

Bert Cooke

Mita Davidson

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Nita Davidson

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Nita Davidson
Mr Cooke's friend

1282 Harkill Rd,
Victoria, B.C.,
V8P 2L3.
Xmas 1976.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Turnbull,

Just a little note to wish
you both a happy Christmas, &
let you know Mr. Cooke is
keeping well.

Your old friend is still getting
out on his twice daily walks
& tending to his own business.
He has walked all the way to
his bank, which must be well
over three miles. However he
condescends to take the bus
home.

There are various activities
at the Lodge which she attends
& seems to be quite interested in.
And of course there is a brief
prayer service each morning and
church on Sunday. He seems
well settled & happy. And glad
to be relieved of all the
shopping chores.

Mrs. Davidson
Mr. Cooke's
friend

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Mr. Cooke's niece & her husband
were out from Edmonton to visit
a couple of days in Sept.

We have had a glorious
sunny fall here. It made up
for all the dreary dull days we
had all summer.

Your family will be joining
you for Christmas. Mr. Cooke
will come to our house. We
try to bring him out most
Saturdays for the day.

kindest regards & best wishes,
Heta Davidson.

Hawthorn

1282 Garkil Rd,
Victoria, B.C.
V8P 2L3.
Nov 1979.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Turnbull,

It was nice to hear from you last Xmas season. I hope this finds you both enjoying good health. It is so lovely that you have your family near you - something I have never known. Perhaps that is one reason we came to love the Cooks so much. Our children still say they miss Grandpa Cook. They came to know him well as he was here each week end. And how he enjoyed his dessert & the cookies that went home with him. It is hard to realize it is two years since he went to rest.

Maurie retired this year but agreed to stay on till Nov 30 - Dec 15 to finish a project. Neil is at U.B.C in Vancouver taking 1st year Engineering (2nd year university). Lynn is in Dr X11 & on Woodward's Teen Council which means working in the store as well.

I changed my job as community working for the Canadian Mental Health Association this fall. I took a community nurse position with the provincial Ministry of Health - Mental Health Division. The pay is less better but I miss the excitement of the other position. However it was time I slowed down a bit.

I don't know if I told you the man who looked after Mr. Cook's affairs died 6 mos. after he died. He was a man around 60. I do not know if he was able to settle his affairs before that time. Doris, his niece has not been out since Mr. Cook's funeral.

I hope you will get out for a visit with so many of your relatives here. We've had a super summer & fall here - best in years! Our best wishes for a happy Christmas & best joy & good health in the New Year.

Kindest regards,

Vita Davidson



"O, come,
all ye faithful..."

1282 Harkel Rd,
Victoria, B.C.
V8P 2L3



Mr. & Mrs. Norman Turnbull
Box 25
Bessemer
Man
R.05 060

Wishing you
a happy
holiday
season.

Mar 14/77

Dear Norman & Grace

Thank you very much for your very interesting letter & I am sure you must enjoy driving around visiting your family & picking up with their news. Yes I was sure glad to see May this city, in law & you know the next day when I got up in the morning, I really did wonder if May had really been here or whether I had just been dreaming. Then I conversed on the fact that while eating my dinner one of the ^{wait}ers came to me & whispered in my ear that there were two young ladies from Man here to see me. The younger folks do get around now-a-days. The church attendance seems to be falling off in most places. There is so much else going on on Sundays now & a lot of stores open. I just attend the service here as I would be away too.

long if I went to where I'm a member
getting around becomes harder.
I hope Jack Smith will be able to
settle down at Boston but I can under-
stand how he would be feeling. I was talk-
-to ~~an~~ neighbour we had for many years or
Charles and he asked me how I liked
it at Watson Lodge & I told him I had no
complaints except with myself; in getting
used to the regulations & I made up my mind
it was up to me as they could not run a place
like this without regulations & he said they got his
father in here & it seemed he wanted to run
the place to suit himself & so they requested
him to leave. It is hard for some old folks
to change their ways. There are old army &
mounted police officers here & one of them knows
Banbury. They put on quite a number
of entertainment houses here & do their best to
help people. Chorus, variety, slides, moving
pictures, scholarship houses. I don't get
around much just my slow walk & am out
to Nelly's occasionally, it all was a nice
change. Thanks again for your interesting letter
& my best regards to all old friends & love
to you all,
James Best C

Jan 17/77

Dear Mother & Grace

This is just a few lines to thank you very much for your very kind remembrance & gift for Xmas. I have just had a visitor now I see it is raining & will have to stay in. I had my morning walk & I think I have only missed one day all winter when I had to come back because the wind was too strong for me. Eva came to see me for an hour yesterday & we had a real nice chat. Thank you very much for some lost very interesting letter & the photograph of your father's wedding family was a real good one. I was out to Milton for Xmas Day & was here again & day before yesterday & it makes a nice change. The weather was nice, in fact so far this winter it has been good & the rain we have had has been mostly at night & I've been able to get out during the day. I was very interested in hearing about old friends & my kindest regards to them whenever you see them. My congratulations to Bob

on his appointment of chairman of Conference, my best wishes to all the family.

I'm afraid I have not very much news as I have to live a kind of quiet life & do not get around very much, just my walks & I do go in the bus to visit my sisters here as they are not too long.

Love to you all

Bessie C.

Aug 3/76

Dear Norman + Grace

I thought it about time I sent you a few lines to thank you very much for the letters + papers you have sent. We wish you to your Golden wedding anniversary + celebration. I am very interested in all the news of your family + it took me back in memory of many years ago + in remembrance of the neighbors we had then, The Shalers, McCaigs, Gots, Ryans, Irwin, Griffiths, Scarths, Bill Porter, some I have forgotten the names. I was glad to hear your gathering went off so well + do hope you have many more years of happy married life. I am afraid I do not do much letter writing now as my dogs are very much the same + I am limited to what I can do but am thankful that I can still take my little walks + do the little odd things for myself. I was up to the hospital last week + they gave me an omelette + said to go back in

in one year & I said I would if I
were still living around. They send
a car for me from all accounts I
believe you are looking forward to a
record crop & I do hope you have the
weather co-operating to get it off.
I was sorry to hear Bill Search
had to go to hospital & do hope he is
all better again now. Give my love
to all the family & I'm sorry I'm not a
better correspondent. Have just come
from the morning devotion will go
out of post this

With love to you all.

I Bert

16th July

Dear Norman & Grace

This is just a few lines to thank
you very much for your very
nice newsey letter. It is quite
a long time since I heard from
you but I do not expect many
letters as I do not write many as
it is too hard to keep my hand
steady enough & my days are very
much the same & so I have not
very much news. I try to take
my walks & they are getting shorter
& slower. It happens to be rain
- in this afternoon & I thought it
a good time to send you a note. It
very dry here & rain will be very well-
come, been a lot of jakes & jakes -

I quite agree it would be a lot nicer
if we were near enough ~~not~~ to have a
chap over them. I am sure you enjoy
driving around visiting your family &
relatives & I'm so glad to hear you
are all doing so well. I have just
about quit going down town as I seem
to get dizzy spells & so Rita does the
little things that are necessary. I was
in hospital last month for about
9 or 10 days. Feel better when I

went in there when I came out,
after being out two the most similar
the weather never seems to get
too hot here, there is always the
cool breeze coming off the water
I had a bunch of old Country
"Daily Mirror" papers sent to me
& they were full of pictures of the rush
of the Queen's Jubilee, but I
really had seen most of them on
T.V. However it gave me something to
look at, well now I send my
love to all the family & was so glad
to hear about them, remember me
kindly to all old friends &
may Doubt gain for your very
nice letter.

Yours Bert

It will be a long change.
came over to see me a couple of weeks ago while
here they happened to spot a small picture
of Banbury cross & the old church, it says -
they exclaimed & said they saw that place
about a couple of weeks ago & they were really
interested when I told them that was the church
where my wife was christened as her mother
was Anglican & her father Wesleyan & her mother
insisted on having the children christened in
the Anglican church. So many people that go
to the old country so I stop for a day
at Banbury. Well I think I had better go
get a bit of lunch. I don't like holidays
& dull wet days, the house seems so empty
& quiet. It is still drizzling away.
Remember me to all the folks & I was very
interested in your news
Best wishes to all. Best.

Love Jack

I was up to Hills for
Thanksgiving

1778 Chandler Avenue

Victoria, B. C.

Oct 17/68

Dear Norman & Grace.

Thank you very much
for your letter of the 7th & my husband's
card. I was in kind of a
hurry & the phone rang & Miss Staines
said she was preparing a dinner & so
I was out to her place on my husband's.
So I don't helped it to pass. I have been
wondering this past couple of weeks
whether you have had good weather &
have been able to get planted up with
the harvest. I sure hope so as the
snow may come any time now & make
it that much later to pick up.
It is drizzling away outside the window

as I thought it a good time to let a few lines
reach to you & my niece in Edmonton.
It is supposed to be sunny this afternoon.
We have had a very nice summer & it is still
quite mild & the garden still full of flowers &
they came last Saturday from the church & fathered
up a couple of armfuls for the thanksgiving
service. I was sorry to hear Grace's Aunt
had passed on; however it was better than a long
illness, but I know you will miss her & the
little trips up to see her. Yesterday I & I was over
to see Mr Gilchrist & Mrs. He is 94 & Mrs. 89. They are
still living in the same apartment but the daughter
has her suite in the same block & by an adjoining
line. The Dr is as bright & brisk as ever, but
he does not try to go for walks now as he is quite
sturdy on his legs & Mrs Gilchrist is still quite active.
I am very interested in the news of the younger
folk & glad to hear they are getting along so well & I do
believe of Tim goes to a military college, but he will
like it & they get real good training similar to the one
out here at Royal Roads. Roy (grandnephew) at
Edmonton is now going to the Lutheran college
at Camrose, Alta & he loves it & is captain of the
football team. Frances (niece) is now teaching in
school, only a couple of blocks from where they live.
She enjoyed her trip to England & Europe. They save
her around. They even pay her wages & then help to go
towards it & help their education. I can
quite understand how Mr & Mrs. Bushman will
enjoy their side trips.

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I was speaking to Mr. Plummer
on the phone the other day.

I think you will remember they lived down
the street from us (Mother & daughter) &
the daughter died a little over two
years ago. We had met together
ever since we have been out here &
it continued until the daughter died &
we had many motor trips with them.
Well she sold her house & moved to
an apartment in James Bay.
She is leaving on the 30th of this month
for the old country & is taking all her
furniture with her (except the TV set)
& going by the Panama canal & will

have to leave either from Port Alberni
or New Westminster whichever place
the boat docks. When I was
speaking to her she said she was in
a great muddle getting her things
packed & they were coming for
her things next week but she must
see me before she leaves. Her voice
seemed steady & I do admire her
courage but I really do wonder if
she is doing the right thing after so many
years (most of her life out here) I guess it
is hard to be reconciled to her lot. I
do wonder if it will be any easier in
the old country. I wonder. We really
have to accept the blows in life as they
come none can run away from them.
However I do hope it works out well for her.

Oct 12/77

Dear Norman Grace

Thank you very much for your very nice card
birthday wishes + letters + for all the news +
I am really glad to hear Ray is making good progress
she has had quite a time of it. I am answering
your letter to Ray as it is raining so I stay in, the
country will be glad of the rain as we have had a
very dry summer. I'm sure sorry to hear the
weather has been so wet that a lot of the crops
destroyed. There is not much one can do about the
weather, but one feels that when Ray has put a
crop in it has shown good they should be able to
take it off. Yes I had a nice visit from Eva +
Ray. I was waiting for them in the main hall +
must have fallen asleep as when I came to I
found I had one on each side of me. Things going
about the same here + they put on two or three
concerts a week here in evening or afternoon + that will
go on throughout the winter. I go out for a little
walk most days + I think there has only been a
couple of days all summer that I had to stay in
because of rain. I was out to visit one day last week + they
were back to the prairie for a couple of weeks, my love
to all the family + I think of you all + I don't
write, my writing days are about over. Thank
you again yours Bert

1778 Chandler ~~Street~~^{Ave}
Victoria
British Columbia

Apr 7th/66

Dear Emma & Grace

Thank you very much for
your letter of Mar 18th & glad to hear you got
your operation behind you without too much
trouble, also that your weather has warmed
up & hopes of spring are near at hand.

Was interested in the news of Cey & family.
Bob & Jessie Leach were in town last week
& I enjoyed their company very much & with
Mrs Langman was out with them several
days, then I gave Murray Shaw a ring & he
went down & saw them. But Bob after
having the flu before he left home, ran
in to it again when in Vancouver & had
a spell in bed again there.

I hope they had a good trip home & that he was no worse after his trip. The weather was nice while they were here & has been quite summer like since & I have been quite busy tending up the garden cutting grass etc. Was quite interested in your dinner party in Rush, it is nice to hear of the old acquaintances & friends. The hospitals our here have been full of flu patients & up island some of the schools closed. Yes I remember our trip to Aneroid quite well & the chap that pulled us out of the ditch would not charge us anything as he said it would not have rained if we had not come up from Man. I guess a lot of residents in Wyo. are feeling anxious these days & I guess it will keep Jack Griffiths busy. I wonder if he is feeling better now. Am expecting our niece & family to-morrow or Sat. from Edmonton, they are coming for Easter. I hope you are all well & that the weather will be co-operative for seeding. With best wishes to you all & all mine,
Yours Bert. C.

in the Lupa magnet to pick my odd
bits that the pork is put up in such a
way in the bacon packets that you wonder
whether it is bacon or wrapping. I do
not pick it up, as on account of the asthma
that bothers me quite a bit, I cannot
eat pork. Well I think I had better
wind this up as I have another story
one to write if my hand hangs out.
Have not seen anything of Murray Shaw
all winter.

Kind remembrances to all & hope
all are well, yours

Best.

1778 Chandler ~~Street~~ ^{Line}
Victoria

British Columbia Mar. 2/66

Dear Norman & Grace

Thank you very much for
yours of Feb 9th. I was very interested in
all your news & can quite understand
how interested you can get in the rocks
you pick up & polish, one needs a hobby
for their advancing years. Glad to see
by the paper that the weather for you
has modified quite a bit. You will
be glad. This has been very nice &
I started working in the garden & cut
the lawns, but yesterday the wind was
such I thought when I walked down town,
& then I heard they had snow in the
outlying areas & so say it looks as if

²
There may be more to come also & the
wind has dropped & the thermometer is
still only at 40°. I seem to be able to
keep the time pretty filled up with
one thing & another. I visit my household
duties & then I go out every day & some
times pay a visit & have the odd caller.
Last week Harold Ravson called
in one evening & I enquired for Sam
Sawyer as I had not seen him
lately & I knew he was going to the
O W country in the fall & he said he
is back & it was not too good as he had
a heart attack in way one & now does
not get out very much. You will
see an interesting name or two in
the "Silver Threads" bulletin I will enclose
in the next bundle of Islanders I send
to Bob. I was up to Mrs Langans for
dinner one evening last week & I am
invited out for dinner to morrow &

Yesterday I walked down town & dropped
in to the Silver Threads & had my
lunch & it was quite nice & is a great
place for older folk to spend their time.
I don't patronise it very much as I am
too far out, but there are lots of folk who
just live in a room in town & it gives
them a recreation & interest as there are all
kinds of things they can do. I meet various
folk here I know & from the prairies.
My grandniece is back from Eng & staying
now in New York. Her grandmother who
uses an electric chair & is in a home,
had a fall just before Francis arrived
& was in hospital. However I think she
had a nice time also but her visit much
shorter than anticipated & she said
she would not trade Canada for Eng.
Your reference to the consumer price
of pork. I then think when I am

Best Cooke

Bimscoth
Jan 5/48

Dear Norman

Thank you very much for yours of the 29th Dec. & for the
greetings which we return with many happy years ahead.
I finished splitting the wood pile today so that I would celebrate
by writing you a few lines altho we have very little news. We
were in town last night & heard. I've been in town
during the last weeks, but my wife is beginning to feel a little
better again now & as the days get shorter & milder? we may be
able to get out a little more. However, my minister gave us
(the congregation) a good sermon last night & said we
should attend the meetings when they are called etc etc. I hope
it did us all good. I told him it was he meant that she says
it was me. After all is said & do, it will come to a few doors some-
time, because of the older people cannot do the same as they did 15 or
20 years ago, we are bound to get our aches & pains & don't want
to go out when the weather is so cold & if the young people do not want
to keep the organization going then it will have to drop. It applies
to the organization as well as the church & I remember last summer
at our elevator ^{meeting} we were wondering if we had a quorum & found one of the
directors & he said he was going to a baseball game. Like Tom P. old money.
If it is a choice between your business & golf, choose golf never mind the business.
Some of them take an office & then go away for a while & then forget it for another week
or two. It means nothing to them. I will be able to go to bed this morning. I
expect as I feel we should go in. The funeral of Sir Murray was on Jan 10
(I believe) & she was at the door last night & died in Sat. just a
little while after she got to the hospital. Then they buried Mr. P. & Mrs. P.

last week. By time down the road here on part of the old. I left the
farm & he was dead & buried & we had not heard until afterwards.
Harry Pratt is in hospital. The scrub cutter was in the
garage all last Saturday day & at night it was out clearing off the
road out to Bill McCaig. The Talloon Budditt mops have
cleared the road from Talloon's to the highway & let out Ryan
& the elevator men. I think they cleared in the cost.

Alto. Campbell seems settled out at Victoria. Has a nice house
south end of city. Steam heated & on power & water, nice grounds & the
girls both have jobs in city. so he is all set with plenty of fruit
trees. I hope after all he had the misfortune of fall off his ~~cat~~ but he
broke his collar bone & was in St Joseph's hospital for a few days
& then went home with his shoulder in a cast. You start.
we expected to spend Xmas day with Crows & Leo & Miss
Hope for we are all well & free of colds. Very many thanks for
the box of chocolates. Best regards to you all
Yours Bert,

I wish the CCF all closing down some of their industries.
They don't need boots in the winter, just overcoats.

Binscarth

Dec 22/48.

Best love

Dear Forman

Many thanks for yours of the 16th & glad you
made it home O.K. Have had quite a few
callers in here for water & they all seem to do some
cussing about the anti freeze. We seem to have
had plenty of wind & snow since you left, a little
bit yesterday & today. The storm had a spate
against my wood piles & I have a lot of little packs
shuffled around it now & the boxes & cattle play
to peep around them & waste a heap of a mess of them.
The snow plow went by on Sunday & it blew & beat
every thing on Monday, but the highway did not plug
at all, but it was a nasty day for the voters & the
Xmas tree at night, altho I hear there was no even
standing room at the concert at night. I suppose
the Monte cabinet is alright but I would have thought
they could have given you the agricultural portfolio
as well as Bill. What I do notice tho is that
the man boys have pledged their undying support
of Geo Drew & so we will have to watch the
trend of the man Govt. We are not totally over
^{consideration} much from Geo Drew. That reminds me of another
Drew; I had a letter from my uncle Wally Scott yesterday &

he enquired for Geo. Reed (Barncombe) & I guess I had not
told him that he had died, I thought I had. He (G. Reed) has
been invited to go to Tasmania to judge coosles, next summer
he is 80 yrs old. I don't suppose for a minute that he will go,
he told me that I am the only one of the Coosles that he knows
anything about as he never gets a line from Walter & Art &
does not even know where they live. Some trifle. I
just write him a line. He has 3 children

(our cousins), Jam, a very affectionate family.
I think the older people feel a little. I should think

a water softener is a good thing & no more any need to
bother with rain water. Saw Jimmy the other day
he said he wanted to buy the fertiliser attachment
himself. By the way did you read the article in

Time Readers digest "Malabar Farm", it is a real
good practical article & full of good sense & could be
applied anywhere.

We Sawler passed out
very quickly didn't she; we did not get in to the
funeral it was over 30 below & I could not start
my car in any case the Anglican church is so small
that not many could get in to the service.

Well the winter is half over & I guess spring will be
here before we are ready for it & in the meantime we
keep very warm & comfortable. Hope you are all well
& have a very joyful Xmas yours. Best

D-E-F

Teddy's records
examinations
(May Turnbull's reports)