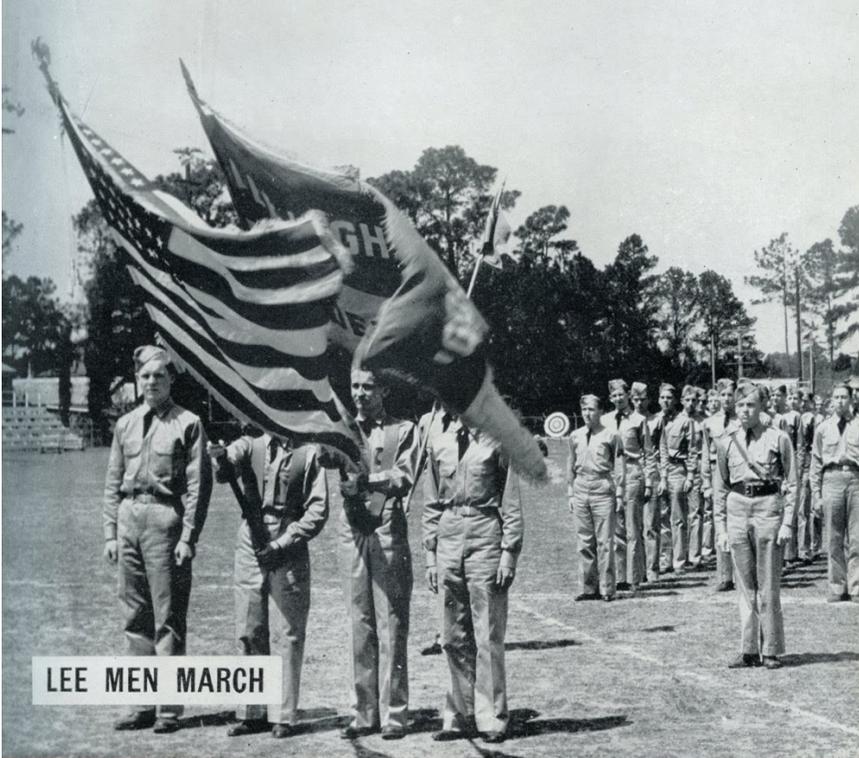
On March 11<sup>th</sup>, enemy troops land in the Philippines and President Roosevelt orders General MacArthur to leave. MacArthur vows, "I shall return". As the enemy approaches, American forces dig in at Corrigidor.

On March 17<sup>th</sup> construction begins on the Alaskan Highway to enable troops to move to defend Alaska from a Japanese invasion.

By March 25<sup>th</sup>, Jews in Germany must mark their homes for identification. And the British Royal Air Force begins bombing targets in Germany and occupied France.

--jwc

# LIFE



LEE MEN MARCH

JUNE 10, 1941 **10** CENTS  
PUB. BY R. E. LEE HI SCHOOL

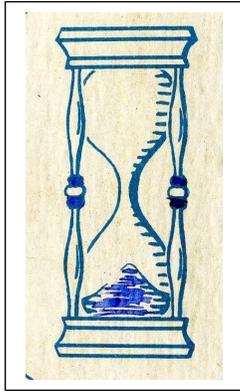
**The cover of LIFE, Lee High School's student magazine, shows cadet formation on the school football field**



R.O.T.C. company proudly exhibits recently acquired rifles.  
(Obsolete 1896 cavalry carbines)

**R.O.T.C. GETS RIFLES.** The Lee High School Cadet Corps was founded over a year ago, at the outset of the American emergency program. The group, which at first included only Seniors, was fostered by the local members of the United States Army Reserve. The second semester of last year found the demand so great that Juniors and Sophomores be allowed to participate, that the new unit had to be expanded until Lee boasted the largest and finest cadet battalion in the county. After an application for government recognition had become stalled in red tape, unsatisfied instructors, Capt. D. W. Copeland and Lieut. David Germain, secured obsolete U. S. Army Winchesters for drill, manual of arms instruction, etc. At the close of school, 1942, 500 Lee High School boys between the ages of 15 and 18 were engaged in preliminary military training.

**1942 Lee High School students drilled on campus**



## MARCH DIARY ENTRIES

### **March 1 - 1942, Sunday**

Today I am seventeen years old! I've been saying "I'm almost seventeen" for so long that I feel almost that this should be my eighteenth birthday - but I'm really awfully thrilled to be able to say "I'm seventeen"!

I was late, as usual, today to Sunday School, but everything went off all right. Then afterward I didn't go to church so Sarah & the two Lucilles came over to have a piece of birthday cake. Sarah embarrassed me greatly by presenting me with a lovely bottle of "pink cloves" cologne!

Then I went over to the Browns' for about an hour to help Lucille with her English. I really think I mixed her up more than I helped her, but it was fun trying to teach anyway.

About 12 Dar came by for me & she & Pa & I went out to the farm for dinner. Betty & John are down here for a few days so it was quite nice. The dinner -



turkey, & ice cream & cake - was nice, too! We had quite a nice time talking sitting around the fire, & then when we got home Mama & I went around to Dar's for tea.

When I got home Tish had called so I went up there & she gave me some lovely yellow angora socks that go beautifully with my yellow sweater. Of course, I went to Y.P.S.L.

Then Sarah, Mama & I went to the United Service at All Saints'. At Service League I could have cheerfully shot Charlie & died myself- but secretly I was really thrilled that he had tho't enough about me to tease me so! When I sat down from reading the minutes he had a devilish twinkle in his eye & there on the table was an advertisement clipped from a magazine - the picture of a little queen with a little king crowning her & Charlie had written across the top "My Day, by Eleanor". I must have blushed or something because everyone on the front row laughed so I turned it face down. Well, he wasn't satisfied so he passed it around to everyone in the League!

### **MARCH 2 - Monday**

The wind is howling tonite like a regular storm - everything is shaking & rattling & if you go outside you practically get blown off your feet. I don't know when I remember more wind!

School was about as usual except that I persuaded Miss Clemans to let me take ping-pong instead of volley ball.

In English Miss Durrance told us our grades & I made "90" on the test I tho't I'd done so badly on. At least that's better than my "88" in French. I have been sleepy all day today so I'm going to try to go to bed earlier, get up earlier & get more fresh air.

### **MARCH 3 - Tuesday**



My hopes for an "A" in trig are completely shattered - I didn't do my homework today & so he decided to take it up! That means I probably won't get an "A" average either. Otherwise school went along about as usual. We had a Spanish club meeting & a very interesting speaker - a man who had spent some years in South America. Tonite Pa gave us quite a treat. Madge wasn't coming home for supper so he & Dar came over here & bro't Five T-bone steaks! One apiece - & Pa didn't eat but half of his so I ate one & a half steaks! I have never eaten so much steak before in all my life!

### **MARCH 4 - Wednesday**

We had a trig test today - a humdinger! And I'm afraid I flunked it about as flat as was possible - isn't that a shame?

I haven't done any homework tonite - but I had a music lesson & washed my hair so I've been pretty busy.

Today at school Jack Rank presented another of his one-man Shakespeares - "The Taming of the Shrew". He is really awfully good - I think I liked this one even better than "The Merchant of Venice", but I must say he's clever.

We also had a French test today & I did rather badly on that, too. I'm awful!

### **MARCH 5 - Thursday**

Tonite was the "Ballet Russe" - the first time I have ever seen professional ballet, & it was wonderful! They are the most graceful things & their rhythm & balance & timing was gorgeous! And the costumes must have cost a fortune! I really enjoyed it - I think I like the "Nutcracker Suite" best of the three ballets.

Otherwise today was rather ordinary except that it rained like heck this afternoon. It was pouring when we got out of school & I wandered around in it for 15 minutes in it looking for Mrs. Croom. Needless to say I



was soaked, & at the same time furious. I'm really ashamed that I got so angry with Mrs. Croom, tho!

### **MARCH 6 - Friday**

Today has been just as sunny as yesterday was rainy. It's so much nicer! Getting out of school at 4:00 & to church at 4:30 is quite a rush but today to make matters worse Tish was late getting out of class. So we really had to fly!

Then of course tonite we went to the Institute - Judge Criswell had a very interesting speaker there. Miss Pennington, the head of the vocational school. Then we went around to Dar's for cocoa.

School rocked along about as usual - I'm still doing badly in trig, but I made the only 100 in French on a verb test.

### **MARCH 7 - Saturday**

Today has been quite a day. Of course I should have been reading a book report but I haven't had a chance to do more than glance at it! Of course Tish & I went to work, but thru a misunderstanding I had to ride the bus down.

Then I met Lu & Charlotte at 12:30; we drove out to the farm for dinner, then Agnes bro't us back into South Jax to catch a bus, so we finally got back into town to go to the show. Of course by the time we got out it was too late to do more than get some music & a coke. I got home about 6:30 to find that Mrs. Hawkins had called & wanted me to go to a dance at St. John's, so a I went to that! What a day!

### **MARCH 8 - Sunday**

The most amazing things happen when you're not expecting them! Tonite it was raining when Service League was supposedly starting, so I took the car over. I asked Tish & Mrs. Croom to ride home with me & while I was waiting for them Charlie came over & said "Are you busy tonite?" When I said "no", he said he'd walk home



with me but I told him I had the car so of course we rode. Of course I put the car up so we both came wandering in the back door! Then he asked me to go to the show with him tonite so I, with no book report read, no essay written, & no closets cleaned, went gaily to the picture show. Now getting to bed.



**Civilian car production ceased in 1941. Popular models on the road included (top to bottom) the Packard Clipper, the Willy, and the Chevrolet Aerosedan**

### **MARCH 9 - Monday**

I was so sleepy & all today that I developed a headache & sore throat so I came home at the beginning of fourth period - I'll admit part of it was due to the lack of essay & book report, but I did have a headache & still do. Anyway I've wasted today & I think



I'm going to stay home tomorrow. At least I did catch up on my sleep somewhat this afternoon.

This morning in school we signed up for our activities in the annual. We had a meeting the other day to discuss what we're going to wear for graduation. It's not decided yet, but there's quite a faction that wants caps & gowns - but I do hope we have dresses! They're so much prettier!

### **MARCH 10 - Tuesday**

Today has been quite a day. First and foremost it was Mama's birthday so Madge & Dar & Pa came over for supper to help celebrate it.

I didn't go to school today but I also didn't read my book report or do my homework so I'm scared about going to school tomorrow & Friday's the end of the six weeks. So\_ Then tonite I did a rather foolish thing. It seems that I can't go to one of those dances without getting into complications. Tonite this yeoman who rushed me called & asked me to go to dinner & a show with him Sunday & I had to say I would because I couldn't think of an excuse!

### **MARCH 11 - Wednesday**

I didn't go to school today but I did read my book report - that's something even if I didn't do anything else.

Mrs. Orchard came this afternoon & while she was giving me my lesson Charlotte & Benny came in to see us. Benny got his orders yesterday - he's to report to a camp in Oklahoma on the 20<sup>th</sup> & then be sent to one in Louisiana later. We also got a letter from Cody - he's still in Arkansas but he's in the medical corps! At least Billy is still here anyway.

Tish is in bed today with fever, I hope she'll be better.

The more I think about that sailor, the more I know I can't go out with him - I've got to get out of it!

**MARCH 12 - Thursday**

I managed to go back to school today - but I sure didn't want to! And I came home so swamped with homework that I'm only about a third of the way thru it, but at least I did get my book report done. They were having an English test today & I didn't take it so I hope she's going to let me make it up.

This afternoon Tish & I went to the library and then to the drug store & got some ice cream sodas. Pa gave me the money for them because I was so down about my work and all.

Elizabeth told me again today that she was "in love" - I'm beginning to think Bob has proposed!

**MARCH 13 - Friday**

I didn't go to school this morning again - I'm a rat! I'll admit part of the reason was because I hadn't done all my make-up work, but I do still have a headache. I'm beginning to think part of that is nerves, but it might be eyestrain.

This afternoon I went to church & tonite to the Lenten Institute, but nothing immensely interesting happened.

Mrs. Wyatt told me something tonite that sort of thrilled me. Her little 5-year-old, Babs, was scepter bearer last year when I was queen & is now in my Sunday school class; when Mrs. Wyatt asked her if she wanted to dance in the May Fete this year, she said, "'I want to walk up with my queen!"

**MARCH 14 - Saturday**

Tish & I, of course, went down to work today - & I didn't get left today tho' I was late -but I didn't go to the show with Lu. Tish & I stayed down for lunch & then shopped. I got some stockings for Mama & some pants for Mary - two belated birthday presents! And I got some material for some silk blouses & the pattern for my Easter dress, but I couldn't find the material I



wanted. When I got home I washed my hair & then went down to Tish's to type my minutes.

But while I was washing my hair my yeoman called me & I broke the date! I felt like a dog doing it & Mama seemed to think it was an awful thing to do, but I'm glad I did.

### **March 15—Sunday**

Today was so warm it felt far more like summer than spring - so clothes were somewhat of a problem. So I wore my white silk (summer) dress & my blue wool (winter) jerkin, & pretended I was halfway between!

I went to early church but I didn't stay for breakfast & then after Sunday School I went to church with Sarah. We were supposed to meet Margaret & Tish but we were late so we didn't sit with them. Then Elizabeth drove me home & we went to see the tulips on Riverside Ave. - they're gorgeous! This afternoon the yeoman called again! O! Glory! And then instead of studying I went walking with Margaret, but I came straight home from League & did a little, tho' I'm nowhere near caught up. Miss Durrance said Friday was the dead-line for make-up, but I hope she'll let me do mine this week.

### **MARCH 16 - Monday**

I went to school today - Glory! How I hated to! - but nothing happened. Mrs. Eccles was quite sympathetic & no one else bellowed at me so all was fairly well except that there's so much work to do I feel simply suffocated. I had a headache most of today but it's better tonite. I didn't get a chance to hand in my English make-up & Mr. Lancaster said just to forget about my test so that worries me a little. We had a very interesting speaker -in Spanish! - a lady from Cuba in Spanish class today.

### **MARCH 17-Tuesday**



Tonite was the last Civic Music concert of the season & the last I shall see for a long while. And it was certainly a gorgeous one - The Cincinnati Symphony. They played Beethoven's Fifth & it was simply wonderful! Then they had a Debussy, and a Delius which were lovely, to say nothing of the Overture from the "Magic Flute" & the prelude to the 3<sup>rd</sup> act of "Lohengrin". Anyway I enjoyed it immensely.

Today mama got me out of school & took me down to Dr. Thomas because she said there was no reason for me to continue to have headaches. He said I had a sinus infection & gave me all sorts of stuff.

### **MARCH 18 - Wednesday**

Today was report card day & I was really worried, but I didn't get to school 'til the end of third period, so the only grade I got was English - & that was a shock! I have never handed in all my make-up & I went in fifth period today & made up the last test I missed. And sixth period Miss Durrance gave me one of the only two A's in our room - without even grading the last test! I was amazed. But I'm still worried sick over the others. This afternoon Tish & I went for a gorgeous walk in the sun down by the river. But then tonite I've been slaving over my homemaking make-up, but I'm nowhere near thru!

### **MARCH 19-Thursday**

I didn't get to school today & tho' Mrs. Orchard came this afternoon & gave Jane her lesson, I didn't take mine. So while Jane was taking hers, Mrs. Martin, Jane, & I sat on the porch & then Mrs. Croom came over with Tish to pay a little visit. Tonite Dar, Pa, Miss Madge, Mama, Daddy, & I all went out to tell Benny good-by. Fie leaves tonite for Oklahoma, so he was all dressed in his 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant's uniform & he really looked good. That leaves just Charlotte, Uncle Ben, Cogdell, & Agnes out there all by themselves. But I sure am glad the Maclemores are out there!



## MARCH 20 - Friday

Mama didn't even wake me up in time to get to school today, so I didn't go, of course. I also didn't go to church this afternoon or the Institute tonite. I wanted to wash my hair this afternoon, but Mama wouldn't let me, so I guess I'll have to wash it tomorrow morning & it'll look like heck for the dance tomorrow nite. O! well, if it looks too bad I just won't go, that's all. I'm planning to wear my May Fete dress, but I don't know what it'll look like! Personally, I think it's rather simple & sweet, & makes me look fat. That foolish yeoman called me again today! Maybe someday he'll learn!

## MARCH 21 - Saturday

Mama wouldn't let me go to work this morning, & I didn't feel like going to the show, so I didn't do much with myself all day. This morning I washed my hair, & this afternoon I sat in the sun on the porch & wrote letters.

Then tonite I went to the Cadet dance over at the church. I really didn't have such a good time - I didn't get but one cut so I had to stay with the same boy an



awful long time. But I did do the Conga for the first time & it was fun! But all in all I definitely wasn't a success, so I guess that's that. I sure would like to meet a nice cadet who liked me.

## MARCH 22 - Sunday

Today was a rather ordinary Sunday. I managed to get up & get to Sunday School, but I didn't get to church. Sarah wasn't at Sunday School - at least I



didn't see her - & she wasn't at Y.P.S.L., either. I'm afraid she's sick.

This afternoon I went to walk with Tish & Margaret. We had a rather nice walk & then we paid Margaret a sort of visit. She kept begging me to go to her Christian Endeavor, but I didn't want to go. I do want to go later, but not tonite. After Service League I went over to the Croom's for a while & then Tish came home with me & stayed 'til 9:30. It was quite a bull session!

### **MARCH 23 - Monday**

Well, I managed to get back to school today - Glory! How glad I'll be when school is over! Mr. Lancaster gave me a "B" in trig, -I deserved it, but I sure hated getting it. But Mrs. Eccles & Miss Sproull both agreed to hold up my grades until I made up my work.

Today during activity period Bobby Burrowes & Ann Calvin gave me a lesson on "How to get your Man", but they finally had to agree that I was hopeless. But the biggest news of all - but definitely - is that Tish was elected May Queen! <sup>1</sup>

### **MARCH 24 - Tuesday**

School ran along about as usual - nothing particular happened. Except that Tish didn't go to school - I guess the shock of being elected queen was too much for her! Tonite was the "war dinner" over at the church. Of course, we had hoped for more, but we only had about 20 there. But we really had lots of fun; after the dinner they showed us pictures of wartime England. And something really surprising happened. Cooper Cubbedge - of course he's younger than I am - was awfully solicitous! He sat with me & ushered me around & everything! It was really most amazing!

### **MARCH 25 - Wednesday**

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<sup>1</sup> **Note:** Eleanor herself had been May Queen the previous year.



This afternoon Tish asked me to be in the court - but for some strange reason I don't want to! I really can't understand it myself, because the day I heard she was queen I was dying to! But now I simply don't want to! But I'm afraid I'll hurt Tish's feeling when I refuse.

This afternoon Mama & I went down town & bought my Easter material. It's navy blue crepe - not as sheer as I wanted it, but I hope it will make up into a decent looking dress. School was, as usual, very ordinary, but Mr. Lancaster announced that we would have a trig test tomorrow & I didn't study tonite!

### **MARCH 26 - Thursday**

The most amazing things do happen! Charlie hasn't been in town - he went up to spend the week in his old home. I'll admit I was a little hurt that he didn't tell me he was going - I had to hear it from Mrs. Croom. But today he called & asked me for a date Saturday nite! Isn't that amazing? He called over at our house before supper, but I had gone to take Mrs. Orchard home & to the library, so Mama told him he could get me over here. So he did. I really don't like him as much as I did, but it is nice to have dates once in a while! All the other girls do, anyway!



### Willow Branch Library

#### MARCH 27 - Friday

I went to school today, but I came home at the end of first period, so I missed an English & a French test. That was terrible, but I guess it could have been worse.

I refused Tish today - turned down the invitation to be in the court. I felt like a heel doing it, but I simply don't want to be in it.

This afternoon I went to the last Children's service, & tonite to the last of the Lenten Institute. Mrs. Brown was supposed to come for us, but just as she got here her lights went out! So now her car is in our garage. I've had to walk from home over here tonite!

#### MARCH 28 - Saturday

I have really had a full day - 7:00 A.M. - 2:00 A.M.! Tish & I went to work & then this afternoon Sarah, Tish, Betty Hendry, & I made 1,000 crosses for Palm Sunday tomorrow! I was worn out!



Then tonite I went to the show with Charlie. We saw "Always in My Heart" - & it was really quite good.



We got home about 11:30, but he didn't leave 'til after one. And what he didn't do while he was here! First he carved "Always in My Heart" in the candlestick on the mantle & then we told each other's fortunes with my marked cards. Then he picked up my picture & said he was going to take it unless I promised to give him another one! So now he's supposed to come home from League with me tomorrow to get it - & I've got to find some way out!

### **MARCH 29 - Sunday**

Well, I gave Charlie my picture tonite - I put up a fight, but I finally gave in. He tried to persuade me to go to the operetta with him - even showed me the tickets he'd bought -but of course I'm going with Lu & Charlotte. He has only mentioned the show this week, but that's not at all definite, but he has asked me to go to the Easter service next Sunday morning & he



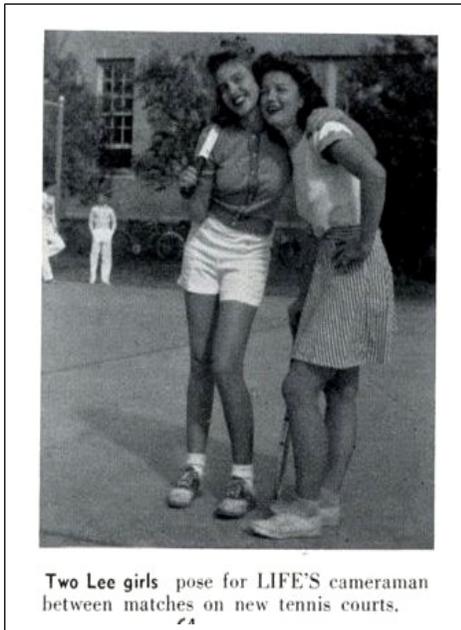
wants to send me a corsage! Tonite we went to the drugstore to get a soda & he finally left at 10:30.

### **MARCH 30 - Monday**

Uncle Lewis was taken sick this afternoon so poor Mama & Dar are both worried sick. He has had a stiff neck so this afternoon he went to a chiropractor. And while he was on the table he turned green & began vomiting terribly. Now he's still sick, feels terribly dizzy, has practically no pulse, & can't stand up. And to make matters worse the doctor doesn't know what's wrong. It's awful.

Charlotte is having spring vacation so she came in & spent the day with Mama. It was nice seeing her.

Today I began taking tennis in gym - & I think I'm going to like it a lot if I ever learn how to play.



Two Lee girls pose for LIFE'S cameraman between matches on new tennis courts.

### **Tennis photo from 1942 LIFE, Lee HS student magazine**

### **MARCH 31 - Tuesday**

I didn't go to school today - cramps. But thank goodness I've at last fallen off the roof 'cause now



there's a chance that I won't be sick on Easter - but I probably shall. Heck!

I really haven't done a thing all day except read. And I haven't read anything worthwhile, only foolish magazine stories. Sometimes I get so disgusted with myself. Elizabeth reads such good stuff & can talk about good literature to people, while I only feel tongue-tied & ignorant about any intelligent subject. How I wish I could learn to be charming!

I also feel like a cheat about the way I've been doing school. But I'm so tired of it. It just makes me sick!

It seems to me that the end of the month is always rather dull, so that I don't really need this extra space, but I rather enjoy writing as much as I want to. I was speaking of school. And it really does actually make me feel sick - I've gotten so that I dread each day that I have to go, 'tho' I'll admit that it's the homework that I hate most. I can't possible make the honor-roll average this semester, so that sort of makes me feel down in the dumps, too. I hope college will be better, 'tho' to tell you the truth, it rather frightens me!



Students at Lee regularly purchase defense stamps from the main office. Completely filled stamp books are exchanged for bonds.

DEFENSE STAMP SALES was one of the first defense activities participated in by the students and faculty of Lee High School. The sale of defense stamps was instituted at Lee at the opening of the term and continued to increase until the end of the school year. Students eagerly and conveniently made their regular purchases of defense stamps in the main office. Sales sometimes mounted to as high as \$51 a day. Complete sell-outs were regular, if not routine. Secretaries, Mrs. Lightfoot and Miss Chelf made repeated hurried trips to down-town post offices for fresh supplies of stamps in order not to disappoint students, who were learning valuable lessons of thrift while they were helping support the war effort. Homeroom teachers placed "defense honor rolls" on blackboards, allowing students who purchased defense stamps to sign their names underneath. Under the impetus of this school-wide enthusiasm, Annual Staff members hastily wrote to Washington to obtain the "Minuteman" electrotype for defense stamps and bond advertisement elsewhere in this section. Altogether an estimated \$2,500 has passed into government channels from the sale of defense stamps at Lee.



One week's paper collection piled on gym floor ready for salvage company. Thirty-six such loads have left Lee.

**In 1942 Lee H.S. students collected over 25,000 pounds of scrap paper for the war effort. Money raised went to Red Cross War Relief**





## APRIL 1942 NEWS EVENTS

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, The U.S. War Production Board stopped making consumer television sets and radio equipment.

In the early days of April, Japanese forces overran U.S. and Filipino troops on the Bataan Peninsula. Then began the infamous **Bataan Death March**. The Japanese forced 75,000 captured Americans to march more than 85 miles in six days from Bataan to a prison camp near Cabanatuan with only one meal of rice in total over the six days. Hundreds of captives die on the march.

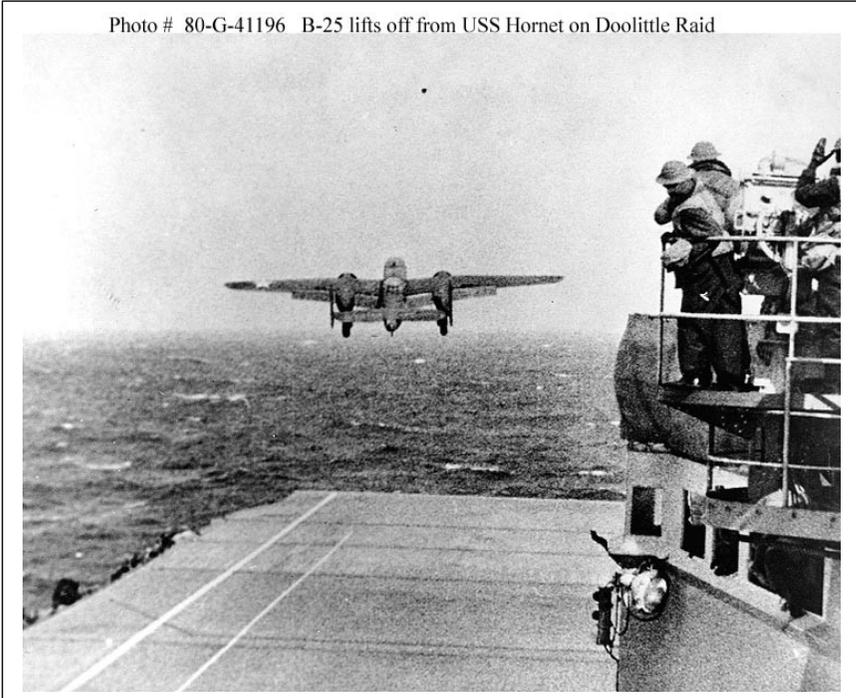
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher described the horrors and brutality the prisoners experienced:

*They were beaten, and they were starved as they marched. Those who fell were bayoneted. Some of those who fell were beheaded by Japanese officers who were practicing with their samurai swords from horseback. The Japanese culture at that time reflected the view that any warrior who*

*surrendered had no honor; thus was not to be treated like a human being....( But as) subhumans and animals.*

Enemy trucks drove drive over some of those Americans who fell or succumbed to fatigue on the Death March, and "cleanup crews" put to death those too weak to continue walking.

Photo # 80-G-41196 B-25 lifts off from USS Hornet on Doolittle Raid



On April 19<sup>th</sup>, President Roosevelt announced the news that Lt. Col. James Doolittle had led 16 American B25s on the first bombing raid on the Japanese home islands, bombing the cities of Tokyo, Kobe, Nagoya, and Yokohama.

Doolittle said, "The Japanese people had been told they were invulnerable... An attack on the Japanese homeland would cause confusion in the minds of the Japanese people and sow doubt about the reliability of their leaders. There was a second, and equally important, psychological reason for this attack ... Americans badly needed a morale boost".

The enemy had no idea where the bombers had come from; they underestimated the reach of America's Air Force.

## Sub Attack Off Jacksonville

On April 10, 1942, thousands of helpless spectators gathered in the dark along the boardwalk at Jacksonville Beach to watch an enormous fire just off shore.

Kapitanleutenant Reinhard Hardigan, commander of the German submarine *U-123*, had used the lights of the Jacksonville Beach boardwalk to silhouette his target, the *SS Gulfamerica*.

On her maiden voyage the tanker carried 90,000 barrels of aviation fuel. From Texas, she rounded the tip of Florida and hugged the coast northward. The torpedoes exploded in the ship's starboard side at 10:42 p.m. as she was just four miles off Jacksonville Beach.

A massive firestorm erupted.

But the tanker was slow to sink in Gulf Stream water only 60 feet deep.

The German sub surfaced and shelled the stricken, flaming tanker with her deck gun and machinegun fire.

Even though several boats from shore attempted rescue, 19 of the 48 crewmen and officers aboard the tanker were killed in the torpedo explosion, shot, or drowned.



**The SS GulfAmerica burned for days and finally sank on April 16<sup>th</sup>.  
The wreck is now a fishing reef.**



**FOR VICTORY**



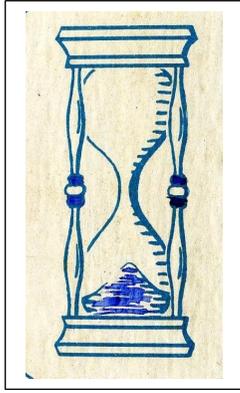
*BUY*

**WAR  
BONDS**

*and*

**STAMPS**

**1942 Wall Poster from the halls of Lee High School**



## APRIL DIARY ENTRIES

### APRIL 1 - Wednesday

So another month has come — that cuts down the school days by one. Glory! But I 'm sick of the whole thing! I used to want to finish school so I could go to college - now I want to finish so I'll be free for awhile! Maybe I'll snap out of this lethargy - anyhow, it better be soon or I won't be graduating!

Charlotte called today to say she can't go (the operetta, I mean) after all. Billy's bringing some new cadets home so she wants to be there for dinner. But she'll probably come in to spend the nite.

Pa, Dar, & Miss Madge came over for dinner again & we had T-bone steaks -marvelous!

No homework done - I'm worried.

### APRIL 2 - Thursday

Sarah, Margaret, Tish, Lu & I went to the operetta "The Sorcerer" over at the school tonite & it really was quite good. I had the car so we drove out to Popular Point afterward to get a chocolate malted.

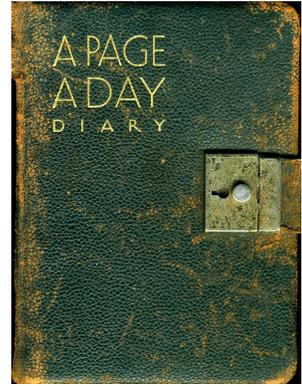


When we got home Charlotte was here - she didn't go because Billy took some cadets home to dinner - so we went to bed & talked 'til nearly 3:00!

I am writing this on Saturday because I had to hide this from Lu & Charlotte - they spent tonite with me

Lu got my diary when she came & hid it in the suitcase so she & Charlotte could read it when we went to bed,

But I found it & hid it in my dollhouse!



### **Good Friday - April 3- Friday**

Tonite the three of us spent the nite out with Charlotte (I'm writing this on Saturday.) We got up this morning & went downtown to get the car from the lot where Agnes left it. Then we drove to the farm, picked up Annie & drove into South Jax to buy the Skinner groceries. After taking Annie & the groceries back to the farm we came back into town & bought the material for my collar. We got home for lunch about 2:00 & then went to the last half hour of the Good Friday service. When we came home we lay down for a few minutes then Charlotte washed my hair. And we actually got to the farm before supper even ater stopping at Lu's for her to pack.

### **APRIL 4 - Saturday**

We struggled out of bed this morning about 10, but Charlotte was late to her music lesson anyway. While she was taking it Lu & I went to buy my Easter shoes - blue & white with a little bow on the toe. Then we met Charlotte & she bought herself some play shoes. We went to see "Andy Hardy's Courtship" - it was simply darling - and then got lunch afterward about 4:00. Then the girls made me buy a girdle! And I



didn't like it at all! Charlie hasn't called me all week & I'm sort of worried. I really expected him to phone, after all! Now I'm dying for fear he'll forget to come for me tomorrow!

### **EASTER, APRIL 5 - Sunday**

For the first time in my life I received a corsage from a boy - Charlie sent me one of pink roses for Easter. I got up about nine & was eating breakfast when Mama got back from church a few minutes later. So she took it out of the icebox & gave it to me - it came last nite.

Then he came for me & we went to church together & I really think I looked rather nice. Tonite we went to see "The Vanishing Virginian". He didn't have enough money so we walked out to his house to get some. I wasn't exactly sure whether I should go, but I did, & sat on the porch while he went to get it. But I don't think he'll ask me for another date, probably never, because tonite he got the taxi to wait for him & didn't even come in.

### **APRIL 6 - Monday**

Today has been quite a day. Tish & I went down to work so we had regular grandstand seats for the Army Day Parade. Then this afternoon we went down town with Mrs. Hoffman to get a present for the Service League to give Mrs. Lockhart because she's going away. We got a gold thimble engraved with her name. Then tonite we had an awful mix-up! Mr. Mac tho't we should go over in a body to tell her good-by, but Tish & Mrs. Croom didn't think we should go because Mrs. Lockhart's so tired & nervous from packing. Well, in the end, all but Tish & Mrs. Croom went, & I'm really glad we did. But Tish got awfully upset, & by the time I'd heard all the arguing I was so nervous I was about to weep! It was agony!

### **APRIL 7 - Tuesday**



Today went along about as usual. Nothing particular happened in school, and this afternoon I practiced and messed with my plants.

After supper Margaret & I went for a walk & sat by the river for awhile. The water was quite rough - but so beautiful! The waves came breaking over the rocks at the foot of the bulkhead - how I long to be able to paint when I see scenes like that one!

### **APRIL 8 - Wednesday**

Today has definitely not been exciting in any way, shape, or form - it's been positively lifeless!

School - then this afternoon over at the church for awhile for the May Fete practice. (I'm to play for one of the groups) - then practice, then homework. O! Boredom!

I haven't yet made up any of my homemaking or my French. I'll probably not make honor roll any more the rest of this year - and frankly, I don't even care. I used to want to be top all the time - but I don't seem to have any pride in that at all anymore!

### **APRIL 9 - Thursday**

Today has seemed awfully hot to be the first part of April. I took tennis this afternoon fifth period & I was so hot I tho't I would roast! I felt horribly droopy for English next period. Of course this afternoon I had my music lesson, but Jane was late so I had half of mine, then she had hers, & then I finished mine. It was quite a mix-up. I spent the evening with Tish - first we took a walk & then went over to her house & just sat around & talked with the rest of the family. When Tish & I were alone I'm afraid I talked an awful lot about Charlie. I shall resolve to stop it.

### **APRIL 10 - Friday**



*Everything* today has been quite impromptu. We had a holiday - o joy of joys! - So Tish & I went down to work. Then I went over to the church to play for the little kids to practice & since I had never seen the music before it was rather messy. Then I went over to Tish's for a few minutes - she was having a meeting of the maids in the court - and bro't Lu home & then persuaded her to spend the nite. So now she's arrayed in my pajamas. Tonite Margaret & Tish came over so we went down to the river for a while & then came home & played the piano then went out to Berrier's for a chocolate malted. And Lu - darn her! - found the card from my corsage which I had sworn no one would see. But I'll keep trying anyway.

### APRIL 11 -Saturday

I don't know when I've been so morbid & self-pitying as I was today. I was ready to die & weep over my own grave - really!

Harriet called me to go to a Navy dance tonite down at the George Washington, but I decided not to go.

Lu & I didn't get up 'til late - I didn't go to work - & then we went down & met Charlotte & saw "To the Shores of Tripoli" - it was really good. Then tonite I read my book report - an Oscar Wilde.

### APRIL 12 - Sunday

Bishop Lea began today as our rector - and he's really good! He talked to the Sunday school first, then he preached at church, & tonite he talked to the





Service League. And I really enjoyed him every time, but I think tonite the most.

Billy came in & went to church with Mama & me. I felt quite like something being in church with a cadet!



Tonite Charlie asked me if I were busy & I told him I had so much homework I didn't know where to begin, so he just walked home with me & stayed for a few minutes.

I have had to plan a wardrobe & I sure have made a mess!

### **APRIL 13 - Monday**

I'm really getting worse and worse - I didn't go to school again today. I had a headache & sore throat so I sent my wardrobe in by Tish & then spent my day in bed & just messing around.

Tonite Lu came over & spent the evening with me. Johnny bro't her over when he came over for Scout meeting. We had quite a gab fest but nothing really important came out of it.

This afternoon the baby across the street had a convulsion & you never heard such screams as her mother gave out! Mama went over & took them to the



hospital. But honestly you would have tho't someone was dying! Such screams!

### **APRIL 14 - Tuesday**

I went back to school today and walked right into a big test! Wasn't that horrible? I tho't so, at any rate. I hope I passed it, but I'm not doing so well in math this semester.

I took all my homemaking make-up in, & Miss Sproull said it was "a fine time to be getting it in!" but she took it, anyhow.

But French was a little better -I made one of the two "A's" on the grammar test we had last week.

Lucille spent the evening with me while her parents went to see Bishop & Mrs. Lea. I was supposed to help her with her algebra, but I didn't do much.

### **APRIL 15 - Wednesday**

Tonite I went with Sarah to the University of Florida Glee Club concert over at Lee. It really was awfully good & I enjoyed it a lot.

We got back our papers in geometry today and -joy of joys! - I made 100 %! 12 out of 12! I was so thrilled - it really made me feel a little more worth while.

They gave the French play today. It was quite well done - in fact, I think I liked it better than the Spanish play yesterday, tho' the lighting effects were very good in the operation scene yesterday.

I got angry with Mrs. Croom again today for not being on time when I was supposed to be at the church.

### **APRIL 16 - Thursday**

When I grow up I'm going to be a hermit!

I think that would be the most enjoyable existence possible! I'm supposed to spend tomorrow



nite with Lu & I don't want to go at all! I've promised Mrs. Hawkins to go to the dance at St. John's Saturday nite. & I don't want to go at all!

And I haven't done my homework - & I have scads of it! - so I don't want to go to school tomorrow at all! So there I am - I would in the state of mind I'm in now enjoy a completely solitary existence.

I'm weeping right now & I hate the whole human race - particularly the male of the species

### **APRIL 17-Friday**

I didn't go to school today - it was just pure weakness. I'm going to try to do better -I've decided that, whether or no, I won't miss another day!

I didn't want to go to Lu's tonite, but there wasn't much way to get out of it, so Mama took me over about 6 o'clock. Mary Jo gave us a simply wonderful dinner because it was Lu's birthday - everything from fried chicken to home-made cinnamon rolls! And Johnny showed me his 60,000 bees. Then tonite we went over to the carnival. Lu had to work, but Charlotte & I went around together. It really was better than I had expected except that I met Bill there.

### **APRIL 18 - Saturday**

What a day! I got up this morning & went in to work. Lu said Mary Jo scolded her & Charlotte for being so lazy & told them how sorry she was for me! Then we went to see "The Jungle Book". It really was quite good - a little fantastic, but the colored photography was magnificent



When I got home I had to go down to Five Points to buy the stuff for the Y.P.S.L. breakfast tomorrow - Tish went with me.

Then tonite we went down to the dance at St. John's. I would not have gone except that Mrs. Hawkins called & asked me to go. The same sailor who rushed me before was there & did so again -

he says he's going to write me this week!



### **APRIL 19 - Sunday**

I managed to haul myself out of bed this morning & get to church - even if I was late. Charlie said last week he was coming but he wasn't in church so I was getting all disappointed - and there he was at the door when church was over. He gave me a rose he'd picked & called it a "petunia". When I was setting the table for breakfast the clasp of my watch came loose & the watch dropped on the floor, so Charlie picked it up and put it on his own wrist! Then what a fight I had to get it back!

Mary Frances bro't me a piece of her little brother's birthday cake. We had dinner out at Mandarin with the Wintons because it was Miss Madge's birthday.

### **APRIL 20 - Monday**

This afternoon when I got out of school Mama presented me with my class ring - and it's really all I'd hoped for! I love it! I guess I really should have



gotten a half size larger because it's a trifle too small for my right hand, but I'm going to wear it on my left even if girls aren't supposed to!

At suppertime tonite - after all these weeks & all those refusals, that poor foolish yeoman called & wanted me to go to the show tonite. But of course I said "no". He said I was the "hardest girl to contact he'd ever seen"!

I'm getting worried about school - I'm swamped with English & French make-up that's due Wed. & Thurs.

### **APRIL 21-Tuesday**

Charlie took me tonite to hear Tony Pastor's band, & I really liked it a lot! The drummer was wonderful! And there was a right cute picture on with it. We went early & so got home early - about 10:30, but he didn't leave until 11:30 - because we were arguing. He was trying to persuade me to go to the Y.P.S.L. dance with him this Saturday. But I told him I didn't want to go. That's true, too, but only partially. If I tho't he would pay attention to me all evening, I should love to go, but I know he would probably dance about 3 dances with me & the rest of the time I'd just be a wallflower - and I don't want to do that - so I'm not going.

### **APRIL 22 - Wednesday**

I feel like a heel again - I got a letter from Bob Webber, the sailor from the dance, asking me for a date Saturday nite. So now I have to write him & refuse. It makes me feel awful to do it, but I don't want to date him!

Charlotte came in this afternoon to try on her May Fete dress. It was the first time I'd ever seen her in the Bartram uniform.

I'm afraid I flunked my English test today - it was an awful one & I really didn't know much about it



anyway. And Mr. Lancaster took up our homework in trig today for the first time this 6 weeks - & I hadn't done it!

### APRIL 23 - Thursday

I took seven French tests today and I have five more to take tomorrow - and I don't think I'm going to get it done! Besides that I have an English test to make up & scads of daily English work! I know I'll never get it all done, but I'm going to try to do part, anyway.

Mr. Lancaster embarrassed me again today by saying "When Miss Law first came in here one of her former instructors told me she was a splendid student - sometimes. He said that she was really good except that every now & then she decided to quit studying and then she was horrid! Just like the little girl with the curl on her forehead!" -And there I sat blushing!

### APRIL 24 - Friday

Shock of shocks! Tonite I was supposed to serve at the reception for Bishop & Mrs. Lea, so about 7 O'clock I went up to dress. About 7:10, I was about half undressed - up came Mama to say that Charlie was here! And he had his brother & cousin with him! And believe me, brother Bill is cute! Charlie stood in the receiving line because he's President of the Y.P.S.L., and then afterward he helped us with the serving, but he didn't say anything more about the dance - I had hoped he would, though! I couldn't stand the make-up so I came home at the end of fifth period, but I hope Miss Durrance will let me do it next week.

### APRIL 25 - Saturday

I did an awfully foolish thing tonite - but I'll get to that later. Of course Tish & I went to work, then I met Lu & we went to see "The Male Animal". It was really awfully clever - I nearly split my sides laughing! We messed around for





quite awhile, so it was rather late when we got in. I hoped & hoped that Charlie would call me, but he never did so about 8 o'clock Tish & I went over to Margaret's to try to teach her to dance but it was hopeless - she ain't got rhythm! We left about 10 o'clock & went over to the dance at the church! Wasn't that a stupid thing to do? - I think Charlie tho't so.

### **APRIL 26 - Sunday**

Two people today told me that Charlie was crazy about me - but I have very great doubts about that tonite. He practically ignored me the whole time I was at League, but he was awfully nice to Sarah. I'm afraid he's gone for good this time - I don't think the little brother thinks much of me.

We started having the opening exercises of Sunday School in the church today. I was late, but my little girls greeted me quite gaily - they really are darling!

I went to church with Sarah & then this afternoon I spent my time typing up my old minutes & getting my books in shape.

### **APRIL 27 - Monday**

Today has really been an agonizing day. First we went to school at 8:15 & took college placement exams steadily from 8:30 to 2 o'clock, with a ten-minutes intermission between the third & fourth, and twenty minutes for lunch between the fifth & sixth. Glory! But I was worn out - I got a lovely headache & was nervous as a kitten all morning, then tired as heck all afternoon.



Lee's Cafeteria is packed with hungry students from 11:40 until 1:00 o'clock every day. Dining room seats only 320, so students are dismissed for lunch at five minute intervals, have 20 minutes to eat. Students who live near school are allowed to go home for lunch.

### Lee H.S. Cafeteria Rush

Then tonite Tish, Rosemary, & I went over to Margaret's to play bridge. Not only does playing with Rosemary & Margaret bore me to tears, but their conversation - particularly the tones of their voices - simply curdles me!

#### **APRIL 28 - Tuesday**

I have really worked today! And tho' I'm tired as heck tonite it's really a wonderful tiredness - not the kind you get from books.

This morning I slept late & then Mama & I went down to Knaeurs's to get some paint for our porch chairs. We rode all over "nigger town" looking for someone to recane the chairs & finally found someone. So this afternoon I painted a wooden chair & myself to boot & even managed to squeeze in an hour & a half of practice! Tonite I went walking with Tish & then came home & read.

#### **APRIL 29 - Wednesday**

The combination of paint & heat & tiredness made me absolutely sick today - I really was nauseated! But I did manage to get the swing painted & 2 hours of practicing done. But I really am weary tonite. And was I dirty!



Lu called today and I was really rather surprised when she asked me if I could get her a pass for the St. John's dances. I said I would & that I would go down with her, but I didn't tell her that I usually have a very drippy time down there. I just wish I could be popular & meet a really nice cadet who liked me. Glory! That would be wonderful!

### **APRIL 30 - Thursday**

This has been a rather dull day, but a rather fatiguing one, too. Tish & I worked this morning & we saw the Navy Relief Day Parade, but the planes flying over in formation were magnificent! I spent this afternoon with Mrs. Orchard practicing my Valse Brillante for the Rally Monday nite. Mrs. Orchard says I play it beautifully, but personally, I think I do a pretty bum job of it.

Tonite I sat up 'til all hours reading MacCauley's Life of Samuel Johnson, & I must admit I've really enjoyed it. But the bad part of it is that I haven't done any of my other homework or any of my make-up work that's got to go in tomorrow. Monday I start with a clean slate on my last six weeks at Lee, & I'm going to try - honest-to-gosh - to keep up with my work & do a better job. I really am ashamed of my scholastic record as a high senior. But I just don't know what's wrong with me - I just feel completely lethargic. I don't even care when I make a bum grade & I know it's completely impossible for me to make the semester honor roll & I did so want to have "honor student" after my name in the Annual!

**MAY, 1942**



**Sunk by Japanese bombs in the Coral Sea, the *USS Lexington* carried 1730 men and 169 officers.**

Photo # NH 95573 Bomb damage on USS Yorktown, Battle of Coral Sea



**Battle damage aboard the *USS Yorktown* as Japanese bombs penetrated the steel deck plates.  
Yet the carrier returned to fight again within a month**





## MAY 1942 NEWS EVENTS

During the Battle Of The Coral Sea, May 4-8<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Edward O'Hare shot down five Japanese bombers which were attacking the . aircraft carrier *USS Lexington*. His action earned the Congressional Medal Of Honor. Later in the war, the enemy killed Lt. O'Hare. Chicago's O'Hare International Airport is named in the hero's honor.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, a German U-boat entered the St. Lawrence River in Canada and torpedoed a merchant ship.

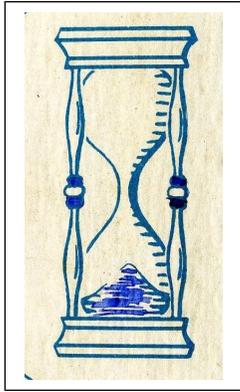
On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May the carrier *USS Yorktown*, which was badly damaged in the Coral Sea, limped into Pearl harbor for extensive repairs; three days later the ship is seaworthy and sails into battle again.

In just 18 minutes on May 29<sup>th</sup>, at Decca Records, Bing Crosby recorded Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, which became the most popular record of all time.

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, Japanese midget submarines sank cargo ships in Sydney Harbor, Australia.



**Flanked by her parents, Percy & Nan Law, in 1941, Eleanor was crowned May Queen at the Church of the Good Shepherd's May Fete.**



## MAY DIARY ENTRIES

### **MAY 1 - Friday**

I got all the way to school today, but I felt so bum & the tho't of all those make-up tests made me feel worse, so I just turned around & came home. I really did feel bad all day, too - cramps; but maybe I'll feel all right for the rally Monday nite - I hope! This afternoon was the May Fete practice so I had to go over there to play for the "Bunnies" & it really was sort of fun playing over the loud speakers. Lu was there so she came home with me & we went around to the drugstore for a cone before she went home. Then Charlotte came in about 5:30 to try on her dress & stayed for the nite. Tonite we went over to Dar's to help pop corn for their chapter's booth tomorrow & it really was sort of fun. I'm feeling better tonite.

Charlotte & Lu are both just dying to meet Charlie - and I'm afraid they're both going to be disappointed. This afternoon Lucille said he was "all right" in a sort of disparaging tone. But I'm really the one who should be disappointed, because he hasn't called me all week & he was awfully airy-fairy Sunday nite. I wish it didn't bother me so much when he pays



no attention to me. I'm afraid he's gone for good this time, but O! I hope not!

### **MAY 2 - Saturday**

This afternoon was the May Fete & it was lovely! -and Tish made a very pretty queen! This morning I went over to the park & helped Inez decorate her booth. Then of course this P.M. I went over to the Fete & took two rolls of films - I do hope they come out! Afterwards Lu, Charlotte, & Frances Taylor (Mother Goose) came over & we rode out to Pop Berrier's to get a frosted malted. We had to go get groceries for mother & when we stopped at the store we left Frances in the car & the soda jerk came out & asked her what my name was - said I was awfully cute! Ain't that sumpin'? But Tish was such a lovely queen & I'm so glad!

### **MAY 3 - Sunday**

I have completely wasted today & done absolutely no homework whatever, so I'm still afraid to go back to school, but I'm going whither or no.

Sunday school this morning & then church afterward with Sarah, but nothing particular happened.

This afternoon I played bridge with Elizabeth, Sandy, & her mother, Mrs. Steward. It wasn't particularly interesting because we lost, and I met one of Sandy's cadets & he wasn't interesting either.

Y.P.S.L. tonite & then walking with Sarah. Charlie is definitely out of the picture - he's obviously dropping me & it's not pleasant!

### **MAY 4- Monday**



Whew! What a day! Report cards came out today, & Miss Durrance & Mrs. Eccles were nice enough to hold up my grades 'til I finish my make-up, but Mr. Lancaster gave me a "C"- darn him!

Then tonite I had to play in the "student concert" at the Friday Musicale, but before that, I went to the committee meeting to select a slate of officers for Y.P.S.L. And guess

what! They're going to put me up for President! But I haven't a chance in the world to get it, so I'm not worried. The "concert" went better than I expected but I didn't play as well as I do at home.



### **MAY 5 - Tuesday**

School trudged along fairly well today - at least I did part of my homework before I got to school.

Tonite Gama & Uncle Fred came over to dinner & stayed 'til about ten so I haven't done my homework tonite.

After dinner I went to walk with Tish & Margaret. And poor Margaret is in rather desperate straits. She obviously is crazier about Russel than she ought be & Tish just as obviously dislikes Russel. So Margaret is going to drop the poor drip so she'll "get back in Tish's good graces". And she'll be miserable without him. Personally, I think she's being rather foolish about it.



## Red Letter Day MAY 6 - Wednesday

The most wonderful thing that has ever happened to me happened today! I'm Valedictorian of the 1942 class of Robert EL Lee!!!!

And Mr. Gilbert said that our class had a higher median than any other which had ever graduated from Lee.

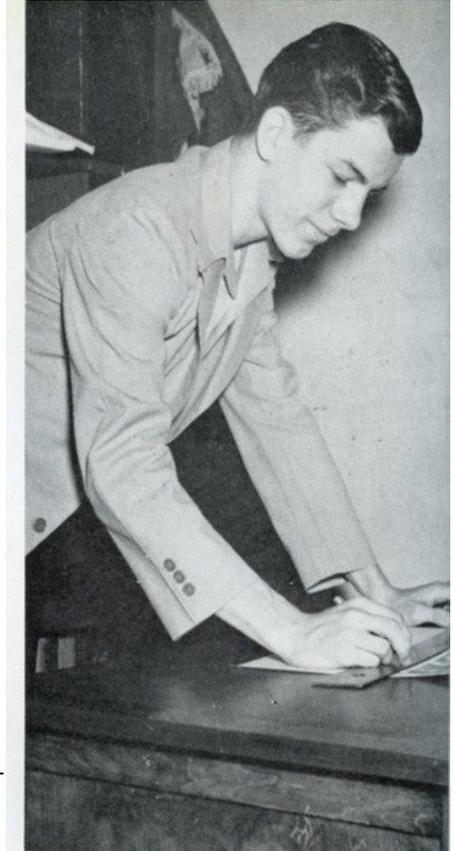
O! I'm so thrilled - I've just been walking on rosy clouds all day & I simply can't talk about anything else!

But poor Robert Ross, who's been working all these years to get it must be awfully disappointed because he only got Salutatorian while I, who just breezed merrily thru my high school days, ranked first!

O! It was such a wonderful shock! Tish says I look deliriously hilarious!

## MAY 7 - Thursday

I have a magnificent stiff neck & I'm tired as heck because I didn't sleep last nite - but I'm still blissfully happy. This afternoon they had the test for the French medal, but I didn't go back to take it. I'm a little bit afraid that Mrs. Eccles will be angry, but I can't help it now. Today when I went up to Miss Durrance to say my memory work she said, "Sit here &



Versatile Salutatorian of the Senior Class, Robert Ross, is No. 1 man on the Lee tennis team and Senior Editor of the BLUE and GRAY.



hear the rest of them - I have to go out of the room for a minute". So I did. It was rather fun but I felt awfully silly.

The rest of the day was rather usual except that Mrs. Eccles made a speech over me & said what a compliment it was that everyone was surprised that I got Valedictorian, because most girls with brains flaunted the fact in everyone's face.

### MAY 8 - Friday

Tish & I went down this afternoon to see "Reap the Wild Wind", and it was quite good -beautiful technicolor; but it didn't measure up to the book. We were a little late getting home, & then I decided to wash my hair. Well, with the weather as rainy as it is, it took ages to get day, so here I am getting to bed at 11:30!

School was about as usual & nothing else of particular interest happened except that Mrs. Spalding called Mama to congratulate me - pretty white of her, I think.

### MAY 9 - Saturday

I didn't get down to work 'til late this morning because - well, frankly, I overslept. Of course I met Lu & Charlotte for lunch & then we went to see "King's Row". It was very well done - the acting & the direction - but it was one of the most morbid pictures I've ever seen! It left me feeling all tense inside, but it was a good show.

I did some shopping afterward - looking at patterns, selecting my calling cards for graduation, etc. I got some lovely pink embroidered chambray for the Baccalaureate Sermon. Lu came





home with me & spent the nite. We were supposed to go to the Cadet dance at the church tonite but it has been postponed.

### **MAY 10-Sunday**

Tonite I had the last date I'll have in a long time with Charlie; and this afternoon we went to the Farm for the last time in a long while.

Of course Sunday School & Church were about as usual except that Lu was with me; & she stayed for dinner & then we took her home on the way back from the farm.

Tonite we had election of officers in League & I'm 1<sup>st</sup> vice president.

Afterwards Charlie asked me if I were busy & when I said "no" he asked me to "come get some ice cream". So Hansford, Leon, the Hartman girls, & Charlie & I all went riding around & finally out to "Pop Berrier's". They were all awfully silly, & I really was ashamed to be with them.

I wish Charlie hadn't gotten with that crowd because I really sort of liked him before, & now he rather disgusts me.

### **MAY 11 - Monday**

This afternoon Mama & I went "college-shopping". It really was quite thrilling!

We got a luscious aqua tweed 3-piece suit - the first one I tried on - I really fell in love with it! Then we got some white pique for a short dress, & looked at patterns for my graduation dress. I overslept this morning - for some reason I couldn't sleep last nite - so I skipped first period & when I went in Mrs. Gulp congratulated me on my "splendid high-school record".

### **MAY 12 - Tuesday**



Today was the first gas rationing day, so we were supposed to get out at 1:15. Instead of having six short periods, we had four of regular length, so, since we only have Spanish with no credit 4<sup>n</sup> period, Elizabeth & I just walked out of school at 12:15. It really was a wonderful feeling!

Lu phoned from school so I met her & Sarah downtown & the three of us went to see "My Gal Sal" - Sarah's treat. It really was pretty good.



**Rita Hayworth starring in *My Gal Sal*.**



I did an amazing thing before supper - I actually went sound asleep! I was quite surprised! Mama is sure that I have low blood pressure or that I'm about to have T.B. or something horrible, so she wants to take me down to the doctor's.

### **MAY 13 - Wednesday**

We got out early again today - a sans English week is really rather wonderful! Yesterday Mrs. Eccles wasn't there so we just left Spanish, but today we had to ask if we could go, & Mrs. Eccles was really right cute. She said she didn't have any authority to dismiss us, but if she didn't see us leave, she wouldn't report us. So out we went!

I was supposed to go over to Tish's this afternoon, but she went shopping so Mama & I went down town to look at graduation patterns.

Then tonite I went walking with Margaret & Tish & we went swinging in the park. It's after 11:00 now & I'm going to bed sans homework!

### **MAY 14 - Thursday**

Life is full of strange experiences. Tonite Elizabeth, Tish, & I went out to Camp Blanding with about 40 other girls - not my idea of a choice bunch - to a dinner dance. I'll never go again because I definitely didn't have a good time, but I'm glad I went because I had never before seen Blanding. I knew it was big, but not as huge as it was! Its size simply amazed me - it just seemed to spread out in all directions. Some of the buildings were painted what they said was "the perfect camouflage" but they really just look like huge anemic jersey cows. I ate dinner in the mess hall of "Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Engineers", & the food was really good, if the dancing wasn't.



**Grim, no-nonsense chaperones line up in Riverside Park to escort girls to a dance at Camp Blanding—and safely home again.**

### **MAY 15 - Friday**

I had decided that Charlie had dropped me completely & was trying to decide whether I would content myself with a dateless existence or break down & go with some of these uniformed drips, when - tonite Charlie called me! All he did was congratulate me on being Valedictorian - he didn't even mention a date - but at least I know he's thinking of me a little.

I didn't go to school today - I was too dead from last nite - & I have decided no more school-nite adventures. I'll stick to weekends or not at all - it will probably be the latter. The May Fete pictures came but they're not very good.

### **MAY 16 - Saturday**

Today has really been full. I left the house with Dar at 8:00 & didn't get home 'til 6:20! But I did accomplish something. I worked, & then Lu & I saw "All This And Heaven Too" - it was awfully good; I wept for the first time in a year!



Then I got my sample cedar chest from Haverty's & the pattern & material for my graduation - white eyelet pique.



**Haverty's Furniture, A long-time Jacksonville favorite.**

I was dying to have a date tonite just to show Charlie - I even asked Sandy to get me one - she said Lester would call me but he never did. Anyway I went over to the Preparation Service at the Church at 7:00 & Charlie walked home with me, but that was all. I hope he decides to give me his picture.

### **MAY 17 - Sunday**

Today has been such a wonderful day that I'm afraid Charlie will ignore me for quite a while to make up for it!

I got up & went to Corporate Communion & then at breakfast I sat between Bishop Lea & Cooper with Charlie right across. After Sunday School Daddy took Mama & me for a ride, & then for a visit to Aunt Alice Coleman. I took a nap after dinner & about 3:20 I had gotten up & was dressing when Mama came up & said "I didn't know you had a date". & I said, "I didn't either".



It was Charlie and he gave me his picture! We went over on the bus to Duval Assembly with some of the others. Afterward Charlie, Sarah, & I walked from St. Mary's to town & then took a taxi to our house.



**St. Mary's Episcopal Church was built in 1912 at 1918 North Laura St..**

Mama was fixing supper for the 3 of us - she & Daddy had already eaten - when Billy came in, so Sarah, Billie, Charlie & I ate supper together. What a mixture! But it was fun & I've had a glorious day!

### **MAY 18 - Monday**

School wasn't really as bad as I tho't it would be. Tish & I spent the afternoon down by the river just talking. She said one thing rather amazing - that it was very obvious that Charlie was always very much aware of the fact when I entered a room where he was! But I still don't think he likes me as much as he used to. Tonite I actually did a wee bit of homework!

### **MAY 19 - Tuesday**



My procrastination is catching up with me - and am I in a mess! Nearly two weeks ago Mr. Lancaster told us that we had to make graphs of the six trigonometric functions, and I, like a fool, put them off 'til the last minute - tonite. So I've been working like a dog - we had to go to Dar's to dinner so I got a late start - all evening, & I'm going to have to get up early tomorrow because I've only done two of them!

Today has really been a black day. We had an English test and I didn't even know half the stuff it was on! I hope I didn't flunk it, but I know I've never done worse on an English test.

School is getting me down!

### **MAY 20 - Wednesday**

I didn't get to school today again. It all started because I hadn't finished my graphs, but I really did feel bad so we went to see the doctor. He said I had a slight inflammation of the colon which might result in colitis if I wasn't careful. So he gave me some horrid stuff to take before meals. And then he gave me some pills to take for my "nervousness" (wet hands).

This afternoon I took the test for the French medal. I didn't feel like taking it, & I sure didn't want to, but Mrs. Eccles said I simply had to because I'm such a splendid language student. And she actually thinks so & expects me to get it! How I wish I really were a "splendid" language student!

### **MAY 21 - Thursday**

I went to the Senior class play tonite - and it was darling! I ushered & so I got in free -but I don't know when I've ever enjoyed a high school play more! But thing that really amazed me was Mr. Bowman. He's always seemed like such a shy little man - but tonite he said, "Haven't you lost some weight, Eleanor? You're no bigger than that, now!" (And he illustrated with his hand.) "What's the matter; are you in love?"



Now wasn't that the most amazingly funny thing you've ever heard?

Charlotte called tonite & wants to come in Sat. nite so she can see Charlie Sun. But I'm afraid for her to come, because since he's been rushing Sarah, he doesn't even notice me.

### **MAY 22 - Friday**

Today has been rather ordinary. School, of course; then this afternoon I typed my old minutes for league; then after dinner Tish & I went for a walk & then came home & sat around. We went down to the old dock on the river during our "walk" & sat there & watched the changes in the most gorgeous cloud formations I've ever seen. They reminded me of "Kubla Khan" - O! how I wish I could write poetry! I would give anything for that gift! Mrs. Orchard said yesterday that I was the most "polished" pianist of all the students she'd ever had. That was quite a thrilling shock, but I still don't feel that I can play.

### **MAY 23 - Saturday**

Honestly, I have never spent a crazier evening!

Of course, Tish, & I went to work, & then Charlotte, Lu, & I went to see "Tortilla Flat" -a very good character portrayal.

Then tonite Lu & Charlotte came home to stay so the three of us went over to the "Youth Rally". They met the famous Charlie & they were simply thrilled with Bishop Lea. Neil Evans asked me for a date afterward & the fact that the girls were here didn't daunt him.

So we four, with Cooper & his date, & Tish & Elva Ann Hardman tagging along too, went down to Lane's & then just walked around 'til about 11:00. At Charlotte's suggestion we yelled at some sailors & one came & walked with us!!

### **MAY 24 - Sunday**



Glory! What a day! Sunday school & church were about the same except that I went with Charlotte & Lu instead of Sarah. Then this afternoon we went to see Henry & Jane's day-old offspring - and she's darling! Tonite Neal Evans came by for me & we went to Y.P.S.L. But during the meeting Sarah fell off the roof & it came thru! So I went dashing home & got her a coat & the car & took her home. On the way back I rode by the church & looked for Neal but I didn't see him anywhere so I drove down Park St. & blew at Charlie & some boys. Well, they yelled to me to stop, so I did, & they asked me to go to Lane's with them. So after we took the car home I went to Lane's with 3 boys - Charlie, Billy Mac, & Cooper & came home with 3 - Charlie, Sam Hardman, & Cooper. We left the other 2 at the bus stop & Charlie came home with me & we sat in the swing & talked 'til 11:00! Ah, glory!

### **MAY 25 - Monday**

Neal has been weighing on my conscience ever since last nite - I don't want him hanging around because he's younger than I am, but then, I don't want to hurt his feelings because Miss Madge asked me to be nice to him. Anyway when we were driving home I saw him on his bicycle so I blew & pulled over to the curb & explained about last nite & I hope got things straightened out without hurting his feelings. I really had a better time without him last nite, anyway!

### **MAY 26 - Tuesday**

I was towed on a bicycle down the middle of Post Street this evening! There was an executive meeting of the Y.P.S.L. over at the Church tonite, so about 7:00 I was almost ready to go when someone yelled at the door, "Anybody home?" Mama tho't it was Uncle Fred because he & Aunt Alice Elwes & the Colemans were supposed to come over to celebrate Aunt Alice E's birthday. But it was Charlie with Jimmy Drummond's bicycle! So I let him tow me over there & when I got there it was obvious that everyone was expecting us



but that everyone was surprised that I had allowed myself to ride.

### **MAY 27 - Wednesday**

I didn't go to school today & even tho I had all kinds of wonderful plans for catching up on my work, nothing came of them. I fell off the roof last nite - I was awfully glad of that because I tho't it was going to happen on class nite & that would have been heck! So that's one reason why I feel so mopey but I haven't had any energy for weeks. And now with my Valedictory address & my make-up work all hanging over me like thunderheads, I just feel like a drowning man with no sign of help. Tish told me today that Betty Hendry had confided to her that she was one jump ahead of me - she asked Charlie to the prom.

### **MAY 28 - Thursday**

I am feeling very morbid tonite. Things are piling up so that they're positively oppressive. I feel hemmed in on all sides - like a caged animal. And it's all my own fault because I've put off so much.

I got my tickets for graduation today & by mistake they gave me 8 instead of 7, so Miss Ferguson said just to keep the extra one. Everyone seems to think I should give one to Charlie. Mama & I have a bet up over whether or not he's going to give me a present. (I'm on the "no" side tho' I'll admit it would be awfully nice if he did) Mr. Lancaster said today he was going to give me a "D" in trig.

### **MAY 29 - Friday**

I did a rather queer thing today - I skipped second & third periods but was there for first, fourth, fifth, & sixth. Wasn't that a bit unusual?

Today has been immensely dull - I'll be so glad when school is all over. This afternoon I had my hair washed & set & then after supper I went to walk with Margaret & got in the doghouse with mother for not getting home 'til quarter to nine. I should have written



my valedictory tonite, but I read "Dragon Seed" instead. I just can't seem to get started on that speech.

I must quit talking & thinking so much about Charlie - it's disgraceful!

### **MAY 30 - Saturday**

Charlie called me tonite - & I got so embarrassed! I asked him gaily if he had gone to the prom & he said sullenly, "No, who told you I was?" Then I had to tell him Tish & he guessed Betty had told her & he said he'd called her & broken the date! And did I feel silly asking him about it! Anyway, he asked me for a date tomorrow afternoon & I gave it to him. But now I've remembered the Baccalaureate Service tomorrow so I guess I'll have to break it. I went



to the Senior Girls' Luncheon today with Nancy down at the Seminole & then spent the afternoon walking around town with her. I got myself almost hysterical over my Valedictory tonite, too.

### **MAY 31 - Sunday**

This has really been one big day! This afternoon was the Baccalaureate Service. We had it in Good Shepherd & I was so glad. It really was a lovely service, too. Tonite, tho' I had intended to go to the Elwes' for a waffle supper (but Gay has whooping cough), I went to Y.P.S.L. instead. This morning I went



to church with Sam Hardman & then afterward I went to the drugstore with Charlie & he walked home with me & I broke the date for this afternoon. But a little while before Y.P.S.L. he called & asked me to go to the show with him afterward. So I did & it was cute! - "Ship Ahoy".

He didn't leave 'til nearly twelve. I know as well as anyone that Charlie runs around with lots of other girls & I know I'm awfully silly, but I still get shivers when he squeezes my hand in the show & he insisted upon holding it steadily during the thing tonite. He says he's going to give me my flowers for graduation & a present besides, but I've bet Mama that I won't get the present. I gave him a ticket to graduation, anyway, in spite of Daddy's objections, but I sure hope he doesn't do me like he did Betty! He claims I'm the most attractive girl he's ever met but I simply don't believe that because if he did mean it, wouldn't he call oftener?



## **JUNE 1942 NEWS EVENTS**

By June 1st reports arrived that gas is being used to kill the Jews sent to "the East". Before year's end Nazis exterminated thousands of Jews all over Europe.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Japan launched air raids against Alaska in the Battle of Dutch Harbor, beginning the Aleutian Islands Campaign.

In the Pacific on June 7<sup>th</sup>, six months to the day since the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, the Battle of Midway began when the Japanese navy attacked Midway thinking the US forces would quickly be wiped out but due to clever reconnaissance and by letting the Japanese believe there would be little resistance, the US was able to send 55 U.S. dive-bombers which sank three of the four Japanese carriers, all cluttered with aircraft and fuel. The attack on Midway resulted in the loss of 322 aircraft and 3,500 men from the Japanese Navy. Midway is viewed as a turning point in the Pacific war.

Anne Frank, a Jewish Dutch girl, began writing her diary on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Her *Diary Of A Young Girl* became one of the world's most widely read books. It was translated into more than 60 languages.

### **Nazi Spies Land In Jacksonville**

Just before dawn on June 17, 1942, a German submarine, *U-584*, landed a team of spies with waterproof boxes packed with explosives on Ponte Vedra Beach

Their mission: to explode bombs in crowded places, movie theatres, bus and railway terminals, department stores.

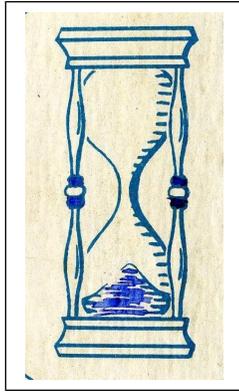
They carried fake writing pens filled with sulphuric acid, an incendiary device with timer to break a glass capsule and ignite intense fires. The team hid their equipment in the sand and made their way to Jacksonville's Union Station to board trains and scatter to other cities to sabotage American economic targets including hydro-electric plants, railway stations, and other key US targets.

Within seven days the FBI arrested the Jacksonville team and another team which had landed in New York. They were tried on July 8<sup>th</sup> and electrocuted on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

That summer the FBI conducted 67 raids capturing enemy sympathizers in and around Jacksonville.

"One was reported to have in his possession seven rifles, dynamite and 150 rounds of ammunition. Another had a short-wave receiving set he attempted to conceal after learning of possible action by the FBI....The raids netted 32 guns, 30 cameras, 20 radios, 290 rounds of ammunition, eight dynamite caps, German propaganda, maps and charts and assorted blackjacks and knives, the FBI said."

On June 18<sup>th</sup> President Roosevelt authorized the Manhattan Project to build an Atomic Bomb which would end the war..... --jwc



## JUNE DIARY ENTRIES

### **JUNE 1 - Monday**

Today has been horrible! Except first period - Mrs. Eccles told me then that I had won the Spanish award & that really was a surprise! But second period I got called down to Mrs. Gulp's & she & Miss Ferguson gave me hail Columbia for not having my speech ready. So I finally wrote a very bad one fourth period & took it down to Miss Durrance as they told me to. Well, she very obviously didn't approve, so I took it to Miss Ferguson & she & Mrs. Gulp took it apart. I cut gym & studied fifth period for a horrible English test sixth period. But fourth period I wept gallons on Mrs. Eccles' & Elizabeth's shoulders. O! But I felt as bad as the speech!

### **JUNE 2 - Tuesday**

Tonite I gave my Valedictory. It really wasn't half as bad as I had expected; I got awfully nervous beforehand but I felt much calmer when I actually got up. I got a medal for being Valedictorian, and the Spanish award - a book. And of course it was all very thrilling sitting up on the stage at class nite.



Charlie phoned twice today about the flowers for Graduation - once this morning & talked to Mama & again before dinner & talked to me. I'm afraid I shut off too quickly tonite but I hope he's not angry. Poor Margaret, the Class Historian had high fever & couldn't be there.

### **JUNE 3 - Wednesday**

Charlie didn't call today. He said Sunday that he would but I suppose yesterday's calls were supposed to take the place. Still, I hope I haven't hurt his feelings or made him angry. Jerry told Mama yesterday that he was crazy about me but I don't believe it for if he were he'd pay more attention to me.

I went to school for an hour at noon to do some Spanish make-up & then we ate dinner over at Dar's. This afternoon Tish & I went down to see Margaret & she looks pretty well. Tonite Tish wanted me to go walking with her & Betty Hendry but I had the water all hot to wash my hair so I didn't go.

### **JUNE 4 -Thursday**

Charlie came across today with a graduation present tho' I still feel that he was sort of rail-roaded into it. We had an air-raid practice & just as the sirens were blowing for it to begin he blew in! Dar & Madge had gotten caught here too, so we all sat in the dark & talked. Every time we've had one of these practice air-raids I've been with Charlie - the last time was during my first date with him & we danced thru it. Afterwards Mama, Daddy, Dar, Madge & I went down to the depot to get Aunt Katie. I finally got all my work made up this morning (along with the graduation practice.)

### **JUNE 5 - Friday**

This has been the craziest graduation Jacksonville has ever seen! We were all lined up ready to march in - in fact, we had gotten out to the end of



the bleachers where the procession was to start when promptly at seven it began to rain! And then we really had a deluge! Everyone jammed into the school & they finally announced that we'll try again tomorrow nite. Charlie rescued me from the rush of people & I finally got out to the car wearing his coat. We all came home & then over to Dar's for ice-cream & cake & then back home where Charlie, Lu, - she's spending the nite with me - & I played rummy 'til 11:00.

## **JUNE 6 - Saturday**

Charlie called tonite & said he might not even make it to Y.P.S.L. tomorrow nite because he caught an awful cold last nite. I feel sort of bad because he made me wear his coat so I wouldn't get wet & then he caught cold!

Charlotte came in this morning after her music lesson so she & Lu are both spending the nite with me. They nearly drove me nuts while I was trying to talk to Charlie tonite! We also shopped around & finally made a deposit on a plaid reversible for college.

We went down to see "Juke Girl" this afternoon & I didn't like it very much.



**1942 movie *Juke Girl* starred Ann Sheridan and Ronald Reagan**

### **JUNE 7 - Sunday**

I did something tonite I never tho't I'd do before. Charlie called this afternoon to say that he was too sick to be at League tonite so I would have to conduct the meeting. Well, I did; but then afterward



Sarah decided we'd go see how Charlie was. So, in spite of all my protests a bunch of us went up to his room & took him some ice cream. I was awfully embarrassed but I do wish I had been a little more civil. Anyway, my picture was there, framed. Well we all walked home & then came here for ice cream. We had a wild old time but I think Charlotte & Lu - they're spending the nite here again - had a good time. But I really am worried about Charlie.

### **JUNE 8 - Monday**

I feel better about Charlie today. He called me about noon & said that he hadn't gone to work today but that he was feeling much better. I told him so many times that I was glad he was better that he said, "How many times are you going to tell me that?" But I am glad he's better!

Tish, Sandy, & I went to a Phi Mu Sorority Tea this afternoon. It was a rather drippy affair & I definitely was not a hit, but I don't expect any bids next fall anyway, so it doesn't matter. Tonite we went to hear Alice Jr. sing in a recital & she really was good.

### **JUNE 9 - Tuesday**

This morning I went down to work - extra work for Mr. Hillyer, 'cause Tish & I have lost our tariff-filing job. And this afternoon I practiced & then tonite Mama & I went over to the Sunday School Teachers Dinner at the Church.

I'm beginning to worry about my reputation! Sunday nite Betty Evans told Lu she heard I sure did know how to kiss! And tonite Sam Hardman said he'd heard I'd been teaching Cooper bad habits! I don't know how all that got around because of course I've let Cooper put his arm around me once or twice but he's so much younger than I am & it was all in fun anyway but I swear I haven't kissed anybody!

O! Happy Day!

### **JUNE 10 - Wednesday**



Charlie told me tonite that he loved me. He begged me to believe him. He has said before that he was crazy about me & that he admired me but tonite was the first time he ever said outright "I love you". He said it was the first time he's ever fallen in love but I still am not sure whether I believe him even tho' I was awfully thrilled to hear him say it. The Y.P.S.L. went in swimming tonite & it was loads of fun & then about 9:30 we began dancing. But about 10 o'clock Bishop made us stop because he didn't like the music! So Mrs. Johnson rode us out to Charlie's so he could return the juke & records & then he & I walked to Lane's & then home here to Pa's.

### **JUNE 11 - Thursday**

This morning I had my music lesson & Mrs. Orchard bro't me a volume of Beethoven's Sonatas for my graduation present. It really is a gorgeous thing but she shouldn't have spent so much for me. It brings my presents up to 47. That sure is more than I expected! Otherwise today I've done nothing but just mess around & read Ivanhoe. I'm not as elated as I was last nite. When Charlie called me yesterday afternoon he said he would call me again today but he didn't do it. I didn't really expect him to, because he does have choir practice tonite, but --. I'm afraid now that he'll just ignore me Sunday but O! I hope not!

### **JUNE 12 - Friday**

Charlie called me twice tonite & I was out with Tish! Finally the second time he asked Mama if she knew whether I were busy tomorrow nite. She told him I was going to the cadet dance & he just said, "Oh," but she said he sounded like he didn't like the idea particularly. Now I'm so afraid he'll just drop me & I did so want a date with him before camp. Oh, I hope he'll call me again or something!

I have never eaten so much in all my life as I did tonite. Before dinner I went with Lu & Johnny to see the boat & we got a frosted malted, then Pa brought T-



bones for dinner so of course I stuffed myself & then afterward at the Croom's we had ice cream cones!

## **JUNE 13 - Saturday**

Tonite was the drippiest cadet dance I've ever gone to! There were about 2 girls to every boy & it was such a farce it really was funny! Oh! how I wish I could have had a date with Charlie instead!

This afternoon Charlotte, Lu, & I went shopping and all three of us got huaraches for camp. Theirs are too small & mine are too big!

I'm so afraid Charlie's going to be indifferent tomorrow - in fact I'm practically sure of it! Oh, how I pray that he won't be!



## **JUNE 14 - Sunday**

Well, Charlie's definitely not indifferent, but Charlotte came in this afternoon & went to Y.P.S.L. & he said she was awfully pretty, so now I'm afraid I'm a little



jealous. He walked home with me after Sunday School this morning & then I met him after church (he was in the choir) & we got a coke & then sat on the porch a while & talked. About 6 o'clock we were just sitting around & I looked awful with my hair not combed & no make-up when in he walked! So we went to Y.P.S.L. with him & then afterward a whole bunch of us went down to Lane's. The others left about 10:00, but he stayed 'til 11:30.

### **Camp Weed, Hibernia, Fla., JUNE 15 - Monday**

Well, we - Lu, Charlotte, Ella Weems, & I all in Uncle Ben's car - finally got to Camp. And Charlotte & Tish are group leaders! Isn't that something? And Lu & I are each in one of the other groups. It has rained beautifully, but after all that's just keeping up the camp tradition. I'm with Betty Hendry - of all people! - in a darling little front room that faces the river. I'm crazy about it - even if it is on the third floor. I'm ashamed to say that I was a little jealous of Charlotte's being chosen group leader when I wasn't, but I've gotten over it now & I hope she - or anyone else - didn't notice it.

### **JUNE 16 - Tuesday**

Second day of camp - well, really just the first full day. I'm taking 3 courses - Bible under Mr. Urban, Prayer book under Mr. Chalmers, & Y.P.S.L. Officers under Bishop. They're all good courses - in fact, I think I'm going to like Mr. Urban's course more than any other I've ever taken at Camp.

I wish I could get over the feeling that I have a bad name here. I suppose everyone has forgotten it, but somehow I feel as if they were remembering my first year at Y.P. Camp & thinking of me as "fast".

It's really beautiful here tho' & tonite there's a wonderful wind - I love it all!

### **JUNE 17 - Wednesday**



Camp is really a wonderful place. The Chapel is really beautiful - it has some of the best stained glass windows I've ever seen. I could look at them all day - especially the one over the Altar.

There is a grand dock - almost as long as a city block - so this morning Lu, Charlotte, & I stretched out on it in hopes of luring a tan - I sure hope I got one!

The main house has 3 floors - on the first are the dining room, the music room, the library, etc., & on the other two floors are the girls' rooms. The boys sleep in a two-story guest house, "the Frat House".

### **JUNE 18 - Thursday**

I was so thrilled today! I got the first letter I've ever gotten from Charlie! Lu & Charlotte were so curious it was funny as I read Lu bits of it & Charlotte finally persuaded me to show her the end of it. I really didn't think he was going to write me - but glory! I'm glad he did!

Cooper had a date with Charlotte tonite. but he forced me - and I do mean force - to sit on their blanket. He's been smoking up a storm so tonite I took a couple of drags on his cigarette & Charlotte followed suite. Now he's going around saying how good our lipstick tastes!

### **JUNE 19 - Friday**

Lu, Ella Weems, & I spent rest hour today down in Charlotte's room instead of up on the third floor where we belonged. But nobody found us & of course Charlotte overlooked us so all was well. We spend most of our time down there instead of in our own rooms, anyway. First, because it's cooler on the second floor & second, because we have no water in our third-floor bathroom & they do have it in theirs. Anyway, today during rest hour we played bridge - & it really was fun.

Two girls in Charlotte's group are going to Tally next year.

**JUNE 20 - Saturday**

*Charlie* came out to Camp today - and it's been a wonderful day. The convention lasted from 2:30 to 5:00, so about 5:30 I was sitting on the porch all hot & dirty & waiting to take a bath, and there they arrived! Well, I showed him the swimming pool & then went up to take a bath so Lu showed him the rest of Camp. I was a little disappointed at not being able to do it myself, but then -. We ate dinner together & then about 9:00 we walked out on the dock & stood in the moonlight & talked for about a half hour. And he told me again that he loved me! Then we went back to the house & danced. It rained so we couldn't have Campfire outside.

**JUNE 21 - Sunday**

I'm afraid *Charlie* is managing me too much! This morning he decided that I didn't eat enough breakfast so, he fed me a whole helping of egg! I went to 7:30 Communion & the Church was so crowded I decided not to go to 11:00 Service so there'd be enough room for everyone. But *Charlie* decided I should go, so I did & wore his handkerchief for a hat! This afternoon he & Charlotte went swimming while I composed a song for our group in the singing contest & incidentally our group won! We all ate picnic supper in the tree-house together & then I sat by him at Campfire in the dining room. When he told me good-by he kissed my hand - that's the first time!

**JUNE 22 - Monday**

Today was simply awful! The whole camp looks like it's been on a 3-month binge. The late hours & early rising of the week-end has just been too much for everybody. Bishop said that if we all weren't absolutely quiet during rest-hour to get some sleep that drastic measures would be taken. So of course I didn't go to sleep - I wrote letters & then read. Tonite we had a darling campfire program - by Charlotte's group & her brother-group. It was a parody of Faust with Mr. Wilder



in the title role & 300-lb. Miss Reid as Marguerite. It was really a scream with the grand finale "Merrily we go to Hell".

## **JUNE 23 - Tuesday**

I'll bet Sara Lewis could have shot Lu & me today! We're all supposed to stay in our own rooms during rest hour. So the first part of it she ran Lu out of my room into her own & at the end of it she had to chase me out of Lu's room into mine!

I was so surprised today! Cooper & I were dancing in the music room after lunch when Jack Vrieze cut in! Shock of shocks!

Lu & I went down on the second floor porch & spent the nite just outside Tish's window. It was lots of fun - much cooler, & I got a chance to have a real talk with Tish.

## **JUNE 24 - Wednesday**

This afternoon Charlotte came upstairs & said that Wheezy had asked her to come back to Jr. Girls as a Jr. Counselor. I really tho't they would ask her because she's a group leader.

A few minutes later I met Wheezy in the hall & she said, "Eleanor, would you like to come back to little girls camp as a Jr. Counselor? There'll be quite a bit of responsibility because I want you to assist Annette Meginnis with the music."

I was so thrilled I nearly knocked her down! Tish & Doris Corry are to be the other Jr. Counselors, so it's really quite an honor. To be one of 4 girls picked from the entire diocese! The only hitch is I have to be back early Mon. & I have a date with Charlie for all day. at the beach.

## **JUNE 25 - Thursday**

I had another surprise again today - Charlie wrote me again! The first letter was a shock, but this one was really unexpected! I answered the last one



immediately, but I didn't answer this one because I'll be home before it would get there.

News really spreads fast - Betty May went around yelling "Eleanor got a letter!" And when I got into 3<sup>rd</sup> period class, Pam Valentine said, "What did Charlie say, Eleanor?"

Bishop hasn't been here for 2 days. Tonite at Campfire we had the Sewanee program. It was quite good but we're getting to bed rather late. I didn't get up for breakfast, & I slept from 3:00 to 5:00 this P.M.!

### **JUNE 26 - Friday**

I had the shock of my life this morning.

At the breakfast table Bishop appointed the Banquet committee & put me on it! I was so surprised and pleased. So I've been working more or less on that all day.

This morning we had exams in all the classes - and was I scared blue in the face! But I got one of the 3 "excellent" ratings in Mr. Urban's "The Bible", and one of the 3 "A+" in Mr. Chalmer's "Prayerbook", so Bishop's course was the only one I was awfully worried about, but I passed it somehow!

Tonite was the Banquet & I got to sit at Bishop's table.

### **JUNE 27 - Saturday**

Well, home again from Camp - for 3 whole days!

We got up this morning at 6:30 so we could tell everyone good-by & poor Charlotte wept when people began leaving! We got home about 9:00 - Mama came for us around 8:30 - & then went around to pay Pa a little visit. Uncle Ben came for Charlotte & Lu as soon as we got back & so I slept the rest of the morning & then again this afternoon.



Charlie called this afternoon around 5:30. I had hoped that he would ask me for a date tonite but he just said he'd see me in Church tomorrow.

Aunt Alice Coleman phoned & invited me for dinner tomorrow - she's having two R.A.F.'s. I went walking with Margaret after dinner.

### **JUNE 28 - Sunday**

Oh, I'm so happy! It's silly but I am! I got up & went to Sunday School & church with Frances Taylor & then Charlie walked home with me. He asked me to go to the beach with him, but I went to dinner at Aunt Alice's instead & met the 2 R.A.F.'s. We danced all afternoon & it was fun but neither one of them were anything extra.

Then tonite for the first time Charlotte & I double-dated - she & Leon & Charlie & I went down to see "Moontide".

All thru the show Charlie held my hand & kept telling me that he loved me. And then when he was telling me good-night, he kissed my hand & I still get prickles when he does!

### **JUNE 29 - Monday**

O! We had such a wonderful day! Charlie came by a little after 8:00 & of course I wasn't ready but we got off & were down there at the beach before 10:00. And he insisted on buying me a 98-cent bathing cap. Between showers we lay out on the beach - of course it would rain - & he amused himself by holding my hand & kissing it & kissing my shoulder & telling me that he loved me. It was awful but it was sort of nice, too. We only went in the ocean for a couple of quick dips & once in the pool & then after lunch we came back on the bus again. Then Charlie rode out to Camp with us. But it was a gorgeous day!

### **JUNE 30 - Tuesday**



I really think I'm going to enjoy being a Junior Counselor - but glory! it's a responsibility! Today we really got into the swing of things. Of course the J.C.'s get up & eat breakfast with the little girls & then they have to direct the cleaning up for inspection. We go to Chapel with the campers & then during first period I play the piano for Annette's music class & Charlotte helps Libby Holmes in her "serious class". Then we have morning lunch & then Charlotte & I are free during 2<sup>nd</sup> period while Tish & Doris help with the handicraft class. Then during third period all four of us meet with Wesie to discuss our problems. Charlotte is official horn-blower & time keeper & I'm official mail-man. That means that right after Chapel I take the mail out to the box & read all the postcards to see if any of 'em are homesick, & then just before lunch I give out the mail. Which makes me quite popular at least once a day! After lunch of course we have canteen & then during rest hour the J.C.'s have to keep 'em quiet - & that's a terrific job!

During the afternoons we are supposed to help Jan with the athletics but we don't do much. After sunset service we have dinner & then campfire. We don't have much to do then but after Taps our work really begins!

I have twelve little girls divided out 3 in a room, in the 4 rooms of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the frat house (now the Sorority house). Seven are from Tallahassee - Ann Allen, Elizabeth Thompson, Jean Livingston, Molly Austin, Kitty Brittain, Betty Williams, & Lucy Williams. Four are from Jacksonville - Zana Almony, Peggy Jackson, Jean Donaldson, & Bobby Anders. And one is from Gainesville - Betty Brockinbrough.

It really is queer when I realize how wonderful they think I am - 'cause I'm really not!



**“All thru the show Charlie held my hand & kept telling me that he loved me. And then when he was telling me good-night, he kissed my hand & I still get prickles when he does”!**





## **JULY 1942 NEWS EVENTS**

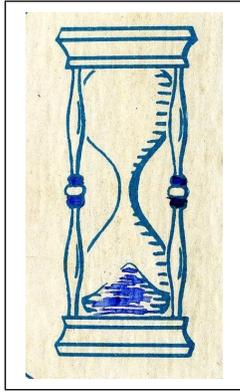
On July 1<sup>st</sup> in North Africa, German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's Panzer tanks attacked British defenses in the Battle of El Alamein.

July 4<sup>th</sup> saw the first missions of the American Air Force in Europe.

In Russia, the Battle of Stalingrad began on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, in the Battle Of The Atlantic, German admiral Karl Donitz ordered the last of his U-boats to withdraw from United States coast because of the efficiency of America's convey system.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Nazis begin deporting Jews from Warsaw, Poland, to Treblinka, a "model" concentration camp where approximately 850,000 men, women and children were killed.



## JULY DIARY ENTRIES

### JULY 1 - Wednesday

I'm beginning to know my little girls now - & believe me they keep me jumping! My favorite, I think, is Betty Williams - tho' I like 'em all. She & Lucy are twins, but Lucy sort of bosses everything so Betty just follows. But Betty is the sweetest thing! Bobby Anders is something of a problem. She hangs all over me - even kisses my knees! - and says she loves me more than her own sisters. I think it's just that she never gets so much attention at home. Jean Donaldson is the most uncooperative thing I've ever seen - I just can't do anything with her & she doesn't like anything. Life is growing complex.

### JULY 2 - Thursday

I was so surprised & pleased & thrilled today! I was really expecting a letter from Charlie because he promised to write but instead he sent a box of candy! I think that was so sweet of him ! We took it up in the tree-house & opened it & then hid it in my suitcase because none of the Campers are supposed to get



candy from home. I felt like a heel keeping it just for us when they're not supposed even to get any, but I think Charlie was awfully sweet to send it! The only trouble is that Elizabeth Thompson saw the package & I'm afraid the whole camp will know about it before nightfall!

### **JULY 3 - Friday**

I had tho't that the box of candy would take the place of a letter this week, but surprise! I got a letter today. It was a little more loving than the first two. - O! dear! But I was so thrilled to get it! I hid both it & my candy in my pocket-book because I don't trust any of my little girls not to read it! And horror of horrors! Libba Thompson spread the news of my candy all over camp & now they've started calling me "Mrs. Scruggs"! It's most embarrassing & it's going to be simply awful if Charlie comes down Sunday! Tonite was Tallahassee nite in "Wee Wendy Wit" so since most of my little girls are from there I was in there strong!

### **Independence Day--JULY 4 - Saturday**

Today was quite a day! Tonite we had a picnic dinner in honor of the 4<sup>th</sup> & it really was sort of fun.

But it was after supper that the messy part comes. One of my little Jacksonvillers - in fact all 3 of them - have been quite homesick, but most of all just determined not to like Camp. I tried to talk to them but it was just like trying to appeal to a stone wall. So tonite Zana's mother came for her & she went gaily home & the other two got simply furious because Wesie wouldn't let them go, too. But it just made me realize what a miserable counselor I am & I just couldn't help weeping.

### **JULY 5 - Sunday**

All during rest hour today my little girls kept popping up & saying "He's here!" and finally at the end of rest hour one of Tish's group came running in yelling, "Charlie's here!"



So I, escorted by my group & half of Tish's, was rushed bodily over to the main house to greet him & the 3 boys with him. After my little girls were all introduced the 4 boys & Charlotte & I set out to show Neil Avery (one of the boys) the Camp. After we'd shown him the whole thing, Charlie & I walked out on the dock alone & Charlotte took the others up in the tree-house. My little girls were real good about not calling me "Mrs. Scruggs", even if they did watch us continuously.

### **JULY 6 - Monday**

I was so sleepy today that I actually took a nap during rest hour. I wanted to keep right on sleeping thru the afternoon but as soon as the end of rest hour came about 6 little girls came & jumped on me - I could have shot them! I was so sleepy & wanted to sleep so bad that I'm afraid I was cross 'cause they asked me if I were sick. Then I felt like a heel. I could have murdered Cooper yesterday. All the little girls were fine about not calling me "Mrs. Scruggs," but he had to bounce up & say, "Hello, Mrs. Scruggs, can I interest you in a vacuum cleaner?"

### **JULY 7 - Tuesday**

Charlotte has been in bed since Saturday, but today she is up again so I feel better. We had our third "night out" tonite so we went swimming after Taps - more fun! - & then went down on the dock & ate stale marshmallows (they were the only thing we could find to eat.)

On our first "nite out" the 4 Jr. Counselors & Sarah Lewis, Alice Gehan, the 2 Davis boys, & 4 counselors from Echocotee had a party on the dock with even ice cream & cake. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> one we just sat on the end of the dock & listened to the radio. That was Sun. nite & Charlotte couldn't go.

### **JULY 8 - Wednesday V**



If Charlie & I needed any encouragement with our "affair" we surely would get it here at Camp. Every one of my little girls is playing "cupid". Cooper told them Sunday that we had already picked out our house & some of them actually believed him! Today Libba Thompson tried to make me promise to marry him before he went into the Service.

When Daddy & Mama came down for a few minutes Saturday Anne told Mama all about how they'd been teasing me but she said they liked to tease me because I was such a good sport about it. Even Ben & the boys have started calling me "Scruggswoman" now!

### **JULY 9 - Thursday**

I was rather expecting a letter today & I got it - a cute one that started off "Dear Me" & then just sort of told himself what he tho't. But honestly, I've never gotten a letter that said more amazing things!

This afternoon I went down on the dock & stayed there for over an hour & when I got back I had a "blind headache". And worst of all I was on K.P. So I took an aspirin & started to work & by the time I finished with the dishes it was a sick headache. So I took another aspirin & went to bed instead of Camp-fire.

And darn it! Tonite was our last nite out & I was in bed!

The others went skin swimming!

### **JULY 10 - Friday**

Tonite we had the banquet & final service & it really was awfully nice - all of it. Of course I got hooked in so all afternoon Charlotte & I made place-cards. The whole idea was that we were going to Heaven & everyone was named accordingly & everything was decorated accordingly. It really was a



cute idea & quite well worked up, too. Then afterward we had the closing service in the Chapel & out in front with the burning cross - it was really awfully impressive. The other 3 had all taken part in it at Y.P.S.L. Camp & I was rather frightened but it was rather thrilling, too.

## **JULY 11 - Saturday**

We Finally got home from Camp about 11:00, and about 4:00 Charlie 'phoned & asked me to go to the show with him, so of course I went. There was a Marine Dance over at the church & I would have gone to that if he hadn't called.



**J**oan Crawford and Melvyn Douglas stared in the 1942 film *They All Kissed the Bride*

We went to see "They All Kissed the Bride" and it really was awfully cute, but there was a terrific crowd & we had to sit 'way up practically in the rafters. Then we came home & talked 'til nearly 2:00.

Isn't that disgraceful?

He was begging to kiss me & I finally let him kiss me good-night on my cheek. I just don't want him to kiss me really quite yet - it'll be all right later.



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## **A Never-to-be-forgotten Day**

### **JULY 12 - Sunday**

Charlie kissed me tonite for the first time!

I mean, on my lips.

I got all kinds of tingles all over me & I almost felt like crying!

It was awful & wonderful & everything all at the same time! I had really not intended to let him do it 'til the end of the summer, but I just could not hold out any longer.

I went down to Margaret's this afternoon & Charlie & I arrived at her house at exactly the same time (He had called me & told me that he was coming over about 5:00) Charlotte came in for League & then afterward a whole bunch of us went to the drug store. Then home here, and \_\_!

### **JULY 13 - Monday**

Charlie was supposed to come over tonite to show me some other pictures of him in his "youth" and the time was approaching nine before he showed up! I had given him up for lost & was really getting angry, but when I accused him of having forgotten, he scolded me for thinking it possible for him to do such a thing after last nite. Hm\_\_.

This afternoon Mama & I took Charlotte home & saw Sister & her babies - the first time I'd ever seen Ann. Lottie had gone out with Agnes so we didn't see her, but Betsy is really darling!

I'm afraid Charlie's getting too drooley with his love-making but I don't know exactly how to stop him!

### **JULY 14 - Tuesday**

Tonite we were just finishing dinner when I heard a sort of bumping on the porch & when I went to see what it was there were Leon & Charlie snoring. I tried to "wake them up" but they didn't even budge



'til I told them that I wasn't going to the meeting & swimming tonite. Then they came in for a few minutes & tried to persuade me to go, but of course I went out to the farm to see Cody instead.

This morning Tish, Margaret, & I went over to the Lee courts & played tennis & this afternoon the 3 of us & Frances Taylor played bridge.

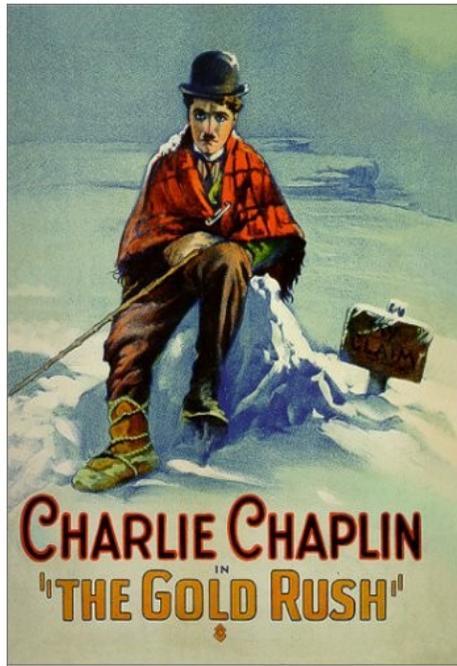
And tonite I'm so sore & tired & sleepy that it's just awful!

### **JULY 15 - Wednesday**

Charlie is still just as loving - he says. Honestly, I don't know what to say when he tells me he loves me. I don't want to tell him yet that I love him - tho' I'm afraid I do - but, O! Dear! how I wish I knew how to act! Tonite of course we went swimming. Tish wasn't there & I didn't know any of the girls particularly. And Charlie never hangs around me in a crowd. Then afterwards we all sang & stuff & then six of us went to Lane's. Charlie walked home with me then & stayed about a half hour. We played tennis this morning & this afternoon. Cody & Charlotte came in & tonite Aunt Frances & Tib came for dinner.

### **JULY 16 - Thursday**

Tonite about 6:30 Charlie called & asked me whether I'd rather go in the pool or help him with the Agenda for Sunday. Well, since I'm expecting momentarily to fall off the roof, I chose the Agenda. Then after supper I washed my hair & got so hot that I wished I hadn't made such a decision. Anyway, after choir practice - about quarter to 9 - he came over & just the 2 of us worked up in the church office until about 10:00. Then we came home and sat on the porch - he's really getting too loving! Tish & I saw "The Gold Rush" this afternoon - and it was really a scream!



### **JULY 17 - Friday**

This makes one entire week that I have seen Charlie every nite. And tonite was a rather amazing evening. Charlie phoned me about 4:00 from the office & I tho't he'd be over here about 5:30; but he arrived about 5:15 & I was just getting into the tub. Anyway, out we went to Mr. Wyatt-Brown's where I was supposed to cook supper for the 3 of us. But Charlie cooked it and did a good job, too! Then we went to an executive board meeting over at the Church that didn't break up 'til 9:45. Carol Martin asked him to walk home with her & he wanted me to go, too, but it was too late when they left here, so I wouldn't go.

### **JULY 18 - Saturday**

I tho't Charlie was going to phone me today; he said last nite he would; but he didn't -darn him! I sure hope Carol or Mr. Wyatt-Brown hasn't influenced him against me. Anyway, Charlotte, Lu, & I went to the show today, & Beth called me so she went along, too.



And I'm so disappointed! She and Bob are going to get married about October, and -honestly! - I think she's too young. I wish she were going to college instead. Lu came home with me to spend the nite & as we were walking from the bus we saw Charlie & Mr. Wyatt-Brown, & another man & he spoke very casually.

### **JULY 19 - Sunday**

Today has been another one of those Charlie-full days. Honestly, I'm almost lost if I don't see or hear from him every day! This morning we had the regular Y.P.S.L. breakfast & he tried to feed me my eggs! But he quit after he spilled them on my dress. Then instead of going to Sun. School he & Lu & I went to get a coke & instead of going to church we went up to the office & ran off the Agenda papers. The whole family went out to the farm for dinner 'cause Benny's home on leave, & Charlotte came back with us. So she, Leon, Charlie, & I went to League together & then to see "In This Our Life". He's still talking about how he loves me.



### **JULY 20 - Monday**

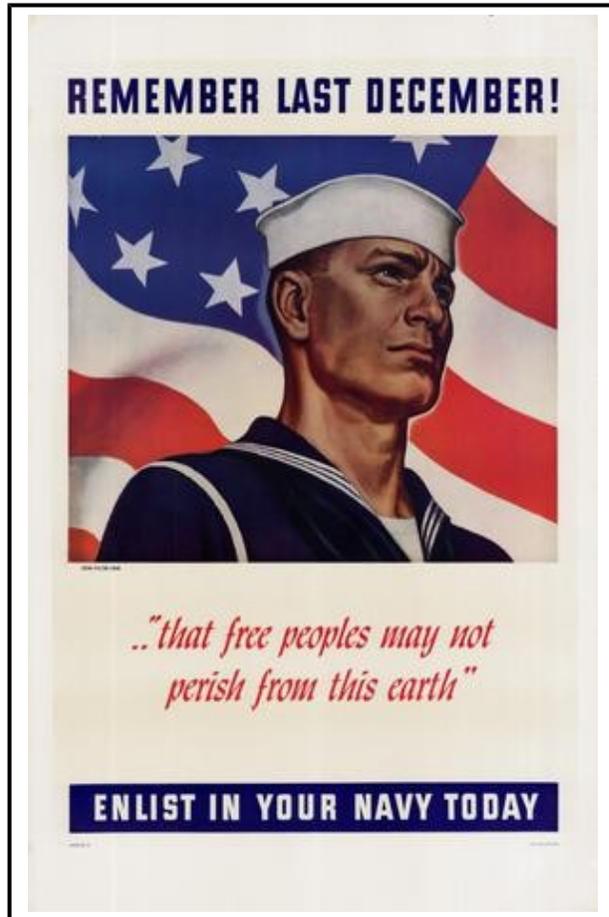
This is the first day since I got back from Camp that I haven't seen Charlie - but he 'phoned me & that's really almost as good! Except that now I'm in a spot! He wants to go swimming tomorrow nite so I said all right, and just an hour after he called I fell off the roof! So now I've got to do some squirming to get out of it tomorrow nite & the rest of this week, too, for that matter! I haven't done much of anything today besides dust all the books, etc. on the piano, to say nothing of



the piano itself. But otherwise I've been awfully lazy - I didn't even get all my practicing done.

## **JULY 21 - Tuesday**

Charlie has resigned his job at the Naval Air Station & he's going into the Navy next week!



**1942 Navy Recruiting Placard**

Glory, but I'll miss him!

He came over tonite, of course, & I told him I had a sore throat & Mama wouldn't let me go in. So I went over & watched him go in. Glory, I'd give anything if I weren't sick this week. Anyway when we came home we had ice cream & then when Mama &



Daddy went upstairs w went for a walk down by the river. And he kissed me again!

Nothing else of interest has happened today except that I ate lunch at Tish's. It has been fearfully hot again - 108 degrees yesterday.

### **JULY 22 - Wednesday**

Charlie has practically spent the day here! He came over this morning about 9:00 & he & Tish & I played some tennis. Tish left about 11:00, but he stayed 'til nearly 1:00. Then this afternoon Tish, Frances, & Margaret came over for bridge. Frances left about 5:00 & a few minutes later in came Charlie! So we played rummy 'til about 6:00 After supper, to avoid the pool, I went to the library with Frances & Margaret, & then about 9:00 I went over to the church & we all played games. Charlie walked home with me & then it began to rain so he stayed 'til after 1:00 waiting for it to stop.

### **JULY 23 - Thursday**

Well, Charlie's "in the Navy now!" This morning I was all droopy with my hair just sort of drooling down & with no lipstick on when in he walked! I could have died! But anyway he had just come back from "signing up". So we took the car & went 'round to his house & bro't his typewriter around here.

Betty & Charlotte came to dinner today & then they & the children left tonite for Birmingham. Betty was just dying to meet Charlie but he didn't come over soon enough to go down to the depot. But he was here when we got back & stayed 'til 12:30.

### **JULY 24 - Friday**

Today is the first day that I've neither heard from (telephone) or seen Charlie since I got back from Camp. This morning I had my music lesson & then I went over to Lu's on the bus. After lunch we played bridge & then minded the baby next door. Just before dinner Lu took a bath & while she was dressing I went



to sleep on her bed! I felt so silly when I found I'd been sleeping there in the afternoon! After dinner we rode over to see a friend of Lu's on Johnny's "bicycle built for two". It was fun but I felt sort of self-conscious.

### **JULY 25 - Saturday**

Tonite Charlie & I went to the picture show - "Beyond the Blue Horizon" - and then afterwards I admitted to him for the first time that I loved him. I've really hardly dared admit it to myself before tho' I've known it for sure ever since he kissed me. Tonite he told me that he'd been in love with me ever since we saw "Always in My Heart" & that he would always love me. But I don't dare believe that!

Lu & I went downtown right after lunch & then I came on home & then went over to help Tish with her stencils. Leon & Charlie dropped in over there twice while I was there.

### **JULY 26 - Sunday**

I've really seen Charlie wholesale again today. When I got to Church this morning he met me at the door so we sat together. Then he came home with me for dinner & afterward we went over to the Church to fix the agenda. On the steps we met Jack Robb, a friend of his, & he spent the afternoon with us at the Church. He left about an hour before Service League & said he'd meet me over there later which was fine because I had to take some sandwiches to a surprise farewell party the Y.P.S.L. gave for him after the meeting. Then he & Jack walked home with me & stayed 'til 12:30.

### **JULY 27 - Monday**

This morning Charlie & I were supposed to go out & see his sister but as we got off the bus we got simply drenched in a downpour & had to take refuge on a strange porch, so I made him come back home without going to see her. Then he came back after lunch & we messed around all afternoon but didn't do anything



special. Well, after supper he & Leon came for me & we went to a committee meeting over at the church & then Charlie & I walked down to the Riverside & saw "The Shanghai Gesture". I had to let him kiss me twice tonite because I cut short my pompadour.

## **JULY 28 - Tuesday**

Tonite Charlie said one of the nicest things that anyone could possibly say, I think. He said that I reminded him of his mother - not in looks, but just in tho't, etc. And he really loved his mother to the point of idolatry, almost.

He called me right after dinner & I said I wanted to go swimming so about 4:30 we went in & then I went over & watched him & Leon play tennis 'til after 6:00.

Tonite he went downtown with some boys & Daddy's family came over to celebrate Uncle Fred's birthday. About 10:30 Charlie came over so we walked down to the river.

## **JULY 29 - Wednesday**

Tonite was the swimming party again - & thank goodness I could go this week! Charlie phoned me around noon & wanted me to go over to the courts & watch him play tennis but I had asked Tish to go down town so I didn't go. Downtown, I bought some material for a peasant blouse & skirt to wear to the dance Friday. Charlie came by for me - we went to the swim & then afterwards George Bedell made me direct a game of Musical Chairs! What fun! Then Charlie & I walked to Lane's & afterwards to the river & then home again & just talked.

## **JULY 30 - Thursday**

This has really been a glorious day! We went to the beach - Lorena King, Jack Robb, Charlie, & I. We left here just a little after 1:00 & didn't get home 'til 10:30! Wasn't that something? We went down & went



in swimming & walked on the beach & lay in the sand & got a hamburger & cokes & candy & finally started home about 7:20. And the bus was so late we didn't get to town 'til 9:15! All the way up on the bus we sang songs & everybody either sang or told us what to sing. When we got to town we went to Harry Howell's for dinner & then came home.

## **JULY 31 - Friday**

Charlie's papers came today so tonite was our Final Fling. We had a Y.P.S.L. dance over at the Church & I had more fun than I've ever had at a League dance before. I don't believe there was a girl there who danced any more than I did.

And every time they played "Always in My Heart" I danced with Charlie.

Then afterwards Bob White, Louise Cowart, Charlie & I drove out to Pop Berrier's & then they bro't us home. Charlie stayed 'til 20 to 2 & since it was his last nite I couldn't keep him from kissing me -I bet he did it 10 times! Oh! how I do wish he didn't have to leave!

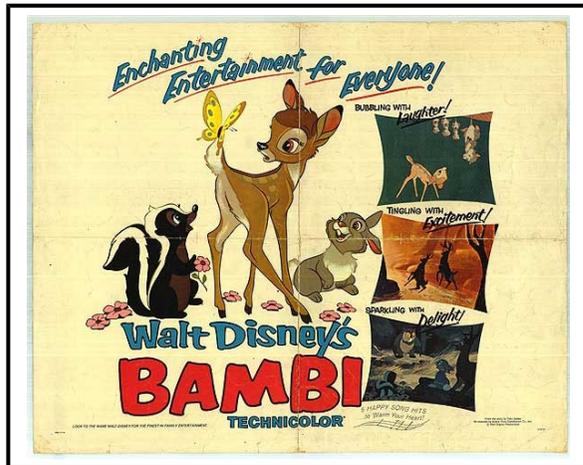
This morning I had a music lesson & then washed my hair. So this afternoon when I was looking all drippy with drooley hair in walked Charlie with a friend of his to bring me his radio. And it was then that he told me that he was leaving tomorrow. I'm going to miss him something awful because honestly I do love him so much! I never tho't that I would fall in love like this at the tender age of 17! But when he holds me so tightly & tells me that he loves me, I feel as if I want to stay in his arms forever & never worry about anything else!





## AUGUST 1942 NEWS EVENTS

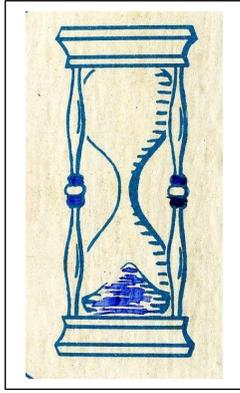
On August 13<sup>th</sup>, RKO Radio Pictures released Walt Disney's movie *Bambi*.



In early August, President Roosevelt placed control of the Manhattan Project under U.S. Army control to expedite development of an Atomic Bomb to bring the war to an end.

On August 28<sup>th</sup> enemy seaplanes dropped incendiary bombs in Oregon causing wide-spread forest fires.

--jwc



## **AUGUST DIARY ENTRIES**

### **AUGUST 1 - Saturday**

Charlie left tonite on the 8:15 train. Oh! How I wish he didn't have to go! If only he could stay! But maybe his going away is really the best thing after all - it will either prove we love each other so much that separation won't matter or that we don't really love each other at all.

Anyway, Charlie came over after he got thru down at the Navy Recruiting Office & he was so tired that he went to sleep on the couch while he was waiting for me to dress.

Then tonite at 7:00 Mama & I took him down to the depot & he kissed me right in front of Mama!

### **AUGUST 2 - Sunday**

I've been busy today - but I've missed Charlie all the same. This morning I went to Church all by myself but I found Tish so I sat with her, & after church I met Cooper & he offered to help me with my Agenda for Y.P.S.L. So this afternoon he & Tish & I



fixed it up. Then tonite I went to League & had to preside. And it just didn't seem like the same place without Charlie! Afterwards I rushed home & Daddy, Mama & I went out to the Elwes' for ice cream to see their new house.

### **AUGUST 3 - Monday**

Now that Charlie's gone I don't mind leaving town so this afternoon I came down to the beach for a week with the Browns. It's wonderfully cool down here - Marvelous after that stifling heat in town. They tho't I was coming down this morning but I overslept so I had to wait 'til after dinner. I sure hated to come down on the bus with my suitcase but of course there wasn't enough gas to bring me down.

When I got down, we went in swimming & then after dinner Lucille & I went for a walk up the beach. Of course she wanted to know all about Charlie - so I told her quite a bit.

### **AUGUST 4 - Tuesday**

It's wonderful just to be lazy & not do anything worth while - that's just about what I'm doing here, too. This morning I went with Mrs. Brown to take Lucille to school, then when she came home we all went in swimming; we ate lunch & then went to the show ("The Falcon Takes Over" & "My Favorite Spy" - not so hot); then we went in swimming again; then ate dinner & sat on the porch 'til bedtime. Now, isn't that a laconic existence? But it's wonderful - after these last 3 full-to-the-brim weeks. But I wouldn't give anything for those weeks - in fact I wish Charlie were still here & they were, too.

### **AUGUST 5 - Wednesday**

This morning Mrs. Brown had to go into town so she let me take the car by myself to take Lucille to school. I really was quite surprised - but it always amazes me when people think I'm a good enough



driver to take their car. Charlie said I wasn't careful enough, you know.

Lucille, James White, & I had picnic lunch down on the beach & it was fun but - glory! -did we eat. I don't know when I've ever eaten so much at one time! Then when we went in swimming I practiced standing on my head. I haven't heard from Charlie yet!

### **AUGUST 6 - Thursday**

Today was just about as usual - except that we went to see "The Magnificent Dope" this afternoon. It really was right cute. This morning I drove Lucille to school & Mrs. Fowler & Mrs. White to the store. I met John Conrick, one of the boys from camp, at the store & we talked for a few minutes. We went in swimming this morning but we didn't this afternoon. We played Marjon instead but I think I would have preferred the swim.

I really think I should have gotten a letter from Charlie by now. Of course, I suppose he does have a lot to do, but I hope he hasn't forgotten me!

### **AUGUST 7 - Friday**

Strange things can happen! After dinner Lucille & I were sitting on the porch when over came Leo Somebody - the boy from next door - & asked us if we didn't want to walk downtown with him. So of course we did. And I bowled for the first time - with the little pins & I made 56. Mr. Brown said that was pretty good considering it was my first try & with little pins, too. Then we got a limeade & came home.

Otherwise today was rather ordinary - especially ordinary since I still haven't heard a word from Charlie!

### **AUGUST 8 - Saturday**

This morning was cleaning day so of course I helped a little - but not much, I must admit! Anyhow I



got in a swim this morning, too - with Mrs. Fowler 'cause Lucille can't go in now. We just sort of sat around all afternoon & then just as we - Mrs. Brown & I - were going in swimming Mr. Brown arrived with Lloyd Sheppard - one of the sailors - so all of us went in. Seeing Lloyd made me think - I wonder what Charlie looks like in his "monkey suit"? Gee, I wish he'd write - I'm getting sort of worried, really. I hope he does soon.

### **AUGUST 9 - Sunday**

This is the first Sun. I've missed church in quite a while & it really doesn't even feel like Sun. at all! We all slept late & then went down on the beach for a sunbath & swim. After dinner the Browns went to the show & Mrs. Fowler & I were sitting down (we'd already seen the picture) when in came Ray Metsler - one of the sailors - to spend the afternoon & evening. Mrs. Fowler went in for a nap so I was left to entertain him 'til the family came home. But it wasn't bad. We went for another swim & then after supper I put polish on my nails for the first time since graduation!

### **AUGUST 10 - Monday**

We went crabbing today - something I haven't done for years! But if you really want to get technical, I really didn't crab today. I energetically held the bag of crabs for a little while & then I lay down on the jetties in the sun & watched the others work.

But this afternoon I really worked! We had to steam all those crabs, & believe me it was a job! But tonite we had real recompense - I ate two deviled crabs. This afternoon I also even managed to write a couple of letters, too. Tonite we went to bed extra early.

### **AUGUST 11 - Tuesday**

This has been a day of surprises all right! This morning I fell off the roof- a whole week early & at the beach, too! Then at the breakfast table Mr. Brown



got a call from town so suddenly all the plans were changed & I came home today instead of tomorrow.

And when I got home there was a letter from Charlie! Joy of joys - I had funny feelings inside!

I called Charlotte & she wanted me to spend the nite with her so she, Lu, & Elizabeth Budlong came for me so here I am at the farm tonite. We made candy at the Holdens' all this afternoon

### **AUGUST 12 - Wednesday**

I was sort of worried about Charlotte this morning - she had an awful case of self-pity. But this afternoon she, & Lu, & Elizabeth, & I went over to our house & spent the afternoon together & she recovered beautifully. I had to play for choir practice so that was the reason for our going over to town. And I swear we ate more junk! I know my face is going to look atrocious before long!

This afternoon both Mr. Wyatt-Brown and Cooper asked me if I'd heard from Charlie and tonite I've been telling Charlotte the whole history of my case.

### **AUGUST 13 - Thursday**

I wrote to Charlie tonite - & Mama & Daddy both seem to think it was much too short a letter. They've gotten me all worried - but I'll just have to try to do better next time.

Charlotte & I did a most amazing thing last nite. We talked 'til about 2:00, then went downtown for a "midnite snack" then we sat on the sofa & ate candy & talked 'til nearly 4:00!

Lu had a luncheon & beach party for Elizabeth & Charlotte won the booby prize. I went down to see Margaret for a little while after supper.

### **AUGUST 14 - Friday**



I was so pleased & thrilled & everything today - I got another letter from Charlie! Oh, I was so happy! And it was completely unexpected, too! In his first letter he sounded "down", but in this one he sounds like he really likes everything. I feel a lot better about him.

Otherwise today has been rather ordinary except that I had a terrific headache tonite. And I washed my hair this afternoon. But otherwise I just sort of messed around the house. I really am feeling much happier about Charlie, tho'. I really think he loves me.

### **AUGUST 15 - Saturday**

Last Saturday Jack Robb called me for a date but of course I was at the beach, so he said he would call again this week. But darn it! He didn't. I wish he had, 'cause after all I don't want to be completely left out just because Charlie's gone. I bet Charlie had a good time up there in Norfolk tonite.

But I did accomplish a little today anyway. This morning I practiced an hour; this afternoon I hung my diploma & some pictures; then tonite I cleaned up my desk.

But in spite of all my working I wish I could have been going to the show instead.

### **Thrilling Day**

### **AUGUST 16 - Sunday**

Oh! the most wonderful thing happened to me today! Charlie phoned from Norfolk! Oh, I was so thrilled that - honestly - I didn't even know what I was eating for dinner! Oh! it was wonderful! And he said he loved me, too. But he didn't sound awfully thrilled over the phone - I hope he really does. Tonite I wrote him a 1-o-n-g letter, too.

Charlotte, Lu, & Elizabeth came in for Y.P.S.L. & are spending the nite. We're all going to sleep in the living room. Mama & Charlotte are taking the cot downstairs now. We went to see Aunt Alma this P.M.

**AUGUST 17 - Monday**

Honestly, I think the older I get, the crazier I get!

Last nite we went to bed about 11:00, talked 'til 12:00 & then got up for a midnite snack of potato salad, cold cuts, potato chips, & ice cream. Then we went back to bed, talked 'til about 2:30 & got up for another snack - do-nuts, cookies, bread, jam, & cheese this time. Then we played rummy 'til 3:30 & then finally got to sleep. Then we didn't get up 'til 11:00 & the others ate breakfast - but I couldn't hold any. It was to soon to eat again so we went to see "Mrs. Miniver" - it was wonderful! - lunchless, then got a sundae at 5:00 when we got out.



**1942 Oscar for Best Picture**

**AUGUST 18 - Tuesday**

Today has been rather a let-down after the last couple of days - but it was really sort of nice. I slept 'til about 10:00, then got up & practiced & cleaned up the living room & part of my room. This afternoon Mama & I were going to town but the rain stopped us so we just went to Pa's for a little visit. I hunted for & finally found my knitting so I worked on that a little. My room



reservation receipts from Tally came & Tish & I have a pink room on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Jennie Murphree.

The more I think about Charlie's tone of voice Sun. the more I worry - but I'll know when his next letter comes how he feels. He's just got to keep on loving me!

### **AUGUST 19 - Wednesday**

Wow! Wotta day! Am I worn out! Got up at 8:15 - went to town at 9:00 - shopped 'til 10:30 - met Frances Taylor & caught the bus to Lu's - had lunch & played Fan-Tan 'til 3:00 - got soaked waiting for the bus - got to Choir Practice at 3:45 - got home at 4:30 - went to see Pa - got home at 6:30 - went to a meeting at the church sans supper at 7:00 - went to the swimming party at 8:00 - went to Lane's with Cooper & the rest - finally got home at 10:30. And I have to be at the Church at quarter to nine tomorrow morning!

The cops stopped us tonite when we were riding around to ask us why we were making so much noise! Was I scared?!!

### **AUGUST 20 - Thursday**

Well, I managed to drag myself out of bed in time to have my picture taken with the group over at the Church & then came home for a few minutes & went down with Margaret to have her physical. Then after dinner Mama & I went down so I could have mine. Robert was in a gay humor & didn't take it at all seriously but the final outcome was that I'm all O.K. except for my eyes. I was sure I'd hear from Charlie today - but I didn't!

### **AUGUST 21-Friday**

Sometimes the most amazing things do happen!

Tonite a sailor - W.A. Wallace - & Virginia Larsen's cousin (he came over after League one nite with Betty Evans) came up to me & said he'd heard



Charlie had gone into the Navy & so we talked about him for awhile. (Tonight was the Lawn Party & I was supposed to be telling fortunes) Then he asked me "who I'd be seeing" now that Charlie was gone & I said nobody in particular so he asked me for a date. We danced practically the whole rest of the evening tho' I did dance with a few other boys.

I haven't heard from Charlie yet!

### **AUGUST 22 - Saturday**

A whole week has gone by now without my hearing from Charlie - I suppose that phone call last Sun. was supposed to take the place of a letter this week but I do think he could have written.

I really haven't accomplished much of anything today except a few inches on my sweater. Charlotte & I took Lu & Elizabeth out to Somebody's to spend the day - the 3 of them spent last nite with me - & then we came home & messed around 'til about 4:00 & then came out here to the Farm. So I'm spending the nite with Charlotte. My Freshman Bulletin from Tally came today.

### **AUGUST 23 - Sunday**

It felt awfully queer going to St. Paul's - & so early, too, but Charlotte & I got there tho' naturally a little late.

We did little or nothing but read all day; then came in for Y.P.S.L. & to spend the nite here.

The Lawn Party was definitely a financial success - I'm glad since I'm Acting President, but I really didn't do any of the work. Daddy kept harping tonight on why didn't any boys ever come home with me anymore - they used to when Charlie was here! And - gosh! - I've been wondering myself. So it didn't make me any happier. Gee! I miss Charlie!

### **AUGUST 24 - Monday**



This morning Charlotte & I went down to Dr. Knauer's to have my eyes examined & lo & behold after all these years I'm going to have to wear glasses! When he examined my eyes his remark was "Well, you really can't see, can you?" He says I'm near-sighted; and my left eye is better than my right one - which facts I've suspected for quite a while. The drops & all - they dilated the pupils - gave me a headache but I've knitted anyway. This afternoon Charlotte & I went over to see Tish in her new house - she's just back from Chowenwah. No letter yet from Charlie!

### **AUGUST 25 - Tuesday**

I got a nice 6-page letter from Charlie - it's amazing how much better it makes me feel! And in it he said he'd get his "boot leave" on the 4<sup>th</sup> so he'll be here before I leave - isn't that wonderful? Also in said letter he said for me to sit on the porch & look at the moon at quarter to nine & that he would do the same. And to think of him & he would think of me - sort of a rendezvous. So I did. Oh! I do love him!

There was a total eclipse of the moon tonite - it looked all sort of red-orange & queer. There's definitely a storm in the air tho' of course they can't let us know officially.

### **AUGUST 26 - Wednesday**

This morning I got my glasses - & they really don't look half as bad as I tho't they were going to! I'm agreeably surprised - and it's wonderful how much better I can see! Tho' of course I don't have to wear 'em all the time.

I went to dinner & the show tonite with C.A. Wallace - the little yeoman from the Lawn Party. We ate at the Seminole & then went to the Florida - "Footlight Serenade"; it really was awfully cute. He's not so bad but I don't like him particularly - & he simply can't compare with Charlie! He says he wants



to see me as much as possible 'cause he hasn't much time.

### **AUGUST 27 - Thursday**

This morning I could & did sleep late for the first time this week. It sure does feel good to have all that mess about the glasses over! Of course I have to go down once more for a check-up, but that's all.

This afternoon Mama & Daddy & I went out to see the Sages - some of Daddy's customers - & to play croquet. I must admit that I sure didn't want to go & I kicked like the dickens, but it really was fun & I enjoyed it after all! There's an awful lot more to the game than I ever dreamed of.

I wrote Charlie but I'm going to tear it up.

### **AUGUST 28 - Friday**

I've really been in a disgusting humor all day - I don't know what's been the matter with me! I was supposed to go to a Zeta Tau Alpha Tea this afternoon & I just decided not to go - so I didn't! I really must admit that I regret it now - but I just felt mean all afternoon.

Tonite I went to a surprise shower for Elizabeth at the Fants. It really does make me feel rather glum to think of her marrying so young. I just wish I liked Bob better. But I do like her so much - I do hope she'll be happy. Her crowd sure makes me feel inferior.

### **AUGUST 29 - Saturday**

Today has been rather uneventful: I slept late, practiced, & right after dinner went down with Charlotte & Mary Virginia to see "The Gay Sisters" which was really quite good. Then when I got home Margaret & I went to an Alpha Xi Delta Tea which was horribly boring. And tonite I just knitted & typed a little.



But all day - as usual - I've just tho't about Charlie. I really think I think about him too much - but I just can't help it! I think he loves me now but suppose it doesn't last -where would I be. But somehow I do want it to last so bad. But I'm afraid.

### **AUGUST 30 - Sunday**

This has been just an ordinary Sunday. Sunday's always make me feel just a little glum 'cause I used to look forward so much to them when Charlie was here. You know, I sure do miss him - gee, but I hope he misses me so much. I really do love him, but I wish I were absolutely sure that he loves me. Of course, he's told me so an awful lot but s'pose it just wears off. It frightens me a little every time I think of it but 5 years is a long time to wait. Charlotte & Lu spent the nite with me.

### **AUGUST 31 - Monday**

Lu, Charlotte, & I spent the day at the beach today - & we really had lots of fun, but all three of us are red tonite. We went down on the bus this morning & absolutely spent the day in the sun. First we went in swimming but it was so rough I didn't go back in again. Then we lay in the sun - it was cloudy & windy all day, but we stayed on our towels anyway - & just before lunch Lu & Charlotte went in the ocean again. We got cokes at the Flag - ate the lunch we'd bro't & then went back in the sand again. Lu & Charlotte took another dip in the ocean, & then all three of us had a nice swim in the Sandpiper pool. After we dressed we walked thru the 10-cent store & met Mrs. Brown, so we had a little chat with her.

All in all, we had a very good time. & made very good bus connections, & all, so the only fly in the ointment was the stormy weather. Lu had to go on home, but Charlotte & I got a Sundae & then came home together.



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All day I've been thinking about Charlie & our days at the beach. Honestly, sometimes I think I think of him too much 'cause everything I do reminds me of him. But I guess it's just 'cause I love him.



## SEPTEMBER 1942 NEWS EVENTS

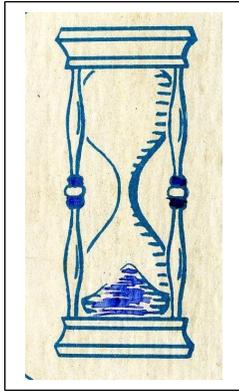
On September 2<sup>nd</sup> American workers in munitions plants gave up their Labor Day holiday to help the war effort.

September 4<sup>th</sup> saw the Manhattan Engineering District gear up for an all-out effort to produce an Atomic Bomb before the enemy can.

A Japanese plane dropped more incendiary bombs on Oregon on September 9<sup>th</sup>, but did little damage. But on September 10<sup>th</sup>, the Royal Air Force devastated Düsseldorf, Germany, with incendiaries.

All September saw intense fighting in New Guinea ; and in North Africa; and in the Battle of Blood Ridge in Guadalcanal in the Pacific where a Japanese submarine sank the carrier, *USS Wasp*; and in Europe where the Battle of Stalingrad raged.

--jwc



## SEPTEMBER DIARY ENTRIES

### SEPTEMBER 1 - Tuesday

Charlotte's been telling everyone for the past month that today's her birthday. So finally it got here - & I think it was really a bit of a let-down. She & I went down-town this A.M. & met Lu & then bought her & Dar's birthday presents & Lu's graduation present for me - a lovely brush & comb set. Then we came home for her "birthday lunch" with ice cream & cake & then this P.M. we went to see Pa. It was a quiet birthday for her but I think it was sort of nice.

Tonite was the Delta Zeta Buffet Supper. It was very nice & I really had a surprisingly good time.

### SEPTEMBER 2 - Wednesday

I got another letter from Charlie today -I was so pleased but he made me feel like a heel! He asked me please to write oftener & oh! gee! Now I wish I had. But I guess I really was a little hurt that he didn't write me more. Anyway I mailed one to him tonite & I hope it'll get there 'fore he goes on leave. He sent me a picture



of himself in his uniform - & it's horrible! He looks like a picked chicken! I hope he looks a little more normal when he gets down here.

Phi Mu luncheon at Sara Helms' today. Swimming tonite.

### **SEPTEMBER 3 - Thursday**

I got my oxfords for school this winter - & I hope I don't regret it! They're not saddle oxfords & if everyone else is wearing saddles I mite feel out of place, but at least I like them now. And time will decide the rest.

This P.M. Charlotte & I went down to "Are Husbands Necessary?" - Daddy's treat as Charlotte's birthday - & then did a little shopping. And I got caught in a terrific downpour on the way home.

But I really haven't done anything special.

I can hardly wait for Charlie to get here - I hope he doesn't disappoint me & not come!

### **SEPTEMBER 4 - Friday**

Poor Fido! - Wallace, the yeoman, - has been phoning me all week & wanting a date all week so I finally gave him one tonite. Everyone said I should anyway, 'cause after all he did take me to dinner & all. But unless I can't possibly get out of it, that's the last one. He wanted to kiss me but of course I wouldn't let him but I did let him hold my hand & even kiss it & I didn't feel anything but a slight repugnance. And when Charlie even touched my hand I got little electric shocks! I just guess he's still The One. I hope he still feels that way about me! Oh! But I do!

### **Lovely Night**

### **SEPTEMBER 5 - Saturday**

Charlie's home! Oh! I'm so happy I hardly know what I'm doing! He wired me this afternoon that he would be in tonite & then about 9:45 he 'phoned to say he was in town. So a little later over he came. He really was much prettier as a civilian - but I still love



him! Even in his monkey suit! I don't think he likes the Navy much & he's to be stationed in Richmond, not here for his training & then he'll go on active sea duty! I think that's awful! But he's so sweet - he bro't me a pin & a box of candy! But he'll only be here 'til Tues. morning!

### **SEPTEMBER 6 - Sunday**

Oh! How I wish Charlie could stay here always instead of having to rush off before we even know he's here! But he just has to go Tues. 'cause as he says, he does owe something to his family. But he's promised to spend all of his next leave here. I was a little afraid I guess, that either one or the other of us would be different - that it just wouldn't be the same after we'd been separated. But - honestly! - it's just like it was before he went away - I don't feel even the least bit strange with him! Church this a.m. with him, & League, then Pop Berriers', & then to take the kids home this P.M.

### **SEPTEMBER 7 - Monday**

This was our last nite for a long, long while - it makes me almost ill when I think of all that can happen between now & when I see him again - but I shan't think of such things!

Tonite he & Bill Awl & Bill Register came by before 7:00 & we went out to see his sister & to get his trunk. Then the Bills took us down to the depot & we checked said trunk & from there Charlie & I walked to see "The Magnificent Andersons". For awhile tonite I felt that Charlie didn't love me quite as much but by the time he left I was believing again that he loves me. And oh! how I love him!

### **SEPTEMBER 8 - Tuesday**

Charlie left this morning on the 8:10- gee but it was hard to let him go! I do wish he could have stayed longer but he said he had to get back to his family in Richmond. He said he wished he could take me with him



& goodness knows I wish I could go! He said last nite that he didn't want me to go to the depot with him 'cause he didn't like station good-byes & I must admit I was a little hurt, but I persuaded him to come by a minute this morning so of course I drove him down to the station & he kissed me good-bye. Oh! I miss him! I bought a \$25 bond today - turned in my stamps.

### **SEPTEMBER 9 - Wednesday**

This week has been so full I don't think I'll ever get enough time to get ready to go to school. Yesterday morning was the Phi Mu breakfast at the Seminole & last nite was the Alpha Chi Omega dinner at the Patio. Quite a swanky affair, too - we ate from 7:30 to 10:00. Then this morning I went down to work & Marianne Smith - an Alpha Chi Omega - phoned me & we went to lunch. Then I dashed home & went to Frances Taylor's for bridge. And tonite Charlotte & I went over to the swimming party at the Church. And am I tired! I met my eighth grade teacher - Miss Mitchell - & she remembered me.

### **SEPTEMBER 10 - Thursday**

I can't remember when I've ever felt so bum or been so tired. We went down this morning at 9:00 & worked 'til 5:30 with an hour off for lunch. And to top things off I forgot to drink my coffee so I had a gorgeous headache & I fell off the roof so I had cramps. And my cold is worse so my throat was sore & I wore a blister on my big toe! Oh, gosh!

Charlotte & I went over tonite to tell Beth good-bye - she's leaving on the 8:10 in the morning. Glory, but I hate to see her go all that distance by herself to get married. I hope I'll hear from Charlie before the week's out.

### **SEPTEMBER 11 - Friday**

This morning I got a wire - a nite letter, really - from Charlie. It made me feel better - at least he hasn't completely forgotten me. But now I'm all



worried - suppose he stays up there in Richmond with all his family & old friends & decides that he doesn't really love me after all! Wouldn't that be horrible? Now I suppose I shall worry 'til I see him again. Tonite was the farewell supper dance for the Leaguers going away to college. Sam Hardman was there & asked me to write him at Sewanee so I suppose I'll have to. There was an awful storm afterward.

### **SEPTEMBER 12 - Saturday**

I never knew I had so much stuff! Lu & Mama & I have packed all evening - from right after supper 'til midnite! And glory! But I'm tired! My things seemed to be multiplying steadily tho' I still feel like I haven't much clothes. That sort of worries me, too, but I guess I'll live thru it.

Charlotte, Lu, & I went down this afternoon for our last triad picture show for a long time. And I must say we saw a stupid picture - "Her Cardboard Lover". And I got some navy blue gabardine shoes with high heels - I like 'em. Fido has been calling & calling & he finally got me tonite.

### **SEPTEMBER 13 - Sunday**

I had to see poor Fido tonite - there just wasn't any way to get out of it. He called & said that he had "duty" but that he had gotten someone to take his place so couldn't he see me for a few minutes after Y.P.S.L. While he was here Mama, Daddy, he & I went down & checked my trunk & then when we got back Pa & Dar & then Billy - of all people! -came by, & finally they all left around 10:00. Of course Wallace wanted to kiss me good by but of course I didn't let him.

Lu & I went calling on everyone this P.M. to say "good-bye". Even Berta & the new baby.



T57:-TOWERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.



FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, TALLAHASSEE, FLA. 45797

**Florida State College For Women,  
Tallahassee,  
later became Florida State University**



## **First Day of College** **SEPTEMBER 14 -- Monday**

So this is college! - honestly, it doesn't seem that we're really here at all. The room isn't as bad as I had expected - the pink really is right nice - but the windows are awfully small. But I guess we'll live, anyway. It was pouring when we got here this afternoon & my poor belated little hat got just soaked - particularly the veil. And my little suitcase got a hole punched all the way thru it but we got here anyway. I guess I'll like it tho' at present I wish I weren't starting out on the college road. It scares me - honestly I don't think a job would even be as bad as this. But maybe it will be better than I think. I hope so.



**Typical FSCW Dorm Room in 1942**

## **SEPTEMBER 15 - Tuesday**

This morning we started in with our meeting in the auditorium & then the English Placement - Oh! it was horrible! - then a meeting with our freshman aide



& then a meeting with our faculty advisor. After lunch Tish didn't have anything to do but I had to go to the auditorium to take my language placements. I didn't know exactly what I was supposed to do, but Dr. Seymore said the best thing to do was to take the French placement today & if I passed it go into 201, & take the Spanish exemption Fri., & if I passed it go into 301, & if not, in 201b. But I'm afraid I flunked the French.

### **SEPTEMBER 16 - Wednesday**

Today came my first letter from Charlie since he went back - & he's still just as sweet as ever. But he said his aunt & uncle had said they'd like to have me up there in Richmond for Christmas - wouldn't that be wonderful? If Mama'd let me!

We signed up for courses this P.M. - & Tish & I are at last in the same class - biological science. I haven't got such an awfully good schedule - but it could be a lot worse.



**1942 Registration Day At FSCW**



I passed my French placement so I'm in 201a -I went over to the History Building right after breakfast to see & I was so thrilled.

Tonite was the President's reception on the lawn.

### **SEPTEMBER 17 - Thursday**

This morning they told me - in a note from the Registrar - that I had passed my placement in French with a grade high enough to be eligible for the French Exemption! I was so thrilled - I surely never expected that! But I'll probably flunk the exemption--still, there are only 2 others who are eligible for it!

This morning we went on the much-talked-of Library tour - & it really was quite interesting, & this afternoon we started buying our books.



**Students buying textbooks at FSCW in 1942**

I really am liking college more every day - except that I miss Charlie something awful - more than anyone else, I think.

**SEPTEMBER 18 - Friday**

This morning I decided I was an imbecile & tonite we missed dinner for the first time. This A.M. we had a Psychological Exam that I'm sure I flunked, and this afternoon I took my French exemption & I bet I flunked it, too. It lasted from 2:00 to 4:30 so I was worn out when it was over & didn't have time to take my Spanish. Then at 5:30 they had the Panhellenic Freshman meeting. They explained all about rushing, etc. & then gave out "date cards" for the receptions tonite. I got DZ, ADPi, ZTA, AXiD, Phi Mu, & AXO. So we had a wonderful time going to all of them tonite. The KA's said I should have gotten a card from them, too.

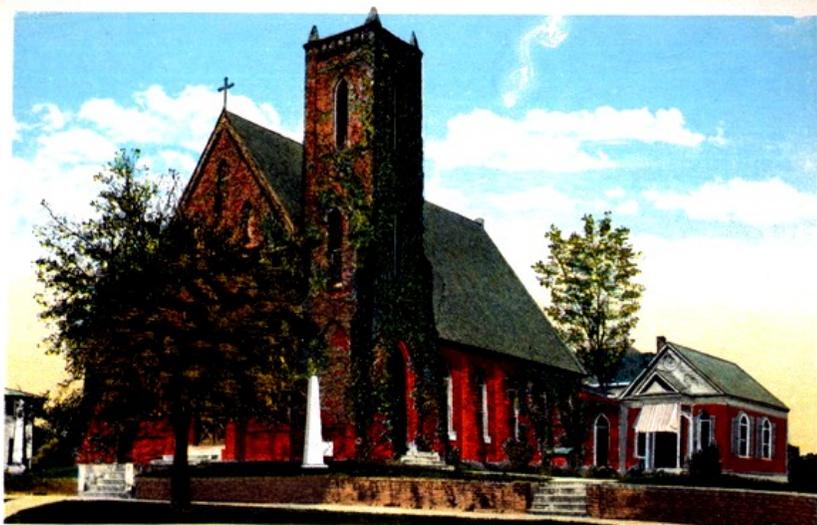
**SEPTEMBER 19 - Saturday**

Goodness what a glorious rush! I never expected one like this! I got 12 invitations from 7 sororities! - but of course I could only accept 5. So I dropped the Alpha Xi Deltas & the Delta Zetas completely & accepted the following: 1:00 - 2:30 (lunch) - Zeta Tau Alpha; 3:00 - 4:30 - Kappa Delta; 5:00 - 6:30 - A.D.Pi; 7:00 - 8:30 (dinner) - Alpha Chi -Omega; 9:00 - 10:30 (lite flash) - Phi Mu. And I had a glorious time - even if I did ruin my feet!

This morning we had an awful Reading Exam from 9:30 to 11:00. Then instead of going to take my Spanish exemption I went to the Panhellenic Office to get my date cards. Awful, eh?

**SEPTEMBER 20 - Sunday**

Today wasn't quite as full as yesterday, but I sure didn't have any spare time. We went over to Ruge for study class, which we found hadn't yet started, at 9:30, & then about 10:00 went over to the Panhellenic office. They made us wait so long getting our date cards that we were afraid we'd be late for Church, but we made it, & rode back with the Gehans.



SAINT JOHNS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

### **St Johns Episcopal Church, Tallahassee**

I got invitations from A.D.Pi, K.D., Z.T.A., Phi Mu, and A.X.O. But I only accepted 3: A.D.Pi 4:00 - 6:30, K.D. for dinner, and A.X.O. for lite-flash. At noon I actually managed to eat in the dining hall. I passed my French exemption, too!

### **SEPTEMBER 21 - Monday**

I was so thrilled today that Margaret & Mary Catherine have started calling me "glowworm". And here's why. This afternoon on the way back from Biol. Sc. I stopped by the P.O. & there was a little package in it for me from Charlie. We had to go by the Alum Building to look for a book so it was quite a few minutes before I could get to my room & open it. And guess what it was! - a lovely Navy pin & pendant! Oh, I'm so happy! Lunch & lite-flash dates with A.X.O. I promised them this P.M.

### **SEPTEMBER 22 - Tuesday**

Tonite I pledged Alpha Chi Omega - and I'm so thrilled! Somehow I managed to live thru my classes this A.M. & then this afternoon I went over to the



Panhellenic Office & after some rigmarole they told me to go to the Alpha Chi Omega House, so there I flew & got my bid. So tonite with the other little pledges I went over & was formally pledged & everything. So now I have 2 pins to wear. Mary Ellen McCall is my pledge mother & I'm really quite glad 'cause I like her. but I heard tonite that Jeanne Kendall - a darling girl -had wanted me, but M.E. got me first. So I felt quite popular.

### **SEPTEMBER 23 - Wednesday**

This afternoon I went to my first "pledge meeting" & found out that all the pledges -among other things - are required to study 2 hours each nite in the library until they make their grades & can join. So I did tonite.

This morning I got 3 letters, too, & was it good to get 'em! One from Mama, one from Lu, & a lovely 6-page one from Charlie. So I answered his immediately. Gee, but I miss him. And oh! how I wish he weren't waiting to go into the fight! I get frightened each time I think of it.

Classes were O.K. today, but I haven't done all my work tonite.

### **SEPTEMBER 24 - Thursday**

I am so tired tonite that I am actually sick at my stomach. And I still have homework for tomorrow that I haven't yet done.

Today was my heavy day - classes all morning and one in the afternoon. But they changed my Spanish today so I really have a better schedule now.

Tonite I went over to the Alpha Chi Omega House for a pledging - one of the girls who didn't gt permission from her parents 'til today. And it really was more fun from the inside out than from the outside in like it was Tues. nite.

### **SEPTEMBER 25 - Friday**



After sitting thru another Spanish class I decided I'd have to change to 201b, so I'm going to do it tomorrow. Tho' I must admit my reason for not doing it before was 'cause I was really afraid to go to Dr. Seymour after that Exemption mix-up. This morning we went over to Communion at Ruge & right in the middle of the service Julie asked me if I would play the organ at the end so I did - but awfully impromptu-ly. I was scared! But Tish said I did O.K. Then tonite we went over there for "after dinner coffee" & that was nice, too.

### **SEPTEMBER 26 - Saturday**

Tonite I spent the nite over at the AXO House, & tho' I was a little apprehensive at first, I really had a grand time. Mary Ellen McCall - my pledge mother -- came by the room for me & we ate in the dining hall with a slew of other AXO's. Then she treated me to the show - a whole flock of the girls went along, and finally the two of us slept together on the top of a double decker. We didn't have much room but it was fun.

I got a nice 6-page letter from Charlie today & of course I answered it right away. Gee, but I get so thrilled - every time I get a letter from him.

### **SEPTEMBER 27 - Sunday**

Oh boy! Have I been eating high today! This morning we all got up - I had to come back over to the dorm for my garters, hat, & coat - & went down for the breakfast in honor of the pledges. They gave all the pledges lovely stationery with AXO on it for souvenirs & we had gorgeous thick juicy steaks to eat. Then I walked over to St. Johns, met Tish, & went with her home to dinner with her aunt, Mrs. Ely. And she gave us delicious fried chicken. It's been a grand day.

This afternoon I wrote Mama & Daddy & Charlie. I sure do miss him - even more on Sunday, I think.



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**SEPTEMBER 28 - Monday**

Well, I went into my new Spanish & Biological Science classes today. I don't like either one of them so much, but I guess they're going to have to do. The other Spanish class was awfully boring - but I'm afraid this one is just as bad. I sure wish I'd taken the Exemption. And I don't like the teacher as well in Biol. Sc. I don't think she makes things as clear.

Otherwise all went along peacefully except that Margaret & Tish & me had an awful argument - on teaching languages in public schools. Margaret make me so mad - she just won't listen.

**SEPTEMBER 29 - Tuesday**

I got another letter from Charlie today. Fore someone who hates to write letters as much as he says he does, he's really doing awfully well. I got the letter right after Convocation this afternoon - & Margaret took one look at me & said, "It's easy to see who that letter's from - you're glowing again!" So I guess I just can't help being thrilled when I hear from him. But oh! how I wish I could see him again - soon!

Convocation was really quite interesting today - the Faculty all came in in their caps & gowns - really quite impressive & all.

**SEPTEMBER 30 - Wednesday**

This is the first "end of the month" that we've had since we got up here, & it sort of makes me feel like there's a sort of marker passed. Tonite, too, everyone is taking "lite- cuts", 'cause this is the last nite we can have our September ones. Except Tish & I.. T'ish doesn't ever want to take one, & I don't want to take one before a 9 o'clock class - which I have tomorrow - so we're just not taking ours.

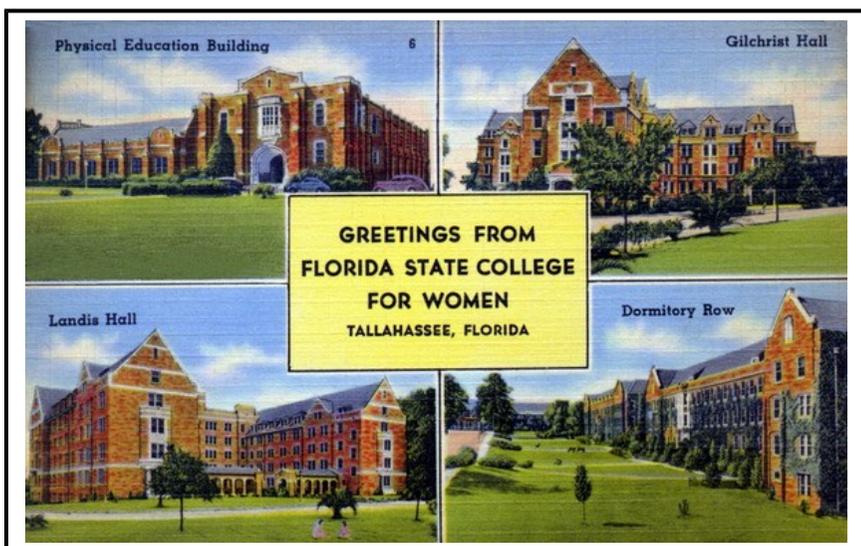
Today went along about as usual - except that Mary Catherine & I walked to town this morning - I got a pair of white curtains for our room - & I hadn't finished any of my assignments.



This afternoon we had our first "Tea" in the parlor of Jennie Murphree & so I went to it for a few minutes & my tongue is still burning. Tish had to pour 'cause she was elected vice-president of the social committee.

Then I had a pledge meeting at 5:30 that lasted so long that I was almost late for dinner. And we're supposed to "dress" for dinner on Wed. nite, which of course I didn't have time to do.

Everyone talks about how hard it is to make decent grades up here & how much you have to study. So, frankly, I'm scared stiff. And I haven't been doing too much studying, either.



## 1942 Penny Postcards





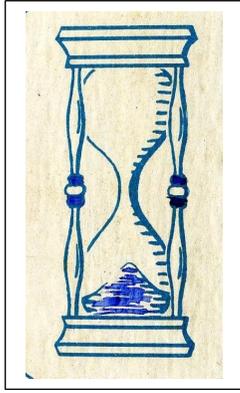
## OCTOBER 1942 NEWS EVENTS

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> Germany launched an A-4 Peenemunde Rocket, the first man-made object ever to reach outer space.

Elsewhere, all month, all over the world:



--jwc



## OCTOBER DIARY ENTRIES

### OCTOBER 1 - Thursday

I haven't felt worse since I've been here at Tally. Honestly, tonite I'm afraid I have flu - I feel just like it! I went to study hall, like I was supposed to, but I felt so bad I left before the time was up. My skin feels warm to the touch but I'm so cold I've got goose pimples, & I ache in every joint - & my head particularly. I don't know whether to go to infirmary or not. I think I'll go tomorrow & have my throat swabbed out - 'cause it feels like it's on fire - tomorrow, anyway.

I guess this is the closest I've come to being homesick since I've been here, 'cause feeling as bad as I do, I sure do wish I had Mama with me!

And I sure do miss Charlie, too. You know, it really doesn't seem fair that we should be separated so soon after we've found out we're in love with each other. Oh! if only this separation won't make us grow apart! But it frightens me every time I think of it. Still, if he hadn't been going away I don't think it would



have gone as far, 'cause I guess we were both feeling a little desperate.

Still, five years seems like such an awfully long time - and with the war, too. Oh, how I hope we still love each other then like we do now!

### **OCTOBER 2 - Friday**

Tonite when Tish & I came up the stairs from dinner there were Frankie & Mary Ellen waiting to visit us. And we hadn't even made up the beds all day long! So we did it in a hurry & a few minutes later Gloria John & her cousin dropped in & then Marianne Smith came in for a few minutes. So we had lots of company & a room so messed up that it was terrible! Then I went over & studied with Marianne in her room in Landis. It sure is pretty over there. Then on the way back we dropped in at the Methodist Student House & just barely made it in the dorm.

I tho't I would hear from Charlie today, but I didn't.

### **OCTOBER 3 - Saturday**

Tonite Alec Templeton played here in the auditorium - & he was wonderful! The 1<sup>st</sup> part of his program was classical stuff but the last part was his own compositions, arrangement & improvisations. I like his arrangements better than his compositions, but his improvisations - especially his combining pieces - were extraordinary!

Then I went over to the AXO House to spend the nite, & after last lite flash Carolyn Stowell hypnotized Maggie Mae & that was marvelous! Honestly! It was funny, too, when she told her she was holding a kitten & she began petting an old bedroom slipper they gave her.

### **OCTOBER 4 - Sunday**

I slept 'til 9:30 this morning & did it feel good - especially after getting to bed at 3:30! Then I went to



Church with Kirch & afterwards Tish & I ate dinner at the AXO tables in the dining hall. This afternoon Tish went to hear Alec Templeton again but I stayed in the room & did my French. Tonite Tish & I ate supper with Marianne Smith & then went with Renee over to the AXO House to roast marshmallows & to get the things I'd left over there from last nite. When we got back Tish went visiting but I stayed home again & did my English - & I still haven't done either my Spanish or my zo.

### OCTOBER 5 - Monday

I got a letter from Charlie today from Richmond - he's been transferred there at last & is in service school now. Oh! I do hope he gets his rating. But I sure do wish he could have been stationed down here. Still, I guess he can be happy in Richmond.

I took a holiday tonite & went to the show with our next door neighbors. It was quite cute - "Iceland". & can Sonia Henie skate!



It was awfully nice not doing any work all evening for a change, but I guess I really should have.



I fell off the roof today & Tish had used all my things so I had to go borrowing - I hate that!

### **OCTOBER 6 - Tuesday**

I'm taking my first "lite-cut" tonite. I suppose I could get along without it, but I think it'll help. And I think I'm going to have to start going to breakfast.

We had our "Y" Recognition Service at Convocation tonite. It was rather nice except that Marianne talked too long. I had a little speaking part (the only Freshman) & it was quite small, but it took up my whole 2:00 free period to practice for it. Of course the program took up most of our study period, & then there was a "house meeting" at 10:45, so that messed us up all the more.

### **OCTOBER 7 - Wednesday**

I went to an "open forum" tonite on "Should 18-year olds or married men be drafted" & it was really quite interesting. Then of course I went to study hall & afterwards over to the Alum with Virginia Something, one of the AXO's.

This afternoon we had our pledge meeting & then the actives fixed us pledges a supper over at the house - it was awfully good. And of course I went to the tea.

This afternoon in zoology we had a most horrible exam. And I'm awfully afraid I flunked it. I sure am starting off on the wrong foot in most of my classes - handing my first English theme in late, etc.

### **OCTOBER 8 - Thursday**

There was a little piece in the Flambeau about all that a Freshman goes thru, & one thing was getting into "Activiies" & finding herself with 5 meetings all on the same nite. Well, I've started getting into "Activities", tho' not that deep! At 2:00 I went to a Freshman Flunkie meeting & at 5:00 to a Y.W.C.A. meeting. Tonite there was a pledging that I was



supposed to go to but I was late so of course I didn't go. So you can see how much space for studying that leaves me. And tomorrow is rny heavy day. Honestly, I'm getting worried about my French - it's all I can do to keep up with my daily work - I haven't done any of the outside stuff!

### **OCTOBER 9 - Friday**

Tonite was the **Freshman Banquet** over at Ruge & we really had a most agonizing time getting there. First I stayed in the Library too long & really didn't have enough time to dress. I was going to wear my Navy blue dress & the collar & cuffs took me longer than I'd tho't to sew on, so I didn't get in the shower till 7:00 - when the banquet was starting. Just as I got back in the room & started the finishing touches Tish dashed back in the room - she had gone on & left me - shouting that it was formal & began changing her dress!



So I changed my slip & put on my evening skirt & we were both late. But it was nice anyway.

### **1942 Freshman Reception**

### **OCTOBER 10 - Saturday**



I have had a most indigestible day - but it's been fun. First I didn't get up for breakfast so I got an ice cream sandwich during the middle of the morning. We had wieners for lunch, & all afternoon Tish & I cleaned up & washed & we were so tired that we got cokes just before supper. We had lemon pie for dessert at supper, & then Tish & I went to see "Priorities on Parade" with Mary Catherine & Lola & of course we ate candy all

thru the show. Afterwards we went home with M.C. to get some of her clothes & Mrs. Hart gave us milk & cake. Then we came home & Margaret had bought some candy & cookies so we went down & ate 'em.

### **OCTOBER 11 - Sunday**

I don't feel like I've done anything at all useful today but I seem to have finished both my French & Spanish so I guess I must have. This morning I went over to the "study class" for the first time at Ruge & I really enjoyed it; then we went to Church & I didn't enjoy it so much.

We ate dinner at the AXO tables & then afterwards I went to see "My Sister Eileen" - it was darling! - with a bunch of them. We stayed downtown for supper & then I





stayed over at the house for a while after we got back. Anna Mae said all the pledges had to sing their "goat songs" last nite!

### **OCTOBER 12 - Monday**

I tho't I would hear from Charlie today, since I didn't hear Sat., but I didn't get any mail at all. I guess he's awfully busy being in school & all, but I'm afraid I'm really getting a little jealous about what might happen in Richmond. I can't help but worry. We had an absolutely horrible botany exam this afternoon. I might have tho't the zo was bad but this was worse! I had my interview at the personnel office this afternoon & they made out a study schedule for me that I shan't follow.

After classes I helped Tish make posters for "Open House Wednesaday Feast" in Betty Alday's room tonite.

### **OCTOBER 13 - Tuesday**

Today has been rather ordinary - particularly ordinary since I didn't get a letter from Charlie - & I surely tho't I would have heard by today! I got letters from Mama & Charlotte & a box of persimmons from Pa, & Mama enclose a letter that Charlie had written her.

Classes went along as usual - we started golf in Phys. Ed. - & this afternoon we went to the first Canterbury Club meeting.

Tonite Vereen Bell - the author of *Swamp Water* - spoke here & of course I went to hear him, but he's a better writer than he is a speaker. Tho' he did tell a few rather cute jokes.

### **OCTOBER 14 - Wednesday**

I'm supposed to have morning watch tomorrow so tonite I've been working my head off trying to get some prayers & stuff lined up for it. It's hard! I didn't know before how terrible it is to have to lead a worship



service. I'm really ashamed of the way I acted about it. But Tish did another one of her "telling me" instead of "asking me" & I kicked & said I would not do it. But of course I repented so I'm having it tomorrow. My French is getting me down. We have 25 pages of parallel due next Wed. & I have yet to do either of the sketches of the authors that we're supposed to do. I've got to buckle down & work!

### **OCTOBER 15 - Thursday**

I declare, there's so much to do around here it's practically impossible to get any work done. We had 5 meetings today besides everything else & tomorrow's my heavy day, too. I got my velveteen jacket today that I wrote & asked if Mama could make. I think she did a wonderful job. I didn't write her for it 'til last Thur. & it came today & it fits perfectly! You simply couldn't ask for better. I'm really quite pleased. My only hope is that it won't look funny with my yellow skirt.

I haven't heard from Charlie yet! I sure hope Richmond hasn't taken him away from me completely!

### **OCTOBER 16 - Friday**



**1942 FSCW Co-ed writing her boyfriend in the service**

I really had gotten awfully worried about Charlie's not writing but today I got a beautiful letter from him! He's been working awfully hard & he made 356 on his first exam. I'm so proud of him! Of course I answered his letter today but I never did get a chance to mail it, so he'll be late in getting it. Sometimes I feel like I have an awful lot to live up to & a terrible responsibility on my hands. But I do love him so that if I can only keep him happy & in love with me I'll be satisfied.

We went over for "after dinner coffee" at Ruge & it was awfully nice except that I haven't done any homework.

**OCTOBER 17 - Saturday**

Tonite was our AXO "formal" & believe it or not I had a date for it - a slightly drippy ATD from Gainesville, Endor Davis.

Before I was even up this AM some of the girls came in & asked me if I'd have a date with him. I said "yes", so after the "gold book" test this afternoon I went



over to the house & met him & we danced a little. He was O.K. - but couldn't even compare with Charlie! Then he took me to supper at the Sweet Shop & of course he was my date for the dance. The house was really beautiful - with white flowers & candles - but I couldn't get used to the "girl-break".



**1942 FSCW Student Lounge called "The Sweet Shop"**

### **OCTOBER 18 - Sunday**

Am I dead tonite! We walked half-way to the dairy this A.M. - Endor & Virginia Jones & I - & then rode the other half of the way in the trunk of one of the cars. The picnic itself really was fun & then 13 of us rode back together in a coupe. After we got back to the House we walked to town for sodas & finally left the boys to hitch-hike back to Gainesville. It's been a right nice weekend - but nothing extra of course. And I didn't meet any boys that I could even think of liking more than Charlie. I forgot to mail Charlie's letter 'til tonite - & I feel like a heel! And I didn't get a chance to write him his "Sunday letter", either.

**OCTOBER 19 - Monday**

I don't know when - since I've been up here - that I've had more work piled up on me! I spent nearly all morning working on French, & I still have 2 papers to write sometime, & 25 pages of parallels that's due Wed.! Then tonite I worked on a most horrible English theme - while Tish & Margaret were asking me questions about their respective Spanishes - so consequently it's one of the worst I've ever written. And this afternoon we had a grueling zo test so when it was over I went over to the AXO house & just sat & talked to recuperate.

**OCTOBER 20 - Tuesday**

I don't know when I've been more thrilled than I was tonite. I went to my first Investiture - & it was really impressive. Then Dr. Dodd gave one of the most inspiring talks I've ever heard. All during the procession I kept thinking how wonderful it would be if, next year, someone asked me to be her Sophomore sister so you know how thrilled I was when afterwards Marianne Smith did ask me to be hers! I hugged her - I was so happy! Then we went over to the Sweet Shop with all the AXO seniors & their sophomore sisters. It was gorgeous fun - even if I didn't get any of my French done.

**OCTOBER 21 - Wednesday**

This morning my first "box-from-home" came so believe me we're having a wonderful time eating tonite!

I stayed in bed doing my French 'til about 11:15 this morning & I was awfully worried about it - it was our first taste of *parallel* & we were supposed to have a test on it. But she decided since it was the first time that we'd just have an oral discussion instead. What a relief!

The rest of the day went on about the same except that I heard I'd made 94 on our Monday zo



exam. After pledge meeting, Gloria John asked me all about Charlie - so I told her.

### **OCTOBER 22 - Thursday**

I was so thrilled this morning in English class! I got back my theme that was a character sketch of Mama, Daddy, Dar & Pa, & Mrs. Miller had written "an excellent paper" across the bottom of it. And by my description of the living room she had written "excellent". And when I was walking out she said, "That was an awfully nice paper, Eleanor."

But neither Tish nor I got any mail at all today. I think they've all deserted us, tho' I must admit my correspondence has gotten a little lax lately. At least I don't worry quite as much when Charlie doesn't write 'cause I know he's awfully busy.

### **OCTOBER 23 - Friday**

No mail again today. I'm beginning to feel deserted! I can better stand not hearing from Charlie if I have letters from other people, & when Charlie writes it doesn't make any difference if no one else writes. But when nobody at all writes it makes me feel morbid.

But I guess it serves me right - I did sort of fall down on my correspondence last week - but I've sure made up for lost time this week! Tish & I spent the evening over at Ruge. I enjoy those nice quiet evenings so much - I sure did hate to come back & get down to work, too! Y.W.C.A. Publicity meeting this afternoon -I have to make a poster..

### **OCTOBER 24 - Saturday**

I think I had an attack of homesickness tonite - except that it wasn't for home, it was for Charlie! Honestly, I was missing him so much that I almost felt like weeping. I guess my not hearing from him all week didn't help any, either. But I'm feeling better



now - I went down & spent the evening with Mary Catherine & Lola. I told 'em how I felt, & made 'em play cards with me, & let me talk about myself, so I'm feeling a little gayer now. I really do like them a lot..



### 1942 FSCW Student Bridge Game

This afternoon Tish & I spent our time shopping around down town for a tin cake-box for our food. And we finally found one.

### OCTOBER 25 - Sunday

I've really enjoyed myself today, & I've gotten my homework done thru Tuesday, so if I didn't have that Y.W.C.A. poster hanging over me I'd be completely happy. We went to Study Class over at Ruge this morning & I really like it a lot - we're discussing one of G.K. Chesterton's books. Then this afternoon we spent our time in the Browsing Room & I enjoyed myself again - reading Teasdale & Galsworthy. And tonite the pledges served supper over at the House so of course I went. And I had to sing my "goat song" three times! I think I'll try to go over there at least every other day. It's fun.

### OCTOBER 26 - Monday



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I can't decide whether love is wonderful - or terrible.

You see, I get a letter & for about 48 hours I'm completely blissful & then I begin to worry for fear Charlie has decided he doesn't love me as much or that he's met someone else, so for about 96 hours I gradually worry more & more 'til I'm practically at my wit's end, & then here comes a letter again & I'm once more in Seventh Heaven.

Here's what all this is leading up to: this morning Tish went to get the mail & came back saying I didn't have any. But I knew from the look in her eye that I did, so she handed over a letter from Charlie. Oh! I was so happy to get it - & it was such a nice one!

### **OCTOBER 27 - Tuesday**

This morning I did the most awful thing that I have ever done - I'm still mortified to death & I still don't see how I managed to let it happen!

Something happened to my sense of time 'cause at 10:10 I heard Tish coming up from her 9:00 class & realized that I should have been in English at 10:00!

You should have seen me dash!

I got there 15 minutes late but Mrs. Miller only said, "Don't let it happen again," so I hope she won't count it.

But what worries me is that she's got an awful opinion of me now - everything I've ever done I've done late or at the last minute - & that's no way to act!

But I did make 97 on the Botany exam.

### **OCTOBER 28 - Wednesday**

Another letter from Charlie today - oh, I was so happy to get it - of course I'd gotten one only Monday. But - I'm ashamed to say - it made me jealous. His



Monday's letter was a lot more loving - I liked it better - but in this one he told me he'd gone dancing with a whole bunch of boys & girls & that he was going to get a date with his cousin next week & "try to show her a good time."

Oh, it's so easy to get jealous when you're in love - & I think I'm naturally inclined toward it, anyway. I used to get jealous of the Jax girls - even Charlotte - & now I'm jealous of the girls in Richmond. But I think I've hidden it enough so that he doesn't suspect.

### **OCTOBER 29 - Thursday**

Our second Artist Series was tonite & of course we went - Charles Weidman's modern dance troupe. I had never tho't that I would enjoy such a thing, but honestly, he was good. I don't think I've ever seen better interpretive dance - even in Ballet Russe. There was one scene in particular - one that represented a hanging - that was so realistic that it made you shudder. I have really enjoyed it.

Otherwise today wasn't extraordinary. I've gotten over feeling jealous over Charlie. After all, I do want him to have fun - I'm going out myself. I guess I just love him - that's all.

### **OCTOBER 30 - Friday**

Tonite I saw the first football game I've seen since last season - & was it good to see the "ole blue & gray" again. And they played a good game, too - beat Leon 20 - 6. And I saw Ann Allen there - she & all the rest of my little girls are in the "Pep Squad" at Leon. And she's not angry with me. I was so relieved. I didn't want to hurt her feelings & I had tried to get her, but I was awfully afraid she was hurt. But she hugged me the same as ever & seemed to love me just as much, so I guess all's O.K. We had our Spanish quarterly this afternoon - a honey. I got a card from Charlie, too.



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## Hallowe'en OCTOBER 31 - Saturday

Well, it's Hallowe'en & am I glad I'm spending the nite at the House - & not in the dorm! But today's been so full I've hardly had a minute to breathe. This afternoon at 2:00 I went downtown with the rest of the committee to buy the stuff for the supper tomorrow nite. We got back about 3:45, so I rinsed out a blouse & slip & rushed over to the XO pledge party at 4:30. I got back from that about 5:00, took a shower, ironed my blouse & got dressed & over to the House by 6:00. Then we (I walked with a bunch) went down to the Floridan for the Initiation Banquet - for the fall initiates. It was an awfully nice banquet with everyone formal & all, except for one thing - I had to sing my "goat song" in front of al] those people - & it was horrible! Then we (I walked again) came back to the house & entertained soldiers all evening. About 11:00 Marianne & I came over to the room to get me some nite-clothes. And was the place a mess! Hallowe'en, you know. The door-knobs were greased, mirrors soaped, & no one's room was safe. But worst of all - all along the banisters were notes "Dear Eleanor, you are always in my heart, love, Charlie." Oh, was I embarrassed! Back over at the house Marianne & I talked 'til 1:30.



**1940s FSCW Student Dance—  
Notice the sign behind the band**



## NOVEMBER 1942 NEWS EVENTS

Events in November, 1942—naval losses for Japan, successful Russian defense of Stalingrad, Allied wins in North Africa —encouraged British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

He said, "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

World War II fighting would go on another three years until August, 1954, when the U.S dropped an Atomic Bomb on Japan. It was the deadliest conflict in human history, resulting as 70 million fatalities.

November 15<sup>th</sup> saw the United States Navy and Air Force smash Japan's greatest naval armada aimed at Guadalcanal. Flyers off the *USS Enterprise* sank the Japanese battleship *Hiei*.

But Japanese submarine *I-26* torpedoed the *USS Juneau* The torpedo hit the cruiser near the ammunition

magazine; the ship exploded killing five American brothers, the Sullivan Brothers (George, Francis, Joseph, Madison, and Albert) aged 20 to 27, who were serving together on her;

This was the greatest loss by a single American family during the war.



The story of the Fighting Sullivans inspired the nation. Their photo appeared on recruiting posters, songs were written about their patriotic sacrifice, later a postage stamp was issued in their honor—and a month after the Juneau's sinking, construction began on a destroyer named the *USS Sullivans*, 537, which was launched and fought throughout the remainder of the war.



On November 13<sup>th</sup>, A U.S. Navy patrol Kingfisher spotted a life raft floating in the ocean off the Pacific atoll of [Nukufetau](#). Seven Americans had survived in the open raft for 22 days after their B-17 had crashed. Among the men in the raft was aviation hero Eddie Rickenbacker who assumed leadership of the crash victims.

All survivors suffered from sunburn, exposure, dehydration and starvation. They credited Rickenbacker with keeping them alive in their ordeal. They had run out of food on the third day after the B-17's crash and starved until Rickenbacker caught a seagull which had landed on his head. They divided the bird and ate it raw.

Rickenbacker was awarded the Navy's Air Medal and later wrote a best selling book, *Seven Came Through*, about the survivors' experience in the open raft.

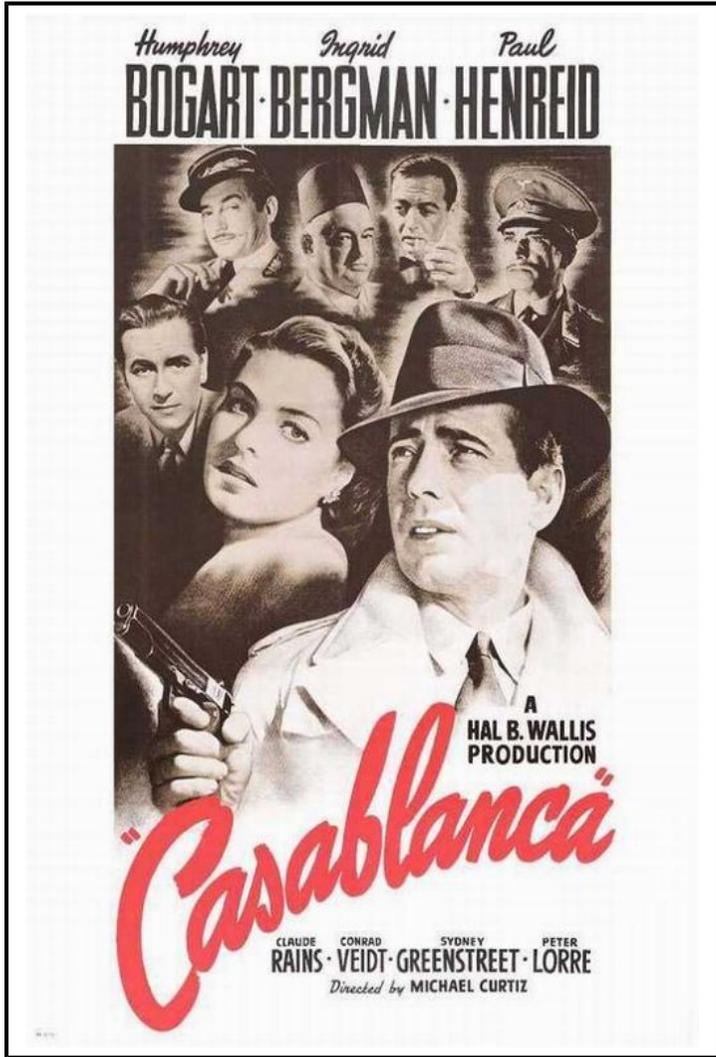


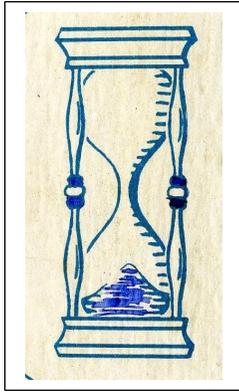
In Boston, on November 28, 1942, at the Cocoanut Grove nightclub, panic broke out when artificial palm tree decorations caught fire causing the deadliest nightclub fire in American history. Hundreds of people in the packed out house were injured; 492 people died in the fire or were trampled in the rush to escape.

In panic, many tried to escape through the main entrance, a revolving door. They blocked one another's exit

and bodies piled up behind both sides of the door; it was so jammed firemen and rescuers could not get inside without removing that door. Because of the Coconut Grove fire, new regulations, codes, and safety standards—especially those involving doors at businesses—came into effect.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, *Casablanca*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, opened in theatres.





## NOVEMBER DIARY ENTRIES

### NOVEMBER 1 - Sunday

Heavens, what a full day! I got up early, dressed, & came back over to the room to dress for church. Then we went to Study Class at Ruge at 9:30, Church downtown at 11:00, & walked home so that we got here when the dinner bell was ringing. I didn't even go to my room after dinner, but went straight over to the house & made potato salad from 2:00 to 5:00. I came back over to the room just long enough to write Mama & Daddy & then went back over to the House to serve supper at 6:00. Right after supper I went downtown (walked) with 6 other AXO's to see "Now, Voyager." It was a wonderful picture but I'm dead & have no work done.

### NOVEMBER 2 - Monday

Margaret & I got our lockers & gym suits this afternoon & the suits are lavender! I bet they look strange! I sure hope we don't go thru this much agony at the end of every quarter. Honestly, I have so much



to do this week that I'm just hoping I get thru with it all. Right now I'm beginning to wonder.

Nothing special has happened today except that I worked steadily - without even taking time to breathe almost - & now I'm so sleepy & tired I feel groggy & I don't see any end in site this week.

I heard from poor Fido again today - guess I'll have to write him.

### **NOVEMBER 3 - Tuesday**

I suppose it was foolish to go tonite with all the work I have - I'm taking a lite cut to make up for it - but I went to see "Letters to Lucerne" & I can truthfully say that I have never seen a better stage production. I haven't wept for ages in a show, but I simply bawled tonite. It was really wonderful - plot & acting.

This morning when I got out of English exam I was feeling sort of glum, but I got a letter from Charlie - a beautiful 6-page one - & everyone says I've been glowing ever since. Margaret took one look at me, & said, "You got a letter today." So\_\_

### **NOVEMBER 4 - Wednesday**

Not a bit of mail today! I think that's disgraceful - after all the letter-writing I've been doing! Of course I didn't expect one from Charlie after that beautiful one yesterday - but wouldn't it be wonderful if one like that came every day? But I don't expect that from anyone & he's awfully busy besides, still, when I get letters like that it makes me sure he loves me. And the way I feel makes me sure I love him!

Miss Judy gave us back our Spanish exams - & I made "A"! I was so thrilled! But I'm afraid I flunked the zo test today so I guess that evens things up. Oh! If only I don't make any "U"'s.

### **NOVEMBER 5 - Thursday**

I got the most wonderful news from Charlie today! I was so thrilled that I took Margaret over to the



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Soda Shop & we both got chocolate fudge sundaes with nuts!

But the news is this: he's been transferred to the supply dep't up there & is doing the same work that he did in Jax. That means he might get a storekeeper's rating before long, but best of all - it means that he probably won't get shipped out of the country so soon. That's the wonderful part - that makes me feel so relieved. Botany exam this afternoon -awful. I made "95" on my zo yesterday!

### **NOVEMBER 6 - Friday**

Tonite at dinner someone said, "Isn't there some kind of pledge party tonite?" And I suddenly remembered that there was one at the Tri Delt house. So I dashed over. It really was an awfully nice fashion show - with some luscious clothes! But I didn't get one scrap of homework done so I feel like the evening has been wasted. But I got the most wonderfully shocking news in botany this afternoon - I made "99" on the quarterly! I was so pleased.

Mama & Dar each sent me \$1.00 in their letters. Mama said hers was to celebrate the end of the quarter, but Dar didn't even mention hers.

### **NOVEMBER 7 - Saturday**

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time I was supposed to spend the nite at the house & didn't. First quarter ended this morning & tho' we haven't yet gotten our grades I feel like I've passed a sort of milestone. This afternoon Margaret, Lola, Frances, Tish, & I went downtown to see "The Major & the Minor" & it really was awfully cute.

Tonite Tish went to the soldier party in the J.M. party - no one can go downtown on Sat. nite from F.S.C.W. anymore - I spent the evening in Lola's room reading them my letters from Charlie - something I always swore I'd never do!

### **NOVEMBER 8 - Sunday**



I feel like I've wasted the entire week-end, but I think the let-down after this week's tension was good for us.

This morning Tish & I got up & went to early Communion & met Betty & Mrs. Williams there. Mrs. Williams said she was awfully glad to meet me 'cause she'd heard so much about me - but I bet she was disappointed. But they bro't us home - which was awfully nice.

Then after dinner Lola, Margaret, Frances, Tish, & I went over to "The Shack" & played the piano & sang for about an hour. And I really enjoyed it. After supper Tish & I went over to Ruge for Vespers & read afterward.

### **NOVEMBER 9 - Monday**

Today has been an awful let-down after last week's cramming. But I got my French paper back - I'm not exactly pleased with it tho' she didn't put grades on any of them.

This morning I walked downtown to have my picture taken for the annual. I'm supposed to get the proofs Thur. afternoon & frankly I don't want to 'cause I know they're going to be awful.

I got a card from Beth in Chicago - Bob had a 2-day leave so they went there to "window-shop". And I got a letter from Mama enclosing Charlie's last letter to her.

### **NOVEMBER 10 - Tuesday**

There was a cute debate in convocation today: "Resolved - war marriages are desirable."

It was finally declared a tie, & then they announced the "engagement & approaching marriage of the chairman of the negative side to Mr. Buck Private."

Otherwise - except for a letter from Lu & one from Mrs. Orchard - today was not unusual. I didn't even hear from Charlie. I really had tho't I would -



'cause with his new job I think he has more free time so I think he should write me oftener. But I guess I'll just have to wait.

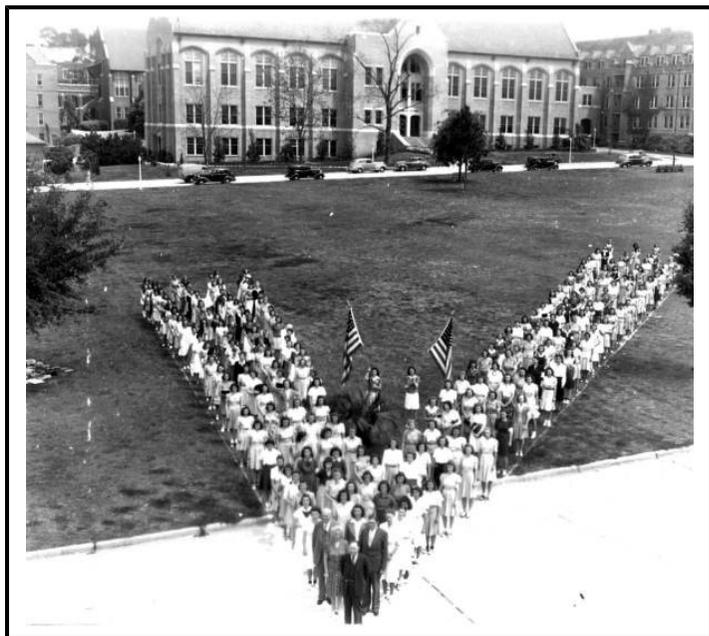
Canterbury Club meeting this afternoon & House meeting tonite. So there hasn't been much spare time.

### **Armistice Day , NOVEMBER 11 - Wednesday**

This afternoon the grades came out - or rather the "U's" came out - so the whole school was in an uproar. But fortunately neither Tish nor I got any - we were so thankful!

This morning we had an Armistice Day "flag-raising" out on the field in front of Landis.

### **1942 FSCW Students Form V For Victory!**



It really was very nice except that it turned cold today & I had washed my hair just before it, so I nearly froze.

Tonite I had to make a poster for Freshman Flunkies & I did an awfully messy job. I always feel so discouraged when I don't do good work. And I haven't heard from Charlie yet - I'm beginning to worry\_

**NOVEMBER 12 - Thursday**

It's been a week now since I heard from Charlie - & I'm awfully worried - I don't know what to think! I suppose he is awfully busy - but when he doesn't write, I get worried for fear that he's sick or that he's not in love with me anymore. And either of those would be terrible! I hope I hear tomorrow.

Otherwise today was very ordinary except that I've been working extra hard trying to get all my work done so I can leave tomorrow. Of course I'll leave whether I've finished or not, but I want to do as much as I can. Tish & I are proctors now so I don't have to go to study hall!

**NOVEMBER 13 - Friday**

I didn't realize how much I wanted to get home 'til I got here - & Oh! It was gorgeous to get back here to ole Jax again! The trip was pretty long - 7 hours from 3:30 to 10:30 but there were about 15 F.S.C.W.-ians on the bus & we had more fun singing. And the bus driver joined in with a fair tenor & some corny moron jokes.

**1942 FSCW Students Headed Home On Fall Break**

We ate supper in Lake City - Margaret, Nancy Lee Wheeler, Doris Grainger, & I. But wasn't it good to



see Mama, Pa, Dar, & Miss Madge again! - they came down to meet me, & since Daddy was out of town we spent the nite at Dellwood. I haven't stopped talking yet!

### **NOVEMBER 14 - Saturday**

Oh - I was so thrilled tonite! Charlie phoned from Richmond! I had really known all along that he was going to do it - he didn't say he was but somehow I just knew it. And oh! it was wonderful to hear his voice again! But he didn't tell me that he loved me - & that worries me. But still it was so sweet of him to 'phone!

Charlotte & Lu came in this morning & goodness it was good to see 'em again. I hadn't realized how much I loved 'em.! This afternoon we went shopping & tonite we went to see Mrs. Orchard & Sarah. And in bed of course we talked long & late.

### **NOVEMBER 15 - Sunday**

It sure was good to be back at Good Shepherd & to see everyone again, but the funny part is - & it worries me a little - that the boys seemed a lot gladder to see me than the girls did. Of course all 3 of the Browns



greeted me profusely, but most of the Y.P.S.L. girls just said "hello" but the boys shook hands & really seemed glad to see me. Cooper came over from South Side - he's going to All Saints now - & went to Church with us, & after Y.P.S.L. Geo. Bedell took me to Church. Afterwards we went over to the Elwes' & I met a couple of St. Paul's boys. If Charlie had been here it would have been perfect.

**NOVEMBER 16 - Monday**

Well, here I am back at ole F.S.C. - but heavens didn't I hate to come! I would have given anything if I could have stayed right back there at home - especially this morning at 6:00.

The trip was uneventful except for a very interesting Army pick-up & smooching act on the back seat accompanied by some rather loud drinking. And didn't I walk into some work back here - 5 pages of Spanish to get done in an hour & 4 horrible English paragraphs for tomorrow. I really got back in time for French but I cut because I hadn't done my assignment. And the AXO invitations to be done, too. Oh

**NOVEMBER 17 - Tuesday**

I honestly don't know when I have ever worked as hard as I have today. I got up this morning & did the 4 English paragraphs in an hour, & then all the rest of the day I have been working on the invitations to the pledge party - & were they a lot of work! I'm simply worn out - I even skipped Convocation to do 'em. Then late this afternoon Margaret & I walked around & delivered them. But they are cute - if I do say so myself.

**NOVEMBER 18 - Wednesday**

I got the most wonderful letter from Charlie today! Everyone said they knew I'd gotten one 'cause I was "glowing" again. But he said he'd been so excited when he heard my voice that he'd forgotten the most important thing - that he loved me. So I feel much better. Oh! I do love him so! I wrote him tonite, tho', & told him I was afraid Daddy wouldn't let me come up for Christmas.

This afternoon at pledge meeting everyone said my invitations were darling so I felt repaid for yesterday's slaving. And they told me the chapter wanted me to run for Senate. I know I won't get it but I'm going to run anyway.



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**NOVEMBER 19 - Thursday**

I didn't get any mail at all today - but I suppose 4 letters yesterday account for it. Anyway, I'm worried today - we're to have an exam in zo tomorrow that frankly has me scared, & I've been wasting the whole evening just talking to Lola & Mary Catherine. I haven't even finished my French & Spanish for tomorrow - to say nothing of studying for the zo. Oh gosh if I don't settle down I never will get out of here! After classes I went over to the AXO House to make "drink-lists" for the "cocktail party" on Saturday. But we didn't get any done 'cause the ink wouldn't take. So now I've got those to do, too.

**NOVEMBER 20 - Friday**

We had a horrible zo exam this afternoon & aside from copying my notes & taking it I haven't done any studying at all. This morning we stood in line to get the tickets for the Thanksgiving dinner & then I had a "conference" with Mrs. MacMillan. I do like her so much. I'm afraid I sort of bragged to her but in the end she seemed to think I was sort of good. Anyway, I really did enjoy talking to her. Then tonite Tish & I went over to Ruge for After Dinner Coffee & then sat over there & talked 'til quite late. But that was nice, too, tho' I missed Julie - she's in New Orleans. No letter from Charlie.

**NOVEMBER 21 - Saturday**

This afternoon was the pledge party - & O! what a job! - but Gloria John said it was a real success. So that's some comfort. It was supposed to be a cocktail party - & I do think it was quite cute. I was a waitress in a red skirt & my high-heeled Navy shoes - & do my feet hurt tonite! This morning I had to make out the "drink lists" & I kept wondering what all the things looked like - but believe me this afternoon I learned a lot more about drinks than I ever knew before! We played bridge tonite. The moon was beautiful tonite— Last Sat. I talked to Charlie-!

**NOVEMBER 22 - Sunday**

I haven't studied a bit today - no, I did do a few minutes of French just before supper -but it's been just delightful wasting the day. I slept 'til about 10:30; then dressed & had dinner at the AXO tables; & then spent the afternoon writing letters. Tonite I had supper at the Sweet Shop & then spent the evening just reading & talking at Ruge. It was an awfully nice evening - there was a soldier over there who was quite nice & we all had a good time just talking. Oh! I wish I could see Charlie again! When they sang "Taps" tonite I nearly cried.

**NOVEMBER 23 - Monday**

I am very discouraged about my French - we had a most horrible exam today & I honestly think I flunked it. If I didn't I came awfully close to it. I just hope I pass the course. But I made 98 on our zo exam Fri. so that's some comfort. I got up early this morning & began studying for my French & continued all morning -then when I got to the exam I didn't even have time to finish it.

Today hasn't really been very exciting - it was even a little of a let-down after the weekend. No letter from Charlie.

**NOVEMBER 24 - Tuesday**

Tonite - for the first time in my life - I saw an "Even Demonstration" & I really enjoyed it. It was absolutely darling! And when you think how completely amateur it was it seems absolutely wonderful.

Tish & I are really tired tonite. This afternoon for nearly 2 hours - in honor of our arriving guests - we cleaned house. And I mean really cleaned! We have never done such a thorough job! I really don't even feel at home anymore! After first lite-flash the Odds had their "nite out" so we watched their "lantern parade" from the window - it was quite pretty.



## NOVEMBER 25 - Wednesday

Everything has happened today - it's been wonderful! This morning I was just sure that I had a letter from Charlie - I don't know how or why - but I was just sure! And sure enough - after her 10 o'clock class Tish came up with a letter - & such a nice one! I "glowed" again. Then this afternoon Charlotte & Frances Taylor came over for the holidays - & it was so good to see Charlotte! I hope she has a good time - 'cause I'd sure like her to come here next year! And tonite was Odd Dance - & it was really darling! I've just had such a wonderful time today!

## Thanksgiving Day NOVEMBER 26 - Thursday

Today has been the most fun Thanksgiving that I've ever had! We got up this AM & went to breakfast & then to the worship service in the auditorium. Then we - Charlotte & I - went to the games at the gym - & they were honestly the best volleyball & basketball games I've ever seen! They were really good - & the Evens won both! Then all of us went to dinner - & was it a beauty! H'm'm! About 5:00 Charlotte, Frances & I went to tea at Ruge & then about 7 of us went down to see "Once Upon a Honeymoon" & it was cute. But how we had to rush home. I had 10 minutes to walk 3 blocks to the dorm, sign in & out again & get to the AXO House!



## NOVEMBER 27 - Friday



I heard from Charlie again today. I knew I would, tho', 'cause he said in his last letter that he would write again Tues. It wasn't as nice a letter as the last one, but it was still wonderful. O! How I wish I could see him!

Charlotte went with me this morning to Health Class, but this afternoon she couldn't take it - she went to sleep for a couple of hours while I was in class.

Then tonite Margaret, Frances, Charlotte, & I spent the evening over at Ruge - & it really was lovely. I think Charlotte really likes F.S.C.W. - goodness how I wish she'd come here next year.

### **NOVEMBER 28 - Saturday**

I'm so sleepy tonite that my eyes feel like they have strings tied to them that are pulling them so they're crossed! It's terrible. Tish has gone to Monticello with her mother so I have the room with Charlotte for the first time - but we're so tired & sleepy I know we won't do all the talking we'd planned to do.

Speaking of talking, this afternoon I stayed down in Mary Catherine & Lola's room & talked to them & Ruby for about 3 hrs. while Charlotte was studying in the Library. It was rather amazing, but I surely enjoyed it. We spent the evening at Mary Catherine's house in town.

### **NOVEMBER 29 - Sunday**

Goodness - what a time we did have getting the girls off this morning! First they decided to go on the 10:00 bus but I misunderstood & tho't it left at 10:30 - so they weren't ready on time. We went over to the "Three T's" about 11:30 & persuaded them to serve us early & we called a taxi about quarter to 12. And it didn't get there 'til 12:20! The bus left at 12:30 so we were really chewing our finger nails! But they made it - and even got seats together! Then Margaret & I went



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walking in high heels out to Los Robles - about 6 miles!  
I smoked 2 cigarettes today - I feel queer!

### **NOVEMBER 30 - Monday**

I just can't believe that within one month I will have kept my diary for a complete year - something I have never done before. And I've been much more frank in it than I ever have before.

Today has been sort of a let-down after the Thanksgiving holidays, but I'm so tired it's sort of a relief. Jo told me tonite that I looked sleepy - I guess I am.

Classes went along about as usual except for botany. And it only lasted 20 minutes - for me. We had an exam that I finished in 15 minutes so I left. It didn't seem hard but when things seem easy they always make me scared that I didn't do very well. So I'll keep my fingers crossed. And Tish got back from Monticello this morning too.

I'm in a queer mood tonite - a sort of doubting mood - I hope I don't feel this way again.

I'm sure right now that Charlie loves me & I'm not as sure that I love him, but I'm frightened - about the future.

Everything's so uncertain -

I wish I had him here to tell me that we'll always be together. But 5 years seems like so long - so much can happen - that I just don't feel sure of anything.

So many things could keep us from marrying.



## DECEMBER 1942 NEWS EVENTS

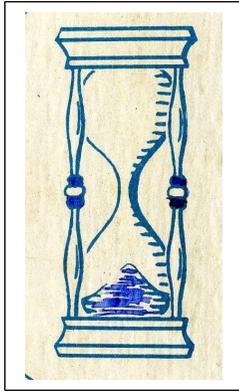
“The Italian navigator has just landed in the new world”.

That was the cryptic message President Roosevelt received on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It meant that a University of Chicago team lead by physicist Enrico Fermi created the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction—an essential step in the development of America’s Atomic Bomb.

On December 5<sup>th</sup> President Roosevelt issued an Executive Order which changed the age range for the draft for all qualified American males between the ages of 18 and 38 to be conscripted into the Armed forces. The previous age range had been for men aged 21 to 45.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, the first anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, The Navy launched America’s largest battleship, the *USS New Jersey*.

--jwc



## DECEMBER DIARY ENTRIES

### DECEMBER 1 - Tuesday

The first day of the last month of this year - it doesn't seem possible. Not only does it seem impossible that I've kept up my diary so long, but it seems impossible that college has gone so quickly & that so much could have happened in these 11 months. Today itself hasn't really been very unusual - except that we went to the show tonite instead of doing a scrap of work. But it was cute - Road to Morocco - it was so corny that it was funny!

This afternoon we had convocation, of course, & I found out that I can go home Tues. nite instead of Wed. or Thur. like the rest of the Jax girls! That's the joy of no classes on Wed. 'til 12:00!

But what makes today special is that I feel like it's sort of getting time to begin to sum the year up - & it's undoubtelly the most amazing year I've ever lived!

I never tho't that when I came to college I would be in love - & so much in love! But not only that, but



that someone loves me. It's really marvelous & wonderful & a little frightening, too.

Oh how I pray that it will last! Because now there is so much that could undermine it - we can't be sure of anything. But we can still dream & hope.

### **DECEMBER 2 - Wednesday**

I spent all this morning downtown looking for a birthday present for Charlie & I finally got him a leather letter folder. It's worried me terribly - whether or not he'll like it. Everyone that I've asked has said they're sure he will - but still it worries me. And it will worry me until he writes me that he does like it. But I want him to like it — not just 'cause I gave it to him, too. This afternoon I wrote little notes & put 'em in it & then tonite I wrapped it up. I should have sent it tonite but I won't be able to get it off 'til tomorrow -but if only it'll get there Sat.!

### **DECEMBER 3 - Thursday**

I mailed Charlie's package this morning - & it ought to get there Sat. I hope so, at any rate. I sent it first class & the man in the P.O. seemed to think I was crazy to spend 33 cents for postage. But that doesn't matter, of course. I hope Sat. is his birthday, too! That's what I remember him telling me, but I'm not at all sure. But I think so. This afternoon we had nominations for Freshman elections & I'm pretty sure that I'm up for Senate. I don't expect to get it, of course, but this afternoon I made posters over at the AXO House & it really was fun!

### **DECEMBER 4 - Friday**

Today makes one entire week that I haven't heard from Charlie. I realize that he's awfully busy, but I do wish he'd write just a wee bit oftener. I know I love him & I'm quite sure that he loves me, but when I don't hear from him I worry something awful -tho' I hope I cover it up.



The news came out definitely today that I got my Senate nomination so I spent the afternoon at the House making posters. I really should have either studied or worked on posters tonite but I went to the Leon High operetta instead. Tish got a box so we had a "feast" afterwards.

### **Charlie's Birthday**

#### **DECEMBER 5 - Saturday**

Today is Charlie's birthday - he's 21. (That is, I think it is - I'm not sure that I remember correctly.) When I begin thinking that I love someone - & that he loves me - who is now a man - able to vote & everything - it gives me the queerest feeling! I can't explain it exactly - but it makes me feel important & inadequate all at once. Oh! I do hope he got my present today - & that he likes it.

I'm absolutely worn out tonite - I can't ever remember feeling so utterly exhausted. I've been making posters all day & I really feel dead . And worst of all - I've lost my reversible - somewhere.

#### **DECEMBER 6 - Sunday**

I haven't done any homework again today but I did work a little on my signs. At any rate, tho', I feel like everything is catching up with me & sort of pressing in on me 'til I feel sort of helpless. I'll be glad when Tues.'s over & I can take down my signs & forget about the campaign.

This afternoon Lola & I walked over to Mary Catherine's house & then the 3 of us went over to Frances' & then the 4 of us came back here to the college. But we went to 2 houses & we hadn't signed out for any private home! But I did find my coat - & what a relief it was!

### **Anniversary**

#### **DECEMBER 7 - Monday**

Today is the anniversary of 2 things - & no matter how I think of it, it makes me feel peculiar. One



year ago today was Pearl Harbor - we've been in the fight for a whole year & it almost doesn't seem possible.

The other anniversary is more personal - one year ago today I spoke to Charlie for the first time.

I'll never forget Dec. 7, 1941 as long as I live but I don't think I realized how important it was then.

So it was rather fitting that I should get a letter from him - & Oh! I was so thrilled 'cause there was the most wonderful news in it! He might get a leave at Christmas! Oh! I hope so!

### **DECEMBER 8 - Tuesday**

Well, today was the primary of the freshman election & Tish & I both went out as I had tho't we would. But I'm not sorry at all that I ran - it was a good experience & fun to boot.

Aside from having 2 Convocations instead of the usual one today has not been unusual in the least. At the one tonite Gen. (Camp) Blanding spoke & really was quite good.

It has rained all day - steadily & tonite it's turning colder by the minute. I do hope it gets really cold for Christmas!

Last nite I was reading a Jan. entry in this & I find that I was bored when I first met Mary Catherine & Lola. I wish now that I hadn't said that.

### **DECEMBER 9 - Wednesday**

Today hasn't been overly interesting except that I've been just as busy as usual. The only mail I got was a letter from Fido asking me please to write to tell him when I was coming home so he could have a date. But I shan't answer him, I think. Anyway his letter was surely a disappointment when I was hoping so bad for one from Charlie. I'm beginning to feel scared about him tho' - scared he won't get his leave. Oh, I wish he'd write & tell me definitely yea or nay - & O! how I



hope it'll be "yea". Spanish class has gotten a little more interesting - more conversation like high school.

### **DECEMBER 10 - Thursday**

Today has been nothing less than breathless. This morning there was an air-raid but in spite of it & my classes I managed to do quite a bit of washing & to iron 3 long-sleeved silk blouses. That's a real accomplishment. But tonite came the rush - I haven't done a bit of homework. Immediately after dinner I had a "Y" meeting; immediately after that I went to the Zeta pledge party 'til 9:30. Then I had a short breathing spell before I went to the Christmas pageant rehearsal at Ruge at 10:00 & then Compline at 10:30. After that we dashed back to the House meeting at 11:00 & finally got to bed. What a nite! No word yet from Charlie but I'm still hoping.

### **DECEMBER 11 - Friday**

This has been another one of those full days - from dayburst to lite-flash. We got up & went to early Communion & then since I've been squeezing in work - either washing, ironing, or studying - - into every possible moment. And am I tired tonite - especially since we had a juicy botany test this afternoon to top it all off. But today really has been uneventful except that I have never seen so much rain at one time! I didn't get any mail of any description today - so I'm getting more & more worried about Charlie. Oh - I hope nothing has happened - but somehow I feel frightened.

### **DECEMBER 12 - Saturday**

Heavens! What a day! I had decided to sleep this A.M. instead of getting up for breakfast so I was really furious when I was awakened by some very noisy singing before 7:30. But they were tapping for O.C.C. - & Tish & I were both tapped! It was so much fun - we've been wearing black & blue all day. After dinner I went down-town with Lola to get a Christmas present for Mary Ellen & at the AXO Christmas supper-party she gave me my first Christmas present this year - a darling lamb. Tonite I had to go to the J.M.



formal 'cause I had to pour. I got a letter from Charlie today & he said he might be in Jax for Christmas!

### **DECEMBER 13 - Sunday**

What a day! Tish & I had to be up & at Ruge to practice for the pageant at 9:30 & somehow we got there. Straight from Ruge we went to Church, met Mrs. Ely there, & went home with her for dinner. They bro't us back here about 4:45 & a few minutes after 5:00 we went to the Glee Club Christmas program which was really beautiful. It wasn't over 'til 6:30 & we had to be at Ruge at 7:00 to get into our costumes for the pageant. The girl in charge of the Wise Men's costumes never showed, up so I had to wear an old bathrobe of Julie's. When I got home about 9:00 Mary Catherine came up & told me Quilteau had fallen for me!

### **DECEMBER 14 - Monday**

This morning from 10:00 'til 12:05 (& I had a 12:00 class that I couldn't cut!) I stood in line to get my bus ticket - & after all that eventually got it! I guess it was worth it tho' to be able to go home earlier than the rest. I'm getting excited - tonite's my last nite here!



### **Busses line up to take 1942 FSCW students home for Christmas**

This afternoon we had a most horrible zo exam - I honestly think I did worse on it than I have on any exam since I've been up here. But I made "95" on Fri.'s botany exam so that makes me feel better.

Tonite I've been working on an English theme & I've only gotten half-way through.

### **DECEMBER 15 - Tuesday**

Home at last! It really doesn't seem possible that so much time has gone by & that I'm actually home for the Christmas holidays - for 3 whole weeks!

I really rushed my head off today getting ready - especially getting everything into one suitcase! But I managed to get down to the bus & at 12:09 tonite we rolled into the Jax station.

Then at home Mama told me the most amazing thing - I haven't gotten over it yet! She showed me a letter Charlie had written to her & Daddy in which he had told Daddy that he loved me & wanted to marry.



me someday ! I really didn't expect that so soon! I'm shocked.

### **DECEMBER 16 - Wednesday**

This morning I went over to Lee so I could see everyone there before the other college students got home. I talked to Miss Ferguson, Miss Cullum, Mrs. Smith, Miss Eccles -she told every one of her classes that I was last year's Valedictorian & all about my passing the exemption, & Miss Durrance - & she asked me to go down to the U.S.O. on Sat nite as a hostess. But I really rather enjoyed myself.

But guess how many meals I've eaten today - 5! One at 12:30 last nite - really this morning - when I got in, then breakfast, lunch at school, dinner & then supper at home. Saw Charlotte this afternoon; she came in.

### **DECEMBER 17 - Thursday**

This morning I was sitting writing a letter to Charlie when Mama came around from the house - we're staying at Dellwood - with a letter from Charlie. He said he won't be able to get any leave 'til Feb. - but he'll surely come to Fla. then. I'm so disappointed that I won't see him Christmas - but oh! how wonderful it will be to see him any time. I hate to admit it but his last 2 letters have made me a wee bit afraid that he didn't love me quite as much. But this one & his one to Daddy make me sure that he still loves me - & I can wait knowing that.

### **DECEMBER 18 - Friday**

Poor Fido called again this morning but I convinced him that he'd have to wait 'til he got back after his leave.

This morning Charlotte, Mama, & I went over to Mrs. Sisk's Christmas party & those children are the cutest things! Little Anne Hammond was "Mary" & she was just precious. It was so sweet when she knelt down by the manger & sang "Father, we thank Thee"



that I nearly cried. I'm afraid I've gotten sentimental! Maybe that's what love has done for me!

After the Christmas party Charlotte & I went to Five Points for some Christmas wrappings & then came out to the farm to spend the nite. It's my first visit here since August!

### **DECEMBER 19 - Saturday**

I've eaten 4 meals today - if I don't go back to school fat as a jug I won't know why! And this is how: this morning Charlotte & I got up & managed under some stress to get down town in time to meet Lu when she got off for lunch - at 11 :()0. Of course we ate with her, then shopped a bit, went to see "Fish" - the first time I've been in a Jax theatre since Sept! - & then met Lu again for her supper hour - 4:00. So with our breakfast that made 3, & with supper again at home about 7:00, it was 4! We met Lu down at the corner about 9:00 & she's spending the nite with me.

### **DECEMBER 20 - Sunday**

This morning Lu & I were supposed to get up in time to meet Sarah before Church for a coke, but at 10:45 Mama came into the room with "Aren't you 2 going to church? Sarah's waiting downstairs!" Needless to say, we dressed quicker than we ever tho't it possible, & we weren't so very late to Church.

This afternoon Charlotte came in so tonite all 3 of us are sleeping in the bed - somehow! The 2 of them - especially Charlotte - were mad with me tonite 'cause I wrote to Charlie instead of talking to them. But I just can't let too much time go by without writing him!

### **DECEMBER 21 - Monday**

I have been having so much trouble trying to decide what to give Charlie for Christmas. Then Mama told me that Billy had gotten a darling pocket chess board (for checkers too, & Charlie loves checkers) for Ed's Christmas. So this afternoon Charlotte & I went



shopping & I bought one & it just seemed like the very best thing I could get & then tonite I was playing with it & it broke. I surely hope Levy's will change it. Poor Lu had cramps & if she was like me she didn't get much sleep last nite either, but she had to get up & go to work anyway.

## **DECEMBER 22 - Tuesday**

This morning Mama & I got up to go down town to finish our shopping & to exchange Charlie's present. Levy's didn't have a single other game left & I was so disappointed, but at least they did give us our money back. So I got him a wallet that has a lot of spaces for pictures - I hope he likes it but seriously I doubt it. Gosh he's hard to buy for! I was so disappointed about the checker game that I'm afraid I wasn't very good company all day. This afternoon I wrapped up his present & we mailed it down at station A, but I'm afraid it won't get there before Christmas.

## **DECEMBER 23 - Wednesday**

This has been some day - but the nicest part of all was a nice letter from Charlie. In it he said to stick close to the phone on Christmas day - & I know what that means! I do enjoy his letters so much - the only trouble is that they don't come often enough.

Last nite we went over & told Gama good-by & then this morning we took her down to the train. It was supposed to leave at 10:00 and it was 11:20 before they finally let her on it. We amused ourselves by looking for all the different uniforms - & we saw everything from the Salvation Army to a Negro WAVE. Charlotte came in & we went to Frances Taylor's for bridge. I made my 1<sup>st</sup> grand slam.

## **Christmas Eve**

## **DECEMBER 24 - Thursday**

Oh! I was so thrilled this afternoon - I don't think I've ever "glowed" more! Charlie wired me a corsage of gardenias! Wasn't that wonderful? So



tonite I went to Christmas Eve Communion with Mama & Daddy (shock of shocks!—it's the first time he's been to Church since I was confirmed!) and honestly I just couldn't keep my mind away from Charlie.

I was carrying the pocket-book he gave me, wearing the pendant corsage that he gave me; the moon was very bright; the church was very beautiful; and O! I guess I just love him! That's all there is to it. If only he could have been there with me!

### **Christmas Day** **DECEMBER 25 - Friday**

I have never in all my life -I think - been quite so disappointed. All day I stayed by the phone. About 11:30 I went with Dar & Pa out to the farm for dinner but I left instructions with Mama & Daddy to transfer the call to their phone 'cause Charlie had told me "stay by the phone". Tonite about 8:30 Mama & Daddy were going to see the Gordans & the Elwes so I went with them. About 10:40 we got home & about 10:55 the phone rang & it was Richmond! I hadn't let my hopes up too high all day but when I heard that my middle began to flutter.

Then they said they had made a mistake - the call had been cancelled.

I wept.

### **DECEMBER 26 - Saturday**

Oh, tonite was just wonderful! Charlie phoned me about 7:00 - & we talked for 'way over 3 minutes! I hope it wasn't over 6 but I only wish it could have been hours instead of minutes! It was so good to hear him again. He said that he had sent me another present beside the flowers. I guess it'll come Mon. I'm just dying to know what it is - I hope it's his picture. But I was so thrilled to talk to him - Mama said I was trembling all over when I came back from the phone.

The Browns came over for the evening - & Mama says she thinks Lucille is crazy about me.

**DECEMBER 27 - Sunday**

I did something tonite that I swore I'd never do & that I don't think I'll do again. I read Charlotte & Lu choice portions of my diary.

Lu came over about 3:00 & then we went down with Dar, Pa, Mama, & Daddy to see Benny off. It really was nice to have him home for Christmas.

Then tonite we went to Y.P.S.L. & Mr. Wyatt-Brown told me that Charlie & I were "an inspiration".

After that I wrote Charlie a letter & took so long that Charlotte & Lu got tired & went to bed.

When I got upstairs the hall & bathroom were plastered with signs like "Five years! Woo! Woo!". "Love to Browneyes, Charlie, XXXXX."

**DECEMBER 28 - Monday**

We were really eating in class today. Charlotte, Lu & I had lunch downtown with Sarah -at the George Washington. It was really some class. But Sarah presented us with the most shocking news. She's going into the SPARS!

I simply can't imagine it.

Of course she might not pass - but she's already passed the preliminary physical anyway. We left Sarah after lunch & then the three of us went to see "Gentlemen Jim." It was pretty good. But Lu said the girl in it reminded her of me!

One year ago tonite Charlie asked me for my first date with him. He doesn't even remember, I imagine. But oh how I do!

**DECEMBER 29 - Tuesday**

This afternoon I got a most disgusting letter - I could have wrung his neck!

It was one of those things with all sort of crazy stuff on it that you can buy in the 10-cent store. It was



printed on paper that was the size of adding machine paper. The whole back was blank, & he had only filled in his & my names. So I sent it back to him saying that there was plenty of room for a long "P.S."

This afternoon I met with Marianne & Gloria Smith & we wrote an original script about Princes AX & Prince O for the banquet Fri. One year ago today I had my first date with Charlie - for the Y.P.S.L. dance. I'll never forget it!

### **DECEMBER 30 - Wednesday**

Tonite I played bridge over at the Washtons' with Diana & a couple of boys from Chapel Hill. I didn't have an awfully good time - they probably think I'm dumb but the Washtons always make me feel like that so it's nothing new. But personally I think the boys were awfully self-centered. But I did enjoy the bridge - & I didn't get home 'til after one.

Otherwise I've really wasted today - and I get so disgusted with myself for doing it when I really have so much I ought to do.

I'm almost worried about myself- I've never really gotten the "Christmas spirit".

### **New Year's Eve**

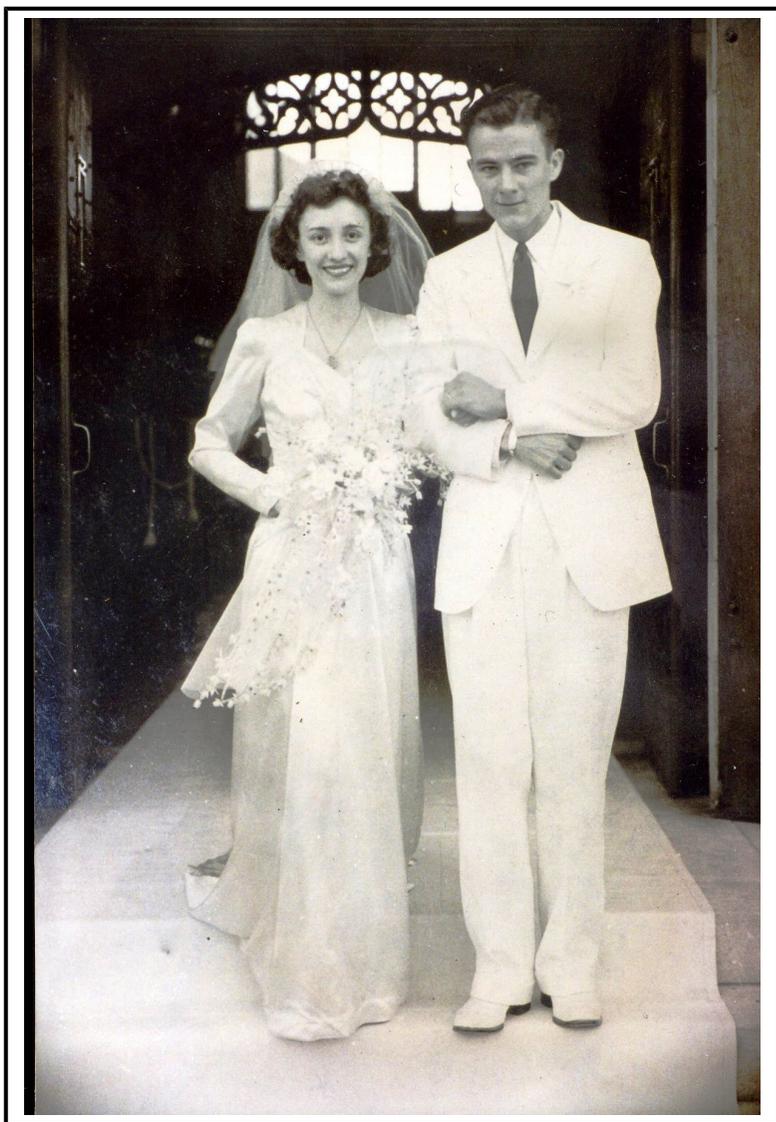
### **DECEMBER 31 - Thursday**

Forty-five minutes ago the most wonderful year of my life ended. Today itself hasn't been very exciting - Mama & I went down town this morning & tonite the Browns came over for egg nog. But what makes today really special is that it's sort of like the "concluding remarks" of a book & since this is the first year I've ever kept a diary I guess I'll make today just that to this - my first book.

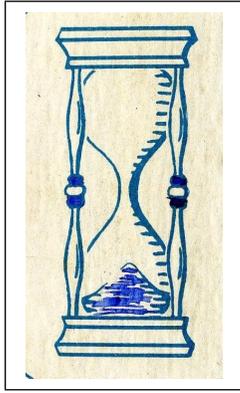
So many things have happened to me this year - and most of them rather wonderful. The most wonderful of all of course has been Charlie. But then, there's graduating from High School & being Valedictorian, & then going off to college. That -



somehow - changes my relationship with everyone. I can't explain it - it's rather intangible. Then - of course - there's Charlie. Falling in love with him is really the most wonderful thing that has ever happened to me. Sometimes I worry for fear that it won't last - but somehow it's just got to! I don't know what I'd do if we "broke up". I suppose that sounds rather melodramatic, but I can't help it. There are so many things that could make us drift apart - our being separated, & the War, & the years that we have to wait. But I pray that we'll always love each other as much as we've said we do now & I pray that Til be a better person in 1943.



**Eleanor Law and Charles Perry Scruggs  
were married on  
April 27, 1946**



#### END NOTE

After she graduated from Florida State College For Women, Eleanor Cordes Law married Charlie Perry Scruggs on April 27, 1946.

Through good times and bad, the couple remained together for 51 years.

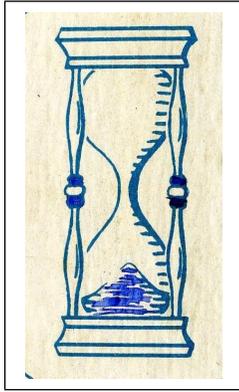
They were life-long members of the Episcopal Church Of The Good Shepherd, Jacksonville, Florida.

Eleanor taught foreign languages at Jacksonville's John Gorrie Jr. High School for several years before returning to teach at her *alma mater*, Robert E. Lee High School, Jacksonville.

Eleanor and Charlie had four children: Charles Perry Scruggs Jr., Scottie Fredrickson, Ellen Sheppard, and Ann Pridgen—who discovered this old diary while going through her mother's things

Predeceased by her husband, Eleanor died on August 1, 2006.

Her daughter Ann presents this diary as a memorial to her. Here is a poem Eleanor wrote in 1980, about 40 years after she wrote this diary:



POEM  
by  
Eleanor Law Scruggs  
1980

Weep not for me when I am gone,  
For I have wept, and laughed, and  
loved,  
And lifted high the cup of life,  
To gulp it, splashing - sweet, sour,  
burning, Bitter, tangy, bland or tart  
-

Rejoicing in the tasting, not the  
taste.

Mourn not for me when I have died,  
But rather smile a bit  
And wish me well as I move on,  
Unknowing, but not unknown.

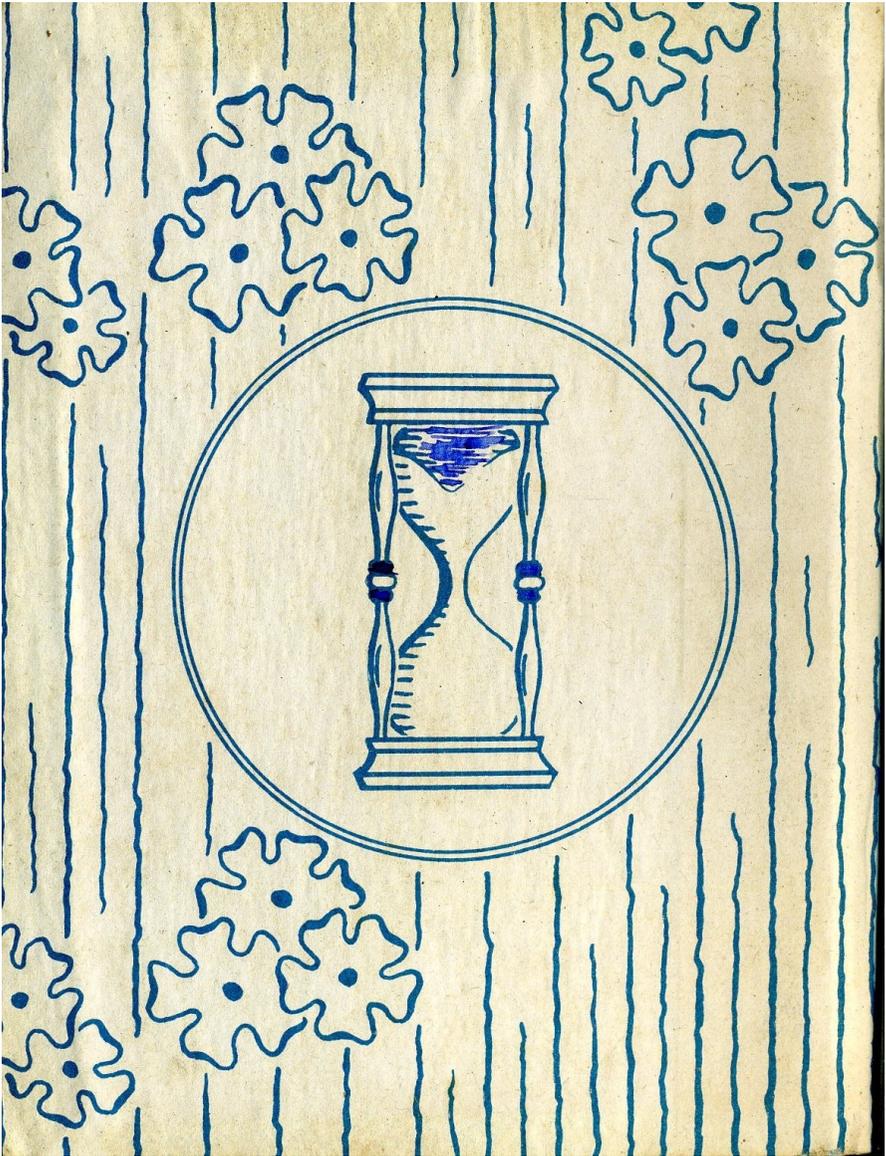
Preach not o'er me when I am  
dead,



For if my life has nothing said,  
Let there be silence.



**Eleanor in the 1980s**



**Diary's Hourglass End Paper**

**Other Bluefish Books You May Enjoy**  
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**Strangers On The Earth**

**Gravedigger's Christmas & Other Tales**

**Heroes All:**

**A History of Firefighting In Jacksonville**

**Rebel Yell:**

**The Civil War Diary of J.T. Whatley, CSA**

**Seeking A Settled Heart:**

**The 16<sup>th</sup> Century Diary Of Puritan Richard Rogers**

**The Diary Of Samuel Ward,**

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John Cowart's Daily blog can be found at  
[www.cowart.info/blog/](http://www.cowart.info/blog/)

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