JOHN HERMAN FREDERICKSON COLLECTION

(Coll.: Frederickson)

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1918 JULY 22—1919 FEBRUARY 28 (includes training notes from army [Provisional Ambulance Co. A and Ambulance Co. 240, 10th Sanitary Train, Camp Funston])
1920 JANUARY 1—22 (includes Danish songs prefacing entries; see note below and accounts)

ACCOUNT BOOKS

ca. 1917—1918 (includes addresses)
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ADDRESS BOOK
NOTES ON 1920 DIARY

In the front of the diary are the words to three Danish songs. These songs precede any of the diary or account entries. Translated by Jan Lindhardt, they are summarized below:

Læg mig Skovens Sind

A semi-religious song about fall. The song teaches in its 4 verses about attitude for the 4 seasons and concludes in gratitude to God for the beauty of the nation.

Dejlige Danmark ("Wonderful Denmark")

The song starts by building up the spirit of the fatherland, then praises the flag, possibly stemming to a border skirmish between Denmark and Germany in World War I. The song concludes with a tribute to summer and the harvest time. (Possibly a popular song in the 1920's)

Jens Vejimand ("Jens Roadworker")

Introduces Jens Roadworker whose work it was at the turn of the century to break the rocks in the road with a sledgehammer. Continues "If you wake up in the morning or on the way to work you will hear old Jens working. He works to keep warm and transforms rocks into food on the table. He eases the road for others but one cold December night he worked himself to death." The verse concludes that at the graveyard is an old tilted board with chipped paint; it belongs to Jens Roadworker. His life was full of stones but in the grave he received none.

Bob Knecht
Oct. 30, 1980