

4835 David Street
Port Alberni, British Columbia V9Y6P3
~~May~~ June 8, 1980

Dear Grandpa and Grandma:

I just was leafing/flipping through all the envelopes of letters/cards I have to answer some day. Since your envelope was very ^{anti} un-monarchist (sp?) it ~~was~~ stood out. So it gets answered. But first... Don't you know that it isn't nice to put Queen Betty upside down on an envelope? Shame! Shame! Prairie chickens - oh Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus, excuse me - may go upside down (they could be "flying in the grass" for all we know) but not this chick, Betty.

Now that your lesson in placing expensive little scraps of paper on bigger pieces of paper is over I'll get on with my dull - everyday - letter. My brain only works on certain days at certain times. I guess I got primed yesterday - I got a letter from a friend in N.S. It was full of crazy lines - I spent the night laughing!!

Thanks for the birthday greetings. I expect Mom or Dad has been keeping you informed of all my activities. Duh-work. I'll be back home home (on purpose!) July 19 or 20 or 21. I'm going to work part time over 4 weeks or full time over 2 weeks for the lawyer (or) in town. I have to discuss "details" with him when I get there. Actually part time might be better - I'd have more time to work on it - but I'd prefer the 2 week stint. Then I'd have myself a holiday!! Maybe I'd even do something exciting - like spend money & go somewhere - to Wpg!! or the Park (to camp?). At any rate I'm looking forward to being in Manitoba - even if it is hot & dry. I haven't

been there in the summer any longer than 2 weeks (last summer) since 1975 (mid July). I guess well like where we were born. Homing pigeons.

Did I ever tell you about an intelligent fellow in my law class? One of the Supreme Court judges names is Pigeon. The student was talking about his written judgment and called him 'pigeon' (English). The Prof sort of grinned & said "Since we are in a bilingual country we should try to pronounce the names of the judges correctly. It is Pigeon (French)." We just killed ourselves laughing. Any nerd should have known the guy (judge) was French - or any nerd in law school at any rate. Peter wasn't even phased - he was too spaced out - genius type - to know what he'd said or done!!

Enough about pigeons - this is a birdy - fluttery letter isn't it. B.C. - yes, I'm here. I worked steadily until the shutdown (week go). I went to Duncan on the 1st (to 3rd) to do B+W darkroom work at Uncle Rocky's. Boy would I like to spend my spare time spending \$ on a darkroom - maybe even to develop color prints. eek. ✓

On the 4th (Sat) & 2 took Bob's truck & camper up to the ^{north} end of the island. We camped 2 nights in logging road campsites and 1 night at a provincial campsite. Friday am. we hiked 45 minutes down a trail (from the end of a logging road) to San Josef Bay (NW tip at bottom (S) part of Cape Scott (?) Prov Park. The San Josef river emptied into the Bay.



The Sand Dune was deep - you sank in about 8" (6-8"). Hard walking but such a neat experience. I've never been in such ^{deep} sand before.

Wrecked sailboat!

I'd sure like to show all my friends + interested family some of the neat places on this Island. Some aren't that hard to get to either. Problem - people do go there + leave garbage - cans buried in the sand. Now that is dumb - the sand blows around + exposes the cans. Beer bottles. Who'd want to pack in beer? I'd pack in orange juice!! But other than that it is great. One rocky area was covered with barnacles. I stopped. They squeak. As I lashed. They move too! Wow. (None was there when we were - that was Wow too. All that rock, sand, ocean... For Us.)

If I had time and money I'd explore - all over Canada. But I have neither right now. Some day when I'm a rich lawyer - as everyone tells me I most certainly will be - I shall have to retire early (age 30!) and explore - and take people with me to help explore!

I went to Victoria on Victoria Day weekend so got in on some of the festivities. I enjoyed bumming around with ^{country} friends (Pav, + A. Dell (Piper)). I won first prize in a Scottish sheaf throw (chuck a bale over a high jump bar using a fork. 10 feet for me. They didn't let me try 11. The bale was cut in half for the women too!!) (and second prize in the stone haggis (sp) toss. 31 ft 8" (!) I think). As for SO I had lots of fun + even some "glory."

I haven't worked at V.O. much yet. The acener asked me yesterday if I want to paint a house. A whole house - outside. I haven't seen the house yet so I don't know if I will. I'm only going to be here 6 weeks and I'm not sure if I really want to work 11-12 hrs/day and weekends. I completely forgot about Sundays when I was doing calculations. Maybe it is better that I rest one day a week. But I guess I could use Sundays

as an emergency catch up on work day!!

Mr + Mrs. Crinkshank have gone off on their 2 month Cross-Canada vacation. Their daughter Cheryl (+ Dale) had a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mo premature girl the day the (s) left here (4th or 5th). The baby is off the critical list so I hope she survives. Cheryl had a miscarriage last year about the same time in her pregnancy. Gail says Dale couldn't understand the emotional trauma (p?) that Cheryl experienced at losing the first child. I guess husbands don't have the experience of carrying the baby around for that long so maybe can't understand why people get upset. But you'd think he'd at least pretend to understand - just to help Cheryl out. Ah well. It isn't my problem.

Amphaw - Gail + I are holding the fort. When we got back we discovered all the windows shut (sticks holding them down) + a board holding the door closed - the door we had a key to. So before we raced off to find Russell to see if he had a key, I suggested we check the bedroom window (highest in the house). It didn't appear to have a stick in it so I got a ladder + climbed in. I was laughing pretty hard. The window obviously didn't stay up. I went in head first + had to grab the open toilet seat + sink as I tried to get in - Then I couldn't move one arm or I'd fall in the toilet so I grabbed a wall + hoped I wouldn't slip. I did a half turn in the window + got one leg almost in. Then my runner got caught in the other pant leg. By this time I was feeling slightly scared that I would collapse into the toilet so I gave a jerk + my foot + pant leg came in the window + got untangled. I stood on my one leg like a ballerina + got the other one dragged in through the window. What a thrill. I've never done that before! The last b'room window I came through was right into the tub (up at the other place - but not as complicated). I'd better go. Love, Ferri

1401 - 1333 South Park Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2K9
Wednesday, March 19, 1980

Dear Grandpa and Grandma:

I have given in to the temptation to answer many letters at once. I intend to get the assistance of the law library photocopy machine. I hope you will not mind - but I haven't got the time - it seems - to write letters. What else is new, eh? You get the original.

Maybe I should start in January... I returned from my Xmas holiday to my new home. I am sharing an apartment with an occupational therapist. Her twin sister, Evelyn (Hart) is ~~the~~ a principal in the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. Exciting eh? I met her March 5-9 when she stayed here during their Tour. Back to the apartment... I enjoy the space - the living room, a big bedroom; the privacy - Elly is seldom home; the stereo (Elly's) which I play every supper time as I make my meal; and the "modern-ness" of the place. It isn't so great when the electricity goes off though - pitch black halls and staircases.

The first excitement in January was getting a bed which was great (better than the floor) once it got here. Hately, I've been waking up more often so maybe it doesn't like me any more.

Then it was back to the books and the final legal writing assignment. I got A+ from my student marker on my 2nd assignment and a recommended A- from the professor marker. He is a very picky marker so I was shocked to get A- from him. B is good from him. So I hope my lawyer marker does the same on the final assignment.

During the study week in February I studied. Amazing. 10 great days and I studied. Since then I've just been keeping up - not getting ahead. I sure hope I get things together before Exams.

I still got to sleep in classes - almost to sleep. I'd be super embarrassed if I ever fell completely asleep. Some people do - it is fun watching them.

My social life has managed to perk up (ha) a bit since Christmas. Having a fellow Manitoban in Dartmouth makes for a few Sunday outings or a phone call at least once a week. As a result of my decision to allow myself a bit of time for others (or to be with others) I've had to plan my weeks fairly carefully.

A group of four of us went off to Maritok in January to down hill ski. We got there about 11:00 - all the equipment was gone so we went for a walk instead. One of our members fell through a creek we were faeling around on - so I had to fish out my extra pair of socks (trust me to haul extras along - at least this time they were needed). I got to drive home too - that was fun. Once we'd dried out we headed to the park in Halifax and then came back for a supper here.

That was the beginning - another group of 7 of us went off to the park one other Sunday after church. We had a riot - I think we were gone 5 1/2 hours. We went cross country (through the brush) instead of on the paths. (Besides, it's more fun in the brush!)

One Saturday the Young Adult Group I belong to was invited to skate & ski on a lake about 1/2 hr from here. I wasn't too impressed with skating on lakes due to the

fluctuations in temperature² here, but was calmed somewhat when I saw cars and trucks driving (skidding) all over the ice. I lost my calm when one car came across the lake (about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile) to where Judy & I were skating (all by our lonesomes). This car was skidding all over and I expected ~~to~~ it would likely skid up to us or over us in an attempt to look good. So we split - there was no point in both of us being run over. Luckily, the guy skidded before he got to us so he was just moving slowly when he passed us. He wanted to know how to get off the lake. I felt like saying "The same place you got on, stupid!" but just said "I don't know!"

One Saturday, I went shopping in Dartmouth with my Manitoba friend. My great purchase cost \$1.00. Language and Women's Place - took me 2 hours to read. It said a lot of the same things I've said for a while about the use of discriminatory language by English-speaking people.

Being a law student I had to see Kramer vs Kramer so I went to one night. The courtroom scene was not realistic. (So there!!). I've been to the Neptune Theatre twice too. I have one more performance to see. I'm glad I bought the tickets for that. And I saw the Royal Winnipeg Ballet twice (one time free!) Elly's sister is good and friendly at home too. Wowee - a real live ballerina. (I know a real live female engineer too. That's exciting too.)

The latest excitement was the past weekend - I still haven't got over it - warm fuzzies all over the place. Tuesday the 11th my classmates decided to talk everyone in the class into going to the Law Ball. Well - this was a fancy formal affair \$20.00 a couple for 3 hours of dancing (more like $2\frac{1}{2}$!). I didn't

have my fancy ball-wear here but figured I'd manage.
So - I phoned up a member of the Young Adult Orally^(YAG) & asked
him if he'd like to go to a Ball - black tie. (No Tuxes (sp?)
required this year - just suits.) Sure. Wednesday night I was
phoned up by another fellow and asked if I wanted to go
out Friday with 2 other guys and 2 other gals. It never rains
but it pours. But we were both "easy" (great word) so
made arrangements for Saturday night. Result - I
danced all Friday, all Saturday, and even Sunday at our
final Y.A.G. meeting. Then Monday I got 3 wonderful
letters and a phone call from friends. (All of whom
will now know why I haven't written. When I'm not
studying I'm being sociable. Or is it the other way around?)
[I just figured it would be more exciting to hear about
walks in parks than law cases.]

I guess I'll close now. It is 9:15. Bed time is 10:00
and I have 20 pages to brief for 9:30 tomorrow morning.
So you see I do work.

By the way - the weather here is weird. A snow + rain and
wind alternately. I hope it is better in all other parts of
Canada and the world. P.S. Picture is Elly twin sister Evelyn.

Happy Easter

Ah - if you are energetically writing to tell me you hate
photo copied letters, you'd best send them to Box 1206, Neepawa
after April 20th or so. I will only be here until May 2nd
the latest (or May 4) and don't want my mail lost. Perhaps
the summer will improve my writing skills.

Take care -

Hope you are both fine. I hope you hear about me
from Dad + Mom since I'm not doing too well this
term on letter writing. I can't wait until I'm
done. I want to get out working,
so I can be physically tired rather
than mentally tired every day.
Love,
Erin
Base for now
Terri