

Malcolm Birnie.

~~April~~ April 1930.



trip in France
Started April 10th 1930

100

Arrived at Havre, after having a very calm crossing, an hour and $\frac{3}{4}$ late. (6 o'clock. - 7.45). Sheila and Mavis met us, and after getting through the customs, we went and had coffee etc. at a shop. We then started off in the Wolseley to Rouen, and there we saw the government houses, and where Jean d'Arc was burnt, and a beautiful cathedral. I got some smoked glasses as my eyes ached. We then motored out and had lunch in a beautiful wood. We motored on, and arrived at Chartres at 4.30. We went and saw the cathedral which is very beautiful: we ~~too~~ bought some postcards, got some provisions, and came ~~home~~ to the hotel where we are staying and had a high-tea.

11th Left Chartres in morning drove through Lisiant, Thivars, Le Moulle, La Boudinière, Vitray-en-Bellevue, Bonnaval, Glacey, Marbois; then to Châteaudun, where we saw a most beautiful Château (12-15th Cent). Met some people in a G.B. Daimler. We drove through Cléry, Fontaine, Pegon, Lesle, Vendôme, Villéthieux, Chateaufrenault, Monnaie, Saint-Symphorien, and arrived at Tours at about 3 o'clock. We came to the Hotel Croissant, and then went to the cathedral. We went up in the South Tower (300 steps). Then to Cathedral of St Martin.

12th. Left in the morning, beautiful weather. Stopped and had lunch. Saw no places. Arrived at ~~Angoulême~~ ^{Angoulême}, went into the cathedral of San Martin saw his tomb. Got the key-coughs and had to go outside. (everyone stared and giggled!).

13th. Left ~~Angoulême~~ Angoulême lovely weather. Had lunch outside Bordeaux. After lunch we went into the town, over a bridge which is supposed to be one of the most wonderful in the world. Got some rooms, took the car to a garage, then went and saw the cathedral, an interesting old gate and the smelly docks. We went through Poitiers. Had a puncture.

14th. Left in rain, poured all day, got onto the wrong road, and went 12 km out of our way. We passed through beautiful pine forests. We tapped the trees for resin. Drove through Bayonne, arrived at Hotel Matagorda, unpacked had tea. Went for a walk in the town. It is much changed. It is blowing hard.

15th. Had breakfast, went to a shop and got a line, and tackle. Came back it rained, went out on the rocks, it poured. Came in had lunch, went out it pelted, got some shelter, and then fished. It cleared. Came in, had tea, went into the town. Came back, it poured again, had dinner, it stopped, had a bath, a tremendous flash of lightning, the light

all went out. A maid saw it and thought it was a thunderbolt.

16th It was a lovely morning, out of the wind. Went for a walk up to a ruin, came back for lunch. After lunch we went shrimping, I sat down in the ~~sea~~ water!!! Went into the village after tea, got some anpagatas. Planned some trips into Spain. Met the Andrews they are staying at the Earl's ~~place~~ ^{each}. It rained before dinner. We did some common entrance muck after dinner.

17th Rained all morning, went to the Corleak, and had tea with the Andrews.

18th Good Friday. Lovely weather. Went shrimping. Went and saw Major Wanklin

19th Easter Saturday, horrid day, fished, no luck.

20th Easter Sunday, gorgeous day, went for a long walk after lunch.

21st Easter Monday. Drove to Deva, through St Sebastian on the way back, saw the bull ring, etc. Drove along the Cornish (Road by the sea). (On Easter Sunday evening we went and saw The King of Kings, it was wonderfully acted, but very sad at the end). On the way back we saw thousands of lizards on a wall. Could not catch them. Saw the thing in the ~~on~~ plaza. A bull with fibro works on it.

- 22nd Got bathing suits, and bathed. The Andrews came to tea. Lovely day.
- 23rd Girls played tennis, and then we bathed. Went to Fontarabia after lunch. We went through Irjen, to Fontarabia, and back through Irjen to Glendaye. At Fontarabia we saw a cathedral, an old bull ring, and went into an old chateau. It rained most of the way back. Had a terrific storm that night.
- 24th. Quite warm rather windy. Bathed after lunch (very cold.) Caught a green lizard. Davis is not feeling well. (sore throat). Corina and Sheila went and saw the Andrews.
- 25th Very hot, bathed after lunch. It grew much colder, so had tea on the balcony.
- 26th My Birthday, received a henknife and 10/- from the King family, and 5/- from Corina. Paisley came to tea. Bathed.
- 27th Wrote to Auntie Mear and ~~the~~ Uncle Douglas. Wretched weather.
- 28th Monday. Went for a long walk to the foot of La Rhune. Saw a beautiful green lizard. Came back by the town-bath beside the river.
- 29th Spent all morning in looking for souvenirs. Finally

Douglas and I got a fishing basket each. It rained all after-

noon.
30th Rained all morning. Went to Grun(s) and Behobret(f) to give in some papers. Mavis stayed in Bed. ~~Went~~ Went out to the town. Packed. It is still raining.

1st May. Left Maila garrua in the morning 8.45. Left San Jean de Luz at 9 O'clock. Drove through Bayonne, Bordeaux, Angoulême to Poitiers. Slept the night at Hotel Europe. Left early and drove to Chenonceaux Chateau. Very beautiful. Had lunch there. Henry II

gave it to his favorite Diane Poitiers after his death his wife Catherine of Medici exchanged it with ~~her~~ Chaumont. Next Ambly. saw the gate where Charles hit his head and died, running out from playing jeu de Paume, (tennis). Got a magnificent view of La Loire. Got entrance to Chateau from town in a spiral passage in a tower. Got salt-shoons for aunts Inez and Uncle Douglas, and Mum. Next Chaumont, which orig. belonged to ~~the~~ Diane of Poitiers, but was swapped for Chenonceaux by Catherine of Medici. Next Blois which was rather a washout. As the Revolutionists took the furniture, it was built in 5 different periods.

We also saw the stables, and the oven which, for the medgillons, day tablets with people's heads embossed on them.

Then to Orleans, where we stayed
at Hotel St Catherine.

3rd Left Orleans, saw Jeanne
d'Arc's house. Drove to
Versailles, had lunch in the
park. Went on and saw the
Trianons, where we saw
Queen Victoria's rooms
where she stayed. Louis XIV
stayed while the Palace
was being built. Then
we saw the Petit Trianon
and the Hamlet (Farm)
where Marie Antoinette
used to go and pretend
she was a shepherdess
when she was tired of
being queen. We saw the
~~Grand~~ Grand Palais where
there was the theatre,
where the 1st Council sat,
and on the stage where 400
girls danced. All the present
stages are copied from it.
Saw the picture galleries.
Saw the trap door where
the Queen escaped through
the secret passage from the
revolutionists. Left Versailles
and went to Bellevue. Glad tea
4th. cleaned the car, big lizard
escaped. Went to the Observat-
ory, saw all over Paris. Saw
lizards but could not catch them.
Came back had lunch, ~~had~~
then went into the woods
got bluebells. at 4.30, went

to the Congi's, had tea.
Came back and packed.
5th Started early for
Boulogne, went through
St Denis, Chantilly, and
saw the place where
the Battle of the Somme
was fought, Clermont
St Just, Amiens, Albert
saw the cathedral very
beautiful. then to Boulogne

6th Got the car along side
early. at 11.35 left in the
Mail of Orleans. arrived
at Golshstone at 1.10. Had
refreshments, car arrived
at 3 instead of at 2 o'clock
Drove to Bournemouth.
Arrived there at about 10.30.

Went to Riviera Hotel.
7th After breakfast packed
at Redmoor. Left at 10.30
arrived in London at 2.25
Went to the Scotch House,
got long trousers etc. Went
to the Scout shop got
Rock packs. Glad tea with
Miss Riddle came back
had dinner.

8th Saw Douglas off at Euston,
Sheila off, brought me by
Underbourn to Watlington,
got my trunk, left in
10.50 train for Hatfield
arrived back at school.
Played Cargo Boats and Cruisers
in Scouting.

Friday 9th Did gym, did preparatory lesson for boxing competition. Wrote up for grass snake.

10th Found a nest. Did Scouting in the evening. It rained. I had a letter from Mum.

11th Rev. Ireland took Chapel. Went for a bike ride on my bike. It rained.

12th Wrote up for white mice to Harrod's. Played cricket. Played my cat in.

13th Did gym and carpentry. Played cricket.

14th Wednesday. Lovely day. Caught 4 lizards.

15th Did distance judging in Scouting. Received my water boat from the Scotch Glaze.

16th Friday. Did gym. Boxed in the boxing competition. Beat both Godwins, and Hargreaves. Both beat me in the finals. Caught a lizard.

17th White mice arrived in a cage. Did Scouting.

18th Rev. Ireland took Chapel. Went for a walk.

19th Played cricket. Very warm.

20th Did gym, sunny day. Did carpentry.

21st Played cricket, very warm usual.

22nd Did usual routine. As it

was raining we did tests and

then crossing frontier

23rd

usual routine, did gym,
grass snake arrived.

24th

Empire Day. Changed into
Scout Kit

29 BLANK
PAGE PAIRS

	<u>4</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>Average.</u>
Latin	40	5	23
French	36	19	27
Maths.	53	13	33
English	42		42
Hist. Geog.	30		30

General average ~~30~~ 30%.

