

November 1938 til begyndelsen af 1940, del 3

FAKTA

Dato:
November 1938 til begyndelsen af 1940, del 3

Sidetal:
p. 84-89

Dagbogens placering:
SMK

Ophavsmand/nøgleperson:
Ernest Mancoba

Generelle kommentarer:
Transkriptionsregler:
Stavefejl bevares, efterfulgt af korrektur som [sic: korrekt stavning]
Nødvendige indsættelser af manglende tegnsætningsmærker tilføjes som [.]
Nødvendig opdeling af afsnit som [/P]
Ulæselige ord angivet med [illegible]
Gennemsstrøgne bogstaver og ord ikke transkriberet translated 2025-02-06

RESUMÉ

Denne Mancoba-dagbog dækker Mancobas første måneder i Paris. Han er indskrevet på L'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs i Rue d'Ulm. Han har fået venskab med den danske keramikker Christian Poulsen, som han forkorter til "Xtian", samt forskellige andre studerende, som han identificerer som "Pultzer/Pulzer/Bulzer", "den algeriske", "Chargo/Chago" og "Roser" (blandt andre). Han har et besøg med en sydafrikaner identificeret som "Mall". Dagbogen slutter sandsynligvis ved udgangen af december 1938 eller januar 1939. translated 2025-02-06

TRANSSKRIFTION

She asks the boy if he knows that the boy scouts ¹have to do two good turns now instead of one everyday – The boy says always [.] he ready to do good – Lady floored [.] But boy says cubs have to do one [.] lady recovers & adds "and the scouts two [" – To save her face

[/P] Germany [.] travel & next war – Man says "ladies will have to fight in next war [.] Russia, etc [.] China [" – I add and babies will have to be perfection [.] breathing gas masks exercises also that [illegible] that – He speaks of ladies again & Imagine them mucked up in their nothing flesh & shit and the stupid dead finds they wear for hats and the nauseating scent to make the [illegible] more horrible – [illegible] stick all paraphernalia –

[/P] She speaks of SA [South Africa] (I unhappy) She says it's ideal country, Smuts [Jan Smuts² orator – [illegible] Table Mountain [in Cape Town] –

After dinner – Sing song – I sing Deep River – They sing foolish songs out of books – boring – Nobody says anything to me except the French man [.] he says the English are reserved but I feel strange – I go away afterwards feeling miserable [.] not one goodnight – except French man [.] It is too late [.] I look up Chayo 11 oclock [sic: o'clock] – I go to sleep & read Paris Soir – The Normandic has not sailed – the backwash of the strike –

// I get up & go the St Georges [.] I am sick of it – I serve with the American & during the whole service I feel disgusted & I fear I might run amok and throw the foolish candle away – I meet the American afterwards [.] we go to Les Ambassadeurs & have cocktails – He is a head of Church School [illegible] there in America & speaks of objective approach to Xtianity [sic: Christianity] & I wonder what he is speaking about most of the time – Xtianity [sic: Christianity] a spent force – but he feels it can give one direction and a feeling of security in one's character and standpoint [.]

I don't believe him but I am polite –

[note in margin:] a sermon on the three judgments others – oneself – God
– neat arrangement but unconvincing

I go back to Hotel select [,]for and find Mme Henri had phoned – I go to Xtian [Christian Poulsen] and Putzer at 4 and we had tea [,] Putzer has been at the Dome [Le Dôme] till 4am – with a Danish drinking party – We talk of Scandinavian and the North Pole [,] Amundsen [Roald Amundsen]³ etc. Pulzer thinks the Russian overpolar flight a magnificent achievement and that Russia is the power of tomorrow – Severe writers of Denmark & Sweden – Icebreakers etc-

[note in margin:] cycling over the sea

A knock at Pulzers door and a woman and a man's voices – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] does not care for the man [,] Pulzer goes out but man comes in & settled down (a huge Dane with turned up nose) – afterwards Xtian tells me – man at Copenhagen behaved rudely to his sister – and I see why aversion – I remember a similar case to my sister in South Africa [,] It is [illegible] to have a sister –

[note in margin:] Telephone Mme Henry from Select [,] make appointment for Wednesday 9

[/P] we go out [,] down Bd St Michel [Boulevard St Michel] – many street vendor on the “trottoir” [French: pavement] and Xtian [Christian Poulsen] gets quite excited – He looks & pts [sic: points] at Shop-windows [,] He buys some nuts which I like very much – the Shops are specially dressed for Xmas [sic: Christmas] season – the [illegible] is beautiful [,] He talks of the war which everybody believes will soon be upon us – Xtian says he is ready to commit suicide if forced to fight – He approves of the Normandie strike – He sympathises with the workman – He asks me [if] heard “the [illegible] of 1914” –

[note in margin:] buy a copy of Candide from book vendors on Seine 4fr [sic: 4 French francs] and the river boat very beautiful with boatman like toys!

I invite him to eat at my hotel and he looks quite voracious – He embarrass me – He talks too much and points at me too often – He looks about absentmindedly – He wants to know what the people opposite are eating

from the waiters & I get uneasy – It is a turkey (dinde [French: turkey]) – we talk about Table manners and I tell him of dinner last night – How stupid I think it all is [.] He says I shall get used to it and he likes to be a host [illegible] – He wonders if Mme Florence Henry knows I am black for she may be expecting a white man – He also thinks I should take a bouquet of flowers to her my first visit – I am puzzled – I have never been seen in the street with flowers! I repose to take him seriously – Chago arrives and the waitress shows him in – They attack me for my shyness – Say a few unkind things perhaps it's the wine – Xtian [sic: Christian] departs and Chago & I ascend to my room – I am unhappy & restless – I tell Chago exaggerated stories of Africa and he is afraid of the sex parts, hows & savage beasts – I say I should return to Africa & chuck away my trousers [.] He is scared and says I must cover the body etc. He tells me of his experiences with a depraved white woman who sucked at his penis and expected him also to such at her sexual organ – He shudders but he confessed he did at last at last after much searchings of heart – He looks at it philosophically & shrugs his shoulders and says “C'est la vie” [French: that's life] [.]

[/P] He tells of two trips to Africa & the discomfort there which he could never stand – “bad beds”. He says & bad food – He stayed on board afterwards & never landed in Africa – I recall a young white student at Fort Hare who spoke of Native food & Natives as if wretchedness was the time living for the blacks – I am sleepy [.] We go downstairs take coffee & part –

School at 9 – I take chocolate on my way – work at something new – A head of a fat man – Paul very interesting [.] I teach him a few Zulu words and he likes it [.] he thinks my work not bad [.] In the afternoon I go to Rue de la Seine to see the art exhibition – all seem so cold and not much activity in the Galleries – I go in the Pierre Rooms [probable reference to Galerie Pierre] and see some modern paintings and drawings [.] there is a warmth about them but I do not understand them – based on the child conception of drawing – But I cannot dismiss them from my mind –

[/P] It is raining hard today – As I walk down Rue St Germain I see for the first time a black workman in the characteristic overall of the Parisian workman – I am excited – It is good [.] the French seem to have counted the cost of colonialism and to make an attempt to be logical – I feel again I have nothing to apologise for in Paris for being black –

I walk on to Notre Dame [Cathedral] – I think of the church back of Notre Dame [.] a magnificent work and the open square before Notre Dame must have been the market place from which Quasimodo saved the Gipsy Girl [reference to Victor Hugo's “Hunchback of Notre Dame” (1831[WF4]

)]⁴ – I walk in Notre

OVERSÆTTELSE

Hun spørger drengen, om han ved, at spejderne¹ skal lave to gode gerninger nu i stedet for én hver dag – Drengen siger altid [,] han er klar til at gøre godt – Damen bliver overrumplet [,] men drengen siger, at ulve skal lave én [,] Damen kommer sig & tilføjer "og spejderne to [" – For at redde sit ansigt

[/P] Tyskland [,] rejse & næste krig – Mand siger "kvinderne vil skulle kæmpe i næste krig[,] Rusland osv [,] Kina [" – Jeg tilføjer og babyer vil skulle være perfekte [,] åndedrætsmasker øvelser også det [ulæseligt] det – Han taler om damer igen & forestiller sig, at de er svinet til i deres intet kød & lort og de dumme døde fund, de bærer som hatte, og den kvalmende duft, der gør det [ulæseligt] mere forfærdeligt – [ulæseligt] klister hele udstyret –

[/P] Hun taler om SA [Sydafrika] (jeg er utilfreds) Hun siger, det er et ideelt land, Smuts [Jan Smuts² taler – [ulæseligt] Table Mountain [i Cape Town] –

Efter middagen – Sang – Jeg synger Deep River – De synger tåbelige sange fra bøger – kedeligt – Ingen siger noget til mig, undtagen den franske mand [,] han siger, at englænderne er tilbageholdte, men jeg føler mig underlig – Jeg går væk bagefter og føler mig elendig [,] ikke en godnat – bortset fra franske mand [,] Det er for sent [,] jeg kigger på Chayo kl 11 o'clock [sic: o'clock] – Jeg går i seng & læser Paris Soir – Normandic er ikke sejlet – tilbageslaget fra strejken –

// Jeg står op & går til St Georges [,] Jeg er træt af det – Jeg serverer med amerikanerne & under hele servicen føler jeg mig frastødt & jeg frygter, jeg kunne gå amok og kaste det tåbelige lys væk – Jeg møder amerikaneren bagefter [,] vi går til Les Ambassadeurs & tager cocktails – Han er leder af en kirkelig skole [ulæseligt] der i Amerika & taler om objektiv tilgang til Xtianity [sic: Christianity] & jeg undrer mig over, hvad han taler om det meste af tiden – Xtianity [sic: Christianity] en udtjent kraft – men han føler, det kan give en retning og en følelse af sikkerhed i ens karakter og standpunkt [,] Jeg tror ikke på ham, men jeg er høflig –

[note i margen:] en prædiken om de tre domme andre – sig selv – Gud – pæn arrangement, men uvant

Jeg går tilbage til Hotel select [,]for og finder ud af, at Mme Henri har ringet – Jeg går til Xtian [Christian Poulsen] og Putzer kl 4, og vi fik te [.]
Putzer har været på Dome [Le Dôme] til kl 4 om morgenen – med en dansk drikkeparty – Vi taler om Skandinavien og Nordpolen [,] Amundsen [Roald Amundsen]³ osv. Pulzer synes, den russiske overpolar flyvning er en storslået præstation, og at Rusland er magten i morgen – Strenge forfattere fra Danmark & Sverige – Isbrydere osv-

[note i margen:] cykling over havet

Et bank på Pulzers dør og en kvindes og en mands stemmer – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] bryder sig ikke om manden [,] Pulzer går ud, men manden kommer ind & sætter sig (en kæmpe dansker med opadvendt næse) – bagefter fortæller Xtian mig – manden i København opførte sig uhøfligt overfor sin søster – og jeg ser, hvorfor aversion – Jeg husker et lignende tilfælde med min søster i Sydafrika [,] Det er [ulæseligt] at have en søster –

[note i margen:] Telefoner Mme Henry fra Select [,] lav aftale for onsdag kl 9

[/P] vi går ud [,] ned ad Bd St Michel [Boulevard St Michel] – mange gadesælgere på "trottoir" [fransk: fortov] og Xtian [Christian Poulsen] bliver helt ophidset – Han kigger & peger [sic: pointerer] på vinduerne [,] Han køber nogle nødder, som jeg kan lide meget – butikkerne er særligt udsmykket til jul [sic: jule] sæson – [ulæseligt] er smuk [,] Han taler om krigen, som alle tror snart vil være over os – Xtian siger, han er klar til at begå selvmord, hvis han bliver tvunget til at kæmpe – Han godkender Normandie-strejken – Han sympatiserer med arbejderne – Han spørger mig [om] jeg har hørt "det [ulæseligt] fra 1914" –

[note i margen:] køb en kopi af Candide fra boghandlere på Seinen 4fr [sic: 4 franske franc] og flodbåden meget smuk med bådmænd som legetøj!

Jeg inviterer ham til at spise på mit hotel, og han ser helt glubske ud – Han generer mig – Han taler for meget og peger på mig for ofte – Han ser omkring sig fraværende – Han vil vide, hvad folk overfor spiser fra tjenerne, og jeg bliver urolig – Det er en kalkun (dinde [fransk: kalkun]) – vi taler om bordmanerer, og jeg fortæller ham om middagen i går aftes – Hvor dumt jeg synes, det hele er [,] Han siger, jeg skal vænne mig til det, og han kan lide at være vært [ulæseligt] – Han undrer sig over, om Mme

Florence Henry ved, at jeg er sort, for hun kan forvente en hvid mand – Han mener også, at jeg burde tage en buket blomster med til hende ved mit første besøg – Jeg er forvirret – Jeg har aldrig været set på gaden med blomster! Jeg prøver at tage ham alvorligt – Chago ankommer, og servitricen viser ham ind – De angriber mig for min generthed – Siger et par uvenlige ting, måske er det vinen – Xtian [sic: Christian] tager af sted, og Chago & jeg går op til mit værelse – Jeg er uheldig & rastløs – Jeg fortæller Chago overdrevne historier om Afrika, og han er bange for sexdele, hvordan & vilde dyr – Jeg siger, jeg burde vende tilbage til Afrika & smide mine bukser [.] Han er bange og siger, jeg må dække kroppen osv. Han fortæller mig om sine oplevelser med en depraveret hvid kvinde, der sugede på hans penis og forventede, at han også skulle sutte på hendes kønsorgan – Han ryster, men han tilstår, at han gjorde det til sidst efter meget hjertegrublen – Han ser på det filosofisk & trækker på skuldrene og siger "C'est la vie" [fransk: det er livet] [.]

[/P] Han fortæller om to rejser til Afrika & ubehaget der, som han aldrig kunne holde ud – "dårlige senge". Han siger & dårlig mad – Han blev om bord bagefter & landede aldrig i Afrika – Jeg husker en ung hvid studerende på Fort Hare, der talte om indfødt mad & indfødte, som om elendighed var tiden til at leve for de sorte – Jeg er søvrig [.] Vi går ned og tager kaffe & skiller os –

Skole kl 9 – Jeg tager chokolade på vejen – arbejder på noget nyt – Et hoved af en fed mand – Paul er meget interessant [.] Jeg lærer ham et par zuluord, og han kan lide det [.] han synes mit arbejde ikke er dårligt [.] Om eftermiddagen går jeg til Rue de la Seine for at se kunstudstillingen – alt synes så koldt og ikke meget aktivitet i gallerierne – Jeg går ind i Pierre Rooms [sandsynlig reference til Galerie Pierre] og ser nogle moderne malerier og tegninger [.] der er en varme over dem, men jeg forstår dem ikke – baseret på barnets opfattelse af tegning – Men jeg kan ikke afvise dem fra mit sind –

[/P] Det regner kraftigt i dag – Da jeg går ned ad Rue St Germain, ser jeg for første gang en sort arbejder i den karakteristiske overall af den parisiske arbejder – Jeg er spændt – Det er godt [.] franskmændene ser ud til at have regnet omkostningerne ved kolonialisme og forsøger at være logiske – Jeg føler igen, at jeg ikke har noget at undskylde for i Paris for at være sort –

Jeg går videre til Notre Dame [katedralen] – Jeg tænker på kirken bag Notre Dame [.] et storslået værk, og det åbne torv foran Notre Dame må have været markedet, hvor Quasimodo reddede sigøjnerpigen [reference

til Victor Hugos "Klokkeren fra Notre Dame" (1831[WF4])⁴ – Jeg går ind i Notre

¹ W. Sze: The Boy Scouts is an association of male youths; the Boy Scout Cubs are for younger members

² W. Sze: Jan Christian Smuts was Prime Minister of South Africa from 1919 to 1924 (and again in 1939 to 1948).

³ W. Sze: Roald Amundsen, Norwegian, who explored the polar regions

⁴ W. Sze: Victor Hugo (1802-1885), French novelist

KILDER TIL
DANSK
KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

Sketches the boy if he knows that the
boy scouts have to do two good turns
now instead of one every day - The boy says
always already the good-lady floored
but boy says cuts have to do one
lady receives + adds "and the school
two - to save the face - Germany
travel + next war - Man says "ladies
will have to fight in next war
Russia, etc China - Dadd and
bath's will have the perfect in
breathing gas mask exercises
also that makes that - He
speaks of love + I imagine them
mucked up in their sooty flesh
+ shit and the stuffed dead birds
they wear for hats and the
nauseating scent to make the
effuvia more horrible - faps stick
and all paraphanelia -
He speaks of S.A. (I n'topp) He
says it's ideal (with) Sants
order - dirty Fable Mountain
after hours - Sag say - King Keep
Rise - They sing foolish songs out of
books - boy - No boy says anything

KILDER TIL
DANSK
KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

From except the French or perhaps the
English are reserved but I feel strange
In my afternoon July 14th
not one good night - Except French
day - It is too late to look up
Chago 11 o'clock - I go to
sleep + read Paris Soir - The
Normandie has not sailed - the
back part of the strike -
I get up + go to St Georges
I am sick of it - I serve with
the American + during the bible
service I feel disgusted + fear I
might run away and throw the
forlorn candle away - I meet the
American afterwards - we go to
Les Ambassadeurs + ~~there~~ have
cock tails - He is a head of a
Church School for blue + orange
+ speaks of objective approach to
God - Charity + I wonder what he is
saying about most of the time -
Malomraig - Charity a spent force - but he feels
it can give one direction and a feeling of
security + one's character and standpoint I
don't believe him but I am polite -

a sermon
in the
church -
Judgment
others -
oneself -
God -
next
arrangement
with
Malomraig

KILDER TIL
DANSK
KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

Buy a copy of Andersen
and take the train on 4th

I go back to Hotel Select and find Mme
Herr had phoned - I go to Khan and
Putzer at 4 and we had tea. Putzer has
been at the home till 4 a.m. with a Danish
drinking party - he talks of Scandinavian
and the North pole Amundsen etc. Putzer
thinks the Russian over polar flight a magni-
ficent achievement and that Russia is
the power of tomorrow - several stories of
Hansen & Sveder - Ice breakers etc.

A knock at Putzer door and a noise
and a man's voice - Khan does not care
for the noise Putzer goes out but no one
is settled down (a pig done with turned
up nose) afterwards Khan tells me - had
at Copenhagen believed much of his
stories - and I see why - I see
a picture case to my side. South Africa
is better than a side - we go out
down Bd St picked - many street vendors
on the "travellers" and Khan gets quite
excited - He hops and pts at shop-keepers
He buys some nuts which I like very
much - The shops are specially dressed
for the season - The Sarsbaner is kept
He talks of the bar which everybody believes

Cycling
over the
sea

Telephone
Mme Herr
from Select
before
9

KILDER TIL
DANSK
KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

I have a copy of Caselli
 and find it very
 go to Whelan and
 and then Peter's
 am with a Spanish
 of Scandinavian
 men etc. Puller
 also flight a page
 that Russia is
 severe notes of
 notes etc.
 over and above
 as does above
 but we are
 have not turned
 the table - but
 ready to
 return - I have
 in South Africa
 - We go out
 my street vendor
 than get quite
 do at shop-vendors
 I like very
 really dressed
 as being in keeping
 every body believes

the river.
 about very
 beautiful
 with boat
 very like
 1899

Bill soon be open on - When says he is
 ready to commit suicide if forced to fight -
 He opposes the Montanari strike - He
 says that the boat man - He also
 says "the Sun of 1914"
 I made him beat at my table
 and he looks quite voracious - He
 entertains me - He talks too much
 and points at me too often - He looks
 about about indeed - He wants to
 know what the people opposite are eating
 for the kitchen & get meat - It is
 a turkey (dinde) - He talks about
 table manners and tells me of some
 last night - How stupid I think it all to
 He says I shall get used to it and he
 likes to be a host, particularly - He
 says that the ladies of the table
 know I am black for she has to
 expect a white man - He also thinks
 I shall take a bouquet of flowers to her
 my first visit - I am puzzled - I have
 never seen her in the street with flowers!
 Jacques takes her seriously - One woman
 and the waitress shows him in - He attacks
 me for my dress - Say a few words they

perhaps into the line - When departs and
Chago + I ascend to my room - I am
unhappy + restless - I tell Chago exaggerated
stories of Africa and he is afraid of the
serpents, lions + parrots - I had to
return to Africa + chuck away my trousers
He is scared and says I must cover the body
etc. He tells me of his experiences with
a depraved white woman who sucked
at his penis and expected him also to
suck at her sexual organ - He shudders
but he confesses he did at least after much
pleading of meat - He looks at it philosophically
+ shrugs his shoulders and says "Est la vie"
He tells of his trip to Africa + the discomfort
there which he could never stand - "bad
beds" he says + bad food - He stayed on
board afterwards + never landed in Africa - I
recall a young white student at Holt. Hall who
spoke of Native food + Native as if spotted
bless for the time long for the blacks -
In sleep he goes down stairs to the office +
part

School at 9 I take chocolate on my
pay - Work at Sonnetty news - A head
of a fat hen - Paul very interesting

Heard him a few English words and he
likes it he thinks my work not bad
In the afternoon I go to Rue de la
Seine to see the art exhibition - all
seem so cold and not much activity
in the Galleries - I go in the Pierre Rodin
and see some modern paintings and
drawings there is a remark about them
but I do not understand them - based on
the child conception of drawing - But I
cannot dismiss them from my mind - It is
raining hard today - As I walk down
Rue St Germain I see for the first time
a black workman in the characteristic
blue overall of the Parisian workman - I am
excited - It is good the French seem to
have counted the cost of colonialism and to
make an attempt to be logical - I feel
again I have nothing to apologise for - Paris
for being black -

I walk on to Notre Dame - I think
of the church back of Notre Dame a magnificent
black work and the few square square
before Notre Dame must have been the
market place from which Grassano
saved the Gipsy girl - I walk in Notre