

Tommy Miller

Diaries

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Cincinnati, Ohio

Preface

Thomas (a.k.a. Tommy or Tom) Miller kept diaries much of his adult life. Of the forty or so diaries, twenty-nine still exist. Five are reproduced.

The earliest known diary of Tom Miller covers January 1, 1925 to January 11, 1926 while Tom and his wife Elinor were raising their young children in Alberta, Canada. It is the only diary to remain from the Alberta years, 1911-1929.

The other four diaries reproduced here cover four of the first eight years following Tom and Elinor's return to Sangamon County: 1930, 1931, 1935, 1936. Upon their return from Alberta, Tom and Elinor rented a farm a few miles Northeast of Chatham in Ball township from Millard F. Megredy, Elinor's 1st cousin, one generation removed. In 1936, Tom and Elinor moved to the Murray farm, just outside Springfield, where they would remain for one year.

While Tommy Miller had excellent penmanship, occasionally a word or sentence would be unreadable by the person doing the typing. In addition, portions of the diaries were in poor condition, the 1930 diary in particular. Any errors in either content or readability lie totally with me.

I met Tom Miller only a few times before he died. However I'm quite convinced he would never have imagined his diaries being available for anyone to read and quite amazed that anyone would find the diaries interesting reading. Yet that's what they are.

I hope you find something useful inside.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul" with a flourish. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "P" and "a" being the most prominent letters.

Paul Dierks
Cincinnati, OH
March 2010