

DIARY OF  
ELIZABETH MAE (CATLOW) ROCKENBACH

\*courtesy of  
Ray Rockenbach\*  
\*some punctuation  
added for clarity\*

\*1941\*

Wed. Jan. 1, 1941.

A windy rainy day - rained all day + nite - Mrs. Edwards + I poured for Mrs. Dolle's open house, it was her 75th birthday - and New Years - a great many guests - a nice affair. Shirley and Roy were home - plans for wedding.

Thur. Jan. 2.

Got ready for wedding - pop collected table, chairs, dishes. Mary Lou + Joe came home - they bot dishes for S. present. Mary Lou made a cake - Ruth made two - Mrs. Woodbury sent a cake - Esther made wedding cake - Sarah a cake.

Fri. Jan. 3.

Shirley + Roy were married at home 8 P.M. 43 guests. A stormy nite when they left at 10 P.M.

Sat. Jan. 4.

Cold - 2 above 0. Mary Lou + Joe left for DeKalb - returned borrowed property - rec'd letter from Barbara - Elma H. , Dorothy Vandever.

Sun. Jan 5.

2 above 0. Went to DeKalb to Kientz for dinner, nice sunny day - Roy + Shirley home to get their wedding presents.

Mon. Jan. 6.

We done a big washing - Sarah came home P.M. Mary took her home - girls went skating - Dad went to Trustees Meeting in eve and I went Deacon's M. at Woodburys - took moving pictures of the group.

Wed. Jan. 8.

Cloudy. Went to Book Review - "The Family" by Fordorova at church - Mrs, Philips gave review. Dad took care of Susan + John. Rec'd a card for Mary Lou.

Thur. Jan. 9.

Cloudy - not so cold. Baked - ironed - sent a loaf to Kings + to Sarah.

Fri. Jan. 10.

Sun shone - Dad made wood for S. Lanphear - went to Woodstock in P.M. bot wall paper + stayed to dinner with Sarah + Melvin - got letter from Dorothy - wrote to Dorothy - Mrs. Cook - Geo + Elma - Philip came home from Joliet.

Sat. Jan. 11.

Nice day - sun shone - Went to Barrington with Dad in morning - visited Ruth Whitcomb - called on Helen Catlow and Alice Lageschult - Ruth Brasel.

Sun. Jan. 12.

Went to depot to see Orman + May - they went to Mayo's to see if Orman can get help - went to church in P.M. Virginia called, Ray is in Davenport. Roy + Shir - Geo + M. - Rod + Lil - Esther + Lewis + family all came home in eve - Nellie Rose + Ardith here to supper - a grand day - Virge brot wedding pictures, very good.

Mon. Jan 13.

Prepared to serve at Woman's C. Started to paper south room upstairs - in eveing Sarah + Melvin came home. Carl + Ruth Brasel + John B. called. Got letter from Frank Miller.

Tues. Jan. 14.

Served at W's Club. Didn't get much of meeting. ?Alana Kirchberg helped - Ralph Boyle came for family photo - wants to put it in C.L. Herald. Snowing - 26 above.

Wed. Jan. 15.

Dad varnished room - Philip came home from Joliet - he played B.B. - went to annual Church Meeting - Mary was home with sore throat - Mrs. Dolle took me to Marengo to see Mr. + Mrs. Scoville ill in a home there. I took a basket of fruit. Not very cold - rainy.

Thur. Jan, 16.

Prepared part of room.

Fri. Jan. 17.

Finished papering + varnished floor - papered attic hallway - Mary went back to school - Jean took her mother to St. Therese hospital today. Snowed all day.

Sat. Jan. 18.

Colder - 10 above - Philip went to Waukegan for his trailer - Sarah came home in afternoon, went skating. Melvin came for her in evening - we played bridge. Shirley Mills came from Elgin. Philip went to Northwestern B.B. game

Sun. Jan. 19.

Sunday - went to church - Rod + Lill were here in eve.

Mon. Jan. 20.

Dad + I done a big washing - in P.M. went to slides + lecture on Natches Miss - got a letter from Doro. A lovely sunny day.

Tues. Jan. 21.

Got letter from Eliz - Mrs. Spear - Mary Lou - May + Orman is still at clinic -wrote Mary Lou H- Joe. Loraine Swabe + Nelle Rose Hazelton (teachers) were here to dinner - played bridge in eve.

Wed. Jan 22.

Stormy - rain then snow. Philip came home at noon - Martha telephoned that they took Bobby to hospital last nite - B. pneumonia. Got letter from Ray + Vir. - I wrote Mrs. Spear, Eliz, Ray + V, Shirley + Roy - also business letter for Dad - so didn't do much work. Wrote Lyle + Bar - Dorothy - and a note to Jeanette Starrett - her baby died this morning, card to Scovilles.

Thur. Jan. 23.

Wrapped + sent our photo to Elma + Geo.

Fri. Jan 24.

Took care of Susan + Johnnie - Ruth went to Home B. meeting - Susan is so cute and she loves her grand pa - Ruth caned a chair for Sarah - The Taylors went to Sarahs for dinner + Virginia stayed for week end with them.

Sat. Jan. 25.

Elizabeth came home in evening, Martha + Geo came in eve too, said Bobby was much better. Virginia + her mother here in P.M. Ray worked in Davenport.

Sun. Jan 26.

Went to church Sun. Mary took Phil's S.S. class - they went to Glenn Ellyn + it snowed so hard they stayed over - snowed hard all day - Shirley + Roy, Melvin + S., Esther + family, they went tobogganing in afternoon - Ruth + family were here to supper - Eliz went home at 8 P.M.

\*1941\*

Mon. Jan. 27.

A big washing - went to Johanna Keldars for afternoon - called on Gustofson's in eveing - Got a letter from Elma + Geo - Mary is planning a toboggan party tomorrow nite - there is lots of snow.

Tues. Jan 28.

Nice day - air is frosty - Went to Woman's Club. Served for Red C. at Mrs. Dolle's - Got letter from Dorothy. Geo + Martha came eveing. 25 came here after tobogganing for lunch + cards - Bot 2 cemetery lots between C.L. and Woodstock - \$200.

Wed. Jan 29.

12 above - trees are frosty. Bob called - Jean is sick + they are bringing Bobby . home from hospital, wants me to come for a few days, so Dad will take me over this P.M. Wrote Dorothy this A.M.

Sun. Mar. 23.

Eliz + Dorothy came home in A.M. Shirl + Roy here for dinner. Mills' + Harry Brazel came for supper.

Mon. Mar. 24.

Eliz went back this A.M. Cleaned for reading club. Mary bowled - Dorothy went to Ruth's.

Tues. Mar. 25.

Big washing. Went to Woman's Club. Eliz + Frank drove out. F. going South for health - leaving car here. E - F + D. went to Sarah's in P.M. Dorothy going to "Dor" "Carpenter" for supper. Mary had bridge club. Loraine Schawbe's announcement party. George + Ruth Whitcomb + boys + Olive dropped in.

Wed. Mar. 26.

Sarah came early. Melvin + Ed here for lunch. S + D cut out dress. D. baked bread. Went to Claude Miller's for dessert lunch. Shirley + Roy came. Eva + Sarah + Mary + Dor went to potluck at Church + gym later - Frolicateers.

Thur. Mar. 27.

Ruth + Susan + Dor + I went the round today. Started at 9 - Viola - Esther's for lunch + Grayslake + home by 6. Dad took Frank's car to garage + he + Johnny came home with us. Esther is remodelling kitchen. Grandma Ewing is home.

Fri. Mar. 28.

Dorothy cleaned + baked - met Harvey in Woodstock - she was so excited.

Sat. Mar. 29.

Mary + Doro + Harvey went on 1st picnic of the year with Taylors to Walkup woods -It was pretty cold + windy - D. + H. took car in P.M. went to H.P. + out to dinner - Philip spent week end with Joe + Mary Lou in Roodhouse. Mary + I went to Oak P. to a tea at L. Swabe's home - very nice affair.

Sun. Mar. 30.

We all went church in morning. Doro + H. took train to city + bus back to M.S.C. Shirley M. came here. Mary H- Eva took her home at nite.

Tues. Apr. 1.

A lovely day - Dad + I drove to Deerfield - Election - Irene was reelected town clerk, big majority - they were both so excited about it all. Viola is fine after her operation for gall stones - we went to Geo + M's for supper, then I went to Dr. Anderson's to see about my leg which has bothered me all winter - am to put hot dressing on + stay off my feet for a while - he put a pressure dressing on it.

\*1941\*

Fri. Apr. 4.  
Philip came home.

Sat. Apr. 5.  
My leg no better, called Dr. - am to go to bed + have hot dressing and leeches - Shirley R. called, said she will bring home a cradle to keep dressings hot.

**\*The remainder of diary is being kept by someone other than Elizabeth\***

Sat. Oct. 11.  
Drove to DeKalb to meet Marjorie who came home with Joe + Mary Lou from McMurray College and Roodhouse - Marj. so excited about school. Likes it very much.

Sun. Oct. 12.  
Mom + Pop went to Kientz for dinner. Mary Lou, J. + M. went back at 3:30.

Mon. Oct. 13.  
Mom went Elgin with Mrs. Rigby. Got Philip's mocassins. Sarah + Melvin's anniversary.

Tues. Oct. 14. -  
Mom went to first Woman's Club meeting of the season. At evening to meeting at Church - officers meeting. Mary + Lor. Schwabe went to Y. People's at Palos Park.

Wed. Oct. 15.  
Mom went Literary meeting in afternoon. Lor. Schwabe here for supper. Bridge club in evening.

Thur. Oct. 16.  
Pop is making sign for Mr. Dolle's birthday. Similar to the Rockenbach sign we have. Men's Club at church at nite. Homecoming parade at 3:00. Snake dance + bon fire in evening. Coaches Skinner + Metcalf gave talks.

Fri. Oct. 17.  
Mom + Pop went to Grayslake. Mom went to book review in Waukegan with Jean +, Martha. I.E.A. meeting in Joliet all day. Pop + Mary went to homecoming game at high school. C.L. defeated Libertyville 9-6. Rained off + on all nite + during game.

Sat. Oct. 18.  
Another rainy day. Pop put up Mr. Dolle's sign.

Sun. Oct. 19.  
Mom + Pop went to Pot Luck at Barrington - Ruth Whitcomb's birthday. Took pictures at church for Centennial booklet. Mary went to M. + Sarah's for dinner. They are building fire place on new lot.

Wed. Oct. 22.  
Phil came home from Hibbing. First time since Sept or before - Eliz came home also - good seeing them.

Thur. Oct. 23. !  
Sarah came home to do her ironing. Pop's birthday - so had family house-opening. Showed the movies. Everyone home but Ray + Virg; Lyle + Barb; + Joe + Mary Lou + Doug. Pop rec'd many nice gifts. Served coffee + cake.

Fri. Oct. 24.  
Mr. Rigby had a stroke today. Quite bad.

\*1941\*

Sat. Oct. 25.

Went to Sehwahe's in Oak Park for week-end. Hayrack party. Mr. Rigby died this morn.

Mon. Oct. 27.

Make-up class in Red Cross. Florence Cowan, Eva + I go. About 60 in class.

Tues. Oct. 28.

Had our first frost today - Had party for S. School class, 9 here. The "ghost" on front caught fire. Exciting time.

Wed. Oct. 29.

Church dinner. Pop carved the meat. Teachers party at Prickett's. Mrs. Rigby's mother's funeral.

Thur. Oct. 30.

Mom in bed.

Sun. Nov. 2.

Hazel, Austin, Robert + Marilyn over for supper. I went to bear + venison meal put on by Sportsman Club.

Mon. Nov. 3.

Sarah came home + did the washing. I took her back to Woodstock in evening.

Tues. Nov. 4.

Mom back in bed again - but feeling better. Frolicateers at Church in evening.

Wed. Nov. 5.

Red Cross class - worked on artificial respiration. Had lecture on snake bites.

Thur. Nov. 6.

Mom up.

Fri. Nov. 7.

Woke up to find it had snowed during the nite. Snowed during entire day. The Taylors in bed with the "flu".

**\*No further entries\***