

NOTES ON THIS MICROFILM COPY

This microfilm contains ten volumes of diaries 1891 - 1900 of Harriet Arms Parkerson (1855-1940), niece and legally-adopted daughter of Isaac and Ellen Goodnow. The originals comprise the Harriet Parkerson collection in the Manuscripts Department, Kansas State Historical Society.

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The Kansas State Historical Society does not own literary property rights to this manuscript. It should be assumed that Miss Parkerson's heirs own copyright to these diaries, although the documents themselves were donated in 1941 as part of her estate.

Page numbers in brackets in the upper right corners of pages were supplied by the arranger to aid in microfilming.

Harriet Parkerson was born in 1855. Her mother died when Harriet was two years old and the infant was legally adopted by her aunt and uncle, Isaac and Ellen Goodnow. She lived with the Goodnows near Manhattan and in Neosho Falls, Kansas, during the remainder of their lives although she retained her original surname. Biographical information is given in the edited journals of her sister, Etta (Parkerson) Reynolds; see Kansas History, vol. 3 (1980), pp. 203, 277-278.

The diaries describe her daily activities, predominantly work around the Goodnow household: baking, washing, cooking, churning, cleaning, and canning. She was also active in the Grange (Patrons of Husbandry) and the missionary societies of the Methodist Church in Manhattan. Many people and activities at the Kansas State Agricultural College are mentioned because of her father's ties to the school. Until their deaths, the diaries describe the activities of "aunt" and "uncle," Ellen and Isaac Goodnow. After the deaths of her sister Etta and her husband Alvin, Harriet adopted their son Louis and changed his surname from Reynolds to Parkerson. Her later diaries tell of his activities, particularly his helping her. Occasionally the weather is mentioned.

The preprinted diary volumes include daily events, cash accounts, registers of letters, memoranda, and addresses. Most of the eleven volumes contain each of these types of information. Some diaries contain letters and other documents that were kept within the volumes dated as early as 1872. These have been microfilmed after the diaries from which they were removed. Two of the letters are from Isaac Goodnow.

The Manuscripts Department also has the papers of her father, Isaac Tichenor Goodnow.

These documents were prepared for microfilming by Bob Knecht, February, 1985.