

1971

DIARY

BBROWNLINE

DIARY

1971

*drove to Sask
and back by Urbana*

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Fred W

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MEMORANDUM FROM 1970

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

2nd day

7.56

1971

4.54

44°

1st day

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

364 to come

32°

New Year's Day (Dominion)

A fine day to begin 1971. Sunny and not too cold and not much wind. Spent the short morning dismantling the indoor tree and packed away the decorations for another year. Got away in M₂ shortly after lunch and had a nice drive to St. Thomas. It clouded over when we got there and the rest of the day was dull and milder. Had lots of fun with Nancy. A fine turkey dinner a most enjoyable visit. Got home in time for the 11.00 o'clock news

2nd day

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

363 to come

7.56

18°

35° 4.55

Milder and mostly clouded. Did not like the idea of having to work today. However now that it is over I am not sorry I did. Enjoyed the Freund family date in the afternoon. Saw all the Yapps this morning except Russell who was still in bed (Snow was not an early riser) I must try to get home before the dear family leaves. I think the children both Yapps and Freunds are all lovely "fresh and fair in this sad world's best bloom."

7.56
3rd day

1971

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

362 to come

28°

4.56
33°

Dull and milder. Managed to get the outside lights and Santa down and all packed away for another year. The Yapps dropped in for about half an hour. It was nice to see the girls and "no good boys". They were fairly noisy and took the opportunity to pound the piano. It was late in the evening that the day was saddened by the news from Igune that Leetnis had a serious back injury from being thrown from his Skedoo. "This did I fear, but thought he had no weapon"

4th day

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

361 to come

7.56 32°

4.57
40°

Very dark and mild, the big banks of snow shrinking by the hour. Fine rain most of the day. Must hurry home to hear any later report from St. Thomas.

7.56

1971

4.58

5th day ^{24°}

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

26°

360 to come

The sun tried to struggle through the almost everpresent cloud cover but I could not search his disc for spots.

No more word from St. Thomas.

Maybe when I get home there will be a later report. The new year is starting out with a trip to the hospital, but not with Ron.

Smiling John did the needlework, and an expert job he made of it.

Wish I had a few minutes for music and literature. An atlas and a big dictionary make "the Requests" much more exciting.

6th day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

359 to come

7.56

Epiphany (Quebec) 13°

18° 4.59

Colder and partly sunny. Better news from St. Thomas last night. Dennis may not have to be in the hospital as long as expected at first. Tell you more later.

7.56

6°

1971

personnel!

16°

5.00

7th day

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

358 to come

Mostly sunny and cold. Arthur conducted the rehearsal last evening as we read over the rest of the Offenbach. There were numerous gaps in our time honored personnel as some were retired and others resigned. Sorry to see the Petersons go - maybe they will come back I hope so. We live from day to day on news from St. Thomas. Kathleen is going to phone tonight. I must get along home soon.

8th day

7.55

10°

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

18°

357 to come

5.01

Another sunny day with a high barometer - over 30 inches. An ideal January day. Reread that graphic scene where the poor French soldiers froze stiff sitting around their bivouac "while Sirius and the stars in Orion flashing like stilettos".

What a marvelous work is "The Dynasts"! I am grateful that the first 28 years of my life coincided with the last 28 of this great ~~man~~ man - novelist, short story writer, poet, dramatist, student of history, natural history, etc - including all science and philosophy.

7.55

1971

5.02

9th day 7°

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 25° 356 to come

Quite a temperature range and sunny, the sun going down white and coloured behind the little chimney. Just got a letter to Edily off my chest. I had carried hers around in my bag two months and only produced it last evening. She mentioned the Southern Cross and that started me off on a two page tirade. Must hurry home now as Kathleen is patiently waiting.

10th day

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

355 to come

7.55 16°

30° 5.03

Dull and milder. Got an early start after church for St Thomas arriving there before 2.00. The rush was unnecessary as the visiting hours were 2.30 to 3.45. and the officer in splendid uniform was there to enforce the law. Found Dennis in good spirits with his huge 25 lb. cast filling him out like a barrel. It had been baked and was dry and hard. Had a good dinner of pork chops etc and we stayed with Nancy White Lyne. went hospitalward in the evening. Nancy is a splendid reader for 6 years.

7.55 25° 1971

32° 5.04

11th day

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

354 to come

Still mild and dull. Ev and Jack had just landed home a few minutes before we did, so we kibed over and guffed for an hour. They seemed fine and brought home many gifts. We took Ben the first issue of the National Geographic which the Taylors gave me for Christmas. Wish we were near enough to drop in to see Ben every day.

12th day

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

353 to come

7.54 8°

20°

5.05

A sudden dip in the temperature made me rush out and plug H-14 in at breakfast time. The boiler's heat was sufficient as it started right off. Tonight's rehearsal is called off, as Nuala called this morning, so I have at least half an hour to myself - what luxury! My office is subjected to "earth's far core quaking, hill shocks, tide shaking" as workmen are eliminating the vault below me in Harold's Emporium.

7.54 4° 1971

20° 5-56

13th day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

352 to come

A near zero morning with a few blue patches and flakies and bars of high cloud and a biting east wind. John and Dave Morrow installed our new garage door on Monday and it is excellent both in appearance and ease of operating.

Ken Morrow also supplied oil yesterday so there is always a place for Kathleen's hand-canned money. I am so tight I let her pay such bills as fuel, hydro, insurance (car & house) food, clothing etc - in fact everything.

7.53 14th day

22°

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

351 to come

31° 5.07

Things sounded bad last night with fine freezing rain and sleet against the east bedroom window, but the morning showed definite improvement with milder air, wind changed to west and patches of blue. The rest of the day was dull and remained comparatively mild.

Gas at Les Clarke's up to 46.9 and 57.9

Cost of living going up steadily. Will nobody hold the line?! Got my 1971 licence plates white numbers on a blue background ~~548~~ 431. Kathleen planned to go to Kitchener but did not like the icy streets so washed instead.

7.53

1971

180

20° 5.08

15th day

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

350 to come

Some sun and snow and enough wind to make it a March day.

Must hurry now and pick up Mrs Bob Stevenson at Princeton as this is the annual church meeting. Damn this church business to hell - cutting into my precious spare time. What do I get - just a lot of germs and the wrong diet. As Dennis would say - blst!

16th day

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

349 to come

7.52 30

18° 5.10

A fine winter day with snowflurries and a little dim sunshine. The annual church meeting went off fine but we missed Ed, Joanna and Laura, the first two being under the weather. Tommy did a fine job with the hot beef sandwiches and the butterscotch sundaes. A lot of white kerick dust seeps up from below as the boys from Dungen Holdings tear down the old vault. A wonderful sight this morning at 6.00 when Venus, Jupiter and Mars were spread out in the south east above Antares. The morning moon was to the right in Virgo.

751

6°

1971

12° 5.11

17th day

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

348 to come

With nothing to do but sweep a little snow off the porches and sidewalks, I still was late for church. They were through the doxology and invocation and were starting the first hymn. However it does not bother me - I am too old and sinful to care. Kathleen phoned St Thomas in the afternoon and talked with Lynn and Ben who had just come home from the hospital. I guess his state is very trying - getting up or getting down or sitting - did I say sitting? - is a problem.

5.13

751

18th day

-2°

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

10°

347 to come

Kathleen and I had a nice quiet evening with a lovely dinner of tenderloin, and reading some of Joanna's "ruins" book. H.4 did not want to start last evening but went right off this morning being plugged in all night. Have just been over to the icy parking lot to drive it round in front of Pearl's. She is a pearl of great price. Mostly clear and very cold. I will try to get home a bit early as it is just zero now by my north thermometer.

5:14

7.50

1971

19th day

-8°

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

18°

346 to come

Poor old H14 groaned and squealed coming home last night in a subzero air. Today was sunny and inclined to be a little milder. A lot of pounding down stairs. I wonder if they are going to lower the ceiling before making the next like Chester did.?!
 The battle of Waterloo is really vivid and exciting when T.H. tells it in his inimitable poetry and prose.
 Oh, memories! fried eggs at Roscoe's

20th day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

345 to come

7.49

4°

18°

5:15

Just rushed up to Brewens retail and got 24 Heidelberg in case Arthur Frieder comes to visit. I see Gordon Lee Prestein's obituary (27th of last October). How our year is dwindling - but not any faster than 2T3. Yes, you will be late for supper again.

7.49 14°

1971

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

28° 5.16

344 to come

Not so cold, but dull and windy. Quite a little blizzard in the afternoon but all is ~~calm~~ calm now although still overcast. Must get home in good time as there will be walks to shovel, also frozen peas and tenderloin to deliver across the road. Just finishing the "Queen of Cornwall" after the tremendous "Dynasts". What drama could be more superb?

7.48 22nd day 24°

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

343 to come

32° 5.18

Milder with quite a lot of strong springlike sunshine, making the streets wet and the curbs or kerbs slushy. Kathleen got going in M.2 shortly after 8.30 to "Valysit" for meals and shop. Kathy was home with a cold. I as Kathleen mentioned immediately went hog wild on the snow shovel and cleared the walks which were drifted to a foot deep in places. Thanks to Enid I sample the philosophy and poetry of Henry David Thoreau. Dear Gordon Lee P. he was one of the faithful ones - at all our get-togethers. Dear departed friends
over and R.E.H.

7.47 1971 ^{sizable} or ^{sizable} 24° 5.19
23rd day 22° SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 342 to come

The wind blew sizable drifts on the back roads especially north of Canning by the river. It just ignores ice and snow drifts. I sure will hate to give up the studs next spring. Don't forget to get the groceries out of the store room or else you name will be mud. Nuala and Arthur were down this afternoon to brighten the end of the mostly always strenuous week. Now for home and supper and loving wife!

24th day 7.46 22° SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 341 to come 5.20
27°

Milder but no snow as promised after church and our simple lunch of soup and toasted sandwich we went across the road to share dessert with the Taylors. A birthday cake for Laura's 27th on the morrow was delicious - tall layers of light sponge with frothy, fruity filling. a masterpiece by Kathleen. The ~~Armands~~ came about 2.30 and we went to the rink all but Arthur and Kathy.

Kathleen drove us over and back in the wagon. Had a great skate - first for over a year at least. The dinner of roast beef, squash, apple pie etc wine (French import) was scrumptious

7.46

1971

25th day 24° MONDAY, JANUARY 25

33° 5.22
340 to come

Milder still and thawing. No ill effects from my skating yesterday. No stiffness - I feel fine. But writing about yesterday's food shampans and aggravates my empty stomach. Got a quart of milk and ordered a turkey for next weekend - the great family party. Hurrah - hip - hip - Carnie - the handbook arrived - I am no longer without Chart and Compass.

7.45

26th day 30° TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

14° 5.23
339 to come

Well, this is a pretty how-do-you-do; Here I am blizzard bound in Paris. Kathleen phoned at 3.00 to tell me the roads were hopeless, visibility nil and drifts too much for the best snow tires. So here I am. Maybe not as bad as 48 years ago but frustrating enough for a home boy like I am. According to instructions I am to park at 137 June for supper and bed and breakfast but not two times with Josephine.

7.44

1971

5.24

27th day 4°

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

6° 338 to come

One of the coldest nights and days of the winter, what with the above temperatures and the howling north-west wind. Was well fed and bedded at 37 June. H:4 started right off this morning. Have just had another phone call from Kathleen urging me to come home soon.

743

5:26

28th day 4°

THURSDAY, JANUARY, 28

12° 337 to come

Blowing snow and cold. Called home at ~~5.30~~ 5.30 and reached there by the Agr road and 7th shortly after six. Had a long very pleasant evening at home.

I was called home 25 years ago tonight but on a much sadder occasion. The winter blizzard was comparable to today.

7.42

1971

5.27

29th day 6°

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 18° 336 to come

More snow and wind. Got stuck in front of our place and Kathleen had to come out and help me, which hurt my pride. Slightly milder. Snow is coming now from the south-west. Guess I better start home in good time. Have just finished David M. Segate's biography of Stephen B. Leacock. Very absorbing.

7.41 30th day 14°

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 12° 5.28 335 to come

It blew great guns last night; at times we could hardly see Sarah's house, and all hope was abandoned for Paris today. However with John's quick and effective plow we got H-14 back up to Jack's and away by 10.00 o'clock. This afternoon the temperature has been dropping and we have had a few wicked looking snow squalls but the blessed sun is shining now so all aboard for Drumbo. May the gods protect me!!

7.40 1971

5.30

31st day

(-5°)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

6° 334 to come

As you see this was a chilly day, what with the thermometer hovering around zero and the sly icy wind from the west stabbing your face or any unprotected parts. We prepared for a big party and as luck would have it they all came; Denis first and in about half an hour (2.30) Artie. Johns dropped in for a visit so the house was filled with 40 kinds of noise and yaking. The 9 pound turkey was lovely and brown and tender - thanks to Kallie's loving care. Anala brought the birthday cake. Poor Den enjoyed himself, but oh how sorry

32nd day

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

333 to come

~~we felt for him fettered with such a big heavy cast.~~

7.39

(-7°)

5°

5.31

Just a degree or so colder than yesterday. It is bracing weather. The country, the distance has the ghostly ashen palor that goes with long severe cold spells - something like 1934 but not quite so severe (Thank God) H14 was plugged in all yesterday and last night but no go this morning so Jahan came with the truck and cables, pulled me out onto the road and gave her the juice - away she went! Today it was a new battery at 30.71 - probably this one should see the old "basket of bolts" to the end of its journey!

7.38

1971

5.33

33rd day

(-7)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7°

332 to come

Temperature ranged from 7 below this morning to 7 above this afternoon. The sun blazed away in a cloudless sky all day casting long shadows on the pure white snow, shadows of trees, bushes, fences, snowbanks, buildings, animals including ~~homo~~ and ~~arctomys~~ as well as ~~ursa~~ - The new battery is much appreciated in this polar weather.

7.36

5.34

34th day

(-1)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

20

331 to come

Quite a swing upwards in the reluctant thermometer. Dull in the afternoon after a morning of misty white sunlight. Must hurry as supper is at 6.00 sharp - highway market - we hope.

7.35 1971

5:35

35th day 14° THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4 27° 330 to come

Mildew but an east wind and fine rain developing in the afternoon. Dark and gloomy. I must hasten home for early start for Pitcheva.

The poor peasant could not go to Drumbo to night any more than it could 60 years ago. The track is buried under 4 foot drifts.

36th day 7.34 40° FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 28° 329 to come 5:36

The thermometer has its ups and downs. That was a long rehearsal on the opera (Zule of Hoffmann). We took H14 as the roads were icy and it was raining. It was after midnight when I came out of the band ball and spent some time in the pouring rain scraping the car windows. No particular problem going home but it was hard steering on the ice and slush. Home at 1.30 A.M. This morning Kathleen's top notch driving got M² uptown and away to Brantford. I followed her to Paris. I saw her again at noon and put a bag of groceries in her car. Strong winds and much colder at night.

7.33 24¹⁹⁷¹

270 5.38

37th day

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

328 to come

A short day at Paris. Managed to get the eggs by a roundabout route to Poulslund and Puttoun. Was back in Drumbo by 12.15. ate sandwiches in the car. Got to the band hall just before 1.00 P.M. ready for the long afternoon rehearsal. Called at the A & B and Highway market on the way home. A late dinner at home for which we were plenty hungry.

7.31 38th day

15⁰

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

5.39 327 to come

22⁰

Partly sunny and not very cold. Skipped church so we could dress and get away for the Lyric by 11.15. Rehearsal from 12 to 2.00, then ate our sandwich. Nuala brought a thermos of coffee which we enjoyed immensely. "The Tales of Hoffmann" with Raffi Annemian & Geige-Jorell was very ravishing, the four soloists excellent, thrilling - all the superlatives you could name. Arthur took us to the Ala-Baba for a steak dinner which was delicious. Lost my glasses. Quite slippery on 401. Home at 9.30. East wind and more snow.

7.30 20°

1971

27° 5.41

39th day

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

326 to come

More snow. Kathleen just phoned to say the roads were heavy and advising me not to linger so here I go to break the drifts - to Roscoe Buck's?

40th day 7.29
15°

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

5.42-325 to come
18°

Got home about 7.30 last evening after finding the going by no 2 rather heavy and blustering with poor visibility at times, but on the whole not too bad. The temperature is sinking rapidly now after sundown and it looks like a fine zero night, just right for that eclipse at 2.00 A.M. tomorrow.

7.27

1971

5.44

41st day 9° WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 20° 324 to come

This day did the post die early in the small hours of the morning so many, many years ago. I fortunately escaped this morning by great good luck. Many times from Drumbo to Princeton I could see nothing but a white wall before me and the west lane was drifted so as to force me over the middle line more times than I care to think. The strong winds have abated some and I hope for a better trip home.

7.26

42nd day

16°

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

323 to come

35° 5.45

The first temperature reading above freezing this month. Round the going perfect last night. Sat in the kitchen and read while my dear wife taught three lessons. The rehearsal was switched to this evening which does not suit me so well but nevertheless so it is 5.30 now I must hasten to depart.

1971

43rd day 7.24

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

322 to come 5.46

32°

34°

Wet snow and dank skies.
 "Later and gloomier twilights"
 Must remember to pick up
 frozen turkey turkey before closing
 time. Marcia Davanport's "Too
 Strong for Fantasy" is a long disjointed,
 discursive book. I had expected
 more of it than there was -
 since it was dealing with such
 famous people. However it was far
 from being a waste of time.

44th day 7.23

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

321 to come 3.48

8°

18°

a cold blustery day. Did not get
 to Paris till 11.00 o'clock, owing to
 John having to give my new battery
 a boost and having the gas
 tank wired up at Hanna's. In dot
 C. Laubser's all day, the bill for the fan
 belt, battery charging, gas tank strapping
 will be colossal. You will have
 it weighing heavy on your chest
 till Monday. Happy valentine
 day!

7.22

1971

5:49

45th day

10°

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

20° 320 to come

Happy Valentine day! Did some
brisk shovelling before church - foot
and a half drifts of heavy snow. The
afternoon was spent in the quiet
and seclusion of the cellar where I
sprouted ~~over~~ three bags of potatoes.
They seem to be keeping very well.
Had a lovely tender cottage roll
for dinner. It makes me hungry
to think about it.

7.20 46th day

18°

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

319 to come

30° 5.50

Dull and a bit mildew & my
bill for Saturday's work was a
modest 6 dollars and some cents
for strap on gas tank and new
fan belt. plus a free battery charge
so I did not suffer too badly.
William street was a hive of activity
this morning as I came upon it
this morning, fire trucks, hoses,
onlookers etc etc. while the Schware house
was being gutted, and sanded and
the roof torn open. Now the front
upstairs windows are boarded up and
it looks blind and deserted. Must
hurry home to see Ben, dear boy.

1971

47th day 7.19 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16 5:52 318 to come

18°

32°

Sunny and a bit springlike although the breeze was chilly. It was most enjoyable having Dennis sleeping in his old room. He brought his mother down this afternoon for license plates and a few social calls. I must seek his advice on this eternal car question. Am I crazy to drive #14 any longer? I hate to give him up as he is still as peppy as new and just suits me in every way. *bullshit.*

48th day 7.17 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 30° 36° 317 to come 5.53

Even milder and actually thawing. However it was not enough to melt the 4 inches accumulation we got early this morning.

Sectional rehearsal tonight. Hope Den can go with us to Nual's. as it is his last night with us on this short visit.

7.15

1971

5.55

49th day

31°

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

39

316 to come

Partly sunny and springlike.
 Our last breakfast with Dennis
 and we so enjoyed his visit—very
 sorry to see him go. Last evening
 he went with us to Kitchener
 and we had a nice social hour
 after the rehearsal in Waterloo.

The fate of 14'4 is decided: we
 get rid of it as soon as Kathleen
 gets another car. Dennis was
 the prime promoter of its entry
 and, ~~exit~~ of its exit.

7.14

50th day

30°

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

35°

5.56

315 to come

Overcast with a chilly east
 wind. Kathleen got away when
 I did, she following me to the bowling
 green corner when I turned east and
 she to the shop and the highway.

As I read a chapter from the "good book"
 (fantastic lies and bloody strife) I
 have to leave it with something
 sane and sensible like H. G. Wells.

7.13

1971

5.57

51st day 32°

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20 40° 314 to come

Ice storm number what is it?

H14 is idling much too fast and wants to change into gas pumps, snow banks, buildings etc. I have to keep a tight hand on the reins to curb him. Just up to dean Oliver's for a spring pot for my dean, hand-washing, patient wife. I must hurry home to surprise her. Slightly cooler now but not freezing yet. Fine rain most of the day.

52nd day 7.11

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

29° 313 to come 5.59

23°

29

A dull windy gloomy day. Spent over an hour in the afternoon chopping ice off the front walks. The 2 teams came at 3.15 and after they had a skate at the rink we congregated for a turkey dinner. I was scrumptious I am too hungry now to dwell on it.

7.09

1971

53rd day

24°

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

31° 6.00

312 to come

Another ice storm with strong biting east wind. When will this weather phenomenon cease?

54th day

7.08

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

31°

31° 6.01

311 to come

Started home just after 7.00 last evening and missed by very few minutes the phone call from Kathleen. She would probably have urged me to stay in Paris. However outside of the slush and sleep on the windshield I had no trouble whatsoever as the paved roads were cut through and traction good. I now await M. Z. for a Widow Home ~~session~~. Hope everything goes well. Ice everywhere - trees bending low. Many limbs and branches down.

1971

55th day 7.06 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

310 to come 603

Ash Wednesday (Quebec)

36°

A very lucky ash Wednesday. Owen strapped ~~up~~ my gas tank on short notice and showed me how it was just on the verge of falling off on the road and messing up the lines as well. Last night coming home the strap that Clause's put on came loose and made an ungodly racket as it trailed behind. I drove down this morning with some loose wires holding it up and a prayer. All well that ends well.

56th day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

309 to come

7.05

30°

38° 6.04

The strong sun this afternoon quickly disposed of the ice on the trees and wires. The enchanting beauty is gone, but we are relieved that the danger to power failure is removed, at least for the present. The partial eclipse of the sun at 4:49 this morning was visible probably for Wade and Peg in the Canary Islands.

7.03

1971

6.06

57th day 29°

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

49° 308 to come

Morning sunshine but afternoon cloudiness. Streams of water everywhere, pot holes, slush, cars galam getting stuck in parking lots. J. Groob carried us through most of the program last night. We were glad when quitting time came so we could have eats and drinks at 153 Wilfred. I'll be in the doghouse tonight as I did not get the leg of pork cut in two etc. etc. I packed house in Les Clarke's show room - they'll do it every time.

7.01

58th day 30°

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

307 to come

36°

39°

6.08

When we got up there was not a cloud in the entire heavens. The warm sun was working on the great banks of dirty snow and ice on our street was channeled with streams of running water. However I did get stuck out at the road and Jack, John and Kathleen had to come to the rescue. This afternoon is cloudy windy and getting colder. Hope the groceries and the half dozen eggs will be acceptable - oh Kathleen, my strength and my redeemer.

1971

59th day 6.59

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

306 to come 6.09

27°

32°

One of those rare days which pass all too quickly. Got away soon after lunch in M2 and arrived at 253 Alma St. about 3.00. Had a nice quiet, relaxing bridge game with Dennis and now trimming poor Igune and me all hollow in two rubbers. We did not get to first base. A lovely dinner of Swiss steak with lots of gravy, broccoli and baked potatoes, dessert was banana cream pudding - Dennis's masterpiece

60th day 6.57

MONDAY, MARCH 1

305 to come 6.10-

27°

38°

It makes me ravenous just to read the above menu. The trip to St Thomas was one of many happy ones. I wonder if we will go there again, as Dennis is not sure where he will be moved. He is wonderfully patient with his burdensome Cash. Nancy was a perfect behaving little girl. She read me (with some help) two fairy tales. Today was sunny and a bit milder. H14's bags are numbered. He will be going sometime this spring. The young moon is high overhead.

6.56

1971

6.11

61st day

17°

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

35°

304 to come

J. nice March weather, thawing a little each day and frosty each night. Quite a job scraping the car both inside and out, the inside being more difficult. Just peep holes are all I manage at first, till the blower helps after a few miles down the road.

Saturn was in conjunction with the young moon last night. Tonight the moon has soared a left almost to the summer solstice.

6.55

62nd day

15°

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

24

303 to come

6.12

Definitely more wintry with cloud covering and a nasty east wind. The Sun appeared small, white and fuzzy. Came home the 7th last night and the left hand straps dropped again and trailed behind with plenty of clatter. Went directly to Owen's and they brought it back at noon, apparently fixed to stay up this time. No charge. I would have gladly paid more, especially if the second fixer strap. Kathleen is teaching till nine so I will start home at 8.30. A short note from Alpha.

6.53 1971

6.13

63rd day 11° THURSDAY, MARCH 4 24° 302 to come

A despicable wind out of the north, north west with sunshine and clouds. I suppose a seasonable March day but quite uncomfortable - so hard it was to keep warm.

H14 seems to be all right now - keep fingers crossed. Must hurry as this is rehearsal night.

6.51 64th day 18° FRIDAY, MARCH 5 36° 301 to come 6.14

Milder and beautifully sunny as I started out this morning with Kathleen trailing me bound for hair-do and shopping. This afternoon was overcast but some melting took place so the snow and ice are disappearing in the very best way to await a big flood. Ice still holding above Penman dam. Maestro Givato took us over the entire program last evening. Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms - almost too strictly classical for the majority of the subscribers. too heavy too ponderous.

1971

6.49 65th day 30°

SATURDAY, MARCH 6° 6:16 300 to come
30°

Dark all day with camp east wind bringing fine snow in the afternoon. Did not mention seven years ago - too save a subject. One of the later, sad twilight that T.H. mentions. Now for home. And supper and a nice cozy evening with my excellent wife.

6.47 66th day 12°

SUNDAY, MARCH 7° 6:17 299 to come
28°

The winds of March, a very blustery day. Had to shovel foot deep drifts on the front walk. Had the Taylors for supper - all except Joanna who left for Hamilton mid afternoon. Lovely Rum drinks (Caiques).

1971

67th day 6.45¹⁵ MONDAY, MARCH 8 20° 6.18²⁹⁸ to come

Still colder and more blustery, visibility almost nil on Ayr road. Kathleen phoned to tell me to stay put but I think I will try it. Surely it can't be any worse than it was this morning.

68th day 6.44¹⁷⁰ TUESDAY, MARCH 9 25° 297 to come 6.19

Can spring be far behind?
 Got to Mavis's corner last night and found trucks, cars, police etc. barricading the road north, but as I was turning west I was motioned on. No trouble at all. The drift just north of Jack's drive was deep enough. I hope Kathleen gets along all right. She is to pick me up for a Nausicians' union meeting in Brantford. Ill you more later.

1971

6.42 69th day 16° WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10 6.21 296 to come
28

More east wind and snow. Was duly honored at the A.F. & M. meeting in Brantford last evening. Albert gave me a very flattering introduction and presented me with a gold lifetime membership card. Kathleen stopped in at the tail end of the book club meeting at Ann Hank's. The one way track and huge banks on the Middle town line are something to see. They remind me of the 30's and 40's. Will this winter ever soften? Will we go to Kitchener?

70th day 22° THURSDAY, MARCH 11 295 to come

6.40

34° 6.22

Yes, we went to Kitchener and Waterloo. Kathleen the stout-hearted provided the necessary stimulus and drove each way except for a short city run when I left her at the bandball and proceeded to the Laurel Vocational school. I quit at 10.30 before John's rehearsal was finished and by the time I got back to the bandball Kathleen was plenty worried as I had promised to be there by 10.15 at the latest. About 5 inches of new snow to shovel off the walks this morning. The Expositor featured me & family in a short article.

1971

71st day 6:39, 10° FRIDAY, MARCH 12

35° 294 to come 6:23

a winter wonderland of hoar
frost and high piled snow.

Coming down the morning was
a fine array of ghostly trees,
fences and wires. If Kathleen
had not done a lot of shovelling
last night I could not have
got in the driveway as the
snow plow had thrown up a
imposing bank - and it was
hard snow to shovel. Must
hurry as this is rehearsal
with the pianist - Clifford Cook -
and the Brahms D minor.

72nd day 6:37 SATURDAY, MARCH 13

293 to come 6:25

29°

37°

managed to meet my two
appointments in the very
short morning and rush back
to Drumbo, sleep soup and
jump in my wife's car and
eat sandwiches while she drove
to Kitchener ^{and Waterloo}. Staggered in on a
lovely dinner at Neala's with
some unspiced wine; it featured a
big pot of beans and wieners. Don
Billies was on hand and we
had a happy time.

1971

6.35 73rd day 30° SUNDAY, MARCH 14 45° 292 to come 6.26

Mildew with a sunny afternoon
 Got away just before 11.00 A.M.
 and were sitting down on the
 Igroc stage by 12.00. a good
 show considering it was a long
 heavy, strictly classical program.
 Gifford Toole did a splendid
 job of the Bushno D minor - it
 was a great thrill to play the
 orchestra part. Went to reception
 at the Walper. Home at 10.00 - a
 wonderful day.

6.33 74th day 40° MONDAY, MARCH 15 42° 291 to come 6.27

Strong winds and turning cooler.
 Didn't mention my muffler
 falling off on the 4th Saturday
 morning and the prompt, efficient
 service I got at Clark's.
 However I did not want to spend
 \$34.00 just at this time when I
 am to part company with H14
 so soon. Anyway the car is
 all in one piece and will probably
 hold together long enough for
 Dennis to drive to St. Thomas.
 - we hope!

1971

75th day 6.31 TUESDAY, MARCH 16 290 to come 6.28

30°

32°

At least the weather after a long strenuous winter has not turned and gone abruptly hog-wild for spring like 1945. It is keeping comparatively cool and the river ice is holding above the dam on the Grand and by the 7th bridge on the With so no flooding yet - except in our cellar. Kathleen had to man the pump yesterday. She will call for me about 7.00 P.M. in M2 - which will shortly be my jalousy - or will it?

76th day 6.29 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 289 to come 6.29

6.29

18°

31°

6.29

A rather cool St. Patrick's day but sunny for the most part. Walked down behind the stores at noon and saw the river ice mostly intact above the dam and no flooding as yet. No practice tonight so I will stay here till 8.30. Equal day and night. - in other words the equinox over three days ahead of the equinox. Very profound observation from an astronomer who knows a minimum of astronomy.

1971

6.28 77th day 20° THURSDAY, MARCH 18 42° 6.31 288 to come

Mostly sunny with a high barometer, but the sun never shone brightly; it was a hazy, white pre-spring sun. Can definitely say that I heard my first song sparrows and robins this morning, although the temperature was not conducive to song. The same left strap came off my gas tank last night so I drove down to Owen's very carefully by the 7th I now await delivery of said car. I hope this will be the last emergency job on H 14. - it is getting to be a pain in the neck or lower

6.26 78th day 25° FRIDAY, MARCH 19 36° 6.32 287 to come down.

Would you believe it, about 5 to 6 inches snow fell from early morning up to noon. It made the driving very slippery, and as Kathleen sallied forth for a hair-do and shopping spree, I was concerned as she is such a nice kid, hoping she would not have a nice spill.

Please forgive this despicable pun. As the end of March approaches a lot of bills accumulate such a phone, Globe, gas, income tax, rent, Chsip, hospital, dental supplies - etc you name it, we have to pay it.

Wade's birthday card will be very late in arriving at 7 western Rd.

1971

79th day

6.24

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

286 to come

6.33

32°

34°

More snow on top of yesterday's. Against Kathleen's wishes I shovelled a narrow path in front of the house. Very slippery walking on River street. Had to get groceries from both A & P and I-G.A. also wine for tomorrow. Just back from the brewers retail so we should be all set for the friends. The Taylors were up early and away to Toronto International to see John & Laura off on their eight A.M. flight for Curacao.

80th day

6.22

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

285 to come

6.34

27°

33°

Cold wind with some sun and scudding clouds. Got out before church and widened the narrow path I made yesterday. The snow banks are still imposing especially for the first day of spring which came at 1.35 A.M. The friends came in good time and we had a dinner of scrumptious fresh ham with dressing - I having haggled and backed the bone out of it. The children persuaded their parents to let them stay over so I read them all stories in bed.

6.20 81st day MONDAY, MARCH 22 284 to come
28° 33° 6:35

Still the cold wind as of yesterday but more continued sunshine. Kathleen squeezed the oranges in the mixer which helped with the breakfast for five. They all ate their "goodie" which was quite remarkable. I hope grandma won't have too difficult a day as she has a lot of lessons to teach. We are handicapped with keeping food as our big refrigerator won't work, and when a service man will come, and whether or not he can fix it is anybody's guess.

6.19 82nd day TUESDAY, MARCH 23 283 to come
20° 33° 6:37

Clear and cold. Bradley's north window was entirely covered with frost this morning. They all took up their porridge and toast and jam. Such appetites! Good old 1+14 turned over Steve coming down this morning. Too bad the best of friends must part.

Later - have just been up to West River street to see bright nursery by Harry Howell's roof in a frost clear sky. Lovely sight! Poor Berta - laid in the cold earth just a year ago today.

1971

ITPI

83rd day 6.17 ^{18°} WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24 ^{26°} 6.38 282 to come

The change is made. I have inherited a luxury car with power brakes, steering and rear window.

— in other words Kathleen requested M^z to me with present mileage standing at 63579 as of this morning. So happy to see Ben last evening and clean out H-14 for him to drive to St. Thomas. Kathleen's Oldsmobile is ne plus ultra. — a super luxury car with power everything. Dinner will be at 7.00 so I must not be late. Had the left rear door lock fixed and a new sealed beam

84th day 6.15 ^{15°} THURSDAY, MARCH 25 ^{32°} 6.39 281 to come ^{for 8.16}

As you see it is not turning women very fast. Was greeted on coming home at 7.00 last evening with another observation of sweetest mercury. Since now I drive a mercury, surely this will be my favorite planet. Of course they are all favorites. Tined up Uranus just before bedtime. Thought I was detained in the lab with too much work so could not wander out to the end of William Street. Jane Eyre was magnificent on T.V.

1971

6.13 85th day

17°

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

6.40

280 to come

What a week of clear weather with stiff frost every night and a mid 30 temperature in the afternoon. This must be ideal sap weather. I did not let my laboratory duties prevent me from walking up to the end of William this evening to glimpse dear Mercury - brighter still. Soon I will pull up stakes and drive home in another dear Mercury.

6.11 86th day

20°

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

6.42

279 to come

The sky getting overcast with thick haze. First time the sun has tried to hide himself this week - a fine week of cold, frosty nights and sunny days. I was so hoping to see the conjunction of Mercury and the day-old moon but I guess there is no hope. Waiting patiently for Nuala who does not seem to be coming. Maybe better luck with Saturn and the moon on Monday.

Yes, Nuala came at 5.45.

1971

87th day 6.09 ²⁹ SUNDAY, MARCH 28 36° 278 to come 6.43

After a full week of clear skies we start this one with clouds freezing at night and throwing a little in the afternoon. The dirty snow banks in front and all around our house are very slowly sinking but imposing yet with still just a one track path in our driveway.

The big party across the road was a great success, John on his 27th was the guest of honor; the Sears, Miles & Reynolds' made a housefull. Ben and family called at 8.30 on their way home and we had an hour's visit.

88th day 6.08 ³⁴ MONDAY, MARCH 29 38° 277 to come 6.44

I think last night was the first night it did not freeze, although it did not warm up to anything like springtime today, there being frequent flakes of snow in the air.

Must mention that Dennis has his cast off and a brace on which gives him a little more freedom of movement.

1971

6.06 89th day 31° TUESDAY, MARCH 30 36° 6.45 276 to come

As you see, nothing in the way of spring weather yet, even if the sun did shine most of the day. The wind was blowing from Hudson Bay and scarves and overcoats are still a necessity. A beautiful evening, the young moon was high above Datum and much nearer the horizon Mercury glowed warmly. Don Clark came back and I was glad to see him. Also Eric Madden stopped in at a few minutes after six. He was also very welcome. Vortex cups are off the forecast.

90th day

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

a changing world!!!
275 to come

6.04

20°

45° 6.46

Rush, rush! No time for anything more snow gone, but our streets still lead. Rehearsal (sectional) night so hurry. First read in Olds.

1971

91st day

6.02

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

32°

274 to come

648

46°

Had my first ride in Olds. Kathleen insisted on driving both ways so I have yet to know how it handles. I like M2 and the 70 Olds custom Delta 88 will have to go some to beat it. I fully intend to drive M2 as long as it will carry me. As for H14 (the ~~accident~~ waiting for a place to happen) (Devil's Caption), my son is welcome to it. He groweth and he taketh away - blessed ^{be} his name. Ice on the car last night. Rain tonight.

92nd day

6.50

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

34°

273 to come

649

39°

Partly sunny with a strong west wind that had a noticeable chill factor. Kathleen and I pumped out the cellar after the breakfast dishes. Then M2 preceded the Olds to Paris for the usual activities such as a long day at the sweat shops for me, and shopping and a hair-do for my dear wife. Have just been out to see Mercury, which was rather faint in the misty west while Saturn above was much brighter.

1971

5.59 93rd day 29° SATURDAY, APRIL 3 32° 6.50 272 to come

Snow flurries most of the day and cold - at least it was cold for April. Mary could give me only 2 dozen eggs as they are casing out of chickens. A losing proposition at present prices. I could not get the roast of beef Kathleen ordered, but hope to next week. Put quite a bit of water in M₂ this morning and the running temperature is back where it was. I took in about 40.00 dollars this week. Great prospects for paying my debts!

5.57 94th day 18° SUNDAY, APRIL 4 31° 6.51 271 to come

Bright but cold. A thoroughly satisfactory day beginning with light morning chores, church, lunch, and then an afternoon of gadding about, first to Pauline's at Westmount Towers, then to Rudy and Marie's, all of whom went in good spirits, especially Rudy who fairly beamed good will and enthusiasm. Never will I forget his excitement and overflowing gratitude. Had dinner at 153 Wilfrid with Don Gillies as a third guest at the table. The chicken we took was super tender and delicious. Home early to see Henry VIII and Ann Seymour.

1971

95th day

5:55

MONDAY, APRIL 5

270 to come

6:52

20°

40°

Cold wind still. I forgot to mention the couple inches of snow Saturday night - making the fields all white again on Sunday morning. Of course the sun licked up most of the snow but the air was sharp all day. I haven't driven the Olds yet but it would have to go some to be as lovely to handle as M2. I all in love with M2. - may be last - and last and last!!!

96th day

5:53

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

269 to come

6:53

22°

42°

Cloudless all day with brilliant sun and high barometer, after another cold night and morning with iron-hard ground and glistening frost everywhere. This ~~is~~ the evening dear Kathleen has to have the ladies aid & mission circle, as if she didn't have enough to do with forty pupils and a home and sloppy husband to look after, with the added worry of a plugged drain in the collar after paying fifty dollars to have it cleaned out last fall.

1971

97th day 5.51

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

6.53 268 to come

24°

48

Mostly sunny with just a few fleecy clouds. Spring is really coming. Must hurry out to get E's turkey and other groceries on the dog house for me. Strong rehearsal tonight - so get cracking.

5.50 98th day

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

267 to come

28°

50 6.56

John took us through the concerto accompaniment and Maria the last movement of the concerto.

Haven't been behind the Olds' wheel yet. Kathleen does not trust me with such a valuable car. Another sunny day with higher temperatures. Eladio Chisittel was only 54 like J.E. & was. He tried to do too much - It does not pay.

Well, you are a dummo, didn't know fellatio, & fellator.

cunnilingus, cunnilingus

cunnilinguist - one who practices cunnilingus

1971

99th day 5.48 FRIDAY, APRIL 9 6.57266 to come

32°

62

Good Friday (Dominion)

A quick upswing in the temperature which did a lot of damage to the sullen banks of snow, dirty, grey mounds that defy the right of spring. Set the much fractured cold frame over the rhubarb, and Kathleen put the windshield cover under the window. Raked up a few twigs and John and I trimmed some of the higher limbs off the soft maple by the well. Came to the office after lunch and cleaned the two operating room windows. Sunny in the morning but clouding over in the P.M.

100th day 5.46 SATURDAY, APRIL 10 50° 265 to come 6.58

32°

50°

Sun was warm and bright but the wind chilly. It was a sharp 30 degree drop yesterday afternoon and a windy cold night. I saw the Oldsmobile from my front window, so I gather that Dennis and Lynne were both down below about eye problems. Grandma and Nancy would go shopping. I must hurry home with my commission of Canadian Club and my case of "50."

1971

5.45 101st day

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

60° 6.59 264 to come

Easter Sunday

40°

60° 6.59

Mostly fair and warmer

Dug a basket full of parsnips before church. The Bells went to New Dundee for lunch and came back later in the afternoon. The Trembles with grandma came shortly after 3.00 when I was given a quick wash. Finished the afternoon by raking and burning the old asparagus tops and cultivating the bed. Eleven of us sat down to a roast beef dinner with three pounds of pie for dessert. Dennis gave me \$190.00 for H14 - not bad!

5.43 102nd day

MONDAY, APRIL 12

7.01 263 to come

Easter Monday

43°

72°

much warmer. Soon

turned off the gas heater in the office. Kathleen got off early in the a.m. for a rehearsal with Arthur. I left about an hour later.

The rivers are quite high and the roads are boiling up a bit but not seriously as yet. Dennis expects to go back to work a week from today but is not sure where. Would it be a managership at Niagara Falls? It could be a lot worse.

1971

103rd day 5.41

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

262 to come 7.02

48°

50°

Much cooler with rain from the north-west and the mournful wind at the windows. Heifetz was sublime last night - too bad we missed the first of the concert? Must hurry as this is rehearsal night.

104th day 5.39

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

261 to come 7.03

30°

39°

Sunny with a cold wind. There was ice in our driveway this morning. We took MA2 to Kitchener and Waterloo last night. It rained going but showed a clearing trend on the way home and at bed time Jupiter and the moon were bright in the south-east. No time to pause - another grind at the band hall tonight. Got a pair of brush peepies from Tony.

1971

5.38 105th day 26° THURSDAY, APRIL 15 50 7.04 260 to come

We were nice and snug in beds last night, but found it a little chilly getting out and into the house with the thermometer at 26°. A little warmer today but still overcast weather. Did not get over all the Ischaikowski 5th as we needed much checking up under the capable, patient and kind direction of Victor Melbrill. Wore my bush slippers all day and they seem very comfortable and oh, so quiet! Got a card from Vera - she is to be married on May 11th.

5.36 106th day 32° FRIDAY, APRIL 16 58 7.06 259 to come

Sunny still and warmer. The water in the cellar drains has cozed away out of sight and we once again enjoy a dry cellar floor. I pulled in the pump hose and locked the cellar door - first time in a couple of weeks. If the stone is open in any way here I intend to turn in my beer cases and get another set in case of a strike. We'll try to get home before dark to dig up the pea ground.

1971

107th day 5.34 SATURDAY, APRIL 17

258 to come 7.07

39°

49°

What a scramble to get the eggs, call at 37 June, see two prosthetic patients, pour two models and get back to Drumbo by 12.20. Of course I didn't make it. I was twenty minutes late, so managed to eat my soup and sandwiches in the car. We need not have hurried as Victor Feldbrill waited at least 15 minutes for late comers. Had a nice dinner of pork chops etc at the Friends, then shopped at the thinned out Highway Market.

108th day 5.32 SUNDAY, APRIL 18

257 to come 7.08

38°

52°

Got the pea and potatoe ground cultivated Friday evening and yesterday I got in my sweet peas before dressing for work. We went over to Jack's last night and wished him birthday felicitations with the aid of jolts of rye. This morning I planted the garden peas and Kathleen did the potatoes and lettuce. Left for the Lyric at 11.00 A.M. The concert went off well. The Junior Symphony's Egmont and our contribution of the Hayden C major cello concerto (John Preubath) and the ~~Shubert~~ Shubert's 5th the

1971

531 109th day

MONDAY, APRIL 19

256 to come

44

62

769

Warmer every day with the grass greening and many spring flowers out. Redbrick took the last movement at a furious pace. I never did catch up. Now we can breathe easier as only the Viennese ball coming up this week ends the spring work. Now to practice on some techniques.

529 110th day

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

255 to come

450

70° 7.10

Real spring weather at last - but dry. We sure need a rain so I can roll the lawn. Sarah's crocuses have opened their yellow and purple to the hazy warm sun, also the scilla by the walk on Broadway. The welter of names of people, countries, cities etc. mentioned in Wells' outline go in one ear and out the other - nothing to stop them. Miss writing is like all great works which "will remain unread eternally."

1971

111th day 5:25 **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21** 254 to come 7:11

40°

50°

top coat weather again as the day was cloudy, windy and much cooler than yesterday.

Better shake a leg as this is the last (probably) rehearsal this spring. Arthur (bless his heart)

will guide us through waltzes and polkas. April 21st and

there lingers still some streaks of snow banks along the river banks and sheltered roadsides - surely a record.

112th day 5:26 **THURSDAY, APRIL 22** 253 to come 7:12

36°

50°

Chillier than yesterday with a north wind whistling around my windows. Although the sun was bright it was not a pleasant day.

Really enjoyed the rehearsal with Arthur. It was not all waltzes and polkas but a number of interesting show pieces. - dinner music for

people who are not hungry. Did not know till today of Les Barrett's death last May. He was a fine fellow.

Margaret 35th! Wonder if she got our card?!

1971

5.24 113th day

39°

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

50°

7.14 252 to come

Bright and sunny all day but that north wind still rages, and moans and whistles around my lab window. Well, I guess my "Demore" eating from July 6 1952 will do no more. It is slowly grinding to a halt. I have just phoned Hamilton and Don came on the phone. He will bring one up on Tuesday (I hope). Must get away by 5.00 as this is the Vancouver ball — balls.

5.23 114th day

30°

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

7.15
39

251 to come

Awoke to a winter wonderland — about 2 inches of snow everywhere. This disappeared during the day but it was not very warm with a chilly north-west wind. Really enjoyed the ball at Kingsmen Park. Arthur was a fine conductor — leading us expertly through a hour and a half of popular musical hits with waltzes and polkas thrown in. Home about midnight leaving Nuala and Art to dance on into the morning.

1971

115th day 5-21

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

250 to come

310

40°

7.12

Not a nice day weatherwise.
 Hurried home after church to
 gulp lunch and get away for
 Kathleen's 1.00 P.M. rehearsal at
 Grand River. (Lil Abner) I was
 afternoon supervisor of the children
 and enjoyed it - playing animal
 runway with the girls etc. As
 Maala had a roast in the oven
 we ate there - a fine meal got
 up in a hurry. Home in time for
 the last of the hockey game -
 North-stars 5 - Montreal 2. and
 the news.

116th day 5-20

MONDAY, APRIL 26

249 to come

320

48° 7.18

The sun made a few feeble
 attempts to break through the
 clouds but the day was mostly
 flat with snow flakes in the
 air this morning and more of
 that soon wind. Have just
 spent 13.25 dollars on M2. New
 air filter, oil filter and grease and
 oil change. I hope he likes the
 new super test oil.

1971

5.18 117th day

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

7.19 248 to come

33°

52°

Mostly dull and a bit warmer. Managed to sally out at noon without my overcoat. Those colossal snowbanks of last winter sure die hard. Noticed still some remnants coming through Canning this morning. Don did not show up with a new bathe, so I polished an upper on the dear old Demore which seemed to run perfectly. Oh Lord, how long? - Keep fingers crossed!!

5.17 118th day

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

247 to come

37°

52° 7.20

A more typical April day with showers, and mists and a definite greening trend everywhere and as in 1949 the leaves are still tight within the buds and only awaiting some warm spring sunshine. Kathleen picked some daffodil buds from the back and they have opened out beautifully on the diningroom table.

1971

119th day

5.15

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

246 to come

7.21

39°

46°

Cloudy and rather on the chilly side. Enjoyed staying with the children last evening. Had a good laugh, many of them, over an astronaut movie on T.V. Bradley enjoyed it immensely. As I was struggling, trying to finish an upper on my poor old moribund Danmore, Bob-Tomes burst in with a big parcel - a Prestolite Island lathe so the day was saved. No more worries on that score. Kathleen was in at noon for a filling (not lunch) which will partly make up for her absence this evening.

120th day

5.14

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

245 to come

7.23

40°

52°

The last day of April and the grass hardly long enough to cut yet. I wonder how Kathleen made out with her wash, as we had a brisk shower and some hail near noon and another shower later. Surely Drumbo did not escape this fickle weather. Of course we have had a minimum of precipitation in April and so these showers are a good thing. Why don't you write something interesting for a change - why bore yourself with such drivel. Minnesota north stars almost tied Montreal but are out of the finals 3-2. They got a goal a split second after

The discs went off to end the game

1971

5.12 121st day

SATURDAY, MAY 1

50° 7.24 244 to come

34°

Showery and cool. A white frost was evident before the sun got up - much above the horizon. at 5.30 it was a blood red ball poised on the rim. No green showing yet on the trees. A very backward looking season. Must rush home this afternoon as I am to go with my dear wife to Lillabner.

5.11 122nd day

SUNDAY, MAY 2

45° 7.25 243 to come

38°

Cool and clouded. Managed to do a little outside work in the afternoon: such as dig the south flower bed and weed the asparagus bed. No sign of any asparagus shoots, which indicates a very backward season. mowed the back lawn for the first time. Kathleen and I had a little brace before dinner of cottage roll, scalloped potatoes etc. Saw Henry VIII and Catherine Howard in the evening after paying the John Gaylans a call.

1971

1591

123rd day 5.09 MONDAY, MAY 3 7.26 242 to come

38°

50°

I have just is not enough time for the worth-while things such as reading, music and stargazing. I am just a slave to the grindstone. The skies were mostly cloudy today but I heard no discouraging word. Oh H. G. Wells - how I love you!

124th day 5.08 TUESDAY, MAY 4 7.27 241 to come

38°

56°

Very slowly and reluctantly creeping up towards 60° under a cloudless sky and brilliant sun. Tonight is Ladies Aid & mission circle so I will have to eat a lonely supper. I see my name and a few of my old pals in the list of donors to the C.F.D.E. It is good to see a few names from our much decimated class of 2T2.

1971

5.07 125th day

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5 240 to come

40°

6.5 7.29

Sunny and warmer. Ei's 56th
Took a panel over to her as
she was waiting for a ride
to the shop. Hurry now as
you have to "babysit" tonight.

5.05 126th day

THURSDAY, MAY 6 239 to come

40°

72° 7.30

Still warmer but very dry.
Midsummer dust on the gravel
roads. Was in the doghouse
last night as I forgot to get
Bradley to go over his piano
work for his lesson today.
Final rehearsal tonight for
"No Business Like Show Business"
So I will have to eat alone
in a deserted house. The waxing
moon is flooding the sky near
Uranus so I won't see the latter
for a few more nights. What
about brushing up on a few constellations?

1971

127th day 5.04 FRIDAY, MAY 7

238 to come 7.31

46°

73°

Now a mist of green is beginning to show in the poplars and willows and the red maples are coloring up just a month late. Sunny all day till now when the sun just over the Baptist church is white and fuzzy and beset with clouds. Tidys and narcissi lovely - but no asparagus showing yet.

128th day 5.03 SATURDAY, MAY 8

237 to come 7.32

50°

65°

The morn was clouded but no shower fell, - no sweet tears of May and no open casements pressing any new-leaved spray. Trees still naked for the most part. Kathleen was miserable with sharp pains in her back and side, and a full day and night coming up - cleaning, cooking, teaching and playing at Waterloo. How will she survive?!

1971

5.01 129th day

SUNDAY, MAY 9

7.33 236 to come

50°

67°

Skipped church so Kathleen could rest in bed, drink plenty of fluids and take two pain pills.

I cannot verify the accuracy of this as I was working outside. Took off a couple more storm windows and fixed the wire fence around the pea bed to discourage the rabbits. I

stayed at 153 Wilfred with the children while the three musicians went to an afternoon get-together of the cast. Went with them at night and enjoyed every minute of "There is no Business like Show Business". Party after at the

130th day

MONDAY, MAY 10

235 to come

school house. Home at 2.00 A.M.

5.00 ^{Monday} 50°

77° 7.34

Cloudless and extremely dry. Our garden is tanned to concrete through which the intrepid weeds are flourishing. We must wait for a good rain before we can hope for plowing and working up.

This excellent musical last night consisted of popular excerpts from 25 different shows - shows which the A-W-operative society had put on at various times over many years. It was a great thrill - it will be a hard show to follow - Best of Luck, Earl, in "Bye-Bye Birdie" just found out that Jack Hobbs Dewey is dead

15th road

1971

1771

131st day 4.59 TUESDAY, MAY 11 234 to come 7.35
50° 76°

A warm morning of misty sunshine, but the afternoon brought damply overcast skies and a slight fall in the summer temperature. Well, Don called in, begging a 50 pound bag of plaster in a big carton. He complained of having the 'pfe which explains the late arrival of the Ca 504-~~542~~ - no 420 that is to be added. Book Club night - stop - look - listen.

132nd day 4.58 WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 233 to come 7.36
52° 47°

Cloudy and windy with spits of rain, clearing in the afternoon and cooler. John plowed the three gardens yesterday so anything near the butgusting work will begin - try to get a fine enough surface to plant seeds - a herculean task. Got a bunch of seeds from Bill at noon. Phoned up Pawels for a reservation tonight at the Holiday Inn.

1971

4.57 133rd day

THURSDAY, MAY 13

7.37 232 to come

37°

65°

Almost frost last night. Very clear and warming somewhat in the strong high sun. It was chilly at the Holiday Inn last evening but we thoroughly enjoyed the two movie reels on Mexico, the tequila punch, the sandwiches and cakes and the social hour with other devotees of Paul's travel bureau. I had time to dig a little at the north-east corner before dinner.

4.56 134th day

FRIDAY, MAY 14

7.35 231 to come

40°

60°

Cloudless and coolish. The high band of the heavens, namely the sun failed to warm the air for relaxing outside, although Lloyd Stevenson was sun bathing on the Arlington balcony again this afternoon. Kathleen got a gallon of paint for the garage in hopes of some painters for the 24th. She also got a lot of alcohol for the 23rd. Guess I am in for a large family party - yuck! yuck - yuck - yuck, yuck. I will always keep Wallace Decombe's picture on my lab wall - he and C.C. Chant were the two professors who really appreciated me - now don't forget

F.A. Clarkston

1971

135th day 4.55 SATURDAY, MAY 15 230 to come 7.39

47°

75°

- more unmitigated sunshine and more dust. The poor lawns have a tough battle to come.
- back after the insectivora and rodents made such havoc on them.
- must be home in time to cut what grass there is before dark.
- and - maybe try even a bit of music with my dear wife.

136th day 4.53 SUNDAY, MAY 16 229 to come 7.41

30°

72°

- Fine and dry - oh so dry!
- Was up activities at 4.00 a.m. and tried to stay awake to see the immersion of Mars behind the moon. Unfortunately I dozed off at the critical time and missed it.
- Set the 3" up to try and observe the emersion but missed it also there being too much daylight.
- Faded Venus above the misty red horizon was my only observation.
- Kathleen played Paganini's Angelica very beautifully at church. Spent the afternoon taking off and washing windows.
- Montreal 4, Chicago 3
game score 3 all !!

1971

4:52 137th day

49°

MONDAY, MAY 17

7:42 228 to come

No change in the arid weather.
Many forest fires up north.
This reminds me of 1911.

Do you think I could see Mercury
yesterday morning? - Not by a
damn site. - My eyes are getting
weak from too much gazing on
teeth, and stars, and books and
music. Maybe I see Uranus.
I hope I do. No chance for
Neptune - it is too near Jupiter
anyway.



oh you boob!

4:51 138th day

56

TUESDAY, MAY 18

80

7:43 227 to come

Highest temperature so far this
year. Summer has come not
with a bang but a whimper.

We whimper because it is so
unconsciously dour - note this
adjective unconscionable. You
always put a "y" on the end of it.

- of course your knowledge of
English and orthography is
extremely limited. Got at boards
for the back of the garage from
Nuttall's this morning. The 12 foot
one sticks away out the back window.
rebat a car! I sure won't trade it
in a hurry.

1971

139th day 4.51

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

226 to come 7.44

67°

82°

Warm night, hot day. dry as dust.
 my pen is dried up so I cannot
 write anything. Montreal 4,
 Chicago 3 - Canadiens win Stanley
 Cup for the 17th time. J

140th day

4.50

THURSDAY, MAY 20

225 to come 7.45

Ascension Day (Quebec) 57°

72°

A ten-minute thunder shower
 did not do much to soften
 our "rock garden". Cooler today
 and mostly sunny. Took off
 the big front window with Jack's
 help last evening, then stored it
 away and did a quick clean up in
 the garage.

1971

4.49 141st day

58°

FRIDAY, MAY 21

62° 7.46

224 to come

Partly cloudy and cooler with the million or multi-million dollar rain as far off as ever.

A spring time as dry as dust - was it even so dry? - I suppose, but I can't think when. The number of patients mounts up every day that I am to call if ever I get time to do them - Lord Almighty - give me strength!!!
Dear Alice - where art thou? - gone to earth with billions of others.

4.48 142nd day

40°

SATURDAY, MAY 22

66°

7.47 223 to come

Not a cloud in the dry blue welkin, and the long and many hours of brilliant sunshine baked the countryside - as it has not been baked for years. Got up just as the sun was peeping up and from the back porch (not the front one) with the aid of my prisms located the tiny bright diamond of phosphorus some 7° degrees below the very slender moon.

(Saw Helen at Evids and wrote her out a copy of A.C.S. "A Baby's Epitaph" She was visibly moved.

447 1971

7.48

143rd day 45° SUNDAY, MAY 23 50° 222 to come

Sunny and cool. Worked right up to dark with the aid of the flood lights last evening raking down the dusty garden that John had disked in the morning. So this afternoon I started right-in to plant seeds - parsnips on the north side; spinach, beets, carrots, beans, ^{Peas} and onions on the east side. Denis arrived shortly after 3.00 and we had a pleasant much anticipated visit. The Friends arrived at 6.00 and Evie at 6.45 and then ^{and 2 others} the big birthday dinner party was on. Much merriment was had over

144th day 46° MONDAY, MAY 24 49° 221 to come

Victoria Day (Dominion)

beer, wine, veg etc.

^{4.46} Monday ^{46°} I got too many gifts to list - all were timely and appreciated but probably best of all was our colored snaps of our big trips mounted in a fine folder. (from my wife).
 Big job in the garden this morning 240 hills of potatoes planted, also more corn; morning glory, cosmos, dabbias and two new rose bushes (from Den & Lyne).
 Rain came on in the afternoon so the garage painting bee was cancelled. Friends arrived about 3.30 and a music jam session was held before another big dinner.
 Very foggy at dusk. Bells & Friends left early

Friends at night was discussed in the thick fog!

1971

446 145th day 50° TUESDAY, MAY 25 55° 7.50 220 to come

A strong chilly wind blew all day from the south-west. Dark clouds and fine spots of rain at times; no sunshine. The rain came down heavier at bedtime and the fog vanished; the garden was really saturated for the first time this spring. Got my "Globes" at the new store. I wonder what Franklin Smoke and Baldy Crooks would think of the set-up.

445 146th day 48° WEDNESDAY, MAY 26 49° 7.50 219 to come

Cloudy, windy and cool. One good thing about the low temperatures - I won't have such a struggle mowing the lawn as it had gone a week and a half! Must hurry out now and get groceries for Ev.

1971

147th day 4.44 THURSDAY, MAY 27

218 to come 7.52

45°

53°

- Fine drizzly rain in the morning. As I couldn't leave poor Howard J. standing in the wet I had to drive down the 7th and pick up the turnips he promised me, so now Mr is plastered with mud. However I guess it was worth it. If it is warm enough I will sponge it off on the weekend. Only got the lawn mowed last evening. Ground was too soggy for anything in the garden. Mostly cloudy today and not very warm.

148th day 4.43 FRIDAY, MAY 28

217 to come 7.53

48°

62°

- A gradual warming trend but very gradual. Had quite an interesting annual meeting last evening at the bandhall. Viden got quite excited and vituperative on his ~~grievances~~ grievances with Marty but Arthur subdued him and Marty took it all smiling. A good lunch and gab after. Kathleen and I both had our names up for the executive but didn't make it, which suits us all right.

1971

4.43 149th day

SATURDAY, MAY 29

7.54 216 to come

56°

70°

Fair and warmer. My usual Saturday journey down the 4th and through Canning for the eggs. Lush green foliage everywhere on this brilliant morning. I am more awed than ever at the poignant beauty and stark truth of Less's story.

Set out the two boxes of tomato plants and peppers (plus weeds) that Kathleen brought from Ray's

4.42 150th day

SUNDAY, MAY 30

7.55 215 to come

50°

78°

Dry and not too hot. After Jimmy Lane had expounded an old fashioned revival sermon, I settled down to an afternoon's work in the garden, such as cultivating what was up, planting over 170 glad bulbs and washing mud spattered Mr. (mud from 7th going for Zink's turnips after a rain). In the later evening set out a few pink and red petunias.

1971

151st day

4.42
58°

MONDAY, MAY 31

73° 7.56²¹⁴ to come

Have to rush away to Drumbo, Kitchener and Stealford - no time for anything!

152nd day

4.41

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

213 to come

7.57

58°

67°

mostly dull but no sign of rain as barometer is high.

Come on, you religious people, get busy praying for rain! Called at 153 Wilfred and picked up Nuala and Bradley for "March Ado about Nothing" at the festival theatre.

It was a 7.30 preview so we were back in Kitchener shortly after eleven. A bite, a swallow and a yak and home just after midnight. Tonight is Ladies Aid so I must content myself with a lonely supper. Dashed off a thank-you note to Wade.

1971

4:40 153rd day

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

7:58 212 to come

45°

53°

Hardly June temperature but a welcome rain, if a cold one. The rabbit sat in our garden this morning, waiting patiently for the beans and peas to sprout. He was certainly angry about the fence around the early peas. Clearing late in the afternoon.

How many times is this for me perusing Iess? - I don't know, but like Shakespeare it will remain as fresh and as unread as always.

4:40 154th day

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

7:58 211 to come

58°

66°

Got slightly wet before the front lawn was finished last evening. Some lightning and a nice gentle shower for our thankful garden. Today is a bit milder and clearing towards evening. I would not mind the open winters they have in the south of England. Or are they getting colder lately? There was certainly no frost or very little at New Years when Iess and Angel were married.

1971

155th day 4.39

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

210 to come 7.59

60°

80°

Real summer heat at last.
Garden stuff coming up, grass
and flowers jumping. No other
novel moves me as much as
Tells — a superlative masterpiece,
growing more dear every time
I read it. Was Kathleen's carrier
boy at noon today as I carried
two big parcels round the corner
to the handsome, newwashed Olds.
Hurry, boat, you have to be home
by 5.30!

156th day 4.39

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

209 to come 8.00

60°

74°

not so hot as yesterday as
there was a cool east wind.
The Duchess of Malfi was well
presented. The first part was
more interesting, the last getting
rather tiresome with its multiple
murders. Arthur came this time
and drove each way. We went
to the Kress House after and had
some nice cooling draft beer.
Oh, Mz, I love you so! be good
and carry me back and forth
many years!!

1971

4.38 157th day

62°

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

85° 8.00 208 to come

Arthur is a professional painter among his many other professions. He painted the garage yesterday in the short space of 3.00 P.M. to 7.00 P.M. Well, almost, but he ran out of paint at the very last. Another hot day today. Set out the rest of the bedding plants including the geraniums that Kathleen grew last winter from slips. Also planted two hills of pumpkins. The usual 5.00 P.M. beer break in the back yard while gazing at the lovely ^{Summer} _{landscape}.

158th day

MONDAY, JUNE 7

207 to come

4.38

67°

85° 8.01

Hot like yesterday and no sign of the promised rain. I am afraid our little plants in the South bed will have a struggle to survive, especially the ones I damaged in planting. "Fulfillment" has the same tremendous impact as on first reading. I agree with Virginia Woolf - he is the greatest.

1971

159th day 4.38 TUESDAY, JUNE 8

206 to come 8.02

60°

65°

Twenty degrees cooler and no more rain. Much too dry around here for the strawberries, the hay, the pasture and the gardens generally. Saw setting behind Pearl's Chimney. Very interested in the Auckland & Sydney temperatures which are printed daily. They seem to lower in the mid fifties. Dear Gaga would be 97 today.

160th day 4.38 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

205 to come 8.02

49°

65°

Sunny and cool: the morning sky of deep blue was complete except for so crisscrossing jet trails in the far south and west. Was surprised and delighted to find Margaret at 37 Jane with Eric and "Shelley" - what a winsome little girl.

1971

4.37 161st day

46°

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

8.03
63

204 to come

on the cool side. The big effort last evening was mowing the dry, wiry lawn. Kathleen is struggling to keep the little plants alive in the ones in the south bed. I think she will win out, she always succeeds in anything she puts her mind to.

"How far along on June 10th?"

Poor boy, how you suffered? And how lucky you were to escape!"

4.37 162nd day

49°

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

8.03

203 to come

75°

Warmer and dryer. I am reminded very strongly today of my woeful ignorance of even the most amateurist and popular side of astronomy. I get about 20% of the questions in the quiz section of the "Orbit".

A lot of children know more than I do. However, I am not downhearted. There is a lot of time for observing ahead of me and I must make more use of it!

1971

163rd day 4.37 SATURDAY, JUNE 12 82° 202 to come 8.04
58°

"Long, long ago it seems this summer
 when that pale-beamed April walked
 with pensive tread through the forest
 woods" etc. etc. "Lustrous and
 large out of the gathering drought
 the planets gleam (Jupiter and later
 Mars) the baleful Scorpion trails his
 dim fires o'er the far south" etc.

Would I were in Tahiti to see the
 "baleful Scorpion" right overhead and
 the planets almost twice as bright
 in the Tropic sky.

164th day 4.37 SUNDAY, JUNE 13 77° 201 to come 8.04
60°

Was lazy after lunch and did
 not get out in the garden till
 well after 2.00; accordingly the
 rain came on before I got half
 the hoeing done. It was a grand
 rain - over an inch. Had to content
 myself with clipping long grass
 around the house and hacking
 out caudexes in the driveway.

In the evening Kathleen drove
 me down to Paris and we had
 an hour with the Bailys, leaving
 Buggan his birthday gift - Brahms
 2nd, which Arthur got for us.

1971

4.37 165th day 57° MONDAY, JUNE 14 8.05 200 to come
73

Slightly cooler with sprinkles of rain in the morning and bright sunshine late in the afternoon. Will you do any observing tonight? Last evening between thunder storms the sky was clear and we saw Jupiter under the best of conditions. Also picked up M4 in the 3 inch. Maybe I'll get back my old enthusiasm in the stargazing heavens. Uranus was very clear.

4.37 166th day 57° TUESDAY, JUNE 15 8.05 199 to come
73

Same temperature as yesterday but sunny all day. After breakfast the pale old Moon at last quarter was half way up the western sky at about the vernal equinox. I sure have slipped a lot in star and constellation spotting. I will start now and brush up on Capheus. The dear boy at the Sea Claude squirted some more juice into my door lock and now it works famously - better than I ever remembered it working. Gee, we let slumber steal the sense away!

1971

167th day 4.37 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

198 to come 8.06

58°

72°

Sunny and modestly warm.
 Learned what orthograde means.
 Ground one of the old snow tires
 on M2 soft this morning so
 blew it up at Hanna's and on
 arriving at Paris I negotiated for
 two new tires for the front and the
 front ones put on the back -
 total bill 86.10 - Cheap at half
 the price. This must be an all-out
 offensive against weeds and grass
 so hurry on home.

168th day 4.38 THURSDAY, JUNE 17

197 to come 8.06

59°

76°

Came home yesterday afternoon
 to find the brown ambassador wagon
 in the lane and Arthur busy
 painting the garage, also with him
 were three hungry children to
 feed and grandma was not too
 well prepared for the onslaught.
 However I guess everyone got
 enough of cold cuts of meat fresh
 asparagus and washed potatoes.
 I hoed in the garden but did
 not quite finish by dark as
 the weeds were prolific and ubiquitous.
 Sunny and warmer today. Bill Morrison
 dropped in to say hello.

1971

4:38 169th day

60°

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

8:06

196 to come

82

Temperature climbing up as summer approaches. Sunny, breezy and hazy. Kathleen left same time as I did. We met by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and together we paid the lawyers (~~mess.~~ Garrison & Mudge) a visit and twenty dollars for new wills to supersede all old ones. (remember supersede) - No wonder you got 8 mistakes in spelling in 1914. The first of Ben's big moving days; I hope all goes well.

4:38 170th day

65°

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

8:06

8:07 195 to come

Thermometer on the up and up. What about the bolometer? Arnold's is a - fading store or words to that effect only stronger. After paying 1.03 for "off" which I didn't want I gave 6-12 which I did want at the I.S.A. for .89. Oh-hum - after being bitten on the face leg an impudent mosquito right in my office I sure need something. All Kathleen wanted for the weekend was a chicken which I have for her.

1971

171st day 4.38 SUNDAY, JUNE 20

194 to come 8.07

66°

86°

Had a good go at the garden both before church and in the afternoon. A great war against portulaca oleracea (purslane) which jumps up almost as soon as you cut it off. The whole garden is plastered with it. Very hot in the sun but a black thunderstorm went around north about 3.00 P.M. and old sol was obscured for an hour. Changed and went to 37 game for a fowl dinner - very tender. End put on the Brahm's 2nd that we gave Beggam.

172nd day 4.38 MONDAY, JUNE 21

193 to come 8.07

60°

76°

weigelia or weigela rosea ^{bush} ^{longspike}
 Sunny, breezy and a little cooler.

While we were eating last evening a nice shower came and when we got back to Dumbo found the garden also got a bit of much needed H₂O. The sun will reach its furthest north at 9.20 this evening. Although I do not understand Bode's abbreviations and stellar nomenclature yet he has certainly revived a keen interest in the sky. ~~It is~~ now our ~~must~~ not neglect Urania. He that has eyes to see, let him see!!

1971

4.39 173rd day

57°

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

8.07 192 to come

75°

Oh, the first day of summer - the long June day. Getting up at 5.00 and spending most of the morning going to Toronto in a model T, spending the afternoon walking hither and yon, then spending half the night coming home. Certainly was a tiring experience. Today was much more restful - only one patient. Left Kathleen dusting potatoes before sailing into forty other tasks. Her ambition and energy are wonderful - which words only half describe it.

4.39 174th day

60°

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

8.07 191 to come

78°

Spent too long with R. Schumann so I will have to cut this short. Have to go to the I.S.A. and Breuners detail yet. yeg ~~eg~~ gods help me. Sunny and warm.

1971

175th day 4:39 THURSDAY, JUNE 24

190 to come 8:08

65°

80°

Sunny and warm. Should be able to see "a colored west and a new moon" on my way home this evening, but of that I'll tell you later. Last evening was a quiet one of industry in the garden, chiefly an offensive against *Portulaca oleracea*. Too lazy to look at the sky. Kathleen plunged into a big wash this morning in addition to her cooking and teaching. How does she do it?

176th day 4:39 FRIDAY, JUNE 25

189 to come 8:08

63°

80°

A little spit of rain and rumble of thunder this morning and another little shower at noon but altogether not enough to wet under the leaves. The west was not colored much last evening and the slim moon was very faint behind clouds. Kathleen left when I did this morning - she to the north-east, I to the south-east.

1971

4.40 177th day

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

8.08 188 to come

60°

75

I wish I had more time for everything that interests me. Prof Wrong had a succinct and eloquent way to record English history. In the light of today his views on the British Empire would have to suffer much alteration. Cloudless, breezy and moderately warm. Got a bottle of white rum to warm Kathleen's heart - if it needs warming, which I doubt.

4.40 178th day

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

8.08 187 to come

68°

88

"Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines" Like it did today when I spent several hours in the sun drenched garden whose surface was like a ^{hot} stove. Did quite a bit of good work nevertheless. Cultured, thinned carrots, staked and tied up the tomato plants. Friends came at 4.45 and immediately made a bee line for the swimming pool - all except Arthur who wasn't feeling quite up to it. Had a fine roast prime rib of beef dinner with strawberry sauce etc. hum - hum - hum - hum

1971

Hape Alfred got his
card in time

179th day 4:40 MONDAY, JUNE 28

186 to come 8:08

68°

92°

Jove last evening (10:00)

- Really turned on the heat today although sitting here by the desk there is a nice breeze with all windows and door open. Got out to ~~clubs~~ before I noticed I did not have my wallet etc. so high tailed back and in the meantime Kathleen had arrived at Paris and was waiting to get in the office to phone her boy friend at the abbatoir. I see friend Bob has gone home so I think I'll lock up. Have to leave early - recital night.

180th day 4:41 TUESDAY, JUNE 29

185 to come 8:08

70°

90°

- Possibly not quite so hot as yesterday but it felt even hotter, such was the humidity. A strong breeze blew up in the night but it was not much in evidence today. Kathleen's recital went off fine. I only wish I could hear most of it over again, it was so interesting and so much talent was in evidence. The sun is shining with unmitigated heat in my north windows and the temperature in the operating room is 91.

1971

4.41 181st day 72° WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30 8.08 184 to come 89

Maybe a degree cooler than yesterday but you would never know it. My office was 90° or better all day. Got a pretty good sleep last night in spite of the lack of breeze. I am quite brown - garden wilting under the burning day long sun. This is the day Arthur joins the tent gang. Great weather for physical exertion and beer consumption.

4.42 182nd day THURSDAY, JULY 1 8.08 183 to come

Dominion Day

A fair, breezy rather warm Dominion Day with our five flags flapping over the front porch. Kathleen drove me down to Paris last evening so I could deflask a case and retrieve the ~~summer~~ sausage which was wrapped ~~in~~ a blanket in my stateroom. This made it possible to work all day today in the garden, hoeing and edging and sweating. Went to Kitchener at 5.45, picked up Una and Arthur and on to the Avon Theater. "The Station Straw Hat" was a riot. Stayed for beer and wound up at the Charcoal Steak House.

1971

183rd day 4.42 FRIDAY, JULY 2

182 to come 8.07

56°

75°

After yesterday's wrestle with weeds and the evening's strenuous laughs and late hours I feel a bit stiff today. I would rather yawn, and stretch and sit down than work. However, duty calls, and I do what I can. The sun and cooler. This sun, this sky, this breeze reminds me strongly of July 11, 1928.

184th day 4.43 SATURDAY, JULY 3

181 to come 8.07

50

78°

Cloudless and moderately warm. Everything would be fine if only we had a shower to feed the garden and green up the parched lawn. Quite a shopping list today. Hope everything is satisfactory. It was 143 years ago this evening that I first wheeled to Drumblo. How fortunate I have been ever since!

1971

443 185th day

59°

SUNDAY, JULY 4

807 180 to come

84

A very profitable day in that I was able to thoroughly dincest the garden of weeds - all except the asparagus bed and the peas. Worked hard, stooping at every potato hill in the hot sun, and when 5.30 came I was glad to sit out with Kathleen on the terrace and inhale a cool beer. In the evening Kathleen took me to Ayr and we spent a delightful hour or so at the Reynolds' new home.

444 186th day

60°

MONDAY, JULY 5

807 179 to come

78

What a blessing that I was able to get over the garden yesterday before this grand soaking rain which is pouring down at present (7.00 P.M.) I feel sure Drumbled is getting it. Here the streets are flooded as the storm sewers can't take it away fast enough. Getting back into the Forsythe Sage again - the family "tree" at the front helps me a lot. My maturing this evening will be more relaxing and less dangerous to my peace of mind - than 42 years ago.

1971

187th day 44.5° TUESDAY, JULY 6 60° 80° 178 to come 8.06

Slowly at first but surely the days are shortening. The garden looked fine in the morning sunshine after yesterdays soaking. Kathleen picked the first bunch of sweet peas, rich in color and perfume. Obeysed my wife and got gas from Hanna's this morning. I keep my fingers crossed: M2 is running so well I just cant help wondering - how did I deserve such a fine automobile?!

188th day 4.45° WEDNESDAY, JULY 7 67° 8.06 82° 177 to come

Rain, breezy and warm. Well, I guess Kathleen has her wish, as she washed this morning and Arthur was coming to finish the painting this afternoon. Her wish, of course, was for a fine day this could not have been finer. I wonder if Pottie will get her card tomorrow? I should have mailed it a day sooner. Peter Puloff, he always forgets. Imagine leaving Nancy's lovely 7 year old card at the post office. and Substans have no more! I am a

Minkompoop.

1971

4.46 189th day

THURSDAY, JULY 8

176 to come

68°

88° 8.06

Hot and sticky but not like 35 years ago when it was over 100 for about six days. Had a lovely dinner last evening with the Breinds as guests. - pork chops with dressing, garden fresh green peas and beet greens with rhubarb crunch and ice cream for dessert. Arthur painted on the garage while I ran through the garden soft from the rain and teeming with mosquitoes.

4.47 190th day

FRIDAY, JULY 9

175 to come

66°

80° 8.05

Fine and warm and not so humid - in fact, a perfect summer day. - like that July 11th long, long ago (43 years seem but as a ~~mist~~ that rolls away)
I think a passing thought on dear old Ralph today.

1971

191st day 448 SATURDAY, JULY 10

174 to come 804

66°

84°

Perfect summer day, but we would like a little imperfection in the shape of a nice gentle soaping shower. It does not take long for the good effects of the last rain to disappear.

Bradley's 11th. Poor Dick would have been 44. How far along am I on July 10th? Glowing Mars not far east of the waning moon was up at bedtime last night.

Nancy came yesterday afternoon. She slept well and ate a good breakfast.

192nd day 449 SUNDAY, JULY 11

173 to come 804

61°

80°

I do not know of a more perfect day, cloudy in the morning but clearing by noon. Down No 2, 403 and Q.E. to the new not quite completed residence of Mr & Mrs R.D. Bell at the "Halls" by 11.00 A.M. Picked

a bag of cherries in an orchard next door. The Firemen arrived about 12.30

and we visited till on towards 4.00 when we set out in two cars for

a tour of the Halls and a picnic spot down the gorge past the whirlpool.

Don, Bradley & I walk down nearly to the river. Enjoyed a beautiful picnic meal with plenty of liquid refreshment

(Sunday 11th continues)

4.50 193rd day

MONDAY, JULY 12

8.03 172 to come

58°

77°

On arriving back we set up Nancy's
swim pool and started filling it from
the base. She & Remond left for Kitatenee
at dusk but we stayed all night.

Almost a perfect complete horizon. Jupiter
and later Mars and the moon brilliant.

Monday - I am very much in
love with the new Bell homestead,
and hope to visit there again soon.

Stanley home after an early breakfast
and I got into M₂ shortly after
9.00. Another brilliantly clear day,
but we need rain.

4.51 194th day

TUESDAY, JULY 13

8.03 171 to come

58°

82°

Cool with a little spit of rain this
morning but soon clearing and
hot. Found out how to
overcome the difficulty I was having
with turning the equinox key on
P1 - the famous beat up '62 Plymouth.
I don't know whether it is a "Jerry"
or not, but it sure sounds furious.
Phone Grace. Wade sent her two
birthday cards like he does me.

1971

1771

195th day 4.52 WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

170 to come 802

60°

71°

a trifle on the cool side. Did a little flower bed watering before setting out in the noisy dank green Plymouth. Must hurry home as I noticed a lot more sunlane popping up - ho-ho-ho.

196th day 4.52 THURSDAY, JULY 15

169 to come 801

56°

72°

Nice summer weather, rather cool and pleasant but much too dry. Could we not have a bit of last July's rain? Clouds came up and it looked quite dark at 4.00 P.M. but the sun soon took over supreme again without a drop of needed moisture. No! P1 is not a "fury": I lifted the hood and found only six cylinders. Kathleen bawled about the bald tires.

1971

4.53 197th day 60° FRIDAY, JULY 16 80° 8.01 168 to come

What godawful music do I hear coming from a loud speaker out on the main street! It must have been a long time ago I read the Nonsyte Saga. The only part that I remember is "Indian Summer". I am finding it quite entertaining, almost exciting in spots. July half over! The dear little children when they used to go to Sally-Li's party!

4.54 198th day 54° SATURDAY, JULY 17 78.00 167 to come 68

Too bad we could not see dear Nancy on her 7th but she was there and we were here and a hundred miles between. The Fremonds were out to swim and have dinner with us and a lovely dinner it was of cold roast beef, new beans and peas etc. Arthur finished painting the garage. Very clean and rather cool.

1971

199th day

455

SUNDAY, JULY 18

166 to come

7.59

55°

74°

Not too hot. Kathleen had the brilliant idea of going to see "Ontario Place" and asked the Daylans to go along but of the four just John and Laura responded. Had a fine time inspecting the building and exhibits but did not get into the cove sphere, the lines being so long, we were not even standing an hour and a half. John drove the olds.

200th day

456

MONDAY, JULY 19

165 to come

7.59

57°

68°

Cloudy and still on the cool side. Just showed the garage. M2 is still not finished so it means more leaping and snorting in P1 with the cold tires. No, I did not go home at noon to help Gega load the truck with tents etc for Camp Killjog. No rain yet - the lawn and garden cinder-dry.

1971

4.57 201st day

TUESDAY, JULY 20

7.58 164 to come

55°

74°

Clear and oh so dry! Saw the very slender thread-like moon from the bathroom window and then went down to the back porch and couldn't "pick it up" again. Oh well, let's Mrs Cameron, my eyes are not as keen as they once were.

Saw the fiery red sun edge up just south of Cowan's bush. My last little drive in P1 was from the parking lot to Les Clarke's. M2 was in the wash room and is now out in front of the garage awaiting my tender care. It looks lovely - it ought to at 270 plunks or more.

4.58 202nd day

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

7.57 163 to come

60°

78°

The blazing sun still reigns supreme and the lawns are getting browner every day. Kathleen voiced her approval of the smart clean, shiny look of M2. Now I must drive it, and drive it for years till it refuses to go any more. It is a fine car and I must give it the best care.

1971

203rd day 4:59
60°

THURSDAY, JULY 22

79° 162 to come 7:56

Paris got a little thunder shower with enough rain to go down two or three inches just before noon. I wonder if Drunkie got any?! Otherwise the day was warm and sunny. No early start for the airport - boo-boo. We had our big fun last year. You can't eat your cake and still have it. However, maybe the future years will have more exciting trips for us.

204th day 5:00

FRIDAY, JULY 23

84° 161 to come 7:55

Warmer and more humid. I followed Kathleen to Princeton where we parted, she to the right for gas and I to the left for the sweat shop. OI was in front of the office at noon, but I saw nothing of my dear wife. Hope to see her this evening - in fact my life depends on her daily and nightly care and administration.

1971

5.01 205th day

SATURDAY, JULY 24

7.54 160 to come

62°

77°

A grand rain! Just what we have been waiting for, "the soft, slow, rain, the rushing thunder plume".

Not much thunder this time if any. How the garden stuff will jump! Got my lovely clean M2 all spattered with dirt going for the eggs this morning - oh well, you don't have everything. Doesn't look like cleaning enough to see Mercury and the moon this evening - one Mercury behind clouds, another behind mud. I look sweet peas to Erud's as per two years ago!

5.01 206th day

SUNDAY, JULY 25

7.53 159 to come

65°

80°

Sunny and warm. Clipped around in the garden, fighting the everpresent sunshade. Stirred up a little ground in the north-west corner and Kathleen planted a row of lettuce. Our yellow beans are prolific as are our second row of 'Little Wonder' peas. Everything looking fine. Kathleen came out at 5:00 with a couple of some Collins drinks which went down with great satisfaction. J.R. has a little tennis pup.

1971

207th day 5.02 MONDAY, JULY 26 158 to come 7.52
68° 75°

I really asked for rain by washing my car, with Kathleen's help, yesterday, as the dark skies poured quantities of H_2O on the thirsty land, with some accompaniment of lightning & thunder. It is 4.30 now and not cleared by any means so we can expect more. Get a move on now as this is Stratford night - Volpone.

208th day 5.03 TUESDAY, JULY 27 157 to come 7.51
58° 71°

Cooler and mostly sunny with many fantastic shapes of white cumuli. Jack really treated us royally last evening by winning and dining us at the Victories I was after the play which was very colourful and very long - from 7.30 to 11.15 Six of us went including Joanna and Laura in his new Grand Prix - an expensive sports Pontiac. We were in close quarters. Jupiter dipped below the horizon on our way home and Mars was king of the midnight near Delta Capricornus

57°

1971

5.05 209th day

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

7.50 156 to come

57°

73°

Breezy, mostly cloudy and moderately warm. I am probably deep down in the dog house as my groceries went far beyond the approved cost and I paid for Halbleen's new dress without approval. The shock last night was that uncle Bill died Monday night, or was it Tuesday morning, or was it Monday morning. The girls talked to Vera and Aunt Emie on the phone.

5.06 210th day

THURSDAY, JULY 29

155 to come

60°

72° 7.49

The moon almost at first quarter swung up in the south reminding me of August 14, 1918. Sprinkles of rain off and on last evening did not hinder me from mowing the lawn - first time for over two weeks at the front, after which I ran through part of the garden with the hoe. Sun sinking nearer and nearer to the church reminding me of the flying summer.

1971

1971

211th day 5.07

FRIDAY, JULY 30

154 to come 7.48

58°

68°

Cloudy with spots of rain and cool. Typical New Zealand (North Island) weather for this time of year. I have more ~~astronauts~~, two of which are about to land on the moon. Too cloudy at the horizon last evening to see Mercury at greatest elongation.

212th day 5.08

SATURDAY, JULY 31

153 to come 7.47

59°

72°

Not too warm yet, but for the most part (by and large as Gordon Gee would say) sunny. Irwin and Scott walking on the moon near the Apennines. Better learn some spelling: better learn a little about lunar topography. Oh, how ignorant you are. Get busy and study!! Big weekend coming up. Big family reunion - the last for over a year or least.

1971

509 213th day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

75° 7.45 152 to come

60

No church! hot dog! wish every Sunday was likewise churchless. Religion is a lot of bullshit. Spent a lot of the morning glued to the T.V. watching Scott and Luvin walking on the moon. Did a little hacing and edging in the afternoon.

5.10 214th day

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

7.44 151 to come

The big day! Watched moon walking at breakfast time. I was just nicely started trimming the evergreens in front when Penn drove up. Had a nice lunch of tomato soup and tuna salad. Penn got Jack Weeb's trailer and we loaded all the branches and other assorted items and took a trip to the new dump on the 9th. The dump came about 3.00 P.M. Had my first pool swim before dinner. Had a big crowd (17 in all) to eat ham and turkey, fresh vegetables and fresh raspberries that Halilcen picked Friday at Gumbo's.

1971

215th day 5.11 TUESDAY, AUGUST 3 150 to come 7.43

59°

74°

The Grand children stayed all night. Mostly dull, but no rain over the parched lawns and gardens. Called at dear Mabel's for two baskets of yellow harvest apples. Will try to be home in decent time as Kathleen will be tired from too much work and overseeing lively grandchildren.

216th day 5.12 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 149 to come 7.42

50°

70°

Rather coolish and mostly cloudy. Everything desperately in need of rain. Kathy was sick this morning. Hope she is better this afternoon. Hurry now - all aboard for Kitchener and Malton.

1971

5.13 217th day

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

7:46 148 to come

50°

73°

Yesterday was a red letter day for the Freund children, Kathryn said it was the greatest day of her life. Everything worked like clockwork. Arthur really ~~ran~~ around like mad from 6.⁰⁰ to 7.⁰⁰ when we finally got away with a tight packed car (olds) and seven passengers. They had 215 pounds of luggage. We simply staggered with it down to the flight desk. Plane (jumbo jet Air Canada) left almost on time with its 400 souls hurtling through the night sky to London non stop.

5.14 218th day

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

7.39 147 to come

55°

74°

Interminably dry. Garish sun pouring over the parched land all day, our back terrace becoming a barren desert. I pour pails of water on the flower beds each morning but that doesn't help much. Kathleen got away to Brantford before I did this morning. She drove the Olds to Stratford last evening with John and Laura. "There's One in Every Marriage" at the Avon. Georges Feydeau, little known french playwright was the author (1862-1921) (little known to me! - I'm quite illiterate!

1971

219th day 5.15 SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

146 to come 7.38

62°

84

Summer heat again after a week of fall-like weather. This is the annual Harvest Carnival at Drumbo and I am urged to be home in time to watch the parade. For years I have missed Den at these events, and so they do not have appeal as formerly - same as figure skating for the years since Quata quit. How is that dear family doing in the great metropolis of London? I hope famously. Kathleen got up early and finished "East of Eden"

220th day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

145 to come

68°

86

More summer heat but a nice breeze. Did a lot of pre-holiday chores, such as some last minute weeding and trimming, watering and packing bags and suits in the olds. Pat to leave just as the car is coming on and the sweet peas blooming better than ever. Got the color photograph album ready to take with us. Now I think we are all set. Here's luck!

Do will take it back today

221st day

1971 A swank new motel at \$12.60
a marvelous value - 3.65 for
bath including tip.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

144 to come

60°

80°

up at 6.00 and slung the breakfast
on washed dishes and put the rest
of the stuff in the car, and last
minute watering, finally zooming
off in the Olds at 7.30. Kathleen
did most of the driving. We lunched
in a charming picnic area by the
French river. I urged Kathleen to drive
away beyond the Sault to within a
few miles of Wawa where we struck
an excellent Voyageurs restaurant
and fine A.A. motel next door, high
above the highway at the edge of the
woods with the white throats scurrying and
the black flies stinging

222nd day

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

143 to come

59°

62°

Over 500 miles today over fine
highways. The grand scenery around
the top of Lake Superior was at
times partially obscured by fog.
Drove through several showers.
A thunder storm early this
morning was about over when
we started. This motel at Dryden
is even more luxurious than the
one near Wawa with the addition of
radio and T.V. It is not surrounded
by trees and wild flowers but it is
equally as quiet. Had dinner at a good
restaurant next door - it was excellent

1971

Sunny and much
warmer than

223rd day

60°

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

80° 142 to come

East night

A complete surprise today when we drove from Dryden, after a good breakfast (goodie again) next door, to Souris, Man., arriving there at about 3.00 P.M. and found so many things of interest such as the longest swinging foot bridge in Canada, or so they say, over the rather wide and deep Souris river, the antique museum, the fine dinner at the town hotel with screw-drivers to start, and a very reasonable motel (7.50) (but not too sound proof, good T.V. tub and lots of hot water. and appointments for comfort.

224th day

60°

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

84° 141 to come

Had breakfast (again very reasonable) at the hotel on the main street of Souris, then back to the motel to finish morning chores. Lunched today at the ball stadium of Ogema, Sask. and got to Kincaid about 2.45 P.M. Paused the car by the wrong house and walked down town. Found the shop locked up, came back, moved the car across the road to the right house and burst in upon Aunt Annie, a good full coursed dinner and much yapping. Sleep in the same room at the front as years ago.

1971

225th day 58° FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 60° 140 to come

Windy and dull with a ~~few~~ few spits of rain. Walked down to the old deserted C.P.R. depot. It was a sad sight with all the broken windows. The five and twenty years seemed like a mist that rolled away. Pulled a few weeds in the potato patch and picked a kettle full of yellow beans from Bill's garden. Lots of company in for afternoon tea. Mr Cross took us for a drive out to the farm and over the vast wheat fields. A wonderful panoramic view. The sun set like a red football. Kincaid from a hill three miles north looked enchanting.

226th day 59° SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 90° 139 to come

Back to the torrid prairie heat with no mitigation, even when black thundery-looking clouds darkened the afternoon sky.

Spent the ~~off~~ morning cleaning the car with varsol, Kathleen doing the lion's share of the work. Dug potatoes in the rock garden, nearly breaking the fork. A fruitless trip down town to put air in the bicycle tire. Evelyn T. phoned in the evening. Called at the Cross's and had quizerale staggered home and sat watching T.V. A furious wind with lightning at bedtime. Got no rain.

1971

227th day

69°

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

82° 138 to come

A quiet Sunday with more breeze and not quite so hot as yesterday. Picking up Mr. & Mrs. Cross the five of us drove out to Thomson Lake in the afternoon. Spent a very pleasant hour there with eskimo pies provided by Mr. Cross. From there we drove to Snavelbourg and inspected the Catholic Cathedral.

228th day

67°

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

83° 137 to come

Another fair, breezy summer day. Took some pictures. Washed the car again and got the back deck packed with our luggage. Drove down town for gas and the mail. No word yet from the Fremds. After lunch we bid Aunt Annie goodbye and it was a touching, tearful parting. Arrived at North Portal about 5:00 P.M. and were royally welcomed and fed by Vera and Doug. The manse is new and elegant. Doug drove us over the border and around Portal.

1971

229th day

70°

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

136 to come

A lovely summer morning with deep blue sky overhead and white flocculent clouds sailing up from the west. The very thin old moon was clearly visible over the north eave of the house. Doug took us in Vera's Vauxall wagon on a fine afternoon drive to the Coalfields and the big hydro power plant west of Estavan. We went in to Estavan shopping area and had delicious sundaes and then home to the manse. A magnificent dinner of tender steaks and all the trimmings.

230th day

50°

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

69° 135 to come

A cool, dull morning and it stayed dull all day. Vera prepared a stick-to-the-ribs breakfast of pancakes and sausages. Bid Doug and Vera goodbye about 9.30 and were on our way. The customs chap looked at everything in the back deck. Drove through several rain storms, had lunch by a ^{roadside} litter can. We are now bedded down in a fine motel just outside of Penger's Falls. It is very quiet here and everything is top notch. Dined of pork chops in a downtown restaurant.

1971

231st day 72° THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 52° 134 to come

This is sure a splendid motel at the edge of Kings Halls.

Drove over to the Holiday Inn for breakfast and then away on our long haul - 709 miles.

Ate dinner at another Holiday Inn near Peru, Ill. Found the going very slow around Bloomington and 150 to Champagne was old and very winding. Got to 1106 A.O. ranch a few minutes before 10:00 P.M. Much beer and chin wagging before hitting the hay.

232nd day 73° FRIDAY, AUGUST 20 55° 133 to come

Hot outside but nice in the Bell's air conditioned house. Sat around most of the day. Kathleen and I washed the oldsmobile.

1971

233rd day

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

84° 132 to come

71°

84

A thunder shower in the night followed by a hot sunny morning made ideal conditions for finishing the car with the Chamois cloth. It sure looked shiny and spotless. After lunch Kathleen and I drove over to the shopping plaza and picked up a sport coat and pair of slacks for me. Kathleen got a stainless steel vegetable dish with wooden handles for Joama, but found nothing for herself in the way of a birthday present.

234th day

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

86° 131 to come

72°

86

Sunny all day and hotter still. The four of us drove to a shopping plaza in Champaign. Pottie got some groceries, then we went to Eud's house. Found it spacious and surrounded by beautiful trees. A very late lunch, while waiting for which I mended Dorothy's plastic garden hose.

1971

235th day 5.34 MONDAY, AUGUST 23

130 to come 7.13

69°

75°

Sunny and cooler after another thunder storm in the night. Got away just before 9.00. Could not get any pictures taken as Dottie was camera shy and Alfred was in a mess. Kathleen drove up 57 and 80 and got on to 94 where I took over. Ate the lunch Dottie provided in the car. Kathleen drove through Detroit, stopping at the duty free shop for booze and cigarette. We ate on the throughway near Dearborn. Home before dark.

236th day 5.35 TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

129 to come 7.11

45°

64°

A chilly night. Sunshine came on several times. Frost reported in some locations. M2 started right off ran like a charm. Got gas and a quart of oil at Les Claude's. Frost oil added for over 2000 miles. Besides answering the busy phone I had ample time to look over the stack of mail and papers. The first letter of Mialo's was sent back to Paris. They have been touring England and Wales.

1971

5.36 237th day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

7.10 128 to come

50°

74°

Rain off and on all night with accompaniment of thunder and lightning. Wednesday goes more quickly as the months and year go by. Rush, rush, rush. Now I must rush out and do some shopping for the dear Enticknap girls.

•••
•••

• h

•••
•••

5.37 238th day

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

7.08 127 to come

52°

65°

Dull and cool. This is the magnificent sight I beheld over in Jack's garden as the dusk was smouldering in the west, just after I had mowed the lawn (first time for over three weeks)

♂

• H

♂

J

Spice

S.E.

antares

S.W.

Paid my own and Kathleen's phone bill as well as the "Globe" at tall and urbane Frank's. Too bad there is no one to share my enthusiasm about the heavens. Kathleen does as much as her busy life will allow.

1971

239th day

5.39

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

126 to come

7.06

590

72°

More thunderstorms, more rain, sometimes a heavy downpour, sometimes just a fine drizzle. Turned the north and east downpipes to run off outside as the cistern is approaching the full. Waited a belated birthday card to Beat who was 90, ^{a week} last wednesday. Kathleen left when I did this morning for hair and shopping.

240th day

5.40

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

125 to come

7.05

60°

74°

Cloudy with more showens. Glen Hunter installed a new water heater (Cascade 40) yesterday afternoon. How is that for quick efficient service? The pressure tank is dropping, but maybe it will stop - we hope! over 200 dollars down the drain already on tanks. Was able still to get eggs. I wonder how soon the supply will stop. Lawn getting green again.

1971

5.41 241st day 61° SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 79° 7.03 124 to come

What day could be more really perfect, sunny and warm and up early to enjoy every minute of it. Left Drumbo about 8.30 with picnic goodies packed in the car. Stopped at Vineland and picked a bushel of peaches in a big orchard where the colours in the morning sun were magnificent. After a light lunch with the young Bells we set out for Niagara-on-the-Lake. It was most interesting window gazing and going through some antique stores. Met Laurie & Dorie at the old apothecary shop.

242nd day MONDAY, AUGUST 30 123 to come

I turned back along the river bank and had our picnic dinner at a lovely shaded area overlooking the broad Niagara river and the distant town. We all ate and ate and drank and drank, Dennis remembering to bring a goodly supply of "50" ale.

5.42 62° 80° 7.01

Like Melpomenous Jones we stayed all night and were even loath to go home on this glorious sunny morning to work and slave, taking Nancy with us. Got rid of that troublesome lower left 1st molar, at least 3/4 of it. The distal root remaining for some future session. Bennett Calf dead at 73.

1971

243rd day 5:43 TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

122 to come 6.59

50°

74°

a chilly east wind brought some rain last evening, but today gradually became sunny and warmer. Kathleen got her card from me with the shoe money she was to have a bar-b-que at the Taylors today. Nancy was very good with her first piano lesson. We trust the Mason and Risch is by this time delivered intact to the neat new grey brick house at the Falls.

244th day 5:44 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

121 to come 6.57

47°

72°

When I arrived home last evening I found the green beans, tomatoes and pot all covered with canvas for fear of frost. However it was not near the freezing point. I wrote to Kathleen and the Taylors - better safe than sorry. Kathleen was pleased with her birthday loot. Nancy still going great guns with her piano lessons. September enters fair, moderately warm and everything looking colourful and green again.

1971

5.45 245th day

59°

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

6.56

120 to come

and such a good good eating girl!

Dull and threatening all day but brightening somewhat in the afternoon.

Very muggy, but no rain. So my weather forecast was vindicated,

and Kathleen started into a big wash this morning and asked my opinion on the dubious outlook.

Something has been added to my lunches now - little tomatoes fresh from our garden - and there are lots of them. Glads, morning-glories, moss all in promiscuous bloom.

Nancy is a wonder with her music!

5.46 246th day

59°

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

6.54

119 to come

Still mostly dull, muggy and trying to rain but not managing it. Better for Paris Fair. Kathleen and Nancy called in at the office this afternoon. They had an interesting letter from Nuala describing their Scandinavian tour. It sounded thrilling and fantastic. Last day for Nancy to take her piano lessons. Must get home to see the parents of this most interesting lass.

1971

247th day 6.48 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

118 to come 6.52

66°

79°

"All the hot fair day". Is this from my pet Coleridge? Anyway it was dull and muggy till about 3.00 P.M. when the sun came out dim and misty and the temperature rose close to 80. I should say a good 'Fair' day. Den and Lyne arrived shortly after I did last evening and after a short stay went on their way to St. Thomas taking dear Nancy with them. He plans to go home between Monday morning to work at the house.

248th day

5.49

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

117 to come

6.50

68°

90°

Back to torrid summer heat. Sweatened in a coat at church which I tore off quickly on reaching home. The afternoon was spent in the potato patch. dug a 100 lb bag and part of a second. Glad to sit down in front of T.V. in the evening. Saw the final film of the six wives - Katherine Parr which we missed in the spring.

Jack and Co were over at noon - read them the
1946 - "Westward Ho" - had many laughs.

249th day ^{5.50} 66° MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 90° 116 to come ^{6.49}

Labour Day (Dominion)

It was sure 'labour day'. Dug more potatoes filling the second 100 lb bag and one 75 pounder. This left just 3 rows at the west side for Kathleen to dig as she needs them. Held the ladder while Kathleen picked plants over at Clara's. We are deluged with tomatoes - Kathleen can't keep up to them. She had an extra busy day - washing, getting meals, teaching second lessons, picking and cleaning beans - to name some of her activities.

250th day ^{5.51} 70° TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 ^{6.47} 84° 115 to come

Still, still she smiles, she even laughs outright. September is determined to give us a good parting dose of summer. In spite of the sporadic growls of thunder and sprinkles of rain, it did not cool much; today was almost as sticky as the last two, and we had almost ^{WVX} interrupted sunshine. Enjoyed sitting in Mr last evening while the teaching was going on. I felt very relaxed after the potato-digging and read some more of the Forsyte for the second time this summer. I could not have gotten much out of it when I read it first over 30 years ago.

1971

251st day 5.52 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 87° 114 to come 6.45
72°

One of the warmest if not the warmest upstairs last night. The mercury soared up towards 90 this afternoon and the humidity was top-notch. Got the pictures back - holiday snaps. Kathleen will have to see them.

252nd day 5.53 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 113 to come 6.43
69° 86°

Not quite so sticky, but sticky enough; and still midsummer heat. Mostly sunny and dry with the sad washing mown sinking to the north off the Baptist Church. Managed to trim up the lawn back and front before the day was quite dead; yesterday - morning glories in a wealth of bloom each morning.

1971

534 253rd day

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 6.41 112 to come

60°

80°

A very fine summer day. On the dry side but rain would not do much good at this late date, except to supply soft water and bring up the water table which is plenty low. There was only 8 feet of water in Alvie's well on Monday when he lost his upper teeth. They pumped it dry next day and retrieved the teeth: now they want rain badly as does Irene and many others. We have 2/3 of a cistern, as our demand is not great at present.

555 254th day

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 6.40 111 to come

60°

78°

A day similar to yesterday with a strong, hot sun, and a fresh breeze. Another letter from Neala dealing with their living quarters (or balconies) near Detmold. We are simply flooded with tomatoes; Kathleen cannot keep pace with them. Never had such an excellent crop, both for quality and quantity. Remember that Cub Don's old garage is "temporarily" closed and out on Keg Lane the G.S.G. are going to do "reforestation"

1971

255th day 5.57 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

110 to come 6.38

59°

72°

Mostly dull and on the mild side but no rain before dark. Washed the car to discourage the rain. Weeded a little in the old pea patch and picked four baskets of tomatoes. Was fascinated by the T.V. presentation of Jane Eyre over again although it was only last year we saw it first.

256th day 5.58 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

109 to come 6.36

60°

69°

Gradually getting cooler as well as wetter. Rained most of the day, fine gentle rain washing some of the spray off my clean car which I got on the highway this morning. Got two anniversary cards, one for the Nutes and one for the Waltons; now don't forget to mail them. Nibita Kreshchev dead at 77. Buried in a common cemetery with relatively few in attendance.

1971

5.59 257th day

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 6.34 108 to come

60°

74°

A very pleasant day. The thin slip of an old moon was faint behind ~~behind~~ scudding, smoky clouds from the south west. Got the card with a note inclosed posted for Peg and Wadi's 45th anniversary, the sapphire. I did not send any sapphires. Brought Erid another basket of tomatoes. I don't remember ever giving away such quantities and still retaining an over abundance ourselves.

6.00 258th day

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 6.32 107 to come

60°

70°

Cooler and overcast, clearing around noon. Still summer in the air went up the hill without a jacket at noon.

Oh, 1921, how you flash back to me. What a dither I was in getting ready to go back to the city early on the morrow!

1971

259th day 6.01 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 106 to come 6.30

55°

63°

The shape of things to come; always about this time of year I mention in my journals about my first gas fire in the office; well, I had it on about an hour this dull, cool morning. Kathleen (thanks to her push) and I actually did nearly an hour's practice on the Beethoven 3rd last evening.

Moved the Centennial rose bush back from the edge — hope it won't die!

Yes, 50 years ago you were in the bosom of your mother's sister's family.

260th day 6.02 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 105 to come 6.29

52°

62°

Gas fire on nearly till noon. The feeling of approaching autumn is in the air. Put a blanket in our bed for tonight. Kathleen left when I did, she to Preston, Kitchener and Waterloo, I of course to the clicking rattley Centane construction. The heifers of Schell have eaten about half our dahlias. This is the thanks you get for being kind to them, giving them corn on the cob etc.

1971

6.03 261st day

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

6.27 104 to come

50°

65°

Bright and sunny all day, excellent for the downtown merchants and their "sidewalk sale" which attracted sizeable crowds. Tonight we are to go to Ayrs so I must look sharp and be home in good time. Got a card for dear Kathleen. Guess I'll take a chance on mailing it - or with J.?

6.05 - 262nd day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

6.25 - 103 to come

55°

62°

Dull with a nasty south-east wind. Not too spry after the 2-30 session at the Reynolds'. Cut up the entire crop of corn stalks in the afternoon. A fine, damp rain blew in from across the Nith valley late in the afternoon. Very foggy at night, but we didn't have to go anywhere so stayed put, doing a little Beethoven after supper. Kathleen had tender steaks with creamed Cauliflower for our pre-anniversary dinner and the last of the raw peaches from Vineland.

1971

263rd day 6.06 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 102 to come 6.23

60°

59°

Rain most of the day and getting a bit cooler. you will have to try and get home a little earlier in house of our 34th. I am a trifle stuffed up - but not nearly as bad as on our wedding day.

264th day 6.07 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 101 to come 6.21

49°

68°

A complete change from yesterday: sunny and warmer. Would that this might stay with us to the end of the week for the benefit of the great Drunko Fair. The Taylors gave Kathleen a little supper party yesterday with anniversary drinks. Jack talked with me later on the phone. Sorry I missed the party.

1971

6.08 265th day 50 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 69 100 to come

The last full day of summer was sunny and pleasant. A south-west breeze and leaves only the slightest bit tinged. This is the Watson's 445th. I hope they got my card before they took off for the north of England. I have a pork roast for 6.18. I hope it is not too fat. As you can see, I live in hopes.

6.09 266th day 49 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 69 99 to come

What a great shock to read in the Paris "Star" of Saxon's death. Only 58 and having such an interesting and busy life with his beloved music. What times we had up at his mother's with the bar-bell and such like activities! I will never let his memory fade but keep it warm in my heart. Too bad we were both so occupied of late years and had no time to visit -- Lionel to Thurston - **R.I.P.**! A little shower late in the day but mostly clear and rather mild for autumn - as of 12.45 P.M.

1971

267th day 6.10 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 98 to come 6.16
45° 62°

Seasonable for the first fall day:
 mostly sunny and a little cooler.
 This fine evening with the young
 moon low in the south-west will
 be ideal for Drumbo, so let me
 get there as soon as convenient
 stopping at Mrs Stevenson's for
 some goodies for the ladies booth.
 Phoned Pavells - they are always
 going to send the tickets. I wonder
 if we will ever get them?!

268th day 6.11 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 97 to come 6.14
42° 60°

Rather close to frost last
 night but nothing noticeable
 Kathleen covered the beans and
~~potatoes~~ tomatoes and pot, which
 I uncovered this morning.
 A big day coming up for Kathleen
 and a few other conscientious souls
 in the women's booth. Clouded
 this afternoon after a brilliant
 morning but no precipitation.
 So Drumbo fair should be a
 success.

1971

6.13 269th day 50° SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 59° 6.12 96 to come

Dull and cool. As Johns were away all day, Jack and E. came over after church and we persuaded them to stay for lunch of tomato soup and toasted sandwiches. The rest of the day was spent quietly; I did a little in the garden, such as bringing in the sweet-pea wine, trimming dead flower stalks, digging back of garage for next spring etc. Lovely baked fresh ham for dinner and scrumptious pumpkin pie.

6.14 270th day 51° MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 60° 6.10 95 to come

Still cloudy but no rain, in spite of the persistent east wind. Managed to get a letter (my first) written to the friends also one to Patsy Adeney. I must be sprouting wings - Kathleen will be happy tonight as I got the tickets for Wednesday night - also got her hair appointment changed to Thursday.

1971

271st day 6.15⁵ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

94 to come 608

55°

69°

Back to almost summer temperature. Overcast till about 3.00 P.M. when the sun peered wistfully allowing me to see a couple of small spots. Brought Enid's card and little gift down in the morning. Can she say "I strove with none for none was worth my strife"? A long time since I read *Love's Labour's Lost* - I find it absorbing to a degree.

272nd day 6.16 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

93 to come 606

59°

75°

Real summer today. Climbed the hill at noon hatless and coatless. Nuala sent a very lovely card to her aunt Enid arriving right on the day. The sun broke through the clouds this afternoon and the day looks like evening, calm, warm and cloudless, which will be fine for our intended trip to Hamilton.

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1971

6.17 273rd day

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

92 to come

50°

75°

6.04

Trying to make us think it is still summer with autumn a week old. That was a super excellent show at ~~North~~ college in upper Hamilton. Kathleen called at 5.45 sharp and drove to a restaurant on 403 where we had a tasty supper. Tom Nebone and Denish Christie proved to be an marvelous pair of actors, singers, impersonators etc. The whole evening was a riot. Evid enjoyed it so end.

6.19 274th day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

91 to come

50

76°

6.02

Warmer still and beautifully sunny. Got up before the sun and had an early breakfast so Kathleen could leave by 7.25 which she did. She was bound for Kitchener and an Olds service at about 24000 miles. Unfortunately the Friends were not at home so she had to pass up Wilfred Avenue. I did the dishes, watered the south bed and got away fairly early myself - that is shortly after nine. I am devouring Charlotte Brontë. I love her.

1971

275th day 6.21 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

90 to come 5.59

50°

69°

Mostly fair and still summer.
Washed M2 oven at John's in
the afternoon. Legume and Nancy
dropped in shortly after 7.00
P.M. on their way to the Falls.
Dennis was out Wasaga for the
weekend.

276th day 6.22 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

89 to come 5.57

55°

73°

Warmer than yesterday and sunny
all afternoon after an early morning
shower which I induced by
washing my car yesterday. Now
it is all spotted again. No time
for any relaxation - tonight is
our first rehearsal at Watford.

1971

6.22 277th day

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

55° 73° 5.57 88 to come

55°

73°

After a foggy dull morning a fine brilliant sunny afternoon. My red maple is coming into maximum brilliance. Have to rush home at 6.00 for an early supper and departure for the old band hall.

6.23 278th day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

50° 70° 5.53 87 to come

50°

70°

A little cooler but still nice and sunny with the blue October sky and fast coloring leaves. Stopped at Zehus in the Belmont plaza for some back bacon for Jack. It takes a good 40 minutes for a nonstop drive from our place to the band hall by the back way and this is with the best of driving conditions. Enjoyed the rehearsal under Rappi. There were not too many there. Beethoven 3rd & Mendelssohn. King's Cave.

1971

279th day 6.25 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

86 to come 553

50°

58°

More like October. Scowling skies with oftentimes patches of blue. Enjoyed the ride to the airport. Stopped at Paris and worked a few minutes while Kathleen shopped. Ernie was in lots of time for her noon flight to Vancouver and Victoria. The autumn colors were lovely especially on and below the escarpment.

280th day 6.26 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

85 to come 552

40°

52°

No evidence of white frost but it must have been close to it. I'll bet Kathleen will be covering the beans and tomatoes tonight. Ray of sunshine in my office at 2:30 in the person of big Dennis on his way to a meeting in London. It was sure nice to have a few minutes chat with him.

1971

6. 27 281st day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

5.50 84 to come

35°

56

Our first extensive white frost. As we covered the green beans, some of the tomatoes, the pot and one geranium we were not unprepared. However the frost did not do much damage to anything uncovered. A big grocery and meat list. I hope my selection will be acceptable in your sight, oh dear sisters! Sunny in the morning but sad and grey all afternoon.

6.29 282nd day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

5.48 83 to come

50°

59°

Very dank skies and rain all day. Have just been up to Olive's for a "mum" plant for Buggam but I have decided to take it home for the week-end. Also got a card written for Edely. Got some more grocery items which might or might not be acceptable.

1971

283rd day 6.30 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

82 to come 5.46

40°

51°

Partly cloudy and cool but no rain during the day. Managed to get all the T.V. room windows washed and screwed on in the afternoon. Denis arrived about 3.00 and we had a good time. Was quite intrigued with Dennis and Nancy's piano playing. A lovely roast beef dinner with broccoli, squash etc.

284th day 6.31 MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

81 to come 6.45

Thanksgiving Day (Dominion)

Some rain in the night and also later in the day. Dennis helped me with the big front window after he had taken the upstairs awnings down. Got more windows on. Now there remains only the doors and the upstairs two. Had another fine dinner; this time cold roast beef. The Bells left shortly after 8.00 P.M. Rained heavily at bedtime.

1971

6.32 285th day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

50° 54' 80 to come

35°

50°

It must have cleared off in the wee small hours as it was perfectly clear at sunrise with a white frost on lawns and roofs. Cool and dull for the most part and I was glad of a gas fire. Tonight is book club so stop, look, listen.

6.33 286th day

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

5.41 79 to come

40°

52°

Dull and cheerless. A good day to read about Anabella, Jude, Sue, father Time and the Darling Children. Got the dishes done and to bed before the stroke of midnight after the book club yesterday.

1971

287th day 6.34 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

78 to come 5.40

50°

60°

Rather mild after the lightning, thunder and rain of last evening, but mostly cloudy, the sun only coming out briefly at noon and towards setting. The intense drama of "Jude" leaves me more enthralled than ever; it is certainly a brilliant portrayal of deep spiritual ~~love~~ defeated by conventions: ("The Sinner Killeth") I am much more sympathetic with the characters now than I was in former readings.

288th day 6.36 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

77 to come 5.38

49°

67°

Almost summer temperature with mostly sunshine. Kathleen the early bird got away a full half hour before I did on her trip to the beauty parlor as well as St George for apples and tongues. She ran up to my hermitage just before noon to cheer me up and use the phone. An unusual colored sunset with a great pink cloud stretching across the heavens

1971

6.37 289th day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 53676 to come

50°

65°

Some fog going home last night M₂ sailed like a big ship plunging through heavy seas without a ripple or a sway. Today was sunny and still away above normal temperature, so much so that my gas stove was shut off all afternoon. How much more alert and so much quicker of conception is Kathleen! I remember reading *Wuthering Heights* years ago, spurred on by the film version. She comprehended the whole plot while I was hopelessly lost.

6.38 290th day

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17 53475 to come

50°

62°

Dull, foggy and rather mild. Dug the last three hills of potatoes and put on kitchen and upstairs door windows. Laura Jr. came before I was through. We enjoyed the visit with her very much. Kathleen put on one of her best dinners, tender roast chicken, squash (schlag) broccoli, mashed potatoes with rich gravy and apple crisp for dessert. Laura left about 6.00 to be home before dark.

1971

291st day 6.40 MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

74 to come 5.33

49°

67°

Fog in the morning; now it is fog again tonight. Do you think I will get home: well, I better get there as I have a letter and some stamps for dear wife. Look the beautiful 'mum to Buggum; he was miserable with a skin rash.

292nd day 6.41 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

73 to come 5.31

43°

66°

Venus is nearly two months "old" and I have not spotted her yet. I must be slipping.

Jupiter is still bright in the south west twilight and slightly faded Mars is approaching the meridian. Give me the south

Pacific to see the ecliptic and the planets to their best advantage!

Scung after groping down the 4th in dense fog. A cool east breeze but the temperature was almost like summer.

1971

6.42 293rd day

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

45°

5.38 72 to come
68°

Cloudless and warm - a superb day. Got my first box of Cheques from the B of M and promptly sent one off to the R.A.S.C. Now being, for this evening is the start of the rehearsals that last through till the end of the week and the beginning of next - look & say!

6.43 294th day

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

48°

5.28 71 to come
69°

Toggy again driving down to Paris after I cast my ballot, the first one in, at the Bowling green emporium. Clear and warm by 10.30 but clouding somewhat in the afternoon. Had a short rehearsal from 8.00 to 9.30 on the Mendelssohn Kingall overture. Tonight will probably be longer as we will tackle the Beethoven.

1971

295th day 6.45⁻ FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

490

67° 70 to come 5.27

Dull but continuing mild. We were kept sawing on the Beethoven till 10-30 last evening. Tonight I am supposed to be there at 7.00 for a cello rehearsal. I certainly can't make it by then but hope to get in on some of it. "Don't peep at the big house" but muffler fell off of M2 at Canning and I had much ado to cut the strap holding it. Kathleen will be furious when she finds out. Ah me!!

296th day 6.46 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

59

69 to come 5.25⁻

60°

Still the mild, dull, drizzly, foggy weather. Had a feed after the practice last night Pat McCormick was the chef and did a fine job. Delicious fresh bread, cheese, cold meats pickles and coffee. Beer, of course, for the guzzlers. It is almost 12.00 noon so off with you to Drumbo.

1971

6-47 297th day

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

5-23 68 to come

56°

57°

Yesterday was a big day, a long day! What with my rush to Paris to do my morning's work and be back in Drumbo by 12:35, sleep soup, get away in car eating sandwich there, practice from 1:30 to 4:15 at band hall, zoom back to Drumbo, eat and off to Paris to Commencement, home again at 11:00 and finally over to the Oktoberfest tent party at Johns. Not too good a night's rest and we went to bed at 1:30. Dennis came in at 3:00 and Lyne at 4:00. - Breakfast at all hours.

6-49 298th day

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

5-22 67 to come

49

58

Still regarding Sunday's activities - early lunch leaving the dishes for Lyne. Got to the Lyne at 1:15. Apparently they all liked the concert. It went off fairly well. - Kingal's Cave, Ervica, and a suite for woodwinds by Mozart. Went over to the Walper for a good buffet dinner and home in good time for a relaxing evening listening to radio (Cassels conducting 94 years old) and our usual T.V. Both days dull and drizzly: today a little drier but still dull.

1971

299th day 6.50 ^{50°} TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26 ^{60°} 5.20 66 to come

I did not lie on the diningroom couch, watching the sky as the dark afternoon faded into night; no, I sought the office as usual, calling on Buggam at the hospital who kept insisting that he was not well, but his looks and pulse belied him. Going over Withering Heights for the 5th time, trying to dredge up and impress on my mind every bit of marvellous natural description, and stormy human emotions.

300th day 6.51 ^{50°} WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27 ^{65°} 65 to come 5.18

Sunny and warm. A superb autumn day. Kathleen picked beans yesterday and will probably pick some more today or tomorrow. Surely a record for an almost frost-free fall at Drumburgh.

1971

6.53 301st day 49° THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28 5.17 64 to come
65°

A high barometer has brought the purest, spottless, stainless blue sky all day long, and now after sundown the bright, waxing moon entering Aquarius is undimmed by any ^{still bright stars just below} haze. I called in to say hello to Enid, first glimpse of her since September 29.

0

6.54 302nd day 40° FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29 5.16 63 to come
62°

Another cloudless day. Gradually cooling off. A record October for warm sunny weather without scarcely any frost. Alfred is established temporarily in a nursing centre. I have just written him a letter. I got all the good bargain in meat yesterday for the Taylors. Today I could not get any for ourselves — it was ever thus! Now you commence!

1971

303rd day ~~6.55~~ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

62 to come 5.15

45°

67°

Even more summery yet with hazy warm sunshine all day, an unparalleled week of weather for the last week in October.

Nobody around at the farm and so "Bobby" was not nearly so friendly as usual although she ~~condescended~~ condescended to take a little piece of cookie from my ungraciously and hasty hand. Buggam not home yet. Made a rough translation of Art's letter.

304th day 6.56 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

61 to come 5.13

47°

64°

An indian summer day with warm sunshine and a fairly stiff southwest breeze. The extra hour this morning was much appreciated. Had a great day working around. Finished the carrot and the beet harvest, covering the former with fresh sand I got from Cedlin's hill and the latter dumped under the T.V. room to freeze and rot at leisure. John put the upstairs window on after Kallies and I did the cleaning, also the front door. Den, Lynn and Hans surprised us as we were eating dinner.

1971

6.58 305th day

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

5.12 60 to come

35°

60°

All Saints Day (Quebec)

Slight white frost this morning, but no damage seen yet. Our south bed was never more brilliant; surely an all time record for November! Dennis brought my two snow tires and the roller yesterday. Guess I will have to pull out the studs much as I hate to.

Mostly sunny but many pebbly clouds morning and evening. Beautiful sky - beautiful weather.

6.59 306th day

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

5.10 59 to come

62°

62°

A brisk south-west gale brought a shower early in the morning, but it did not amount to much. The sky was mostly clear by 9.00 and the rest of the day mostly sunny with a continuation of the strong winds. The temperature did not change which ~~was~~ a very mild November 2nd.

1971

307th day 7.01 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

58 to come 5.09

40°

48

Much cooler and sunny with cloudy intervals. Buggan still in hospital fighting a stubborn cold. Erud bugganed up with the same. This damn standard time leaves no daylight for crap work at home.

308th day 7.02 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

57 to come 5.08

30°

40°

Our first glimpse of snow on the ground this morning. It was very light and soon disappeared. I got my dear wife a prime rib roast; I hope it is acceptable. I have not much confidence in my shopping ability, or any other ability for that matter.

1971

7.03

309th day

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

506 56 to come

32°

52°

The day-long sunshine brought its temperature up somewhat from yesterday's prewinter chill.

Arthur's birthday card was to be posted today at Drumbo with a "Record" clipping and a note inside. Just over three months since we saw them last. Fast flies the time as we approach Christmas.

7.04

310th day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

505 55 to come

47°

37°

The bank skies brought a mixture of snow and rain and the thermometer dropped ten degrees by late afternoon. Well, this is the time for the Amchitea nuclear blast. I wonder what happened! They have enough nuclear devices now to annihilate all life on this planet. Why go on with bigger ones?

1971

311th day 7:05 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 54 to come 5:04

22° 28°
 Cold wind with some sun
 a big day. Anniversary services
 in the morning with Egan
 Von Keity then a lunch in the
 G.S. room after. In the afternoon
 I put on the remaining storm
 window (ballroom) and finished
 "destudding" my snow tines with
 Kathleen's help. As we left for
 the evening service a blizzard was
 raining and when we got to the church
 we were white from head to foot.
 Kathleen and I played piano and organ

312th day 7:07 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8 53 to come 5:03

20° 35°
 Mostly sunny and cold; found
 the roads a bit slippery this
 morning. The whole countryside was
 blanketed with 3" snow and ice on
 the road. Jupiter was a pale evening
 star in the south west: no sign of
 Venus yet.

1971

7.08 313th day

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

5.52 52 to come

20°

35°

Slight snow drifting down all day and melting somewhat. A bank typical November day. Kathleen forsook our nuptial bed and occupied the front room with the aid of the lidendown. However she need not have done so as I slept calmly and quietly all night long till daylight. If she stays with me tonight will I be as lucky or will I toss, and turn, and kick and bak, bak. Got my snow tires on at the Semyler garage this morning.

314th day

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

5.01 51 to come

7.10

30°

40°

Did my first snow shovelling of the coming season on the front walk. Temperature up around 40 this afternoon so the snow is about gone. Learning something every day: that booming, grating noise I got when steering to the right was caused by shandying any fluid in power steering bit. Will get car serviced tomorrow and so will find extent of damage, if any.

1971

315th day 7.11 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

50 to come 4,59

Remembrance Day

32°

40°

Dull and Novemberish. Practically all snow gone now. Streets dry for the marchers to the Cenotaph. M₂ in hospital (Clark) all day, and it has to go in tomorrow too. Will he be able to cope with the bill? Just finished James Scott's "Ontario Scene". Very interesting. Have learned several facts I should have known before. Pride ruled my will, remember not past years!!

316th day 7.12 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

49 to come 4,58

32°

40°

Another dull typical November day like yesterday. The fluid is leaking out of my power steering unit so I have to get a new hose assembly, which they can't get till next week. More money to keep M₂ on the road. How much? I hope not too much. Got my sixteen lines of iambic tetrameter. I hope they like it. The dear Bells! Squire and Nancy called at home yesterday but I missed them, dog-gone it.

1971

7.14 317th day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 4.57 48 to come

32°

42°

Saw the sun for a few blessed moments but the most of the day was cloudy and raw, in which case we will have to cook up something tonight. Got mom a nice chicken so I will not be in the doghouse for the whole weekend. Dear Arturo is 38 today but, alas, I cannot wish him many happy returns as he is so far away.

7.15 318th day

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 4.56 47 to come

33°

38°

Oh, despicable east wind, that insulted me all day as I endeavored to put the garden in shape for fall plowing proposed by dear Galin Martini. Got the glads and dahlias in on the cellar floor, pulled up all the broccolis and brussels sprouts and put them on top of the leaves which I had collected for the rose bed. dug a couple baskets of parsnips, washed them and then called it a day as it was growing dark.

1971

319th day 7.16 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15 46 to come 4.55

38°

50°

Too bad we could not have had today's weather yesterday - sunny with much less wind and much warmer. However I might have had the stiff sore hip anyway as a further phase of this devilish cold bug. M-2 cast ~~no~~^{no} 26.61 for a new hose on the power steering and grease and oil.

320th day 7.18 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 45 to come 4.54

40°

51°

A dull grey day but mild. Dear Kathleen is suffering from my cold with hacking and jabs in the back. I am the villain who brought the bugs home. As for me I am walking much better today.

1971

7.19 321st day

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 4.53⁴⁴ to come

42

49

Rather mild and mostly overcast. Walked up and down the hill with no discomfort whatever: a remarkable recovery from two days ago when I walked like DeWitte Hamilton-Wright.

7.20 322nd day

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18 4.53⁴³ to come

47

51

Indian summer lingers. Some stray moments of sunshine and many pebbly clouds and streaks and bars of grey, and a falling barometer. I suppose we must brace ourselves for a sudden change to seasonal weather.

1971

323rd day 7.21 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

42 to come 4.52

44°

45°

A grey November day made greyer by Kathleen having a fever. I brought her water, orange juice and coffee and a little bit of goodie. I do hope she is feeling better tonight as she has so much to do and see to and she had to cancel her trip to Kitchener, although yesterday she did go to Brantford and pick up the lamp shades.

324th day 7.23 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

41 to come 4.51

32°

39°

Some snow in the air as I drove home yesterday. I found dear Kathleen still running the same fever and it was getting her down. This morning fever still and no energy coupled with sharp pains in the neck. The only bright thing in this gloomy, chilly wet day was that I spied Venus close to the horizon and the moon partly visible through the clouds. About time I saw Venus - it is nearly 3 months "old."

1971

7.24 325th day

20°

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

4.59 40 to come

30°

Dull, windy and cold. After a night disturbed with jabs of pain and fever, we decided to bath, dress and zoom to Willett hospital where Kathleen got prompt and excellent service consisting of a shot of penicillin and a prescription for pills which we got from Henry Arnold, he being busily at the store. Kathleen insisted that I accept the Taylor invitation for dinner. At night we had a tin of Chewy soup between us. Kathleen much better

7.25 326th day

20°

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

4.49 39 to come

30°

Clearing and still frosty. We had an uninterrupted restful night and Kathleen's temperature was almost back to normal. Sunny all day and a clear evening with Venus gathering brilliancy close to the horizon and a young moon to the left.

1971

327th day 7.27 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

38 to come 4.49

14°

32°

About the lowest temperature this fall. It took several minutes to scrape the ^{ice} off my car windows. Kathleen was almost back to normal, having taught some lessons yesterday and sailing into a big wash this morning. Too many clouds in the west after sundown so all I could see was a faint, fuzzy moon.

328th day 7.28 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

37 to come 4.48

22°

33°

Dull with a cold, north-east wind. Kathleen is back to normal except a slight hick-hack. She will be teaching up to 9.00 P.M. which means I will not eat with her but later.

1971

7.29 329th day

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 4.47 36 to come

29°

39°

About an inch of snow to sweep off the walks this morning after Kathleen had departed for the twin cities in the dependable Oldsmobile. Later it seemed the sweeping the walks was a mark of supererogation as the sun was bright and warm after 10.30 A.M. and now not a vestige of the white stuff remains.

7.30 330th day

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 4.47 35 to come

31°

40°

So chilly, damp and dull. I felt so sorry for poor John: he tried ~~to~~ brand with mouth to mouth for half an hour till he was nearly exhausted. Everybody was so helpful, the nurses so considerate. Ron was very kind. So it is finis for Margaret Appel. (R.I.P.)
Sure did not have much appetite for lunch.

1971

331st day 7.31 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

34 to come 4.46

33°

35°

Dank with wet snow in the afternoon. A great rush to get to Paris and back to Drumbo by 12.40. The afternoon's rehearsal was quite enjoyable. Soak the mercury as the olds had been washed on Friday. Home to a good bracing Luis and a dinner leg ourselves.

332nd day 7.33 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

33 to come 4.46

32°

33°

Dank with a cold east wind. It was dry enough for me to rake what was left of the leaves in the front yard. The Grey Cup game was exciting but our favourite Toronto Argos lost to Calgary 11-14. A little practice in the evening on the Toy Symphony.

197

7.34 333rd day

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

4.45 32 to come

32°

32°

Will we even see the sun again? Darker than ever today. A steady snow from the east all afternoon; and not all melting. A gloomy day.

7.35 334th day

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

4.45 31 to come

24°

30°

Two inches of snow and the bottom layer frozen to the sidewalk so I could not make a very good job of cleaning the walks this morning. A little slippage going to Waterloo last evening but we took M & had no trouble. Getting out of Germany in 1936 was graphically told in the East part of "you can't go home again". I had forgotten that part of it. It was almost prophetic.

1971

335th day 7.36

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

30 to come 444

14°

25°

Very high barometer again and cloudless sky. Venus getting brighter over the sunken sun.

Had a go at the Widows' home last evening. It was very warm in there but we enjoyed playing in spite of the heat and sweat.

336th day

7.37

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

29 to come

444

12°

29°

I so rushed to make any comments!!

1971

7.38 337th day

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

4.46 28 to come

22°

33°

Still too rushed. Had quite a long walk in the cold wind from the parking lot to the Humanities theatre last evening.

7.39 338th day

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

4.44 27 to come

27°

35°

The sun of sweet content risen in Katie's eyes and all things well" which may not be an accurate quotation but sums up my feeling at the moment. Yesterday's frustrations resolved: I have found the return slip for my R.C.O. L. fees. Now to mail my letters with the new cheques in them. Practice last night went well, followed by a lunch. Fred Janke was back visiting, and is going to play this concert.

1971

157

339th day 7.40 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

26 to come 443

25°

32°

In spite of a nasty east wind and freezing temperature there was no precipitation so I was able to hang up the Christmas lights outside and tie Santa to the upper railing. We got to the Lyric at 6.30, rehearsed a little then sat around till 3.00 when the program began. I was quite happy with the way it went. I hope Raffi was also. Home to cocktails and dinner and an evening's relaxation.

340th day 7.41 MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

25 to come 443

33°

40°

milder with much fog. Rain pretty steady all day, so much so that I did not venture out at noon. Very dark all day with lights on. Kathleen and I ~~sent~~ wrote a joint Christmas letter to the Friends last evening.

1971

7.42 341st day

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 4.43 24 to come

36°

37°

Cold east wind, dark skies, lights on all day. Got Kalle's meat thermometer at the terrible price of \$1.02. How could I afford such an expensive Christmas present? Also succeeded in putting together some Lane-deck doggerel for her card.

Ladies Aid tonight so I must set in solitude and sorrow.

7.43 342nd day

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 4.43 23 to come

35°

39°

Still the dark, dismal, chilly fine rain and fog. Poor old M.E. shed it power steering yesterday and last night and this morning I felt I was driving an old gravel truck. I don't know what Harvey is going to do to it today if anything. It was parked where I left it this morning when I came past after dinner. Made up a crumbly rhyme for Co. & Jack's anniversary gifts.

1971

343rd day 7.44 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

38°

22 to come 4.43

40°

Kathleen started a big wash before I left this morning - and what a day for a wash! - steady rain from dawn till dark and on into the night. Geoffrey E. called in at 4.30 - he is supply teaching at Paris. We had a good gab, or gulf or confab. Geoff. is the pale, erudite student - a fine chap.

344th day 7.45 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

40°

21 to come 4.43

46°

Did you think it was clearing about 5.00 P.M.? Well, you were mistaken for it is coming down harder than ever. Rain rain all day - no letup. I likely have to turn out our down spouts tonight as the cistern will be about full.

1971

7.46 345th day

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

20 to come

33°

45° 4:45

Wonders of wonders, the sun rose brilliant in a cloudless sky and was not dimmed by a single cloud all day and now Venus is sinking behind the south-western rim of hills. What a change after a week of darkness and rain. Must hurry home as Kathleen might insist on a practice for next week. Tomorrow is the big party. grouch-grouch. Two years ago tonight I slid in the ditch!!

7.47 346th day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

19 to come

35°

35°

Not as crystal clear as yesterday but the sun did shine quite cheerfully in the morning but was beset with cloud streaks in the afternoon. I am mellowing with the years, as I enjoyed the big anniversary party with the same four couples. The dinner was super excellent. Squash, asparagus, baked potatoes, cold cuts of meat - ham, beef, chicken. - venison was there such tender meat. The party broke up in time for us to enjoy the last two thirds of the Elizabeth I.

1971

347th day 7.47 MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

18 to come 4.43

23°

31°

Mostly sunny and clear enough late in the afternoon to watch Venus sink out of sight in the south-west. I got the stamps for Kathleen which was my only purchase today. The colder weather with heavy white frost in the morning still does not look like 12 days till Christmas. Not a scrap of snow visible anywhere.

348th day 7.48 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

17 to come 4.43

26°

33°

Simcoe tonight!! Rush, rush. East wind, snow and rain.

1971

7.49 349th day

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

4.44 16 to come

32

48

That was a slippery drive to Simcoe last evening but Kathleen managed skilfully with the olds, arriving at the church at 8.00. The Christmas pageantry of lights ^{on both sides} ~~on the~~ Lynn river were something to see. Never saw anything like it. The heavy rain last night melted the ice off most of the roads except in front of our house. Lord help us to night both as to driving and playing!!!!

7.50 350th day

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

4.44 15 to come

36°

39°

The driving was good last night: no fog, no ice, nothing untoward except strong wind. The playing was not too bad either. What can you expect from one rehearsal. Don got over from a ^{Bramford} symphony date at the Blind Institute in time to play the last three numbers the final one being our famous 'cello Concerto by J.-C. Bach. Nothing but coffee served afterwards. Once more we enjoyed the fabulous lights along the Lynn river. Dull today. M2 is in the hospital tonight for power steering assembly. Have to drive old Pontiac!

1971

351st day 7.51 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

14 to come 4.44

32°

32°

The "old" Pontiac was not so old after all. A '63 6-cylinder, and working like new. I see M₂ parked on Broadway so I will ride home in familiar comfort - only hoping that it will give me ^{no} more trouble in the immediate future. I have enough tugs on my wallet this month. Partial cleaning in the late afternoon with Venus very "fuzzy". Quite a bit colder since sundown.

352nd day 7.51 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

13 to come 4.43-

14°

21°

Getting down to real winter temperatures. M₂ started right off even without being plugged in. Mostly fair - a beautiful day with just a thin covering of snow on the ground. Had to shovel our walk in front as it was drifted about 4" deep.

Have got a dozen of the night "navel" oranges today. Sorry I slipped up on the orange deal yesterday and got smaller, old, half-rotten ones. I got the flour but not the tinned tangerines.

1971

7.52 353rd day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

44512 to come

22°

30°

Dull and moderately cold with temperature rising as the day progressed. Had the pleasure of cleaning off 6 inches of snow from the walks before dressing for church (hog-wash). Wrapped up all the good apples in the bushel that Kathleen got last week and moved the incinerator to its winter quarters which was the sum total of my work today. Lovely dinner of pork chops, baked potatoes with sour cream, squash and brussels sprouts (the last of our crop)

7.52 354th day

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

4.4511 to come

31°

37°

Dull and melting our lovely blanket of snow. MZ running fine - keep it up, old boy! Haven't got my bill yet as they have not located a cap for the oil intake of the power steering.

1971

355th day 7.53 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

10 to come 4.46

32°

35°

Rather mild for the last day of autumn (Herbst). Cloudy except a little sun at noon and partial clearing in the evening to disclose a fine young moon high above cloud dimmed Venus. I will try to get something on the life of Magdalena Bach. She has some moving bits in her stories. She is weather and nature conscious to a degree.

356th day 7.53 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

9 to come 4.46

13°

22°

Have never seen so high a barometer 30.70 Sky mostly clear except for a few high cirrus cloud and vapor trails. Must hurry out to the L.S.A. before six. Edith Beasley called on the phone to wish us compliments of the season. She got over her cataract operation in fine shape. She talks like a young person - not one in her early eighties.

1971

7.54 357th day

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

4.47 8 to come

17°

41°

Most of our little covering of snow going this afternoon as the temperature quickly jumped above 40°. Got a jolt when I asked for the bill for the power steering job #106.92 plus the 29 dollars I spent on hose connections. I wonder how long I can keep the luxurious-riding and performing Mark Lane on the road? - that is without going broke. I have already spent about as much on it in nine months as I did in 8 years on Galasie's.

7.54 358th day

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

4.48 7 to come

38°

42°

Christmas eve in the afternoon. It is dull, windy and inclined to become colder but still above the freezing mark. Have got my only two parcels wrapped with Christmas decorations. Very expensive gifts for Kathleen (1) a neat thermometric at 75¢ and a brasserie at 500 dollars. You sure went all out this year. Percy outdid himself. Now to get home to the big dinner at the Taylors.

1971

359th day 7.55⁻ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

6 to come 4.48

Christmas Day (Dominion)

A fine party at the
Zaglens last evening with both
turkey and goose - both tender and
moist. A lovely time around the
tree unwrapping parcels. Arose at 7.30
to a pale sun beset with clouds.

Partial clearing as we journeyed to
Niagara. Some more parcels to inspect
and a light lunch at noon. Dennis
drove us down town and we went up
the skyler tower to the observation deck.
Everything was grey and drab - but
the viewing was excellent - an
unforgettable panoramic view of both falls
and gorges.

360th day 38^o SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

5 to come

4.19

7.53⁻39^o

Dull, damp and not freezing.
We did not seem to do
anything but the day went
like a flash. All but Lynne
took a walk around the
neighbourhood late in the afternoon.
The only other activity, if you could
call it such was a ride in Den's
car out to a shopping centre before
lunch to get a bag of groceries
ending in a tour of a new posh
building development in a wooded
area - mud everywhere - much
absolute.

1971

7:55 361st day

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 4:49 4 to come

31° 47°
 Awake to the same grey skies but colder temperature. A light covering of snow lay on the roofs and grass. Mom and Dew had several goes on the piano and electric guitar.

Kathleen drove home with great skill and extra caution over highways quite slippery in spots from the half freezing rain. In the evening the temperature shot up to 47° and the ice all melted. We left the Olds in front of the house. Read part of the fairy story to Nancy.

7:56 362nd day

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

3:45 3 to come

30° 31° 4:50
 Nancy was good and ate a big dish of farridge. Had no trouble backing me out of garage and getting up town as the ice was mostly gone. Around freezing all day and very dark.

1971

363rd day 7.56 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

2 to come 457

20°

32°

Mostly dull and windy. A glimpse of the sun at noon. I think there has been a minimum of sunshine this December. Nancy played her little pieces hands together very well this morning.

If you think this was a minimum what about 1972² - only one sunny day in ~~December~~ December 1, 1, 1, Dec 29/72

364th day 7.56 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

1 to come 452

23°

32°

My observations this dark, dismal evening will be terse as the weather is worse. Kathleen did not attempt the ice and snow to come to Paris this morning. I certainly did not have a very pleasant drive what with the sleet, blowing snow, heavy roads and partly freezing rain. The Landbook came. Yep, hips. first time it arrived before January 1st in years!

1971

7.56 365th day

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 4.53 0 to come

10°

25°

A sudden drop in temperature brought frost patterns on the windows and numbness to my fingers as I shovelled the walks last evening. A little feeble sunshine but not enough to cast definite shadows. Two fruitless trips to the "Tax" office so I am sending them \$5.00 in the mail. I hope they get it, and I hope it is enough. "not too little and too late". Kathleen and Nancy came late in the afternoon. They are a pair of lovely girls. Home better. Must hurry home before P. and L. get away to St. Thomas.

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