Tom Marshall's Weekly News, September 3, 2007

Labor Day Period in the Past: Labor Day has never been my favorite holiday. For one thing, it signifies the end of summer, and I never liked cold weather. I subscribe to the lyric: "Summertime and the livin' is easy." Although summer officially ends about September 21, Flora Stanley, in her diary, said August 31, 1899, was the last day of summer. Many of you will know that was the date she and her husband, F. O. Stanley, climbed Mount Washington in a tiny Locomobile steamer, the first successful ascent of the mountain in an automobile.

It was early September in 1938 when Orson Welles shocked the nation with his radio broadcast telling of the landing on earth of the Martians. And despite what he had told Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain of Great Britain, Adolf Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, signaling the beginning of World War II. Not only did a 15-year-old have to face going back to school following a fun-filled summer, the news of the day was not good.