

Introduction:

This transcription of the third Diary that came into my possession from Susan Hodges-Denney, documents the toll the downturn in Sherry & Co, the company Norman Burt Sherry had charge of, had on him in the year of 1926. This was a difficult read, knowing in advance that he would die of a heart attack on September 26th, almost 16 years after his falling in love with Lucretia Hayes. I include three lists of family and friends, the first from Norman's 1908 Diary (page 1), the second from his 1921 Diary (**page 2**), and the third from this 1926 Diary (**pages 2-4**). I added as many of Norman's employees from Sherry & Co in the third list to try to get a picture of what Sherry & Co was all about. The Diary entries begin on **page 4** and end on **page 29**, January 1 through September 14th, his last entry. It was strange indeed to have the pages go blank after on September 15th! I then included the Obituary from the *Troy Record* that was tucked into the middle Diary, 1921 (**pages 29 to 31**). That is followed by my own reflections as I try to put together what happened in the last year of my Grandfather Norman's life with my own sense of tribute to this man I never met but who seems so similar to me (**pages 31-36**). I find him to be an inspiration, and his life a "redemption script" that motivates and teaches and speaks into my life. As I reflected further on his difficult death and the downfall of a company that was growing rapidly through the early twenties, I did some research on Sherry & Co, and have included it under that heading on **pages 36-38**. It helps to fill out the picture and offer real-world context for this Diary.

List of Family & Intimates from 1908 Diary

Aunt Cynthia (Jan 1, 1908)- Cynthia Hall (mar to James Sherry, bro John Sherry)- 131 Federal St (1910 Census)
Dr. Sewall (Jan 5, 1908)
Arthur (Jan 8, 1908)- Arthur G. Sherry, 192 Eighth St, head of house (1910 US Census)
Frank (Jan 23, 1908)- [note I think Frank is a woman, married to Arthur? See 1921 Diary, Aug 30.
Yes, this is Francis Scott, and she seems to go by Frank.
AGS (Jan 9, 1908) ("Arthur's House")- Arthur Galusha Sherry, eldest son of John & Norman's older brother
Alden (Jan 14, 1908)- Arthur Galusha Sherry's younger son, so Norman's nephew
Amy (Jan 23, 1908)("Aunt Amy" Jun 4, July 25)- Amy H. Raymond, 24 yrs. In 1908 [are there 2 Amy's?
Sara (Jan 24, 1908)- Sara S. Raymond- 23 yrs. In 1908
Ralph (Feb 2, 1908)- Arthur Galusha Sherry's older son, Norman's nephew
Ross (Feb 7, 1908)
Lucretia Hayes (Feb 28, 1908)
Allen (March 28, 1908)- Allen A. Raymond, 21 yrs in 1908
Lottie (March 28, 1908)
E.D. Ross (Apr 2, 1908)
Lew (& Lottie) (May 4, 1908)(July 11, 1908)
Mr. Galusha (May 17, 1908)
Miss Julia Michael of Lockport (May 18, 1908)
Chas Raymond (May 1, 1908)(& Miss Raymond, July 7)(Mr. & Mrs. Chas Raymond, July 29)- is this Charlotte E. Raymond?
Dr. & Mrs. Hayes (May 19, 1908)
Mr. Covey (May 24, 1908)
Mr. & Mrs. Galusha (May 26, 1908)
Frank Hayes (Jun 2, 1908)

Agnes & husband (Jun 11, 1908)(July 1 "mementos & letters" from her, including Lu's postcard)(Agnes & Harold Hayes, July 7)(Pliny & Agnes Hayes, July 20) (daughter Adelaide, Aug 18, 1908)
Raymond's home (Jun 24, 1908)- Lewis W. & Charlotte E. Raymond at 8 Tenth St, Troy (1900 US Census)
Roger [Hayes] (July 4, 1908)
"Cousin Sara" (July 5, 1908)
Russ (July 5, 1908)
The Hobbie's (July 5, 1908)
young Harold & Richmond (July 6, 1908)
Harold Hayes family (July 6)
The Halls family (July 6) (Aug 17 his birthday)
Miss Sherman (July 12, had a "strange vision" 3 years previous about Lucretia)
Lois, 10 years old July 20th (see Aug 19 for Lothe & Lois)
Chester Britton, engaged to Sara on July 21 (actually in April)
The Birges (July 29- Raymonds of Buffalo stayed there on trip through Troy)

Adding List of Family & Friends from 1921 Diary

Mr. & Mrs. Smith- took the kids while Norm & Lu were at Twitchell in May (May 11).
Margaret Marvin- from Troy and went to Twitchell with Lu (May 11, Sep 1).
Brownells- early family on Twitchell Lake- camp down at the end of the lake
Bea Noble & Family- early family on Twitchell Lake- camp down at the end of the lake, lived in Schnectedy
Francis Young- early camper on Twitchell Lake
Mr. Rogers- handyman on Twitchell?
Flint Family- Twitchell Lake Camp probably where the Deasy's or Corrigan's are now. July 31
Mary H.- referred to July 1, not sure who she is.
Elizabeth or Betty Sherry, E.- Norman & Lu's firstborn, my Aunt Betty
Francis Sherry, F'cis or F.- Norman & Lu's second born, my Uncle Frank
Norman Junior, Junior or N. Jr./N. J.- Norman Burt Sherry, Junior, my Dad
Esther or E.- fourth child of Norman & Lu, my Aunt Esther
Sumner Covey (July 2)- a Covey son
William Covey, Jr.- news of his death in France, WWI, July 25, funeral following on Wednesday
Henry Covey- got blood poisoning Sep 2, serious infection. See Sep 23 & the Oct 7th news of his death in a hospital in Utica.
The McEdwards, Covey daughter & son-in-law, Aug 7
The Hobbie's are listed by name, visiting Twitchell July 2; Aunt Sue & Mary Hobbes (Sep 21)
Geo is the Sherry family dog (July 3)
Low Draper- Twitchell resident mentioned July 4th
Raymond Vail, July 5- when he started work for Sherry & Co., a prominent Troy banking family
Chas. Ward- went with Norman to Twitchell for July vacation (see 23rd), very close friend
Belle Ward- Chas's brother, Norman and my Dad called him "Cousin Belle"- Aug 8
Harold Tyler & Helen Hayes, with Ellen & Lu at Twitchell, July 23
Lo Hamilton- went in Reo with NBS & Lu to funeral in Utica for Young Bill Covey (July 24), had a camp at end of Twitchell and a "hermit camp" on bluff overlooking Terror Pond.
Stillman Family- first occupants of Little Beaver guest camp (July 30), arrived Aug 1, from Troy
Brickam family, brother to Dr. Stillman, see Aug 1, shared Little Beaver that July.
Mr. & Mrs. Allen- early campers on Twitchell, also end of lake, see July 31

Holst family- camp on other side of Oswego Outlet, not sure which, July 31.

List of Family & Friends from 1926 Diary, with Listing of Sherry & Co Employees

- Robert MacA (Jan 2, May 13)- Sherry & Co salesman. Is he the MacAuley of Apr 29, if so he is higher up than sales, since NBS talked to him about major business change; on May 3, he is referred to as "Bob," so he does seem to be a top manager in office. NBS Confers with him on May 5, along with Woodcock.
- Mr. Woodcock (May 5,13)- one NBS confers with on major business change
- Mr. Arnold K. (Jan 15, April 10)- Sherry & Co accountant? Tracked the figures; on Aug 19th he brought more bad news to NBS on business losses
- Mr. A.S. Williams (Jan 16,21, Feb 4, Mar 17)- NYC financier who is a source for business loans & financing
- Mr. Hartman, Jan 27, mentioned as on sales force
- Mr. Mike Audey, Feb 1, mentioned as an office worker at Sherry & Co
- Mr. Sargent (Feb 4, Apr 4)- Sherry & Co salesmen hired to take Chas Ward's territory, then leaves to join his son's firm in Philly
- Mr. Birdsell or Birdsall (Mar 2, May 6)- think he is another salesman for Sherry & Co
- Mr. Clarksman (Mar 2)- think he is another salesman for Sherry & Co
- Mr. Walter Wilson (Mar 21,25, Apr 8)- Norman proposed a business merger with his company
- Mr. Foster, March 31, writing to try to drum up interest in a merger
- Mr. Franklin H. Wilson, Jr., mentioned Aug 4th, as a prospective investor in either a Cohoes or in NBS's Troy Grocery business; on Aug 11th he decided on a no answer...
- Mr. Fred Peck (Apr 4)- interviewed to replace Sargent as salesman for Ward's territory
- Mr. John McKay or Mackay (Apr 6, May 10) interviewed as salesman for Sherry & Co- May 10 mentions Petersb-Berlin route
- Mr. W. McKay for sales job June 16th. June 23 has him as William and he may be a merger prospect
- Mr. John Wolff (Apr 5)- interviewed as candidate for sales in Sherry & Co.
- Mr. John G. Nelson (Apr 26, May 3)- sounds like he is another NBS proposed merger with, or financing, or a salesman
- E.O. Ross- (May 2) family friend, related to Martyr of Troy from John's time, NBS kept in touch
- Mr. Deiseroth (May 8)- hired to make major business decision on two options, merge with another company or narrow line of products...
- Mr. Watkins (May 6, Jun 11)- sounds like another salesman for Sherry & Co, Lake George region? MacAuley worked with him in Vermont on June 14th.
- Mr. John Aird (May 6,13,17)- sounds like a merger possibility, involved in business conference May 13th, but decided not to proceed May 17th
- Mr. Hollister (May 13) involved in a key conference related to Sherry & Co.
- Mr. Ahearn (May 13) involved in a key conference related to Sherry & Co
- Mr. Pattison (May 17)- bank contact for Sherry & Co, working to min loss and max loans
- Mr. George Friday (May 23-4) sounds like a banker extending credit on Sherry & Co stock
- Mr. Darling (May 24) sounds like another grocer who will carry some of Sherry & Co's products; June 21 refers to Darling & Co, and to G. Friday
- Mr. A.H. Millard (May 25-6) sounds like another merger possibility, as he got a tour of store; (May 25-26)- NBS consulted with him on business matters & he may have been another merger candidate

Philip Cummings of Hardwick, VT & Deland Florida- visited Sherry's and proposed taking Francis to Dijon, France
Miss Leyfield, July 8, working on inventory with NBS in store. He had a good staff
Mr. Downs, or Downes, July 12, who will work on commission on one of the narrowed product lines & on Aug 21, working on one of the salesman's territories
Nanna is Norman's new name for Ellen Hayes or "Mother" (his mother-in-law)
Bess is now their family dog, a new one since Geo in 1921.
Arthur here is Arthur Galusha Sherry, John's eldest son, married to Frank or Francis Scott Sherry and Norman's older brother; their sons are Alden and Ralph Sherry
Aunt Frank, widow of Norman's brother Arthur Galusha (April 12), referred to as A.F. (July 4)
Anne B. Wilkinson Sherry is Alden's spouse (Apr 12)
Dr. Zellie was pastor of the united First Presbyterian Church of Troy (Apr 14)
Earl Covey is now proprietor of Covewood Lodge, Big Moose Lake, NY (May 29) and remarried to Francis Covey (Sep 2 & 10)
S. B. Covey & Wife (May 29)- This is probably Sumner Covey
Miss Whited (May 30)- a resident of Twitchell Lake?
Dr. Leland Thompson (Jul 1 & before)- church speaker, friend of family, with some interest in business...friend of Alden Sherry
Mrs. Smith (Jul 1)- same as 1921 Diary, caretaker for Sherry kids in Troy when needed
Harold & Agnes Hayes (Jul 4)- Lucretia's brother & sister-in-law, Gordon & Pliny Hayes are two of their children.
Hugh Sherry (July 22, Aug 3)- does not show up on my Family Tree, not sure who he is.
Betsy Stevens (July 25)- joined the Sherry children on the hike to Terror Lake led by Harold, probably a guest of the Sherry's
Bob Atwell- also joined that hike to Terror, possibly a guest of the Sherry's
William Edward Covey (July 26)- child of Sumner and his wife?
Chas. Wood (July 28)- a prominent guide in Central Adirondacks- led fishing trip for Sherry's
Rodney Ainsworth (July 28)- a guide in Central Adirondacks, led fishing trip on Big Moose Lake
Alec McEdwards (July 29)- guide in Central Adirondacks, led Sherry trip to Browns Track Pd
Dr. Vanderveer, Mrs Baird (wife of Inlet Pastor) (Aug 1)- led a Sunday School on Big Moose Lake
Mary Hanlon (Aug 2)- staying in Sherry home when Norman returned from Twitchell with A.F.
Mr. Polk (Aug 4 & before), friend from Church, with some interest in Sherry & Co.
Frank Hayes (Aug 28)- Lucretia's other brother, married to Effie. Young Frank is one of their children (Aug 29)
Dr. Ferry left Evelyn & Chamberlain Ferry to try to assist drowned boy, had camp on Twitchell nearby (July 30)- possibly Corrigan's camp now.
Mrs. Glennings (Aug 29)- guessing this is a summer camp owner on Twitchell Lake
Fay & Mildred Brownell (Aug 31)- long time Twitchell camp owners, at end of lake, then built camp by Memorial bridge when I was growing up.
Bea Noble (June 6th)- visit in Schenectady, mention of Giffords.

Contents of the 1926 Diary

[Yellow for points of interest, Blue for key people, Pink for my Commentary, Blue for Norman's Titles or holiday/anniversary notices]. I used [?] when I could not "read" NBS, and kept his abbreviations as is.

FRI. Jan. 1, 1926, 7:30 A, 30 degrees- Beautiful, quite mild. Practically no snow on ground. I alone of family went to Church 10:30. Dr. Freeman gave fine new years talk from Matt 2:12 'Silence after great

Experiences'. I called on Arthur who has had two restless nights, but Dr. Waldo ret'd Troy this am. I "napped" part of aft. this evg. had party- Mr. & Mrs. Gallagher, Mr. & Mrs. Hunn, Capt. & Mrs. Magee; also group young people for Elizabeth- played bridge & danced.

SAT. Jan. 2, 1926- Clouded up; trifle snow after 5 P. Office force worked most of aft. Just before I left (4:45 P) Robert MacA. offered resignation, saying he was "all in"- gave me quite a shock! Will confer with him after a needed rest. Betty to G.A. Cluett's to dinner 7:15 & subscription dance at Club afterward. [Seems to indicate some trouble at Sherry & Co., or a frustrated salesman.]

SUN. Jan 3, 1926- Rev. Dr. Cunningham- Graham Scotchman, now at Manchester Vt. preached 10:30 on "We Know in part" & 5 P "No man liveth to himself". Very attractive preacher; people liked so well there were over 50 out at vespers. S.S. class noon; began use of "What & Where is God", for discussion in class. I walked w. Betty & friends about 3:30 P. She & I to Vesper Service.

MON. Jan 4, 1926, 7 A., 35 degrees- Light snowflakes, at times, most rain. Mother started for Buffalo on Empire- leaves there this evg. for Florida w. Harold & Agnes.

TUES. Jan 5, 1926- Mild. Rotary 12:15. John Kapps addressed us. Worked at office till after 9 P. Lu & I had "discussion" abt business on my arrival home. [Indicates trouble at Sherry & Co. affecting Norman & Lucretia's relationship, spilling over into the home.]

WED. Jan 6, 1926- Cloudy- mild, colder & West wind by evg. Lu, Eliz., Jr. with me to Church 8. Preparation lecture; Mr Walker gave fine talk on the 3 "Lost" parables in Luke 15: teaching what "lost" meant. Session met after & rec'd Mrs. Hammond. Saw Arthur about 2 & again 7:45 P.

THUR. Jan 7, 1926, 7 A., 25 degrees, Evg 10 degrees- Bright, West wind blew last night & today. Grew cold. Brought inventory home evg. & worked on it. [Work challenge coming home.]

FRI. Jan 8, 1926, 7 A., 12 degrees- Alden & Anne came to visit Arthur & Frank.

SAT. Jan 9, 1926, 7 A., 16 degrees, Aft. 20 degrees- Began snowing in night & 4 or 5 inches had fallen by 7 A.- continued most of morg. & some in aft, totaling 7 or 8 inches; first snow except "traces" since the "extraordinary" abt Oct 10. I home about 3:30. Alden & Anne called about 4. Only I at house with Esther evg., boys to dancing class- Lu & I to lecture at E.W. School. [Emma Willard]

SUN. Jan 10, 1926, 7:30 A., 12 degrees, Evg 20 degrees- Fine, brt, cold; clouded in aft. Dr. Walker (of Lans 1st) preached 10:30 from Rom. 4:7 & conducted communion. Impressive service. S.S. Class 12- Dailey (R.P.I.) there & 'Ewig Kept' lively discussion going. I alone to 5 P. service, Dr. Walker's text Matt 6:33 "First things first"- he is an earnest appealing preacher. Alden & Anne ret'd to Syracuse this aft.

MON. Jan 11, 1926, 7 A., 12 degrees, Evg 28 degrees- Cold early- heavy frost near the river. Brt. & fine, moderated. Worked on & finished booking over inventory prices; thinking & thinking of course to pursue, dreading what may be the result. Evg. to Duckrows, read Psalms 41, 42 & 43 in Moffatt. Then called on Ewig- picked up "Bess" at Tibbitts Ave- called on & missed Harry Swan of Buffalo. [I wonder if the Moffatt Bible at Twitchell belonged to NBS 1? Check this. More work challenges mentioned.]

TUES. Jan 12, 1926- Rotary 12:15. Evg. worked at office.

WED. Jan 13, 1926- Church 8 P. Patrick led meeting.

THUR. Jan 14, 1926- Chromatic Concert 8:15 P.: Russian Symphonie Chorus- interesting performance, first I had heard. Took (besides Lu & Elizabeth) F'cis & Jr. Cold.

FRI. Jan 15, 1926- Mild. Worked on inventory; stayed down evg; while waiting for footings saw at C. of C. Stereopticon pictures of "older" Troy- buildings, snowfalls & floods. Late got Arnold's figures, enough to show very bad year. Home at midnight. [Indicates BIG trouble at Sherry & Co. affecting Norman & Lucretia. Stereopticon was a slide projector, also called a "magic lantern," with two lenses that each projected an image onto glass, before the advent of moving pictures, telling a story in themes of nature, science, history. We have a hand viewer and selection of slides, in Burt's possession- think it was Grandpa Eberle's though it could have been Norman's.]

SAT. Jan 16, 1926- S. & Co. annual meeting, 7:30 P. Directors met 3; we conferred all aft. Wrote out letter for Mr. Williams this evg. [Sherry & Co. Annual Meeting, sounds like a very difficult one! Was Mr. Williams their Bank contact or a loan agent?]

SUN. Jan 17, 1926- Brt. mild. Rev. Allen (5th Av Bap.) preached 10:30 "Ye are the light of the World" - fine. Junior ill, Lu stayed home from Ch.- he was up toward evg. I took Betty & boys to Students service 4:45 P. Bishop Oldham gave finest talk on "Faith". Mailed letter Mr. Williams.

MON. Jan 18, 1926- Rained- copiously about 6 P. Wholesaler's Bureau dinner 6 P. Hotel Troy. Talk on finger prints. 2 P. to Arthur's; he had his clothes on yesterday for first in weeks- talked w. him & finuk [?] of business loss & told them I would not wait thro' 1926 to act, but prepare now for a change. [Entry about substantial business loss and need to make some kind of a decision: Did this mean a big layoff?]

TUES. Jan 19, 1926- Rotary lunch 12:15, Prof. Brew of Cornell spoke on Milk 7 P. & see Duckrow- & read to him briefly. 8:15 Lu & I to H.P. Sherman to bridge party; not home till late- early!

WED. Jan 20, 1926, 7 A., 35 degrees- Pleasant, mild. Led prayer meeting church at 8 "Readings from the Psalms" my topic. Lu & 2 boys went with me.

THUR. Jan 21, 1926, 7 A., 35 degrees, evg 28 degrees- Letter from Mr. Williams- that "he will give further consideration". I am enabled to leave the outcome to God- opened the letter with little emotion. Some wet snow morg.- Evg began again, while cooler. [This letter related directly to Sherry & Co, no indication about what it was about here, though it probably had to do with a loan, borrowing of money, banking.]

FRI. Jan 22, 1926-

SAT. Jan 23, 1926- Brief Salesman's meeting, only the resident ones present- bwt. 12 + 1. Home about 3:30- then errands by Reo, "from Dan to Beersheba"- Winter St to Middleburgh St!

SUN. Jan 24, 1926, 7:30 A., 7 degrees- Bright, but blew gale (SW to W) most of day- cold. Dr. Z in pulpit first since illness; preached well from John 4:37 'Fields white into the harvest'. S.S. class 12. All but Esther & I went 3:30 to large Missions Study class at our church. Betty & I to 5 Vesper serv.- Musical, where "Woman of Sythia" was given. Brief family sing aft. supper.

MON. Jan 25, 1926, 7 A., about - 12 degrees, Evg. 14 degrees- Cold; bright, fine. Arthur came to office a while this aft- first in weeks. F'cis in t-day; had a cold & kept going, now he has a "dandy". I read to Lucretia some this evg out of Harpers; unusual!

TUES. Jan 26, 1926- Milder- Little snow. Rotary 12:15- speaker T. Alfus Fleming. Ch. of Nat. Fris. Waste Council (of Cleveland) excellent speaker, fine personality. F'cis in house, feels some better. 1:15 P. to Dr. Barretts; meeting. Rotay Mem'ship Com; then to Office 8:20 & worked till 10:15. Sunved [?] from about 8 Pm. Lucretia has trouble with eye.

WED. Jan. 27, 1926, 7 A., 25 degrees- About 1 or 2 inches snow last night. Cleared by noon- colder by evg. Arthur at office again this Pm. Hectic day: Hartman reported loss at Glov'ville; Macauley with mother, very ill since Sunday; Watkins in [blank]. Lucretia's eye worse: this evg. Dr. Smith thought might be senses trouble & we drove right down Dr. Rainey & found it was. Called Dudley's [?] 7:30 but did not see. No church for us this evg!

THUR. Jan. 28, 1926, Evg. 20 degrees- Inch of snow in night; cleared & blew all day & evening- West gales- & grew cold. Lucretia stayed in bed till 2 P. Kids got breakfast. WainWright Sample in town- came to supper & stayed t-night- we played bridge this evg. U.S. Senate endorsed entrance into World Court- victory in a struggle since end of war.

FRI. Jan. 29, 1926, 7 A., -5 degrees, Evg 15 degrees- Storm & cold wave severe thro'out Northern U.S. Bright, moderated toward night.

SAT. Jan. 30, 1926, 7 A, 25 degrees, Aft 40 degrees- Pleasant to bright; moderated indeed- thawed by aft. Betty entertained this evg. Ewig & Jean Clark & Cleary. I home by 2:30; Lu then went to Dr. Rainey, Francis also; on their return I cleaned off auto & c.

SUN. Jan. 31, 1926, 7:30 A, 31 degrees, Evg. 30 degrees- Mild; pleasant till began rain about 4 P. Dr. Thompson of Oakwood addressed S.S. which met in church in body 10:30; all 6 of us there. He gave fine talk on Robert Lamb of Australia & New Hebrides. Class at noon, conducted by Heald. No Vespers. Lu, Betty & Jr. to Albia [?] Ch. 4. Dr. Thompson's Mission study. I called at Balduys & Hotalings. Family sing early evg. I "napped" 8 & 10 P. Arthur out to church.

MON. Feb 1, 1926, 7 A., 30 degrees, Evg. 20 degrees- Sleet frozen on ground this Am- Snowed abt 2 " during day. Mike Audey back in office after a week's crisis illness of his mother, who now seems out of danger.

TUES. Feb 2, 1926, 7 A., 24 degrees, Evg. 20 degrees- Cleared off, bright; fresh snow, beautiful in trees. Spent time 10-12 at Marvelli's place. Rotary 12:15, Dr. R.M. Little of that Bureau of Rehabilitation talked on Re-Making Men- Man I liked so much at Phi. Beta Kappa Schenectady, May. Cousin Charles came home sick from Saratoga about 4 P.- Dr. Hogan says it's a grave condition- likely have to give up traveling. Lu & I up there this evg. I turned to Ps. 34 & 37.

WED. Feb 3, 1926, 7 A., 15 degrees- Pleasant; commenced to snow about 9 P. Church 8; Dr. Z. spoke on "The Church Member, the Parish & the World".

THUR. Feb 4, 1926- Snowed all night & all day till about 8 PM- 14 to 15 inches fell! Storm came from Georgia & traveled entire east Atlantic States. Hired Sargent to travel Ward's south routes &c till see how Ward gets along. To Y. 7:30 meeting to hear report of Com on Federation of Churches in Troy. Idea favored. I wrote A.S. Williams again. [So Chas. Ward was one of Sherry & Co's salesmen! Another letter to Williams about business borrowing...]

FRI. Feb 5, 1926- Cleared off in night- most beautiful t-day, with glistening snow banks. F. & Jr. had lots of snow to shovel, I helped little before breakfast.

SAT. Feb 6, 1926- Vicinity digging out of snow. Clouded u in aft. & snowed 4:30 P. with evg! Evg. to Albany in H.S. Kennedy auto to Group 5 Banker's dinner; nearly 600 there. Addresses by U.S. Senator Linrest & Con. McCole, latter of Wilkesboro. Good gathering & balanced speakers. [Interesting events.]

SUN. Feb 7, 1926, 7:30 A., 30 degrees, 10 P. 18 degrees- Snow melted some; pleasant partly bright. F'cis & Jr. to Scout service at Memor Ch, then came to our S.S. Rest of us to Church trolley (not had Reo out since Wed evg.). Dr. Z. preached well on "Our"- from phrase 'Our Father' in Lord's Prayer. S.S. at noon. No Vespers. Lu Esther & I to Wards late aft; Chas on strict diet & responding to Doctor's regimen. Both F'cis & Jr. have taken cold, & be early.

MON. Feb 8, 1926, 7 A., 6 degrees- Unexpec. Cold this am; day fine & bright. Cold again at n't. F'cis & Jr. both stayed home from school. Pres Union- & Ladies night- our Church 7. About 150 there! Address by Dr. Claxton of Saratoga. Mother's (Partridge) house sold- initial part made t-day. [Interesting note about Ellen selling a home, was this in Buffalo?]

TUES. Feb 9, 1926, 7 A., -10 degrees, Evg. 10 degrees- Coldest yet this am! Partly cloudy. Rotary 12:15. Program by members- Abe Baker spoke interestingly on Lincoln. 6:20 P. w. F'cis Father & Son Banquet at Memorial Church. Fine address on Lincoln by Rev. Blakknik of Cohoes.

WED. Feb 10, 1926, 7 A., 10 degrees- Snowed all day till abt 5 P- on top of blizzard of last Thursday- about 3 inches only here- accomp. by N & NE wind. All but Esther to Chromatic Concert 8:15- Cleveland Orchestra conducted by N. Sokoloff, wonderful concert- home in a taxi.

THUR. Feb 11, 1926, 7 A., 4 degrees, Evg. 8 degrees- Brt., find, cold for sure! Lots of snow on ground. City removed snow from all "central" district; working the snow removing apparatus every day for a week. I called at Duckrows after supper.

FRI. Feb 12, 1926- Lincoln's Birthday. Settlement of Anth. Coal strife/strike announced suddenly! Sept 1/25- longest ever. Fine, bright, cold. "Presbyterian Day" in Troy. Rev. Dr. S.V.V Holmes of Buffalo spoke in 2nd Church 3:30 & 8 P. I went at 8. Dr. Hopkins of Albany spoke, then Dr. Holmes on Responsibilities of the Churches. Church full & good address. Arnold Kirschun announced to me this P.m. was going to leave [?] Fellows dug out rest of path in yard. Arthur at office.

SAT. Feb 13, 1926- Pleasant, warmed up. Conference w. Mac A & Woodcock 2 to 3:30, then a "bite". Then to see Mr. I. Roy about his proposal. Then to Wards, Chas has improved each day, responding well to Dr. Hogan's treatment & diet. Harriet Rogers to dinner (6 P- I was late). She & Eliz rec'd Noyes & Van Ingen this evg. who stayed very late! I used Reo t-day. Slipped off back porch when calling Bess in late evg & landed on my back- a heavy blow as I fell. [Ouch!]

SUN. Feb 14, 1926- Arranged w. Arnold by phone about 6 Pm & stay w. 5 red. [?] Church 10:30 A; Dr. Z. from Daniel 9:23; good sermon on Prayer. Miss Rogers w. us to Church also Mr & Mrs Frank Hall & all came to dinner (2:30 P). Meantime I called on Mr Polk & Otto Swenson. Discussion class continued Church 12 to 1. Commenced to snow again 2 P & continued fast till about 8- 4 inches more! Went to Students Service 4:45, Dean Brown of Yale, fine direct talk on Good Samaritan.

MON. Feb 15, 1926- Mild- Snow melted- bad going. **Wholesalers dinner** 6 P. at Troy house 9:15. **Lu & I talked business situation, cannot seem to feel light has yet come to me.** I thought of **Ps 25** before returning- ask **vs 9, 10 & 13.** [Significant comment about his business in discussion with Lucretia.]

TUES. Feb 16, 1926, 7 A., 14 degrees- Cold again- West wind- bright. Rotary 12:15; most interesting **travelogue** by Hal. Foster on his European trip last summer. Supper down street, back at office till 8- then to High School met **Lucretia** there, Father's night, Parents & Teachers Assoc.

WED. Feb 17, 1926- Brt. Fine, sun melted snow. Called at Duckrows after supper; & thence to Church, 8 where Rev Peter Birrell spoke on Utah, the Mormons & Westminster College **Francis & Jr.** came too.

THUR. Feb 18, 1926, 7 A., 34 degrees- Mild- cloudy, thawed. **Esther** home with cold. **Chas Ward** improving- able to get down stairs.

FRI. Feb 19, 1926- Mild early; Wet snow began abt 8 A. & continued till 4:30 P. growing colder, with some wind. **Lu & I** to dine at Gallaghers- invited 6:30 P but did not reach there till 7! (Took 40 min for me to reach home by trolley this evg). Hunns went with us in Reo. Snow drifted in evg. & cold.

SAT. Feb 20, 1926, 7 A., 13 degrees- Fine, bright. Cold; sun melts some. **Arthur came to store about 11.** I met **Harold** Station, on arrival train from Boston 3:45 (abt hour late) & came home. Visited till he left 10:30 P. & take train for Buffalo. Abt 5" Snow added yesterday- lots of snow. **Esther** out of school till t-day.

SUN. Feb 21, 1926, 7:30 A., 1 degrees, Evg. 20 degrees- Sparkling day, cold, though snow melts thro' midday. All family to church in Reo; stuck in snow right in front of house before church, had to shovel bit to get out! Dr. Z. preached well from Rev. 2:26 to 28. He that overcometh...will I give the Morning Star. S.S. class discussion. I went to Tom Watkins funeral 2:30 our church. **Whole family** to see **Wards** mid aft. **Chas** was dressed & down stairs.

MON. Feb 22, 1926, 7 A., 8 degrees, Evg. 15 degrees- **Washington's Birthday-** & **Franks!** Cold- cloudy, but did not snow. **F'cis & Jr.** took **14 mile hike w. Skees** beyond Presten Kill 9 A. to 6 P. **Lu & I** to Rotary "ladies night" at Y. 6:30 P. Ent. was **a mock trial** put on in fine style. [Quite a ski-tour!]

TUES Feb 23, 1926, 7 A., 4 degrees- Rotary 12:15. Cold. Called on Duckrow aft supper then to Church to Session meeting. **F'cis & Jr.** both home from school to rest up for yesterday.

WED. Feb 24, 1926- Woke 3:30 Am. With soreness of back, muscular swelling, hot water bag eased it. To Dr. B. early- before office; painted w. iodine & told me to rest it all I could. Came home 4:30 P. & did not go out again. **Arthur's birthday- 72 years old.** **Lu & I had another talk, prodding me about business.** [Significant comment about his business, being prodded by Lucretia.]

THUR. Feb 25, 1926- Warmed up & thawed; snowed in am., turned to rain- snow in streets became slippery ice.

FRI. Feb 26, 1926- Students Social at Church 8 P.; **Lu & Betty** went, taking Harriet Roges who had supper w. us & stayed t-night. I took **F'cis Jr** to see **Mt. Everest pictures** at High School, w. **lecture by Noël.** Thawed. Mr. Bostwick died this am. Dr. B says soreness in back is muscular, am past danger of infection. **Betty** missed part of school thro "cyclic" attack.

SAT. Feb 27, 1926- Colder- West wind. Bright. I had treatment 3 P. for my back by Mrs. Dr. McDowell- Dr being away. Betty in house t-day. This evg. after gas episode, I slept- to bed late & couldn't sleep.

SUN. Feb 28, 1926- Rev. Mr. Foster of Albany preached Acts 17:23, Discussion class at 12. 3 P. to Mr Bostwick's funeral; then w. Lu Esther & Betty to see Marie McDunnough at Finley's taking Lu to Arthur's; then stopped at Evans 8th St. did not see; then to Raymonds, saw Vails & things brought from Europe. Called on Mr. Polk on way home where reached 6 P. continuously busy wince rose this Am 7:30.

MON. Mar 1, 1926- Cloudy- mild. All family to Scout Court of Honor 7:30 P, where Francis awarded grade of Eagle Scout. [Wow, huge honor- did not remember that.]

TUES. Mar 2, 1926, 7 A., 32 degrees- Snowed from 7 to 11 A; mild. Cleared off in aft. & cooler. Lu & I had some discussion about business after b'fast. I was out with Birdsell, Clarksman, this morg. Rotary 12:15, Col Bricker talked on "Industrial mobilization"- clearly put [blank]. I stayed down office this evg. [Another "discussion" about his business with Lucretia.]

WED. Mar 3, 1926- Colder- snow squall. I called on Duckrow 7:15; then to Church w. F'cis & Jr. where Dr. Moldenhawer gave fine talk on Bernard of Clairvaux, with introduction about Monasticism.

THUR. Mar 4, 1926, 7 A., 16 degrees, Evg. 14 degrees- Brt. Cold, West wind. Worked on my income report evg. till got sleepy, then on couch- bed after midnight. Lu had S.S. dept teachers here evg.

FRI. Mar 5, 1926, 7 A., 2 degrees- Cold indeed- Snowed in night. 2 or 3 inches. 6:30 Lu & I to Current Topic Club. Donald McWilliam Arctic explorer. Supper at Y., His moving pictures of last years exped. At High School- big crowd.

SAT. Mar 6, 1926, 7 A., 2 degrees, Aft 26 degrees- Cold; took Reo out & found was "nipped" on radiator, but thawed its. Out in Spg. Av Garage. Brilliantly bright, sun melted snow middle of day. Never saw such ruts in Spg. Ave. & some other streets, well-traveled, as now. Lu & Bet. To Univ. Club play evg. F'cis & Jr. to dancing class. I worked on entering house &c bills left terribly behind.

SUN. Mar 7, 1926, 7:30 A., 34 degrees- Most disagreeable: snowed early till 9, turning to rain, contin. Most of day & evg. All to Church in Reo: Dr. Z. preached well on Man with 1 talent. Fixed soe gutters in yard this aft., otherwise not out rest of day.

MON. Mar 8, 1926- Cold- March wind, froze things up again. Worked evg. on income tax report. Constantly thinking of business problems, & more of narrowing line to coffee tea, spices &c. [This is very telling, revealing what some of Norman's discussions with Lu may be about, narrowing focus of business to one area, coffee, tea, spices, etc...is that how "etc." evolved, from &c?]

TUES. Mar 9, 1926, 7 A., 16 degrees- Rotary 12:15; Bill Walker in US uniform gave fine talk on U.S. Military training camps. Early evg to Duckrows; walking to & from there very bad. Worked on Mother's tax report rest of evg. Cold, Marchy, mostly bright.

WED. Mar 10, 1926, 7 A., 17 degrees- Brt. Fine; sun melted in aft., froze again in evg. 6 P. Betty & I to YMCA where Sunday School "Council" met for supper & conference. Betty home then, & 8 P. I met Lu Church, where 3rd Lenten service Dr. Z spoke on Augustine & his Confessions- mighty interesting. Mother wrote from Florida again- about my coming there to "see" & perhaps return with her.

THUR. Mar 11, 1926- **Current Topic Club** 6:30; Walter Randolph Burgess of Federal Reserve Bank New York the speaker, clear talk on the bank's functions.

FRI. Mar 12, 1926- Brt. Cold. 5 P. Meeting Foreign Work Com. at YMCA. Evg worked on **my tax report**.

SAT. Mar 13, 1926, 7 A., abt. 13 degrees- Fine, cold- but sun melts midday. Lunched with **Bob MacA**. & had talk with him at Y.W. & at Store front door. Home about 4 P. Evg. worked on **Mother's tax report**; after children performed [?].

SUN. Mar 14, 1926- Cold, brilliant sunshine, March wind; I was not up till 7:30 A. when sun was on then 16 degrees. Was zero on farms. **All family** to Church- via Congress St, as ice ruts 15 in deep Spring Av at Myrtle! Dr. Z preached Luke 16:2 "Thou canst be no longer steward," Good. He made it short & left 11:30 to declare Mr. Walker's pulpit vacant. S.S. at noon had Chas. Seibert & Geo Delair in class. I called on Mr. Hanlons (Mary had been sick) & to **Wards. Betty** to 5th Av. Baptist 5:30. **Family sing** after supper.

MON. Mar 15, 1926- Talked with **Arthur** & **MacAuley** this P.m. & **they advised my going to N.Y. to see Mr. Williams**. 6 P. Wholesaler's Dinner; talk by Detective Brophy. Then to Club where Masque of Troy gave "Under Cover"- as arranged by John Francis; formed it a serious plot play instead of a comedy as expected. **Showed store bldg. to Russell this Am.** **Chas Ward** at office few minutes.

TUES. Mar 16, 1926, **To New York**- Rotary 12:15, celebrated **St. Patricks Day** (t-morrow). Addressed by Father Horgan of St. Joseph's. Haserot of Cleveland here. To Albany 11 P. train, took sleeper for N.Y.

WED. Mar 17, 1926, **In New York**- **Called on Clifford Black**; then saw Foster Sec'y Wh. Gwastso [?]. **To Williams by 11:40 & found Mr. A.P.W. just going out, named 3:30 to see me.** Lunched with Foster. **Could only see Mr. Williams a brief time, abt. 3:45.** We had big things- in Phil.- on haul, very busy & **could not consider our prop. favorably. I am through now & satisfied.** 4:45 P. train back, arr. Albany 7:46 by trolley to Troy; met boys at Church where Dr. Z. talked on Jeremy Taylor. **[Here a face-to-face with Mr. Williams in NYC, re: business financing, most probably...]**

THUR. Mar 18, 1926, 7 A., 25 degrees- **Esther** home yesterday & t-day, but around house. **Francis** came home 2 Pm with bronchial illness. **Lu** had letter from **Harold** & from **Mother** which mixes up summer plans. **I thought of 2 new plans for business & wrote Mr. Foster.** Mild & thawed. **[What were they?]**

FRI. Mar 19, 1926- S.S. Supper Church 6:30 **Junior Betty & I** could go- total attendance about 90, a good party. **Francis** in bed, **Esther** around house, **Lucretia** fighting a cold & caring for **Francis**. Mr. Watkins arr Troy, having reached NY Tuesday.

SAT. Mar 20, 1926- Delayed office 1:30 to 3:30, **Foster view w. Sargent.** **Lucretia** to bed about noon with grip- that hasn't happened since her operation at hospital. **Junior** played at Mrs. Buell's this Pm' came home feeling sick & to bed early. Many are ill thro' city. Three or four out at store this week! **Phoned Wilson late aft, would book his new bldg. t-morrow.**

SUN. Mar 21, 1926, 7:30 A., 25 degrees, aft 42 degrees- Brilliant, bright- mild- thawed much- first day of Spring. Only **Betty** to Church; I stayed home to help the sick. To S.S. noon had big class & Cheney brought new member. **About 2:30 w. Wilson to his new warehouse w. spur track. Proposed merger to him.** Reached Church about 5:20 P. where student service, preacher Dr. Barbour of Rochester again. Chairs not filled t-day, but the first of talks from John 10:10 & 17:3. **[This seems like a big business decision, proposing a merger, was this one of his new ideas?]**

MON. Mar 22, 1926- F'cis dressed & around house- still coughs. Lucretia up & around, but Junior temp 104 degrees!- pretty ill. Betty & Esther did housework. Brt. thawed.

TUES. Mar 23, 1926, 7 A., 40 degrees- Rained most of morning- cloudy all day- Rotary 12:15. Wray Lemon read interesting paper on "Books & Business". I went for Bridget Hanlon (Mary too shakey) & brought her to house about 11 A. Thaw has made impression on show & ice in streets.

WED. Mar 24, 1926- I alone to Church 8; Dr. Zelig's last Lenten subject "John Woolman"- interesting.

THUR. Mar 25, 1926- Walter Wilson came to home 9-11 this evg; we talked pro & con of merger. Decision postponed 'till he interviews his oldest son middle of next week. Lucretia, F'cis & Junior feeling better. Junior around house. [Merger decision discussed at length, decision delayed]

FRI. Mar 26, 1926- Chromatic Concert 8:15, Tito Schipa, lyric tenor of Chicago- fine voice, sings so easily. Miss Allen, Betty's former teacher to dinner. Lu Betty & I with Miss Allen (who had ticket, to concert). Betty's vacation began.

SAT. Mar 27, 1926- Francis & Junior went outdoors. Chas. Ward saw his North Troy trade t-day- first "drumming" since his illness. Bright & cold; rising water in river checked- river so low this winter, seems no danger of flood. Wm. Mackay told me was to quit a/c health. [Bad business news.]

SUN. Mar 28, 1926, Aft. 32 degrees- Mostly bright, cold, West wind. Palm Sunday; all 6 of us to Church 10:30. Dr. Zelig good sermon on "Crowds", base on Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Good number class at 12. Out on Annual Church Canvass aft w. Duncan & Cheney. Doughnuts & coffee 6 P. for canvassers. [Blank] & Van Ingen, Eleanor Smith at supper & spent evg. Cousin Charles at Church, first since taken ill Feb. 2.

MON. Mar 29, 1926, 7 A., abt 3?- Brt. pleasant cold. F'cis & N. Jr. resumed school. Chas Ward at office most of morg; conferring on Church benevolences & store affairs. Arthur complains again of stomach. Bridget Hanlon ret'd home. Lu Betty, Jr. & I to Lenten service at Church 8. Rev. E.M. Wylie gave strong address from Matt 16:23, "Stumbling blocks in way of Christ".

TUES. Mar 30, 1926, 7 A., 30 degrees- Fine bright, some warmer. Rotary 12:15, Talk by Willetts W.V. Div. Cable Mgr on "Tel. & Cable Transmission", followed by questions- interesting session. Arthur at office past aft. as usual. Saw Duckrow this evg- looked badly, has had grippe too since I was there.

WED. Mar 31, 1926, 7A., 30 degrees- Cloudy; rained, or some sleet, aft. & evg. Foster wrote A.N. & Co & Cohen (Levi) not interested. I attended noon Lenten Union meeting 2nd Pres Ch, Bishop Leonard of Buffalo spoke from John 13:1 "Loved his own...in the world...loved them unto the end." Impressive talk, with some apt illustrations. Boys began Spring vacation. [New business initiatives mentioned here...]

THUR. Apr 1, 1926- Snowed some in night, ground first covered, continued part of morg. Colder at night. Lu, Betty F'cis & I to Church 8, Communion service as last year.

FRI. Apr 2, 1926- Good Friday. Lu F'cis & Jr w. me to Church 8. Dr. Z had Rev. Allen & Rev Hansen- all three spoke briefly. I went to last Union Lenten services 12:10 Rev. Alex Black (brother of Hugh) of Montclair spoke on "The Folly of Christ"- quite an accent, strong & at times eloquent. Church crowded- many stood 9:30 P. I went to Wilson's house & talked business merger w. him till 12. [Key business initiative...]

SAT. Apr 3, 1926- At office till most 4; interview W. Sargent. Cloudy, cold; some sleet & snow in evg. Arthur's stomach troubling; I saw him late aft., he was lying in bed.

SUN. Apr 4, 1926- Easter: windy night, fine brt. day, but windy, cold, very "Marchy". Kids "hunted" hidden presents before breakfast. All to Church 10:30. Dr. Z excellent Easter Sermon from "I am the Resurrection & the Life". S.S. noon; special service, address by Rev. Singiser. Aft. walked w. 2 boys, w. Harold & Jimmy around & back of Smarts Pond. 5 I called on Dr. Reynolds, been ill. 7 P. Sargent phoned his decision to go w. R.C. Williams & Co- as I expected. Then I went down street & interviewed Fred Peck. [Sargent, hired to take Ward's territory, left to join son's company in Philly...]

MON. Apr 5, 1926, 7 A., 38 degrees- Cloudy, sprinkled late aft. Number interviews this aft: Chas Ward down, John Wolff, & Ward sent John McKay, candidate for salesman. This Pm Junior had sewer hole cover fall on great toe- boys trying to recover ball. Prohibition hearings in Congress began; also NY State Legislature & newspapers full of discussion.

TUES. Apr 6, 1926- Rotary 12:15 P. Several members spoke on "Why I joined Rotary". Bright fine, Windy- from West, cold. Arthur's stomach continues trouble.

WED. Apr 7, 1926- Cloudy- rained evg. Hired John McKay to take place of William Mackay! Saw Arthur late aft.; has been in bed since Sunday, stomach trouble continuous. Prepar. Lecture 8 P. All but Junior & Esther went. Dr. Z. from Phil 4: "Your care...has flourished again". I called on Duckrow briefly, bwt. Supper & church- he is a very sick man.

THUR. Apr 8, 1926, 7 A., 40 degrees- Water high in river- even with docks. This evg I discussed merger w. Wilson & found him "not ready", tho' we await a decision of his son. Arthur reported better t-day. Junior getting about on crutches. [Another merger discussion with Wilson...]

FRI. Apr 9, 1926- Mild, fine Spring day- almost the first. To Arthur's before noon: he fell in bathroom during night & is quite weakened. He signed an "executor" paper which has been on my mind for months, Alden drove from Syracuse arrived about 5 P. Left for NY on boat. Students reception at Church- only few there, their notice went wrong. Lu & Betty there.

SAT. Apr 10, 1926- Pleasant, but colder. Mostly brt. Arnold K. summoned home from office this P.m. found his father dead on arriving. I arrived home about 5 P. Arthur sat up this aft. reading back papers, & then showed much weakness. Alden back from N.Y. about 8 P.

SUN. Apr 11, 1926- Mostly brt., but quite cold. Junior rec'd by Session early, & took his first communion. Dr. Z. spoke from Jer 2:2, five joined by confession, two by letter. S.S. at noon. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Hall dined. Arthur showed great weakness, Frank asked for a nurse, spent much of aft. phoning. At 5 P. with Dr. Z & Patrick to Duckrow's, held communion service. Allerdice to supper. I called- Adam Will, Arnold K. then to Arthur's 9 P. Alden & Frank to divide watching, couldn't get nurse. [Milestone for Dad]

MON. Apr. 12, 1926- Just after 9:30 A, at office, as I phoned to Arthur's apartment, Frank answered "Arthur is gone". He died quietly, Frank & nurse (who had just come) there. Alden out on errands. Anticipated, yet not now, the end has come & my dear & only brother, so loyal & my intimate associate so long is "translated". I was at apartment before Alden ret'd, Lucretia came & joined in plans. I lunched home. To Albany, late aft w. Alden to select coffin. Anne arr. from Syracuse early evg. Funeral set from our house, Wed aft., place as long arranged for. Bright, fine, cool. [Momentous and tragic news for

Norman about his older brother Arthur Galusha's death, in Syracuse! The place long arranged for was the family plot at Oakwood Cemetery.]

TUES. Apr 13, 1926- Bright, fine; still cool. Ralph arrived from Evanston, IL, this aft. I omitted Rotary meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Packard called on Lu & me this evg.

WED. Apr. 14, 1926, Aft 60 degrees- I feared weather would be rainy after two brilliant days, but a third brt day came, a perfect day, mildest we've had yet. My dear brother's body brought to our house; 2:30 P. the simple funeral service by Dr. Zolie. Six from store were carriers; I'll always remember the committal service at Oakwood- brt. sunshine, murmur of brook at left, peaceful lake, little group of friends & relatives in crescent line, Dr. Zolie ended with the lines- "Now the labourer's task is o'er". Frank, Ralph, Alden, Anne ret'd to our house & had dinner w. us this evg; then to 1824 5th Ave for last night together. [That says it all.]

THUR. Apr 15, 1926, 7 A., 23 degrees- Frank & Ralph came to house for nights. Alden & Anne to Syracuse early aft. Big drop in mercury; bright & cold! West wind. At Farrell's office 9 A. w. Ralph & Alden in re: Arthur's will; then went over store affairs w. them in upper office; they are disposed to let Arthur's capital remain till I can release it. This disposition seems to allow to go on w. Sherry & Co. as now thus finishing answer to my prayers for guidance for the present & await further guidance (See Apl 28). [Very revealing about where Sherry & Co. was, with his continued prayer related to it. Interesting that on April 28th, he added this note here.]

FRI. Apr 16, 1926- Clouded up & rained in aft. Prepared claim for Arthur's Life insurance; Dr. Waldo wrote cause of death 'ulcers of stomach, probably malignant'. It is a mercy of God's providence that Arthur did not linger in pain for a long time.

SAT. Apr 17, 1926- Bright cold: I got home 4 Pm; looked over some Arthur's clothing. Ralph & Frankie busied with distributing things; some furniture &c brought to house this afternoon.

SUN. Apr 18, 1926- Brilliantly bright; cold, West wind. Our 6 to Church; Dr. Z. preached from Rom 12:2 "The Will of God". S.S. at noon. The Magees called this P.m. Student service 4:45. I took Betty, Barnes & Wells- Dr. Holmes fr. Buffalo preached from 2 Cor1:19- a fine appeal for the "Yea" life. Ralph to N.Y. on boat this evg. Brief meeting of Session immed. after morning church, in re: new elder to take Arthur's place.

MON. Apr 19, 1926- Cold, some clouds. Wholesaler's Bureau 6 Pm; discussed proposal 1 day trip for Advertising purposes. James McKay notified after 1 week out, he would leave to go with son in Philadelphia. [There goes another salesman...]

TUES. Apr 20, 1926, 7 A., 26 degrees- Brilliantly bright but still cold; West wind blew. Elizabeth 16 years old! Rotary 12:15; Officer Smith told us about "dope" in Troy. Ralph ret'd from N.Y.; he & Frank continued cleaning up 5th Av apartment. Esther in bed w. attack cyclic vomiting. Saw Mr Duckwin briefly this evg.- had hiccoughs since Thursday & is getting weak. [Interesting comment about dope in Troy!]

WED. Apr 21, 1926, 7 A., 36 degrees, Aft. about 68 degrees- Fine, & almost the first really Spring day! Esther better & around the house. F'cis Junior & I to Church 7 & Supper followed by Annual Meeting.

THUR. Apr 22, 1926- Fine bright, warm. Lucretia & I to farewell reception, Rev. Ms Walker & family at 1st Ch. Laris [?] this evg; Crowded, speaking by various ministers & laymen. Began to rain about 11 P.

FRI. Apr 23, 1926, 7 A., 56 degrees- Cleared off this A.M. Another bright day. Ralph left this P.m. for Syracuse & home. Arthur's apartment is about cleared out now. Ruth Thomas' wedding this aft. but Lu & I sent regrets. Mr. Duckrow died about 7 P. after 4 ½ years illness.

SAT. Apr 24, 1926, Aft. 70 degrees- Mostly bright, cooler at night. Delayed at office by "calls", not home till 4; then gave auto first "hosing" since begin. of Winter. Turned on garage water for first. Season has been so backward & cold till this week- seems a month behind. Noticed first green grass couple days ago. Thunder lightening & showers after 9 P.

SUN. Apr 25, 1926, Aft. 60 degrees- Daylight saving began. Rained more in night; sunshine early, but clouded up & rained by noon & a little later, alternated by some sunshine. Colder at night. Dr. Z at Cambridge: Rev. Dr. Little of Alb. preached fine educ. sermon from Ps 11:3 on progress of theology tracing belief in auth-outs, [?] of reason, Church, the Bible & Creeds. S.S. followed. Lu talked on business this afternoon. [Been a long time since Lu brought up "business"- March 8- but here it is.]

MON. Apr 26, 1926, 7 A., 36 degrees- Cold, clouds & sunshine. Hired John G. Nelson on commission to take Ward's Southern territory &c. after Sargent leaves.

TUES. Apr 27, 1926, 7 A., 30 degrees- Cold early; brt, fine. Rotary 12:15: Ex. U.S. Atty Mca. of Auburn spoke on prosecution of narcotic cases, continuing thought of last meeting- a strong talk. Funeral of Mr. Duckrow 2 P. I was one the bearers- laid him at rest in Alb. Rural Cem. Dr. Z. ret'd yesterday from Mass. to conduct the service. Just a week ago this evg I saw him for last time. Family & movies evg; I stayed to look after Esther.

WED. Apr 28, 1926- Letter from Alden, after Ralph's visit shows me I must change business into narrow line- it is God's answer to months of seeking 'the way'- not as I wished nor as I thought would be on Apr 15. Rained. Nanna arrived in Alb. This aft, left Deland [?] Monday a.m. Lu met her. Lu & I to Church 8. Dr. Thompson of Oakwood spoke most int'ingly on "Cumberland Mountains". [Here is the reference he made on April 15 as a clear direction, so he must have gone back to add that after today, April 28th. So it is pretty likely that Ellen Hayes stayed with the Philip in Deland, FL, who invited Francis to France...]

THUR. Apr 29, 1926- Some talk with MacAuley 6-6:30 P. at office about "narrowing down" plans. [MacAuley was his go-to salesperson with Chas Ward, and here the new strategy for Sherry & Co.]

FRI. Apr 30, 1926- Managed with part. borrowing to send off third called installment I had arranged w. Arthur before his death. [Arthur had part stake in Sherry & Co, and NBS is paying out to his children.]

SAT. May 1, 1926, Aft. 70 degrees- Brt. warm. Busy morg: Haskell in; Jas McKay & Sargent conclude. Nelson prepared to start out. Reached home abt. 4:30 P worked in yard till supper. Napped mostly 7-9 P. then sat up late studying for 'Discussion' Class. Dick Noyes invited Betty to fraternity dance.

SUN. May 2, 1926, 7:20 A., 55 degrees, Aft. 81 degrees- Warmest yet, even hot in aft. but lightening & thunder shower brief about 5 dropped mercury 15 degrees. All seven of us to Church. Dr. Z. preached well on "Freedom" from Acts 22:28. S.S. at noon. Took all but Esther in Reo abt. 4 P. West S'lake, Aver Pk, & ret via Prest'Hill (20 miles). Clouded up quickly & rain came as we reached the Property's corner. I called on Wales & E.O. Ross aft supper.

MON. May 3, 1926, Heater fire went out this Am, I built new one this evg.- Nelson ret'd grip & papers to Office early this Am! I called his house, wife showed he had "cold feet"- thus began a day of burden &

pressure. Talked w. Bob & formed more definite plans. Cousin Charles after driving church yesterday felt much poorer t-day. Mrs. Partridge came on & played bridge with Mother Lu & me this evg. Found Psalm 25 (in Moffatt) very appealing on returning. [Another key crossroads for the business, with a plan that did not pan out, leading back to frustration.]

TUES. May 4, 1926, 7 Am, 33 degrees- Nearly 50 degree drop in about 15 hours. West wind blew last night & t-day. Lu & I 10:20 A. drove to Saratoga to Lunch, last day of Rotary Conference- Troy club had charge of- enjoyed the letup- large no. Troy men there, some few hundred attended from all over district. Called on Atty Waiton Lawton matter. Left there 3:30 & at office Troy 4:50. [Not sure what this is about, the matter of law...]

WED. May 5, 1926, 7 A., 32 degrees- Beautiful- cold, early, as yesterday, but no wind. Felt as if things went 'round in circles, & no progress. Conferred with MacAuley & Woodcock 6 & 7:45 P. Then a "bite" & to Church by 8:10. Dr. Zelig spoke int'gly on "Fresh Experiences of Divine Help". [Pretty vivid description of frustration, "going around in circles." These were his to "go-to" guys in the business...]

THUR. May 6, 1926, 7 A., 38 degrees- Fine, mild after early A.M. From suggestion last evg's conference John Aird & I had conference Y.M.C.A. 4:30 & 5:30; most unexpected to me. Lucretia headache all day culminating in upset this evg. Busy- Birdsall in, Watkins came aft. from Lk. George- forgot Bank Meeting this Am!

FRI. May 7, 1926- Cousin Charles had another shock- perh. several slight ones, had to take to bed. Bright, warm. Felt greatly under pressure. Sent for & hired Deiseroth about midday; he goes out next Monday.

SAT. May 8, 1926- Bright. Informed Watkins of the two "options" we have in business- merger or 'narrow line'- just before he left noon train. At office nearly 4 with Deiseroth. [Business options described here, two...Deiseroth sounds like some kind of business consultant or a Rotary friend. An obit for an Anton Deiseroth, resident of E. Poestenkill & Troy, in *Troy Times* for May 31, 1932.]

SUN. May 9, 1926, Aft. 52 degrees- Pretty cold, rather cloudy. Dr. Z. good sermon on Heroes w. handicaps- from Jeremiah. S.S. noon. Lu & I to Wards this Pm- each saw Charles in turn, & briefly- it is pathetic. Under pressure; business on my mind constantly. [Sad statement here on both counts, on Cousin Charles condition and on NBS's state of mind!]

MON. May 10, 1926- Cloudy, rain drizzled at times. 8:45 A. to school 10, where spoke on "Education & Character"; Rotary reps visited the schools of the City in re: Boy's Week in Troy. Then looked over Empire Store's. MacAuley on Mackay's Petersb-Berlin route. A day of "pressure" again. 6 P. Wholesaler's Bureau dinner- discussed busses for Albia; 8:15 back to office for rest of evg. Found some hymn verses t-night "Give to the winds thy fears". [Norman dealing with inner & outer fears this year...]

TUES. May 11, 1926, 7 A., 44 degrees- Changeable- sunny & showers. Cool. Letter from Aird dropping matter- but interview about 2 P. arranged "plural" conference 13th- so it was a strenuous time. Rotary met 12:30 with YMCA-Boy Scout drive workers, boys were in Esty Hall as "officials" & at lunch to spoke. Francis was "City Treasurer". Lu Mother & I played Bridge at Mrs. Partridges t-night.

WED. May 12, 1926- Bright fine, still cool. Lu & I to Church 8 P., Dr. Z. spoke on "The call to awake." John 9:39.

THUR. May 13, 1926- Finest of days, almost cloudless- & warmed up. 4 P. Conference of Mr. Aird, Hollister, Ahearn & MacA., Woodcock & myself; arrangement made for Hollister to buy from our stock & to sell us so as to keep our stock reasonably complete while we work to reduce it as a whole. Will be of great practical help to us. Lu & I visited Wards this evg; Chas dressed & came down stairs. [This is a key statement regarding salesforce, key manager and the business...]

FRI. May 14, 1926- Fine.

SAT. May 15, 1926, Aft., 60 degrees- Sprinkled about 8 A; but cleared soon & was mostly fine. Interview w. Hartouen about 1 P. Examining Com at bank thence till 5 P. This evg. to Schenectady. Phi Beta Kappa at Pres. Richmond's house with Messr Aldrich & Walrath; renewing road next W'vliet & had detour Niskaymia. Paper by Prof. Lickliger "Making Literature Safe for Democracy": Betty had part of seven this evg.

SUN. May 16, 1926, Pm., 68 degrees- Sunshine & partly clouds. Dr. Z. good sermon from Matt 6:17. S.S. at 12. About 4 P. Lu & I to Raymonds where Sara & Lewis Britton, Lois Stetson & little Kirk are visiting. He is a beautiful baby. Then to see Wards- Cousin Chas some better, had 3 customer visitors from out of town to-day. [Key family relations here, check on my family tree for these...]

MON. May 17, 1926, Aft. 75 degrees- Fine, warmed up. Aird phoned Hollister would not go into merger, as has no time to be active in it- thus a door unexpectedly open May 6, seems now closed. Worked at bank w. Mr. Pattison 2:15 to 5 P. Junior had stomach upset this aft. & evg. Short ride in Reo this evg- took Nanna F'cis Esther & Betty- Pawl San- left to E. Mills & home. [Another key statement on the business...closed door to a merger & working with bank on losses and loans to stay afloat.]

TUES. May 18, 1926- Some clouds morg. But aft. fine. Junior feels much better but did not attend school. Mr. Polk interviewed me on way to Rotary speaking, so I heard last part of address on Red Cross by Thos E. Green of Washington. Saw Hollister 11:30 A. & later (4:30) he saw me. Finding help in Psalms &c.

WED. May 19, 1926- I alone to Church 8. Lu stayed with the "sick"- Junior upset again & Elizabeth stayed home from school.

THUR. May 20, 1926- Hollister called MacAuley down this Pm & gave Airds reasons for stopping negotiations. I called Aird's house on phone, they were out. After reaching home decided not to try to see him. Worked at the bank most of the afternoon. [Another key statement on business, or lack thereof- merger and bank negotiations.]

FRI. May 21, 1926-

SAT. May 22, 1926- Pleasant till clouded up mid aft. then cleared soon. Lu went to Saratoga to Smith College Assoc. meeting.

SUN. May 23, 1926, Aft. abt 50 degrees- Cold, rather cloudy. 16 years ago Lucretia & I became engaged. Nanna feeling not "fit" stayed home; rest to Church 10:30. Near East Relief presented to H.L. Montgomery. S.S. at noon. About 3:15 called on Geo. Friday; told him of our purpose to narrow down & asked privilege to buy at cost to piece out, which he at once granted. Lu & I called on Wards- Chas a little better; then at Raymonds, seeing Lois & new baby (Kirk). [Another key statement on the business, on a change in strategy.]

Mon. May 24, 1926, 7 A., 38 degrees- Fine, cold early. Talked with Watkins (who arr. yesterday) this A.m.; then 12:15 got with Geo. Friday; result: Watkins will call our narrow line (tea, coffee spices &c) & groceries for Darling after July 1. It all came about so smoothly! Prayers are answered, & God is working. Alden arr from Syracuse about 3:15 P. & we had a talk at Club. He dined with us evg & drove on to see Thompson at H. Falls. I left tired & depressed this evg & dozed. [Another key statement on the business, which sounds like a breakthrough, but subsequent entries do not seem to confirm it.]

TUES. May 25, 1926, 7 A., 47 degrees- Bright cool, strong West wind. Alden stopped office this Am enroute home from H. Falls; had further talk about the business & the estate. Rotary 12:15. Cap Skinner the speaker; he leaves city soon. This evg Lu & I called on the sick- Miss Jennie Stone at Troy Hosp. & Mrs. Williams at Samaritan- just learned of their illnesses. Consulted A.H. Millard this evg.- he called house 10 Pm.

WED. May 26, 1926, 7 A., 52 degrees, Evg 60 ddegrees- Brt, still cool. 11 A. Millard called & looked over the store building. Church 8 P. with Lu & boys; Dr. Z. gave fine talk on "The Promises of God:- to the ancients and to us".

THUR. May 27, 1926-

FRI. May 28, 1926, To Twitchell- Boys & Esther miss school to-day; Elizabeth to-night to Rogers. Nanna Lu F'cis Junior & I- w. "Bess" got off 11:30 Am- past Fairview Home & along Mohawk, as detour on Schen. Rd. Lunched at road intersec at river level, over new bridge at Schen. Detour at Fr. Johnson, so turned Tribes Hill, via Johnstown & Dodgeville. Just before D. lost ½ hour by flooded carbur. Fresh oil on road through Middleville. Past Poland detour at bridge, puzzling turns to Utica rd, via Trenton. Fast time again to Old Forge (abt 6:30 Pm) thence South s. Fourth Lake, Inlet Eagle Bay; from here to Glenmore Road about as last Sept.; then completed to Twitchell turn, ruddy & out of order rest of way, arrived Twitchell Inn 4:50 Pm, 166 miles in 6 hrs 35 min. running time; 25 2/10 miles per hr. Coveys turned on water our camp & made fires. Been perfectly bright day & warmed up. [No explanation as to why they did not drive on North side of Fourth Lake here. Note the ruddy road, out of order. Boy that is service by the Coveys. Probably the north drive was added later!]

SAT, May 29, 1926, Twitchell- Started drumming about 10 Am around Big Moose Lake. Dined abt 1 P. Earl Coveys Covewood; not back "home" till nearly 7. Evening saw S.B. Covey & wife. Another perfect day, warm. [After all the losses at the Twitchell Inn, Earl Covey changed his focus to Big Moose Lake and build Covewood, a premier hotel, where I believe by this time he had remarried, Francis Covey.]

SUN, May 30, Twitchell- A third successive beautiful day. Had nice day w. family. In morg to "the falls" where plenty of water passing. Warm, yet black flies not yet 'regnant'. Miss Whited, Mother & brother called in aft. This evg. read last chapter of "What & Where is God" to Fcis Mother & Lu.

MON, May 31, Twitchell- Rained toward morning & till about 11. All day out driving [?] late lunch at Inlet. Pleasant aft., not back to camp till nearly 7 P. Played little "500" early evg. Boys been fishing, Francis caught trout- not Junior this time! I had no time for it, this trip. Decoration Day observed t-day instead 30th but found all business people in around here.

TUES. June 1, 1926, To Troy - Up 6:16; quite cloudy. Closed up Camp temporarily, finally got off at 10:22 A, only stopped twice till at Remsen for gas & oil; at Trenton took "Utica road" to avoid detour had coming up. Lunched just S. of Remsen (1:10 P) began to rain about 1:30; via Deerfield & Mohawk Valley

road- some showers. Roads under repair around St. Johnsville for 9 miles, past that good time; and home 6:20. P. 173 miles in 6 hrs 56 min or 24 9/10 miles pr hr.

WED. June 2, 1926- Back in to office work again, having taken 9 orders, some items never sold before: expects. of more orders before season opens. [Some encouraging signs with business picking up...]

THUR. June 3, 1926-

FRI. June 4, 1926-

SAT. June 5, 1926- Rather cloudy, sprinkled early, some sunshine later aft. & nice evg. Home by 4 P. got blinds ready to up up. Evg. Lu & I drove to Clif Mill Hill W. Francis for Miss Benedict, then took the to dance on Poest rd.

SUN. June 6, 1926, 7:30 A., abt 50 degrees- Brilliant- cool. Heater fire went out. Communion 10:30 A. Dr. Z spoke briefly from John 13:7. Ordination of Heald as elder, Kellogg Peck & Bowen as deacon. Chil. Day service. S.S. at 12- all classes took part. Secy Gray of YMCA spoke briefly. This aft took Nanna & all family to Schenectady to see Giffords (Bea Noble) but out; after arriving around Schen. We ret'd via Alb road- left to Shaker Rd. via Watervliet & home- abt 41 miles. Lou & I this evg saw Mrs. Williams at Sam Hosp & then to Norms [?] First Communion. Chas never missed since an elder. [Dad's first communion.]

MON. June 7, 1926, 7 A., 52 degrees- So cool early, made another heater fire. Philip Cummings of Hardwick, VT & Deland Florida arrived this aft for visit. I cleaned tar off Reo first half of evg. Cloudy mostly & showers- then appeared to clear to some sunshine between. Esther had toothache & left to sleep in my place- I took den cot.

TUES. June 8, 1926- Showers & sunshine alternated. Warmer. Rotary 12:15; delegates to Saratoga Conference reported, "Gabe" Solomon there. Nanna took Eliz & F'cis to movies with guest Philip.

WED. June 9, 1926- Fine; this evg. took all family & Philip for ride- Winter St, Snyders Cors., Prest E. Mills & home. Lu took Philip w. Mother to Albany to see Capital &c & had lunch. He proposed taking Francis to Dijons France with him. I learned of it at supper time- seems insuperable difficulties- school, age, finances &c. Talked it over w. Lu & Philip & F'cis. school objecs. Answered. As retired Nanna fixed financial matter. It seems right thing to do to let him go. [Not sure who Philip is, but this is a huge proposal, to take Francis to France with him- apparently a friend of Ellen Hayes, visited in Deland FL.]

THUR. June 10, 1926- Fine, cool. Heather out again. Francis' going abroad: no formal decision, but preps proceeded from rising. Photo taken for passport, birth certifs obtained, teachers interviewed. I cannot realize he is to leave us for 5 months! Lu had busy time collecting needed things for him. Uanna, Philip & F'cis sailed on New York boat 8 P.m. Nanna to visit Frank & Effe. [Did not last 5 months actually...]

FRI. June 11, 1926- Fine. Very busy; only 2 girls in office all this week! Watkins here, Francis going & absence makes decided difference in family. U.C.T. Convention in city began Wed aft; large attendance; they opened the new hotel, first occupants of the rooms.

SAT. June 12, 1926- Letters & cards from Francis; & about noon wire that Philip & he sail on Leviathan noon as planned. (Letter showed some technicality in departure papers raised Friday, made delay in sailing probable). I am 55 years old- half way 50 to the seeming advanced 60 years! Birthday cake & ice

cream (parti) at supper. Cloudy, so decided not picnic; but late aft proved pleasant. Four of us played 500 this evg. [Norman celebrating his last birthday, interesting comments...]

SUN. June 13, 1926, Aft 74 degrees- 10:30 A. Church: Baccalaureate for Sage College & Rev Dr Waddell of San Paulo Brazil preached; fine simple talk on story of Caleb. S.S. noon- only Henry Neail there. 5 P. we five to Wards- Chas seems to talk little better. Wrote letters this evg & posted them at P.O. Cloudy morg. But aft. pleasant, at times bright, warm.

MON. June 14, 1926- Anniversary of my dear father's birthday. Cloudy, rained- esp. late aft. Supper down street & back to office for evg. Radio in aft. from Philip & Francis on board Leviathan. MacAuley working with Watkins in Vermont this week. [He remembered all these key anniversaries...]

TUES. June 15, 1926- Rainy day- spilled down at times. Rotary 12:15: Rev. Metcalfe, new pastor of First M.E. Ch, North Troy, spoke impressively on "Thro' the Ministers Spectacles".

WED. June 16, 1926, 7 A., 50 degrees- Pretty cool early; cleared off 8 A. & fine day.

THUR. June 17, 1926, 7 A., 46 degrees- Cold early for June! Beautiful. Interviewed W. Mackay 8 & 9 P. Decided to give up going to Alpha Delta Phi 75th anniversary to-morrow evg; Store salesmen situation seems complicated. [Indeed!]

FRI. June 18, 1926, 7 A., 56 degrees- Both clouds & sunshine & showers; cleared off late aft. Took Lu & 3 kids short ride 7:15-8- Winter St NY road, turn right toward river, circuit back into State Rd & South Troy. Session meeting 8.- called to consider repairs on Church, connec. with pulpit engagements already made. Record gives news of arrival Leviathan at Cherburg, but we rec'd no cable from the boys.

SAT. June 19, 1926, 7 A., 52 degrees- Brilliant day; cool, West wind. Home by 3:45 P. At 4:50 took Lu, Betty F'cis Esther to prev. picnic place (beyond Alps turn left toward Taboston [?]). After supper, we played ball! Home by 8:30 P. I went up to see Wards afterward.

SUN. June 20, 1926- Brilliant, cool. Family (5) to Church 10:30. Dr. Zolie preached well from Ps 3:3 "My glory & the lifter up of my head". Last session of S.S. noon; nearly thro' "What & Where is God", which I have liked much. 3:20 with family started for Winst. via Grafton & No Petersb. 37 miles in 1 hr 20 min, arriv. Mission Park just after meeting started. At close to Alpha Delta Phi house meeting Martins & Howe. Picnic lunch before So. Winst. Reached, via Hancock- reached Troy aft 8:30 P.

MON. June 21, 1926, 7 A., 48 degrees- Longest day of year. Fine, bright, but cool. Haskell in, in aft.; arranged w. Friday to sell groc. for Darling & Co, the coffee tea &c line for us. Dr. B. examined Esther's swollen glands & found she will need watchful care. Wholesalers dinner 6 P. Hotel Troy. Evg. Lu & I called at Paul Cooks then at Ed. Drapers. [Key business comments here...]

TUES. June 22, 1926- Cloudy- Rotary 12:15. Fine talk by Mr. Toronson (of Silver Bay &c) on "Rising Standard of Industrial Relations". Evg took family (4) short drive B'ured Rd Eagle Mills, Creek Rd & ret Spring Ave Rd. Felt some reaction from yesterday- one of my "down" days. [Ongoing reaction to business situation.]

WED. June 23, 1926- Fine to pleasant, warmer. Took Arnold to Raymonds about 6, but no deed signed. This evg called on "Doc" Reynolds at Troy Hosp- just had mastoid operation; then called on Wm Mackay, not yet decided his course. Elisabeth w. Richard Draper to his graduation dance evg.

THUR. June 24, 1926- Another fine June day. Betty's friends Miss Allen & Miss Metcalf to dinner this evg; we then drove out Spring Ave, left to 'Middle' road, to Creek rd Eagle Mills, Cent B'wick Lans. Reservation, Oakwood, Frear Park. Sycaway & home via 8th St- 19 miles.

FRI. June 25, 1926- Bright & real warm; clouded up & some brief showers between 6 & 8 P. Mother Hayes unexpectedly arrived about 6 P. from Keyport- strained her back a few days ago; Lu met her. S.S. Picnic Aver Park this aft. I drove out 4:20 P. with Eliz Jr & Esther.

SAT. June 26, 1926- First letters rec'd from Francis. Real warm, bright; clouds came up 8 P.- wind & then rain. Aunt Frank came from New York, met her station 3 P. Nanna had 'catch' in back muscles this aft; got Dr. B. up & strapped her. Salesmens meeting this Am- giving points on selling the restricted line after July 1st. I called on Mr. Polk & had talk this evg. [July 1 was a key date in change in business strategy...]

SUN. June 27, 1926, 7 A., 56 degrees, Aft 70 degrees- Brilliant, cool. 7 years ago Dr. Zolie preached his first sermon in our church- last Sunday in June. This Am sermon topic Parable of the Laborers (Matt 20:14) Good talk. Wrote letters, played jackstones w. Esther in the sun, this Pm. About 5:30 took Lu, 3 kids, Aunt Frank; Poestenkill, toward Cropsyville, second left, Eagle Mills & B'wick Rd. This evg. Lu, Betty & I called on Wards. Chas talked better.

MON. June 28, 1926, 7 A., 57 degrees- Another brilliant day. Hendrick Hudson hotel flagraising after short parade started 12:40 P.- of Chamber of C. Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions Clubs with Workers in the hotel drive of a year ago- I joined in parade. Supper down street & back to office. About 8:30 Lu drove w. Aunt Frank Eliz & N. Jr. & we went thro' New hotel, a 'stockholders reception'.

TUES. June 29, 1926, Down street abt 90 degrees- Still fine; real warm. Clouded up some & rain late evg w. thunder & lightening. Rotary 12:15. Demonstration by Scouts. Opening dinner 7 P. of new hotel- filled the new dining hall. Met Kenneth Banks (introd by Dr Zolic). Did not stay to the speeches.

WED. June 30, 1926- Fine, cooler. Took inventory at store aft. & evening. Supper down street to home about 10:30 P. Planned send Junior on train w. Nanna to Twitchell as her back troubles her & should not go alone; but Mrs. Smith unexpectedly called up house, & they immed. arranged to have her go.

THUR. July 1, 1926- Fine, bright. Lucretia drove Nanna, Betty & Mrs Smith to Albany- Un [?] Adir. Exp. for Big Moose. Betty Emp State for Utica, & visit Stevens at Clinton. Interview w Leland Thompson about store, dock railroad & c.

FRI. July 2, 1926, To Twitchell Lake- Cloudy early & little rain about 8; cleared off about 10:30. Found flat tire (front left) as started for office- of all things to find it!- Changed & to Williams, but only valve,- had I pumped it, could have saved changing tire. Back to house about 11 & at 11:27 got started. Lu, Junior, Esther & Ann Frank [?]- detour via nisk [?], lunch beyond Scotia, turned at Fort J. & via Dodgeville; fresh oil of May 28 had soaked in & roads here fine. Past Poland, had same detour and before made good time (Old Forge 5:30) thence via Inlet, arr. Twitchell Inn 6:50 P. Mother & Mrs Smith had supper for us. Drove 163 mi in 6 hr 4 min runn. time or 26.86 mi per hour.

SAT. July 3, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Lighting, thunder & spill down after midnight. But bright, brilliant day, about cloudless. Unpacked food supplies. About 2 P Harold Agnes Gordon & Pliny arrived, left Montreal yesterday. Most of us had swim about 4. Harold & Agnes, Lu & I played bridge 9:15 to 10:50.

SUN. July 4, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Another brilliant day. Rowed Esther & Aunt Frank on lake morg & A.F. & I called on Miss Whited, finding also Miss B. Most of us had swim about 4 P.

MON. July 5, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Another bright & fine, till clouded up late aft & rained 8 to 11 P. Southerly breeze & warm. Harold invited us to dinner at Covewood- Mother did not feel "up" to it- but "his 4" & "our 4" went & had fine steak dinner; back to camp about 4 & had swim. After supper Kids resumed fireworks, & had to "retire" to porch to finish, having a busy house, all of us standing near & watching.

TUES. July 6, 1926, To Troy- Harold started drive Buffalo 7 am. Aunt Frank & I got off just 8. Cloudy till about 11, bright till aft 4, some cloudy balinge [?]. Made good time, at Barneveld (Trenton) turn Utica rd. there 11:30, Called on L.J. Start Inc. in re coffee. Lunch at Station; found Allan Raymond away. To Little Falls via Deerfield- called on Jacob Zolley Inc. 3:25 P. started for Richf. Spgs (4 P.), thence Cherry Valley turnpike, made fine time. Schen. 5:55 P. & home 7:05 P. Thro 40 run. time, 193 miles, or 25.16 miles per hour. Warmed up this day. Largest mileage I've made in years in 1 day (Rich Spgs to Schen.- about 60 miles in 2 hrs).

WED. July 7, 1926- Cloudy early, cleared & another brt. day, West breeze, cooler. Evg Aunt F & I called on Wards; Chas improves little at each of my visits- speaks quite well now.

THUR. July 8, 1926- Fine, warmed up. Office force worked this evg; I worked pricing inventory with Miss Leyfield. [Miss Leyfield probably was the core of the in store staff.]

FRI. July 9, 1926- Bright- real warm- down street went to 90 degrees. Ride this evg w. Frank, & Mr & Mrs. Talecott- winding in & out the back roads starting out Pine Woods, Poest'kill village & return- about 15 miles.

SAT. July 10, 1926, 7 Am, 78 degrees, Aft abt 90 degrees (down st. 95 degrees)- Certainly hot! Letter from Lu, all well. Salesman's meeting; Haskell in too. Whitson gave them a talk. Home about 3:45 P. Clouded up aft & 3 showers beginning 5 P. & followed early evg- temporarily cooled some. [Another salesman's meeting...]

SUN. July 11, 1926, 7:30 A. 65 degrees, Aft 68 degrees- Another shower last night; about 25 degree drop in mercury t-day. Cloudy till ate Pm- cool, West breeze. Dr. Zelig preached very well from "Seeing the Multitudes... he spoke unto them, Blessed". He leaves for vacation now. After return from Church did not leave house all day.

MON. July 12, 1926, 7 Am, 52 degrees- Fine, cool. Letter from Lu- postal from F'cis. I went back to office this evg. where office force also worked. Interview with Drons, who will work on one narrow line on Commission. [Another key workplace note...]

TUES. July 13, 1926, 7 Am, 52 degrees- Cloudy & rained- Cool. Rotary 12:15. Delegates Sibbald & Gaffers reported on Denver Convention. "Fitting out" Downs last part aft. Brief letter from Lu.

WED. July 14, 1926, 7 A., 52 degrees- Cleared off- cool. This [?] A. F. & I drove out Oak Ave- Lans Reser. & back thro' Lans. called on Wards- then briefly at Raymonds- saw Vails.

THUR. July 15, 1926, 7 A., 52 degrees- Mostly pleasant; sprinkled late aft, nice evg, warmer. Birdsall turned up. Reo with A. F. P'Kill rd, right to S'Lake rd, (past Wy'kill) left & next left & to Pawl San. (stopped but Dr. Reynolds not there) then home- about 13 miles.

FRI. July 16- Bright. Supper down street & back to office where MacA & Leyfield worked on inventory & I on also Estate accounts. Letter from Lu. Mrs Smith ret'd to Troy yesterday.

SAT. July 17, Aft 84 degrees- Surprise by letters & postal of F'cis enclosed by Lu, came this am; postal dated 6th tells 'eyes gone bad' must rest them, & will sail for home w. Phillip, following Tues (= 13th)! Sunshine & grew real warm. Home 3 Pm & down street again to mail letters. 5:15 A. F. & I to Camp Van Schonenhaven [?] where had supper & ret'd via Burden Lake & Defreestville by 9 P- fine out there, & the ride back.

SUN. July 18, 1 P., 84 degrees, Evg 65 degrees- Hot early & till thunder lightening & rain about 2, dropped temp. 15 degrees. Rev. Hagan of Albany Cong. Ch. preached very well from Isa 49:6. Had 2 hour nap this aft. 6:30 A. F. & I to Kelloggs to a waffle supper; after we went in Reo w. Mr & Mrs K. to Camp Van Schornhaven & ret.

MON. July 19- Bright, warmed up. "Leviathan" due N.Y. t-day; no word from Francis, however. Supper down street, back to office to work afterward.

TUES. July 20, Evg 80 degrees- Bright, hot. Letter from Lu (written Sat.) probably Phillip & Francis would come directly to Twitchell. To Robert J. Rainey's funeral 2:30 P. Started 5 P with Evans Kellogg for Rotary Camp, Davitts Lake. Rotary meeting held there w. about 96 Scouts & leaders. [Francis or Uncle Frank had been invited to spend a few months in Europe where his eye trouble surfaced. Phillip is a friend of Francis. May be Phillip Cummings (Jul 23).]

WED. July 21, 7 Am, 73 degrees, 6 Pm, 90 degrees- Bright, hardly cloud all day; hot. Mercuries down street from 96 to 103 degrees! Drove w. A. F. this evg. Mrs Barber, Miss Hogben. Nevis Webb, Winter St. 5 E to Alb.- S'lake Concrete rd. left past Snyders Lake & home via Winter St. Lu writes F'cis & Philip arrived Twitchell yesterday am. [This is Aunt Frank, not sure who these other people are.]

THUR. July 22, 1926- Hottest recorded around here. Record then on street went to 107 degrees. About 4 P. storm came suddenly from West, 50 mile wind for short time till rain fell, then soon quickly Plate glass windows entirely smashed- panel our store front door & some windows included. A.F. & I to Wards about 8 & took them in Reo to Oil Mill Hill outlook & home. Saw many tree limbs fallen here & there. Hugh Sherry wrote 'would be glad have my assistance in distrib. bonds'. [This sounds like a tornadic storm with much damage. Not sure who Hugh Sherry- not on my family tree. This 1926 Diary documents growing stress and trouble in the Sherry & Co business, but here he is trying to raise money to keep going.]

FRI. July 23, 1926, To Twitchell- Yesterday's storm killed 3 in Troy & Albany- much damage in broken windows, Troy (River St) & roofs of factories- to trees & farms espec. South of Troy. Bright & warm, but not hot. Hurrying as usual before an absence. Miss Sherman to stay w. A.F. nights. Phillip Cummings stopped off but trains late this evg- came to house. I took 11 P. local for Albany & Adir. Exp from there.

SAT. July 24, 1926, Twitchell- Arr. Big Moose about 6 A. Std time. Harold arrived from Buffalo in another car same train. Eliz, F'cis & Jr. (& Bess) over to Station to meet me. All our family now together again.

Most beautiful day. Took things easy, fussed around, felt sleepy as not retired on weeks before 12 o'clock. Lu & I had swim at camp about 4 P.- rest of family swam at the Inn dock. Francis looks & feels well, but must rest eyes for 3 mos. [Indicator of stress the business took on him, many late nights.]

SUN. July 25, 1926, Twitchell- Most beautiful- cooler. Harold "led" a large party started 11 A for Terror Lake & stay over night- Gordon, Pliny, Eliz., F'cis, Jr., Betsy Stevens & Bob Atwell. Lu & I had swim about 4 P. I was out in sun considerably t-day. Hymn singing at the Inn 8; using daylight saving time brings us home by dusk; full moon t-day, wonderful weather for the Terror party. [First mention in the 3 diaries of a Terror Pond trip.]

MON. July 26, 1926, Twitchell, Aft 72 degrees- Pretty cool; ther. 52 degrees about 8 A. The Terror Lake party arrived home about 11 A- reporting a fine time- but our reps. did not sleep overmuch! Lu Harold & I in swimming 4 P., rest of the bathers in a Inn dock. I read most of aft. While "camping" party slept. This evg. fine party at Inn to celebrate 1st birthday of William Edward Covey- seventy or eighty there. Another perfect & brilliant day-

TUES. July 27, 1926, Twitchell- Our whole household at the party & not home till 1:30 A- so late breakfast. Fine, warmer. Betsy Stevens left on morg. train North. Betty & I went out to Station with her- Mrs. Stevens & Barbara unexpect. on train. All our household had swim about 4 P. Lu Harold & I swam across to "Glenny point", Harold & I also swam back.

WED. July 28, 1926, Twitchell- Harold Gordon F'cis & I to "Covewood" this Am; with Guides Chas Wood & Rodney Ainsworth we fished 11 to 1 (dayl) on Big Moose Lake. Began to rain as arrived there & gentle showers during morg. After dinner & naps went out again 4:30 to 6:30, showered quite hard- not a bite even all day. After supper retired to "cottage" assigned us where fireplace was drying out our clothes & read aloud to F'cis & Harold. Stopped raining during evening. [Sounds like a special "guys day out," with two noted Guides mentioned here, the second one I worked for summers, Rodney.]

THUR. July 29, 1926, Twitchell- Earl Covey transp. boats & our party & guides (Alec Mc Edwards took place of Rodney A) to Browns' Tract lower pond where we arr. about 11 (daylight). F'cis in boat w. me caught first bass & proved to be biggest before lunch which we had at public campsite but road & outlet near bridge. This bothersome there [?]; fished all aft- late Harold caught 1, Gordon two & F'cis another- total 5. Left 7:50 P. Supper at Covewood & not home till 10:30. Been cloudy all day, but only sprinkled on Brown's Tract pond.

FRI. July 30, 1926, Twitchell- About 9 A, heard trouble calls from Camp next us- saw boats going there: 3 yr boy of strangers here, rental Smith camp found floating in water near their dock after leaving his family sitting in camp going down to water edge evid. Fell in from boat or dock. Dr. Wright, guest at Inn there before Harold, also called, arrived. These tried worked over child- at artif. resp. for 3 ½ hrs till rigor mortis. Lu Agnes, 3 our/aids [?], Coveys & guests all working, heating blankets of water. Little body left at my car till undertaker came about 6 P. Dr. Ferry left Evelyn & Chamberlain Ferry to call about 4 P. Mr. Jessica [?] came over while guests were here, talked w. me & saw his child. The sad event has affected us all. [That says it all. This is a parent's worst fear and nightmare at Twitchell.]

SAT. July 31, 1926, Twitchell- Pleasant warm day. Around camp all day. We all had swim about 4 P. Brief call on Mrs. Glenny who came in last evg. After supper I went fishing for bullheads w. F'cis & Jr- got 18 in all. Late evg. played 500 with Nanna Lu Agnes & Harold. Betty & Gordon went up to Allens.

SUN. Aug 1, 1926, Twitchell - Troy- Real warm, pleasant all day, tho' rather cloudy at times. Went 9:30 A w. F'cis, Esther & Pliny to Glenmore, met boat which zigzagged on Big Moose lake, taking on people for Sunday School at boathouse of Dr. Vanderveer, Mrs Baird, wife of pastor at Inlet conducted; 32 present, mostly younger children. Back to Twitchell about 1:45 P. All family had swim about 4:30. All had buffet supper on Agnes' camp porch. All but Nana to Sing at Inn, 8 P.; Harold played afterward. I left 10:30 for Station, being "booked" for the second train which found reported 1 ½ hours late! [Church or Sunday School Adirondack style! The buffet of Agnes must be on the front porch of Little Beaver, our camp. That means that Lu's brother Pliny Harold and his wife Agnes stayed in that camp while there. It was not a rental but a guest camp for family in Buffalo and Troy, and friends.]

MON. Aug 2, 1926- My train arr. 2 A.M. (D.S. time)- 2 ½ hrs. late!! Fortunately I had book to read- "Conquest of Fear". Arr. Albany 6:40 A & home 7:45; found Mary Hanlon home, & A.F. appeared top of stairs showing left forearm broken! Never let me know- occurred Wed. night as returning, slipped on floor. I got back into "harness" w. usual difficulty. Rained most of morn. Hot. Started 7:45 P. to ride, saw shower coming fast & back to garage! 3 showers before 10 increasing in rainfall- hill streets a creek of water. Down to Station after second, get into midst of wild shower- light. & thunder too. [Two indicators of stress and trouble with the business, Sherry & Co, the book he was reading and his comment about going back to work.]

TUES. Aug 3, 1926, Night, 80 degrees- Mostly bright- muggy & so hot! Rotary 12:15. Chas Ladow spoke on Business Methods- rather humorously, in time w. weather, about all had coats off. Me & Ted Lewis Williams 1896. 3:30 to funeral of Paul Cook at 1st Pres Ch Lansb. Rev C.H. Walker conducted it impressively. Interviewed Hugh Sherry about 6 P. Drive this evg w. A. F. & Wards- to Speigletown & Cent. Brunswick. [Another mention of Hugh Sherry...]

WED. Aug 4, Somewhat cooler- a perfect day. Mr. Polk enquired abt. English, Wholesale Grocer of Cohoes; so by 1:30 P. I met at bank Franklin H. Wilson Jr. the enquirer. I suggested he look us over instead. Showed him all over store 3 to 4:30 P., & had talk on all the "high spots". A. F. & I drove this evg w. 3 Hanlon sisters, Stone Rd. rit at Hay'ville to Mid [?] turn N, home via Cent. B'runswick- about 20 miles- esp. fine evg & ride. [Key business initiative mentioned here, effort to get support of an investor...]

THURS. Aug 5, 1926- Nice, warm; mostly bright. Letter from Lu- first since I left Camp. Wrote her after supper, my first since Tues am. About 8:30 P. took Wanlo- out Hoosick St., turn rt Cent B'wick, Eagle Mills, Syc & hone.

FRI. Aug 6, 1926- Ride in Reo this evg- took Mary H. w. Aunt Frank.

SAT. Aug 7, 1926- Somewhat cloudy- real warm. Perkins drove Chas Wards Buick to my garage- purchased it July 15th. Aft 4:15 P. drove in Reo w. At. Frank to Oakwood Cem & stopped at our lot, same monument recent cuttings name & date O.K.; drove north & east to Lover's Lane, then home as Storm coming. T. & L. to rain bwt 6 & 7 Evg clouds turn to barbers, drove Buick. [Would that have been his brother, Arthur Galusha? At Oakwood...]

SUN. Aug 8, 1926- Aunt Frank got out to hear Dr. Prester: text Gal 3:28 "All one in Christ Jesus"- giving clear differences bwt. Nationalism & Patriotism". Dir. Higley preached 2nd Church today; 4 P.m. I went to H.H. hotel & took him to call on May Ross, then on Wards. About 5:30 I along to call on Miss Park; had

good talk with this lonely, rather frail person. Talcotts called after supper. Evg took A. F. & neighbors to hear Dr. Higl [?]. Text Eshter 4:14- good sermon but I got more out of Dr. Presters.

MON. Aug 9, 1926- Bright. Letter from Lu. Back to office 8:30 to 10:30 P.

TUES. Aug 10, 1926- Rotary 12:15; Gen'l Stone of Army general staff- from Williams Institute of Politics gave good talk on National Defense. Evg took Wards, Lans bridge via Cohoes & Clifton Park, ret via Middletown. Hot day.

WED. Aug 11, 1926- Humid, hot. F.H. Wilson said 'not interested' now, tho' if our new plan had gone successfully for year or two, he would have been. 7:30 P. took Aunt Frank to Dr. Alson Hulls; x-ray picture taken showed her [?] broken arm knitting- over the metal inserts- which is greatly pleasing, Then to Wards w. Reo- Hoosick St, first right to E. Mills, Chims [?] Cors, past Reservoir Sycaway & home. [This is a key entry on NBS's business plans and disappointments...]

THUR. Aug 12, 1926- Pleasant, warm, humid, till clouded in aft & rained- t.& C. shower & sprinkles.

FRI. Aug 13, 1926- Hot, humid, mostly bright. Letter from Lu. Drove this evg- took Mary & Mrs. Barber Winter St; De Freestville, Best, West S Lake & home.

SAT. Aug 14, 1926- Hot, humid, gentle rain in evg. Marion Rice, on visit from Calif called on Aunt Frank this evg. We took her back to Spengletorch, Dr. Proctor, & Jerry. Irish terrier arr. this evg. Stayed with s, as Schoonmakers full. Letter from Lu.

SUN. Aug 15, 1926- Most beautiful; changed air after a week hot & humid. Cool toward evg. Dr. Proctor preached from Rev 1:4-5 'Grace & peace to you...from Jesus Christ- the faithful witness'. A great talk on validity of Christian Experience. He left 3 Pm for Lake Placid. Mrs. Fred Schoonmaker & daughter called this Pm. 6:30 P drove w. Mrs Barber & Mrs Halley- Shaker rd, Louden. Niskayuna, Crescent, Waterforks & called on Wards on return fr trip.

MON. Aug 16, 1926- Rained early, sprinkled few times thro' day, cloudy. Letter from Lu. Back to office after supper at home, until about 11 P.

TUES. Aug 17, 1926, 7 A., 65 degrees- Cloudy- muggy & warm after noon- still air. Out 6 Pawling Sanatarium abt 4 P.m.- used Charles' car. This evg drove Reo w. Aunt F. Mollie Magill (who had just stopped & called) Mrs Harry Lager & Mary- Albia, Pawl Sam right tur & to PoesK. along creek road to E. Mills & home via B'wick Rd- about 16 miles.

WED. Aug 18, 1926, 7 A., 57 degrees- Pleasant to fair- cool. Instead of yesterday. Rotary met 12:15 at new hotel w. Kiwanis & Lions- over 200 there. Good talk by Dr. A.C. Diffenbach. Exht. [?] on "Christian Register of Boston: seek truth & goodwill & love freedom." Letter from Lu: Pliny ill Monday, had fever & Agnes took him out night train. Took Wards out this evg.- out Columbia St Cohoes to Clifton Pk rd turning right at 4 cors to upper Cohoes, home. Anniversary of my dear Mother's death- in 1884. [Norman remembers all of these key anniversaries...]

THUR. Aug 19, 1926, 7 A., 48 degrees- Pretty cool early; quite cloudy afternoon, little rain, 8:30 P. Letter from Lu. Arnold informed me this aft of very large loss for 6 mos ending June 30, having put together inventory & taken balances. I expected some, but rather overwhelmed. Praying for strength till the tide

of loss can be turned. Ps 27:14 (R.N.) "Wait for Jehovah" helps me t-night. [This was NOT the news he had hoped for, which overwhelmed him, and he turned to his faith to try to handle it.]

FRI. Aug 20, 1926, 7 A., 55 degrees- Mostly bright. Letter from Lu- Pliny better after reaching home- family have cold. Busy preparing sales details for Downs for Haskells' territory. Inward struggle for poise & rest of mind t-day; nearly lost it at supper time. Ride this evg w. Mrs Harry Legar [?] Mrs & Miss Stein as guests- to Poestenkill via Middle road ret by Spring Ave. [Stress factor very large here, which certainly was a contributor to his death...]

SAT. Aug 21, 1926, 7 A., 48 degrees- Bright early, but clouded some & so remained. Postal from Lu; family went berrying yesterday. Downes in office, getting detailed instructions for Haskells customers. Home 3 o'clock; went in Reo about 3:30 taking as guests Miss Sherman & Claire & Mrs. Halley- to Albany, Western Ave Guilderland next right to Schenectady, ret via Shaker Rd, home- 43 miles. [Favorite activity of my family too.]

SUN. Aug 22, 1926- Cloudy; rained several times after dinner time. Pretty cool. Dr. Proctor's subject The Atonement a great talk on the greatest subject, used "text" 2 Cor 5:13-21 (esp vs 13,14,15,20)- spoke over 45 minutes. About 4:30 P. to call on Miss [blank] & Fullers- out both places- out both places; then to Wards & took Chas in Buick to Speigleton & ret- asked questions about it's running- he felt better than prev. days. Stopped Troy Hosp to see Miss Jennie Sts [?], had a fall this very noon. Been in prayer many times t-day. Dr. Proctor called briefly this evg.

MON. Aug 23, 1926, 7 A., 60 degrees- Cloudy; somewhat warmer. Cousin Chas. had bad turn early morg- unable to speak; Dr. Hogan away. Dr. D.G. Buchanan was called. Back to office this evg.

TUES. Aug 24, 1926- Letter from Lu, family colds better, but Esther burned 3 fingers following near stove. Rotary 12:15 Sid. Jones again there, sat next me. Very interesting talk by [blank] of [blank] & C.C. Batchelder on Philippine Independence. Cloudy & some rain. Chas Ward quite improved. Mr & Mrs Harry Sherman called this evg. [Ouch! The wood burning stove in Beaver Lodge is still the kitchen stove.]

Wed. AUG 25, 1926- Misty rain early- still prevailingly cloudy. Took Aunt Fr. to Dr. A. Hull's this evg, took bandage off her arm & found bones had not knit yet, interfered with by metal put on at previous break- big disappointment, means delay subject her plans travel. He left arm with no protecting only a sling to give better chance to heal.

THUR. Aug 26, 1926- Warmer, more sunny. This evg took A. Frank for short ride & very carefully, to Eagle Mills & ret. Mr & Mrs Talcott & Miss Willman as guests. Letter from Lu, urging me to come this week. Aunt Fr. persuaded me to go, she says Dr. Hull will come & take her for next examination. [Aunt Frank or Francis is the spouse of Norman's brother Arthur Galusha who died April 12, 1926, at age 72., so his widow was at Norman's place now. See April 12 entry...]

FRI. Aug 27, 1926- Mostly pleasant. Busy getting ready to leave to-morrow. Aft. supper wrote Lu I was coming; to Wards about 9; Chas has improved each day since Monday; Sat outside for first t-day. [Not sure what happened to his good friend Chas. Ward. Called Wards "Cousin Chas. & Belle"...]

SAT. Aug 28, 1926, To Twitchell- Retired 1:20 Am & rose 6 Am. Beautiful, warmed up. Tried get Russell Smart for company early but failed. Packed up & to store with Reo; Letter from Lu. Left office 10:30 via Shaker Rd & thro' Schneck & Mohawk. Stopped Fonits [?] (12) to phone Zollen at Lit Falls; as construct

ahead would delay me, decided turn off. Pretty road thro' Sammansville & Johnston (ate lunch at shady hillock in sight of latter, then on via Dodgeville & Middleville bwo Schen. & Old Forge gave five persons rides, bridge near Poland finally repaired, so able drive directly to Trenton. Car ran finely, made good time- Old Forge 4 P- around South side Fourth Lake thro' Inlet; met construction bwt. Eagle Bay & Darts bridge, at last finishing the top- since "to be oil-bound instead of water" [?] Arr. T.L. Inn, 5:22 P.- 170 miles in 6 hrs 15 mins running on 27 2/10 miles per hr. Aft. supper I fished for bullheads with F'cis, Junior & Frank Hayes, caught 7 for the party- I none. Came in at sudden shower. I had a swim for myself just after arrived. [Norman spent a lot of time with his boys, hiking, fishing, with the humorous note here, "I none." I don't think he liked to fish, but did it for them. Quite descriptive about trials on the trip]

SUN. Aug 29, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Sunshine & clouds alternated; strong Westerly wind. 9:40 drove over Glenmore w. 4 kids & young Frank Hayes (been here 2 wks). I took Esther to S.S. at Vandervear Camp, others climbed to Billy's Bald Spot. Motor boat shipped some water on lake, white caps plenty. All crowd but Lu had swim 4:30. 3 boys sailed on Lake afternoon. Lu, Betty, Esther & I to "tea" Mrs Glennings, a farewell to her relatives. After a bite home. Lu & I to "B Mark W" Camp to call. Saw Mr Mckinley [?]. Sing at Inn 8 p., closing w. my "five bass" in Hymnal 36 & folkmusic by calls to piano by Miss Seanhon [?]. [Hard to follow some of this. Billy's Bald Spot is a famous overlook above Big Moose Lake.]

MON. Aug 30, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Sunshine & clouds, quote chilly, & wind blew. Drove out w. young Frank- & our kids- to 10:25 train (11:25 our time). Fished for trout with F'cis & Jr. this aft unsuccessfully. Esther felt little unwell. I refrained from swim to stay w. her, 3 kids went in. Same three fishing, for bull heads, evg I read to Esther.

TUES. Aug 31, 1926, Twitchell Lake, 7 Am, 46 degrees, Aft. 60 degrees- Pretty cool; bright, considerable clouds during morn, but fine afternoon. Last day for trout fishing. F'cis & Jr. went out very early, I joined them about 7. Junior & I out again 10:30 to 12; & we three 4:30 to 6:30; had "strikes" but caught not a single trout. I & four kids had swim 4 P.- Air cooler than water. Fay & Mildred Brownell called this evg. Out in boat with Lu aft. supper; inventory results talked over in tenseness. [Another indicator things were not going well with the business, though not sure of specifics of the "tenseness" over inventory.]

WED. Sep 1, 1926, Twitchell Lake- Talked further with Lu in bed last night & again t-night, opinions at variance. Mostly cloudy morg, bright aft. Began "closing camp" work by cleaning up at 'Little Beaver' this A.M. I & 4 kids had swim this P.m.- water was rather cool. Boys & Betty fished this evg!

THUR. Sep 2, 1926, Twitchell Lake, 8 Am 46 degrees, Aft. 62 degrees- A perfect day, continuous sunshine. Lu talked to me before breakfast, in cooperation & everything is changed for me, the "cloud" between us is dissipated. Very late breakfast a/c kids at dance last night. Packed books this am to send to Troy. 3:30 P 4 kids & I had swim 4:30 I drove Reo out to Station with them taking books & chesing [?] trunk. Mrs. Earl Covey came late aft & to supper. Fished for bullheads w. F'cis & Jr. 8 to 9 P. They caught 7. I none. [Very interesting how he put his "reconciliation" of conflict with Lu over the business.]

FRI. Sep 3, 1926, Twitchell Lake, 8 Am, 48 degrees, Aft. 65 degrees- Another simply perfect day- more quiet air than several days- somewhat warmer. About 10:30 I rowed w. Esther to Lone Pine to get a donkey ride, but could not find "Genevieve" tho' looked over the vicinity! So subs. Ice cream! Four kids & I had nice swim 4:30 P. At 7:10 I went for bull heads w. F'cis & Jr, last caught the only two taken- not biting this evg! Betty went to Allens. Later rest played 500, then Nanna, Lu & I Fantan [?]- first canls for

me this trip [?] [Love his attention and care for Esther the youngest, who had that handicap with her legs. No donkey so he substituted ice cream. Lone Pine was a going hotel business at this time.]

SAT. Sep 4, 1926, Twitchell Lake, 8 Am, 50 degrees, Aft 55 degrees- Pretty cool. Cloudy, sprinkled or drizzled 11 o'clock; rained about 4 P & drizzled in evg. Nanna left 10:25 train (Std time) for Buffalo; I drove her out w. June & Esther- train 40 mins late, 3:30 P. 4 kids went swimming, did not appeal to Lu or me. About 5 P we six drove over to Covewood invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Earl Covey & had supper & a visit; home 10:15 P. It was dark indeed from garage to Inn & crossing lake to our dock, had forgotten candle or flashlight. [A very special night! Here Earl Covey is remarried. So they used candles to light the boat, too!]

SUN. Sep 5, 1926, Twitchell Lake, about 50 degrees all day- Dark cloudy all day, rain at dif. Times, cool. F'cis Junior & I down to second bridge, then visited falls both 4 & 5:30 P. Quite a rain after 7, but Lu, 2 boys & I to sing at 8; 15 or 18 there. Esther "off the hooks" & lay on couch but felt quite better by evg. [I think this refers to the device prescribed to straighten out her feet, caused by a family caretaker.]

MON. Sep 6, 1926, Twitchell Lake, 8 Am, 55 degrees, Aft 68 degrees- Labor Day, rained in several showers morg then sun suddenly came out 11:30 but clouds prevailed mostly in aft; rained hard last of aft. All hands worked getting ready to close camp, about all the time. Warmed up thro' the day.

TUES. Sep 7, Twitchell To Troy- Arose 6:10 & all helped in closing camp- many things to see to- got off from Inn 9:53 A (D.S. time). No delay a/c construc. to Eagle Bay; or in Inlet. Barneveld, waited lunch till 1, arrived near old bridge beyond B. via Johnstown, Tribes Hill; delayed in traffic Schen. In 2 places, also Wvliet end of bridge; arr home 5:59 P; running time 6 hr 19 min, 165 miles, = 26 12/100 miles per hr. Morning was cloudy cool, NW wind; aft. bright & warmer. Found Alden & Anne had stopped here yest. a few hours, & Ann & Fr postponed her going to Syracuse. [This is probably an indicator that he decided to go visit his nephews Alden and Ralph in Syracuse in a few days, which is where he died in his sleep. That news sent shock waves through multiple families and the business world in upstate NY, but especially his four kids who adored him, and his wife Lu with whom he had an 18-year love affair! He died on Sep 17th, with his last Diary entry on the 14th.]

WED. Sep 8, 7 Am, 48 degrees- Beautiful, continuous sunshine- warmed up in aft. Back at office again & at close of day felt like it was "on the grindstone", but Ps 37:23-25 helped. Took Mary Hanlon home to-night. Drove family after supper to see Wards; Chas. Feels much better; has even shaved recently. F'cis & Junior commenced school. [Norman describes his company and work as a "grindstone," but he was really a man of faith, and found practical guidance in Scripture, as here in Psalm 37.]

THURS. Sep 9, 1926- Clouded up, sprinkled late aft. Francis' hay fever bothers him much here, & eyes distressed after first morning using them in school. Brief call at Schoonmakers this evg.

FRI. Sep 10- Cleared, cool early. Fine day. Francis to Dr. Smith, finds he will have to give eyes a long rest, stop school- as we began to expect last few days. Lu wrote Francis Covey about his going to Covewood. [Any response on this request would have come after Norman had died, so we have not report of it.]

SAT. Sep 11, 1926, 7 A., 44 degrees, Aft 70 degrees- Most beautiful; cold early then warmed up nicely. All 6 of us & Aunt Fr. had a picnic supper: took Reo about 4:30 stopped for Harriet Rogers & went Mechville rd turning 2nd left & up on "ridge" then on till came to pleasant place & stopped & backed

sunny side of piece of woods. Played ball w. boys & Esther aft supper. Drove to return via Clif. Park & home about 8. Cleaned car aft.

SUN. Sep 12, 1926- Mailed letters, P.O. late evg; took Lu in Buick & showed her attachments. Morg mostly sunshine; clouded in aft, tho' pleasant; some rain late evg. Dr. Zelig in pulpit; text Ps 73:28 "It is good for me to draw near to God"- good sermon, timed most appropriately to new Church beginnings. I saw Miss Jennie Stone at Troy H. 4 P.m. all of us & A.F. had drive Winter St Sny. Cors. Poestk. Cropsy road, Eag Mills, Creek Rd turn right & home by Sky Av- abt 25 miles.

MON. Sep 13, 1926, 7 A., 60 degrees, Evg 50 degrees- Cleared early, quite fine, grew cool, esp after sundown. Took Aunt Frank to Dr A. Hull; (prob. Last call before she leaves for Syracuse) this evg. Lu went w. her, Betty & I to Wards. While waiting [space] Chas & Belle down street this Am & stopped at store. A day when doubts & fears hovered in mind.

TUES. Sep 14, 1926, 7 A., 41 degrees- Cold early; started fire in heater this A.m.- went out before evg & started another. Beautiful, bright. Rotary 12:15: Address on R.R. Problems by J.M. Fitzgerald, form. Pres of West Maryland RR. Primaries 12 to 9 P.; took Lu, Mrs Partridge & Mrs Barber after supper. Healds took Aunt Frank. Betty & me to see Wards afterward. [This is the last entry, and it was rather dramatic reading through this whole diary, 1926, knowing that he died unexpectedly, September 26th, with blank pages for the balance of the year. His business struggles were over but it was a shocker to his family and all who knew him. I have not been able to locate a will for him in Troy records, though his brother Arthur Galusha did have one, which Norman drafted as discussed in the Diary.]

This Obituary that was Tucked into the 1921 Diary-

The Troy Record
September 26, 1926

DIES DURING NIGHT
Norman B. Sherry

PROMINENT TROJAN
FOUND DEAD IN BED

Went to Syracuse Recently
To Visit Nephew

WILLIAMS GRADUATE

Norman B. Sherry, prominent resident of Troy and president of the firm Sherry and company, Inc., was found dead in bed this morning at the home of his nephew, Alden B. Sherry in Syracuse.

Mr. Sherry, who had been spending several days with his nephew, became ill yesterday afternoon and a physician was called. When Mr. Sherry retired early in the evening he was feeling

quite himself, but had promised his physician to sleep and rest.

He had been dead for several hours when members of the family went to his room this morning. An attack of heart disease during the night is believed to have caused death.

Norman Burt Sherry was born in this city, June 12, 1871, and was the son of John Sherry, one of Troy's most prominent business men of that time. He received his early education in the



public schools of Troy and then entered the first of Squires, Sherry and Galusha, of which his father was head. Shortly after he attained his majority, he was made a member of the firm.

Graduated from Williams

In the fall of 1926, the young man left the business world to enter Williams College, having decided after the death of his father to complete his education in preparation for the day when he would become head of the progressive and growing business [missing piece] went on and organized. Mr. Sherry then organized Sherry and Company, Inc., and was its President until his death.

Interested in Civic Affairs

Mr. Sherry was deeply interested in this organizations which have to do with the progress

of this city. He was an interested and influential member of the Troy Chamber of Commerce and was an active factor in the forming of the Wholesalers' Bureau of which he was Treasurer at the time of his death. He was also an active member of the Rotary Club and the Troy Central Y.M.C.A, a director of the National City Ban and a member of William Floyd Chapter, Sons of the Revolution.

Mr. Sherry's connection with his church dated back many years when, as a mere boy, he became a member of the old Second Street Presbyterian Church. He later was made an elder of that church and remained in that capacity until his church united with the First Presbyterian Church in 1910. He then became and elder of the Frist Presbyterian Church. The activities of his church engaged a great share of the time and attention of Mr. Sherry. He took part in work with the Sunday School, the Presbyterian Union and all such enterprises and was a devoted and constant attendant at services. His loss will be deeply felt by the church.

Mr. Sherry is survived by his wife, who was Miss Lucretia C. Hayes of Buffalo and whom he married in September, 1908, two sons, Francis and Norman Burt, Jr., and two daughters, Elizabeth and Esther Louise Sherry. His older brother, Arthur G. Sherry, died last winter. The remains will be brought to the residence at 35 Myrtle Avenue, where the funeral will be held, probably on Monday afternoon.

[*Error on entrance to Williams- Fall, 1894*]

My Summary Comments after Transcribing and Reflecting on this 1926 Diary-

If Lucretia only kept these three year's Diaries for her beloved husband, Norman Burt Sherry the first, it does reflect her special love for him: The first one for 1908 tells the story of their engagement, marriage, and honeymoon at Twitchell and with visits to their two college campuses, his at Williams and hers at Smith. The second (1921) documents their permanent residence at Twitchell Lake, with the building of

Beaver Lodge and the guest camp Little Beaver, a happy family time with their four children and successful business, Sherry & Co. The 1926 Diary goes blank in September due to his unexpected death at 55, discussing the busy activities of a growing family, with eldest Betty attending a fraternity dance, second-born Frank honored for Eagle Scout achievement, third-in-line Norman Junior taking his first communion at First Presbyterian of Troy, and youngest Esther struggling with sickness and her difficulty with walking. Actually, Norman's Diaries speak to such an enduring love affair between them that it is very doubtful that she ever discarded one of his yearly Diaries, meaning that they probably still exist in the collection of boxes on Hayes, Hodges, and Sherry family heritage.

Norman and Lucretia traveled primarily by Railroad in 1908 and 1921, while this 1926 Diary tells of almost weekly auto rides out from Troy in all directions into the country for picnics, sporting, and sightseeing tours in the family Reo- the forerunner Oldsmobile. Norman records the details of his five trips to Twitchell Lake, covering his route through the Mohawk Valley and Herkimer, including numerous breakdowns and detours, with the average speed of 30 mph, distance of about 160 miles, and exhausting trip of six plus hours on dusty roads. He did try the eastern return route one time, but the wait for the ferry at Raquette Lake added three more hours to a trip that already took most of a day.

Norman's attention to detail is evident in all three Diaries, with his weekly round of activities in 1926 including Church on Sunday, Wednesday, and sometimes Friday, Rotary on Tuesdays, and then monthly meetings as Elder, Session member, Bank committee, YMCA, Scouts, Wholesaler's Meeting, Williams alumnus association- to name just some of them. He and Lucretia continued to teach Sunday School at the family church, with Lucretia hosting several gatherings of women and teachers in their 35 Myrtle Avenue home in Troy, NY. It is fascinating to read about my Dad in his thirteenth year, falling into Twitchell Lake at the excitement of the fireworks, dropping a manhole cover on his toe retrieving a ball, taking a 14- mile ski tour with his older brother Frank, and fishing for bullheads and trout at Twitchell and Big Moose Lakes. Not to mention the stories about my Uncle Frank, and Aunts Betty and Esther! New activities recorded in this Diary include the weekly Sunday Youth service at First Presbyterian with Betty, Frank, and Junior. Then there are the family events and anniversaries and civic and town activities.

Two momentous family events occurred in 1926, with the somewhat expected death of his older brother Arthur Galusha of an ulcer and probable stomach cancer on April 14th. While he and his wife Francis lived in Syracuse, Arthur spent much of that three months in Troy helping with the business he had part ownership in as it was on a downward turn. After his death "Aunt Frank" was mostly in Troy, cleaning out Arthur's apartment, nursing a broken arm, and helping her adult children Alden and Ralph adjust to a new chapter in their lives. Norman tells in this Diary of his work on his brother's will, and the payout of funds from Sherry & Co due them, not an easy task for a business that was struggling. Norman's description of the memorial service in his home and at the family plot at Oakwood Cemetery is very moving: "I'll always remember the committal service at Oakwood- brt. sunshine, murmur of brook at left, peaceful lake, little group of friends & relatives in crescent line, Dr. Zelig ended with the lines- 'Now the labourer's task is o'er.'" This was obviously a big loss to the Sherry family.

At his 55th Birthday party on June 12th, Norman reflected on his life, saying "I am 55 years old- half way 50 to the seeming advanced 60 years! Birthday cake & ice cream (parti) at supper." He may not have had a will as he was at the prime of his life as a father, husband, community/church leader, and business owner. And no one expected what happened as he visited his nephew Alden at the Syracuse home in September, death by heart attack. This was of course before modern medical knowledge about high

blood pressure, with the stresses of life the mostly likely factor that drove his BP readings up into the danger zone. This Diary is a difficult read from the viewpoint of what was happening with the company Norman inherited from his father John- Squires, Sherry & Galusha. John with the drive and ambition of an Irish immigrant orphan grew that grocery business into a multi-million-dollar enterprise in the mid to late 1800's. For unknown reasons, John chose Norman over Arthur to preside over the business which was later renamed Sherry & Co. Family tension was evident over this decision, with Norman's desire to attend college only realized after his father's death in 1994, when he entered Williams College.

Apparently, the business did quite well, for a careful read of this Diary documents about six employees at the River Street store and as many or more salesmen on the road covering a territory from Vermont and Lake George to the north to Buffalo and the border to Pennsylvania on the south. The main products mentioned were coffee, tea, and spices, but a wide range of groceries were carried in the Troy store and distributed widely through that Northeastern territory. Ads mention new technology for grinding coffee and spices. Thus, Norman had his hand in both retail and wholesale, with a very wide inventory of products to track, and so he was stretched pretty thin. Scholarly readings on the grocery business in the 1920's notes the enormous changes affecting retail and wholesale, with the beginnings of the modern supermarket already in view. A famous example of that is the Piggly Wiggly supermarket chain which began in Memphis, TN, in 1916. The innovation was that of Clarence Saunders, who allowed customers to go through the store and gather their own items. I am wondering if there were also signs of the Great Depression being felt by businesses in the Troy-Albany-Schenectady area by the mid 1920's. One of the merger possibilities for Norman in 1926 was with a Grocer named Walter Wilson, who had a new warehouse with a spur track, an innovation for shipping and receiving goods.

I can draw a somewhat fuzzy picture from this Diary of the Sherry & Co network: In-store employees included a Miss Leyfield who tracked inventory; Mr. Arnold who kept accounts and brought reports to Norman of major losses on Jan 15th and Aug 19th; Mr. Bob MacAuley who oversaw the salesforce and was a business confidante; and Mr. Woodcock, also a go-to person in this year of crisis. On June 17th, Norman sums up the sales picture for Sherry & Co: "Store salesmen situation seems complicated." Indeed, with salesmen working on commission coming and going, and names such as Birdsall, Watkins, Hollister, Horton, Sargent, Clarksman, Wolff, Ahearn, and Downes mentioned in 1926, some of them hired and then quitting within a week or two. One of the almost weekly activities for Norman in 1926 was interviewing to hire new salesmen!

The name of a very successful salesman for Norman was Chas Ward, who became a close family friend. Norman referred to him as "Cousin Charles," and to his brother as "Cousin Belle." One of the blows to the business in 1926 was the serious illness affecting Chas' speech and necessitating his quitting his job. Norman told of Chas joining him at Twitchell in 1921, helping to build some of the furniture still present in the Little Beaver camp. Then there were the bankers who extended credit to Sherry & Co. Norman wrote and visited a Mr. Williams in NYC to try to bail the company out of this major slump, without success; a Mr. Pattison is mentioned as a local bank contact; and Mr. George Friday actually offered to assist Sherry & Co on May 23rd: Norman "told him of our purpose to narrow down & asked privilege to buy at cost to piece out, which he at once granted," one strategy for minimizing the financial losses. Another option to ease the pain was for another prominent grocer in the tri-city area, Darling & Co, to carry some of the Sherry products, mentioned on May 24th: "Watkins will call our narrow line (tea, coffee spices &c) & groceries for Darling after July 1. It all came about so smoothly! Prayers are answered, & God is working."

Norman's faith is mentioned as a constant source of help during this stressful year, with the Book of Psalms an inspiration for motivation and strength. Norman actually saw the Darling deal as an answer to his prayers, and a hope for a turn-around. Arnold's August 19th report on the numbers gives a glimpse into his faith in the midst of this real battle:

Arnold informed me this aft of very large loss for 6 mos. ending June 30, having put together inventory & taken balances. I expected some, but rather overwhelmed. Praying for strength till the tide of loss can be turned. Ps 27:14 (R.N.) "Wait for Jehovah" helps me t-night.

Norman quotes other Psalms in his battle with fear and anxiety. In a diary entry on August 2nd, while waiting for his Reo to be repaired for his last trip to Twitchell, he takes consolation in the fact that he has a book to read, tellingly titled "Conquest of Fear." On September 8th he cites Psalm 37:25-27 as a real source of help after returning from the Labor Day weekend at Twitchell to "the grindstone at work." Quoting from his favorite Bible translation, the Moffatt version:

I have been young and I am old, but never have I seen good men forsaken;
They always have something to give away, something wherewith to bless their families.
Shun evil and do good, so shall you live your life within the land;
For the Eternal, who loves honesty, never forsakes his faithful band.

Psalms he quotes from most frequently for support in this Diary are 25, 34, 37, 41, 43, and 43.

Lucretia's counsel and pressure which seems to go as far as her recommendation to end the company, come up in the 1926 Diary as a repeating theme. As early as January 5th, Norman comments: "Lu & I had 'discussion' abt business on my arrival home." They have further discussion on February 15th, Norman noting he "cannot seem to feel light has yet come to me." On the 24th he adds, "Lu & I had another talk, prodding me about business." Norman knew changes had to be made, and Lucretia's concern that he had let business troubles rule his life was part of his motivation for change. This seems to come to a head in a summer visit to Twitchell on August 31st after noting he had recently been at the office every night until midnight. The subject of their argument on a boat ride is the inventory results "talked over in tenseness," with a follow-up before falling asleep: "Talked further with Lu in bed last night & again t-night, opinions at variance." Norman does announce a settlement the next morning, expressed this way: "Lu talked to me before breakfast, in cooperation & everything is changed for me, the 'cloud' between us is dissipated." Whether she felt any guilt as a contributor to his stress and its outcome is unknown. Norman goes so far as to express gratitude for her wise counsel in this most difficult time in his life as a man and a business owner. They were certainly used to a lifestyle that Sherry & Co made possible. The sale and transfers of ownership of the Beaver Lodge and Little Beaver after 1926 give silent testimony to the major changes in lifestyle that resulted from Norman's untimely death.

After the business crisis had peaked, Norman mentions the hiring of what we might call a "business consultant," a Mr. Deiseroth whom he knows through the Troy Rotary. Also mentioned is an A.H. Millard whom he consulted over the major changes he contemplated for Sherry & Company on May 8th, "merger or 'narrow line.'" This Diary mentions a handful of merger possibilities, a Mr. John Aird, a John MacKay, a John Nelson, a Mr. Foster, and both Walter and Franklin Wilson. Meetings, negotiations, and waiting for a final decision create some drama for the reader and much anxiety for Norman as he awaits an answer on what he believed to be a way through troubled times for Sherry & Co. Two of the negative answers had to do with the children of the potential merger nixing the deal, and the fact that the "narrowed line" of goods had not had several years to demonstrate success for the potential co-owner.

A year of dealings like this brought Norman to several conclusions which most definitely challenged his faith and sense of hope. For example, on May 5th he noted the following: "Felt as if things went 'round in circles,' & no progress." On May 26th after a meeting with his nephew Alden possibly over business inheritance, his mood was considerably darker: "I left tired & depressed this evg & dozed." The reader of this Diary certainly feels this sad sense of going around in circles with little or no change. But the sum of a man or person is not just about his or her vocation or business accomplishments.

There is mention of a Hugh Sherry on two occasions in the Diary as a source for money to help the business in the shortage, a relative whom I have not placed on the family tree, but who apparently lived in the tri-city area. He mentioned a distribution of bonds. That is an interesting side note. Other sources for income were direct in-store sales, goods delivered to other grocers, bank credit, bond sales to support the company, another grocer carrying the Sherry & Co brands, to identify the main ones. Cutting staff and downsizing inventory were possibilities on the other side of the business ledger.

Was Norman cut out to be President of a premier Grocery empire in the early 1900's? That is a most difficult question. The major focus in his 1921 Diary is his avocation, his church, his family, his civic life, and his faith, with less focus on the Company he ran. He does not appear to have the drive that his father John did, which built up the business he passed on to his son. Norman appears as a people person, a process person with a hand in all the details, loyal to a fault, a good manager and organizer, enthusiastic, empathetic, informed- a real plugger and a doer. He may have lacked the drive and genius needed to survive the changes sweeping through wholesale and retail markets in the 1920's. But Norman's 1926 Diary pictures him as fully engaged in his business, working and praying hard for any edge that would turn around the losses and downward trends, and save the company named for his family. He fought hard for that success right up to his death. Sadly, it eluded him.

One real "saving grace" was the five vacation periods Norman spent at Twitchell Lake, Big Moose, New York, with his wife Lucretia and their four kids. Lu and her mother Ellen Hayes resided at the Beaver Lodge on Twitchell Lake for the whole summer with the four children, three months. Friends and family joined them, taking one-week periods in the Little Beaver guest cottage. These were special times, despite the business troubles. In between, letters from Lu came weekly if not every other day during that time of separation. The phrase "Lu & I" peppers the Diary as the subject for numerous daily activities, 29 times during the year of 1926. On May 23rd, Norman remembered the anniversary of his engagement to Lucretia, noting in his Diary: "16 years ago Lucretia & I became engaged." His Diary is punctuated, too, by other key anniversaries, such as June 14th, the "Anniversary of my dear father's birthday;" and August 19th- the "Anniversary of my dear Mother's death- in 1884." That the fourteen years of marriage for Norman and Lucretia was a deep and committed love affair, seems beyond question based on these three diaries and Lu's frequent letters.

Another very touching aspect in this 1926 Diary are the comments representing Norman's fatherly devotion to his four children, and especially Esther. This is especially evident during their last time together at their summer home on Twitchell Lake, Beaver Lodge, August 28th through September 7th. After his arrival and dinner, he spent time with his boys fishing, as he did almost each evening, noting this for Francis and Junior: "Caught 7 for the party- I none." Friday eve, September 3rd, Norman spent time with his youngest daughter, Esther, treating her at a hotel at the end of the lake: "I rowed w. Esther to Lone Pine to get a donkey ride, but could not find 'Genevieve' tho' looked over the vicinity! So subs. Ice cream!" The special way Norman spent time with each of his four children during this last family visit to Twitchell, and in their Troy residence, shows his love for his family and children, despite the business

problems that preoccupied him that whole year. "Under pressure; business on my mind constantly," he wrote on May 9th.

This Diary by itself gives another authentic glimpse of life on Twitchell Lake. Here Earl Covey, the genius builder, proprietor of Twitchell Lake Inn, and close friend of the family, had weathered the deep losses of three family members- a wife and two sons- described in Norman's 1921 Diary, to remarry and build the crowning projects of his career on neighboring Big Moose Lake- Covewood Lodge and the Big Moose Chapel. Growing friendships with lake friends are here described in great detail: Bea Noble, Fay & Mildred Brownell, and Earl Covey married to his second wife Francis. One of the greatest fears a summer resident on Twitchell has is the drowning of a young child, and that is vividly described by Norman for July 30th. Daily swims, visits with other campers, frequent campfires, dancing and hymn-sings at the Inn, and of course the periodic "tramps" Norman loved were daily fare for family and friends even during this stressful year.

Before discovering these three Diaries, I knew virtually nothing about my grandfather Norman except that he died in the prime of his life, leaving his family in shock, that he ran a company, and that he was the namesake for the two Normans I knew- my father Norman Junior and my brother Norman the third. The experience of transcribing the Diaries and reflecting on what Norman wrote down, leaves me with a deep sense of regret for not having met in person Norman Burt Sherry the first. The love affair in his 1908 Diary with his beloved Lucretia, the enjoyment of the newly constructed summer home "Little Beaver" at Twitchell Lake, and his honest wrestling with his faith and business calling, make him very human. And these things endear him to me. I also find some remarkable similarities between myself and this man who probably prayed for me before I was born. Despite his untimely death, I consider his life to be an inspiring "redemption story," one of hope and inspiration to his immediate family and all who reflect on his life. The Obituary tucked into his middle Diary offers eloquent tribute to that very fact.

As a postscript, I do not remember my Uncle Frank, Aunt Betty, Aunt Esther, or father (Norman Junior) saying much about Norman the first. I do not think he is mentioned in my Dad's book. Dad was 13 years old when his father died. That was a deeply felt loss. I do not think that my Dad, aunts, or uncle, ever read any of these Diaries. Maybe that would have been too painful. But it would have helped them to know their Dad whom they lost in a deeper way, the way that I feel I have come to know and relate to him now. How strange life is!

Further Research on Sherry & Company, Inc.

Most of the additional information I have found out about Sherry & Co, has come through a publication put out by the Spice Mill Publishing Company located in NYC (97 Water Street), and made available through Google Books. That organization sponsored a monthly magazine and published books on coffee, tea, spices, condiments such as vinegar and catsup, cocoa, chocolate, candy and coconut, peanuts, baking powder, flavoring extracts, and food legislation. Norman is listed in the 1914 and 1915 editions of *Simmons' Spice Mill* (December) as serving on the Legislation Committee for the National Coffee Roasters Association, with his name, company, and activities published in *Simmons'* from about 1914 through the early 1920's. He thus took a real interest in federal, state, and territorial Food & Drug laws, regulations, standards, and decisions, for they partly determined the success (or downturn) of his Grocery business. Simmons published a book Norman certainly had on his shelf, *Dunn's Pure Food and Drug Legal Manual*, "a monumental work treating of all foods and drugs. Of inestimable value to those who desire to manufacture, pack and label according to law."

The January 1914 edition of *Simmons' Spice Mill* actually covered the recent incorporation of Sherry & Company. Another Coffee, Tea, and Spice mill company had just disbanded in Troy, NY, and members from that firm joined two Sherry brothers to found Sherry & Co. That article is very informative:

The other members of the company will continue the business under the name Sherry & Co., Inc. Articles of incorporation were filed Dec 29: capital stock, \$100,000. The officers are: President and treasurer, N.B. Sherry; vice-president, J.H. Lundy; secretary, C.W. Ward; assistant secretary, A.G. Sherry. The Messrs. Sherry are the surviving members of the firm of Squires, Sherry & Galusha.

It appears that Norman's brother Arthur Galusha piloted the family business- Squires, Sherry & Galusha, while Norman got his BA degree at Williams College, from John's death in 1894 through 1900, when Norman took the helm. Why the older company was ended and the new one begun is not clear. But it seems certain that Norman had the experience and know-how to build the new enterprise up as his father had done. A 1919 Coffee Seal for Sherry & Co announces the four areas of specialty for this Troy, NY, company: Importing tea, roasting & packaging coffee, grinding and marketing spices, and acting as a full wholesale grocer. Spices would have included the wider list of items the Simmons' publishing company covered, including peanuts and candies; the River Street store included a wide retail selection of foodstuffs; and a Sherry & Co ad from January 12, 1928, touted its own coffee brand, "Samarang Coffee, roasted & blended fresh daily in Troy, NY." So, evidently the company survived Normans untimely death! And it is likely that those who took over management of Sherry & Co did downsize or in Norman's words, "narrow" their focus to their coffee and tea lines. My Uncle Frank remembers visiting the family store on River Street in Troy and being one of the coffee and tea tasters, as the company experimented with roasting and blends. Another article in *Simmons'* (December, 1914) records Sherry & Co's endorsement of its newest spice mill, used for a good variety of products sold or shipped out from the Troy store:

...accurate, reliable, speedy- this equipment is adapted to weighing all fine powdered products, such as cocoa, baking powder, soda, etc., and automatically packs into any style or shape of container, tin, glass or carton, lined or unlined. Will also do equally well on granular products.

Simmons Spice Mill covered the national convention of the Coffee Roasters Association in June of 1916, highlighting the national campaign its President Ross Weir initiated to expand sales, spur scientific research, improve quality, and dispel fears in the public mind about possible negative effects of coffee on health. In that address, Weir addressed four groups: The Roaster, the Coffee Merchant, the Retailer, and the consumer. Norman was a member of each of those groups. Not only were there health concerns, but with the processing of tea, coffee, nuts, and the long list of spices mentioned above, purity, packaging, and advertising claims were all of concern. In 1916 the US Supreme Court handed down a decision upholding the constitutionality of the trading stamp laws of the states of Washington and Florida, giving all states power to levy taxes on most of the products Sherry & Co sold and marketed. That may have motivated Norman in his role on the Legislation Committee. And it could have been a real factor in 1926.

The Simmons' Spice Mill empire was established in 1878 with the original patent of the spice mill which opened multitudes of applications for the food industry, and generated its tag line, "Devoted to the Interests of the Coffee, Tea, and Spice Trades." The January edition of *Spice Mill* in 1916 opened with a

“Letter of Thanks” to Mr. B.F. Simmons from President Weir, linking together that organization with the National Coffee Roasters Association:

Dear Mr. Simmons: It gives me much pleasure to inform you that the Executive Committee of our Association has taken official notice of your publishing the matter relating to our recent convention, and the committee wishes me to thank you for your interest in the convention and for your very complete report of the convention proceedings.

While I do not have a copy of Norman’s 1916 Diary, I do not doubt that he attended this Convention in New York City, with his official duties as a member of its Legislative Committee. And it is highly likely that he visited and was familiar with the people who published the *Spice Mill*. Their February 1914 edition noted that Norman “was a visitor to the NYC coffee & tea markets,” with a likely stop at their office.

One of the premier leaders in the American coffee industry was a J. E. McKay who headed up the coffee, tea, and spice department for the Tacoma Grocery Company in the state of Washington. McKay left Tacoma to head up the coffee department of Sherry & Company in March of 1917, reporting in June of 1918 in *Simmons’* that “the business of the Sherry company is now more than double what it was last year.” Clearly the company was on a substantial growth curve on the eve of the First World War, right into the early 1920’s when market forces and possibly internal pressures took their toll. While McKay did leave Sherry & Co three years later to open a new company in Boston, MA, Norman’s company was on the cutting edge of wholesale and retailing of a wide variety of products of importance to the American consumer in the late teens and early twenties. A big part of this was the growing popularity of coffee! Thus, it is quite surprising (and difficult) to read of the “perfect storm” of challenges Norman faced as CEO of Sherry & Company in 1926. Clearly, he was blindsided by the loss report his accountant brought him in early January of that year. And besides the external market factors that blew against his business, his own success may have been another burden to carry. Lucretia’s counsel to “narrow” down his focus may have come too little and too late, though the people who took over management of Sherry & Co appear to have heeded and benefited from that wise advice.

Other questions surface in this brief sketch of the nature of Sherry & Co’s business, its rise and its fall. Why the family changed from Squires, Sherry & Galusha to Sherry & Co is an open question. So is the financial impact that Norman’s death took on his family, with a company that did not immediately dissolve, but continued to market their own brand of coffee, with a narrowed range of other products. No Last Will & Testament has been located for Norman, which is another mystery. More research needs to be done to widen this picture for its impact on the Sherry and Hayes families, on my father Norman Junior, and ultimately on me. Not to mention for the history of Troy, NY, where the Sherry family contributed major players, male and female, in business, finance, journalism, religion, public service, and culture.

This entry from the 1921 Diary offers earlier glimpse of stress with Sherry & Co, with the bank- THUR. Jun 30, 1921- Cloudy & rained off & on; have enough rain this week to break drought. At bank directors meeting found Nat. Bank examiner Henderson present. Gave me great surprise by asking me directly about A.G.S. & my loans in connection with Sherry & Co & criticizing them as “over loans”! Will have to rearrange the excess. Arthur & Frank ret’d from Ocean Grove about 3 Pm. Lu busy packing up finally for the family’s 3 mos at Twitchell. At office until after 7. Making up Clarks goods order for Courtney who leaves Troy now. My thoughts go again to-night to Isaiah 26! 3&4- great promises which help me now

again. [This trouble with bank loan weighs heavily on NBS. Lucretia will have kids at Twitchell for next three months!]

July 4, 1921- Hardly get my mind off the bank examiner's ruling.

July 5, 1921- Missed Rotary luncheon by interview at bank in re withdrawing collateral to pay Prescott settlement. Saw Mr. McLeod at home this P.m. about the bank examiner ruling.

TUES. Dec. 15, 1908- Arthur went to G'wish this P.m. & found Foster was just in bankruptcy- large loss for us, to a sale of fancy articles at the Church early this evg. Rather mild. Been sleighing in the country, but must be poor t-day.