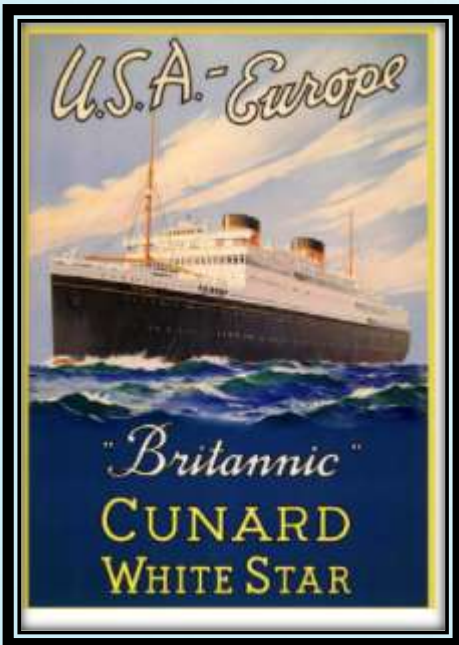


DIARY OF A TRIP TO EUROPE ON A CUNARD/WHITE STAR LINER SEPT – OCT 1934

ELMER W. BEARDSHALL SR



Introduction

In August 2021 Tom Beardshall, son of Elmer William Beardshall Sr. came to our home in Virginia and brought with him a small memo book containing the notes that our father had made in September of 1934 about his trip to Europe. The five member band that he was a part of in Bridgeville PA was hired to perform on the passenger liners owned by Cunard Line in 1934 that were traveling between New York City and Liverpool, England.

The Memo Book contains detailed daily information about the trip from August 25, 1934 when they left Pittsburgh until their return to New York on Monday October 1, 1934. The trip to Europe took about 10 days. During the layover, members of the band toured London and Paris. Dad kept a diary of their trips to London and Parish. One of the band members took a side trip to Belgium. An accounting of his trip expenses is found in the document.

Dad had a beautiful handwriting that was very easy to read. Thanks to Carol Mokwa, Tom's wife, for rescuing this account from the trash bin. Ann Hardy Beardshall has transcribed the diary, annotated it and added pictures.

Enjoy,

Elmer Jr. and Ann Beardshall



Members of the Band

My dad played the saxophone in a band that was organized in the Bridgeville PA area. In one of the memo book entries, he mentions that they took a picture of their band one night aboard the ship. We believe the picture shown here is the one taken on that day. While we are not sure of the identities of the band members, research of the names, ages, their names on the manifest and some other pictures found on Ancestry.com has enabled us to identify them.

Back l to r: Nicholas Lienard, McDonald PA (age 28), John Bigham, JR Carnegie PA (age 18), John Motte, McDonald PA (age 28)

Front l to r: William Baillie (McDonald PA (age 20), Elmer Beardshall, Bridgeville PA (age 20)

PICTURES OF THE SHIPS*

- THE BRITANNIC



- THE GEORGIC



Note: If you wish to see a video of these ships on YouTube, click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBiLizR2jrA>

*History of Britannic & Georgic: http://www.liverpoolships.org/britannic_and_georgic_cunard_white_star.html

THE SHIPS: P. S. BRITTANIC AND P. S. GEORGIC WHITE STAR (CUNARD) SHIPPING LINE

- THE BRITTANIC

Ship Name:	Britannic
Years in Service:	1930-1961
Funnels:	2
Masts:	2
Shipping Line:	White Star
Ship description:	Built by Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Belfast, Ireland. Tonnage: 26,840. Dimensions: 683' x 82' (712' o.l.). Twin-screw, 18 knots. Motorship. Two masts and two funnels.
History:	Passengers: 479 cabin, 557 tourist, 605 third. Launched, August 6, 1929. Maiden voyage: Liverpool to New York, June 28, 1930. Merged with the Cunard service in 1934. Served as a troopship in World War II. Re-entered trans-Atlantic passenger service in May 1948. Made her final crossing in December, 1960. Scrapped in 1961. Sister ship: Georgic

- THE GEORGIC

Ship Name:	Georgic
Years in Service:	1932-1956
Funnels:	2
Masts:	2
Shipping Line:	White Star
Ship description:	Built by Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Belfast, Ireland. Tonnage: 27,759. Dimensions: 683' x 82' (712' o.l.). Twin-screw, 18 knots. Motorship. Two masts and two funnels.
History:	Keel laid, November 29, 1929. Launched, November 12, 1931. Maiden voyage: Liverpool to New York, June 25, 1932. In 1933 made the Atlantic crossing at average speed of 18.43 knots. Transferred to London-New York route in 1935. Began operating under Cunard-White Star Line merger in 1934. Bombed and badly gutted by fire due to German air attack in Suez Bay, July 14, 1941. Rebuilt by Harland & Wolff, Ltd. at their Belfast yard. She was converted to permanent troopship, and as such had only a single mast and one funnel. After the war was put in the emigrant service. Chartered by Cunard Line in 1950 to help out during the peak season of trans-Atlantic travel. Scrapped by British shipbreakers in 1956. Sister ship: Britannic.

THE TRIP IN 1934

PASSENGER SHIP BRITANNIC

NEW YORK – QUEENSTOWN - LIVERPOOL

SEPT 1 – SEPT 10, 1934



An imaginary meeting of the BRITANNIC and the GEORGIC at Liverpool, painted by Captain Stephen J. Card

WHITE STAR IS THE AVENUE TO EUROPE

MAJESTIC

S.S. OLYMPIC

WHAT big times, at what small fares are yours this year when you make that trip to Europe on one of White Star's giant liners!

Learn a trick in ocean trips from seasoned seagoers...learn of the broaddecks, the roomy cabins, the appetizing treats that White Star has in store for you. Learn the right ship for your ocean trip!

World's largest ship The ship magnificent
MAJESTIC OLYMPIC
 Deluxe express service to Cherbourg & Southampton

IN NEW
GEORGIC BRITANNIC
 Luxurious Cabin service to Glasgow, Cobh & Liverpool

\$115.50 TOURIST CLASS
 (up to \$222) (up to \$166) (up to \$84.50)
 First Class Cabin Class Third Class

Liberal reductions in all classes on round trip bookings. See your local agent. His services are free.

WHITE STAR LINE
 INTERNATIONAL MERCANTILE MARINE COMPANY
 Company's Office, 154 Union Trust Bldg., Arcade, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-8.

Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph Ad
6/13/1934

PASSENGER SHIP GEORGIC

LIVERPOOL – QUEENSTOWN – NEW YORK

SEPT 22 – OCT 1, 1934



The Liverpool route to USA and Canada

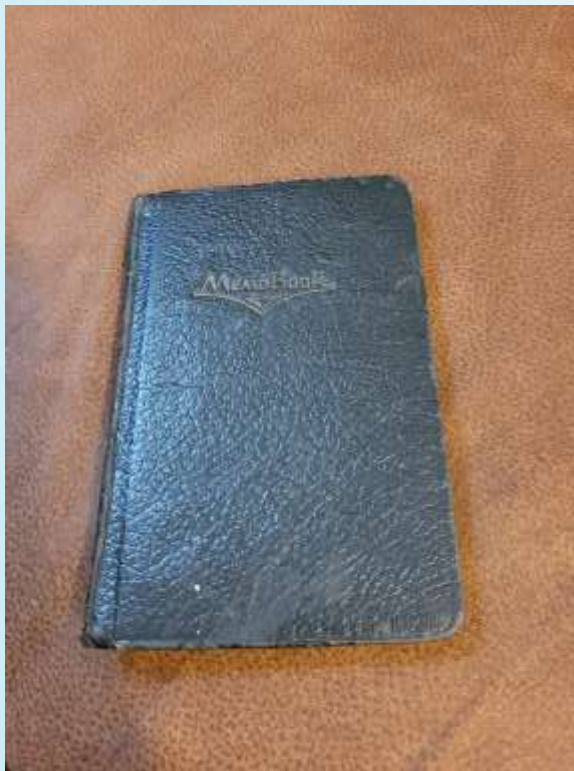
Britannic 72000 TONS
Cunard

WHITE STAR LINE

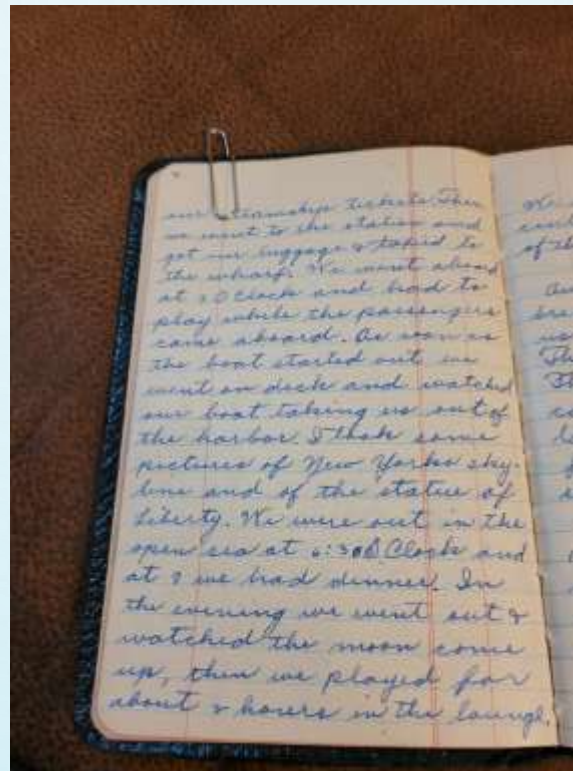
M.V. GEORGIC 27,000 TONS.

EWB SR'S MEMO BOOK

MEMO BOOK



DIARY PAGES



EXPENSE RECORD

An open expense record page with handwritten entries and a total. The page is held open by a paperclip. The entries are as follows:

Expense Record	
Salmon	11.25
Supper	1.00
Supper and port	2.00
Tip	1.00
Supper	1.00
Tip	1.00
Supper on boat	1.00
Round trip to Boston	12.00
" " " Paris	4.00
Short Cars	1.00
Tip	1.00
Port	1.00
Hotel Bill	2.35
Lunch	1.00
Supper	1.00
Supper	1.00
Tip	1.00
at lunch	1.00
Total	\$40.25

Expense Record	
Salmon	11.25
Supper	1.00
Supper and port	2.00
Tip	1.00
Supper	1.00
Tip	1.00
Supper on boat	1.00
Round trip to Boston	12.00
" " " Paris	4.00
Short Cars	1.00
Tip	1.00
Port	1.00
Hotel Bill	2.35
Lunch	1.00
Supper	1.00
Supper	1.00
Tip	1.00
at lunch	1.00
Total	\$48.46

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Leaving Pittsburgh on train to NYC – Waiting to Sail

Saturday, August 25, 1934: Left Pittsburgh August 25th 1934 at 8 o'clock in the eve. Stopped at Johnstown 10:30. Arrived at Altoona 11:20. Passed through Phila. and Harrisburg and arrived in New York at 8 A. M. o'clock.'

Sunday, August 26, 1934: Checked grips and washed and ate breakfast. We visited the RCA Building at 9:15 and had a roof view of the city. Could see all of New York and the Statue of Liberty, 7 miles distant. We could see 15 miles in all directions. We could see the "Brittannic" at the wharf. We could also see Brooklyn, White Plains, Jersey and other cities from here. This building cost 250 million to build, furnished by John D Rockefeller.

It is 70 stories high. We saw a "praying mantis" bug in the top of the RCA Building. It is a bug imported from Japan to kill insect pests. It is also called "The Devil's Walking Stick. It is the only bug in existence that can turn its head. It is 5 in. high and 6 in. long. It is so large and docile that it will allow a person to pet it just like an animal. Wing spread of 8 in.

We rode the subway down and saw the bay and the aquarium and rode the elevated back up town. Visited Radio City & saw the beautiful fountains etc. Ate breakfast at Soloways. Ate dinner at Foltes-Fishers.

In the evening we went down to Times Square and saw a theatre. We saw Leroy Smith and his orchestra. Took a walk around town and then went to bed. We stayed at the Y.M.C.A. for the nite. Wrote some letters and cards before retiring.



**RCA Building
1934**



Leroy Smith & His Orchestra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Twk0YRAONY&list=PLoMUavWua61IHnzdw8dbLGMqFLbvnZuZ&index=5>

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

NYC Departure on the Britannic – Enroute to Boston to Board More Passengers – Sailing from Boston

Monday, August 27, 1934 (Departure): Got up early, had breakfast and then went down to the steamship offices to get our steamship tickets. Then we went to the station and got our luggage and taxied to the wharf. We went aboard at 3 o'clock and had to play while the passengers came aboard. As soon as the boat started out we went on deck and watched our boat taking us out of the harbor. I took some pictures of New York's skyline and of the statue of Liberty. We were out in the open sea at 6:30 o'clock and at 7 we had dinner. In the evening we went out and watched the moon come up, then we played for about 2 hours in the lounge. We went to bed at 12:30 but could sleep because of the vibrating of the ship.

Tuesday, August 28, 1934: Awoke at 8:30 too late for breakfast. The steward gave us some coffee and rolls. Then we went out on deck. The sun was out and sea calm. We saw several large whales nearby and farther out we could see some spouting water.

We played from 10:30 to 11:30 A. M. and then went outside to get a glimpse of Cape Cod. It looked like long banks of brown sand. They had bell buoys & light houses all along the shore.

We ate lunch and we began to near Boston. We came into Boston harbor and could see hundreds of fishing and sailing vessels. The tug came along side and towed and pushed us into the harbor. We docked at 3:30 and were allowed shore leave. We took a cab to Boston to look the town over. It was raining and very cold. We saw the state house and the new post office and RY (sic Railway) Station. I stopped and wrote a few cards to Norma and mother. We stayed in Boston till five and then took a cab to the dock and went on board. Nick and I took a walk all over the ship to the 1st class lounges and rooms and then we went down and had dinner at seven.

We played from 9 to 10:30 and had our evening luncheon & chat then went to bed. There was a storm raging outside and the ship was rolling and pitching a great deal. None of us were sick tho and I slept well.



**Statue of Liberty with NYC
In background**



**Boston Harbor with State House
in background**

Expenses for August 26-27 1934 NYC Waiting to Sail – Departure Day - Boston

Date	Item	Cost	Notes
8/26/1934	Excursion Ticket	\$6.45	Train
	Porter Tips	\$0.60	
	Sandwiches & Coffee	\$0.40	
	Haircut	\$0.50	
	Checking grips	\$0.40	
	Towel	\$0.10	
	Visas (owed)	\$1.45	
	Breakfast	\$0.35	Soloways
	RCA Bldg Visit	\$0.40	
	Subway & Elevated	\$0.10	
	Dinner	\$0.45	Foltes & Fishers
	Ginger Ale	\$0.05	
	Stamps	\$0.10	
	Show	\$0.75	Leroy Smith & Orchestra
	Room at YMCA	\$0.75	
	Total	\$12.85	

Date	Item	Cost	Notes
8/27/1934	Breakfast	\$0.25	
	Lunch	\$0.25	
	Subways	\$0.10	
	Luggage Insurance	\$1.25	
	Luggage due for time	\$0.30	
	Taxi	\$0.25	
	Stamps & Boston cards	\$0.20	
	Tips	\$0.25	
	Tips	\$0.25	
	Pictures on boat	\$0.37	
	Total	\$3.47	

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Days at Sea Enroute to Europe on the Britannic

Wednesday, August 29, 1934: The Steward woke us at 7:30 & we had breakfast at 8. I went up on board for a few minutes but it was still cold and foggy but the sea was not rough. Then I came down to the lounge and caught up with my writing in this book.

We played from 10:30 till 12 o'clock, then I had a game of shuffleboard and a game of ping pong. I ate lunch and took a nap. I woke up too late to see the talking pictures. We played from 3:30 till 5 o'clock. Then went up on deck till supper time. We ate dinner and after dinner there was horse racing, an English betting game in the dining saloon. After the game we played for dancing for about an hour and quit at eleven o'clock. We had to turn our clocks and watches an hour ahead to-nite. We will have to for the next five days. Johnny and I took a walk on deck then we went down to our room. I got real sick and couldn't sleep. The old boat was going up and down like an elevator. I was sick for about an hour then went to sleep.

Thursday, August 30, 1934: I woke at 8 Thursday and had some breakfast but I was still sick. Went to bed till it was time to play. I tried to eat some lunch but I couldn't. I saw the moving pictures in the afternoon. It was **“The Dragon Murder Case,” with Warren Williams and Margaret Lindsay.*** Went to the doctor to get something for my stomach. He gave me a bottle of white fluid and I had to drink half then & the other half 2 hrs. later. He told me not to eat any dinner. We played in the lounge from 9 till eleven. Then I came down to my room & I was sick again. Went to sleep about 12.

*The Dragon Murder Case on YouTube Clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eO9OCrDvJdU>



Dining Saloon



The Tourist Cinema Room onboard

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Days at Sea Enroute to Europe on the Britannic

Friday, August 31, 1934: Got up late – too late for breakfast and played in the lounge. Today we are in the exact middle of the ocean and its pretty rough outside. Went through the daily routine without much variation. We played the evening dance job in the dining saloon and there was dancing, also horse racing.

Saturday, September 1, 1934: (Blank)

Sunday, September 2, 1934: (Blank)

Monday, September 3, 1934: Got up in time to eat breakfast. Just Nick and I were the only ones at our table. Went up on deck but it was too cold for me so I stayed in the lounge. We went through our regular routine. In the afternoon we saw a swell moving picture – **Robert Montgomery and Marguerite (sic Maureen) O’Sullivan in “Hide-Out.”*** It was a very good picture and almost “got” me for a while. We played in the dining room again for evening dancing and then went to bed and talked for a few hours.



*Hide-Out Clip on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHtHuENf-zM>



Dancing onboard a passenger ship

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Arrival at Queenstown Ireland then Arrival in Liverpool

Tuesday, September 4, 1934: Passengers get ready to land at Queenstown and we had or (our) landing cards & passports stamped. We passed through beautiful Irish hills and saw their forts, etc. I took some pictures. The passengers for Queenstown boarded a small steamer that came along side and we sailed away again. We packed up to land to-morrow morning and we didn't have to play in the evening. I wrote some letters in the evening then went down and finished packing and labeled my luggage for shipment.

Wednesday, September 5, 1934 (Arrival): The boat landed at Liverpool when we were eating breakfast. We docked. Went through the customs and they didn't even look at our baggage. We went to the Cunard Offices and arranged for our return trip. Took a room in the Adelphi, the most modern hotel in Europe. Went down to the lounge and wrote some letters and cards to Norma and Mother. Ate at Lyons restaurant. Came back and read the Liverpool papers and then went to bed. Slept very little. I got up and read.



Queenstown, Ireland
from water



Adelphi Hotel
in Liverpool
1934

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

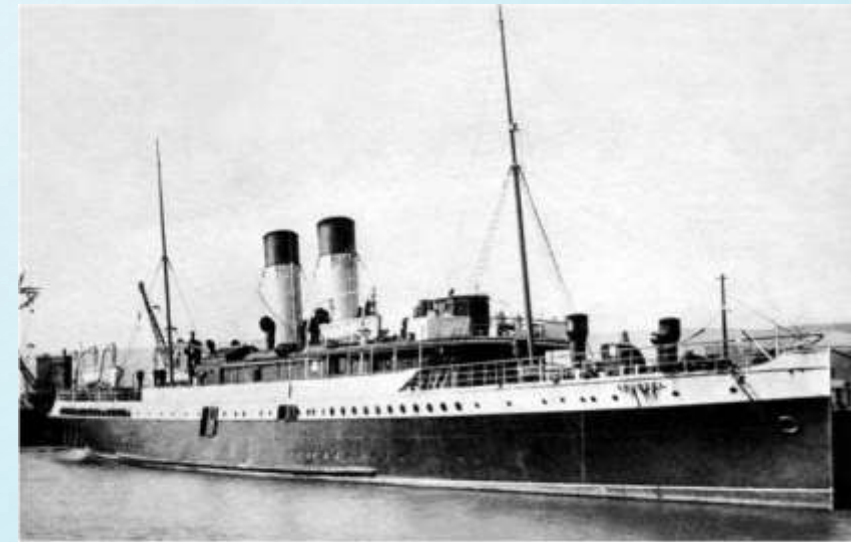
London Tour (after arrival) – Leaving for Paris Tour

Thursday September 6, 1934: Got up at 6:30. Settled for our room at the Adelphi. Cashed money orders travelers' check. Took a taxi to the bus station. Boarded bus. Went through the Mersey tubes. Stopped at Oxford for lunch. Rode past some old castles and farms. Went through Stratford-on-Avon the home of Shakespeare and many other beautiful English towns. Saw a flock of orange sheep. Arrived at Victoria Station, London at 2 o'clock. We stayed at the Montague House, whose windows look onto the house of Noel Coward. Many Celebrities are seen here. Took an evening walk around London. Came back and listened to some English Orchestra's on the radio and had a chat with Mr. and Mrs. Young.

Friday, September 7, 1934: I got up at 8 and breakfasted at nine. We walked up to Buckingham Palace and saw the Changing of the Guard at the palace a yearly (sic daily), traditional event. We were very fortunate in seeing it. Then we walked through Green Park to the London Museum. We spent two hours in the museum and then walked through St. James Park to The Houses of Parliament. The Guide took us through the House of Parliament, showed us the spot where Sir Walter Raleigh was executed, saw statue of Oliver Cromwell. We went to Westminster Abby and the guide told us the history of it. It was built in 1066. Very beautiful. Saw the graves of Alfred Lord Tennyson, etc. We then went to Westminster Cathedral. Went to lunch. We took a bus out to see the London Bridge. Then we went to the Tower of London and saw the white tower and the armories. Then we took a train back to the Montague House. Packed and ate supper and caught the 8:20 PM train for Paris. We met 2 nice fellows. We got off the train at Newhaven and caught the boat for Dieppe. At Dieppe we had to go through the customs again and then caught the train for Paris. I was in a compartment with five Welshmen and we had a very interesting talk. We arrived in Paris at 7:30 in the morning.



Victoria Station



Ferry from Newhaven, UK to Dieppe France

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Paris – September 8, 1934 – September 10, 1934

Saturday, September 8, 1934: We arrived in Paris at 7:30. Checked our baggage and then waited for the exchange to open. At nine we got some travelers checks cashed and then ate breakfast. Then we took a bus out to Nick's friend's house and they found a suitable rooming place for us. We took a taxi and got our luggage. Then we ate dinner (sauerkraut & wieners) at our hotel. We made some acquaintances and had a lot of fun trying to converse with people. Found a French waiter who speaks German whom I could converse with. Slept all afternoon. Then ate dinner at a sidewalk café. Took a taxi ride down to downtown Paris and came back and had another lunch. Wrote from 12 till 12:45.

Sunday, September 9, 1934: Got up and went to Tessaunts for dinner. We stayed there a few hours and then took a cab to the Arc of Triumph. The unknown soldier is buried beneath here and I took a picture of the memorial. I took an elevator to the top of the Arc. You can look straight down all the important boulevards of Paris from here because all the streets lead to and converge at the Arc. Then we took a walk down the Avenue Champs des Elysees. We stopped at the National Art Galleries and I went in and saw the Exhibit. Then I went down and took some pictures of the Place De La Concord. I met the fellows and we watched some people fishing in the river and then we went down to the Lafayette museum. From there we walked up to the St. Lazarre and then took a taxi home. We went out and ate and then came back and walked about the Cligencourt.

Monday, September 10, 1934: We took a cab to the Chase bank. Walked all over town trying to get our visas arranged. We finally went out to the Cunard Offices and had matters settled temporarily. We came home and ate supper. I spent the evening writing postcards & letters.



Sidewalk café in Paris (ca 1934)



Arc of Triumph

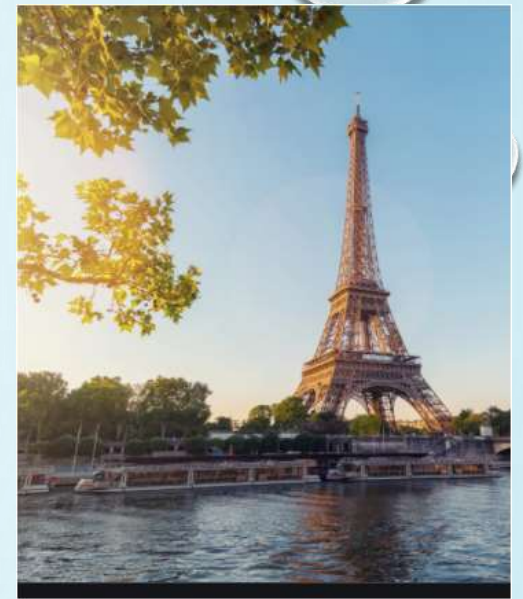
Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Paris – September 11, 1934 – September 12, 1934

Tuesday, September 11, 1934: We got up late and went to Tessaunts to eat. After eating Johnny, Nick and I went to the Gari de Nord Station so Nick could enquire about transportation to Belgium. Then we took a taxi to the Eiffel tower. Enroute we saw The Magdalene Church, The Arch de Triump, the Alexandria III Bridge.

We went to the top of the Eiffel Tower in 3 stages. On the 1st stage they had a restaurant, photo galleries, etc. From the top we could see the Arch of Triumph, the Tracadero (National Museum), Concord Square, Alex III Bridge, The Grand Palace, Cathedral of Notre Dame and everything of importance in Paris. It was one of the most beautiful views I have ever seen. After we descended the Eiffel Tower we went over and visited the Tracadero. Then we went to Tressaunts and she came to our Hotel and registered for us. Then the fellows had supper and a nice celebration afterward. Nick & Jack had a nice debate about Roosevelt.

Wednesday, September 12, 1934: We got out and ate dinner at Tessaunts. Then Johnny and Nick bought some presents and we took a walk up on the hills to the Coeur Basilica of Montmarte. The Montmarte is the the oldest and most wonderful church in France and slts upon the top of the highest hill in Paris. The old houses and buildings of France are all on this hill. We came back to our Hotel and I finished writing cards to the people I hadn't wrote to yet. Then we went out & had supper and the fellows came back and played cards all evening while I caught up with my writing in this book.



Eiffel Tower



**Coeur Basilica
of Montmarte**

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Paris – September 13, 1934 – September 14, 1934

Thursday, September 13, 1934: I got up and finished writing postcards to everyone and went to the post office. We went down to eat and then took a bus to the St. Lazarre Railroad Station so Nick could enquire about passage to Northern France. Then we took a walk to the Cunard Offices and met Jack and Bill. We visited some of the large department stores. Then we went window shopping. Nick and Jack bought some bedroom slippers. The whole gang went into a perfume store and bought some perfume to take home. I bought some for Norma. We walked home and on our way we saw the Academy National de Musique and the Trinity Church. After supper we took a walk around the Cligancourt and came back and ate peanuts and debated about the present administration in Washington DC.

Friday, September 14, 1934: We went to dinner at Tessaunts. She took us downtown to shop. We took the subway downtown. The subway stations are all built of marble. There are 3 levels of subways. We went to the Samaritan stores and I bought a purse, some souvenir ash trays, some fishing cord and a pipe. The Samaritans stores have six large buildings all in one block. Then we went to the Belle Jardinière stores and did some more shopping. After we were through shopping we walked up to the Grande Lignes station, the most beautiful railway station in the world. We saw the first train ever used in France. Then we walked back to our hotel and ate supper, then talked all evening till eleven. Then I wrote a letter to Norma which took me till 2 o'clock to write.



National Academy of Musique



Belle Jardinière Stores

Expenses After Arrival through 9/14/1934

London and Paris Tours

Item	Cost	Notes
Round trip to London & back	\$13.42	From Liverpool-London-Liverpool
Round trip to Paris	\$6.50	London-Newhaven-Dieppe & return
Street cars	\$0.10	
Taxi	\$0.15	
Porter	\$0.10	
Hotel Bill	\$2.35	
Lunch	\$0.30	
Supper	\$0.45	
Stamps	\$0.15	
Taxi	\$0.15	
1 st Lunch	\$0.30	
Tea	\$0.15	
2 nd Lunch	\$0.40	
Post	\$0.12	
3 rd Lunch	\$0.75	

Item	Cost	Notes
Lunch	\$0.20	
Buses	\$0.20	
Train	\$0.06	
Tower	\$0.35	
Guide	\$0.15	
Room	\$1.50	
Travelers Check Fees	\$2.00	
Breakfast	\$0.18	
Bus	\$0.05	
Taxi and luggage	\$0.38	
Dinner	\$0.46	
Supper	\$0.70	
Taxi	\$0.07	
Refreshments	\$0.14	
Taxis	\$1.00	

Item	Cost	Notes
Buses	\$0.25	
Meals	\$2.10	@Tessaunts in Paris
Postcards/Letters	\$2.00	
Tower	\$0.35	Eiffel
Arch of Triumph	\$0.13	
Radio Exhibit	\$0.35	
Miscellaneous	\$2.34	
Total	\$43.41	

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Paris – September 15, 1934 – September 17, 1934

Saturday, September 15, 1934: Ate at Tessaunts and took my laundry there. Took a bus to L'Opera and from there, walked to La Place de la Concord. From there I walked to the Musee De Louvre, a museum and saw the Egyptian mummies, first harps, knives, dishes, etc. saw some great paintings also the statue of Victoire de Samathrace and everything else common to museums. Then I walked back to the Opera and got a bus back to our room. Ate supper there with Jack. Nick's cousin came from Mans to see him. Nick went back with him to stay a few days. We talked the rest of the evening and went to bed early.

Sunday, September 16, 1934: Got up with a bad left eye. Doctored it and Johnny and I went out and ate breakfast. We went slumming and visited all of the sidewalk shops. There are thousands of them and they sell everything. We spent a few hours here and ate dinner then went back to our room to read. We ate supper in our room and then Joe came over and took us to the celebration of Tessaunts. Johnny gave the people a treat by playing the drums for them. We came back and bought about 2 lbs of peanuts and ate them. Then we bathed & went to bed.

Monday, September 17, 1934: We got up early and went on a shopping tour that lasted all morning. We ate at Tessaunts and then took a subway to the Opera and walked down to the Park. We visited some small shops there and then visited the bookshops and the fellows bought some pictures. We separated there and I went and saw the Cathedral of Notre Dame. The Main Hall was about 100 feet high. The Cathedral had very beautiful glass stained windows. I bought a ticket for the treasury room and visited it and saw all their gold & diamonds and gems. There I walked up to the tower. I never walked up so many steps at one time (386) in my life. They go around in circles and I was all tired out before I was halfway up. The view from the top was worth the climb, tho, I walked back down and then walked along the Seine river front for about an hour watching the people fish. I took a subway home and Johnny and I ate in our room with Jack. After supper we tried smoking Nicks 5 brothers tobacco but failed. We told weird stories for a few hours & then wrote the rest of the evening.



Egyptian Mummy Exhibit @ Louvre

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5M1POmQorY>



Notre Dame Cathedral in 1934

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Paris: September 18, 1934 – Return to London: September 19, 1934

Tuesday, September 18, 1934: We got up and took a walk. We went to Tessaunts and ate. After dinner Johnny and I took a long walk into the residential district. We walked through the parks and drives and came out at the Arc of Triumph. We then walked down the Avenue Champs des Elysees to the Place de la Concord and visited the shops down there. We bought a few compacts and things. Then we walked uptown past the St. Lazarre to the Central Parfume store and bought some perfume. We started to walk home but got lost and took a taxi and found out we were only a few blocks from home. We ate in our room and then fellows had a celebration in our rooms that nite to celebrate their last night in Paris. After they went to bed I wrote to Norma.

Wednesday, September 19, 1934: We got up just as Nick came back from Belgium with his cousin. We paid off our room rent then went down to Tessaunts and ate and got our laundry. We went back to our rooms to pack, then took a subway to the British consul to get a visa to go back to great Britain. We went back to our rooms and got our bags and took a taxi to the station. What a ride. Six fellows and eleven bags all in one taxi. We went to the St. Lazarre station and caught our train. We had a compartment to ourselves. We got off the train at Dieppe and boarded the boat to cross the channel. The boat was a small one as there were few passengers and channel was very rough. Boy, did we get sick. All of us were sick except Johnny and I believe he was the only person on board besides the sailors who wasn't sick. They put every one of us to bed and handed us each a basin. We thought we were never going to get across. We landed at Newhaven and had to go through the customs again. We boarded the train for London and arrived about 6:30 AM.



Central Parfume Store



**St. Lazarre Train Station
in Paris**

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

London: September 20, 1934 to September 21, 1934

Thursday, September 20, 1934: We went back to the Montague house to stay and Johnny and I had breakfast there. Then we took a good bath and went to bed for a nap. We woke at 3:30 and Nick and Johnny and I took a walk around London. We stopped in at the new Victoria theater and saw a fine show. We saw the newsreel, two pictures – “Chu Chin Chow,” and “Merry Wives of Reno,” and we saw Billy Cotton and his Band in Person. It one of the best Bands I have ever heard. They played “somebody stole my gal,” and “I’ve had my moments.” There were 16 fellows in the band, one a colored fellow who could really dance. It was a very pleasing performance. After seeing the show I went to Lyons restaurant to eat supper. Then I went to the Victoria bus station to inquire about buses to Liverpool. I went back to the Montague house and Johnny and I talked and ate chocolate till bedtime.

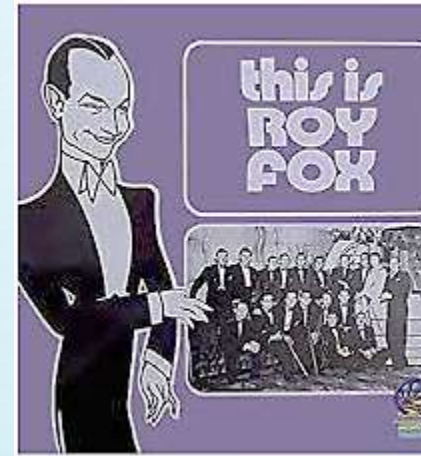
Friday September 21, 1934: We got up at 7 and ate breakfast at the Montague House. Said Good-bye to Mr. and Mrs. Young and went to the Victoria bus station to catch our bus. We got on the bus at 8:30. We passed through Oxford and saw the college. We stopped at Stratford-on-Avon for Dinner. Saw the Shakespeare theatre & S. Hotel. We passed over the same route coming back that we passed going to London. We arrived in Liverpool at 8:00 o’clock and took a room in the Lord Nelson hotel. We ate supper, baked beans, pork sausage, and mashed potatoes. The baked beans I ate was the first thing I tasted since I left home that “just like you get at home” so I had a couple of orders of it. The waitress must have thought I was nuts. After supper we went to the Empire theater and saw Roy Fox and his Orchestra. They were very good. They pulled off a great King Kong act and they were a crazy bunch of fellows. Picked up some good clicks – “Come & see me up some time” Lamp post sing – Get along little doggies – Something unusual about English theatres – You can smoke in them & you may order something to eat if you are hungry. Just call an usher & order it. We left the show and went back to the Hotel & read until 12.



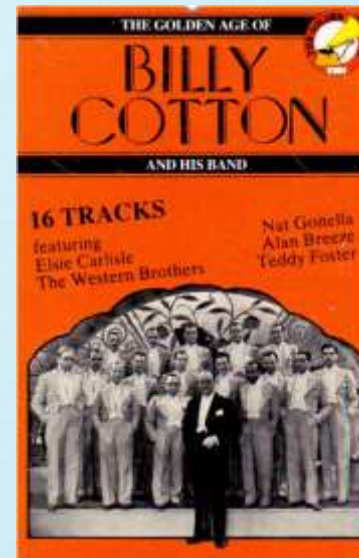
[Merry Wives of Reno](#)



[Chu Chin Chow](#)



[Roy Fox Orchestra](#)



[Billy Cotton and His Band](#)

[History of Billy Cotton & Band](#)

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

London: September 22, 1934 - Liverpool (Departure on Georgic): September 23, 1934

Saturday September 22, 1934: We got up at 9 and ate breakfast at the Lord Nelson Hotel. Became acquainted with some other people sailing on the Georgic. We packed up and left for the pier at 11:30. At 12 o'clock a tender came out and took the tourist & third class passengers aboard the "Georgic" which was anchored outside the harbor. Then we ate lunch and went up and watched the "Georgic" dock. After it docked we visited the ship and watched them load it. We pulled away from the dock and anchored out in the harbor. We played from 4 till 5 for tea. There was a terrific wind blowing outside & the waves were white capped. We ate dinner at 7 and played from 9 till eleven. Then we came down to our room & harmonized. The people liked our music. I wrote the rest of the evening. It's rough going and the boat rocking.

Sunday September 23, 1934: Got up in time to eat breakfast. We didn't have to play in the morning. I lay in my bed and read, "The Glass Key" by Dashiell Hammett all morning. We ate dinner and went up to see the scenery as we passed the Irish mountains. It was very beautiful and we saw some mountains in the water with tunnels and caves in them. We stopped at Queenstown and took some passengers on board from a tender. They loaded a Ford coupe on the ship too. We played from 4 till 5 and then read until dinner time. We went up on deck until the divine services were over. It was warm on deck and there was a full moon and everything was as bright as day. We played from 10 to 11 and then went up on deck again. The boat anchored off Galway and the passengers from Galway & Cobb came aboard in a tender. It got too cold upon deck so we came down and went to bed.



Georgic Leaving Liverpool on Return trip to NYC (1934)



EWB's Reading on return trip



Ford Coupe (1934) was loaded In Queenstown

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Enroute to New York City - September 24, 1934 - September 26, 1934

Monday September 24, 1934: We got up at 8 & ate breakfast. We were all feeling bad so we came back to bed until 11 when we had to play. We only played for ½ hour and rushed back to bed. Jack never left his bed all day. In the afternoon there was a talkie & I woke up too late to see the first part but I saw the last part. It was Clark Gable & Joan Crawford in “Chained.” What I saw of it was very good. Then I went to bed & stayed there till supper. I had dry toast & tea & then went back to bed. Nick & Jack were pretty sick & I didn’t feel well. Most of the passengers are sick & the steward said he never experienced this before. It is very rough & stormy outside.

Tuesday September 25, 1934: We were all sick but Johnny. We didn’t play at all Tues. The water was very rough, the waves coming clear over the front of the boat. At 2 o’clock I went up and saw the talkie. It was Janet Gaynor and Lew Ayres in “The Untrained Servant” I came down to the cabin and was sick again. While we were in the lounge watching the movie a large wave came over the front of the boat and the water came down the air ventilators and into the lounge. A lot of people were soaked and there was panic for a few moments. They cleared the water off the floor and the movie went on again. All of the fellows were in bed sick. We ate nothing but dry toast all day.

Wednesday, September 26, 1934: We were all sick in the morn – but perked up in time to eat lunch. At four o’clock we decided to play and they all gave us a big hand when we walked into the lounge because we hadn’t been there since Sun nite. We ate supper & saw the movies then I went back to bed and finished reading The Glass Key. It was still rough and stormy outside.



[Chained](#)

[w/Gable & Crawford](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRSfjqTVOUk>



Rough seas on way home

Expenses Paris (partial) 9/15/1934 – Liverpool (departure)

Item0	Cost	Notes
Dinner	\$0.59	Rabbit Dinner @ Tessaunts in Paris
Subway	\$0.07	
Souvenirs	\$1.75	
Purse	\$3.50	
Fish line	\$1.40	
Pipe	\$1.00	
Supper	\$0.25	
Stamp	\$0.10	
Dinner	\$0.51	Tessaunts
Bus fares	\$0.17	
Lunch	\$0.10	
Dinner	\$0.60	
Refreshments	\$0.15	
Supper	\$0.55	
Subway	\$0.10	
Book	\$0.25	The Glass Key
Notre Dame	\$0.34	Treasury
Notre Dame	\$0.14	Tower
Supper	\$0.30	

Item	Cost	Notes
Dinner	\$0.50	Tessaunts
Compacts	\$1.35	
Perfume	\$4.00	
Taxi	\$0.30	
Supper	\$0.50	
Meal	\$0.50	Tessaunts
Laundry	\$1.20	
Subway	\$0.10	
Sandwich & Coffee	\$0.30	
Room	\$4.20	Paris
Taxi	\$0.30	
Lunch	\$0.35	
Supper	\$0.40	
Visa	\$1.00	
Lunch on Boat	\$0.35	Dieppe – Newhaven

Item	Cost	Notes
Room & Board	\$1.65	London
Supper	\$0.55	
Candy	\$0.20	
Dinner on bus	\$0.50	Enroute to Liverpool
Tea	\$0.25	
Supper	\$0.50	Liverpool
Room	\$1.65	Liverpool
Total	\$32.68	9/15/-9/22/1934

EWB SR TRIP EXPENSES*

SUMMARY	COST	SEGMENT
Pre-Departure	\$16.32	NYC, Boston
London/Paris	\$43.41	Thru 9/14/1934
Paris – Departure From Liverpool	\$32.68	9/15 – 9/22/1934
Grand Total	\$92.57	

* Does not include trip expenses after arrival in NYC to Pittsburgh

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

Enroute to New York City - September 27, 1934 - September 29, 1934

Thursday September 27, 1934: We went through the usual routine in the morning. I went to see the movie in the afternoon starring Donald Cook. They had a big party of the children in the afternoon. In the evening they had a Gala Dinner with hats, whistles, balloons, etc. The menu contained roast turkey, cranberry sauce, chicken, etc. In the evening the sea was calm and we played out on the deck. It was all decorated with colored lights, balloons, spotlights, streamers, etc. We played till 11:30 & retired.

Friday September 28, 1934: We went through our regular routine. We're able to eat well now. We played out on deck again in the evening, but very few people were dancing. Afterwards we went up to the top deck. It was a calm moonlit night and every corner you turned you bumped into some couple on the top deck. We stayed up there till it clouded up and then went down and read some more. Another woman died today in the first class from pneumonia.

Saturday September 29, 1934: We got up at the usual time and ate breakfast. It was a swell day and we went up on deck. The deck was crowded and everyone was taking photographs. I had some pictures taken in groups and some taken with Mona Mitchell. Mona gave me a comb, a souvenir of the Isle of Man after which she is named. We stayed on deck all morning – did have to play. We ate lunch and got dressed up after lunch to have our pictures taken. Everyone was taking our pictures. We played from 4 till 5. While we played there was a small red headed boy just barely able to walk that put on a dance. He was the center of attraction. We dressed & ate supper and went up to watch the boats sail by. We played on the deck again from 9 to 11 and afterwards Johnny and I went on deck for a while with Mona and her friend and stayed there till it started to rain. We came down to the lounge and talked for about an hour. Went back to our room and read some more saint stories.

Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

NIGHT BEFORE ARRIVAL IN NYC – September 30, 1934

Sunday September 30, 1934: They made us get up at 5:30 to pass the immigration inspection. We went to the lounge and were examined and went down and ate breakfast. After breakfast I went up on deck to watch our boat going into Boston. We passed the Armories and the Naval base. I gave Mona a Paris souvenir. We docked at Boston at 8 o'clock and went up on deck to watch them unload. We bid good-bye to the Boston passengers and then took a walk around the boat. We went over and watched some people swimming in the pool. We left Boston about 11 o'clock and headed out to open sea again. Went down and caught up with this diary. We played in the lounge from 4:30 to 5:30. Nothing doing in the evening. Played from 9 till 10 and then went down to the lounge to hear President Roosevelt's address.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ADDRESS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1934:

Monday October 1, 1934: Enroute Boston to NYC

Tuesday October 2, 1934: Enroute NYC to Pittsburgh



Diary of a Trip to Europe – Elmer W. Beardshall Sr

ARRIVAL – OCTOBER 1, 1934 – ARRIVAL OF THE GEORGIC IN NEW YORK HARBOR



Monday October 1, 1934: (blank) Enroute Boston to NYC

Tuesday October 2, 1934: (blank) Enroute NYC to Pittsburgh

