

In 1916 Dorothy got sick and had to give up teaching. Since she needed a lower elevation, she went to live with F.J. and Aunt Jen in the Imperial Valley of CA. She regained her health and returned to Fierro where her parents were now living.

She met her future husband, Allan during this time. In 1917 Allan enlisted in the army and went to France. When Allan left, Dorothy went to Deming where she went to work for the YWCA as a hostess to help the soldiers at Camp Cody feel more at home. Later she was transferred to the YWCA at Wichita Falls, Texas.

In 1920 Allan returned to Fierro and on October 12, 1920 he and Dorothy were married. After the honeymoon the couple went to Hot Springs to visit Allan's parents who had a new baby, Robert. Then Allan and Dorothy moved to Brownwood, Texas for six months and then to Moran, Kansas where their first child was born and in 1923 their second child was born.

The next few years the family moved from place to place where Allan worked as a surveyor and geologist in the oil fields. Allan traveled a great deal. Dorothy took care of their family which included three more children.

During the depression the oil industry could not survive and although Allan continued to work another year, the family was forced to move to Las Cruces, NM into a large tent for a month or two. Then they moved to Faywood, NM. for the summer. Dorothy and the children moved to the Davidson house in Fierro, NM. The depression was in full force but Dorothy managed through strenuous work, ingenuity and the help of the children to keep the family happy, fed, clothed and the children attending school. She found time to teach Sunday School, act as a midwife and share her home, food and extra clothes.

After Allan returned to Fierro he worked there for several years then accepted a job with the CCC at Gila. The family moved to Silver City, NM. This house had electricity and indoor plumbing and taking care of the family was easier. The family also bought their first radio. A transfer took the family to Mountainair, NM and then to Mesilla Park, NM where they bought a house.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the family moved to Richmond, CA where Allan worked in the shipyards. The family lived in barracks built for the war workers and Dorothy gardened even in this limited space. During this time Dorothy took the family to San Francisco to see the beginning of the United Nations.