

Melba Man

16th March 1953

My dear Norman.

I must really answer
very kind letter. It was nice
to hear from you again. I was
sorry to hear of Jessie's illness
I do hope ~~she~~ is better
again. it must have been
an anxious time for you &
I race. We have been all well
here. Muriel however has the
mumps just now. but they ^{are} not
very bad, but have kept her out
of school for a while.

1953. My great uncle Matthew Aceto (May Keller)
It has been a very ^{fine} winter here
not very cold at any time. &
not much snow so far we had
one of our heaviest snow falls last
week. the day before the water
was running down the streets
& it began to snow & blow
through the night & part
of the next day.

So May is getting married
give her my very best wishes
for her happiness. my don't
those young ones grow up so
quickly & look for nests of their
own. It does not look so very
long ago. since you were little
children, & now you are all becoming
Grandfathers.

I was very kind of you to
mind on an oldmas birth day
& I did enjoy your letter very
much. I see your son did not
go. to look for the North Pole
this winter. I fancy at a wife
& a son. is a bit too much to
cart around.

I must say good by now.
best love to you all

Your Uncle Masthead
Card

P.O.Box 25,
Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO .
Jan 3/79 .

Manitoba Telephone System,
WINNIPEG , MAN.

Sirs:- Re Manitoba Telephone Directory .

You will probably have had the following suggestion presented to you before this. At any rate repetition may not be out of place.

My suggestion is that in making up The Provincial Directory each year that the Postal Code for the numerous towns throughout the Province be included after after the names of the towns . This would be a real help to many of your Systems users especially when replying by mail to some of the smaller advertisers throughout the Province.

Our Postal Authorities must spend large sums in advertising the use of Postal Codes in order to speed up the delivery of mail, perhaps over a period of years they could be induced induced to defray the cost of extra printing when Compiling y your directory each year.

Yours very truly

W. Turnbull

Subscriber since 1909 .

*I suspect this is
a copy of what Dad
Sent .
Interesting
a list is included
now (1998)*

December 27th /78

Dear Dellers All:

A short note to let you know we got to Connie & Bells O.K. and home O.K. The latter shortly after 5 P.M. We did have such a nice day on Christmas with you all - both families and I just thought we'd drop you a line and say Thank you again.

I take some personal satisfaction on the happiness I had because although the food was just wonderful I didn't eat too much.

So many many lonely souls along the road of life
And as the cities grow and grow
Out in the countryside old homes with gaping windows
Stand.

Perhaps they too once held life and love
Gave a shelter from nature's storm & blasts
But now like dulcet ships on oceans were
With sails all torn and but stumps for masts

They stand in some small, tired, shelter
Or on open prairie wide
Their dead eyes stare o'er for fugitives
Mid desolation's rank growth of weeds on every side

Binscarth, Man. Prov.
May 31/80.

Dear Bob:

Your encouraging letter of April 30th reached us without being held up en route. It was good to hear from you. A note like yours just made our day that much more pleasant. Thank you too, for the article by Paul Minvielle in the Victoria Times of April 25th. It is the same picture he used in the frontispiece of his book A War on Poverty. The article writes so to what I have long suspected but never really knew. The end of his life and his start on his journey to the Great Unknown. He was, I feel sure, anxious that my interest in his efforts and his book would continue and that I would somehow carry on his work. The two of us used to have the damndest discussions - till way on early in the morning at times. He was the sort of man and had the character that could reason, argue or whatever with a young man forty years or more his junior. Now that I am well beyond his age when I first knew him I realize what a disappointment I must have been. Young men quite often have the faculty of disappointing their elders I suppose.

Certainly his idea would have the end result in the oblivion of great cities. I feel sure that you would agree that would perhaps be a great social improvement. I am sure the demoralizing effect of cities like, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver can never be fully evaluated as to the effect on Canadian life and living. The debate I know can be endless. To me they are like horrible sprawling giants without a face. Yet they set the pattern and the tenor of much of our educational system. The shift of rural people to urban life has left us impressed beyond all estimation and the

Nation is the poorer.

The realization of this trend came early to Ed. Partridge and he foresaw all too clearly what was happening. He felt too that human nature could be altered from its self destructive course to adapt to a more cooperative way of living. That demands an unselfishness on the part of all participants that in 1925 seemed to me to be beyond our power to fulfil. The production for use instead of profit, the most needed and ultimate goal of any society, did not take into account the greed and acquisitiveness of component members of that society. Two things appeared on the horizon at that time to further augment the social outlook and that was our means of communication and transportation. Those two coupled with astute advertising by governments and big businesses alike served to put a damper on any movement such as Partridge envisioned. The irony of the whole system is that big business, big corporations, governments, what have you, cannot exist except they cooperate among themselves. True there is a four year show to prove to the addled voter that there is opposition in Government. Dutifully every four years we get up and wave placards, go to leadership conventions, boast the offers of the distillers and the foul dens called 'convention centres' of our big cities. But when the hoopla, hoaxing, and fanfare is all over where are we and what has happened and where is government & opposition! Do we ever need a new Constitution!!! But how do you build a sound constitution on the basis of a morality such as we see existing in our big urban

Centres?

And big business! How they do cooperate. They couldn't exist for an hour unless they did. We see big corporations seemingly at each other's throats via the news media but when it comes to the nitty gritty if you are big enough & bold enough your neighbor across the way who is also big enough & bold enough will see to it that you don't crash, either by absorbing you in a gentlemanlike fashion or advancing you sufficient financial help to keep your ship afloat, with of course your neighbor as captain or chief engineer - the two that must cooperate come hell or high water. The recent episode among the banks gave public access as to what was going on but it was all hushed up like smothering a baby with a pillow!

Where in all this is our place Bob? You are doing your bit I know and people must bless you more than you realize. This is the Power at work that created all power. How do you get it across to the average "Joe" who is doing as good a job as he knows how with the job he has. Who has been educated just enough so that he makes an uncomplaining slave. True he receives a kings ransom in wages compared to his counterpart two hundred years ago in the British Isles. and in our present third world his income must appear beyond reason - and he is not happy. Perhaps it is because he has never been taught to use his "Think Tank". And is the big corporate cum owner, really happy, or the banker tycoon. Have we lost the true happiness that comes from helping someone else. And why should Canadians keep this standard of living at all costs. Whose standards & by whom set?

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The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the car was the cold. It was a sharp contrast to the warm blanket of the car. I shivered slightly, but then I remembered that this was just the beginning. The air was crisp and clean, a welcome change from the stuffy interior of the car. I took a deep breath, feeling the cool air fill my lungs. The sun was shining brightly, casting long shadows on the ground. The trees were bare, their branches reaching out like skeletal fingers. The ground was covered in a thin layer of snow, the first of the season. I walked slowly, savoring the feeling of the snow under my feet. The world was so quiet, so still. It was a beautiful sight, a perfect winter day. I smiled, feeling a sense of peace and tranquility. The cold was not a burden, it was a blessing. It was a reminder of the beauty of the world, of the simple pleasures of life. I walked on, feeling the snow under my feet, the sun on my face. It was a perfect day, a day to be remembered. I took another deep breath, feeling the cool air fill my lungs. The world was so quiet, so still. It was a beautiful sight, a perfect winter day. I smiled, feeling a sense of peace and tranquility. The cold was not a burden, it was a blessing. It was a reminder of the beauty of the world, of the simple pleasures of life. I walked on, feeling the snow under my feet, the sun on my face. It was a perfect day, a day to be remembered.

for Jeri's
files

Benscarik, Iran

Oct. 14, 1974

Dear Han:

Surprise! A letter from us before Christmas. However we've been wondering how you have been keeping the past 'winter' months for you and a most erratic summer for us with no spring to speak of. Very late sowing the crop. Then very dry then rain just before harvest that stopped all ripening and then a heavy early frost that damaged all the late wheat, some oats and some barley. The fantastic prices make up for grade loss and that keeps. It's a crazy pattern of life if I ever saw one. One half the world on the brink of starvation (if they only knew it) and the other half starving with no chance of succor from anyone, and the big powers thumbing their noses at each other regardless of who gets hurt. The Arabs using petro dollars to buy up huge chunks of the U.S.A. and buy into their corporations. One wonders where it will all end because end it must.

On top of all the foregoing we are writing for some advice. We are disposing of our egg business. Going out of it entirely. Under our laws we cannot dispose of a

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Business like this without the purchaser taking
all the buildings and equipment pertaining
to poultry. So we are selling the hens and
scrapping the equipment and the business
good will just goes by the board. Too
many eggs in Canada & U.S.A. And India
that lives on eggs can keep on starving.
At least it has given me something to do
for the past six or seven years and we've
made a few friends out of it. A good balance
after all, Perhaps.

To get to the point I have been
wanting to go to New Zealand ever since
I was a lad in college and I think if we
can swing it Grace would like the trip
too. We have been looking at brochures on
trips to New Zealand and Australia and
have a bundle of them here. The one that appeals
to me is the "Fly Drive - 21 Days". Fourteen
days in New Zealand and 7 days in Australia.
That includes a car from point of arrival
to point of departure in each country. With
500 free miles in New Zealand and 300 in
Australia. Also 21 night accommodation with
bath or shower at ^{choice of} 300 hotels in New Zealand
and Australia. Tentatively we had sort of
budgeted our tour this way. One day
of resting at Auckland. Then starting
a drive to Wellington with perhaps four to
five days in around Wellington. Resting
over day times & overnight at an hotel

3. (already paid for) That would leave us another seven days travelling round New Zealand wherever our fancy took us and we could use the car to take you round a bit. By that time I should be used to the left hand drive on New Zealand roads. We have cousins in Wellington on the South side of the family now and I believe Graham Rennie has been visiting them off and on. We might come early in January or early in February whichever works out the best as time passes, and whatever you might advise. We would not wish to tire you or make extra work for Kathleen.

Our son in Law, Bill Deller from Shool Lake is anxious to make the trip also. He needs a holiday & so does May our daughter. However their plans have not "jelled" as yet as they are not through harvest and Bill would have to get someone to look after his herd of cattle while they were away. They are interested in this plan too. Bill was thinking of going on "The Farmers Tour" from Canada but its pretty expensive and he may change his mind after harvest & when he has more time to consider these other alternatives. Due to a bit of necessary budgeting we were also wondering what

the price of meals are in New Zealand. Grace and I never bother with liquor or wines and as often as not split a plate of the main course in restaurants or hotels. Not because we are stingy. Rather we hate to see food wasted and in U.S.A. & Canada quite often some of their entrees are far too lavish.

All this is still rather nebulous as we are more or less planning. Goodness only knows what will happen in the world the next few months. Luck is of gasoline going up another 30¢ a gallon. It is now 40¢ in bulk here and with the tax & bowser profit it is around 60¢. Our cattlemen are in a quandary. Shortage of feed means rising prices to them for feed grain and in the meantime cattle prices have been dropping to the producer and meat has been rising in the stores. So as I said before our trapping plans can be so easily upset. Please don't count on it as being definite that we are coming and please let us know what time would suit you the best in the New year.

We had such a nice visit with Violet "Videe" this past summer. She came up to us for about ten days & we enjoyed every bit of the time got about quite a lot too.

Grace joins me in sending love to you & Kathleen and as we know at your own convenience. Affectionately home.