

Farm Activity Diary 1917 and 1922

[not always chronological]

John Tonkin, Compton [signature]

January 10, 1917	Sowed cauliflower seed
January 27, 1917	Sowed cauli [cauliflower], cabbage, lettuce, tomatoes
January 30, 1917	Made hot beds, frames
January 30, 1917	Finished Fernery
January 7, 1917	Carnations and other cuttings
January 27, 1917	Potted ferns
February 1, 1917	Potted snaps [snapdragons]
January 20, 1917	Manured lawns
January 17, 1917	Started to prune vines and apple trees
February 5, 1917	Sowed begonias
February 3, 4 & 5, 1917	Very cold. 5 above zero. Wind blown.
February 1, 1917	Brought hardy chrysanth [chrysanthemums] indoors
February 4, 1917	Potted carnations
February 8, 1917	Started dahlias
February 9, 1917	Potted and boxed up cannas [canna lilies]
February 10, 1917	Sowed vinca, marigold & other seeds
February 9, 1917	Very warm in the morning, cold by night
February 9, 1917	Sowed lettuce, second crop
February 12, 1917	Sowed cauliflower, last lot. Very cold, 5 above zero.
February 12, 1917	Potted scarlet sage, first batch.
February 14 & 15, 1917	Put in chrysants [chrysanthemums] cuttings, hardy and inside
February 14, 1917	Started to make up second hot bed frame
February 17, 1917	Sowed eggplants & peppers
February 19, 1917	Sowed petunias, lobelias & salvias
February 20, 1917	Put in dahlia cuttings & potted stevias & other plants
February 19, 1917	Had 50 cuttings of carnations from Convent
February 21, 1917	Started to make up third hot bed frame
February 23, 1917	Sowed gloxinia & lettuce, last showing
February 23, 1917	Started pond lilies
February 23, 1917	Planted cauliflower in frame, first batch
February 24, 1917	Put in hardy chrysants [chrysanthemums] & dahlias
February 26, 1917	Started gloxinia & begonia bulbs (little late)
February 27, 1917	Sowed onion seed indoors (little late)
February 27, 1917	Boxed second batch of cannas
February 28, 1917	Made tomato frame
March 1, 1917	Started to prune clematis and other creepers
March 2, 1917	Sowed early self-blanching celery
March 1, 2, 3, 1917	Heavy snow
March 6, 1917	Sowed inside for outside planting, cabbage, cauliflower and lettuce (three kinds, Big Boston, all hearts & Dutch butter)
March 5, 1917	Started to repot geraniums

March 5, 1917	Sowed tomato seed, Early Jewel
March 6, 1917	Sowed second batch of eggplant
March 14, 1917	Sowed Primula Obconia
March 15, 1917	Potted first batch of chrysan [chrysanthemums]
March 16, 1917	Sowed tomatoes, main crop for outside
March 16, 1917	Planted first frame of lettuce
March 16, 1917	Planted frame of cabbage and second frame of cauliflower
March 12, 1917	Started spraying fruit trees
March 12, 1917	Started to rake lawns
March 20, 1917	Sowed sweet peas
March 21, 1917	Enlarged rhod. [rhododendron] bed
March 23, 1917	Sowed green peas outdoors
March 30, 1917	Planted second frame of lettuce
March 30, 1917	Planted tomatoes in frame
March 28, 1917	Adolf started to uncover
April 2, 1917	Sowed spinach, first crop outside
April 3, 1917	Sowed second crop of green peas
April 3, 1917	Sowed beans in frame, first planting
April 2, 1917	Started to uncover trees & shrubs, finished 4/4
April 9, 1917	Sowed 3 rd crop of peas, also spinach
April 13, 1917	Sowed celery & parsley outside
[no date]	Planted onion sets and sowed first row of beans
April 10, 1917	Planted last frame of lettuce
April 12, 1917	Sowed Primula chinensis
April 14, 1917	Started pointsetias [poinsettias]
April 6, 1917	Pruned roses
April 16, 1917	Joe went outside
April 17, 1917	Sowed 1 st crop of beets, 3 rd crop of peas and 2 nd row of beans
April 19, 1917	Planted lettuce, first crop outside
April 20, 1917	Pricked off tomatoes in frame and cleaned strawberries & planted roses
April 26, 1917	Sowed beets, spinach, peas, lettuce & carrots, also beans
April 27, 1917	Sowed flower seed in frame
April 25, 1917	Potted chrysants [chrysanthmums] in 7 pots
April 28, 1917	Potted pointsets [poinsettias]
May 3, 1917	Planted early potatoes
May 9, 1917	Planted John Threlfall's potatoes
May 9, 1917	Planted lima beans in frame
May 15, 1917	Planted corn outside
May 16, 1917	Planted carnations
May 14, 1917	Started to carry out geraniums
May 23, 1917	Planted geraniums
May 24, 1917	Planted chrysants [chrysanthemums] in the bench
May 25, 1917	Planted tomatoes outside
May 26, 1917	Planted lilies in the pond

May 25, 1917	Sowed cauliflower, cabbage & Brussel sprouts outdoors
July 14, 1917	Sowed parsley for frames
July 13, 1917	Planted last crop of corn
August 1, 1917	Planted celery
September 20, 1917	Planted lettuce & parsley in frames
September 20, 1917	First white frost
September 24, 1917	Carried stevias & other things in frames
September 26, 1917	Put up bench in front house
September 25, 1917	Started to tie chrysants [chrysanthemums]
September 30, 1917	Picked apples

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Monday, March 20, 1922	Wet day. Done inside work (2 tons of beets). First chicks hatched, poor hatch. (Had 3 ton of feed)
Tuesday, March 21, 1922	Cool day. Started spraying, 3 men. Planted trees from Out-Door Arts. Started rake leaves & uncover. Hauling lime on farm. Truck went to West Chester.
Wednesday, March 22, 1922	Cool day. (Sowed first 2 rows peas), 3 men spraying. 1 man & team hauling manure for truck patch on Compton. 2 men planting trees from Out-Door-Arts. 4 men raking leaves. 1 team hauling lime. Sowed 6-1/4 acres of alfalfa & clover.
Thursday, March 23, 1922	Fine day. 4 men raking. 3 men spraying. Planted sweet peas. Sowed clover & alfalfa. Started to plant around fences. Hauled lime. Wasser moved 2 wagons 1/2 day. Truck fetched seed potatoes 25 bus. [bushels]
Friday, March 24, 1922	Plowed truck patch in Compton. 3 men spraying. 4 men raking & uncovering. Hauled 4 loads of lime.
Saturday, March 25, 1922	Fine day. 3 men spraying. 3 men planting creepers on fence. 5 men raking. Hauled lime on farm.
Monday, March 27, 1922	Finished spraying. 3 men planting. 6 men raking & cleaning. Started to sweep lawns. 1 team rolling wheat. 1 team liming, 2 men. Adolf started at Big House.
Tuesday, March 28, 1922	Fine day. 6 men raking & cleaning. 3 men uncovered roses. 2 teams & 4 men limed oat field.
Wednesday, March 29, 1922	6 men raking & cleaning. 4 men grading on new road. 4 men, two teams spreading lime. Rolled & harrowed wheat, sowed alfalfa, oats. Started to disce field with tractor for planted onion sets.
Thursday, March 30, 1922	Damp day. 4 men spread lime with teams. 4 men grading on new drive. Sowed grass seed on lawns. Started roll lawns. Bought 100 bus. [bushels] of oats from Dunwoody's, 48-1/2 ¢.
Friday, March 31, 1922	Damp day. 4 men finished liming for oats. (7 loads hay wagons) 26 drop bottoms. Alex disce with tractor for oats. 4 men grading on new road. 6 men raking & cleaning. Started to prune rose arbor. One load on [of] manure from Dwyers.

	Lost heifer calf 3 days old --- caught cold & scoured. Thunderstorm in night.
April 1, 1922, Saturday	Damp day. 4 men grading on new drive. 4 men raking & cleaning. 2 men rolling arboreatum [Arboretum]. 4 men hauling manure on truck patch. Lost a calf 6 weeks before time.
April 3, 1922, Monday	Fine day. 3 men grading on new drive. 2 men raking & cleaning. 2 men rolling. Preparing ground for oats, 2 teams. Plumber started to cut pipes in park. Adolf started to uncover. Tony fetched 2 tons of acid phosphate from N. Wales.
April 4, 1922, Tuesday	Fine day. Sowed oats on farm. Hauled manure on truck patch. 4 men started to clean pond. 4 men finished grading new drive. 2 men digging ditches around fountain.
April 5, 1922, Wednesday	Fine day. Hauling manure on truck patch. 6 men cleaning pond. 2 men digging ditches around fountain. New horse came from Crean.
April 6, 1922, Thursday	Fine day. Sowed oats, one horse went lame. Finished cleaning pond. Started grading around Thelfall's cottage.
April 7, 1922, Friday	Damp day. Plowed truck patch on farm. Grading around park cottage. Sowed fertilizer in lawns.
April 8, 1922, Saturday	Fine day, hot. Rolled grass field on Compton. Sowed fertilizer on lawns. Grading around park cottage. Grading in park.
Monday, April 10, 1922,	Hot day. Rolled oats & hauled manure on farm. Grading in park. Started to prune roses. Dwyer hauled stone from Hill [Chestnut Hill].
Tuesday, April 11, 1922	Fine day. Big gang on new road. Steam roller started to roll. Hauled manure on farm & plowed truck patch.
Wednesday, April 12, 1922	Fine day. Gang on new drive put on two tanks of tar. Dug trench for cable across lawn. 3 men digging around fountain. Hauling manure on potatoes patch.
Thursday, April 13, 1922	Fine day. Gang working on new drive, put on one tank of tar. Grading in park.
Friday, April 14, 1922	Damp day. Gang working on front drive. Too wet to put on tar. Steam roller rolled lawns. Done fine. Hauled out manure on farm. Sowed grass seed in park.
Saturday, April 15, 1922	Fine day. Finished new drive. Used 4 tanks of tar, 790 galls. each.
Monday, April 17, 1922	Showery. Started to cut grass. Had a bad time, machines broke down.
Tuesday, April 18, 1922	Damp day. Cut grass part-time. Had another bad day. Disgusted with everything. Cleaned cellars.
Wednesday, April 19, 1922	Wet day. Everything in a bad mess. Grass growing very fast.
Thursday, April 20, 1922	Very windy, gale blowing. Cut grass all day with team & 9 men finished hand mowing. Campbell fix[ed] new pump,

had lots of drawbacks. Alex started to plow potatoes patch. 2 men spread manure. Miss Morris came out from city house.

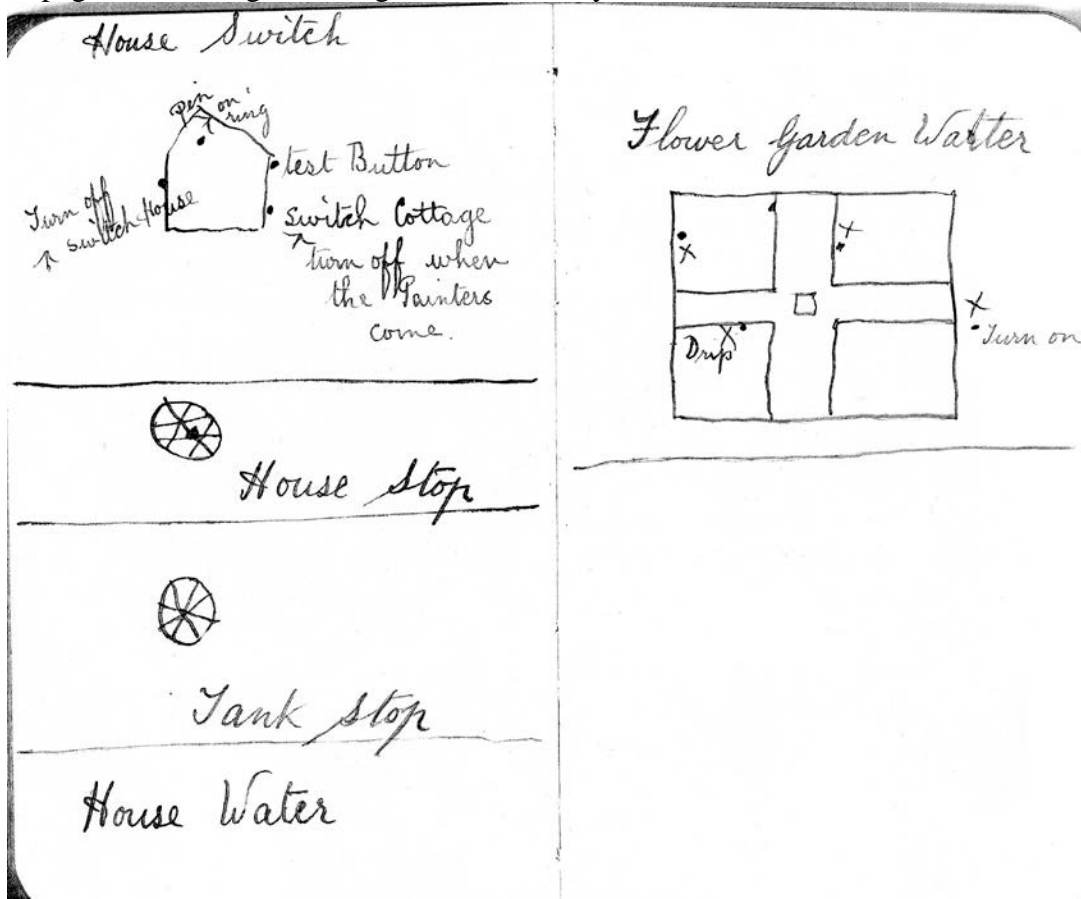
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House Stop Water

Tank Stop Water

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[2 pages of drawings showing various water systems and turn off instructions]



[Inside back cover]

Hidalgo

Eucryphia [Eucryphia] pinnatifolia

Rose Garden

Rose Alberic Barbier