

# TARTAN



Leaving Port Robinson  
on May the 9<sup>th</sup> 1911.  
on the 11 o'clock train for Welland  
Station where we take a Buss  
to the M.C. and from there we  
take the L.H. & B. to Toronto.  
and as we pass along on the train  
on the mountain above Beamsville  
and Grimsby and Winona,  
it is a beautiful sight as the  
cherry trees were in bloom,  
and the orchards and vineyards  
in such good order and also the  
gardens, the whole making a  
fine picture, then as we come  
down the mountain into  
Hamilton City, we get such  
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2  
here and there among the grand  
Buildings. Then we pass on to  
Toronto. where we change cars.  
after spending a few hours looking  
around the City. we take a B.P.R.  
train at 12.30. We reached  
Port Arthur about one on the  
morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> where we intended  
stopping to see my Daughter Sarah  
which was at the station to meet us  
But it was a dreadful stormy  
night. and on account of the  
storm the Electric lights were out  
and the street cars had stopped running  
and with the thunder and lightning  
and the rain pouring down. We  
had a hard time getting to her  
home as she lived about 1 1/2 miles  
from the station  
well it cleared off & was nice the  
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3. Then started on again got in Winnipeg about one, had to wait about 1 1/2 hours for our train, finally we got started again and had a chance of seeing the Prairie for the first. Some of the fields were green and nice with the grain nicely up while there was great long stretches of freshly broken ground so black and rich looking. We arrived at Calgary on Saturday about 4 o'clock but it was raining and the most of the hotels were filled up so we to wait some time for Ernie to get a hotel with room for us to stay, but after several attempts he succeeded and we were very comfortable for the night and our super breakfast on Sunday morning we started for Edmonton.

3. then started on again, got in Winnipeg about one, had to wait about 1 1/2 hours for our train, finally we got started again and had a chance of seeing the Prairie for the first. Some of the fields were green and nice with the grain nicely up while there was great long stretches of freshly broken ground so black and rich looking. We arrived at Calgary on Saturday about 4 o'clock but it was raining and the most of the Hotels were filled up so we to wait some time for Ernie to get a Hotel with room for us to stay, but after several attempts he succeeded and we were very comfortable for the night and our super and breakfast on Sunday morning we started for Edmonton.

4 after we left Calgary sometime we got our first glimpse of the Rockies they looked grand. The most of the prairie was alike except in some places where it was dotted with small poplar bushes or trees. We had some Norwegians who could not talk English there was one family of 9 and they were all singing and one of the boys played the mouth organ they sang very nicely and nothing but hymns and most of the tunes were familiar it helped to pass away the time and the two youngest had real sore arms where they had been vaccinated. Well we arrived at Strathcona about 3 P.M. but had to wait there for nearly 2 hours as the Busses filled up so soon to take the passengers over the river to Edmonton. Strathcona is a very nice town with the Saskatchewan

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5. River, dividing it from  
Edmonton the river is a fine  
swift river with steep banks  
we finally saw the Busses coming  
back so we got up into Edmonton  
at last and Ernie had a still  
harder time finding a hotel that  
was not full but we got one at  
last and after we had our  
supper we went out to see the  
city and go to church a fine  
big brick and in fact there  
were a great many fine  
churches and other buildings  
the church was just about full  
and also the gallery but as both  
Ernie and I were half sick  
with a cold we had to go back  
and go to bed if it was early  
well we had to get up early  
as we had to take the 6 o'clock  
train for Edson where we arrived  
about one and George and  
his father was there to meet

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6 it was the 16 when we got to Edson and the men had a tent up and stove and bed and table made of boards on stakes that is the only kind of table we had all summer you know. we did not get our trunks for 2 or 3 days but they came at last.

We stopped in Edson until the 23 before we started on our trip over the Edson trail. There was said to be a wagon road and a bus running taking passengers into Grande Prairie 250 miles for 48.00 bus fare. they tried to sell us a ticket but we had decided to buy a team and wagon and such supplies as we need so they gave 475.00 for the horses and harness and blankets. and George bought the wagon for 100.00. so we started on the 23.

6.

It was the 16 when we got to Edson and the men had a tent up and stove and bed and table made of boards on stakes that is the only kind of table we had all summer you know. We did not get our trunks for 2 or 3 days but they came at last. We stopped in Edson until the 23 before we started on our trip over the Edson trail. There was said to be a wagon road and a bus running taking passengers into Grande Prairie 250 miles for \$40.00 bus fare they tried to sell us a ticket but we had decided to buy a team and wagon and such supplies as we had need so they gave \$475.00 for the horses and harness and blankets, and George bought the wagon for \$100.00 so we started on the 23.

The men thought they had about 15 to 18 hundred on. Found a fine fat strong looking team ought to take that much but we did not get on our way 1/2 mile before they were stuck in a mudhole and stumps so had to hire a man that came along to help us out. Then they gone farther when they were stuck again. so had to take of part of the load and go on a about a mile and come back after the rest so we made 1 mile that day and pitched our tent for the night.

24. Camp 1. so today we got over 4 miles of bad road.

Pitched tent again. Camp 2

25<sup>th</sup>. Started on early and got 8<sup>les</sup> miles this day and pitched tent again.

Camp 3. 26<sup>th</sup>. Started on our journey again and made 8 miles more today. witch

brought us to the Frenchmans

7.

The men though they had about 15 to 18 hundred [pounds] on and a fine fat strong looking team ought to take that much but we did not get on our way 1/2 mile before they were stuck in a mudhole and stumps so had to hire a man that came along to help us out then they some farther when they were stuck again so had to take of part of the load and go on about a mile and come back after the rest so we made 1 mile that day and pitched our tent for the night.

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Camp 3. 26<sup>th</sup>.

Started on our journey again and made 8 miles more today, witch brought us to the Frenchman's



8. Stopping place about 20 miles from Edson, and pitched our tent again on a little creek this side of Stopping Place. and pitched tent again. Camp 4 - 27<sup>th</sup> made about 8 miles this day also had a big hail storm. 27 started again but got stuck several times and had to unload but managed to make 8 miles this time. and had to pitch our tent again in among the evergreens a thick bush near a creek. after getting settled and supper over. Grandpa went out to see what the road was like. George had taken the horses out to eat grass and Ernie took a walk across the creek near the tent and sat down on a log. after a while he heard a slight noise behind him. He saw a bear coming towards him he soon ran for the tent.

8.

stopping place about 20 miles from Edson and pitched our tent again on a little creek this side of stopping place and pitched tent again.

Camp 4. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Made about 8 miles this day also had a big hail storm. 27 started again but got stuck several times and had to unload but managed to make 2 miles this time and had to pitch our tent again in among the evergreens a thick bush near a creek. After getting settled and supper over Grandpa went out to see what the road was like, George had taken the horses out to eat grass and Ernie took a walk across the creek near the tent and sat down on a log after a while he heard a slight noise behind him. He saw a bear coming towards him he soon ran for the tent,

9. Camp 5. May 28  
to get the revolver. So I went out  
with him and there she still  
was near the creek. I think she  
came for a drink. he shot at her  
2 or 3 times but the bush was so  
thick I don't think he hit her  
and she soon ran away but  
never came back but they  
saw a cub on another day.  
and a number of Englishmen  
who were camped not far  
from us and had a lot of cattle  
and horses when the cattle  
came home one day from  
feeding one of them was so  
badly torn that the ox died  
after they said it had a fight  
with a bear. 28 this being  
Sunday and a beautiful day  
we are having a rest and  
climbing up on the hills  
where we can see so far over

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This being Sunday and a beautiful  
day we are having a rest and  
climbing up on the hills where we  
can see so far over

10. it is a grand sight to view such a vast country from such a height so many different tints to the green of the different kind of trees & so many hills and valleys  
Camp 5: May 29.

I think we will have to stay here for some time as the road ahead is very bad and there is a gang of men not far off working on the road and some of our men think they will work on the road awhile so Ernie and his father has gone and they come home for their meals they get 2.50 per day and board at home. so George decided he better take the horses back to Edson and get them reshod as they had part of their shoes pulled off.

and when he got about 10 miles on his way back he had an encounter with a big bear.

George was riding one of the horses and leading the other when suddenly out walked

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11) Mr. Bruin standing up on his hind legs. Of course the horses were badly frightened and the one George was leading with the rope wound around his hand. Pulled so hard he nearly pulled George off the horse. but he finally got loose and ran back about a mile and the other horse was wanting to run also but George got his revolver out and gave the Bear a shot or 2. and then the horse go toward Edson. of course the Bear being wounded was so angry he started in Pursuit of him and after running up hill a long way he gave up the chase and went back so after George thought it safe he had to go back and hunt up the other horse so after following his tracks some time on the road he turned off up on a hill in the bush and found Billy standing after putting

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12. in 1 1/2 hours hunting. so  
at last headed for Edson again  
he saw the bear on his way back a few  
rods from the road lying in the bushes  
but he had a narrow escape so he got  
through at Edson and got back on  
the 30. he also bought a riding saddle  
and a pack saddle.

June 1st. well we only stayed  
here 4 days and we decided  
moving on the boys took part of the  
load on and came back and we  
moved on about 3 1/2 miles

June 2nd Camp 6.

Grandpa was very sick last  
night with a Bilious attack  
as Mom was going back to Edson  
today to get a load so I went out  
to send some letters out with  
him and get him to bring me  
our mail and there he had a  
cinnamon bear in his  
wagon he had just shot a  
little while before.

12.

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headed for Edson again he saw  
the bear on his way back a few  
rods from the road lying in the  
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and got back on the 30<sup>th</sup>. He also  
bought a riding saddle and a pack  
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days and we decided moving on  
the boys took part of the load on  
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June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Camp 6.

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with a bilious attack a man was  
going back to Edson today to get  
a load so I went out to send some  
letters out with him and get him  
to bring me our mail and there he  
had a cinnamon bear in his wagon  
he had just shot a little while  
before.

13.  
The weather is very warm but  
the nights cool. George brought me  
in a Partridge and a rabbit he had  
shot and we found them very good  
as meat was a treat now and so  
far we have been comfortable  
of which we are very thankful to  
the Great Giver. We are some  
nearer the road gang here and  
the men only worked 7 day and  
decided to move on again. but  
George took the team and waggon  
back to Edson for some fresh  
supplies. so I went with him  
as we are now about 30 miles  
from Edson. So we started at  
6.30 in the morning and got to  
Edson 5.30. so I went at once to  
the stores and did our ~~shopping~~<sup>shopping</sup>  
a supply of flour and oatmeal and  
groceries and more feed for the  
horses. for we were beginning  
to see by this time that there was  
no telling how long we may be on the <sup>road</sup>

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men only worked 7 day and  
decided to move on again. But  
George took the team and wagon  
back to Edson for some fresh  
supplies. So I went with him as  
we are now about 30 miles from  
Edson. So we started at 6.30 in  
the morning and got to Edson  
5.30. So I went at once to the  
stores and did our shopping a  
supply of flour and oatmeal and  
groceries and more feed for the  
horses, for we were beginning to  
see by this time that there was no  
telling how long we may be on  
the road.

14 - after our <sup>shopping</sup> ~~trading~~ was done we went to the Grande Hotell for our supper and the night but I was so tired over the ride I could hardly ~~side~~ sleep. but got the night through some way and had to rise early to get an early start back and such a beautiful sight met my gaze as I look out of the window on a beautiful bright morning. there was the rockie mountains the Plaines I ever saw them they did look grand. well after breakfast we got started and <sup>after</sup> another long tedious ride we arrived home at 7.30. we also saw some old people who were <sup>Camped</sup> tented on the way waiting for the roads to get better. they showed me two Bear hides they had shot. I heard they were worth 20.00. that is the people and I also heard after that were so disgusted with the road that they turned back and never came

14.

After our shopping was done we went to the Grande Hotell for our supper and the night but I was so tired over the ride I could hardly sleep but got the night through some way and had to rise early to get an early start back and such a beautiful sight met my gaze as I look out of the window on a beautiful bright morning. There was the Rockie Mountains [of] the Plaines - I ever saw them. They did look grand. Well after breakfast we go started and after another long tedious ride we arrived home at 7.30. We also saw some old people who were tented on the way waiting for the roads to get better. They showed me two bear hides he had shot. I heard they were worth 20.00. That is the people and I also heard after that were so disgusted with the road that they turned back and never came.

15. we got home on the 10 with was my Birthday. So on the 11<sup>th</sup> I baked bread and buns and cake and prepared for another move so the boys has gone on with a part of the load as that is what will have to be done after this as there is to much for one load.

So on June 12 we started on again. we went about 5 miles

Today and pitched our tent near the Scotchmans that keeps a stopping place

after we got the tent up we had a hail storm then on 14 it rained all day so we could not go on. And on the 16 we are still waiting for the roads to improve. a man and his wife came along on horse back. their names are Ferguson so they pitched their tent near us so I had company they were from Vancouver and seemed nice

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We got home on the 10 which was my birthday. So on the 11<sup>th</sup> I baked bread and buns and cake and prepared for another move so the boys has gone on with a part of the load as that is what will have to be done after this as there is too much for one load. So on June 12 we started on again. We went about 5 miles today and pitched our tent near the Scotchmans that keeps a Stopping Place. After we got the tent up we had a hail storm then on 14 it rained all day so we could not go on. And on the 16 we are still waiting for the roads to improve. A man and his wife came along on horseback. Their names are Ferguson so they pitched their tent near us so I had company. They were from Vancouver and seemed nice



16 People on Sunday & had Mr  
Ferguson and Mrs Maben to our tent  
to see us the first women I have  
seen on the trail except as we  
passed Mr Taylers on our way.  
So on the 19 we got started again  
on Sunday we climbed upon a  
very high mountain and had another  
beautiful sight for miles over hills  
and vallies.

June 20. Camp 7.

We made 10 miles this trip, but  
the roads are in a dreadful  
state, so we hired George Maben  
to take our load, and paid him  
\$10. for to go 10 miles and pitched  
our tent this time at Jack Pine  
Creek, and just got in the tent  
when it first poured rain  
& had to walk most of the way  
and was very tired and sick  
when we stopped about 8.30  
in the evening so we were all  
glad to lay down to rest.

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the roads are in a dreadful state so  
we hired George Maben to take  
one load and paid him \$10 for to  
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this time at Jack Pine Creek and  
just got in the tent it just poured  
rain. I had to walk most of the  
way and was very tired and sick  
when we stopped about 8.30 in  
the evening so we were all glad to  
lay down to rest.

17) but I got two letter from  
my children wich cheered me  
up some. June 21. we are staying  
over today and letting the horses  
rest. we are still here as it is  
raining so much so Ernie took  
a lunch and went on to the Baptiste  
river to see how the roads are  
on the 23 the boys took one load on  
and got back so we are starting  
on again today 24. had a dreadful  
time getting to the Athabaska  
river as it is the worst piece  
of road yet. and had the horses  
down several times but finely  
we camped in a nice little  
Poplar grove. untill after  
Sunday. the boys went out  
and caught 2 nice big fish  
one was about 12 lbs.  
and on the 25 we went for a  
walk and saw a nice garden  
for there are some people living  
at this river and they run  
the ferry across the river.

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poplar grove until after Sunday.  
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nice big fish one was about 12 lbs  
and on the 25 we went for a walk  
and saw a nice garden for there  
are some people living at this  
river and they run the ferry across  
the river

18) and there are lots of <sup>grass</sup> and wild Peas here for the horses  
26 - Camp 9. Well we got over  
the river and on to the Baptiste  
river some 6 miles from the Athabasca  
river and spread our tent again  
this is mostly Prairie around  
this river and any ~~amount~~ amount  
of grass and Peas. We have the  
tent on the bank of the river  
and can see the ferryman  
going and coming across with  
the Passengers. There is a  
great many men going in  
with pack horses and men  
on foot carrying great load  
on their back. One day a  
drove of horses and cattle and  
men came along and some  
of the men got on the ferry  
with the pack horses but  
when they got across and  
the ferryman came back  
for the other horses and colts

18.

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miles from the Athabasca River  
and spread our tent again. This is  
mostly Prairie around this river  
and any amount of grass and  
peas. We have the tent on the  
bank of the river and can see the  
ferryman coming and going  
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cattle and men came along and  
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with the pack horses but when  
they got across and the ferryman  
came back for the other horses  
and colts

19) he just nicely got them all on the ferry when they all plunged in the river and swam across and 3 or 4 little colts. My the ferryman was angry for he lost quite a lot on them as they were 10 cents a head and there was about 30. but I could not help laughing. Well it started to rain the next day after we got here and the river has raised so we can't get across as he cannot take the ferry all the way across and has to put foot passengers part of the way in a boat. One day the boys made a raft they thought they could go across the river to fish at the mouth of the creek. The river is not very deep but very swift. So I was afraid for them to try it but they thought they could so they got on and tried but it kept taking them down

19.

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20/ Their father and I kept  
going along the shore watching  
them after they went about 1 mile  
in a bend of the river they managed  
to get on the shore on the other  
side my I was glad when I saw  
them land. Then they had to  
walk back to the landing and  
come back on the ferry so that  
ended their rafting when we  
first came here the river  
was low and about the nicest  
beach I ever saw such lovely  
stones of all sizes and shape  
and color. I would like a  
house built of them. I often  
walk up and down here and  
pick a few wild strawberries  
and wild flowers. There are  
such a variety of lovely flowers  
all the way from the Athabasca  
Athabasca river to the Baptiste  
the men made a stable here  
for the horses as it is cool  
nights and raining everyday.

20.

Their father and I kept going  
along the shore watching them.  
After they went about 1 mile in a  
bend of the river they managed to  
get on the shore on the other side.  
My was I glad when I saw them  
land. Then they had to walk back  
to the landing and come back on  
the ferry so that ended their  
rafting. When we first came here  
the river was low and about the  
nicest beach I ever saw such  
lovely stones of all sizes and  
shapes and colors. I would like a  
house built of them. I often walk  
up and down here and pick a few  
wild strawberries and wild  
flowers. There are such a variety  
of lovely flowers all the way from  
the Athabasca River to the  
Baptiste. The men made a stable  
here for the horses as it is cool  
nights and raining everyday.

21) but today it is nicer with  
only a shower in the P.M.  
The men put in most of the day  
looking for the horses. As they went  
back to the river but as they  
could not get across. They  
were found and brought back  
so the men made a stable  
for them where they could  
get in from the flies and  
cold rains. 27<sup>th</sup>

we have our tent pitched  
in a lovely spot on the bank  
of the river in a poplar  
grove. with lots of wild  
flowers. such as the wild  
rose. Blue Bells of Scotland  
lily lilies and others  
There are some fruit such  
as. Black currant and red  
currant and goose berries  
and raspberries only not very  
many of any kind!

21.

But today it's nicer with only a  
shower in the P.M. The men put  
in most of the A.M. looking for  
the horses as they went back to  
the river but as they could not get  
across. They were found and  
brought back. So the men made a  
stable for them where they could  
get in from the flies and cold  
rains. 27<sup>th</sup> we have our tent  
pitched in a lovely spot on the  
bank of the river in a poplar grove  
with lots of wild flowers such as  
the wild rose, blue bells of  
Scotland, tiger lilies and others.  
There are some fruits such as  
black currant and gooseberries  
and raspberries only not very  
many of any kind.

22) This is the 28. and it  
rained all the forenoon  
but it cleared up by noon  
so George and Ernie started  
out for the road camp some  
few miles farther on to get  
a job of working on the road  
June 29. The horses are  
gone again so the boys were  
all the P. M. looking for them  
but did not get them and  
it was still raining and  
disagreeable. 30<sup>th</sup>  
well the boys got home about  
noon today with the horses  
and a man brought me  
some letters one from Lillian  
and one from Mrs. Clark and  
one from Mrs. Ruddell and  
one from Sister Margaret  
July 1<sup>st</sup> rained nearly all  
night and still raining  
had a man in awhile on his  
way to the Peace river. it is  
so lonesome we are glad to

22.

This is the 28 and it rained all the forenoon but it cleared up by noon so George and Ernie started out for the road camp some few miles farther on to get a job of working on the road.

June 29. The horses are gone again so the boys were all the P.M. looking for them but did not get them and it was still raining and disagreeable.

30<sup>th</sup>. Well the boys got home about noon today with the horses and a man brought me some letters - one from Lillian and one from Mrs Clark and one from Mrs Ruddell and one from Sister Margaret.

July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rained nearly all night and still raining. Had a man in awhile on his way to the Peace River. It is so lonesome we are glad to

23) have someone to talk to  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> well it has cleared of  
fine and bright but clouded  
in the P.M. and the river has  
risen so high it is not safe  
to go across. although there  
are men going over nearly  
every day and some day a good  
few. This is such a nice place  
for camping and abundance  
of grass for horses that a good  
many people stop somewhere  
on this flat to rest and feed,  
and I got enough strawberries  
today to make a short-cake.  
July 4<sup>th</sup>. Still showery today  
but the boys started back  
to Edson with the horses to  
get in fresh supplies. we are  
so much longer on the road  
than we expected. that we  
have to keep enough supplies  
ahead until we get to our  
journeys end.

23.

have someone to talk to.

July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Well it cleared up fine  
and bright but clouded up in the  
P.M. and the river has risen so  
high it is not safe to go across  
although there are men going  
over nearly every day and some  
day a good few. This is such a  
nice place for camping and  
abundance of grass for horses that  
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with the horses to get in fresh  
supplies. We are so much longer  
on the road than we expected that  
we have to keep enough supplies  
ahead until we get to our  
journey's end.



24) July 5 well I had another letter brought me from my girls and these letters are always a great treat and bit of sunshine and also a letter from Mr Hagar well we have fine weather again and there are a lot more people passing on to the Peace river mostly all either on foot or with pack horses. but here the roads are very bad. so we are likely to remain here sometime yet.

July 6. Nothing of any importance but still more lonesome without the boys. 7. Still raining again. 8<sup>th</sup> still raining as we have more of that than anything else only sometimes it is steady rain and sometimes it only pours down.

July 9 This is Sunday and we are looking for the boys back we took a long walk up on the mountain the way the boys are to come we are about 56 miles from Edson here.

24.

July 5. Well I had another letter brought me from my girls and these letters are always a great treat and bits of sunshine and also a letter from Mr Hagar. Well we have fine weather again and there are a lot more people passing on to the Peace river mostly all either on foot or with pack horses but here the roads are very bad so we are likely to remain here sometime yet.

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July 9. This is Sunday and we are looking for the boys back. We took a long walk up on the mountain the way the boys are to come. We are about 56 miles from Edson here.

25) well as we did not meet the boys we went back to our shack and about 8 o'clock a couple of men came along who had seen the boys at Mabens Stopping Place and sent word they would not be in until the next day as it is raining so much so we let the man stay in our tent with us over night.

July 10. Well the boys got back about 5 in the evening but left the horse feed at Mabens so had to go back for that. They had a pack saddle for one of the horses and a riding saddle for the other so as they had their blankets and food they could take turns in riding the one horse going out to Edson but would have to walk coming back.

11. It is cleared off fine again and there is a man stopping here on his way in to the Grande Prairie by the name of Forster and his 3 boys with horses

25.

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11. It is cleared off fine again and there is a man stopping here on his way in to the Grande Prairie by the name of Forster and his 3 boys with horses

26. and oxen and cattle and  
wagon load of stuff. July 13.  
The boys got back from Mabens  
with the feed as it is hot and fine  
today. So had a visit from a family  
of Rays that are tenting on the other  
side of the river there are three  
more families living over there but  
all laid by waiting for the road  
to dry and had the 2 Mrs Fosters  
over to see me. Well as it has  
still continued fine July 14.

The boys has taken the trunks  
and horse feed on a few miles  
on the other side of the river  
as far as they can until noon  
when they are to cache them and  
return to us the afternoon. So we  
can move on the rest of the stuff  
the next day. Well when night  
came we were very anxious  
about them and I was down  
to the ferry watching for them  
with the ferryman but  
not until nearly ten did  
we see them coming.

26.  
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load of stuff.

July 13. The boys got back  
from Mabens with the feed as it is  
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watching for them with the

27 it seems when it was on to noon they were on the lookout for grass. For the horses for the next day when we would put up our tent and as they were riding they saw a small lake that did not look very far, a way through the bushes so they thought they would go in and see if there was any grass. So they unhitched the horses and fed them and unloaded the trunks and put them in hiding spot and then started for the lake but the trees were very thick and after they traveled what they thought a long way they decided it was too far away and started back for the road and after going sometime George thought the road was one direction and Ernie the other so they separated and Ernie soon came to

27.

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It seems when it was on to noon they were on the lookout for grass for the horses for the next day when we would put up our tent and as they were riding they saw a small lake that did not look very far away through the bushes. So they thought they would go in and see if there was any grass. So they unhitched the horses and fed them and unloaded the trunks and put them in hiding spot and then started for the lake but the trees were very thick and after they traveled what they thought a long way they decided it was too far away and started back for the road and after going sometime George thought the road was one direction and Ernie the other so they separated and Ernie soon came to

28. to the road but George  
did not come and George  
came on to a bear he was  
frightened as he did not have his  
gun so he climbed a tree  
and halloed to Ernie and  
he heard him but when he  
started to go to him he did  
not holler again so could  
not find him and as George  
was so hard of hearing Ernie  
could not make him hear  
so after sometime the bear  
went away and George came  
down and started for the  
road but he was lost and  
after traveling some 8 or 10  
miles came out about 6 o'clock  
and Ernie had given up hope  
of finding had hitched on the  
horses to go back to us to  
get blankets and food and  
go back to find him the next  
day after driving some miles  
he came up to where George

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blankets and food and go back to  
find him the next day. After  
driving some miles he came up to  
where George

29) Came out of the bush very pale and ready to drop could hardly speak, but that was a dreadful thing to happen he had a very narrow escape. as the nights are so cold: and nothing to shelter him. but when they started that morning there did not seem to be anything to fear, as they had been over the road before. but about 5 that P.M. such a fear or dread of something came over me. While I was sitting outside that I went inside and fell on my knees and prayed my kind Heavenly Father to protect my boys. little knowing the danger. Poor George was then in. but God spared him once more. Praise his Holy Name.

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30) July 16.

Well we started on our journey again and got to the top of a hill and stopped and had our dinner then made on down to the stopping place and pitched our tent again until after Sunday. This is not a nice place to stop but could do no better and I walked about 8 miles this trip.

Camp 10. Sunday 16. Very hot today but clouded up and rained again at night. on the 17 we started on again and camped again for the 11 time. We only made 2½ miles today and I walked that. So the boys went back for the trunks. So we are now about 16 miles from the Baptiste river. That makes it about 72 miles from Edson that we have come from the 23 of May to the 18 of July pretty slow traveling is it not? Well on the 18th the boys took

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July 15. Well we started on our journey again and got to the top of a hill and stopped and had our dinner then made on down to the stopping place and pitched our tent again until after Sunday. This is not a nice place to stop but could do no better and I walked about 8 miles this trip.

Camp 10. Sunday 16. Very hot today but clouded up and rained again at night on the 17 we started on again and camped again for the 11 time. We only made 2½ miles today and I walked that. So the boys went back for the trunks. So we are now about 16 miles from the Baptiste river that makes it about 72 miles from Edson that we have come from the 23 of May to the 18 of July pretty slow traveling is it not. Well on the 18th the boys took

31) the trunks on to the little Smokey river. Still more rain last night. while the boys were away Grandpa and I went out on a raft on a lake fishing but we had the same luck as usual although there are lots of big fish here but the lake was too rough. 19 we got on to the little Smokey and pitched our tent Camp 12. this is a beautiful spot. Partly prairie with clumps of bushes and here and there a large spruce tree. so I put up a sort of hammock under one of the big trees. we have had to stop here about 2 weeks we are now on 76 miles. and on the 20 the boys took the trunks on to the Loney river some 12 miles we have had dreadful times coming this far in the mud and rough roads. sometimes long stretches of rough road where the trees has been cut leaving

31.

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19. We got on to the Little Smokey and pitched our tent. Camp 12. This is a beautiful spot, partly prairie with clumps of bushes and here and there a large spruce tree. So I put up a sort of hammock under one of the big trees. We have had to stop here about 2 weeks we are now on 76 miles and on the 20 the boys took the trunks on to the Loney river some 12 miles we have had dreadful times coming this far in the mud and rough roads. Sometimes long stretches of rough road where the trees has been cut leaving



32.) The stumps about 1 foot high  
and so thick. The boys got back  
and Billy was so lame than it  
rained all night on the 21-  
with heavy thunder storm  
on account of the storm and the  
horse lame we could not go on  
so Geo went on to look after the  
trunks to get them in better  
shelter but the rain got in and  
wet the things he took out some  
thing and spread in the sun  
to dry as long as he could stay  
and get back before dark. as  
the ferry here is not finished they  
have to either ford it or go on a  
raft. Sunday 23. it is hot and  
fine today but the river has raised  
very high so it is not safe to go  
across. Mr Taft the man that  
carries the mail came with  
his team and rig but they had  
to leave the wagon on the other  
side and brought him over with  
the mail and he led one of his  
horses so that it began to drown

32.  
the stumps about 1 foot high and so  
thick the boys got back and Billy  
was so lame. Then it rained all  
night on the 21 with heavy thunder  
storm on account of the storm and  
the horse lame we could not go on  
so George went on to look after the  
trunks to get them in better shelter  
but the rain got in and wet the things  
he took out some thing and spread in  
the sun to dry as long as he could  
stay and get back before dark. As  
the ferry here is not finished they  
have to either ford it or go on a raft.  
Sunday 23. It is hot and fine today  
but the river has raised very high so  
it is not safe to go across. Mr Taft,  
the man that carries the mail, came  
with his team and rig but they had to  
leave the wagon on the other side  
and brought him over with the mail  
and he led one of his horses so that  
it began to drown

33) he had to let loose of it and the current carried it down stream and it was drowned but it escaped a lot of abuse but the other one got across alright there is a gang of men here making a ferry and had made 2 buttments for a bridge but the heavy current took them away. 24. The river is still raising. 25. The river has started going down has lowered over 1 foot. Geo shot another rabbit so we had a stew and the boys went out and got 2 qts of gooseberries. and we are treated with another thunder storm the horse flies are very bad there are lot of pasture here for the horses but the flies are so bad they come and stand around big smudges built for them we have also to keep smudges near the tent as the mosquitoes are bad. 26. fine and windy today. the river still receding.

33.

he had to let loose of it and the current carried it down stream and it was drowned but it escaped a lot of abuse but the other one got across alright. There is a gang of men here making a ferry and had made 2 buttments for a bridge but the heavy current took them away.

24. The river is still raising.

25. the river has started going down has lowered over 1 foot. Geo shot another rabbit so we had a stew and the boys went out and got 2 qts of gooseberries and we are treated with another thunder storm. The horseflies are very bad. There are lots of pasture here for the horses but the flies are so bad they come and stand around the big smudges build for them we have also to keep smudges near the tent as the mosquitoes are bad.

26. fine and windy today. The river still receding.

34) very tiresome trying to put in  
the time. 27. this is a fine day  
So Grandpa started back to Edson  
to do some Buisness and get a few  
things. Ernie is out fishing and  
brought in 3 fish not very large  
ones. I was out fishing to but got  
nothing but bites. I do think it so  
mean of the fish to come and take  
my bate of my hook and then

skido as if they did something  
Smart. The boy got me 4 qts more  
of Gooseberries. Well I had a short  
chat with Mr and Mrs Ferguson on  
their way back from Grand Prairie  
and give a good report.

28. Well there are lively times today  
so many of the people that have been  
delay on the trail and have just  
got this far. first some young  
English men with 24 wagons  
and ox teams and horse teams  
then Mr and Mrs Metcalf and their  
three children and their cow

34.

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27. This is a fine day so Grandpa  
started back to Edson to do some  
business and get a few things. Ernie  
is out fishing and brought in 3 fish,  
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have just got this far. First some  
young English men with 24 wagons  
and ox teams and horse teams, then  
Mr and Mrs Metcalf and their three  
children and their cow

35) than Mr and Mrs Borden and little  
boy and two men. Mrs B. and boy riding  
horseback and driving about 30 head  
cattle. than the men with three  
waggons and 20 head horses and others  
passing on through but as the ferry is  
not ready to carry people over yet  
those with families and waggons  
load have to lay over here.

July 29. Two more families of  
Fosters and each one has 2 teams  
and wagon loads and each  
of the women drives a team as  
well as the men and one of the  
women has a little boy not 2 years  
old. than there is a family of Rays  
with 5 children and 3 wagon  
loads and horses so there is quite  
a town here now with 6 tents  
and about 15 waggons loads. we  
had another heavy rain last night  
well some men got up with the  
new cable so as the ferry is done  
there was 6 of us women went down  
to the river on Sat to see the.

35.

then Mr and Mrs Borden and their  
little boy and two men. Mrs B. and  
boy riding horseback and driving  
about 30 head cattle, then the men  
with three wagons 20 head horses  
and others passing on through but as  
the ferry is not ready to carry people  
over yet those families and wagons  
load have to lay over here.

July 29. Two more families of  
Fosters and each one has 2 teams  
and wagon loads and each of the  
women drives a team as well as  
them men and one of the women has  
a little boy not 2 years old. Then  
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wagon loads. We had another heavy  
rain last night. Well some men got  
in with the new cable so as the ferry  
is done there was 6 of us women  
went down to the river on Sat. to see the

36 men launch the ferry they had quite a time so when it was in the water about one doz. men went over on it to do some road work so we could all go on next Monday 30. I had a treat of about 2 qts of new milk the E. boy gave me and then when Mrs Metcalf came she would give me some and the boys got altogether about 10 qts gooseberries and these I preserved for our journey then today Grand Mrs Ray went out and picked a big pail full.

Well we are making another start this morning 31<sup>st</sup> after some delay we got over the river and on the way. but the first 5 miles is dreadful the horse plunging in among roots and snags in the mud and one of them got his leg fast in the roots but there was so many men on with us they helped the boys through. I thought surely Jim's leg was broke but they got it out all right but most all the team got stuck

36.

men launch the ferry. They had quite a time so when it was in the water about one dozen men went over on it to do some road work so we could all go on it next Monday.

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37) but we got to the Loney river  
about 5:30 on the first of Aug.  
Camp 13. Some of the others went  
on through as far as they could before  
dark while some did not get to  
the Loney until the next day  
and it was only 12 miles and I  
walked most of the way, but coming  
down the hill Geo had the load  
upset for the first. Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Well I overhauled the trunk and  
oh such a state everything was in  
all mildew and rust some of the  
clothes about ruined so I dried  
them all as well as I could  
and Geo went on about 4 miles  
where there was a lake and he  
brought me home 4 fish.  
and Mr Borden caught a very  
large fish. 3<sup>rd</sup> as Billy is so  
lame we can't go on so we will  
have to stay here sometime.  
which seems to be our luck.  
So after doing washing and baking  
I went to call on one of my

37.

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5.30 on the first of Aug.

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on through as far as they could  
before dark while some did not get  
to the Loney until the next day and  
it was only 12 miles and I walked  
most of the way. But coming down  
the hill Geo had the load upset for  
the first.

Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Well I overhauled the  
truck and oh such a state everything  
was in, all mildew and rust. Some  
of the clothes about ruined. So I  
dried them all as well as I could and  
Geo went on about 4 miles where  
there was a lake and he brought me  
home 4 fish. And Mr Borden  
caught a very large fish.

3<sup>rd</sup>. As Billy is so lame we can't  
go on so will have to stay here  
sometime which seems to be our  
luck. So after doing washing and  
baking I went to call on one of my

38/ me hours.  
Then the boys are building a  
cache to store the trunk and other  
things as we intending when we  
start again to keep going as  
long as we can with only the  
one load. The lady that keep the  
stopping place here is all alone as her  
husband went on to the Prairie  
to locate so I had her to stop nights  
with me. Well Grandpa got home  
early this morning Aug 4 very tired  
indeed. Billy foot is still very sore  
we can't tell what is wrong with it  
so Grandpa had an old Scotchman  
that was stopping over night to examine  
the foot and he found after sometime  
a piece of wood in the frog of the foot  
so he probed and got it out and  
than after it was well cleaned  
with carbolic and water it was  
well wrapped up to keep out the  
dirt. Had Mrs Hance here for tea  
and Mr and Mrs Metcalf came  
so we had more company. Had  
some more letters from my

38.  
neighbors. Then the boys are  
building a cache to store the trunk  
and other things as we intending  
when we start again to keep going as  
long as we can with only the one  
load. The lady that keep the  
stopping place here is all alone as  
her husband went on to the Prairie to  
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it out and then after it was well  
cleaned with carbolic and water it  
was well wrapped up to keep out the  
dirt. Had Mrs Hance here for tea  
and Mr and Mrs Metcalf came so we  
had more company. Had some more  
letters from my

39) daughters which is always  
one of my great Blessings  
Aug 5. Well Grandpa is just  
60 years old today. Mr. Metcalf and  
family came today and will stay  
here for a few days. Billy is still  
to lame to move on.

Aug 6. no rain today.  
and as Mr Hance came home  
he and his wife moved back  
to Edson. 8<sup>th</sup> William and  
George decided to go on to  
Grande Prairie and file  
on their Homesteads as there  
are so many people passing  
every day with pack horses  
and on foot. They are afraid  
the best of the land will be  
taken up so they take their  
Blankets and Provisions  
enough to take them there and  
started. and they have 160 miles  
to go to where they got their home  
steads. and Grandpa having  
just got home 4 days before

39.

daughters which is always one of  
my great blessings.

Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>. Well Grandpa is just  
60 years old today. Mr Metcalf  
and family came today and will  
stay here for a few days. Billy is  
still too lame to move on.

Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>. No rain today. And as  
Mr Hance came home he and his  
wife moved back to Edson.

8<sup>th</sup>. William and George  
decided to go on to Grande  
Prairie and file on their  
homesteads there are so many  
people passing every day with  
pack horses and on foot. They  
are afraid the best of the land will  
be taken up so they take their  
blankets and provisions enough to  
take them there and started. And  
they have 160 miles to go to  
where they got their homesteads.  
And Grandpa having just got  
home 4 days before,



40 Starting on his last trip  
from Edson. which was 164 miles  
there and back he traveled on foot  
then to start again so soon he  
was just played out when he got to  
his journey's end so could not travel  
around the country as he intended  
doing to select the best there was  
left so had to take the ones near  
at hand. Well when they went  
away that left Ernie alone.  
and Geo. was to come back  
as soon as he located to help us  
on and Grandpa put up a hay  
shack and stayed to make hay  
but as Billy's foot was on the  
mend and Ernie was looking  
after it every day cleaning it  
and bathing it with oil he  
was also looking after some  
other horses that was laid up  
with hoof rot and sores for  
the man that runs the stage  
but we intend to start as soon  
as Billy is able.

40.

starting on this last trip from  
Edson which was 160 miles there  
and back. He traveled on foot  
there to start again so soon he was  
just played out when he got to his  
journey's end so could not travel  
around the country as he intended  
doing to select the best there was  
left so had to take the ones near at  
hand. Well when they went away  
that left Ernie alone and George  
was to come back as soon as he  
located to help us and Grandpa  
put up a hay shack and stayed to  
make hay but as Billy's foot was  
on the mend and Ernie was  
looking after it every day  
cleaning it and bathing it with oil.  
He was also looking after some  
other horses that was laid up with  
the hoof rot and sores for the man  
that runs the stage but we intend  
to start as soon as Billy is able.

41) and since Mr Hance went  
away I gave a few meals to people  
at 75 cents a meal and did  
Baking for others so made a few dol  
that way. 9<sup>th</sup> Ernie caught  
2 more fish. another shower last  
night. 10<sup>th</sup> Billy is still improving  
11<sup>th</sup> another nice day but a hard  
frost last night. 12<sup>th</sup>

Mr Forster came back from  
Grande Prairie where he had  
filed on his Homestead and so  
did one of his sons. and as he  
left his family at Edson he was  
going back to bring them in the  
winter and as he could not get  
through with the wagon load  
of stuff. he started with he  
stored it there. at the stopping  
place and one of his boys  
took 2 yoke oxen and wagon  
back. so now we are buying  
some of his stuff. to renew our  
supply. such as flour and  
Sugar and Butter and dried

41.

And since Mrs Hance went away  
I gave a few meals to people at 50  
cents a meal and did baking for  
the others so made a few dollars  
that way.

9<sup>th</sup>. Ernie caught 2 more fish.  
Another shower last night.

10<sup>th</sup>. Billy is still improving.

11<sup>th</sup>. Another nice day but a  
hard frost last night.

12<sup>th</sup>. Mr Forster came back  
from Grande Prairie where he had  
filed on his homestead and so did  
one of his sons and as he left his  
family at Edson he was going  
back to bring them in the winter  
as he could not get through with  
the wagon load of stuff he started  
with. He stored it here at the  
stopping place and one of his  
boys took 2 yoke of oxen and  
wagon back. So now we are  
buying some of his stuff to renew  
our supply such as flour and  
sugar and butter and dried

42/ Apples and soap  
13<sup>th</sup> rainy today had Mr Taft  
and son for dinner that is the  
mail man. 14. still-rainy  
15. nothing but-rain.  
16. it is fine today so as Billy is  
allright and Ernie has put a  
piece of leather and shoe on his  
sore foot as it is tender. so as  
not to lame him again. we  
are preparing to start tomorrow  
there is a family here of Fraizer  
men 2 Brothers and 2 Widdow  
and her three little boys. She is  
a daughter to the oldest Mr.  
Fraizer. so we made arrange<sup>ments</sup>  
to travel with them and help  
one another. they have 2 yoke of oxen  
and one waggon load.

17<sup>th</sup> well we started about 7  
this morning Mr Fraizers going  
ahead. but soon came to the  
clay hill. and their oxen got  
stuck. so Ernie put our horses  
on but they don't pull together

42.

apples and soap.

13<sup>th</sup>. Rainy today. Had Mr Taft  
and son for dinner. That is that mail  
man.

14<sup>th</sup>. Still rainy.

15<sup>th</sup>. Nothing but rain.

16<sup>th</sup>. It is fine today so as Billy is  
alright and Ernie has put a piece of  
leather and shoe on his sore foot as  
it is tender so as not to lame him  
again we are preparing to start  
tomorrow. There is a family here of  
Fraizer men 2 bothers and a widow  
and her three little boys. She is a  
daughter to the oldest Mr. Fraizer so  
we made arrangements to travel  
with them and help one another.  
They have 2 yoke of oxen and one  
wagon load.

17<sup>th</sup>. Well we started about 7 this  
morning. Mr. Fraizer going ahead  
but soon came to the clay hill and  
their oxen got stuck so Ernie put our  
horses on but they don't pull  
together

43) and such a dreadful time  
in the mud with horses and  
oxen down in the mud and them  
all covered with mud then the  
men and Ernie carried brush  
and filled in the holes and put  
in logs. so they were 5 hours getting  
their load up that hill. Then we  
had our dinner. Then after the  
horses were rested they took  
our load up in one hour and  
made to a little lake some  
4 miles that day and drew  
our waggons up opposite and  
made a big bond fire between  
them Ernie would cut a pole  
and fasten at each end of the  
waggon and a ridge pole across  
from one to the other. Then after  
taking the stove and other things  
out of the back of the waggon I  
would spread my bed down  
in the one half of the waggon box  
then he would put the tent  
over the poles letting it come  
down behind so as to make

43.

and such a dreadful time in the  
mud with horses and oxen down  
in the mud and them all covered  
with mud then the men and Ernie  
carried brush and filled in the  
holes and put in logs so they were  
5 hours getting their load up that  
hill. Then we had our dinner.  
Then after the horses were rested  
they took our load up in one hour  
and made to a little lake some 4  
miles that day and drew our  
wagons up opposite and made a  
big bond fire between. Then  
Ernie would cut up a pole and  
fasten at each end of the wagon  
and a ridge pole across from one  
to the other than after taking the  
stove and other things out of the  
back of the wagon I would  
spread my bed down in the one  
half of the wagon box than he  
would put the tent over the pole  
letting it come down behind so as  
to make

44) a shelter on the back and  
Ernie would gather brush  
and make his bed under the  
waggon facing the fire so we had  
it very comfortable most of the  
time. Then Mrs Lewis and her  
boys slept inside of her waggon  
and the men under their waggon  
facing the fire so we did this  
every night for 2 1/2 weeks on  
our way in. so this is the 14<sup>th</sup>  
camping place.

18. got started again this  
morning but the roads so  
bad and stuck so often that  
only made 4 miles more today  
and camped 15.

19. first got nicely started  
when got Mr. Frazer load  
stuck again for 3 hours. Ernie  
helping them all the time so  
they pulled us through in less  
than 1/2 hour. so we only made  
3 miles today and camped 16  
and as this is Sunday 20.

44.

a shelter on the back and Ernie  
would gather brush and make his  
bed under the wagon facing the  
fire so we had it very comfortable  
most of the time. Then Mrs  
Lewis and her boys slept inside of  
her wagon and the men under  
their wagon facing the fire so we  
did this every night for 2 1/2 weeks  
on our way in. So this is the 14<sup>th</sup>  
camping place.

18. Got started again this  
morning but the roads so bad and  
stuck so often that only made 4  
miles more today and camped 15.

19. Just go nicely started when  
got Mr Frazer load stuck again  
for 3 hours. Ernie helping them  
all the time so they pulled us  
through in less than 1/2 hour. So  
we only made 3 miles today and  
camped 16. and as this is Sunday  
20.

45. we will lay over and rest today it rained quite hard last night.

21 made very slow progress today as the roads are still worse on account of the rain and Jim would balk so they had to hitch on and help us 3 times this a.m. but the road not so bad in the P.M. and we met Geo about 2 P.M. and he turned in and helped so we made 8 miles today Camp 17

23 some better road so made better time and got some 2 miles of house river about 10 miles today and I walk most of the way. Camp 18. Aug 24. Started again got to house river and stopped for dinner than made 12 more miles in the P.M. that being 14 miles that day and then camped 19.

25 we started on ahead this time they not being ready and

45.

we will lay over and rest today. It rained quite hard last night.

21. Made very slow progress today as the road are still worse on account of the rain and Jim would balk so they had to hitch on and help us 3 times this a.m. But the road not so bad in the p.m. and we met George about 2 p.m. and he turned in and helped so we made 8 miles today.

Camp 17. 23. Some better roads and so made better time and got some 2 miles of House River about 10 miles today and I walked most of the way.

Camp 18. Aug. 24. Started again. Got to House River and stopped for dinner than made 12 more miles in the p.m. that being 14 miles that day and then camped 19.

25. We started on ahead this time they not being ready and

46) their ox being lame got on about 15 miles when it started to rain so I got under a big tree until the boys got a camping spot and we turned out for the day got our suppers and went to bed. Camp 20 x as I got my feet wet I was not well. Last night but we started again I made bread last night and when I was mixing it up there was 4 men came along on horse back and stopped to tell us they had seen Grandpa at Grand Beaver Lodge and sent word he was well one of them a minister.

26. Started again got to Sturgeon lake about 11.30. The Frazers got there 1/2 hour later. So as this is Sat we intend to stop over Sunday here. So Mrs Lewis and Geo started off among the

46.

their ox being lame got on about 15 miles when it started to rain so I got under a big tree until the boys got a camping spot and we turned out for the day. Got our suppers and went to bed.

Camp 20. As I got my feet wet I was not well last night. But we started again I made bread last night and when I was mixing it up there was 4 men came along on horseback and stopped to tell us they had seen Grandpa at Beaverlodge and sent word he was well, one of them a minister.

26. Started again got to Sturgeon lake about 11.30 the Frazers got there 1/2 hour later. So as this is Sat we intended to stop over Sunday here so Mrs Lewis and George started off among the

47 Indians to get fish and  
Potatoes this is the Indian  
reserve and there is only one  
white man keeping store  
here and a Catholic Mission  
with two sister teaching the  
Indian children. There is a  
fine garden at the Mission  
and beautiful flower garden  
we were not long with our  
tent up before there was a  
squaw with 2 Papooses on  
a horse and her husband and  
and more horses and more boys  
and girls the whole family I guess  
the boys had some rabbits so  
Mr Frazer bought one. Then  
Geo and Mrs Lewis came back  
and we had a treat of Potatoes  
as this is the first vegetables  
since spring and they got a  
lot of fish to last us for  
several days. So in the P  
M. us women went up to

47.

Indians to get fish and potatoes.  
This is the Indian reserve and  
there is only one white man  
keeping store here and a Catholic  
Mission with two sisters teaching  
the Indian children. There is a  
fine garden at the Mission and  
beautiful flower garden we were  
not long with our tent up before  
there was a squaw with 2  
papooses on a horse and her  
husband and more horses and  
more boys and girls, the whole  
family I guess. The boys had  
some rabbits so Mr Frazer  
brought one. Then Geo and Mrs  
Lewis came back and we had a  
treat of potatoes as this is the first  
vegetables since spring and they  
got a lot of fish to last us for  
several days. So in the P.M. as  
women went up to



48. The store to get some thing  
we got another hundred of  
flour for 9 here and some cheese  
then we went to the mission  
to get some milk but the  
sisters were very kind and gave  
us some milk but would not  
take pay for it and told us to  
send in the morning and  
get some more so Ernie  
and Quincy went and brought  
a nice Pail full. There is most  
prairie land here and the  
Indians make a pretence  
of farming but have gardens  
but not much else. but  
they have houses made of logs  
with a fire place for the winter  
but live in tents in summer  
they make a great many  
moccasins the squaws do  
Ernie got a pair from them  
and the girls would stand  
and laugh at him and put  
their hand over their mouth

48.

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another hundred of flour for 9  
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went to the mission to get some  
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and gave us some milk but would  
not take pay for it and told us to  
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and brought a nice pail full.  
There is most prairie land here  
and the Indians make a pretence  
of farming but have gardens but  
not much else. But they have  
houses made of logs with a fire  
place for the winter but live in  
tents in summer. They make a  
great many moccasins the squaws  
do. Ernie got a pair from them  
and the girls would stand and  
laugh at him and put their hands  
over their mouths

49) and laugh again and  
it made him angry so  
he left them. but there  
is a lot turns out on Sunday  
to the mission to service  
to hear the Priest. and there  
such a lot of ~~Ant~~ Ant hills  
large ones too some 3 feet high  
28 Started on again to a  
another Indian Settlement  
and stoped to buy some  
more Potatoes and fish to  
last us until we get  
through we went into one  
of the garden to look for  
some Onions there was an  
old chief and his wife and  
we had an Indian boy  
that could talk English  
as the Indians dont well  
while we were talking to  
them the old chief came up  
to me and took a hold of my  
coat sleeve and ~~grinned~~  
grinned

49.

and laugh again and it made him angry so he left them. There is a lot turns out on Sunday to the mission to service to hear the priest. And there such a lot of anthills large ones too some 3 feet high.

28. Started on again to another Indian Settlement and stopped to buy some more potatoes and fish to last us until we get through.

We went into one of the garden to look for some onions. There was an old chief and his wife and we had an Indian boy that could talk English as the Indians don't.

Well while we were talking to them the old chief came up to me and took a hold of my coat sleeve and grinned.

50) He look so dreadful he frightened  
me. but the boy said he only  
was saying that. was good stuff  
in my coat.

28. After making our purchases  
this morning we started on from  
Camp 21 ~~at~~ but we only made  
8 miles today. and camped again  
22. and started again on 29<sup>th</sup>  
from the Loney river to the Sturgeon  
river about 76 miles I walked about  
50 miles. 30 only made a few miles  
today the road very bad 31 we made  
about 7 miles but near the end  
of our journey we got to a dread<sup>ful</sup>  
piece of road and the Frazer  
men's load stuck such a long  
time than to make it so much  
worse it was raining all the  
afternoon. just drizzling rain  
and while the men were stuck  
us women had to sit around  
on logs. but I had an umbrella  
But the poor men had such  
a time of it. than just about

50.

He look so dreadful he frightened  
me but the boy said he only was  
saying that was good stuff in my  
coat.

28. After making our purchases  
this morning we started on from  
Camp 21. but we only made 8 miles  
today and camped again. 22. and  
started again on 29<sup>th</sup> from the Loney  
River to the Sturgeon River about  
76 miles I walked about 50 miles.

30. Only made a few miles today  
the road very bad.

31. We made about 7 miles. But  
near the end of our journey we got  
to a dreadful piece of road and the  
Frazer men's load stuck such a long  
time than to make it so much worse  
it was raining all the afternoon. Just  
drizzling rain and while the men  
were stuck us women had to sit  
around on logs but I had an  
umbrella. But the  
poor men had such a time of it. Then  
just about

51/ Park they got the load out  
than Geo brought our load  
through and when they were  
nearly through the horses  
fell down and Jim fell on  
a stump and hurt his shoulder  
we had to stop our wagons  
this night in a grassy wet  
spot and wade around in  
mud and water to ~~eat~~  
Cook our suppers but when  
we went in our wagons  
to bed we were high and dry  
but the poor men had it wet  
enough under the wagons  
but this is the worst place  
we have had to tent. I can  
tell you the boys did not  
feel so full of fun tonight  
but we slept through for  
every one was tired. so we  
got up early as we generally  
do it was always me that would  
start them up in the morning

51.

dark they got the load out than  
Geo brought our load through and  
when they were nearly through  
the horses fell down and Jim fell  
on a stump and hurt his shoulder.  
We had to stop our wagons this  
night in a grassy wet spot and  
wade around in mud and water  
to cook our suppers but when  
we went in our wagons to bed we  
were high and dry. But the poor  
men had it wet enough under the  
wagons but this is not the worst  
place we have had to tent. I can  
tell you the boys did not feel so  
full of fun tonight but we slept  
through for everyone was tired so  
we got up early as we generally  
do. It was always me that would  
start them up in the morning.

52) Then Geo would get up and get the fires going. Then the women would get breakfast. This was 23 tenting. Then on first of Sep we only made 1/2 mile as we were in such mud hole and mud on ahead. The men went and cut a new road through so they got our load through to a bush road by noon. Then it took them all the P.M. to get Mrs Lewis load over that 1/2 mile. So we stopped there again tented or camped 24 times. Then on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat we made 3 miles terrible roads. I was making bread this day and I put the sponge in a pail up on the load in the hot sun it would raise up fine and I would have to take it down and knead up down. If I had the stove out of the wagon I could have had it baked as the boys were away helping with

52.

Then Geo would get up and get the fires going. Then the women would get breakfast. This was 23 tenting. Then on first of Sep. we only made 1/2 mile as we were in such mud hole and mud on ahead. The men went and cut a new road through to a bush road by noon than it took them all the P.M. to get Mrs Lewis load over that 1/2 mile. So we stopped there again tented or camped 24 times. Then on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. we made 3 miles, terrible roads. I was making bread this day and I put the sponge in a pail up on the load in the hot sun. It would raise up fine and I would have to take down and knead up down. If I had the stove out of the wagon I could have had it baked as the boys were away helping with

53) the other load so I had  
to finely put the dough in  
to the Baking Pans so about  
stopping time we got our load  
through at last and I carried  
a Pan of Bread ready to go in  
the oven over the mud holes  
on to where we were intending  
stopping. so got the stove set up  
and a fire to Bake and get  
supper and make Biscuits  
and cook beans for the next  
day and fry fish and have  
things ready in the evening  
for the next day so we  
would not have to do much  
cooking when we stopped for  
dinner. they had to unload  
Mrs Lewis wagon to get it  
through this time as they  
had to do the day before and  
also other times. so this is the  
25 camping place.

never were in way in

53.

the other load. So I had to finely  
put the dough in the baking pans  
so about stopping time we got our  
load through at last and I carried a  
pan of bread ready to go in the  
oven over the mud holes on to  
where we were intending  
stopping. So got the stove set up  
and started a fire to bake and get  
supper and make biscuits and  
cook beans for the next day and  
so we would not have to do much  
cooking when we stopped for  
dinner. They had to unload Mrs  
Lewis wagon to get it through  
this time as they had to do the day  
before and also other times. So  
this is the 25 camping place.

54) this being 3<sup>rd</sup> the Sabbath  
and a beautiful day we are  
resting as we have only made  
20 miles in the last week  
and I walked about 15 miles  
of that. so we hope to make  
to the Smokey 20 miles more the  
next week as we have still  
bad road ahead. I am trying  
to give you an idea of the  
condition of the road and what  
we have to go through but it is  
far worse than I can describe  
at one time when we came  
to a dry piece of road. I was  
driving the boys walking  
we came to some bad mud  
holes but got through all  
right. but we came to  
a timber road where the  
stumps were left about  
1 foot high and so thick  
you could not dodge them  
so Ernie thought he had  
better drive through there

54.

This being 3<sup>rd</sup> the Sabbath and a  
beautiful day we are resting as we  
have only made 20 miles in the  
last week and I walked about 1  
miles of that. So we hope to  
make to the Smokey 20 miles  
more the next week as we have  
still bad road ahead. I am trying  
to give you an idea of the  
condition of the roads and what  
we have to go through but it is far  
worse than I can describe it. At  
one time when we came to a dry  
place of road I was driving the  
boys walking. We came to some  
bad mud hole but got through all  
right but we came to a timber  
road where the stumps were left  
about 1 foot high and so thick you  
could not dodge them. So Ernie  
thought he had better drive  
through there.

55 He just got nicely on the  
load driving when one of the  
wheels ran up on a stump  
near the trees on the side of  
the road when Ernie pitched  
off head first. <sup>camp 26</sup> and without  
thinking I made a grab for him  
and went down to him among  
the trees. Ernie was not hurt  
but I got my shoulder bruised  
and one leg so I could hardly  
walk for sometime but we  
were fortunate it was no  
worse. Sep 4. the men went  
with the road gang here and  
help cut about 2 miles of  
road around a very bad low  
swamp. Then we made about  
5 miles this day then camped  
for the 27 time then on the 5 again  
made a few more miles and  
came to the willow swamp  
when we had a dreadful time  
getting through had to double

55.

He just got nicely on the load driving when on to the wheels ran up on a stump near the trees on the side of the road when Ernie pitched (camp 26) off head first and without thinking I made a grab for him and went down too in among the trees. Ernie was not hurt but I got my shoulder bruised and one leg so I could hardly walk for sometime but we were fortunate it was no worse.

Sep. 4. The men went with the road gang here and helped cut about 2 miles of road around a very bad low swamp. Then we made about 5 miles this day than camped for the 27 time. Then on the 5 again made a few more miles and came to the willow swamp when we had a dreadful time getting through had to double



56) up most of the time but a few more miles than camped 28 time then started again on 6<sup>th</sup> and a few more miles the same old way and camped 29 times started again on the 7<sup>th</sup> and made the big smokey this evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> had a big time get down a long steep hill as the Frazer men had no holdbacks on their oxen even when they locked on other hills they could not venture on this as some of part were nearly straight up and down so our team had to take both loads down after locking both front and back wheels in taking down their load I was afraid the load would come on the horses and the men were holding on the ropes behind the waggon but the Ernie was driving and he got down at last

56.

up most of this time but a few more miles. Then camped 28 time. Then started again on 6<sup>th</sup> and a few more miles the same old way and camped 29 time. Started again on the 7<sup>th</sup> and made the Big Smokey this evening of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Had a big time getting down a long steep hill as the Frazer men had no holdbacks on their oxen even when they locked on other hills they could not venture on this as some part were nearly straight up and down. So our team had to take both loads down after locking both front and back wheels in taking down their loads I was afraid the load would come on the horses and the men were holding on the ropes behind the wagon but Ernie was driving and he got down at last.

57) So this is the 30 time we have camped on the 7 of Sept. So on the 8th we were to cross the big Smokey they have the ferry ready by this time so we got on all right but a few days before this they did not have it ready so the teams had to swim across and they had to take the stuff all out of the waggon and raft them across and take the waggon apart and raft them across. So we escaped that bother.

I forgot to mention back some 40 miles this side of Edson on what they call break neck hill a very long dangerous hill about a mile long or more. Well on the top of this hill is what they call the divide it is 5,500<sup>feet</sup> above the sea level. Sep. 8th. Well we put in all this day getting the two loads up the long hill this side.

57.

So this is the 31 time we have camped on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Sep. So on the 8<sup>th</sup> we were to cross the big Smokey. They have the ferry ready by this time so we got on all right but a few days before this they did not have it ready so the teams had to swim across and they had to take the stuff all out of the wagons and raft them across and take the wagons apart and raft them across. So we escaped that bother. I forgot to mention back some 40 miles this side of Edson on what they call Breakneck Hill a very long dangerous hill about a mile long or more. Well on the top of this hill is what they call the Divide, it is 5,500 feet about the sea level.

Sep. 8<sup>th</sup>. Well we put in all this day getting the two loads up the long hill this side

58) The Big Smokey river  
as the hill is about 1 1/2 miles  
long. did not get up very far  
when they got stuck with their  
load and as our horses would  
not pull after the waggon started  
going back down hill. so had to take  
them off and unload their waggon  
and carry the stuff up 2 or 3 high  
itches and the oxen took the rest  
up our boys would always carry  
the heaviest things whenever they  
had to unload. so we got the two loads  
up the worst part of the hill if it  
was not very far by noon so we  
stopped and had dinner as it was  
a very hot day it was too much for  
Ernie so had to drop down with  
his head. I think a touch of sun  
stroke so Mrs Lewis and I got cold  
water and bathed his head and  
hands and he felt asleep so  
when we had dinner ready  
he had his dinner he was  
better but not well all the rest

58.

of the Big Smokey River as the  
hill is about 1 1/2 miles long. Did  
not get up very far when they got  
stuck with their load and as our  
horses would not pull after the  
wagon started going back down  
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unload their wagon and carry the  
stuff up 2 or 3 high pitches and  
the oxen took the rest up. Our  
boys would always carry the  
heaviest things whenever they  
had to unload. So we got the two  
loads up the worst part of the hill  
if it was not very far by noon. SO  
we stopped and had dinner. As it  
was a very hot day it was too  
much for Ernie so had to drop  
down with his head. I think a  
touch of sun stroke. So Mrs  
Lewis and I got cold water and  
bathed his head and hands and he  
fell asleep. So when we had  
dinner ready he had his dinner he  
was better but not well all the rest

59) of that day. So he drove  
as they put the horses on with  
the oxen and worked all right  
the P.M. - so got the two loads up  
on the prairie, about 6 miles by  
night and then pitched tent again  
32. on the evening of the 9th  
than started again on the 9th and  
got within 5 miles of Grande Prairie  
city. beside a nice little creek  
George has shot a good many ducks  
and prairie chickens since we  
reached the prairie.

Sep. 10th Camp 33.

Well as this is Sunday we are laying  
over as we cannot make home  
there are 2 or 3 fine homesteads  
around here that looks fine  
and the men visited one of them  
that had a good garden. I went  
out for a walk and came across  
a dead horse by the road. it  
belonged to one of the men that  
started when we did from the  
little Smokey with the family

59.

of that day so he drove as they  
put the horses on with the oxen  
and worked all right the P.M. So  
got the two loads up on the prairie  
about 5 miles by night and then  
pitched tent again.

32. On the evening of the 9th  
then started again on the 9th and  
got within 5 miles of Grande  
Prairie City beside a nice little  
creek. George has shot a good  
many ducks and prairie chickens  
since we reached the prairie.

Sep. 10th. Camp 33. Well as  
this is Sunday we are laying over  
as we cannot make home. There  
are 2 or 3 fine homesteads around  
here that looks fine and the men  
visited one of them that had a good  
garden. I went out for a walk and  
came across a dead horse by the  
road. It belonged to one of the  
men that started when we did  
from the Little Smokey with the  
family

of children and 2 team horses  
and 2 team oxen. He lost 2 or 3  
horses and nearly lost his oxen  
and got to Prairie with the toughest  
looking outfit. Said to have ever come  
he was so hard on his teams  
well we started again good and  
early on Monday morning and got to  
Grande Prairie City about 8. and  
Oh what a city. There is a caboose  
for the land office and Post office  
so Ernie went in there to enter  
his name for his homestead. at  
nine o'clock as that is the time the  
office is open so we stayed over  
our hour here and called on  
some of the people who were my  
neighbours at the little Smokey  
that got in here before us we  
also went to the or one of the  
Stopping Places to buy some beef  
and he went out and drew  
up a quarter of beef out of a  
deep well. so I got 15 lbs of  
splendid beef at 15 cent per lb  
well in this city there are 2

60.

of children and 2 teams of horses  
and 2 team of oxen. He lost 2 or 3  
horses and nearly lost his oxen and  
got to Prairie with the toughest  
looking outfit said to have ever  
come. He was so hard on his teams.  
Well we started again good and  
early on Monday morning and got to  
Grande Prairie City about 8. And  
oh what a city. There is a caboose  
for the land office and Post office so  
Ernie went in there to enter his name  
for his homestead. At nine o'clock  
as that is the time the office is open  
so we stayed over an hour here and  
called on some of the people who  
were my neighbors at the Little  
Smokey that got in here before us  
we also went to the or one of the  
Stopping Places to buy some beef  
and he went out drew up a quarter of  
beef out of a deep well. So I got 15  
lbs of splendid beef at 15 cents per  
lb. Well in this city there are 2

61) Small log building stopping  
Places where one can stop all  
night and get meals. There are  
2 or 3 other shacks and a Catholic mission  
house not so bad but there has a few  
buildings being built since and there  
were several tents with people  
who had come in looking around  
for homesteads. It is fine weather  
now for a few days. So it is not  
bad tenting if one has not too much  
of it as we have had all summer  
but there are a great many  
people come in here in the  
last year. The papers say over  
1,000. And the way lots of families  
comes in either winter or  
summer they have a caboose  
hoops put over the wagon box  
than canvas drawn tight over  
the hoops so that shields them from  
rain or hot sun in summer  
than when they stop for dinner  
or night they can get out and

61.

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Places where one can stop all  
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are 2 or 3 other shacks and a  
Catholic Mission house. Not so  
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in summer. Then when they stop  
for dinner or night they can get  
out and

of the little folks can run  
around and enjoy themselves  
and their mothers can cook outside  
as there are plenty of dry wood and  
water to be had but in the winter  
they have to cook and eat and sleep  
in their caboose of course they will  
have a camp stove and the men  
will have to get wood as they stop  
than they can make larger  
caboose on a sleigh like a small  
house and some families are  
large & have heard of as many as  
12 women and children in one  
caboose. than it is harder on  
little folks that can't get out  
and run around having to  
be cooked up for so many days  
but although they keep a fire  
still there are a good deal of  
suffering from cold in this  
climate. than I have heard  
Some women tell where they  
came in the long trail about  
400 and 500 miles and had no

62.

the little folks can run around and  
enjoy themselves and the mothers  
can cook outside as there are  
plenty of dry wood. And water to  
be had but in the winter they have  
to cook and eat and sleep in their  
caboose of course they will have  
a camp stove and the men will  
have to get wood as they stop  
than they can make larger  
caboose on a sleigh like a small  
house and some families are  
large. I have heard of as many as  
12 women and children in one  
caboose. Then it is harder on  
little folks that can't get out and  
run around having to be cooped  
up for so many days. But  
although they keep a fire still there  
are a good deal of suffering from  
cold in this climate then I have  
heard some women tell where  
they came in the long trail about  
400 and 500 miles and had no

63) and had to sleep out in  
the open in a big snow storm  
Some times they could get in a  
stopping place of Indians or half  
Breeds, but it is getting better  
all the time. but still bad enough  
untill we get a railroad in  
well we came on from Bear creek  
that is another name for Grande  
Prairie city and far more appropriate  
as the creek is there we came on  
untill the flying shot store and  
had our dinner and than on we  
stopped at one of the farmers and  
got 1 Bush Potatoes for 150. so  
we got to Geo homestead by  
night and while Ernie and  
I were fixing thing for the night  
and getting ~~supper~~ supper.  
Geo after looking after the  
Horses went over and hunted  
up his father where he had a  
little hay shack on his own  
homestead and was making

63.

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in a big snowstorm. Sometimes  
they could get in a stopping place  
of Indians or half breeds but it is  
getting better all the time but still  
bad enough until we get a railroad  
in. Well we came on from Bear  
Creek, that is another name for  
Grande Prairie City, and far more  
appropriate as the creek is there.  
We came on until the Flying Shot  
store and had our dinner and then  
on we stopped at one of the  
farmers and got 1 bush. potatoes  
for 150 so we got to Geo's  
homestead by night and while  
Ernie and I were fixing thing for  
the night and getting supper Geo.  
after looking after the horses went  
over and hunted up his father  
where he had a little hay shack on  
his own homestead and was  
making



64) hay. I can tell you he was glad to see us and get a good feed of Beef and Potatoes as he had been living mostly on oat meal and rice. As the things were nearly sold out of the things people need oat meal was 1.40 for 8 lb sack and there was no salt to be had at any price but when they had it was 20 cents lb. So was rice 20 per lb and sugar the same. flour was from 10 to 15.00 but the 10.00 could hardly use it than

Grandfather was no hand to cook anything thin for himself so he was pretty well used up but although everything was so dear that was brought in we could get Beef at 10 to 12 per lbs and Potatoes from 100 to 150 so that was not bad than on the morning of the 12 of Sep we moved over our tent on our own homestead.

64.

hay. I can tell you he was glad to see us and get a good feed of beef and potatoes as he had been living mostly on oatmeal and rice as the store were nearly sold out of the things people need. Oat meal was 1.40 for 8 lbs sack and there was no salt to be had at any price but when they had it was 20 cents lb. So was rice 20 per lb. and sugar the same. Flour was from 10 to 15.00 but the 10.00 was so bad could hardly use it. Then grandfather was no hand to cook anything thin for himself so he was pretty well used up. But although everything was so dear that was brought in we could get beef at 10 to 12 per lbs. and potatoes from 100 to 150 so that was not bad. Than on the morning of the 12 of September we moved over our tent on our own homestead.

65) So we made about 21 mile  
on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the poor horses  
were glad of a rest as they were  
pretty well faged out. We had  
nice weather on 12 or 13<sup>th</sup> than  
it started raining again but  
still as Ernie had decided to  
take the homestead they had picked  
out for him he and his father  
went back to Bear Creek some  
16 miles and back in the same  
day and as they were late and  
it being dark getting back they  
both laid down in the waggon  
box and went to sleep and  
let the horses find their way  
and they did until they got  
nearly home they stopped and  
went to eating grass. That  
woke Grandpa so he started  
them on they knew the road  
better then the men in the  
dark. The day we got our tent  
up here one of our neighbours  
came in to see us and

65.

So we made about 21 mile on the  
11<sup>th</sup> and the poor horses were  
glad of a rest as they were pretty  
well faged out. We had nice  
weather on 12 or 13<sup>th</sup> then it  
started raining again but still as  
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down in the wagon box and went  
to sleep and let the horses find  
their way and they did until they  
got nearly home. They stopped  
and went to eating grass. That  
woke Grandpa so he started them  
on as they knew the road better  
than the men in the dark. The day  
we got our tent up here one of our  
neighbors came in to see us and

66) invited us over the next  
Sunday to a song service. So  
we went on 17. and was surprised  
to see so many out and things  
so comfortable they had an organ  
and one of the young ladies played  
for the singing. We had a heavy  
frost on the 20. Had intended  
going for huckleberries before  
this but as they were so far away  
and they were using the horses  
putting up hay. I did not get a  
chance to go until 21 Geo  
drove me down to Jonstons  
but the frost the night before  
had so cooked them that they  
were no good. So I never got any.  
Geo got me about 4 qts Saskatoons  
one day and that is all I got.  
So it rained most of this week  
but from 25 it has been fine  
weather. Geo went to building  
a log stable and Ernie went  
to the saw mill to work on the  
18th as they were after the boys

66.

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Jonstons but the frost the night  
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they were no good so I never got  
any. Geo got me about 4 qts.  
Saskatoons one day and that is all  
I got. So it rained most of this  
week but from 25 it has been fine  
weather. Geo went to building a  
log stable and Ernie went to the  
saw mill to work on the 18<sup>th</sup> as  
they were after the boys

to build a stable for the horses  
so when he got it built he also  
went to the sawmill to work  
on the 5 of Oct. the boys were to get  
40. Per month and board. We  
are having fine weather this  
week and as the boys are away  
and Grandpa busy. I am  
so anxious for mail from  
my Daughters that I rode  
out of the horses out to the  
office. well I must tell  
you what Saskatoon is  
like. This is another town  
sight. well there is a Post office  
and a bank held in the front  
of a small log building. and  
a restaurant in the back  
than there was a Co store in  
another little log building  
called Reveillon. then a  
little way from there there  
is another small log build

67.

Geo went to cutting logs to build  
a stable for the horses. So when  
he got it built he also went to the  
sawmill to work on the 5 of Oct.  
The boys were to get 40.00 per  
month and board. We are having  
fine weather this week and as the  
boys are away and Grandpa busy,  
I am so anxious for mail from my  
daughters that I rode one of the  
horses out to the office. Well I  
must tell you what Saskatoon is  
like. This is another town sight.  
Well there is a post office and a  
bank held in the front of a small  
log building and a restaurant in  
the back. Then there was a Co.  
store in another little log building  
called Reveillon. Then a little  
way from these there is another  
small log building.

68/ They keep a store near  
the Hudson Bay Store they  
also have another Building  
Storehouse then there are a  
few tent scattered around

Oct 9. we are having such fine  
warm weather. I have rode  
out to Beaver Lodge several  
time and one day ~~was~~ rode  
over to a neighbour on an errand  
and then out to the office  
so I made 12 miles that day  
but in getting on the horse  
of a fence I slipped and  
fell with my side on a  
rail so it was so sore  
and painful for a month  
so that finished my riding  
22 so when I got some better  
I walked out after the mail  
but 4 miles there and 4 back  
was to much for me without  
a rest so I was completely done  
out. then I did not get any <sup>mail</sup>

68.

They keep a store called the  
Hudson Bay Store. They also  
have another building storehouse.  
Then there are a few tent  
scattered around.

Oct. 9. We are having such fine  
warm weather. I have rode out to  
Beaver Lodge several time and  
one day road over to a neighbor  
on an errand and than out to the  
office. So I made 12 miles that  
day. But in getting on the horse  
off a fence I slipped and fell with  
my side on a rail so it was so sore  
and painful for a month. So that  
finished my riding.

22. So when I got some better I  
walked out after the mail but 4  
miles there and 4 back was too  
much for me without a rest so I  
was completely done out. Then I  
did not get any mail

69. which was a great disappointment. The boys came home on Sunday and were so glad as it is so lonesome without them. I had a lady call to see me one day Mrs Loudfoot. So I returned her call some 2 weeks later and she gave me a little Pail of milk home with me. Mr Campbell a store keeper near here having run out of food and the other store the same took two team oxen and went to Grouard for Provisions. he was gone about 4 week. and when he came back with three loads. the most of it was gone in side of a week. So I went over to and got some Groceries. next week Grand Pa and I drove out to Saskatoon that is where the Post office is to get mail and beef. and then drove on about 2 miles

69. which was a great disappointment. The boys came home on Sunday and were so glad as it is so lonesome without them. I had a lady call so see me one day, Mrs Loudfoot. So I returned her call some 2 weeks later and she gave me a little pail of milk home with me. Mr Campbell a storekeeper near having run out of food and the other store the same took two team oxen and went to Grouard for provisions. He was gone about 4 weeks and when he came back with three loads. The most of it was gone inside of a week. So I went over too and got some groceries. Next week Grandpa and I drove out to Saskatoon. That is where the Post office is to get mail and beef and than drove on about 2 miles

Methodist minister he has a very  
nice Parsonage he built himself  
so he would have us stop for dinner  
he had been out early in the  
morning and shot 2 geese and 2  
Ducks and a chicken so he had  
the two Ducks dressed and in  
the oven roasting and he had  
a splendid dinner the roast  
and dressing was fine. Then  
we came back and I was in  
to see Mr and Mrs Moxhay the  
English Minister he has also  
a nice Rectory built and  
a small church partly built  
these two and one further  
who has a nice house are the  
only ones that can be called  
houses. on the 20 of Nov Wm  
laid the foundation of our  
house as the boys were at the  
mill they decided to build a  
frame house but it is slow

70.

farther to Mr Hopkins the  
Methodist minister. He has a  
very nice parsonage he built  
himself so he would have us stop  
for dinner. He had been out early  
in the morning and shot 2 geese  
and 2 ducks and a chicken so he  
had the 2 ducks dressed and in the  
oven roasting. And we had a  
splendid dinner. The roast and  
dressing was fine. Then we came  
back and I was in to see Mr and  
Mrs Moxhay, the English  
minister. He also has a nice  
Rectory built and a small church  
partly built. These two and one  
farmer who has a nice house are  
the only ones that can be called  
houses. On the 20 of Nov. Wm.  
laid the foundation of our house  
as the boys were at the mill they  
decided to build a frame house.  
But it is slow

71. work working alone.  
well I walked out to the office  
again 21. and got repaid by  
getting letters from my dear  
girls Hattie and Lillie and a  
bundle of Paper. which we  
appreciate. very much as  
reading is so scarce.  
and today on the 22 such a  
beautiful day but lonesome  
but we enjoy reading the S.S.  
Papers they sent 23. Ernie  
come home for a while and  
is drawing lumber from the  
Mill for the house and as it is  
8 or 9 miles away and a long  
hill down to the river he goes  
one day and comes home the  
next I Grandpa had to dig  
a cellar before building so is  
done it is fine big one 12x15  
29 Wm and I went over to  
Mr McColshings to song service  
again. on the 4 of it snowed  
and was cold and still snowing.

71.  
work working alone. Well I  
walked out to the office again 21  
and got repaid by getting letters  
from my dear girls, Hattie and  
Lillian, and a bundle of papers  
which we appreciate very much  
as reading is very scarce. And  
today on the 22 such a beautiful  
day but lonesome but we enjoy  
reading the S.S. papers they sent.  
23. Ernie came home for a  
while and is drawing lumber from  
the mill for the house and as it is  
8 or 9 miles away and a long hill  
down to the river he goes one day  
and comes home the next.  
Grandpa had to dig a cellar before  
building so is done it. Is fine big  
one 12 x 15.  
29. Wm. and I went over to Mr  
McAusland to song service again.  
On the 4<sup>th</sup> of it snowed and was  
cold and still snowing



72 on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Well on the 2<sup>nd</sup> I went over  
to Mrs South about 1½ miles from  
home left home about 3 P.M. to  
go on an errant and stopped to  
rest about ½ hour and started  
for home about 5. But when  
about ½ miles from home I  
started across the Prairie a  
shorter cut and it got dark  
before I could see our tent  
so I got lost and could not  
make out just where I was  
as there are so many pieces  
of bush and look so different  
at night. But after wandering  
around for a long time I went  
back to the main road. and  
there are so many roads all  
over the Prairie as people just  
drive any where they want to  
go. well when I got on the  
main road. I made up my  
mind to stay on it as I would  
be more likely to meet some

72.  
on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Well on the 2<sup>nd</sup> I went  
over to Mrs South about 1½ miles  
from home left home about 3  
P.M. to go on an errant and  
stopped to rest about ½ hour and  
started for home about 5 but  
when about ½ miles from home I  
started across the Prairie a shorter  
cut and it got dark before I could  
see our tent so I got lost and  
could not make out just where I  
was as there are so many pieces  
of bush look so different at night.  
But after wandering around for a  
long time I went back to main  
road and there are so many roads  
all over the prairie as people just  
drive anywhere they want to go.  
Well when I got on the main road  
I made up my mind to stay on it  
as I would be more likely to meet  
some

73. one. but our tent was 1/2  
mile from this road and I did  
not just know where to strike  
across the Prairie and there  
were no lights to guide one. so  
I just wandered up and down  
the road until I was tired out  
of course I called several times  
but Ernie heard me once but  
as it was in the wrong direction  
they did not think it me. so  
as soon as he and his father  
had their suppers. he started  
over to South's to meet me  
and about this time. I heard  
a cow-bell so I made for that  
and when I got near I heard  
a mans voice my I was glad  
to see a ~~mate~~ man this time  
but before this I was so tired  
I had to stop and rest but  
it was cold so I would chill  
if I stopped walking long. so  
I knelt down there and

73.  
one. But our tent was 1/2 mile  
from this road and I did not know  
just where to strike across the  
Prairie and there were no lights to  
guide one. So I just wandered up  
and down the road until I was  
tired out. Of course I called  
several times but Ernie heard me  
once but as it was in the wrong  
direction they did not think it me.  
So as soon as he and this father  
had their suppers he started over  
to South's to meet me and about  
this time I heard a cowbell so I  
made for that and when I got near  
I heard a mans voice. My was I  
glad to see a man this time but  
before this I was so tired I had to  
stop and rest but it was cold so I  
would chill if I stopped walking  
long. So I knelt down there and

74 Prayed to my Heavenly Father  
for help as he has always helped  
me he did not desert me this time  
so I soon heard the cowbell.  
Well when I met the man he  
had a yoke of oxen with a  
load of lumber coming from  
the mill and just left the bell  
on the one after taking them  
off the grass. so he had me to  
get on the load and put one  
of the horse blankets around  
me and when we got back  
to where we should turn off  
he left his oxen and took me  
in sight of the tent so I was  
just 3 hours and I walked  
a good few miles for most of  
the time I walked fast or run  
just after I got back Mr  
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75 I would perish before  
morning, and I shall never  
forget that night. It turned  
very cold about the 6 and had  
a week of very cold weather  
but turned milder again on  
the 13, and have had it mild  
all this week and Ernie has  
gone back to the mill to cook  
so Grandpa has to finish  
drawing the lumber but the  
lumber is very scarce as there  
are so many people after it -  
on the 18<sup>th</sup> there was a fearful  
wind storm so I feared the  
tent would be blown away  
and Grandpa was away after  
lumber had to go through the  
bush and trees falling across  
the road was struck with  
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24

the house. so I helped him  
put the siding on the house  
and lay the floor that is the top  
flooring so we got moved in  
our house on the 4 of Dec.  
late Sat. night but I never  
was so thankful for a house  
to get in after living in a tent  
for 6 months and a week.  
So this is a beautiful Sabbath day  
and we have had 3 weeks nice  
weather and Geo came home  
and said that camp had run  
out of provisions but they  
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some in. 10. Ernie came  
home from the play and said  
he did not like cooking so  
has gone to other work again  
only cooked 3 weeks.  
we are still having nice  
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17. The boys came home today  
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am glad to have them home

76.

which will do to enclose the house. So I helped him put the siding on the house and lay the floor that is the top flooring. So we got moved in our house on the 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. late Sat. night but I never was so thankful for a house to get in after living in a tent for 6 months and a week. So this is a beautiful Sabbath day and we have had 3 weeks nice weather and Geo came home and said the camp had run out of provisions but they borrowed some until they got some in.

10. Ernie came home for the day and said he did not like cooking so has gone to other work again. Only cooked 3 weeks. We are still having nice weather so are quite comfortable in our new house.

17. The boys came home today and are to be home for Xmas. I am glad to have them home.

we were quite surprised when  
our minister Mr. Hagar came  
to the door from Pt. Robinson  
he came on the 4 of Jan. and  
it was a very cold week down  
to about 60. He came in on  
the stage we were so glad to see  
him. when the weather was  
milder Grandpa took him  
out to show him some  
homesteads. so he selected  
one and started back home  
on the 15<sup>th</sup> coming and  
going over the Edson trail  
by stage. than on the 27<sup>th</sup>  
of Jan. Ernie took the team  
and feed for the horses and  
his blankets and provisions  
for himself and started back  
to Edson for our supplies and  
Boxes at Edson and got back  
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77.

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78.

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