

Jethro Mitchell Swain



1843-1917

Personal diary from 1917

TRANSCRIBED FROM DIARIES OF JETHRO MITCHELL SWAIN

1917

The following are notes found in the front of J.M. Swain's 1917 diary:

J.M.Swain's diary of 1917, residence No 7354 Fay St, La Jolla, Cali.

U.S. Patent 1223637, patentee & inventor Mrs Alice C. Swain, La Jolla, Cali, rec'd May 2nd, 1917 @ La Jolla.

Monday, Jan 1, 1917¹ Milan Michigan, Gail on section & I on dairy as usual, had a dandy dinner with the Markhams & Howards families.

Tuesday, Jan 2, 1917 Off to Clinton with Mr Teal & back. Did business with a Mr -----? foundry man. PM, up town, no mail, bought trunk 5.00, chair bottoms 25 cts, diary 50 cts.

Wednesday, Jan 3, 1917 Rainy, cold, nasty day, mud & slush.

Thursday, Jan 4, 1917 PM, up to P.O., Xmass card from La Jolla & postal from Ed Howard, must move cow tomorrow.

Friday, Jan 5, 1917 Moved dairy today and its snowing gobs @ noon. Mrs Ed Howard off to Detroit on PM train.

Saturday, Jan 6, 1917 Gail on section, I on milk ranch. PM, up town, no mail, weather softening.

Sunday, Jan 7, 1917 Cold raw winds & cold as Greenland. Gail on section, I on dairy. Rumors says Pancho Villa got an awful whipping near Jenulco. Bitter cold & windy.

Monday, Jan 8, 1917 Sunshine today, Pard writing La Jolla on business. Pd for Toledo Bee 10 cts for past week. Rec'd letter from sister Mertie at her home in Chico. Bought turpentine 10 cts, candy & cakes, 10 cts.

Tuesday, Jan 9, 1917 Warmer & cloudy. I wrote Chinese Herb Co, South Broadway, Los Angeles for sample. PM, wrote sister @ Chico, Butte Co, Cali.

Wednesday, Jan 10, 1917 A hell of a cold day, snowed & blowed & then some. Gail on section and I on dairy. Awful bitter damd cold & then some, Gail fell & hurt himself.

Thursday, Jan 11, 1917 Gail laid up for repairs. I have the dairy OK, quite cold & windy & sun is shining. Wrote Mrs Andrews, La Jolla. Stamps 6 cts, cough drops 5 cts, witch hazel salve 25 cts.

Friday, Jan 12, 1917 Cold all day & Gail on section. PM, up to P.O., letter from Dayton, oH, envelopes & stamps 25 cts.

Saturday, Jan 13, 1917 Snowed all night. Gail on section, I still doing the milking. Rec'd letter from Frankie Saunders & postal order. Trunk extra 2.00, pair pants & braces 3.00.

Sunday, Jan 14, 1917 Too cold for any use. Gail out as usual & I crawling around, about froze. Fearfully cold winds.

Monday, Jan 15, 1917 Gail on section, \$29.75 found by Gail. Dairy is all OK. Pard wrote Frankie Saunders today. I bought hamburgers & am taking Detroit Journal.

Tuesday, Jan 16, 1917 Another cold day. Gail on section & I crawling around. Pard packing and waiting news from La Jolla. Old man Swinton called tonight.

¹ The Swains begin the year still visiting Mrs Swain's family in Michigan. They have been on the road since July 1916.

Wednesday, Jan 17, 1917 Bitter cold winds & Gail on section, he bought 1/2 ton of coal for 4.00 while the -----
? steal all they use off the coal in transit & I don't blame them. Letter from Walter Leiber today.

Thursday, Jan 18, 1917 Another cold day & I bought syrup & bacon 85 cts. Medicine for neuralgia 25 cts.
Lampkin died. Letter & photos from Mrs Andrews & the La Jolla news from Mrs Andrews.

Friday, Jan 19, 1917 Answering Mrs Andrews. Gail on section & I crawling around and dissatisfied with
Michigan & the damd snow & ice. Contributed 15 cts for flowers to Mrs Rice for Lampkin's funereal.

Saturday, Jan 20, 1917 Cloudy & threatening. Rec'd C&O R.R. Journal. R.R. fare to Richmond, Va from Tole-
do 15.59, 150 lbs baggage free. Storming like hell.

Sunday, Jan 21, 1917 Still storming all day, snow sent SE winds, Gail out all day. Ed & Alice called & Thurlow
owes me money, borrowed.

Monday, Jan 22, 1917 Gail sick with cold, taking Quinine all day. Tommy & wife both sick. Matt Smith called.
Awful cold tonight.

Tuesday, Jan 23, 1917 Easing off this morning. Wrote K.T. Crawley, Agt C&O R.R, Richmond Va. Pard pack-
ing her grips & going south soon. Postal order to W.H. Bradley, \$16.00.

Wednesday, Jan 24, 1917 Off from Milan for Jackson, bag & baggage fare 1.68, Ann Arbor @ noon. 3:30PM,
found Grace & Guy Vannamer OK, every place white with snow.

Thursday, Jan 25, 1917 Snowing & cold, I hunted up Irwin Markham & family & dined there. PM, got our bag-
gage from depot, cost 1.00. Quinine & cards 50 cts, car fare up & down 10 cts. Told Irwin of Delany's
death.

Friday, Jan 26, 1917 Wrote Milan for our mail, post cards 10 cts. Weather warmer.

Saturday, Jan 27, 1917 Off to Mich Central Depot, find fare to Butte is \$44.10 from here. Wrote Gail, forward
medicine from China @ Los Angs. Out for candy 10 cts.

Sunday, Jan 28, 1917 Wife & I called on Irwin & his family & dined there & came home @ 4PM. Car fare 20
cts.

Monday, Jan 29, 1917 Mail from Milan, four letters. Answered Dayton Ohio, OK, from my sister in Cali, from
County Clerk, S. Diego, Mrs Rochelle, Ill. Stayed indoors today, reading Mormon history.

Tuesday, Jan 30, 1917 Visited Chamber of Commerce. Shoe shine & paper 7 cts. Notice, tax due April 1st on
home in La Jolla.

Wednesday, Jan 31, 1917 Off down town to see the sights & home early, awful cold.

Thursday, Feb 1, 1917 Snowed during night, indoors all AM. Wrote sister in Chico. Pd for liver 15 cts, cheese
& cakes, 40 cts. We had company tonight.

Friday, Feb 2, 1917 Snow flurries & cold. America fires the German Embassy out. Wrote the I.L.&C. Co,
Dayton, OH.

Saturday, Feb 3, 1917 Bitter cold last night & cold all day. We are all OK, indoors reading. Sweet spuds 10
cts, cheese & cookies 20 cts.

Sunday, Feb 4, 1917 Snowing all night, indoors all day, reading Det Journal. Grace, Alice & I went to see the
movies @ 7PM, home @ 8, all OK.

Monday, Feb 5, 1917 6 below zero, awful cold morning. Bread cost 11 cts, no mail.

Tuesday, Feb 6, 1917 Snow & snow & more snow. Delightful country to stay out of. Up to 10 cent store,

bought silk 5 cts, 2 Pr woolen socks 55 cts.

- Wednesday, Feb 7, 1917 Rec'd another bunch from Int L & Col Co, Dayton, OH. Visited library in PM. Bought paper 11 cts.
- Thursday, Feb 8, 1917 Snowing toady. Letter out to Los Angs, letter in from Charlotte Coburn, letter to Tom Swain & wife and letter from Milan for help. Phoned to Milan 30 cts. Groceries 98 cts.
- Friday, Feb 9, 1917 10AM, sun shining over Jacksons month of snow. Bread & cakes 36 cts, cough medicine 25 cts, grape nuts 13 cts.
- Saturday, Feb 10, 1917 Feeling tough this AM. Air full of snow & frost. PM, sunshine sickly. Took weed chains out to sell them to somebody. Wrote indoors odorless closet.
- Sunday, Feb 11, 1917 Pretty cold, but fair all day. Reading @ home & all OK. Pard & Grace went to movie show 20 cts. 22 below zero @ 2AM here.
- Monday, Feb 12, 1917 No mail as usual. 26 below zero here coldest for 15 years. Business with ----? & Sons & 60 days free trial. Bread & cakes 33 cts.
- Tuesday, Feb 13, 1917 Snowing strong in AM. Letter from W. Robertson of La Jolla. Wrote County Recorder @ Clarion, Wright Co for information on M. Luick estate.
- Wednesday, Feb 14, 1917 Warmer with sunshine. Letter from ----? Co, Chicago. Getting ready to go home tomorrow AM @ 9 over. Santa Fe to San Diego, fare 58.52.
- Thursday, Feb 15, 1917² Off for the west @ 10:45AM, passed Albion, Marshall, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo @ 12:50PM. Mich City and Chicago @ 5PM & out for Cali @ 10:30PM.
- Friday, Feb 16, 1917 La Plat, MO @ sunrise, Lexington Junction 10AM, coffee 10 cts. Kansas City @ noon, left Topeka @ 3PM, coffee 5 cts, Emporia 4:35, Newton, Kansas to supper. 8:30 out of Hutchinson, Kansas.
- Saturday, Feb 17, 1917 11:30, changed time one hour @ Dodge City, Kansas into Colorado at 5:30AM, @ La Junta, Colo, bought coffee 10 cts. Snow everywhere on the line between Colo & N Mex @ noon. Alburkerkie (sic) @ 8:30 after supper. Snowing all night.
- Sunday, Feb 18, 1917 Still snowing 7AM, in Arizona early, coffee @ Winslow 8:30. 10:30, Flagstaff & still snowing, at Kingman @ 5:30PM, Needles @ 5:50, out for Los Angs and home.
- Monday, Feb 19, 1917 Into Los Angs 8:40AM, out @ 9:30 for San Diego. San Berdoo @ 10:15, coffee 10 cts. San Diego @ 12:50, out to La Jolla @ 3PM and into bed @ 3:30PM @ Mrs Andrews & dead to the world.
- Tuesday, Feb 20, 1917 Out & alive @ 7AM, caught a man milking breakfast @ Andrews. Postal to Pard in Jackson, Mich. Meeting friends galore, opened up Honeysuckle³. Met Mrs Kline and Mrs Cobb, paid on trunk 1.00. Still @ Mrs Andrews tonight.
- Wednesday, Feb 21, 1917 Up town, met many old faces, met Leiber & settled up in full. Bought 5 gal oil 75 cts, ate dinner with Robinson & supper with Mrs Kline on fish eggs.
- Thursday, Feb 22, 1917 Washington's birthday, slept in my home, find it raining. Had breakfast with Mrs A & supper with Jack D & family & it still rains, @ 9PM & I am all OK in Honeysuckle Lodge, raining today & strong.
- Friday, Feb 23, 1917 Rained all night. Up town, bought groceries. Met many old timers. Gas & electricity on, cost us cash 1.00. Cold tonight.
- Saturday, Feb 24, 1917 Damp & foggy. Called on J.B. & family. Bought tablet 25 cts. Had dinner with Jake & family & Jakes Bro in law, a Mr Haywood & wife, Flo's sister. Rec'd 12.20 bal due on Jan rent, of G.W.

² J.M. travelled alone back to La Jolla leaving his wife to stay in Michigan until April.

³ This was the name of his home. Also called the Allons and Honeysuckle Lodge.

Cobb.

Sunday, Feb 25, 1917 Rained all night, fearfully wet & muddy. Wrote long letter to my wife today to Milan, Michigan.

Monday, Feb 26, 1917 Pd Robertson 5.00 on old acct. Bread & bacon 20 cts. Pd Hume 1.00 & home early after writing Frankie Saunders.

Tuesday, Feb 27, 1917 Up late & downtown. Sent letter to Frankie Saunders @ Red Bluff.

Wednesday, Feb 28, 1917 Had a bean feast with pie & other things today with the Learmonts at their old home place. Supper with Mrs Ed James.

Thursday, Mar 1, 1917 Cloudy & cold. Up town for mail, had coffee & pie 10 cts. PM, @ Klines & Andrews, later Mrs Cobb gave me a piece of pie & they went to a show & invited me, but I preferred home & bed.

Friday, Mar 2, 1917 Chk from Mr Cobb, \$20.00 for Feb rent, past month. Gas & electric lights, 2.67 for past month. Letter from wife, answered right off. Mailed by Lillian Andrews tonight.

Saturday, Mar 3, 1917 Sent money order 10.00 to my wife today. Lunch cost 10 cts. Hunting -----? today, try again tomorrow. Flo rented her house. Mrs Kline gave me some fish & eggs.

Sunday, Mar 4, 1917 Postal to sister Mertie. To Andrews for pruning sheers, off hunting lost 1----? from Honysuckle. Jake in garage in S.D. on house renting business.

Monday, Mar 5, 1917 At home washing & pruning Himalayas & feeling very old. Phoned for bread. Spent this evening with Mr & Mrs Kline & am all OK.

Tuesday, Mar 6, 1917 Wrote to Pard this AM. Called on Florence & she gave me the key to the store room. Spent evening at Mr Andrews.

Wednesday, Mar 7, 1917 Over to our old place & got some roots to replace 3 or 4 dead Himalayas. Down to P.O., nothing & home again damd near crazy lonesome.

Thursday, Mar 8, 1917 Pard should get my letter in Milan today. Letter from Ellen Scripps. Down to Florence's after ----? dress and home again. J.B. has letter from his lawyers saying send in 20.00, so he writes Alice tonight & so do I.

Friday, Mar 9, 1917 Cloudy & cold. Pd Robertson in full 1.20, more groceries 1.89, lunch 10 cts, square with town. Jake sent letter to Pard, so did I. \$9.30 bal cash tonight.

Saturday, Mar 10, 1917 Letter from Pard this PM, dated Milan, Mich, the 6th. She said she rec'd 15.00 from Frankie, also a postal from sister Mertie. Florence quite sick in bed. Wrote Pard tonight.

Sunday, Mar 11, 1917 Posted letter to Pard. Bought grub 2.50. Mr Cobb spading yard. I went over to visit the Learmonts, stayed to supper & it hailed & rained some. She gave me jelly.

Monday, Mar 12, 1917 Hailed hard last night & ice froze in basins outside. Up town, no mail & came home early & cleaning up weeds in PM. Bread cost me 10 cts. Notice, Detective wanted.

Tuesday, Mar 13, 1917 Up town, found no mail. 2:30PM off for S.D. @ 3:15 to hunt detective job, and home again before dark, R.R. fare 50 cts. Saw Kline & wife cutting up fish to smoke, yellow tails.

Wednesday, Mar 14, 1917 W.J. Bemon off to Phoenix. Postal from sister Mertie B. Rained most of AM here. PM, letter from Pard, answered at once.

Thursday, Mar 15, 1917 Sunshine, fair day today. Up town, no mail, home @ 4PM. Ate supper and spent evening with Kline & wife & home @ 10PM. Folks all leaving La Jolla for fear of R.R. tie up.

Friday, Mar 16, 1917 Pulling weeds & cleaning up some. Up town to learn that the Tsar of Russia has been overthrown & all Russia roaring in rebellion and 200,000 R.R. men on strike, hell is to pay.

Saturday, Mar 17, 1917 Half sick & did nothing today. Went up town to see Austin Adams⁴ & Mr Harper who was sick & in bed. No mail & came home early. @ Mr Cobbs until 9PM tonight.

Sunday, Mar 18, 1917 A little breakfast, came from Cobbs early & it was good. Ans'd sister Mertie. Groceries @ Thomas', 45 cts. Spent evening @ Rob't Learmouths. Home @ 8:30 to bed.

Monday, Mar 19, 1917 Up town to Post Office, found 2 letters from my old Pard and she is herding the Howard ----? and resting easy, waiting on pattern makers strike, I answered her at once from the post office & home @ 5PM, getting supper.

Tuesday, Mar 20, 1917 Primary Election day. Up town & voted of course, as everybody else did. Mrs Cobb's 12 hens laying 12 eggs per day now. Bought dried prunes 25 cts & came home with Kline & took prunes & sugar to Mrs Klines to stew & spent evening there.

Wednesday, Mar 21, 1917 Up town for mail, nix, had sheers fixed 10 cts. Wilde leads Marston @ yesterdays primaries. Cup of coffee & pie 10 cts.

Thursday, Mar 22, 1917 Dearborne here assessing. Up town 3PM, no mail. Bread & sugar 60 cts & home again pronto. Cold & windy evening. @ Klines tonight until 10PM.

Friday, Mar 23, 1917 Kline & a stranger here looking for house to rent. Up town after 3PM, no mail, bought 3 cans beans & box matches & home with Mrs Kline. Mrs Cobb made desert for me, a present.

Saturday, Mar 24, 1917 PM, down to P.O., no mail from Pard, but letter from Frankie & a check for last 15.00. She says Ed is awful sick. Shall send this 15.00 to A.C.S. in tomorrows mail.

Sunday, Mar 25, 1917 Wrote wife today & daughter Mrs E.W. Saunders, Tehama Co, Cali. Spent this evening @ Learmouths & sent 2 letters to post by Robert tonight.

Monday, Mar 26, 1917 Pulled weeds AM, and up town PM. Reading the news until 2:30, up to P.O. for mail. Found letter from my pet from Milan, Mich, she is OK, dated 22nd @ Milan. Called on Kline tonight, he says rent the sucker.

Tuesday, Mar 27, 1917 Pd garbage bill 20 cts. Trimming vines again. Our street being worked, graded, leveled & filled. Up town late PM, got rice, soap & bread and home.

Wednesday, Mar 28, 1917 Pruning Honeysuckles today, until PM, off to P.O., no mail. Had shoes fixed 25 cts, crackers & ginger 50 cts. It looks rainy.

Thursday, Mar 29, 1917 Pard should get 15.00 by today, sure @ Milan. Dark & cloudy, rain soon. Something wrong with me, sick all night, awful pain in head, right side, indoors & in bed all day.

Friday, Mar 30, 1917 Still threatening rain all day. Up town to Dr Galespies for medicine & advice, mod cost 35 cts, paid.t-Mrs & Mr Kline awful good to me. Dr says its heart failure, must be awful careful. for a while.

Saturday, Mar 31, 1917 Up town to see Dr, he says lie down & be quiet for a few days and it will pass. No mail yet for anyone. Bread 10 cts and had soup dinner.

Sunday, Apr 1, 1917 Spent the morning reading @ Andrews & was invited to dinner & spent evening @ Klines. Home to bed @ 8:45PM & feeling much better. Rec'd rent for March from Mr & Mrs Cobb 20.00.

Monday, Apr 2, 1917 Up town to see Gillispie⁵. Rubber for bath tub & tobacco 20 cts. A square meal 25 cts. No mail from Pard, no money from Sand Hill, home to rice & tea.

⁴ Austin Adams was a famous playwright who lived in La Jolla.

⁵ Dr. Samuel Gillispie opened a 6 bed hospital in 1916 at the Kline's house.

Tuesday, Apr 3, 1917 Election for Mayor, Treasurer & Councilmen. Went to Gillispie, says doing fine, had soup & coffee. Letter from Milan, mailed March 23rd, 12 days on road.

Wednesday, Apr 4, 1917 Mailed letter to wife. Wilie & majority 3,700 & the people rule @ last in San Diego. Pd bill for light & gas @ Honeysuckle 1.25.

Thursday, Apr 5, 1917 Burning weeds & off to town via the Learmouths. and had lunch there. Up to see Gillispie, bought more strychnine, cost me cash 40 cts.

Friday, Apr 6, 1917 Wrote to H.C. Swain, come & see me, went to P.O. as usual (The rest of the diary's page was burned and damaged.)

Saturday, Apr 7, 1917 Bread & thread 20 cts, barber shop 25 cts. Letter from A.C. Swain, dated Milan, Apr 3rd, 4PM.

Sunday, Apr 8, 1917 @ home, writing to wife in Milan, Michigan most of all day.

Monday, Apr 9, 1917 Showered during the night, cold & windy today. Celebration in town today, La Jolla idle & dead, all gone to town to parade, raining today. (The rest of the diary's page was burned and damaged.)

Tuesday, Apr 10, 1917 Our ground hard as iron, rain don't soften it very much, damd hard adobe. PM, up to P.O., no news. 4PM, dinner 25 cts, soup, coffee & fish & home @ 5PM. @ Andrews this evening.

Wednesday, Apr 11, 1917 Bought herring & prunes & bread, total 75 cts. Mrs A cooking my prunes. Fed Cobb's hens tonight. No mail today.

Thursday, Apr 12, 1917 No mail as usual. (The rest of the diary's page was burned and damaged.)

Friday, Apr 13, 1917 Choring around house all forenoon & up town with Dr Gillispie @ 2PM. No mail as usual, bought medicine 35 cts & took another treatment.

Saturday, Apr. 14, 1917 Up town @ 2PM and back 4PM and no mail.

Sunday, Apr. 15, 1917 Wrote Frankie Saunders, Red Bluff today. Showering. @ Klines in the AM. Cloudy & cool.

Monday, Apr 16, 1917 Rained all night & let up @ 10AM. Still showering PM. I am staying indoors today. Borrowed some coal oil of Cobbs, went to get Chas clay to fix our roof.

Tuesday, Apr 17, 1917 Chk in town for taxes 15.85. Dark & cloudy today & cool. Up town to P.O., no mail. 5 gal coal oil 75 cts.

Wednesday, Apr 18, 1917 Rained during the night. (The rest of the diary's page was burned and damaged.)

Thursday, Apr 19, 1917 Two months home. Nice fair day after the rain last night. PM, up town & no mail as usual. Home early & had supper. Mrs Dodridge sent me a nice dish of beans & I went over & spent the evening there until 9PM.

Friday, Apr 20, 1917 Up town today, feeling damd blue. Rec'd letter from Pard & she is all OK. Also tax receipt 15.85, ans'd Pard's letter & sent tax receipt to her. Burned my journal, 3 leaves by accident.

Saturday, Apr 21, 1917 Letter out to Pard today. Up town PM for mail & medical treatment. Home early. Am beginning to feel much better. No mail from anywhere. Called on the Cobbs tonight, they are good company.

Sunday, Apr. 22, 1917 Stayed home today. Cold & cloudy & late PM called on Mr Andrews & later drank chocolate with Mr & Mrs Cobb & Mrs Andrews.

Monday, Apr 23, 1917 Up town @ noon, took a treatment & found no one. Called on the Klines & after supper called on Dodridge. Letter from Pard, last one.

Tuesday, Apr 24, 1917 Cold, dark & foggy. Kline & I cleaning house today & I did not go up town, too tired to go, so called on Mrs Andrews. 35 cts for Tribune, one month.

Wednesday, Apr 25, 1917 My birthday, 74th birthday for me. Dark & foggy day. I now enter 74th year. Bought butter 45 cts.

Thursday, Apr 26, 1917 Pard should be here. Showered during night, showering & cold all day. Up town to treatment & sent Chas Souls to fix roof in front house, cost me 50 cts, cheap. Ate pie @ Andrews in PM, ans'd sister Mertie.

Friday, Apr 27, 1917 Up town to treatment @ 11, barber shop cost 50 cts, meat & bread 35 cts. Met Pard @ Genter St @ 2PM & Mrs & Mr Kline & Harry Dodridge and we all came home to Honeysuckle.

Saturday, Apr 28, 1917 Sprinkling rain, cold & windy. Off up town & bought bread & cream. Changed medicine & home to dinner, all OK. Took treatment @ 11AM. Rec'd 2 papers out of 5 this week. Took 5 treatments this week.

Sunday, Apr 29, 1917 Wife & I home today, bought Sunday paper 5 cts. Late PM, we called on Mrs Kline & met Mrs Shane there & later home to supper.

Monday, Apr 30, 1917 Up town for mail & groceries, cost 6.00. No. of Patent serial No. 86215, granted Apr 24, 1917, pat no. 1223637.

Tuesday, May 1, 1917 @ home all AM & up to P.O. in PM, found nothing, 2 letters to mail, one to Ewing, Wash D.C. and on to America Investment Co.

Wednesday, May 2, 1917 Up to P.O. for mail & rec'd Pard's Patent, OK from Washington D.C. from her Atty, H.B. Wilson & Co. Mrs Cobb paid past month rent 20.00. Collected 35 cts from Gilbert Andrews. Bought cheese 35 cts.

Thursday, May 3, 1917 Housecleaning generally & PM, I went to P.O. & bought spuds & rice 50 cts, beans & meat & matches 55 cts & home early. Joe & Mrs Kline brought our machine home & Pard has @ bunch of mail from Manufacturing Co's east.

Friday, May 4, 1917 Up town to P.O., stamps & envelopes 58 cts. Interest on acct 14.00, water bill 1.00, bread 10 cts.

Saturday, May 5, 1917 Children's great picnic in Balboa Park today. Bought soap 18 cts.

Sunday, May 6, 1917 @ home today & Mrs Kline and the Learmonts called & we spent the evening @ Mr & Mrs Cobbs & had a nice chat. They go to Escondido on business with Brown tomorrow.

Monday, May 7, 1917 Dark, foggy & cold. PM, up to P.O. for mail. Bought coffee & bread, berries & butter, owe 97 cts. Cold & windy tonight.

Tuesday, May 8, 1917 Still cold & threatening. Stayed home today. Pard ironing duds. Strawberry dinner, fried fish, cost 15 cts. Strawberry shortcake for dinner.

Wednesday, May 9, 1917 Cloudy as usual. Oranges 20 cts & home to dinner. Pard goes in town tomorrow @ 10AM.

Thursday, May 10, 1917 Pard off in town @ 10AM, I up to P.O. Beans 60 cts, bread 20 cts, owe 80 cts. Letter from Kirkwoods and letter from Ottawa, Canada.

Friday, May 11, 1917 At home all day & OK. Pard home from city & we visited @ Mrs Browns & bought eggs, doz 30 cts. Jack Dodridge & I put up the clock shelf after he came from work.

Saturday, May 12, 1917 Up town late PM, mailed 3 letters, one to Sat Evening Post. Bread & beans 45 cts.

Sunday, May 13, 1917 Late PM we went to see the new baby @ Sheleys & later we visited with the Lear-

mouths family & home @ 7:30, OK.

Monday, May 14, 1917 Pard & I at home until 4PM. Opened up storeroom & moved some things, put clothes out on line to sun, then off up town & back.

Tuesday, May 15, 1917 @ home all day. Wrote Annie Kirkwood & Emma Markham & O.E. Swain and some lady @ Bonita.

Wednesday, May 16, 1917 Up town to P.O., nix. Bread from B&C 24 cts, vegs 10 cts. Home to dinner. Nailed yellow rocker. Spent evening with Mr & Mrs Andrews.

Thursday, May 17, 1917 Up town for mail, home to good dinner. Rannels is off in town to Mrs Wetzell's funeral.

Friday, May 18, 1917 Showered this morning. Took 3 letters to mail.

Saturday, May 19, 1917 Up to P.O., no mail. Bought bread 24 cts, eggs 40 cts, fish 10 cts. Spuds of Mrs Smith.

Sunday, May 20, 1917 @ home all day, reading & resting. Called on the Elks after supper, found them mall OK.

Monday, May 21, 1917 Pard off sewing for someone early & home @ 5PM. I went to P.O. & found 2 letters for her. Bought 2 articles @ drug store 50 cts, & came home @ 3PM. Mrs Kline brought us fish.

Tuesday, May 22, 1917 Sick as hell, cant get bowels to move since Sunday last. Am in awful pain and fear my fall on street corner will do me up soon.

Wednesday, May 23, 1917 In bed all day and think I am better this PM. Jack Dodridge called after supper. Alice wrote O.E. & Frankie Saunders telling them of my fix.

Thursday, May 24, 1917 Sick & in bed today all day & feeling some better, but awful sore in my right groin, about gone in.

Friday, May 25, 1917 No entry

Saturday, May 26, 1917 No entry.

Sunday, May 27, 1917 No entry.

Monday, May 28, 1917 No entry.

Tuesday, May 29, 1917 No entry.

Wednesday, May 30, 1917 No entry.

Thursday, May 31, 1917 No entry.

Friday, Jun 1, 1917 No entry.

Saturday, Jun 2, 1917 No entry.

Sunday, Jun 3, 1917 Sick in bed and in constant pain.

Monday, Jun 4, 1917 Cold & nasty. I am going to get out again, I guess in a few days. Pain letting up. Check from Frankie 10.00.

Tuesday, Jun 5, 1917 Cold, nasty weather. Pard making suit for Mrs Dodridge.

Wednesday, Jun 6, 1917 Getting better fast. Answer from E.L. Watson regarding Patterns for Patent. Cold & nasty weather here. 16 days in bed & its nearly hell. Castor oil cost 25 cts.

Thursday, Jun 7, 1917 Pard still on Mrs Dodridge's suit. Groceries from Heller this PM, 2.53. @ Mrs Mimmions this PM, short call.

Friday, Jun 8, 1917 Letter out to Watson @ Milan, cash enclosed 1.00.

Saturday, Jun 9, 1917 Cold & cloudy. I went to Genters for eggs & milk, cost 50 cts. We had a custard. Mrs Dodridge in town and her dress done 6.00.

Sunday, Jun 10, 1917 I was in hell this AM, went to Dr Howards for help & found relief, he phoned & got me 2 pints of medicine, cost 95 cts & Mrs brought us a nice fish for supper & Mrs Kline called & later Mr Kline called.

Monday, Jun 11, 1917 To Del Mar & back with Williams, had breakdown @ Del Mar & no one hurt & home @ noon, all worn out.

Tuesday, Jun 12, 1917 No entry.

Wednesday, Jun 13, 1917 No entry.

Thursday, Jun 14, 1917 No entry.

Friday, Jun 15, 1917 Up to drug store for tablets with Mrs Dodridge & Cobb. Bought strychnine tablets, am feeling quite gone in with heart failure. Off to Linda Vista with Jack & wife & Mrs ----? home @ 7PM, had a nice ride.

Saturday, Jun 16, 1917 Jack & wife -----? Jack off into town.

Sunday, Jun 17, 1917 I out @ 2AM crazy with heart failure. Must get exercise or die. Can't get breath unless am outdoors.

Monday, Jun 18, 1917 Settled with Chas Timmins, paid bill in full to date 3.25.

Tuesday, Jun 19, 1917 Met Mrs Dodridge's mother today, first time. Rec'd rent for this month today from Geo W. Cobb 20.00.

Wednesday, Jun 20, 1917 Pard & I up to Klins for a short walk tonight.

Thursday, Jun 21, 1917 Up town to P.O. in PM, mailed letter to Frankie Saunders, R.B. Bought stamps & beefsteak. Saw fire chief. Pard ranching today.

Friday, Jun 22, 1917 Big day in city, Gov -----? of Baja Cali up for the Fiesta, a visitor for several days. I & Pard @ home as usual, too old to enjoy sporting longers while I am not well, but improving slowly.

Saturday, Jun 23, 1917 Pard wrote Henrys wife. Bought groceries 50 cts. Mrs Cobb caught in the under tow (ask her).

Sunday, Jun 24, 1917 Pard & I home today as usual, she can't go away far & leave me until I am better. We had a strawberry shortcake for dinner, OK.

Monday, Jun 25, 1917 Up to P.O. & home @ 11AM. Bought meat & tomatoes. Ben Genter off to the war.

Tuesday, Jun 26, 1917 Over to Genters after doz eggs, 37 cts, cantaloupes 10 cts, lard & tallow 45 cts, gallon wine 1.25, bread & biscuits 15 cts.

Wednesday, Jun 27, 1917 PM, answered Mertie B.'s letter.

Thursday, Jun 28, 1917 More shooting last night, Cobb having skunk shoot. Cobb says his skunk proves to be a weasel.

Friday, Jun 29, 1917 Up to P.O., no mail, met Bowmen, home from Los Angs hospital much improved. La Jolla is dead in all branches of business it seems to me, but I found a nickel.

Saturday, Jun 30, 1917 Wreck of La Jolla train on Santa Fe crossing.

Sunday, Jul 1, 1917 No entry.

Monday, Jul 2, 1917 Up town to P.O., all OK, found letters from Red Bluff & Annie Kirkwood. Bought bread 12 cts, paid paper carrier 35 cts & home, @ 4PM.

Tuesday, Jul 3, 1917 Pard & I home all day, I bought spuds 50 cts. of Mrs Andrews.

Wednesday, Jul 4, 1917 Jack Dodridge sick. Pard & I at home in AM. Pard & I to soldiers dance, spent the evening there & home @ 10PM.

Thursday, Jul 5, 1917 Up town late got P.O. box 201, bought butter 45 cts.

Friday, Jul 6, 1917 Pard off up town early, I at home & she home @ noon. She called on Jake. Fresh fish cost 20 cts.

Saturday, Jul 7, 1917 Up town early for me, paid gas & light 1.74, water bill 1.00, postal cards 10 cts.

Sunday, Jul 8, 1917 Changed gas stoves today, cost us 50 cts & well pleased. Pard plating spuds. I over to visit Jack Dodridge, he is on the improve all OK.

Monday, Jul 9, 1917 I am feeling tough today, short of breath all AM, PM, some better.

Tuesday, Jul 10, 1917 Up town 10AM & home again 11:30, bought pills 25 cts, steak 20 cts, milk 25 cts. Last spuds of Andrews, Cobb mowing lawn today.

Wednesday, Jul 11, 1917 Pards pattern home all OK & both eating fish today. Letter to Alonzo Swain⁶, Red Bluff.

Thursday, Jul 12, 1917 Pepper & matches 25 cts, tablets, strychnine 25 cts.

Friday, Jul 13, 1917 Out down to R.R. shop @ 7AM for a walk & had coffee @ Slacks, thence home to breakfast. Pard has neuralgia awful, all but crazy. Mr Kline brung us some vegs & Kline come later.

Saturday, Jul 14, 1917 Jacks mother died last night. Jack & wife gone into town on acct of mothers death. The Kaiser having trouble in Germany, I guess.

Sunday, Jul 15, 1917 Pard indoors, neuralgia worries her awful. Dodridge home from town in PM, funereal tomorrow PM. Over @ Genters 2 hours.

Monday, Jul 16, 1917 Letter & chk from Frankie, my grand good girl. Stayed home today. Mrs Kline called in PM. Mrs Cobb paid rent tonight 20.00 until Aug 1st next.

Tuesday, Jul 17, 1917 Sent paper to Ed Saunders today via mail 5 cts. Ordered meat 50 cts. Bobcat got Genters turkey gobbler last night. Failed to get any sleep.

Wednesday, Jul 18, 1917 Could not sleep last night, up @ midnight & walked till morning. Had taken double dose of strychnine tablets & walking saved my bacon.

Thursday, Jul 19, 1917 Alice wrote Frankie Saunders. I up town to P.O. in PM, found postal from Annie, K. Answered Annie postal.

Friday, Jul 20, 1917 Pard & I off to our old garden after berries. Home & tired out.

Saturday, Jul 21, 1917 Indications of rain. Am trying to quit the use of strychnine tablets. (no mail) Borrowed pruning sheers of Mrs Andrews & Pard cut our Himalayas clean to the ground.

⁶ Brother.

Sunday, Jul 22, 1917 4PM @ home alone, had a choice dinner and a plenty of it. Trying to cut out strychnine tablets.

Monday, Jul 23, 1917 I was miserable today. Pard ranching & fixing up the farm all day. Mrs Cobb brought mail, 2 answers to our ad. I took a tumble tonight in front of M Simons place & tore my paints.

Tuesday, Jul 24, 1917 Cool & cloudy. Up to P.O. late, PM, mailed 4 letters out. Bought butter, tea & coffee & home with Mr Sidney. Pard planted last squash.

Wednesday, Jul 25, 1917 Am not improving much, think bloating caused by too much strychnine tablets, trying to quit them. Ken called on business. Pard up to see Mrs Bissell. Called on Miss Scripps & others.

Thursday, Jul 26, 1917 Off to city on 10AM train for a change & to see a doctor. Found him, says heart action awful, must sit up to sleep now. Our car fare & lunch 1.20, home @ 6PM, OK.

Friday, Jul 27, 1917 3 months ago wife got home. Feeling better today, still my feet & legs swollen bad. Up town @ noon, no mail. Bought prunes & home @ 3PM. Ate soup dinner & to bed @ 9PM.

Saturday, Jul 28, 1917 Miserable again today, up and out @ 3AM & got out to breathe fresh air. Sister Kline called in AM. Notice from Barker, letter from sister Mertie.

Sunday, Jul 29, 1917 At home as usual & awful unhappy. Bought a Sunday paper 5 cts, to pass the time away. George Ward and wife reports that his cows have deserted the ranch out at Escondido. Had an awful night.

Monday, Jul 30, 1917 Otis died in Los Angs today. Could not sleep at all, shall go crazy unless I get a change very soon. I off into city to see Dr, says I must not walk or get hot or I am a goner. The engine died coming home.

Tuesday, Jul 31, 1917 Up @ 3AM, life is a burden, can't get breath & can't sleep over 3 hours @ one time. 4PM, Pard up town for mail, left me @ home. Pd gas & light 1.83.

Wednesday, Aug 1, 1917 I am getting worse & weaker and weaker. Shall go to hospital very soon for treatment. Can't lie down and can't sleep at all. Weary of life's journey unless I get relief & its worrying Alice to death, poor old Pard.

Thursday, Aug 2, 1917 Rolling & tumbling all last night & still no better @ 9AM. Wife & I off to town on PM train @ 1:20. Pard has bilious attack.

Friday, Aug 3, 1917 After going to bed & very sick all night and today still in bed and recovering slowly, will be OK about next Monday. I am still short of breath & must stay outside to get the breeze. Pard loaned green chair to a lady friend.

Saturday, Aug 4, 1917 Pard is improving OK, I fear I am not.

Sunday, Aug 5, 1917 Hugheys sends me a nerve quieter by Geo Cobb @ 1PM.

Monday, Aug 6, 1917 In hell all night, can't breathe, miserable all the time, friends here all the time and Dordridge & wife usually stay late and that suits us OK.

Tuesday, Aug 7, 1917 No rest yet for me & I almost died this AM. Friend Robinson called and talked for an hour. Paid Pard 14.00 to bank & have receipt.

Wednesday, Aug 8, 1917 Dr C.H. Shelton called & we had a nice chat. Another fearful night, no sleep.

Thursday, Aug 9, 1917 Got little sleep and bowels moved, first time 4 days. Dr Shelton called & left us some medicine.

Friday, Aug 10, 1917 Dr Shelton called in AM, goes into City, returns PM & will call later, think he is doing

us some good.

Saturday, Aug 11, 1917 No entry.

Sunday, Aug 12, 1917 No entry.

Monday, Aug 13, 1917 No entry.

Tuesday, Aug 14, 1917 No entry.

Wednesday, Aug 15, 1917 No entry.

Thursday, Aug 16, 1917 No entry.

Friday, Aug 17, 1917 No entry.

Saturday, Aug 18, 1917 No entry.

Sunday, Aug 19, 1917 J.M. Swain died this morning at 11:20AM. At last he is at rest, bless his heart.

Monday, Aug 20, 1917 J.M. Swain buried today at 1 o'clock. God bless his heart, bless his dear old heart is my prayer, how I do miss him.

Wednesday, Sep 12, 1917 Went to Florence's today.

Saturday, Oct 20, 1917 Left La Jolla for S.D. today.

Monday, Oct 29, 1917 Am getting ready for the Valley. Have ticket, will start in the morning, sending package to Francis by exp. Mrs Ware went back to La Jolla today.⁷

END OF ENTRIES FOR 1917

The following are notes found in the back of the 1917 diary:

First of Feb 1917, Congress calls all American ministers out of Berlin and orders German Minister out of Washington. Should have done this four years ago. (My sentiments)

A World Beater, 422 ton engine, Baldwin locomotive hauling coal in West Virginia, length 101 ft overall. Clarion County seat of Wright Co., Iowa.

20-2-1917, La Jolla, Cali, I find I still have left in cash 305.00 & am in luck to have anything.

Marcus W. Robbins, McNess Block, San Diego, Cali, Socialist Atty.

Mrs A.C. Swain and J.M. Swain, home, La Jolla California, 7354 Fay St, P.O. Box 135. No 7354, lot 21, block 1. J.G. Burns, owners of the Allons and Honeysuckle Lodge & garage in rear of 7354 on Fay.

⁷ It is unclear where Alice ended up after Jethro's death. Perhaps she went back to Michigan to her family.