

8-14-1918

## Diary of Donald McKinney Wallace, September through December 1918

Donald McKinney Wallace

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Aug. Wednesday 14, 1918

Still feeling strong.  
We finished up back  
field & started down  
by Joe Pershey's

By this evening,  
after it says  
All those who have  
become 21 years of  
age since June 5

will have to register  
on Aug. 24, 1918

so I guess that  
means me

Good Night

See Oct 30

227

1918 Thursday 15, Aug.

Finished baling straw  
at 10 o'clock.

Dad took the baler up  
to Barnhart at  
Donnelsville.

When Dad came back  
Mother, Dad, Betty & self  
went to 5 p lot, going  
over to Silver Lake after  
Dorothy this first. I got  
stuff in I sold for Bremer  
Robert this eve by m. Koontz's  
Meadow. Those present were  
Dick & Jim Neer, Howard Barnhart &  
Katherine Morrow. Aron Bird & Pachel Seibert  
over.

Aug. Friday 16, 1918

This morning Dick and I loaded loads of baled straw & took up to Prof. Neer. I went up to elevator after farming. Mill after dinner while Dick & Dad went to Asbury after bean. I started to oil & grease up car this eve while others milked. Poscoe & Nellie were in this eve.

Bob Dishoff & Genevieve Dickman, Poscoe Wade & Miss Shelabarger of Gron, Luther Koontz & Martha F. Cook, Inez Funderburg & myself, Marguerite "Scarff" A. Coy was Chapman.

1918 Saturday 17, Aug.

Dad went to Springfield today and was gone all day. I had him to go out and see the registration board concerning enlistment but no one can enlist until later on.

I oiled and greased the car all day. Spung differential, transmission wheels and every thing else that turns or moves. Dick helped me until milking time.

Pages 230- 241 not scanned

Aug. Friday 30, 1918

Dick stayed all night in Columbus at the fair. It rained some this morning so that we could not work out, so I and Harry got ready to clean wheat. Dad was so dead for sleep that he went back to bed and stayed all A.M. Fred Hamish called up and wanted me to come down in P.M. to take in tobacco. He worked till about 4 o'clock & rain stopped us. I took Dad into school bd. meeting this eve & saw Miss Brightmeyer there

1918 Saturday 31, Aug.

We started to clean wheat this morning and about 10 o'clock Fiklen beat good for mill home and took our drill home with him. I got ready and went up after Mr. Tracy & took him to N. Can. to sign my Certificate. I then took Mr. Tracy up to Bethel + Advance schools. After dinner Dad and I went to Spfld. I saw the movie, To Hell with the Kaiser! This eve I took Dad into N. Can. to school bd. meeting. I took another Fisk tires bed for an adjustment mileage 1528

Sept. Sunday 1, 1918

Dick and Harry done  
the milking this  
morn. while the rest of  
us slept. The Gov. has  
asked people to stop using  
gasoline on Sunday so  
we did not go any place.  
Aunt Alice Marguaret and  
Sally Braumiller stayed  
over today. The Hamishes  
came up on visit this  
P.M.

Roscoe Wade came  
over to talk school  
over with Dick & I

Work all day Fred Harnish

245

1918 Monday 2, Sept.

Well today was the  
great holiday Labor Day  
When every body but we  
farmers loaf. I went  
down and helped  
Fred Harnish with  
his tobacco

Many of the neighbors  
went up to Spfld to  
the big patriotic parade  
Miss Rightmeyer  
came down this  
evening and stayed all  
night so as to start  
school tomorrow

Pam

Sept. Tuesday 3, 1918

To wet to work  
 in tobacco this morn.  
 so I drove to Safford  
 to see Dr. Evans the  
 Dentist. He filed  
 3 teeth for me taking  
 the greater part  
 of the day. I met Homer  
 Bagford & went down to  
 the train to see a bunch  
 of fop off to camp Sherman  
 I spent the rest of day trying  
 to find a place to enlist  
 army, navy, marines & signal corps.  
 Saw Roy Lee & he says he has been  
 training also.

Rain

247

1918 Wednesday 4, Sept.

Was good day to  
plow so Dick went  
over and got 2 horses  
of Tilden and we  
used 2 plows until about  
3 o'clock when rain  
stopped us.

Aunt Alice Marquart  
went home with Dad this morning. <sup>(she was</sup>

Dad went over  
to Osborn after  
a load of beam  
for corns & took  
Harvey along with him

Sept. Thursday 5, 1918

Harry and I cleaned  
wheat all day and  
finished up in good  
time. Dad took a  
sample of it to the elevator  
& it only tested 55<sup>th</sup>  
it tested 56 when we  
threshed. Merl Hilder  
came and got the fan  
mill & we gave him bushels  
of mellons.

B of Morris was out  
after pickles & mellons

I got notice that I was  
put in Class 1-A

Worked all day Fred & Harriet

1918 Friday 6, Sept.

Dick went down to Clyde Birds to help fill rails

Dad went down to Harry Kings to help with his tobacco

I drove down to Grandpa's in machine and took melons

to Hershey, Harriet's Kings and Grandpa

Fred paid me off this evening He gave me 2 d

Aunt Margaret was down all day & yesterday making pickles

Sept. Saturday 7, 1918

I took Salie Braumiller home this morning & got a new Fish Wire at Bamba. Betty was along with me and we went to Spfld. Betty went to Dentist & then I took her out to Missis for rest of day.

I went down to Draft Board and volunteered to go to Cincinnati to school as mechanic in army. If I get to go I'll leave here the 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Oh hurry up 19<sup>th</sup>.

1918

Sunday 8,

Sept.

Pratt came up all forenoon and left his brother Will. They stayed till noon & I gave them a crate of melons to take home.

Sony Zellers was also in to see Dad about silo filling.

Ed, Mary, & Freddie, M<sup>rs</sup> Donald were up this after noon. The horses got out late this eve & Dad & I had to get them in. I wrote letter to Arthur down at Dallas Tex. aviation school

Sept. Monday 9, 1918

I had to go to Spssid  
to be examined this  
morning at 9 o'clock  
at the Y.M.C.A. Frank  
Funderburg had me exam-  
ined first & then I helped  
with others marking down  
wt, ht, & expansion.

My wt was 143 lbs

Height 67½ inches

Expansion 32" - 37 in

Everything else was O.K.

He said um-m-some  
man.

Dick plowed in backfield.

1918 Tuesday 10, Sept.

Dick started corn harvester this morning. I took other harvester & opened up the hill field. Dick went to elevator for a load of coal for fueling pile.

Ezra Holmes filled for us & he got here about 1 o'clock. Porter 2 men & team, Roberts & team, Koontz 2 men & team. The melon patch was in the field & the men nearly split themselves eating them.

Paris in P.M.

Sept. Wednesday 11, 1918

Got up early this  
 morning and helped  
 Dick oil up the 2 com  
 harvesters so as  
 he could cut corn  
 ahead for silo filling.  
 Porter & ment team, Roberts  
 & team, Koontz & ment team  
 Seifert & horses & 2 men until 9:30 AM  
 Harry Rhine, Fred Harnish, Jay  
 Alonzo Zeller & Frank Clair  
 We had to stop for about  
 2 hours at noon on account  
 of rain. We finished about 4  
 o'clock. Got Louise Hershey over  
 in for dinner. Grandpa was up in P.M.

Rain all day.

255

1918 Thursday 12, Sept.

Dick went down to  
Medway and was the  
first man to register  
in the 15-45 draft.

I took the girls to school  
and went over to Roon's to  
see Luther about going to  
Columbus to O.S.U.

Dick + Dad went to Syfle  
for rest of the day.

Dad went to Medway  
and took the pole for  
dry election.

Mother + Sallie Braumiller  
went down to see Grandma  
who is under the weather.

Sept. Friday 13, 1918

I got ready and started to Columbus with Luther Koontz at 9 o'clock, I went up to get him started at O.S.V. I also investigated possibilities of S.A.T.C. for myself but could get no satisfaction. I went around to see Mrs. Folsom & saw Raymond Gauch. I went down to J.H.C. Co and got some repairs for corn harvesters. On way home I saw 2 fellows get pinched for spuding thru H. Jefferson, <sup>\$13</sup> fine. We were to meet Miss Stoland but missed her. We stopped in Spfld for last show at new Sun, got home 11:30

1918 Saturday 14, Sept.

We all went over to  
Seiferts today to  
help fill Silo.

The corn was the big  
silo variety and it  
had fallen over so  
it made it very hard  
to cut. Dick used harvester  
& cut one way. I was with  
gang & cut by hand.

I see in today's paper  
that I have been  
placed in Class  
H-E, as an unskilled  
farm laborer. Uncle Willis  
was down this one.

Sept. Sunday 15, 1918

I started in this morning by picking 3 bu. of tomatoes for mother. Dick Betty + Stanley went down after Grandpa + ma.

Minnie Sheridan + sister Mabel drove in later + stayed for dinner. Bob Bishop was down in A.M. + P.M. to see about school (O.S.U.) but decided not to go. Luther + Tony + Earl Welter were over this P.M. to see about college books. I took Grandpa's home in the auto (gas-less Sunday) + went around to see Aaron + Sid about school. He will not go.

1918 Monday 16, Sept.

It rained & squinted  
nearly all day. This A.M.  
I got a lot of stakes  
and made a temporary  
fence around our pickle  
patch & then turned hogs  
into the rest of the field.  
I got ready at noon and  
went to Spfld to see draft  
board & get suit of clothes cleaned.  
I got notice today to  
report at Springfield  
Sept 19, at 9 A.M. for  
entrainment to go to  
Cincinnati Ohio.

Sept. Tuesday 17, 1918

Owing to the heavy rains we could not fill silos today so I got all the hogs in out of hill fields and Dad, Dick & Henry helped to ring and trim them. We counted 82 all told.

This afternoon Dick and I made a fence across barnyard so as we can separate the fattening hogs. Dick & Betty went to M Carlisle this eve.

Dad went over to Hamisk Group to help build silo but engine broke down

1918 Wednesday 18, Sept.

Dad went to Osbornie after  
break this morning and when  
he came back I went  
over to New Carlisle with  
him to get hair cut.

In the after-noon I  
started to pack up  
my books and clothes  
and things preparatory  
to leaving for Ohio  
Mechanics Institute at  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dick went up to Charles  
Roberts and filled silos  
this after noon

Perm  
Sept. Thursday 19, 1918

got up early and packed  
trunk & started to Springfield  
Dick & Dad drove me  
up. I was to report at 7 o'clock  
but did not get notice & did not  
report till 9 o'clock but train  
was 2 hrs. late so I was all O.K.  
The Women's Pat. League gave us  
all comfort kits & we all got  
our meals on train while coming  
to Cincinnati to O.M.I. to start  
training. The board did not send  
my release papers so I'd have  
to wait until tomorrow. Went to  
entertainment at Y.M.C.A. tonight  
& wrote letter home.

1918      Friday 20,      Sept.

Spent first night in  
barracks and certainly  
did sleep fine - as they  
are exceptionally good.  
Met Raymond Kipp  
who was in my  
math class up at  
Ohio.

Was on Kitchen duty  
today - my release papers  
came this eve & I signed  
them at about 7:30 o'clock - was  
the last fellow to sign them  
Went to a entertainment tonight  
Italian fourth of July

Sept. Saturday 21, 1918

Well I filled out  
my questionnaires this  
A.M. and they put me  
in with the Carpenters.  
I put down my choice  
as a general freeman  
they called the  
Carpenters out to U.S.C.  
to put up some barracks  
they put me on  
Police duty.  
This P.M. I done  
some washing  
and cleaned up for  
tomorrow

1918 Sunday 22, Sept.

this was Sunday  
morning and we did  
not get up till  
7 o'clock  
after we had breakfast  
they lined us up  
and took us down to  
be vaccinated and  
shot in the arm but  
I did not feel it  
Several of the boys  
huddled over so that  
they had to carry  
them up stairs  
one guy took a chill  
& did not wake up all day

Sept. Monday 23, 1918

Well I fell in  
with the Carpenters  
and started putting  
in a petition in  
one of the class  
rooms. In the  
afternoon a man  
came around & took  
me over to the  
General Mechanics  
They put me in the  
Chassis dept. squad  
5 #7 main. <sup>last</sup> night  
I changed over to the  
Y.M.C.A. building on the  
9th floor.

1918 Tuesday 24, Sept.

Well I spent my first night in Y.M.C.A. Bldg. & they called me about an hour early for police duty again. To hell with all my bad luck. Today they called for men with a little experience they put me in as an acting Sergt. there was 2 other O.S.U. men stepped out with me & they both got the same job.

Sept. Wednesday 25, 1918

This I. M. C. A. place  
certainly is a heck  
of a place to bunk  
at. We have to  
come up 9 flights  
of high stairs. If the  
 grub is not nearly  
so good.

We worked on an  
old Ohio auto all  
day fixing hood  
fenders and every  
thing else that rattles  
on the old trap.  
We sent it to service squad.

1918 Thursday 26, Sept.

Worked on an old Rambler  
auto today. I took  
spring off and also  
took transmission  
and differential off  
and ble them off  
down. The instructor  
then gave a lecture  
on the differential  
this evening they took  
us all over to Army X  
to a vaudeville show  
which is given to  
us every Thursday  
evening

Sept. Friday 27, 1918

Worked on an old  
Rambler auto  
today adjusting  
and cleaning  
the differential  
and the transmis-  
sion

this evening they  
had a big reception  
and dance over at  
the Army Y.M.C.A.

Every woman had a  
box and they lined up inside  
& we fellows went by with plates  
& they loaded us down with  
good eats

1918 Saturday 28, Sept.

Well I guess I got too much over at the reception last night as I have had an awful headache all day. Went to Doc. - same old thing. - no good. Shhkh

I could not work in class room so they put me in the tool room.

In the P.M. I went down town got a hair cut and some cathartic pills and headache powders. I felt better by night.

Sept. Sunday 29, 1918

No better this morning but saw a lot of others going out on sick call so I went over to the Doctors.

He gave me several different kinds of pills and sent me home to go to bed. The other boys went over and took their second shot. When they got back they took us sick ones around in corner by our selves and quarantined the whole quarters.

1918 Monday 30, Sept.

Layed in our sick ward all day but am no better, had a fever all day.

This evening the Doctor had some beef broth brot. down to us, which was the first I had eaten since last Fri. Our ward was fenced off from rest of the barrack by hanging blankets over a wire which they stretched clear across the ceiling

Oct. Tuesday 1, 1918

Still sick but they  
have us on a hell  
of a ration which goes  
like this for breakfast  
cold, soft boiled egg  
with but salt or  
pepper and a piece  
of cold toast toasted  
on one side only  
with luke warm coffee  
to wash it all down  
For dinner & supper  
same thing over. They  
give us all a drink out  
of the same glass.

1918 Wednesday 2, Oct.

Doc came around pretty early this morning and said my temperature was gone and that I could move out which I did.

I went up stairs at noon and got my first best meal but not good meal this evening they took us over to the O.M.I. and got our rifles. I went up and found 2 letters for me

Oct. Thursday 3, 1918

Well I was feeling pretty weak this morning but I fell in any way.

After dinner we took our rifle with us for the first time & went to the drill field later on.

I got a big letter from mother, Betty, and from Peter & Hans which was mailed Aug 24.

1918

Friday 4,

Oct.

Not a bit well yet  
but anything is better  
than going over to the  
hospital. 2 men  
over there have Spanish  
Influenza bad & are  
not expected to live.  
He washed all windows  
& floors with creolin  
solution tonight.  
at school I tightened  
up connecting rod  
bearings all day.  
He had from com.  
school this eve

Oct. Saturday 5, 1918

Worked until 10 o'clock  
this morning on an  
old ford engine and  
grinding valves.

He has made me a  
hearing man and that  
is all I've done in  
the engine assembly dept.  
He had inspection of bunks  
before dinner and they  
placed us under guarantee  
indefinitely.

I done my washing  
this after noon

1918      Sunday 6,      Oct.

We are under quarantine  
and can not do a  
thing.

Because we are shut  
up they did not take us  
over to be shot in the  
arm and again there are  
lots of the fellows sick & in  
the hospital. If we miss  
10 days between shots we  
have to start all over so  
I guess we'll start all over  
I got my tactics book  
in the mail this  
evening

Oct. Monday 7, 1918

Quarantined in  
the farmacks. We  
stacked all the beds  
and went all over  
the floor with creoline  
solution this morning.  
It was cold all day  
up here as they made us  
keep all windows open  
and the thermometer stood  
at  $46^{\circ}$  all day. This  
afternoon they took us out  
for a hike from 2:13 to 3:15  
and it helped to warm  
us up some. got letter  
from Luther Roonth today

1918 Tuesday 8, Oct.

The sun came out this morning and brightened every thing & every body. They took us out for a hike this morning and stopped for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour on the grounds where the General hospital burned down. This afternoon they let those men who bought ball gloves go to the drill ground to practice ball. I sent a box of clothes & rain coat home this P.M. I also got a postal card from home, a box of cough tablets from Dr Jones. I had a box of eats but the box laid over at the O.N. for 4 days and the chicken & bread spoiled.

Oct. Wednesday 9, 1918

I wrote a big 10 page letter to the folks at home in the forenoon and started another letter to Jim Neer over here at the Y.W.C.A.

The mail came and I got me letter and it happened to be from Jim - just a case of coincidence - well I wrote her 7 pages. She said she was going home next week and said she wanted to see me before she went.

He took big long hike this P.M. and went out west across the viaducts and railroads to the hills & back again.

1918 Thursday 10, Oct.

Things still rather drabsey  
and lacking pep. They  
took us out for a hike  
this morning. They took us  
up to Eden Park entrance  
and let us rest on the grass for  
about 45 min. After mess at noon  
the Y. Man brought up a lot of new  
ball gloves, bats, and balls  
so they lined us up and we  
marched to the drill grounds  
where they let us play ball  
for the whole afternoon.

Two more of our men died  
this eve and they took up a  
collection for them one was Seddon from

Columbus Ohio

Oct. Friday 11, 1918

They took us out for two hikes today. This afternoon when they took us out they stretched sheets up on wires around every bunk. I am in the middle row and cannot get any sun light or air. It certainly does make it dark, and gloomy. A joke on one of our dumb sergts. I asked him where the creoline bath was to disinfect our pants water. He said, Creoline! creoline! what is his name again. I said, Creoline! He said, which is his bunk anyway. Got a letter from Dick this afternoon.

1918      Saturday 12, Oct.

They run out of Creoline  
so we only had to mop  
up the floor with water.

Wilcox (the man with the  
little super-six) has been on  
kitchen police for a week, so he had  
to go see the doc. as he was getting  
pink eye. The doc. gave him a few  
pills and sent him back to music  
hall to go to bed for the "F100," that is  
a fair sample of our doctors here.

Got a letter from Dick again  
today. He said that they had spunk  
on our machine set up and that it  
doubled the milage & speed on it

Oct. Sunday 13, 1918

*hike*

1918      Monday 14,      Oct.

*hospital*

Oct. Tuesday 15, 1918

gym + bike,

1918 Wednesday 16, Oct.

hospital

Oct. Thursday 17, 1918

on guard at barracks  
elevator left from art + Jim  
talked to Cousins  
letter to Rachel S.

1918      Friday 18,      Oct.

*Shut metal*

Oct. Saturday 19, 1918

Sheet metal  
box in P.M.

1918 Sunday 20, Oct.

Crosses came to see  
and had warm pie.

Oct. Monday 21, 1918

Service dept.  
Bell hoped

1918 Tuesday 22, Oct.

K. P.

Oct. Wednesday 23, 1918

lecture at drill got.  
got in out of rain

Rain

297

1918 Thursday 24, Oct.

collection for Carlson

Oct.      Friday 25,      1918

1918 Saturday 26, Oct.

pages 300-301 not scanned

Oct. Tuesday 29, 1918

See Aug 15

303

1918 Wednesday 30, Oct.

pages 304-347 not scanned

Dec. Saturday 14, 1918

Show - Nellie

1918 Sunday 15, Dec.

Party

Dec. Monday 16, 1918

1918 Tuesday 17, Dec.

*Crosses.*

Dec. Wednesday 18, 1918

8 1918 Thursday 19, Dec.

*Crosses*

Dec. Friday 20, 1918

Got up at 4 o'clock this morn  
ate mess after which we tore up  
bunks & stacked. Just for hell of  
it and to ornery for last chance  
we emptied our straw ticks out  
of 9<sup>th</sup> story windows. What a mess.  
He marched up to University of Cincy.  
at 8 o'clock & got paid in full with  
car fare & insurance papers.  
After noon mess we marched down  
town to sang at public square, after  
which was a ~~Baham~~ battle from  
proof of tall heels. It was for War Exposition  
they had trucks, tanks Cannons  
And every thing.

1918 Saturday 21, Dec.

Saw Miss Pightney this morn  
and a Mrs. Hehr staying here.

I started over to Peoples gravel  
pit with Dad's dinner but met him  
coming home to fix wagon. I took  
another wagon & went back for him  
in P.M. as he had to go  
to Springfield on business.

He lined up at 5 o'clock and got our  
discharge papers. The train left at  
6 o'clock so we got down  
to Station as soon as possible.  
I rode down on old wagon.

Got home at 10:30 o'clock &  
nobody at home save mother.

Dec. Sunday 22, 1918

Put on uniform and went down to see Grandpas for awhile at noon. In the afternoon uncle Bellis came down to make arrangements for Xmas dinner.

---

and she did not hear me come in, the other folks were at School house to a Xmas entertainment. They all piled in my room when they come home as they heard at the school house that I was due home.

1918 Monday 23, Dec.

Dec. Tuesday 24, 1918

1918 Wednesday 25, Dec.

Dec. Thursday 26, 1918

Luther's Party

1918      Friday 27,      Dec.

*John Park*

Dec. Saturday 28, 1918

1918 Sunday 29, Dec.

Dec. Monday 30, 1918

1918 Tuesday 31, Dec.

*Chess*