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HUGH PEAL

January 1, 1978-
December 31, 1980

Jan. 1, 1978 Since we stayed quietly at home last night and were in bed at 11 P.M., we were spared the usual New Year hangover. To a party at Bob Bill Harrison's, our neighbors, but didn't stay long as we had the wrong time. Jan. 2 Thompson is better, and is able to be about a little. John Clemens is paralyzed on one side and must go to a nursing home as he requires care beyond anything that Polly can give him. His mother, in her nineties, is still alive in a nursing home. They have some serious financial problems. Jan. 3 Herbert Saunders has not shown up for work for several weeks and I fear that he will not be back. The owner of the house where he lives has told him to leave, I hear, no doubt annoyed by his excessive drinking. Herbert is a nice man and a good worker in the garden when he is sober, but has apparently no self control when he can get alcohol.

Jan. 4 The Internal Revenue Service has refunded to $109.00 I paid as a result of the audit of my 1975 income taxes - the IRS having on its own volition overruled the examiner. Saw Bob and Ada Mae Baker in the A & P. Poor Bob can hardly walk and could die any day. Radio City Music Hall in New York, a tourist attraction for 45 years, is about to close. A victim of changing tastes and social practices.

Jan. 5: Sydney Stevens writes that Michael has left his job at New York Life, where he was never happy, and is working for a construction company as a carpenter. A wise move as Michael was not cut out for a desk job. The Times Mirror has a long article on Tommy De Lashmutt trip from London to Sydney by automobile (as far as possible). on an earlier trip Tommy and a companion went for up the Amazon. He is a very unusual man and with for more daring than one would sus

Jan. 6 To Dr. Morrison. He says that my blood pressure is still too high and has put me on dyazide.

Jan. 7, 1978 We had a luncheon today for some of our elderly friends, Frank Mason, Charles and Susan Jones, Helen Skinner and the Esselles. The last named are younger but were invited as they knew Frank Mason and Charlie Jones that Kathryn home in a dense, dangerous fog.

Jan. 8 With the Freds to Middleburg where we dined (not very well) at the Red Fox. That tavern has been taken over by new owners several times in recent years. Even new owners starts and well but soon runs down. Long telephone talk with Leo Eberle who goes to Walter Reid tomorrow for a dangerous operation.

Jan. 9 Bitter cold today. Made a balance sheet today, largely made up from estimates of the value of our real estate. The real estate, stocks, bonds and cash mount up to $1,537,000. Insurance, library and furniture not counted. Reading Hofstadter's "American at 1750 - A Social Portrait." Very interesting.

Jan. 10 Bitterly cold day. For some strange reason our dogs chose to stay out all night, ignoring calls and searches, but they came in safely this morning. We have received eight or ten letters from members of the Stanley Tour members who visited Woodburn recently.

Jan. 11 our frigid weather continues and I am developing a head cold. For many years my remedy for head colds was a nostrum called "Hill's cascara quinine cold tablets, but that is no longer available so I use bromo-quinine.

Jan. 12 In bed most of the day with my head cold. Reading Michener's "The Source", a long book about an excavation in Galilee with switchbacks to historic societies beginning with the start of agriculture and ending in modern Israel. Inevitably the history is sketchy and much condensation and oversimplification is required, but the total is actually very impressive, one is left wondering whether Israel can survive once the initial fervor dies away.

Jan. 13, 1978 A heavy snow. ours place is lonely and all transportation is stalled. My cold is better. We hear that Herbert has been evicted by his landlord and that he has left, having sold his furniture for $1000.00.

Jan. 14 Sleet last night. Hubert Humphrey is dead. He missed the presidency by a few votes, but he was the most papular states-man of his times. His greatest asset was a magnetic personality with great energy and great compassion. I was always doubtful of his economics but he convinced the Republican Party and American business men that deficits are better than depression.

Jan. 15 We managed to get Kathryn home this morning in spite of icy roads, but were glad to accept transportation to Sara Schaub's large party to celebrate the christening of her grandson. A lusty and handsome youngster.

Lige White has a good new job with A. T. & T.

Jan. 16 In to the village this morning, where we got temporarily stuck on the ice at the postoffice. The weatherman predicts a large snow. Spent most of the day cleaning and rearranging books. Grover Holland is dead at 92. I knew him well in the teens and early twenties but have not seen him for 40 years. Reading Ridge's "The Love of a Rose", the story of the rosegrowers who originated the peace rose. Charming.

Jan. 17 Snow is falling and more is predicted. The radio says that Paducah has had 17 inches already.

Jan. 18 our electricity was off five hours last night. The telephone was all right. Louise Griffin and Chapman Jennings both telephoned today. Juanita is dead after a long illness. Chapman says that her final weight is only 68 pounds. Chapman is back at home so the fire damage must have been repaired. I gather that he himself is not at all well. Juanita's passing is quite a blow. She was a rare mixture of the exotic and ordinary with equal zest for both. She loved the Peal family more than any of us but fully realized its limitations

Jan. 19, 1978 To Dr. Reuter this morning. His charge is still a moderate $20.00 per visit but the hospital charges $33.66 per visit, treating it as an emergency room operation. The whole thing is a swindle on Medicare. We were unable to get up and fill an over return but Thompson managed it some way.

Jan. 20 We are snowbound and it is still ~~snowing~~ snowing. Our reservations for the hotel in Guaymas have finally come through and, if we like it as much as the Pickens did, we may decide to go to Mexico for eight or nine weeks next year.

Jan. 21 I see by a new notice that the Morix and Davies firms in New York have merged. Julian Davies and Dana Backus are of counsel to the new firm but Dermod Ines appears to be an active member.

It now seems clear that Herbert Saunders will not be back but Charlie Rinker says that he may be able to give us some time. He has been a great help to the Eberles this last year

Jan. 22 Working on my income tax. Reading McCormick's "The Mask of Merlin", a biography of Lloyd George. The book is intemperate in both praise and blame and many of its allegations against Lloyd George seem to be far fetched. The author also disliked Churchill and Joseph and Neville Chamberlain.

Jan. 23 We ventured into Leesburg today, slipping and sliding on the ice. Continuing on The Mask of Merlin. The author has a mild contempt for Curzon and Rosebery, likes Baldwin and seems to consider that Asquith was a good man for the pre 1914 years but inadequate thereafter.

Jan. 24 A nice letter from Ed Johnson, who seems to be keeping up well and cheerfully. Am amused by Connell Harrison and his Piedmont Environmental Council, who are issuing advertisements supporting the farmers strikes and their claims for "price parity." As Connell says, the farmers have just claims for help but of course the parity demand is childish - and of course diametrically opposite to all our conservatives believe.

Jan. 25, 1978 We are ice-bound and afraid to take the car out of the garage - although Thompson gets around with the pickup. Edward S. Pinney is dead. He was 82. Ed lost his first wife several years ago, but his spirits rallied after a happy second marriage.

Jan. 26 The I R S has completely surrendered and passed my 1975 tax return as filed, with a letter of thanks for my cooperation. So I am now officially old Farmer Peal. Our young heifer is now a mother and we are looking forward to good Jersey milk - and none too soon as milk is now $1.53 per gallon

Jan. 27 Reading Greenslet's "Under the Bridge". The first time I read it was some 40 years ago but I found it still charming and instructive. One might term him the link between Howells and Hemingway. In any event the Bostonian approach had its merits: careful work, honest reporting and taleans for the unusual. Publishers have sometimes settled for less.

Jan. 28 Vivian and Katherine Reddle have just begun their trip in Tunisia, and the papers are carrying stories of rioting and unrest there. V + K are probably not in danger, but their enjoyment may be spoiled. The Freds and Wants dined with us tonight. Poor Dorothy is very frail.

Jan. 29 Lunched at the Brownriggs, together with the Sweezys, Elizabeth Riley, Mary Zeiler and Billy Cox. Billy says that Guaymas, Mexico, should be sunny and pleasant but not very warm. Reading Morgan's "Virginians at Home", a pleasant book but largely a rehash of earlier works. Possibly the great gift of the 18th century Virginians to their country is a sense of style and a love of comfort.

Jan. 30 our bird feeders are taking cracked corn, sunflower seed, suet, stale bread (bought at the Safeway) by the hundreds of pounds. A few gray squirrels have joined the birds, to the indignation of our dogs. We have as many as 20 cardinals at once. Frank White is back in the hospital, suffering from some infection in his urinary tract.

Jan. 31, 1978 Drove to Purcellville to get travellers' checks for our trip ($1500.00 for me, in addition to the $300.00 I have on hand) and $200.00 for M-. our car stopped on route 704 but we managed to get it started again. George and Rene Eberle are back at home and are glad to be there, although they are having difficulty. Their plumbing is defective.

Feb. 1 This is the 67th anniversary of this diary. As far as I know this is a record for a consecutive diary. Reading James J. Kilpatrick's "The Foxes union", a pleasant little book largely about the Kilpatrick home near Sperryville. our car is dead again.

Feb. 2 George Wagner finally got our car started, installing a new pump. The parts are almost all new now. Shopped in Leesburg. Commenced volume 1 of Lockhart's life of Scott, one of the small number of masterpieces of biography in the language. A tremendous job of gathering and presenting detail.

Feb. 3 Shopping in Leesburg again. Reading Van Klass' Keepers, a history of the Ivy company. It is a good book on the earlier period, with some insights that escaped Manchester in his later and longer book, but is superficial and episodic in the story of the years immediately and during World War II. We have made it to Woodward & Lothrop at ~~Tysons~~ Tysons corners to buy a bathing suit for M. and luggage for me.

Feb. 4 To see Frank today. He is not enjoying his stay in the hospital and seems quite gloomy. Paid Chuck's very reasonable bill for legal services, $150.00, plus $3.00 disbursements

Feb. 5 Alice Whitley gave a fare well luncheon for us at the Laurel Brigade. The other guests were Elizabeth Riley and Alice Brooks. We had barely reached home when snow began to fall. This has been a hard winter for us and we shall be glad to get away. Myrtle Oaks Webb is dead in her early 80's. Myrtle was the belle of Bandana in my youth and was an eager searcher for excitement and glamour.

Feb. 6, 1978 We spent a miserable day watching the snow fall and imagining that we would not be able to get to the National Airport tomorrow on our way to Mexico. Fortunately, the weather improved late in the day. Lou Belle Kinchloe is dead in Lacenter at age 87. Another good friend gone.

Feb. 7 Bright sun today. Winslow Williams has called several times offering to take us in in his 4 wheel drive jeep and he finally took us to Dulles where we got the limousine. After an easy flight we got to Tucson and were met by Elizabeth Morey in the late afternoon. We are at the Doubletree, a scenic motel surrounded by pear trees in full bloom.

Feb. 8 Elizabeth breakfasted with us and, after a trip to her small house, took us to the airport where we took a plane on the Hughes Airline to Guaymas, where we arrived at 12:22. We are warned about Elizabeth who is about to give up her small house to live on a sailboat

Feb. 9 The Hotel Playa de Cortés is a lovely place, with excellent planting and fine colonial buildings. The area around is rather grim with little plant life but fertile when water is available. It is sunny and warm today. We telegraphed the Freds this evening as they may join us for two weeks

Feb. 10 The food here is excellent, although the beef is a little tougher than we like and I can only take enchiladas about once a week. We have become friendly with a couple from Nogales, Arizona, Mr. and Mrs. Ney, and we drove with them today around Guaymas, Kino Beach and Hermosillo. The Freds telephoned tonight that they would not join us.

Feb. 11 A cold rain today and we sat miserably around our fireplace which is fueled by hard driftwood and other scraps. The rosemary hedges at the entrance to the hotel are very full and fragrant. The small beach houses a large flock of brown pelicans, heavy but greedy and active. The grounds have many orange trees and great masses of bougainvillea in full bloom.

Feb. 12, 1978 We had our lunch by the pool today. The slightly frigid air does not deter a good many women in the skimpiest of bikinis from displaying their charms - or lack of them. We have made friends with a Mr. and Mrs. Warren Seaman, who own an old house not far from Harrisonburg, Virginia. He is a former Washington dealer in construction equipment.

Feb 13 We have become friendly with a Mr. and Mrs. Sarnitch from Palm Springs. He is a travelling coordinator of the Ford Motor Company, operating in several states, on mechanical difficulties with the cars. With them to Sunnymac today.

Feb. 14 Took a long drive with the Sarnitches today. The country around Kino is dotted with farms but the general aspect of the agricultural land is not good. We have also become friendly with Mr. and Mrs. Fernandez of Denver. He is a jolly extrovert type with interests in small utility and banking firms

Feb. 15 The Sarsutches left today. They have been in Mexico often and like Mexicans very much, calling them courteous, gifted and reliable. The hotel is surrounded by a bleak area which has been laid out as subdivisions, already furnished with paved roads, sidewalks and utilities but little building. Water will probably be the great problem for them as salt water will come in when the water level falls.

Feb. 16 We are both reading "Anna Karenina", in my case for the first time in more than 50 years. A powerful book but with some dull pages. Since it was published in 1877 it was finished before Tals. Tay succumbed to his worst illusions.

Feb 17 Stopped in Guaymas today. Although it has a shipping center, the M & X, the stores are meagre. The average income per family must be very low and, since the chief vegetation in the countryside seems to be tumbleweeds, there seems to be little to bring in money except tourism and fishing. The population seems to be a ~~race~~ mixture of Spanish and Indian with no evidence of negro blood

Feb. 18, 1978 The Fernandez have left, having cordially invited us to visit them in Denver. Walked to the settlement a mile or so down the bay. It is a prosperous settlement, with some handsome houses surrounded by fine planting. The lawns are chiefly wire grass but are handsome enough when well watered.

Feb. 19 Through the Fernandez we have met the Dyches who lived in Rye a good many years. He was an executive of C I B A. We have enjoyed discussing many mutual friends, including the Foashees, Egans, Phillips etc. The sun is bright but once out of it the air is chilly.

Feb. 20 The Dyches and Peals took a car into Guaymas for shopping - not a very rewarding venture although we got a few paperbacks. Warm today. Reading The Oxford Book of Literary Anecdotes. It seems dull but perhaps that is because most of the stories are old. Literary men are easily amused

Feb. 21 Together with the Dyckes we took a car and English-speaking chauffeur today for a sightseeing tour around Guaymas and its surroundings, including the American station for tracking satellites, and San Carlos. There is much new and handsome construction but some of the slum areas are revolting. San Carlos seems to be largely American and I am afraid that I would find it quite dull.

Feb. 22 The Dyckes left this morning. Their retirement home is in Bradford, Vermont, but they are going to spend a few weeks in Arizona. We are enjoying papaya and pineapple for breakfast. There are many cocoanut palms here and those outside our door are loaded with fruit, but we have not seen any served or for sale.

Feb. 23 We are getting tired and will be glad to leave on March 1. After some difficulty we have reservations in ~~Tucson~~ Nogales for the night of March 1 (the great annual rodeo is on there). Reading Heyer's "The Spanish Bride", a story of the Peninsular war introducing Wellington and many other historical characters.

Feb. 24, 1978 Reading Owen Wister's The Virginian. The reissue of 1911 was with a new preface rejoicing in the vision of a new world to result from the anticipated victory of Theodore Roosevelt and his new Progressive movement. The book itself is a charming but very dated performance.

Feb. 25 The temperature is higher now, but it is not yet warm enough to swim on the beach. The pool is used daily; but Margaret has not found it advisable to wear her new bathing suit. I did it buy one. The date and coconut palms, very numerous here, seem to thrive very well.

Feb. 26 Quite warm today. The kumquat trees do well here. I have never been able to discover the name of the small-leafed evergreens on the hotel grounds, but I think that it may be the western live oak. Reading Margaret Irwin's "The Proud Servant", the story of the first Marquess Montrose and his services to the Stuarts.

Feb. 27 Margaret has bought a dinner dress from the local shop, Roberto de Cortes. Very handsome, but in general Mexican clothing does not seem to me to be attractive. About all I have bought, apart from a few postcards, are two professional-size bottles of Wildroot cream hair oil, now difficult to get in the U.S.A. Paid our bill to date and was surprised at the moderate charge. Room and board for the two of us is $37.00 per day.

Feb. 28 The lady who sold the dress to M. yesterday was robbed last night. Of the purchase price $80.00 was paid in American Express Travelers Checks and she may be able to secure that much. With our new friends, the Woods, we stopped in San Carlos.

Mar. 1 We left this morning but almost failed to get away as the plane was held up a long time in Guaymas by rain and fog. Elizabeth and Mrs. Dantzler met us in Tucson and took us to dinner at the Tucson country club. We are lodged at the Sand man Motel. Elizabeth seems to have about given up and is giving away her possessions so she can live the rest of her life in a hotel room.

March 2, 1978 Elizabeth and Mrs. Dantzler took us to our plane. The trip was a long and tedious one, with a plane change in Dallas, but we arrived a little after 8 at National Airport. one of our bags was lost. The countryside is covered with snow and ice, as when we left, but the roads are dry.

Mar. 3 Recovered the last bag this morning, fortunately at Dulles. Frank White is still in the hospital and is in about the same condition. Chapman has sent me clippings from the Paducah papers about Jacquita, a long news story and an editorial. Everything considered her achievements were remarkable.

March 4 Took Kathryn home over icy roads but got back safely. To the Lininger's tonight for a buffet dinner in honor of Sir Gordon and Lady Wilmer. He is a former judge of the British Admiralty court and is now on some commission to investigate the disasters caused by leaking oil tankers.

Mar. 5 A letter from Malcolm
He and Wayne have been
to the west coast and
are planning a trip to En-
gland in the spring. Also
a letter from Jim Wingo, who
seems to have taken the
Boston winter well. I think
that he does not plan to
return to M.I.T. after this year.
Mar. 6 Reading Taylor Caldwell's
"Growing up Tough", a silly
book largely consisting of de-
nunciations of modern so-
ciety and politics, especially
the young. Bored with the
Freds. Their roads are
still icebound and we
had great difficulty getting
out of their parking lot after dinner.
Mar. 7 Stopped in Purcell-
ville. Reading Leonard Mosley's
Dulles, a biography of John
Foster, Allen and Eleanor Dulles.
It is sad that a man with the
drive and ability of J. F. Dulles
should have had it all marred
by pettiness and bad judgment
in the pinches. I remember some
of Allen's peculiarities, such
as the loud ha-ha laugh, from
my acquaintance with him.
The author says that Eisenhower
never really liked Dulles as a
personality.

March 8, 1978 Snow again. Even Margaret's bridge foursome, an indomitable group that would brave an Alaskan blizzard militant fear, called its meeting off. Wilson is having income tax trouble. The new revenue act cut off some advantages that retired mail-carriers had.

March 9 I see by the obituaries that Graham Steiner is dead. He was an unusual man, handsome and bright but not as popular as warm personality, at least not to casual acquaintances like me. Josephine Lawrence, the novelist of the depression, is dead at 88. She is apparently forgotten but her novels about the miseries of the depression period were brilliant and touching.

March 10 Our snow and ice is melting under the relentless sun. Stopped in Leesburg today. I see that a Gutenberg Bible has been sold for $1.8 million. Charlie Ritner is back with us but will not be able to garden more than one day a week. He will be 65 in November.

Mon. 11 A bright, sunny day with the thermometer reading above 50°. Spring always seems to be a miracle. I have almost finished an income tax return. We have a post card from Herbert Saunders, who is in Florida. One hates to think what may happen to him.

Mon. 12 Reading Cameron Rogers' "Gallant Ladies", a light book probably made up from news papers contributions. Some of the subjects, like Belle Starr, deserve a more complete study. Winifred Henderson, whom I knew in Wickliffe before she married Bill Henderson's gambler son, is dead at 79. She must have had a hard life.

Mon. 13 To a very large party given by the Dietz's in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Ashworth, who have three young daughters with them. Ashworth is a well known conservationist and town planner in the Midlands and parts of England, and has made several trips to this country to visit the Darnell Harrisons and the Arendgasts. The Dietz were flying my flag on their newly-erected flagpole.

March 14, 1978 our clematis, both the paniculata and the newer types, are showing signs of healthy new growth. The daffodils and tulips are coming up.
March 15 Snow again, fortunately melting as fast as it falls. When we were in Tucson Elizabeth Morey told us that Al Redpath was a customer's man at Drexel, Burnham. The old firm of Auchincloss, Redpath & Parker had some very bad years in the middle 70's and almost wiped out both Al and Auchincloss. Fortunately Artemise held on to her money so they are not too poor.
Mon. 16 To Dr. Reuter this morning. The rain and fog were very bad so I had a very dangerous trip home. The fust of the Panama Canal treaties has been approved, despite strenuous efforts by the rightist senators, including our Virginians, Byrd and Scott. Joan Williams and Jean Smith dined with us. Jean is no longer able to keep house and is very unhappily living in a small rented room.

March 17 The snow drifts and ice, much of it black and gritty, have almost vanished. As far as I can tell we have not suffered much damage to the planting. Even the Japanese Lilly seems to have come through well. Linda Thompson is to be married on May 20th. We offered Woodham main house for the reception but they, wisely I think, preferred their own home.

March 18 The Dickasons, Vivian Powers and Alice Whitley came to dinner. The Dickasons are in great trouble about their sewage. The town of Keeling will not permit them to have a septic tank (their old being worn out) as it is believed that the town water supply lies in underground reservoirs beneath their land; and will not arrange a sewer connection.

March 19 A beautiful sunny day. The weeping willows are feathering out and the grass is getting greener. The buds of the oaks are swelling and indications are that the dogwoods should be fine this year. The daffodils are well up. The magnolia grandiflora, however, look quite badly.

March 20, 1978 My old friend, Roland (Ted) Berner, is back in the financial news in a big way. Curtiss-Wright, which he still heads, has acquired about 10% of the stock of Kennecott and is trying to get control with a view to liquidating some of the Kennecott property and declaring a liquidating dividend to K's stockholders. Dined with Vivian.

March 21 Cutting crabs, forsythia and pussy willows for forcing. The McIntyres are mending our roof and that of the Thompson house as well as cleaning the gutters. We have had some dampness in the house. Finished volume 2 of Lockhart's Scott.

March 22 Elbert Hunt, who is still under (or about) 50 is in the hospital with inoperable cancer. He has always been handsome and healthy. His grandmother as well into her 90's. We fear that this will be the death of his mother, Dandy, who is already in bad health. To see the Eberles.

March 23 As I ~~read~~ get along in Lockhart's Scott I can see why it is regarded as one of the greatest biographies in the language. His organization of his materials is not always perfect and he probably omits unfascinable facts, but he uses his own intimacy and Scott's letters, memoranda and conversation with great effect. Above all, he uses a vast amount of detail to show Scott as a man of great good will, keen and enduring affections and enormous energy.

March 24 The Safeway has introduced sliced bacon into its bacon department and I am enjoying it very much, both fried and as shortening for vegetables. To see Frank White, who seems to be slowly declining.

March 25 Our furnace has gone off, apparently some thing wrong with the pump. The American Bar Assn Journal has an article about the large law firms. They are getting much bigger. The Cravath firm has 114 lawyers, 35 of whom are partners. I continue to have great doubts about law firms of such size.

March 26, 1978 our plumber got our furnace back in operation today. Malcolm and others telephoned to congratulate me on my 80th birthday, which is tomorrow. Also many cards. Preparing for the party tomorrow. My mind has been running on my father's 50th birthday party, in 1905, which I remember well, especially the hothouse concord grapes which he liked so much.

Mar. 27 My 80th birthday. Guests at the party were Doris White, the Wants, Freds, Gene Bate, Alfred Dennis (Eveda is in Norway for the father's birthday), the Coaleys (Herbert was 80 on March 22nd), Elizabeth Riley, the Isaacs, the Eberles, Vivian Powers and Alice Whitley. A happy party although we were all conscious of our ages.

Mar. 28 John Clemens is dead. This must be a boon for poor Polly as he was absolutely helpless and a great care for her. I gather also that money is a problem. Poor John apparently made a good living but never accumulated much. To Winchester to get shoes for M.

March 29 We have an invitation to a showing of Alice Van arden's sketches. It is good to know that she is still able to work at her beloved art. The Loudoun County Sanitation authority today sent out a Mrs Leech and a Mr Weber to advise me on the construction of a new drain field, our old one being stopped up. Their suggestions were very naive. Tonight I went to a meeting of the Loudoun County Historical Society Directors at Alice Whitley's.

March 30. We selected Tommy Jewell as the new president of the Historical Society last night. Perhaps he can revive it. Tonight we went to the funeral home to see John Clemens' family.

March 31 To the Clemens funeral, a large one, and then to lunch with the Akres Chuck is executor of an estate with a lot of international real estate and is about to start out on his travels. Then we went to Vivian's cocktail party in honor of Libby Earle, who is visiting. Libby is not very well. Several gardens in Leesburg have daffodils in bloom.

April 1, 1978 our new dwarf magnolia Soulangeana, which was a gift from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, is coming out. Very handsome. We dined with the Sweeneys, other guests were the Rices and the Beavers. Mr. Rice is a son of Elmer Rice, the well-known New York playwright. Mr. Rice says that only about three of his father's plays were successfully financially, the major one being "Street Scene".

April 2 We went to Jules Rist's shop this morning to select wallpaper for the dining room. The Wants came for cocktails. Elliot's condition is still uncertain.

April 3 Reading H. R. Haldeman's "The Ends of Power". In spite of his crew-cut and general air of efficiency, Haldeman was really stupid. In many instances he seems slower than an ordinary newspaper addict to realize what was happening. Perhaps under different circumstances he would have made a good civil servant but he was never up to Colson, Mitchell or Dean.

April 4 To outlands to look at the books which the Finleys left us, including a good many items from the William Corcoran Eustis library. Had the plumbers out working on our sewer lines. Reading Vol. 4 of Lockhart. It is amusing to read how much Scott disliked the work of "Capability" Brown, who swept away much of the historic planting in England and Scotland.

April 5 Evelyn Litton and Emory Plaster, the other members of the nominating committee of The Loudoun County Historical Society, had lunch with me and we worked out a slate of new board, beginning with Tommy Jewell as president. Admiral Nell Phillips is dead at 76 of emphysema.

April 6 Foster Doty's friend Felix Williams, whom we knew when he was head of Monsanto Chemical's operations in Springfield, is dead at 76. He burned the candle at both ends. John ~~Watts~~ Lewis has been named "Loudoun's Man of the Year", a well deserved honor. I am sorry that he is moving away.

April 7, 1978 Mailed our federal income tax estimate for 1978 - $600.00. This should be enough unless we have some unusual capital gains. our Stellata "Dr. Merrill" magnolias are handsome this year.
April 8 Reading volume 3 of Lockhart's life of Scott. It is truly an excellent and artful book. Most biographies are jerky and disjointed and fail to show cause and effect. Lockhart avoids this by his skill in ~~gutenberg~~ and presenting detail. The General Theological Seminary has at last bowed to necessity and sold its Gutenberg Bible for 2 million dollars. My old friend, the librarian, resisted for years. Perhaps the money will be better than the book for the Seminary.
April 9 The Freds dined with. The Rodney Wrights have put their house on the market with an asking price of $169,000.00. It is a long drive for Rodney to commute and Flora has never been quite happy here.

April 10 Mary Jane Brannigan, a great favorite of ours, is in the hospital with a malignant growth. We fear that she has inoperable cancer. Ted Benes, who is still head of Curtiss-Wright, is attracting much publicity now. The small Curtiss-Wright has acquired 10% of the stock of Grant Kennecott and Ted is trying to get control of Kennecott.

April 11 To the birthday dinner given by the Issues for Libbie White's birthday. Libbie says that Hugo likes very much his new job with A.T.&T., something to do with handling customers' complaints. An article in the Kentucky Alumnus says that I have given 7,000 volumes to the library and 10,000 volumes to students (the give away program).

April 12 We have a very sad letter from Carol Van Steenberg. Schack is in an institution under restraint, his mind having given way apparently as a result of arteriosclerosis. Schack was always an immensely virile and healthy type, fond of food, laughter and exercise. Carol seems to be bearing up well.

April 13, 1978 We dined with the Esselles, other guests being the Akres, Stanfords and Hartfords. Gus seems to have no nostalgic regrets about the imminent collapse of the Radio City Music Hall. In my own case I have often found that the touted sights for tourists were dull and much out of date.

April 14 We lunched with the Prendergasts at our Hill yesterday to discuss with Jim Massie a proposed association of owners of historic sites, which is to be launched and sponsored by The National Trust for Historic Preservation. The whole concept sounds amorphous to me, but it is to be financed with government money and will doubtless provide some good jobs for worthy lucrecants.

April 15 The stock market is off to a great bulge again. As many as 52 mil hon shares have been traded in one day. our daffodils and confederate violets are coming out. Both seem unusually good this year. We shall have to do much digging later.

April 16 To the Point to Point races at Oatlands, the Akres being our guests and using our second parking space. Sunny and cool weather. Richard Wingo joined us for lunch and, to my surprise, drank two Scotches (his parents are vocal teetotalers). Tommy De Lesh Mat was much in evidence and has grown a beard that makes him look like John Brown.

April 17 Filed my Virginia income and personal property tax returns, also the estimate for 1978. I have also signed an application to the Agricultural Stabilization group to participate (to the extent of $480.00) in the payment for restricting the acreage in corn. our pear trees are blooming.

April 18 Mr. Mason and a helper are repapering our dining room. The second Panama Canal treaty was approved today. The Ronald Reagan group made a good fight in a bad cause. Reading Burr's "Portrait of a Banker", the life of James Stillman, the real creator of the National City Bank. He seems to have been cold, austere and retiring, a great contrast to the effusive greeter types.

April 19, 1978 Bought a new dishwasher, the old one having given out after about 15 years of service. our Holy Jalcadle is blooming. Also the sarvas tree. Reading "Waverly" for the first time. It is a fresher and more credible book than Scotts later novels of the same type. The hero is human and understandable and the feminine characters also ring true

April 20 our first rhubarb of the year. We have four plants, given to us by the Freds many years ago, and they supply all we us plus gifts to friends. Rereading Virginia Cowles' "The Kaiser". The old man was a selfish blowhard but had some good qualities, including a strong and coarse sense of humor. I still like to quote his description of a mor-plot as one "who spits in the soup".

April 21 Reading Allen Churchill's "The Year the World Went Mad", a slight journalistic work but of some interest to me as I was in 1927 just getting accustomed to the New York scene.

April 22 To the Loudoun County Historical Society meeting, which was held at the Dickens home. We had a very pleasant speaker, a lady named Wallace who knows both Larry Thompson and Tom Clark. We then went on to the Fords who gave the 50th wedding anniversary dinner for the Frank Whites. David and Dick and their wives were there.
April 23 General Crane is dead. He had been nursed through a long and painful illness by his devoted wife, Lois. Our Mt. Fuji Japanese cherries are coming into bloom; also the Newport plums. The finest of the Mt Fujis ~~is~~ are in the border along Route 704 and thus are visible from the house and its immediate surroundings
April 24 Mailed 5 cartons of books to U.K. Reading Edmund Taylor's "The Fall of the Dynasties", the story of the fall of the Hohenzollerns, Hapsburgs, Romanovs and the Turkish royal family. The connecting thread is not too strong but the narrative is well told. As usual one regrets only the Habsburgs who filled a useful function

April 25, 1978 We have moved from the Carroll nursery to the lawn just west of the entrance gate to an American dogwood, the last of a group bought about four years ago. our crabs are coming into full bloom. Got back our television from Metal Appliance where it has had a renovation.

April 26 Met Elliot Moss has just celebrated her 95th birthday. She was married when I was a small boy. Looking books for N. K., including the Manatan edition of Galsworthy A lovely set of books but I never read it any more.

April 27 To Dr. Reuter this morning. He says that the winter damaged some of his babies. Later Margaret driving along Market Street was struck by a car entering from Liberty Street. Some damage done to both cars but no personal injuries. The other driver, a Mrs. Albrecht from Punxsutawney, acknowledged herself at fault and got a ticket. The antibiotics I got this morning gave me a bad reaction and I went to bed at 4:30

April 28 The Brownriggs dined with us. I do not know what her chances are, but she seems better and is in quite good spirits. They are still planning their trip to Paris and Ireland. Rodney Wingo came over to harrow and ~~roll~~ roller for his lawn. He says that Fern still walks with difficulty, and that Jimmy will probably continue at M.I.T. next year. He has had a number of nibbles for his house and believes that he will get his price ($149,000.00) for his house.

April 29 Reading Galsworthy's "Forsyte Change" for a last time before it is packed for transmission to U.K. In this small volume, even more than from the major Forsyte novels, one sees that Galsworthy's original dislike to the Forsytes was changed to admiration and respect.

April 30 our flowering almond is blooming. In fact the whole place is suddenly blooming. The abundant rainfall we have had is erasing the damages done by the cold winter. our grass is not very good, however.

May 1, 1975 Collecting plants and shrubs for the plant sale, including a number of Serbian spruces, Viburnum lantana and maples. We have for a number of years been the chief donors for the Garden Club plant sale but our stores are now much diminished. Reading Susan Isaacs' "Compromising Positions", a poor book.

May 2 Met Blanche Wells at Dulles this morning. She seems better than she was when we last saw her. We had cocktails with the Frank Whites this evening. Russell Taylor is dead. I am to be an honorary pallbearer. Reading McClintock's "Stealing from the Rich", a light but amusing book about the fraudulent Homestake Production company which has exchanged many investors including some friends of mine.

May 3 Keep Loudoun Beautiful held its annual meeting at Waadham today. About sixty people. Fortunately we had a good deal of bloom and good weather so it went off well. Dined with Vuccan tonight

May 4 Rain today. We had cocktails with the Dietz and admired the further improvements to their new home. We went to the funeral home to meet the Russell Taylor family but none of them were there. We hear that Louise Lewis has put her house on the market asking $110,000

May 5 To Russell Taylor's funeral, which was well attended, and then to the cemetery for the interment - a ceremony I almost always avoid except when I am a pall bearer. This evening we went to Waterford where Kay Barnes conducted Thalonthe. The much augmented orchestra was too large for the small hall, but some of the individual performers did very well

May 6 Dined with the Freds, going early to see the Ken. Tucky Derby, which was an exciting race. Bob Baker is very sick and not expected to survive. Blanche says that Harry Barrand died during the winter. He must have been well into his 80s. After leaving his job at the commercial, Harry went on to become rich

May 7, 1978 We gave a cocktail party in honor of Blanche this evening. The guests included the Isaacs, Freds, Dietz, Vivian and Elizabeth Riley. Mary Lane bought from the Garden Club one of the Serbian spruces we had given to the plant sale and we have made her a present of two more.

May 8 To see the Eberles. They are well but seem to me to be fading day by day. Reading Bate's life of Samuel Johnson. For some reason the good doctor's fame is having a great revival. Blanche tells us that her rent has been raised to $450.00 per month and is expected to go to $750.00.

May 9 Took Blanche to Dulles this morning. She and Ethel Taylor are planning a trip to the Canadian Northwest soon. The Akres took us to lunch in Great Falls at L'Auberge chez Francois, a French restaurant recently moved from Washington. Very good. Our iris is beginning to bloom. The dogwoods are much better this year than in 1977.

May 10 We have moved the cryptomeria, a gift from Frank Marr of several years ago, from the corral nursery to its permanent position south of the smokehouse. Boyd L. Green, now 70 years of age, once the sales head of Pullman, is leading a proxy fight against the Pullman management.

May 11 I hear Bo Cutter, Jr., quoted as saying that President Carter is receiving 1000 "hate" letters a day over the proposed sale of some modern fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. Bob Baker is dead after a long illness. Our clematis montana rubens is blooming and is growing rapidly. Unfortunately, we have no space for it to attain its potential height

May 12 To Winchester to study with Rogers Fred to visit The Shenandoah College & Conservatory of Music Library Rogers is a trustee of the college. It has a good working library well adapted for a small college and including many fine musical scores and recordings. The top librarians are univ. of Ky. graduates.

May 13, 1978 To Autlands this morning to discuss the new library acquisitions of this year. Was old friend of the Harvard Law School days, Thomas S. Chamberlain, is dead at 82. He finally wound up the Mark Twain Estate, which occupied him so long. Took the Whites to the Whittens to dine, together with the Freds. Frank does very well if we can manage getting him into and out of the car.

May 14 Edward Mann has sent me volume 3 of the new edition of the Lamb letters. I am glad to see the promptness with which the printing and distribution is being done. Spent a quiet day at home. Heard Ronald Reagan on television utter more nonsense about Social Security.

May 15 Intermittent rain all day. The English hollies are flowering and we shall get some fine berries this fall. Reading volume 4 of Macaulay's English History. It gets to be more and more an apologia for the founders of the Whig Party.

May 16 Rain again. The Ex. bury azaleas are beginning to bloom - after we had al. most abandaned hope. The viburnum Sieboldii is also blooming. We knew that the Sieboldii would be tall but it has come up more than expected.
May 17 Recently a robin built its nest in the American box by our front porch and three small fledglings appeared in due course. Then something happened to the mother and the three babies are dead. Sod. Reading Forster's "A Room with a View", one of his earlier books and quite dated. As a matter of fact Forster has always seemed to me to be deficient in his narratives.
May 18 Margaret has again received an award from the State Garden Club association for work in beautifying communities. We had a dinner party tonight for the Winslow Williams, Douglas Phillips and Mally Winn (Jim Winn is in Alabama). The Exeter college Association reports that J. P. V. D. (Dave) Balsdon is dead at 75 and that Geoffrey C. Nash is dead at 73.

May 19 Am making a sort of survey of the winter damage in our planting. The saddest loss is that of the magnolia grandiflora. The large one just off our gallery may be gone for good. We have also had a surprising amount of damages to our willow oaks and English oaks. Perhaps they must both be termed too tender for the exceptionally hard winters we occasionally get in the Piedmont.

May 20 A fine day. Linda Thompson was married in high style on the lawn of the manager's house - which has a finer view than the main house. M- and I went to the buffet supper at the E. B. Whites.

May 21 our Phatima Villosa is blooming. It is a scraggly plant, having never been properly pruned but very healthy. To a large lunch with the Douglas Phillips. They have let a contract for the building of a new house on S. Mouren Park Road and are leasing for Alaska and then to Nantucket.

May 22 our Weigelia, both the pink and red, is blooming. Also the viburnum tomentosum and the Viburnum trilobum. Last year we heavily trimmed the trilobum around our reservoir, but it is now recovering. ACF's quarterly dividend has been increased to 0.52.50 per share.

May 23 Rain again. Helen Moore telephoned. Fred has been convicted and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. This has been a terrible ordeal for Tuzley. Reading the life of Joseph Salk bels by Manvelle and Fraenkel. It is tragic that his great gifts were wasted by a defective character.

May 24 With Alfred Dennis and Mrs. Boomer (daughter-in-law of the late Lucius M. Boomer) to Washington to visit the diplomatic rooms of the State Department (under the direction of Clem Conger). We also saw from the outside the new addition to the National Gallery, designed by I. M. Pei. Then back to the Dennises for dinner. other guests included the Prendergasts and Farwell. Byron Farwell, as mayor of Hillsboro, is having a great dispute with Vepco.

May 25, 1978 The Cretaceus oxys canthus is blooming well and, so far, shows no signs of blight. We dined with Alice Whitley. A large party. Ed Durand is better but still gloomy. Reading John Irving's "The World According to Garp" a repulsive book. Most of us have lost the illusions of the romantics but are not yet ready to view sex as a sad necessity devoid of all affection and responsibility

May 26 our oriental day-lilies are making a good showing. They badly need pruning but I have not been able to get at them. The prime rate in new york has gone up to 8½ %. Alfred Dennis is going to the George Tower Hospital. Malignancy is feared.

May 27 The Moores dined with us. Helen has a new hair-do which makes her look young and frivolous. Chuck is nearing his 71st birthday but shows no signs of age. George's business has failed and he is joining the family and helping in the worm business (production of earthworms).

May 28 Using brushkiller on our parking lot, which is always a haven for weeds and grass. To a large party at the MacDonalds, who have bought the old Little John house on W. Market St. The house and grounds have great charm but I would hate to live on such a busy street.

May 29 The Dennises and Dietz dined with us. Alfred ~~Alfred~~ is going back to the hospital tomorrow and is of course quite apprehensive. Reading Habsbaum's "The Age of Capital - 1848-1875." Had a very satisfactory book, one of the problems of our modern academics is that they collect bits of discussion from other writers rather than examining the raw data.

May 30 Weeding and spraying. Reading Churchill's life of his ancestor, the first duke of Marlborough. As with all of Churchill's books it has narrative power and compression, but it reads as though he were debating in Parliament. But I hate to lay it down at bedtime.

May 31, 1978 Alfred Dennis is back home and looks much better, but his doctors have definitely decided that he has cancer of the liver. A terribly bad break for a man who had every right to look forward to long years of retirement with a beautiful wife, a fine home and plenty of money.

June 1 Weeding. our Blue Milton junipers are very handsome, but it is almost impossible to keep them free of grass and ground ivy. We have made a number of willow cuttings, blanda and alba vitellina, and hope to use them along the brook next spring.

June 2 Finished Macaulay's History of England. The later volumes fall off from the merit of the first two. In some respects Macaulay was somewhat ahead of his time, and of course his literary powers would have been unusual in any time, but he seems to have misused his material and powers to build up the Whigs too much.

June 3 To see the Mahieus this morning. They have a nice new house in a new subdivision near the high school and seem quite happy there. The Admiral after a long and successful career in the Dutch navy seems to have fitted into American life with no problems. A good and much needed rain today.

June 4 Our 46th wedding anniversary. One does not at one's marriage look forward 46 years but if I had I could hardly have expected the marriage would be so thriving or even that we would both be alive. To a party for the Thomas Balch Library Associates. We seem to be about the only members up the old group to maintain cordial relations with the new group. To the Whites for cocktails, The Freds were also there.

June 5 Pruning the Exbury azaleas, which are beginning to shape up well. Weeding the Blue Wilton junipers. The winter flowering jasmine is almost becoming a nuisance with its rapid growth. The Andorra junipers are getting heavily overgrown.

June 6, 1978 Left Dulles about 10 A.M. and met at the Cornell club by noon. To Brooks Bros. this afternoon, where I ordered a navy blue tropical worsted suit, for which I will have the final fitting in Washington. Then to Altman's where I bought 4 suits of pajamas. The prices in New York are terrible, especially taxi fares.

June 7 Took Dave Kirsanow home to lunch at the Vieux d'or. Bad news about most of our friends. Albert Bani is in a nursing home, quite senile, and his business does not prosper. Jim Schott's wife is hopelessly ill and takes up most of his time. Jim's son, Spencer, has just been made president of Bloomingdale's. Clare and her boys dined with us at the Cornell Club. I gather that she is quite worried that The Classic, of which she is the copy-editor will fold up. The boys are well but are on the point of changing schools again. They are at difficult ages and are nervous guests for a dinner. Bob's estate has apparently been settled.

June 8 The the office this morning but managed to see only Miss Walsh. Dan and Eddie are out of town and Bob is involved in a long series of conferences with the Internal Revenue Service. Taxes to A C F. Jack is in Scotland but I had a long talk and lunch with Henry Correa at the Stag Club. After lunch M- and I proceeded to Branxville where we were met ~~by~~ by Bill and Betty White. They have a very comfortable apartment. Bill is about to become 75 and will by law be required to leave his only remaining business employment, i.e. a director of Bowery Savings Bank. Tonight we all dined with David and his family. David, who was a shy, reserved child, has grown into a man of poise and charm and is doing well at Bankers Trust Company. He has a charming wife and two pretty girls who entertained us with amateur dramatics and dancing. David is now at a branch office but expects soon to be recalled to the main office. He reports that Bob Brame, still a director of B. T. Co., is well.

June 9, 1978 We drove, through a beautiful country, to Lake Mahawk, near Sparta, N. J. Debbie and Arthur were not there. Their second son, David, developed a serious condition yesterday and D. and A. were in the local hospital and then in Presbyterian in New York. The doctors have found a growth at the base of the brain and all are worried that there is a malignancy. The other boys, a handsome group, entertained us until their parents returned at 10 P.M. Lake Mahawk is a man-made lake developed by a local builder by the name of Crane. The Andersons have a rambling house, developed bit by bit as they needed room. The lake is lovely and Arthur is apparently a talented gardener, especially in rock gardens. The home is on a large island in the lake. Arthur is a senior officer in the Dairy company, a one-man, very successful conglomerate with special emphasis on equipment for pets. Arthur seems to be very well compensated.

June 10 After a morning with the Andersons we set off and had a cold-cut lunch at Ridgewood with Billy White and his family. We got to the Whites Claire Shelley house in midafternoon. It is a lovely, well landscaped place. The Whites had a dinner for us tonight with Cecile Carson and a friend, and Earl Harkness and his new wife. Earl is 80 and his new wife, Ruth is 25 years younger. Cecile says that Sidney Mathews' second marriage ended in a divorce. Cecile looks very well and seems to be in good spirits.

June 11 The county is planning a large landfill which will take part of the property of the Rod and Gun Club and which will no doubt adversely affect the Whites' property. Bill and I rode over the area this morning and Bill talked with other members about defense. We had bad news today about David, a bad diagnosis. The planting here has grown a great deal since we last saw it. Back to New York in the late afternoon. Hot and humid

June 12, 1978 Having exhausted my usual list of shops without much success, I at last tried Harry Rubman (where Dee Stone used to buy his clothes) and got three sport jackets, one for summer and 2 for winter. Good quality and reasonable prices. Blanche Wells dined with us at the club.
June 13. We were back at Woodhaven at 11:30 A.M. George Eberle is seriously ill again and there seems to be little hope. Carl Evans is dead at S.D. of a sudden heart attack.
June 14 Merle is dead. She has been sick and helpless a long time. F.M. (Dick) Northington is dead in his middle 90s. of the once large Northcut Northington family the last survivor is now Aggie Northington Penn, in Los Lunas, I think, in Florida. George Eberle is also dead. As I recall it he was about 84. of all the military men I have known he had the best mind and balance. Given better health he might have been another Marlborough.

June 13 To see Rene this afternoon. She is heaving up well and engrossed with the plans for a big military funeral tomorrow. Bill Webb (who is commanding a corps in Germany), his wife and daughter, have flown here for the funeral.

June 14 To the Memorial Service at St James at 9:30 this morning. Then we gave lunch to the family and out of town guests, leaving for Arlington National cemetery at 1:30 P.M. The service was a very elaborate one. The body was on a caisson drawn by 6 white horses, an equipped charger with the stirrups reversed, a large troop of soldiers, small musical, cannons and rifles firing etc. A large crowd.

June 17 Rain today. Rene is at her house. The Webbs are still with her as well as some of the grandchildren. We dined with the Tom Taylors, together with Alice Whitley, the Cutlers and Lance Bate. The ~~hundred~~ two hundred mile ride was held as usual, with Wade Sims as the last inspection Painting

June 18, 1978 We had a 92° temperature today. our privet hedges are blooming vigorously this year. I have a letter from Evelyn (Mrs. Earl Leslie) Griggs asking my cooperation with the new Editor of the Coleridge Poems, named to succeed Earl who died before completing the new edition.

June 19 Horace Flanigan is dead at 87. He must have had more ability than we gave him credit for since he apparently did a good job at Manufacturers Trust Company, but I never liked him. Ellis Slack has resigned from the Presidency of the Audubon Society although he has not reached retirement age. He attains important jobs easily but they never seem to last. Possibly he gets restless and bored.

June 20 Paul Willis brought his wife and two children out for the afternoon and dinner. They have been on Washington for a few days. Mrs. Willis is from Brandenburg, Ky., while he is a native of Southern Indiana. He is, I believe, doing very well at T.V.A.

June 21 A quiet day at home. Margaret's bridge foursome played here. I am reading steadily in Churchill's life of the Duke of Marlborough. A fascinating and, at least to me, an enigmatic man.

June 22 Malcolm telephoned today to tell us that Elizabeth Morey had died in her sleep during her tour in Australia. Mrs. Dantzler was with her. We had had a post card from her a few days ago. Elizabeth had almost reached the end of all her interests and had given away almost all her material possessions, terrified, I suspect, that she was getting senile.

June 23 To a large party at the Ancelville Golf club, given by Winslow and Helen Williams, unfortunately Helen has been taken very ill and was unable to join the party. Rogers Fred and I then went on to the Oakland's conversation where Tommy de Lashmutt and his partner gave a talk, illustrated with slides, of their drive from London to Sydney, Australia. They also had the car with them. With his long head and red face Tommy looks very little of an adventurer.

June 24, 1978 To a large party at the Charlie Jones. Charlie, like Helen last night, has had a sudden attack of illness and couldn't meet his guests. Young Charlie was there, handsome, very handsome and suave. He says that he likes ~~the~~ commercial and trust banking and is glad to be out of investment banking.

June 25 To a large sup. party at the Achesons. Bo Cutler is going into the hospital tomorrow for extensive surgery, including a prostate operation. He has not been well for several months.

June 26 Helen Patch, whom we saw at the Eberle funeral, told us that Bell was planning to retire soon. He may be caught by the age-in-grade rule. Rereading Saint-Simon's Memoirs, Arkwright's translation A strange mixture of nonsense about social minutiae, obsessions about rank and privilege and discerning observations about people and institutions. Of course he had great literary talent.

June 27 We dined with the Dicksons tonight. They have finally come to terms with the town of Leesburg for a sewer connection, involving a payment of about $5000.00. Daugherty told us that young Bo and Sarah Cutler have at last decided to get a divorce. They have apparently worked out an amicable arrangement for the custody of the children, apparently in good part based on care by Cecil and Daugherty.

June 28 To Sam Marrison who said, after his examination, that it would take a jealous husband to free the community of my influence. Bo Cutler, Sr., is preparing to enter the hospital for several hits of surgery.

June 29 Reading Ramsey's The Early Churchills, a fascinating book but like Ramsey's other books marred to some extent by hasty generalizations. In discussing Marlborough's extraordinary masculine beauty and charm Ramsey stresses the family connection with the Villiers

June 30 Met Mary Thomas, M's niece, at Dulles. She is a technical typist for TRW and is coming to Washington for three ~~days~~ weeks work. our Loudoun County assessment has been increased by $18,400.00, almost all of the increase being on the value of the buildings at Wardham. Rogers says that his buildings have also almost doubled.

July 1 our very pretty crab apple at the corner of our back porch (variety unknown) is as usual giving us hundreds of seedlings. We are strongly tempted to save some of them although we know that they are hybrids. We dined with the Freds tonight, together with the Wants and Isaacs.

July 2 A cold, raining day. We had a luncheon for Mary, the other guests being the Freds, Muirs and Isaacs. Poor Ted Muir is becoming somewhat senile but is charming and affectionate. Sam Morrison has scared George Isaacs into giving up tobacco.

July 3 We have several inches of water in our furnace room, obviously from some fault in the outside wall. This has heretofore always been a dry room. Dined with Vivian together with the Isaacs. George, heretofore a confirmed smoker, has given up tobacco. His recent health problems have apparently alarmed him.

July 4 Reading Nicolas Freeling's "The Bugles Blowing". Not up to his better detective stories. The three Wingo boys, Richard, Gary and Jimmy, spent part of the morning with me. Richard plans to return to the university of Virginia for two or three years of graduate work in business administration. If I understand correctly, Gary has no thought of continuing in the ~~army~~ army as a permanent career.

July 5 Mary left this morning as she reports for duty tomorrow. The coral berry shrubs which we pruned heavily last year because of dead wood has responded well. Ernie [Ernest Robert] Breech is dead at 81. A most interesting career.

July 6, 1978 We ordered new passports today. For once my picture is reasonably good. We have a pleasant letter from the Bill Webbs, who are back in Germany. My old friend, Grant G. Simmons, 59 has been forced out as chairman of the Simmons company, founded by his great-grandfather. Apparently the mattress business has been bad and Grant hasn't been able to bring it back.

July 7 A cool morning but hot afternoon. Edyth Harrell writes that Jol died of heartfailure a few weeks ago. He must have been in his middle 80s.

July 8 The heavy winds on July 4th brought down the large weeping willow nearest the brook east of the mill. To the John Lewises dinner for Ted Crook. Ted is a little grayer and deafer, like myself, but is lively and optimistic as usual. He is spending a few days with Dolores Fadeley.

July 9 Thompson's well is again giving trouble. It has a good well pit and a new pump but during rainy spells the water is discolored and has a bad odor. I suspect sulphur or some other chemical from the soil. To a large party at the Brannigans, chiefly from there near neighbors in Leesburg. We were personally interested in the Boss and Reynolds.

July 10 Mailed 5 cartons of books to U.K. Terry Titus has failed to supply the Scott Highlands properties Leonard Flint and I have agreed to sell, so we have fired him and engaged Richard Goode of Berryville. Very hot today. It is probably a mistake to sell this land as local values are rising but we need the money.

July 11 Betty Symmes tells us that her real property taxes have been greatly increased as a result of the new assessments, taking 1/4 th of her income. Hers is only one of many sad stories in West Loudoun.

July 12, 1978 Seawell and Brownie Martin stopped by this morning. Seawell has had surgery on one of his ankles and is grayer and slower. To ask Hill for a large party given for the trustees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation I gather that the Trust is having financial problems.

July 13 Reading Lillian Hellman's "Scoundrel Time"; the story of her troubles with the anti-communist scare and the McCarthy persecutions. In her case the period was one of fear rather than actual damage but her lawyer Hammett suffered imprisonment.

July 14 Flew to Paducah on TWA and Ozarks via St Louis. Put up at the Blue Grass Motel at Kolcenter, which is under new management. Most of the family is already here except Jackie's family, Talmadge and Leslie, and Sue's daughter Peter is with her father. Robert is taking a year off to study the stock market - a futile operation.

July 15 Robert and I, driving Louise's car, drove this morning to Mt Pleasant Cemetery and Bandana, thence to Wardville and Kecil. The countryside is now dotted with fine dwellings and well landscaped grounds. The magnolia grandiflora planted by our mother in the middle 1890s is dense and healthy All the family seems well and optimistic. Randy and Greg did not appear, each having a girl.

July 16 Thurston says that his business is going well. His first 6 months this year netted him $60,000.00. I went to see Cammie this morning and we had a brilliant shouted conversation, as we are both deaf. Mary Emma and Coral Sue left this afternoon. Mary Emma is returning in a few months. The Sacrays also left. Jimmy has apparently been very successful as a dentist. His four girls are extraordinarily healthy. Bernice seems to change very little from year to year but Louise is older.

July 1978 - Loretta and Hilson Beal



July 1978 Vivian Thereman Thurston & Robert Pratt



July 1978 Louise Neal Dodson



July 1978 - Hugh Neal, Hugh Pratt
Betty Pratt, Margaret & Thorsten Pratt



July 1978 Bernice and Brett





W. Hugh Beal - 1978
Passport Picture

July 17, 1978 Took the remaining members of the reunion to lunch at the Fish & Feather Restaurant in ascot. Good as restaurants go, but the cooking was not up to that of Loretta or my Margaret. Drove by the melancholy remnants of the boathouse where I taught almost 60 years ago. Left my plane in Paducah at 2:47 and was at Woodhaven at 9:30

July 18 Barbara Fred is in the hospital with a serious lung problem Reading Hersh's "The Mellon Family", a very competent work on a difficult subject. Was surprised to read that Tom Chadbourne was the messenger sent to tell Andrew Mellon that his wife wanted a divorce. A good many other friends appear, including Henry Croft and Arthur Van Buskirk.

July 19 Cleaning daffodil bulbs and weeding. We hear that Jim Birchfield has left the Louisville Times Mirror and that Jane Hill also gave up her column. Jim is a gifted man and has built up the paper.

July 20 Very hot. Reading Kluger's "Simple Justice", the story of the events leading up to and the decision in the segregation cases, Brown v. Board of Education etc. Although too long winded and simplistic it is a valuable work can contains a great mass of information about the controversy between the races in the first half of this century.

July 21 continued very hot. To Oak Hill for the dinner for Mr. & Mrs. John de Butts (he is chairman of A. T. & T.) Preceding Mr. de Butts appearance as the guest speaker at the outlands conversation tonight. Mr. de Butts is a relative of our local family of that name and they (Mr. & Mrs de B.) plan to live at Upperville when he retires. He is a suave and pleasant man, very quick and decisive. I was glad to hear him come out in favor of increased communications with the Russians.

July 22 Very hot. Mary is here with a friend and they and Margaret drove to the Skyline drive to Front Royal.

July 23, 1978 Elvira Johnson is dead after a long illness. She was a pretty girl and very bright but had little ambition. Earl and Ruby and Arthur and his wife survive.

July 24 our annuals are beginning to make some show. The nicotiana is unusually good and the sunflowers and cleome are flaunting. The strawberry jar is bright with marigolds.

July 25 Had a meeting of the Boards and Publicity committee at Oatlands. We are preparing an exhibit of books from the library of Robert Carter the III, father of George Carter, the builder of Oatlands. Mrs Lynch is a vigorous and charming woman. She is said to be writing a book on Victorian gardens.

July 26 With Vivian to the Trappe to visit Howard Fellows and his daughter, Mrs. Bowers. Howard is slowly recovering from a broken hip. Apparently there is no hope at all that Lilian can ever recover and come home.

July 27 Jim Pope has succeeded Jim Birchfield as the Editor of the Loudoun Times Mirror. Pope is a brash man of about 28, fat and impatient. It seems doubtful that he can replace the popular Birchfield in this community. Jim's parting with Arundel seems to have been bitter.

July 28 To the Fred's dinner party for the Lindquists together with the Isaacs, Mary Godfrey, the Buckardts et al. Reading P.D. James "Death of an Expert Witness" Although generally thought of as a writer of detective stories in the line of Agatha Christie, James really writes ordinary fiction with murder as an incident.

July 29 A pleasant day. Transplanted a small Virginia creeper that managed to survive as a seedling outside our back porch. We have found and reserved for friends several red oak seedlings. Our two calycanthus, which we cut back almost to the ground, are being rejuvenated. The small seedling English yews are growing well.

July 30, 1978 We had a luncheon today for the Feds and their guests, the Lindquists. Louie Bate and the Cutters were also here. Reading Louis Martins Robert Carter of Nomini Hall, a well written and most informative book. Carter was apparently very fond of French writers, including Pascal, the French Academy group and Montesquieu

July 31 To Oatlands this morning, where Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Lynch, Miss Bedrick and I selected and arranged books from the Robert Carter Library for exhibition from Aug to October. We made up quite an impressive list. To Tom Jewell's tonight for a meeting of the directors of the Historical Society. Jim Birchfield was there, still angry with Brundell.

Aug. 1 More trouble with our roof, which still gets moisture through the walls of the dining room. The cost of a new roof to the back porch and much new copper guttering is to be $2652.00. Delbert Reesor has sent me a copy of an article about him in a senior citizen publication.

Aug. 2 The McIntyre bill for work on the roof was $451.00. This house is becoming too expensive to maintain. Emory Alaster tells me that the increase in real property taxes in this county is putting a real hardship on those who live on fixed incomes. Found a small ilex opaca seedling in our backyard and have transferred it to the cold frame.

Aug. 3 To Dr. Reuter. We dined with Vivian Powers, who also had the Freds. Admiral Ben Moreell, who was head of the Bureau of Yards and Docks during my time at the Navy Department, is dead. After the war he got involved in some ultra-right wing group.

Aug. 4 The magnolia grandiflora just off the gallery, which has suffered so much in the last two winters, is doing better and even has a few blooms. Our fascinating and aggravating old cat, Buggie, has died - at about 13 or 14. She was vigorous to the last. Elizabeth, Alice and Vivian dined with us tonight.

Aug. 5, 1978 We have a card from Bill and Betty White, written from Burns' birthplace and they report a busy time in Scotland - with much golf. Richard Obenshain, the Republican candidate for Senator from Virginia, has been killed in an airplane accident and the political wheels are grinding again.

Aug 6 The Robert Corbes breaks ment an display at Oatlands today and Anna Hedrick and I affiliated - with newspaper reporters etc. To a cocktail party at Elizabeth Riley's. Her trip in France and Italy, on a tour with Barry, his wife and three children, was a great success.

Aug. 7 Cowell tells me that I have been nominated for membership on the Oatlands Council again, having again become eligible after a year. I have found in Edmund Wilson's letters a number to Dawn Powell, whom I got to know in the 20's as she was a good friend of Dorothy Mattes.

Aug. 8 We have almost discontinued serving imported wines. The prices have gone up 50% or more recently, partly, I suppose, because of the decline in the value of the dollar. Reading Clifford Dowdeys "The Virginia Dynasties", a well organized and informative book. He makes two sound points very well: (1) Very few of the settlers in Virginia were cavaliers, or even gentry, and (2) they were unusually capable business me. He does not quite ~~to~~ understand that the nobility and gentry in England formed a fluctuating class, up today and down tomorrow.

Aug. 9 ~~11~~ Barbara Fred is still very ill. Has one deflated ~~young~~ lung. our new garage roof is turning out badly.

Aug. 10 Anna Hedrick and I got our pictures in The Loudoun Times-Mirror while we were presiding at the book exhibit at Oatlands. To see Rene Eberle who is back at her house. We are all much worried when she is alone, but at 81, her tenure on life is slight ~~and~~ and she can afford to have her own way.

Aug. 11, 1978 Margaret's indigestion is very bad again, and Sam Morrison doesn't seem to know what to do about it. Gayle Rathrock has sent us a notice and note about her forthcoming marriage to a Brian Boyle on Sept. 3. She has I think been in some indecision about marriage for the last year.

Aug. 12 Paul Braunrigg, Dave Swenson, Miriam Kahl and I took Andrea Currier through the wetlands gardens this morning and then took her and my mother and Agnes to lunch at the Laurel Brigade. She is Andrew Mellon's granddaughter and has, with a brother and sister, a showplace near the Plums. We hope to interest her in the wetlands gardens. In spite of her great wealth she drives herself in a small car and is a poised and modest young woman.

Aug. 13 Still hot. Saw the "Count Days" in Leesburg yesterday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Stanford, who live near Lovettsville and are friends of the Eagles, came to see us today

Aug. 14 To Fredericksburg, where we selected wedding presents for Gayle and for Catherine Harrison, youngest daughter of Powell and Agnes. Reading Clifford Dowdey's "The Great Plantation", the story of the Harrisons and Berkeley on the James. A good book but not as informative as the authors "The Virginia Dynasties" are still gets a laugh about William Henry Harrison, who was born and grew up at Berkely, being elected president as the log cabin boy.

Aug. 15 The McIntyres are back on the job, putting a new roof on the gallery and new guttering on the east side of the house

Aug. 16 Lawson is back in the hospital. Peter Miller of the Loudoun Times Mirror spent the afternoon with me preparing an article on my library. Examined many items and took many pictures. He is a nephew of Jane Birchfield and a Ph.D. in English from the University of California. Very bright

Aug. 17, 1978 With M. to see Charlie Wight of Alexander Brown & Sons. She ordered the sale of $18,000 Maine Turnpike - Boston Extension Bonds on which she will take a loss of almost $5 M. our syearax is bravely blooming in spite of last winters damage. Most of the trees are making heavy growth this year especially the cornus kousa.

Aug. 18 Putted a small toxus and a 2 small ilex opacas which have come up in the myrtle bed. To the large party given by the Wings in honor of Sloria and Jack Valentine who are back on a visit. They told us that many of the visitors to their Bahamas resort are foreigners, especially Japanese and Germans.

Aug. 19 Reading Edmund Wilson's literary and political letters. Was surprised that he had so many financial problems. He seems to have been a close friend of Dawn Powell whom I knew through Dorothy Mateer.

Aug. 20 Larry Thompson failed to get the desired Guggenheim fellowship, which he needed to support him while finishing his history of printing. Two old. Barbara Fred is still in the hospital with a collapsed lung. The doctors think that her problem may be a congenital one

Aug. 21 Much cooler today. The extreme heat of the last few weeks have left us exhausted To see the Whites. Frank is slowly getting weaker, but still has flashes of responsiveness. My emphysema is giving me less trouble but perhaps it is only the summer weather.

Aug. 22 Rene Eberle is in the hospital and is about to get a pace-maker to relieve her heart. Fulton Wurst is preparing to enter London Memorial Hospital so that Dr. Reuter may perform a prostate operation. Today I talked to The Readers Book Club at Oatlands about the Robert Cutler Library, a part of which is an exhibit. An unusually informed and responsive audience.

Kingdon Times Mirror Aug. 24, 1978

Hugh Peal Collects Literary Letters

By Peter Miller
Times-Mirror Staff Writer

When Hugh Peal was five years old, his mother and great aunt were shocked to see him high upon their farm's toughest stallion, riding headlong toward the public road.

That day, they decided to find some other interests for Peal. "I was supposed to have been a rather sickly lad, so they sat me down and began to read to me," he said. One of the books they chose was Charles Lamb's "Tales from Shakespear."

Peal says that day was the start of his lifelong fascination with Lamb's work. Now, 76 years later, he owns the world's largest collection of Lamb's private letters and manuscripts, the value of which he estimates at about $100,000.

Peal also holds the largest private collection of letters by S. T. Coleridge, a substantial number of letters by William Wordsworth, several letters

C Lamb

each by Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Samuel Johnson, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Robert Browning, Voltaire, Charles Dickens, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, William Cullen Bryant, Jack London and other letters by lesser known literary figures and their friends.

These letters, many of which have been donated by Peal to the University of Kentucky and other institutions, are valuable as collectors' items and would bring from $100 to $5,000 each at an auction. Such sales are rare, however, the last Lamb letter going for $600 several years ago in New York.

But they are also invaluable to literary scholars as fragments of intricate puzzles in the reconstruction of authors' lives. On the flyleaf of his first edition copy of Coleridge's "Biographia Literaria," for example, Charles Lamb has copied an early version of Coleridge's poem, "Youth and Age."

S. T. Coleridge

Peal, who keeps the volume in one of his upstairs libraries, has recently been contacted by Coleridge scholars about the light his handwritten version might shed upon the finished version of the

See PEAL, Page A-11



The Times-Mirror/Peter Miller

Hugh Peal of Woodburn Farm near Leesburg is a collector of rare books and manuscripts. His collections of letters by the romantic author Charles Lamb is considered one of the world's finest.

Peal

Continued from Page A-1

poem published years later.

Peal's home at Woodburn Farm south of Leesburg is rich with similar finds. On the wall of his first floor sitting room is a framed letter by Charles Dickens dated Dec. 12, 1846. In the main library is one of the finest preserved editions of The Gardener's Dictionary, dated 1760, with hand-colored botanical illustrations, as well as a complete set of "Flora Londinensis," a guide to flowers around London.

Bookshelves filled with the works of Lamb and Shakespeare stand in the hallway leading to the stairs, which take you to a library filled with photostatic copies of his autograph letter collections, the originals of which are kept in safe deposit boxes elsewhere.

A sample of Lamb's correspondence is the following note to his friend Sir Thomas N. Talfourd, a London judge, who was also close to Shelley and Dickens: "Dear T: We are at Mr. Bays's, Hatter, Trumpington Street, Cambrige. Can you come down? You will be with us, all but Bed, which you can get at an Inn. We shall be most glad to see you. Be so good as send me Hazlit's volume, just published at Hane's, directed as above. Or, much better, bring it. Yours, hic et ubique (here and everywhere), C. Lamb."

"Lamb's letters are chatty, informal, full of news of friends," said Peal. "Coleridge's are rather more pedantic, filled with observations about books and not really as interesting." Peal's collection of about 35 Wordsworth letters date from late in the poet's life, after the completion of "The Prelude" in 1805 when he reached his prime. "They're not at all chatty. Wordsworth didn't have the same bubbly humor of Lamb or even the enthusiasm of Coleridge. And many of them were dictated to his sister Dorothy or his wife Mary," said Peal.

Peal also owns a first edition copy of "Tales from Shakespear," worth considerably more than the copy read to him years ago by his mother, and a first edition copy of "Lyrical Ballads," the collaborative project of Wordsworth and Coleridge that nearly single handedly revived English poetry in 1798. This volume, which contained such poems as Coleridge's "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" and Wordsworth's "Lines Written above Tinturn Abbey," so intimidated Lamb that it convinced him to give up poetry for prose, said Peal. He and Charles Lloyd, who later collaborated on "Blank Verse," imagined themselves equals to these poetic geniuses, who were also their friends, but "Lyrical Ballads" put them in their places.

About the same time in the United States, a Virginian gentleman was completing another collection of books that Peal recently helped to put on display at the Oatlands Carriage House. The collection, which once belonged to Robert Carter of Nomini (1728-1804), was inherited by George Carter of Oatlands, dispersed upon his death, and only recently brought together by the Oatlands Council Books and Library Committee.

It was an "elegant" collection, said Peal, not the kind you would find in George Washington's library, for example. It includes an early edition of Blaise Pascal's "Provincial Letters" (1756), in which the French philosopher defends his friend Antoine Arnauld against Jesuit critics. Pascal's works were widely considered by contemporaries to be perfect examples of French prose, said Peal. Generations of students used his volumes as language textbooks. For that reason, Peal believes Robert Carter probably owned the text to study its style rather than its philosophy.

Another "elegant" work in Carter's library was Charles Montesquieu's "Persian Letters, a satirical attack upon French politics through the device of an imaginary Persian merchant, much like Jonathan Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" five years later. Montesquieu learned much from Voltaire about the English constitution, said Peal, suggesting that Carter may also have been interested in the theory of the separation of governmental powers.

His library also contains several works by the Swedish philosopher Emanuel Swendenborg, which says much about his religious leanings, said Peal. Carter grew up in the Church of England, but strayed in later life first to Anabaptism and then to a sect of Swedenborgianism in Baltimore. This influence led Carter near the end of his life to attempt the release of his 500 slaves.

Peal's own family has a long history in Virginia and neighboring states, the first members arriving near Jamestown before the Carters. The wealth that allowed Peal to assemble his rare collections of manuscripts was not handed down to him in the Carter tradition, however, but was a combination of his hard work and luck, he said. Peal practiced law in New York from 1925 through the Depression, "a time when the only people making money were lawyers," he said. Many of his most valuable items were obtained during these hard times, most of his Lamb letters being purchased in the 1930s and 1940s.

Now Peal devotes himself to his second love, gardening. Actually, gardening has always rivaled his literary interests, he said. It was the reason he first bought some property near Round Hill and the reason he later bought Woodburn Farm in 1954.

"I'd take you on a tour of my plant collection, too," he said. "But it'd just be going to look at various holes in the ground — the place where my favorite trees or bushes or flowers used to be."

Loudoun Times-Mirror - Aug 24, '78

Aug. 23, 1978 We need rain. Helena and Bill Patch are back at Bob White Acres, although they have built a house somewhere in the South. Bill has retired from the Army with two stars, although he might possibly have had a third star if he had been willing to accept a post in the Pentagon.

Aug. 24 The Freds and Whites dined with us. My conversation with Peter Miller has resulted in a long article in the Landon Times-Mirror, complete with a picture, on page one. Despite a few errors, the article is a good one. The picture shows me talking happily about a manuscript in my hands.

Aug. 25 Mr. Sauder, the surveyor, has come up with an acreage of 15.05 for the Scott Highlands Road land we are selling to Mrs. Morgan. My deed calls for 17+ acres. The mistake probably goes back to the division of the land among the Thomas heirs in the early 1900's. The two owned items we gave to oaklands brought $135.00.

Aug. 26 We had dinner with the Baines, together with the Taylors and Ryans. Mr. Ryan is a Leesburg lawyer and his wife is a member of the "Great Books" group to which Marquand belongs. Mary Taylor, who is a daughter of the late D.C.C. commissioner Splains, is a charming and cultivated woman. We discussed at length President Carter's proposal for "reforming" the civil service. As old civil servants and devoted to the tenure principle, the Baines are opposed.

Aug. 27 The Freds brought us a basket of grapes this morning from their own vines. This afternoon I spoke to the Loudoun county Hist. Society at their meeting at the Ludds carriage house. The subject was Robert Carter's 18th century library and the props were the exhibit of books from his library

Aug. 28 Mr. Santmyer's trees are here on the long delayed rewiring of the house. Sent off a letter to Mrs. Morgan about the land on Lee Land Heights. Duke Redfern is dead. He was about my age and his parents lived on our farm on the Ingleside Road.

Aug. 29, 1978 Reading Susan Fromhert Schaeffer's "Time in its Flight." Although it has its merits, especially for an attractive poetic style, it is really a disappointing book. For one thing, the characters are rich and thus removed from many of the stresses affecting 19th century Americans. And many of the incidents seem artificial.

Aug. 30 Betty White says that Daniel has to have therapy five days a week. Debby drives him from home to the Presbyterian hospital in New York. The whale problem remains undecided, our small willow cuttings are doing very well, although I have dutifully keeping the weeds down.

Aug. 31 We have had a good and much needed rain. Fulton Want has come through his operation well and is expected to be back home in a few days. The electricians are coming along well. When they are finished we will have about 30 fuses.

Sept. 1 our asmanthus is recovering slowly from last winter's damage. The Sweeneys and Brannigans dined with us tonight. Fortunately as we had ascertained in advance, Mary June and Helen, both staunch catholics, eat lamb. The Sweeneys seem to be happy in their new home, but we have a feeling that they do not really like this area.

Sept. 2 Much cooler. We went to the Catherine Harrison wedding and the reception. A large affair. Tom Mellory tells me that he has increased his farm to 700 acres and hopes to break even, when as necessary to satisfy the Internal Revenue Service. The Livingers had with them an interesting guest, Sir Colin Joad.

Sept. 3 To see Fulton Wood in Loudoun Memorial Hospital. He is able to walk around and hopes to go home soon. The Ballingers came by this afternoon to let us know that they intend to build a new house, and so that they will give up our cottage next year.

Sept. 4, 1978 M- has made up several pints of damson preserves, leaving in the skins and seeds. All the stones carry it but the seeds and skins are removed, to the detriment of the flavor. Reading Weinstein's "Arguing", the story of the Alger Hiss trial and conviction. It has always seemed to me that too much was made of that case. Hiss was an ambitious youngster who fell for the leftish spirit of the times in the 1930's, then relapsed into the establishment and tried to lie out of his indiscretions.

Sept. 5 Bill Creed of Truro is dead - after a long illness. Went by to see Rene but she was not at home.

Sept. 6 The leaves of our Exbury azaleas are turning brown. This may be a seasonable matter but we fear some blight. Rereading Hardy's "The Mayor of Casterbridge". Hardy deserves and gets much credit for his analysis of character, but he lacks the rounded views of Chaucer and Shakespeare.

Sept. 6, 1978 For some reason, probably lack of care, our chrysanthemum beds are going to be meagre this year. Reading David Cecil's "The Victorian Novelists". In spite of some elegant passages the book is really a dead one. One gets more knowledge of the novelists by reading them than about them.

Sept. 7 The electricians have finished their work and we are less concerned about fire. The New York prime rate has risen to 9% and much concern is felt about lack of credit.

Sept. 8 To the Round Hill Bank to deposit the check for the sale of M's Mass. Turnpike bonds. Reading Barbara Tuchman's "A Distant Mirror". It is a good book, but lacks the drive and push of "The Guns of August". In fact, the great tapestry of the 14th century does not lend itself well to Mrs. Tuchman's particular talents of drama and analysis. She would have done well to limit herself to the causes and effects of the Black Death and less to the Hundred Years War.

Sept. 9, 1978 My nomination to the outlands council, which became possible after the lapse of one year, has been made official. Kitty McGraw has sold her house and land, very favorably she says, and she is moving into Heritage Village. It must have been a blow to give up her beautiful place.

Sept. 10 A quiet day at home. Rene has decided to move to the Distaff House, a home for army widows. Presumably she will sell Dunrobin which has greatly increased in value in the last 20 years.

Sept. 11 The bill of the electricians is $1380.24, which seems reasonable. Reading Michener's "Chesapeake", a remarkable performance for a writer without much previous knowledge of the great bay. He does use a good deal of filler, as in the discussion of the English church-state conflicts in Tudor times. And some of his characters seem to be puppets rather than people

Sept 12 Mr. Mason of the Corning Glass company came out today to see the roof of our garage which has begun to curl after only 4 years. He will recommend its repair. Louise writes that her aunt Ann (formerly called Anna Mae) had a bad fall last spring and has been in a nursing home ever since. Louise has had to cope with a great deal of family sickness. Rain today.

Sept. 13 Bradley Chambers is dead. He would have been 79 on his next birthday. I am afraid that Bradley had a poor life. His parents died young, his grandmother died while he was very young and he seems to have received little education. He sold his Kentucky land, inherited from Aunt Belle, for very little. The last I heard from, years ago, he had become a Jehovah's Witness.

Sept. 14 To Sam Morrison to get flu shots. Sam says to keep out of his office because it depresses him to see a man so healthy past 80. The New York prime rate has gone to 9½ % and seems headed up. Both for business

Sept 15, 1978 Larry McCamas is continuing at U.K. to get a master's degree. I do not know whether his veterans benefits are continuing, but I suspect that, like many others, he has come to like college so well he can't give it up

Sept. 16 Butter has gone to $1.69 per pound and that has done more than the doctors to persuade me that also is better. Reading Auchincloss' "The Dark Lady" Although the book develops some new approaches from Auchincloss' normal style and content, it is not very convincing or satisfying. The author has to build up crises for his characters as he has deprived them of the normal urges such as need for money

Sept. 17 Margaret has lost 10 pounds on her new diet. Deprived of most sweets she gorges herself on jello. Managed finally to get Thompson and Charlie to work on the mess of weeds and vines in the patent house garden but Thompson became a victim of enraged yellow jackets.

Sept. 18 Mr. Tompkins, the furniture appraiser, is at work here on our antiques and pseudo antiques. He admired especially the Kirmington rug in the library. Tom Sumner came to lunch. I again get the impression that Tom finds the fashionable Florida churches less than exhilirating. He does seem to get a good deal of time to read.

Sept. 19 We left the Freds home at 9:30 A.M. on our drive to Roanoke, first going west to Winchester and then down Route 81. The weather was fine and the countryside lovely. We put up at the Hotel Roanoke, a fine old railroad hotel. Tonight the Freds had a dinner for their 55th wedding anniversary, which was attended by their granddaughter, Leslie Fred, and a college friend

Sept. 20 We took to the Blue Ridge Trail this morning, engaging the lovely mountain country in fine weather, and ended at the Holiday Inn in Boone. We enjoyed the last home section around Blowing Rock. I am surprised at the great mass of white pines.

Sept. 21, 1978 We took off this morning for a further trip around the Smokies, which were foggy enough this morning to justify the name, and ended up at the famous Grove Park Inn at Asheville. The inn, very crowded, reminded me of the inns in the Catskill mountains up the Hudson. Explored the craft house where I bought a yellow sweater.

Sept. 22 To the Biltmore Estate this morning. We were agreeably surprised to find that the house was in good and restrained taste, although not a fine copy of the French models but we were especially pleased with the planting and the views. The planting was originally planned by Frederick Law Olmsted ("Flo") and still betrays the master's hand.

Sept. 23 We drove this morning to old Salem, a self conscious restoration of a colonial village. Had lunch at the old Tavern, where we had a long wait for a moderately good meal. We had a long walk and liked the fine trees (in which we could not identify) in the college grounds.

Sept. 24 Drove through a lovely country to Williamsburg where we put up at a place Holiday Inns, having been unable to get reservations at the Inn or Lodge. Williamsburg is very crowded. We are especially sorry to find that everything is much more expensive here. Colonial Williamsburg has been having financial problems and may be pricing itself out of range for many tourists. Dined at the Cascades.

Sept. 25 Shopped and did a bit of sightseeing this morning. Replenished our hard candy supply and, at Beecraft and Bull, bought a sleeveless sweater and a pair of tan whipcord slacks. The Lindquists joined us for lunch at the Mill country club Inn.

Sept. 26 We drove home today, stopping for a leisurely luncheon with the Lindquists at their lovely home at Matthews, just off Chesapeake Bay. Their planting is good and most intelligently planned and the house is handsome and comfortable. They gave us fine crabmeat for lunch and large containers to bring home. The Lindquists seem very happy here.

Sept. 27, 1978 Rene Eberle is back in the hospital. Further heart problems. She has Linda with her but has had to spend a few nights alone. The Fuchs and Elizabeth Riley dined with us. Peter Miller has left the Times Mirror and is going to a daily on the Eastern Shore. Probably Peter as a victim of the split between Jim. Burchfield and Arnold.

Sept. 28 Further details about the Simmons mattress business continue to appear. Gulf and Western, already a large holder, ~~is~~ trying to buy more stock. It sounds as though Grant and his family are entirely out

Sept. 29 The current plant dividend from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is a spiraea japonica alpina. The plant dividends of the Garden are delightful benefits to members. We picked up Rene Eberle at the hospital and took her home, where Linda and her son are seeing out for her. Rene is as cheerful and almost as energetic as a young woman. Today M- got a check for $24,680.00 from the New York Bank for Savings.

Sept. 30 Although we have a contract with Southern States to maintain our furnace, prepaid in January, we have not yet had our furnace cleaned in spite of daily demands. The only emergency we had, which was earlier this year, was neglected by Southern States and we had to turn to Moor-canes. M- and I went to Peoples Bank this morning to open a new checking account and to buy 4 certificates of deposit of ~~$20,~~ $5,000.00 each

Oct. 1 The Loudoun County Historical Society met with us at Woodburn this afternoon. Because of conflicting meetings of political groups the meeting was small, but Jane Birchfield gave us a good talk on herbs and green vegetables and salads

Oct. 2 In to Washington this morning to have a final fitting of the blue tropical worsted suit I ordered in New York on June 6th. Incredible negligence. Hazel Flagler is dead She was about my age. Margaret has received a notice of probate so she is probably name as a legatee. Probably a souvenir.

Oct. 3, 1978 Reading Kessler's Roosevelt and Churchill: 1939-1941. Its title is misleading as it concerns itself more with the story of the war than with the relationship between the two men. And others have told that story better. The trick would have been to illustrate the stress and strains of the times through the stories of the two men, but Kessler has reversed the process.

Oct. 4 Today we moved 2 ilex opaca seedlings to permanent positions east of the forsythia hedge on the west lawn. Also two trumpet vines on the west side of the hedge. To a large luncheon at the Dennisons in honor of her father and mother, visitors from Nantucket.

Oct. 5 This afternoon we closed the sale to Mrs. Morgan. We saved a broker's commission but we had a surveyors fee of $75.00, plus some small charges. The profit is quite satisfactory and I am glad to let it go. Lawson and Gladys are coming to see us on October 24 for a week.

October 6 Much cooler. Peoples Bank has managed to get our address wrong on Mrs. Gaetz C.D.s and has spelled my name "PEARL" on the checks. Fulton and Dorothy Want are very discouraged by Elliot's condition. Fulton apparently fears that he will not survive very long.

Oct. 7 In to Leesburg to take back the misprinted checks, Bought two rolls of black plastic to use around plants to control weeds. The Dennises have brought us a large slab of the fine Norwegian cheese we admired so much at their party. Helped Rosalie prepare her evergreen exhibit for the State Garden Club, supplying Photinia Fraseri, berberis julianae and several types of holly.

Oct. 8 Cutting our poinsettias which have grown to great size in their summer garden spots. Louise writes that Ella Evans is crippled. Dined with Helen Van Deventer tonight, together with the Silcocks and Dietz. Helen is lovelier than ever but shows no inclination to marry again.

Oct. 9, 1978 our weather is sunny and cool, an ideal fall. Tom Mclay is in the hospital. Heart problems. Reading Merk's "History of the Western Movement", a useful summary but necessarily general in its presentation, one would like more charts and statistics but perhaps they would dull the interest.

Oct. 10 Finally, after much agitated telephoning, we have had our furnace cleaned. Malcolm writes that George Heisner has had a stroke and that Carl Fenton has been out of the office for a long time, although now thought to be better. Malcolm, I fear, is not entirely reconciled to retirement. His chief worry, I suppose, is Clare's precarious position with two young boys to educate.

Oct. 11 Alice Whitley and Mary Giles dined with us. Mary as cheerful and optimistic in spite of her dangerous heart problems. Gayle writes that her husband was defeated in his race for re-election as supervisor and that they have decided not to buy the new house. His 14 year old son is with them.

October 12 To Dr. Reuter this morning. Since I have developed allergies to the anti-histics he recommended, I now take nothing after treatments. The New York prime rate has gone to 10%, a terrible price for business to pay.

Oct. 13 our maples are coloring well. Reading Manchester's "American Caesar", a biography of General MacArthur. A fascinating book with masses of detail it is nevertheless somewhat unsatisfying. one finds it hard to believe that a character so flawed in essential respects could have done so well in long range planning and execution. And it seems unlikely that a man who gave no credit to subordinates could have won so much loyalty from men like Spencer Akin.

Oct. 14 We are married about Thompson's eye. He lost the sight in it in 1961 and it must now come out. To the Thomas Balch Library sale this morning and bought some odds and ends. Rene and Lucia came to lunch. Then to a large party at Elizabeth Rileys and on to the Freds to plan our Annapolis trip

Oct. 15, 1978 We have had the Nordhavn fuel oil tanks refilled. 2175 gallons at a cost of $1100.00 +. Marie Cruzens is going with her companion, to Phoenix this winter for 2 months. She says that her legacy from Bess Hill will pay for it.

Oct. 16 Rain today. Finished the application for land use tax for 1979. Snapped on leeching. We hear that ship Marie has lost 100 pounds and looks much better.

Oct. 17 Our pratinia Villosa is coloring well and is rich with berries. It would have been a better plant, perhaps if we had pruned more. The stock market is having a bad slide. The decline in the dollar has been a shock for everybody. Ron Carter is between a rock and a hard place: further inflation or a depression. Reading Douglas "South Wind". It seems quite dated, more like Jack London and Aldous Huxley than modern novelists. Perhaps the love of the exotic twins of Europe was the after-glow of Empire.

Oct. 18 A young woman from St. Louis, Angela something, came to see me today to find out whether a few volumes she had inherited have any value. Alas, they have none. The Akers and Dennises dined with us tonight. The doctors have reassured Alfred about the feared cancer of the liver but he does have some complications and is going into the hospital in a few days

Oct. 19 Thompson went into the hospital yesterday to have his bad eye removed. He will get a glass eye replacement. Mahlon Perkins, formerly of the Donovan firm, got a prison sentence of one month for his part in withholding evidence in the Eastman Kodak case. An amazing and disturbing thing for a well known New York lawyer to have done

Oct. 20 Reading Vagedan's "The Roosevelt Family of Sagamore Hill". Theodore Roosevelt reminds me of Douglas MacArthur, a man of many contradictory qualities. He had, however, a most attractive family life, which was denied to MacArthur.

October 21, 1978 To a large buffet dinner at the Eyssells. Sus and I had a good laugh about the gubernational race in New York. Nelson Rockefeller has been fond of Hugh Carey, the Democratic nominee, and has disliked Duryea, the Republican nominee for many years. Having at last given up his personal hopes, Rockefeller can now do as he likes.

Oct. 22 We lunched with the Akres, together with Mr. and Mrs. Sneer and Mr. and Mrs. Brixley, whom we had met before. Mr. Sneer and Mr. Brixley are former partners of Chuck. Working on our sunflower seed. Many heads were spoiled by dampness.

Oct. 23 Nilson writes that Bud Peal's son, Marshall, has been to see him in search of data on the Peal family. Marshall is now retired. It has been many years since I heard of any member of uncle Lee Peal's family. Together with the Akres we dined with the Sweezeys tonight. They are now comfortably settled in their new home last of us. Smaller but in many was better than their old farm.

Oct. 24 Flushed out a long garden snake this morning from the rock wall to the back porch. He disappeared into a crevice, but has found a poor place to winter. We met Gladys and Lawson at Dulles this afternoon. Lawson looked very well in a handsome red coat but walks with difficulty.

Oct. 25 Sat my tropical worsted suit from Brooks Brothers today, just 3 months late. Reading Stern's "Gold and Iron," the story of the long relationship between Bismark and the Jewish banker Bleichröder. Bismark has always been an enigma to me, but his banker friend was of a type (like George Blumenthal) that I got to know well. The great tragedy of the Jewish business was that the German dislike and envy was greatly increased by the very efforts the Jews made to overcome them.

Oct. 26 We took Lawson and Gladys today on a long drive to see the fall colors, getting as far as Spotsylvania on the Skyline Drive. A fine day and about the best colors I have seen in Virginia.

oct. 27, 1978 For the first time in many years a good many of the apples from our old orchard are acceptable this year. Took Lawsons and Gladys to Oatlands where they received the royal treatment. Judy Acheson and Betty Flemming are now acting as hostesses.

oct. 28 Took Lawsons and Gladys to the Simpson school to see the Waterford Players' production of 'Fiddler on the Roof.' Directed by Sue Wilkerson and George Barney, it was about the ~~fin~~ best production of the Players I have seen. John Wilkerson played the dairyman; Roy Bayne the constable; Tom White the tailor and Mary June Barney the matchmaker

oct. 29 Took Lawsons over the place to see our plantings. As he lived in the foothills of the ozarks for several years he knew most of the trees and shrubs. He says that the shelterbelt programs in Kansas have largely been abandoned. Some of these days we will have more dust storms. We had coffee with the Frank Whites.

Oct. 30 Nell Hahs Powell is dead in Jackson, Michigan, at age 81. Her sister Terri survives her as well as several children and grandchildren. One of her sons came to see me in New York about World War II. Nell was a curious child, a rogue and uninterested personality. Perhaps she came out more after marrying into the warm Powell family

Oct. 31 Took Ransom and Gladys to the National Airport this morning. They seem to have had a pleasant visit and are none the worse for it. Then to the Central Liquor Store and bought sherry, Rhine wine and Scotch. Charles Reeves is dead at 69. His sister, Frances, survives.

Nov. 1 To the outlands council meeting, my first since I resigned the council. The argument with the National Trust goes on at about the same rate as it had when I left the council in 1977. The nub of the matter is to determine how much financial aid outlands will get from the Trust. Jane Birchfield telephoned to say that the bees we got from Mary Sparrow are Clerodendron trichotomum - not Styrax.

Nov. 2, 1978 We are having fine but dry weather. The Akres and Freds dined with us tonight to discuss our proposed vacation in Mexico in February. Chuck is about the most active retired man I know. He is, I fear, burning his candle at both ends. Reading Erikson's "The Money Makers", a steamtyped novel about investment banking business in New York. The novelists find much more sex and skulduggery in New York than I ahsumed in my 50 years legal practice there.
Nov. 3 our sourwood tree is a lovely red. The sweetgums and photinia ~~fraseri~~ are also terribly colored. The red oaks are redder than ever before. Even the Japanese cherries color well.
Nov. 4 Reading Dahlell's "Sidelights on Charles Lamb". The old bookseller was not a great critic but he has a good style and appreciates a good deal of evidence of the kind too often neglected. He correctly values the group of London Magazine writers.

Nov. 5 We lunched with the Dietz. Rosalie is planting every inch of their town lot with trees and shrubs, many of which will have to be eliminated before they mature. Reading La Roche's "Centenary at Julna", which must have been the last of the Julna books. Each of the books has the same theme, so this one seems repetitive.

Nov. 6 Reading Chauncey M. Depew's "My Memories of Eighty years". The old boy was never a great brain, but he had a friendly spirit and wrote amazingly well. Perhaps his small town background and long and wide experience with people preserved him from the narrow and sterile point of view that marks most business men. His robust health and fine sense of humor also helped.

Nov. 7 We voted early. Poor Betty Semmes was at the voting places collecting signatures to a petition to the Supervisors to limit Loudoun County Taxes. We sat up a little later than usual to hear the election returns. Fisher is in; Harris probably but Miller is behind.

Nov. 8, 1978 Left early with the Finds and their comfortable Lincoln-Continental got us to Annapolis in time for lunch at the Harbour House. We have rooms at the Hilton just off the old square. We had a long walk through the quaint old streets and dined at the Hilton.

Nov. 9 Today we saw the Paca house and grounds and the Hammond House. The houses are very acceptable but I enjoyed most the Paca landscaping. Conventional plantings as used skilfully: bald cypress, cypress-leaf junipers, live oaks and willow oaks. Although the grounds are without exotics they fit in with the urban atmosphere. We drove through the Naval Academy and dined at the Dockside Restaurant.

Nov. 10 This morning we saw the Chase House, visited the Naval Academy again (admiring the functional chapel), went through St. John's college (which Roger knew well as a youngster) and turned again at the Hill campus. Drove home this afternoon and dined with the Finds

Nov. 11 The last item on our sight-seeing list yesterday was the Maryland Statehouse, the oldest, I believe, still in use as a statehouse. No signs remind one that the Annapolis convention was held here, but a guide acknowledged the fact when asked. M- is sick with what we fear is influenza and we missed the Carr oyster supper

Nov. 12 Gene Tunney is dead at 80. My acquaintance with him was slight but enough to leave me with same dislike. Margaret is still in bed and I am the cook and housekeeper. Bob Perkins is dead at 78. A real loss to our community.

Nov. 13 The true nature of M's illness is revealed at last. She has gout, as proven by a swollen and very red big toe. She is still in bed and I am doing the marketing and cooking. So far we have not been poisoned. To Bob Perkins' funeral, or rather memorial service as he is to be buried in North Carolina. Saw Peter and Jane Packard. Pete has retired and they are back in Lexington Manor, the divorced son-in-law was one of the pallbearers.

Nov. 14, 1978 Kathryn came back today, a day early, so I have escaped from the kitchen. Sam has prescribed some pills for M-, so she is in less pain. Reading Smithers' "Joseph Addison"; a book which has been on my shelves for years. Although unlike in many ~~ways~~ respects Addison reminds one of Marlborough by reason of his great humanity, tact, industry and great competences

Nov. 15 Shopped in Leesburg. Fulton Hunt is very much depressed at his son, Elliot's, lack of progress. Fulton seems to think that there is no hope. Sarnet Kapuskie is dead at 79. John predeceased her but Nancy is still living

Nov. 16. A bad rainy day. M- is much better and even drove the car into Leesburg. Bankers Trust Company has sold 84 of its 109 branches to a Canadian bank and is henceforth to confine itself largely to wholesale banking a la Morgan Guaranty. The management was always ambivalent in its policy.

Nov. 17 More rain today. A blessed relief for our drought-scarred gardens. Reading Peter Quennell's "The Profane Virtues". Quite successful as literary journalism but not much of a contribution to criticism. John Wilkes is probably the most interesting of his subjects in the sense that he was really a conventional man in an unconventional rule, brought there in part by accident and in part by reaction to the mistakes of the new Hanover regime.

Nov. 18 We are getting The New York Times again after the break caused by a long strike. The Whites and Lewis Bate lunched with us. In the evening we went to a buffet supper at the Sel. Christs.

Nov. 19 Margaret was ill and could not take the Oatlands council bus trip to Stratford and Kenmore. A good visit to each and escorts by the directors, but I am not certain that we got much in the way of ideas for solving Oatlands' problems. Stratford seems to be doing well financially but Kenmore is having problems.

Nov. 20 Byron Farwell was encouraged recently by being asked to review books for Harper's Magazine but has been cast down again by Harper's termination of that department. Had an illuminating conversation with Frank Raflo about the finances of Leesburg and Loudoun county. Frank thinks that Leesburg is going heavily for unplanned growth and ill-considered debt burdens. Helped Vivian select books for gifts to Shenandoah college.

Nov. 21 The Isaacs brought us pre-christmas gifts of yellow tomato preserves and sweet mustard. Reading Dupree's life of John Galsworthy, stressing the effect on him of his marriage to his cousin's ex-wife (the prototype of Irene in "The Man of Property") one suspects that the biographer overemphasises the theme.

Nov. 22 We, together with the Freds, dined with the Frank Whites. our female American hollies, which grow rankly, have very few berries this year while the small male is covered. Terrible scandal in the garden

Nov. 23 Had our Thanksgiving dinner with Vivian Powers, the other guests being Dr. & Miss Talinn, Lucy Lockett, and the Earles. Dr. Talinn is about to give up his home and go to a retirement home. He told me a good deal about Manuel Quezon and his wife. He was Mrs Quezon's doctor.

Nov. 24 A cold, dark day. The Earles, Vivian Powers and the Dickson's dined with us tonight I am afraid that Lilly Earle is not at all well. Heart problems, I think. Reading Winston's "Jesting Apostle", a life of George Bernard Shaw. The author has accumulated many facts hitherto unknown to me, and tells his story well, but somehow fails to explain Shaw's unique performance. Biographers seldom do.

Nov. 25 To the 45th wedding anniversary party of the C.B Whites. They have held up amazingly well in recent years in spite of difficulties: poor health, Lige's illness and misadventures in his ministerial career and the cause of inflation which has in effect reduced their income

Nov. 26, 1978 Lunched with the Akres. As usual a large party. I was especially glad to meet Dr. & Mrs. Osborne B. Hardison. He is the new director of the Folger Library - and a member of the Grolier club. Reading Alice James' Diary, edited by Leon Edel. In spite of her bad health and semi-isolation she seems to have had more humor and passion than her celebrated brother, Henry.

Nov 27 Loretta's long problems with her health have restricted her activities to the point where she has been reading a great deal. Wilson has written to ask me to send her some books. Barbara Fred is very ill again.

Nov. 28 Mailed my check for Loudoun county taxes, $6500+. Elizabeth Harrell writes that she has been seriously ill, some kind of bladder problem, I believe. She and Donald have had a selection of Joe's poems published and are sending me a copy. It seems unlikely that Edyth will reach her mothers age.

Nov. 29 Working on our Christmas cards, a long job although we have struck off most of our local list. The New York prime rate has gone to 11½ %, a sour note for business. Round Hill has a water crisis. It is stringently rationing water, and the ~~second~~ recent drought has emptied its reservoirs. The lack of water in this area has always been a limiting factor in its growth rate.

Nov. 30 A warm sunny day. To Dr. Reuter this morning. He has built up a large urological practice in Loudoun County. The Liber Librorum, a new rare book store on New York, is offering a large number of Bien's chromo-lithographs of Audubon birds by the print. Our boat-tailed grackle is listed at $900.00 Tompkins ~~available~~ appraised ours, which is neatly framed, at $1000.00.

Dec. 1 We were at first disappointed by the milk from our new Jersey cow. It seemed far from rich, but it has now greatly improved in that respect. We hear that young Connell Harrison has left the ministry in his splinter church and is employed by United Parcel

Dec. 2, 1978 To a large party at the Buckardts'. Long conversation with Bill Allen about Manchester's life of MacArthur. He thinks that MacArthur corrupted the rightest politicians in his later years, rather than being corrupted by them as I have thought. Reading Peter Quennell's Hogarth's Progress for the second time. A good story, well told.

Dec. 3 Helen Williams has to go back for further surgery. We are afraid that the malignancy has returned. Reading C. B. Tinker's "Essays in Retrospect", pleasant little literary reflections probably weaned over from lectures to students. He must have been an effective and delightful teacher.

Dec. 4 A lovely warm day. Powell Harrison is working out plans for a committee to get a statue of General Marshall erected on our courthouse grounds. I have always been puzzled and annoyed that Loudoun county had so little interest in its greatest citizen. The old rightist Byrd influence is very strong.

Dec. 5 With M. to 7 Corners, Lord & Taylor, where I bought her Christmas present, two night gowns, one summer one and one heavier for winter. Reading Bredsdorff's "Hans Christian Anderson"; a most interesting biography. He was a most unusual man and his friendships most illuminating.

Dec. 6 I have an interesting letter from one, Joe. C. Reel, who writes from the office of the attorney general in Nashville. He is attempting to trace the descendants of the first Stephen Reel (who was my great-great grandfather). Joe C. Reel goes back to Dennis Reel, son of the first Stephen and therefore the uncle of my grandfather, Dennis Reel. This explains to some extent the name Dennis, which has always puzzled us.

Dec. 7 Reading Flexner's "The Young Hamilton"; an illuminating and comprehensive account of Hamilton's origins and earlier years. A brilliant thesis but leaves me with doubts. It does in a way explain Hamilton's oversensitive personality.

Dec. 8, 1978 To the Southern States coop. sale, but the only substantial purchase was a garden cart to replace our veteran of more than 20 years. The Safeway has produced a case of lichfraumilch for us at $2.09 per bottle. We have a Christmas card and note from the the Stevens, who appear to be well but very sad that Sydney's retirement from the Prudential Board cuts their income and opportunities for travel.

Dec. 9 I have finished writing our Christmas cards. We are rejoicing that the doctors have given Helen Williams a clean bill of health. My weight is down to 171 pounds; but Sam says that I should continue the diazide pills.

Dec. 10 We had a dinner party of 25 tonight and will have another next week. In fact we are trying to make up for months of neglect. Very gay and frivolous. The Eyssels are great additions to our local scene, urbane, good humored and gay. The Powell Harrisons are also most cooperative guests.

Dec. 11 Mrs Eleanor, who helps out in large parties, is also coach of our county jail. She says that she always has 500 or more prisoners, many of whom are in for passing calf checks. Continuing on Flexner young Hamilton. It is interesting that he, like many other highly gifted men, had few close friends. He, for instance, apparently never liked Washington and was not even liked by W—.

Dec. 12 M. has the Garden club members here today making Christmas wreaths, always a large and happy party. I tell her that my amantillado is the drawing card. Elmer Stahr has an article in The American about his retirement as President of the Audubon Society. Elmer sees himself as a one man environmental champion.

Dec. 13 Irene Stone writes that Dee is "completely disabled", by which I suppose she means that he has had a stroke or mental failure. It is bitter to think of such a strong and affectionate personality struck down by age. They presumably mean to stay at home this winter

Dec. 14, 1978 Wyndham is becoming a haven for all the grey squirrels in this area, and dogs seem to welcome them and they are robbing our bird feeders. Reading Billington's life of Frederick Jackson Turner. His fame rested to a considerable extent on unproven theories but he must have been a really great teacher with a passion for history.

Dec. 15 President Carter has put the cat in the pigeon house. He is establishing formal diplomatic relations with the Chinese and terminating diplomatic recognition with Taiwan. The Chinese Lobby seems broken at last. Our most fantastic blunder of the last century was our love affair with Chiang and his gang.

Dec 16 Tulmadge Foreman has killed himself, using a pistol in his own back yard. He has been increasing pain and declining health for several years and could not, I suppose, face becoming a cripple and dependent on his family. I hope that Virginia is not too hurt.

Dec. 17 Another dinner party for 25. Very gay and congenial. Long talk with Phil Hulbert, who is, however, somewhat gloomy. His neighbors dogs have been killing his sheep and he finds it increasingly difficult to get help in his farm work.
Dec. 18 Mrs. George C. Marshall is dead at 96. Mallie and Jim Winn were among our guests last night and Mallie told me that her mother was very ill. She told me many amusing stories about her Mother and the General. We have had our 8 foot Norway spruce stolen from our west lawn. Presumably some neighbor wanted a Christmas tree. The trainer lost, and we found, a string purse with 38 caliber pistol shells.
Dec. 19 I see in the Times that the Carter Administration consulted Herbert Brownell before terminating the defense treaty with Taiwan, at least as to the technique involved. Herb advised using the one year notice provision. This was very good advice, not because there was any real moral obligation but because it defused the Kook conservatives.
The whole fuss seems to be subsiding.

Dec. 20, 1978 Reading the late Margaret Leech's "The Garfield orbit". Her production was small but always excellent. Garfield's career is worth a good deal of study as a type. It interested me that he, as a lay preacher of the disciples of Christ (perhaps one should say a "part-time preacher"), always read the ~~old~~ Christian Standard - which was still a leading church paper when I was a boy.

Dec. 21 Andrew Miller has given up in the senatorial race. He couldn't raise the money required for a recount. The New York prime rate has gone up to 11 3/4%. I see where the contents of Ben Sonnenberg's house on Gramercy Park (he died a few months ago) are going to be sold at Sotheby-Parke-Bernet.

Dec. 22 To a large party at the MacDonalds. Good and unusual food. Reading David Dickes "Two Worlds", the story of his early life in Edinburgh where his father was a rabbi. Dickes really had the best of the two worlds.

Dec. 23 We dined with Eliza beth Riley, who had with her Brooks and Barry and his family. Brooks says that Peter Mayer, her ex-fiance, whom we liked very much, is now in London as the head of Penguin's International Division. We, and I think Eliza beth, were much taken with Peter, but, as nearly as I can make out, he was too much of a heavy father patriarch for Brooks. Long talk about our favorite poets, Rosemary being the most knowledgable among us.

Dec. 24 We, as usual, had our Christmas Eve dinner with Sevie Bate and her family. The Acaesons were all there except the eldest son who is in Singapore for his bank. The twins are very pretty girls, just on the point of becoming young women. Jackie was very pretty in a handsome new frock. As usual we read last years predictions, which were not very accurate, and made new ones for 1979. Reading Leslie Stephen's little book on Pope. Competent and accurate, as Stephens always is, but never warm and understanding.

Dec. 25, 1978 As usual we had our Christmas dinner with the Freds. Martha and Baxter Ward and the younger Freds were also there. Barbara seems much better and even cheerful. So many of our friends are gone or infirm that we feel like wounded and exhausted soldiers retreating after a hard campaign.

Dec. 26 The Isaacs and Whites dined with us. Frank is getting feebler but his mind seems more alert. He surprises me during our conversations by occasionally interjecting a most penetrating comment. Gerald Brophy is dead at 77. He was in a nursing home. Gerry was a lawyer of great ability and energy, but a few personality defects held him back from the highest rank.

Dec. 27 Hill Shine, twice widowed, is marrying again at about 80. His bride has also had two earlier husbands. To a large party at the Tynes. Lacey is much recovered from his long and painful illness. Bessie Mack is also better.

Dec. 28 Mailed 4 cartons of books to U.K., including the large and heavy Durrey's Greece. Bought a steer for Thompson from Tom Melay 78¢ per lb, double last year's price.
Dec. 29 Mack Arrington is dead at 81. Uldene survives him as well as 3 daughters and some grandchildren. To a large supper party at the Eyssels, given in honor of a friend from Iceland. The lady took some time with me about the defects of the Norwegians, who are said to be materialistic, and the Americans who are said to be stupid and gullible.
Dec. 30 Today is Margaret's 78th birthday. Fortunately, she looks and acts much younger. We hang on at Woodburn, which is much too large for us, and she continues to keep the place in good order. Fortunately, our help, Thompson, Rinker and ~~Thompson~~ Kathryn help out a great deal.
Dec. 31. The Wants and Elizabeth Riley dined with us. Dorothy is deeply hurt by her son, Elliot's, illness, a cancer which offers no hope. Fulton, although very sad, is bearing up but Dorothy is inconsolable. Margaret went ~~going~~ to be at 10 P.M. and I managed to stay up until eleven.

1979

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✓ Sacco, Shakespeares English Kings
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✓ Josephson, The Money Lords
✓ Wilcox, Marathon
✓ Thane, Homecoming
✓ Hogen, Night Rider
✓ Renault, The Mask of Apollo
✓ Gardner, Life and Times of Chaucer
✓ Weller, The Last Days of the Club
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✓ Hatch, The Byrds of Virginia
✓ Waltari, The Egyptian
✓ Renault, The Last of the Wine
✓ White, E.B. Letters

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✓ Canfield, Up and Down and Around
✓ Wilder, The Eighth Day
✓ Boswell, Life of Johnson, Vol. 1
✓ Macaulay, History of England, Vol 1
✓ " " " " " 2
✓ Woodham Smith, The Reason Why
✓ Cooke, Six Men
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✓ Krutch, Ed., The Gardeners World
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✓ ~~Bellamy~~ Pearson, The Bellamy Saga
✓ Morrison, Song of Solomon
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✓ Pollard, Mrs. Gaskell
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✓ Hofstadter, America at 1750
✓ Bellairs, Nuit d' Epouvante

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✓ Michener, The Source
✓ Ridge, The Love of a Rose
✓ Greenslet, under the Bridge
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✓ Morgan, Virginians At Home
✓ Lockhart, Memoirs of Sir Walter Scott, Vol I
✓ Kilpatrick, The Foxes Union
✓ Tolstoi, Anna Karenina
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✓ Balderman, The Ends of Power
✓ Scott, Waverly
✓ Burns, Portrait of a Banker
✓ Churchill, The Year the World Went Mad
✓ Taylor, The Fall of the Dynasties
✓ Galsworthy, "Forsyte Change"
✓ Isaacs, Compromising Positions
✓ McClintock, Stealing from the Rich
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✓ Habakkuk, The Age of Capital - 1845-75
✓ Forster, A Room with a View
✓ Mandel + Frankel, Dr. Sketches
✓ Irving, The World According to Garp
✓ Churchill, Marlborough - His Life + Times
✓ Saint-Simon, Memoirs (Arkwright Ed) Vol 1
✓ " " " " " 2

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✓ Saint Simon, Memoirs, Vol. 3
✓ Rouse, The Early Churchills
✓ Freeling, The Bugles Blowing
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✓ James, Death of an Expert Witness
✓ Morton, Robert Carter of Nomini Hall
✓ Dowdey, The Virginia Dynasties
✓ Wilson, Letters on Literature & Politics 1912-73
✓ Dowdey, The Great Plantation
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✓ Hardy, The Mayor of Casterbridge
✓ Weinstein, Perjury - The Hiss-Chambers case
✓ Cecil, The Victorian Novelists
✓ Tuchman, A Distant Mirror
✓ Michener, Chesapeake
✓ Auchincloss, The Dark Lady
✓ Lash Roosevelt and Churchill, 1939-1941
✓ Merk, History of the Westward Movement
✓ Manchester, American Caesar
✓ Hagedorn, The Roosevelt Family of Sagamore Hill
✓ Stern, Gold and Iron
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✓ Dobell, Sidelights on Charles Lamb
✓ La Roche, Centenary at Julna
✓ Depew, My Memories of 80 years
✓ Smithers, Joseph Addison
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✓ Quennell, The Profane Virtues
✓ Dupree, John Galsworthy
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✓ Alice James (Edel, Editor) Diary
✓ Quennell, Hogarth's Progress
✓ Tinker, Essays in Retrospect

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✓ Bredsdorff, Hans Christian Anderson
✓ Flexner, The Young Hamilton
✓ Billington, Frederick Jackson Turner
✓ Leech, The Garfield orbit
✓ Daiches, Two Worlds
✓ Stephens, Rape

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✓ James, Rasberry
✓ Bauer, Family Portrait
✓ Margot Asquith, Autobiography
✓ " " More or less About Myself
✓ Wagenknecht, James Russell Lowell
✓ Kunz, La Chere Emma
✓ Quincy, Figures of the Past
✓ Deaton, Salamon's New Men
✓ Bailey, Secrets
✓ Remini, Andrew Jackson
✓ Renault, The Praise Singer
✓ Bunbank and Hall, The Harvest of the years
✓ Barber, The Sultans
✓ Updike, The Coup
✓ O'Donnell, The Bunker
✓ Boule, The Bridge over the River Kwai
✓ Updike, Rum, Rabbit, Run
✓ Lee, The Edge of Day
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✓ Thorp, The Peabody Sisters of Salem
✓ Virginia Woolf, Diary, Vol. 1

January 1, 1979 We lunched with Alice Whitley today, having taken Doris and Frank with us. Alice seems to be very happy in her little house. It was originally rehabilitated by Charlotte Cihl for Mary Sparrow, who spent her last years there Elizabeth Riley also there. Jan. 2 Very cold. Writing checks. Reading James' life of Lord Rosebery. James has done a good job and the book shows both ample research and careful plotting but one is still not satisfied. Perhaps no one can really understand Rosebery. Like MacArthur his best is very, very good and his bad is very, very bad. Jan. 3 Continued very cold. Reading Katherine Dinner Bauer's "Family Portrait". A very well written book. She doesn't even mention that Harry Dinner was a Trollope scandal. I met him and had him spat at The Ladies Club. Mrs. Bauer herself may have been even more gifted than her siblings. Her book on Bacon was a failure but that on Cabe was excellent.

Jan. 4 De Forest Billyou, a scholarly young lawyer I knew 25 years ago, is dead at 58. He was, as I recall it, at Cravath's office when I knew him, but under I.T.&T. when he died. Tom Meloy is dead at 84. When I saw him last, a few weeks ago, he was full of plans for the future, including the purchase of more farm land so that he could make some profits and avoid being classed for tax purposes as a "gentleman farmer".

Jan. 5 Mrs Gregory listed in her current catalogue 4 volumes of Curtis' Botanical Magazine at $950.00. My set, 65 volumes in all, cost me $408.00 in the 50's. My set has a few defective bindings but repairs would be prohibitively expensive

Jan. 6 Dinner with the Packards. Pete says that it isn't true that he stirred up all the trouble in Iran and then skipped out. Most of the guests were his old airforce friends, including a delightful Cal. and Mrs. Falk. Cal. Falk has some interesting ideas on how to gather and store solar heat, including large containers of stone or water.

Jan. 7, 1979 At home all day. Reading Margot Asquith's Autobiography. It is hard now to see why the book stirred up so much annoyance in the 20s. There are some pussy pages but on the whole I find it, on this rereading after so many years, naive and appealing. Some of her group were called "The Souls" and the term was most appropriate for her.

Jan. 8 The explosion of anger from the ultra-right over Carter's termination of the Taiwan defense treaty seems to petulant. The right gets its financial support from American business men and they now smell profits in doing business with the mainland of China.

Jan. 9 Thompson brought me a smoked hog jowl. I like it best of all cured pork, especially for seasoning for greens. Reading Margot Asquith's "More or Less about Myself", which I find even more interesting than her autobiography. Her last years must have been grim and dull.

Jan. 10 Bought 1250 gallons of fuel oil to replace that burnt since October. We should do something about our drafty old house, but I do not know how. Broccoli is now $1.00 per pound at the Safeway. Of all places I know Virginia is best for the culture of vegetables, poultry and pork, but no one (except a small remnant of farmers) raises any food.

Jan. 11 A light snow. The Fords dined with us to discuss plans for the Mexican trip. Reading Wagenknecht's life of James Russell Lowell. Full of interesting information but the biographer seems not to have liked Lowell very much. He does correct one illusion that Lowell was a rich man. One still has a feeling however, that family added greatly to his prestige.

Jan. 12 William Yandell Elliott is dead at 82. After his retirement from Harvard Bill lived at Waynesboro, Va. He attained great prestige at Harvard (where he tutored Henry Kissinger et al) and in his governmental jobs but he has always seemed to me far below Turner and Hart.

Jan. 13, 1979 Reading Laroc's "La Chere Emma", the French translation of the English detelective-story writer. Paul Miller has sent me a small booklet printed by the King Library Press in 1978, being a reprint of a draft in the library of Audubon's "Powers of ~~Reflection~~ Recollection", being a story of Daniel Boone's memory of an earlier survey made by Boone.

Jan. 14 Reading Quincys "Figures of the Past", a charming volume of reminiscences of such early Americans as John and John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, General Jackson, Caleb Cushing, Pickering et al. New England at its best but a little sugary. Saw the exiled Iranian Moslem leader, Khomeni on television. I am afraid that we are seeing the beginning of another "holy" war.

Jan. 15 Mary Emma retired as of Jan. 1. She has had a hard life and I hope that she can now have some fun. She is planning to do some travelling and, according to family gossip, has a new suitor.

Jan. 16 Finished my report on agricultural workers and gave W-2s to Thompson and Rinker. Patricia Anderson's new book, a thinly fictionized story of the Carter family, has aroused much comment as well as losing Ann's White House job. Like many other romans a clef the book is probably a mistake. An exposé should be open and the reader should not be required to guess as to what is fact and what is fiction.

Jan. 17 I have a good letter from Helene Elliot Arrington, to whom I had written when Mack, her husband, died. She reminded me that when we were children we had a playhouse in Aunt Mary's Banana tree. Reading Healan's "Salaman's New Men", a somewhat disappointing book which emphasizes the role of the scribes.

Jan. 18 Marvis Hadley's death at 84 removes another major figure from the New York Bar. He was active until 3 years ago. Reading E. Lee Bailey's "Secrets", a slow starter which builds up suspense and approval. I have decided that my life at the bar was on the quiet and restrained side.

Jan. 19, 1979 We have a letter and snapshot from Elizabeth Dantch, who says that she has just recovered from a serious illness. Frank Silchrist came by to give me some magazines about the radio and television preachers who are making so much noise now. The real hoops have almost pushed off the stage the old frauds like Billy Graham and Norman Vincent Peale.

Jan. 20 Snow and blustery weather reduced our dinner party tonight to three couples: the Flemmings, the Akres and the Baines. Alice, whose feminine crusade never falters, is annoyed by the jury's acquittal of the man accused of raping his wife. Incidentally, the couple is now reconciled and she is back in the harem.

Jan. 21 Warm and rainy. Took Kathryn home on icy roads. Reading Robert V. Remini's Andrew Jackson, which brings Jackson to 1821. A good story but too much echoed comment. Jackson appears as a stern but not vindictive father to the Indians.

Jan. 22 Clarence Cooper, an old pupil of mine at ascar, is in the hospital in Memphis, having had another heart attack. Clarence, with the help of industrious sons, has been very successful and owns some valuable Ballard county land.

Jan. 23 Margaret, having given up on Sam's efforts to cure her intestinal problems, has gone to Dr. Swen Steeley, a Scot and graduate of a Scottish medical school. Reading Mary Renault's "The Praise Singer", a fictionized biography of Simonides. Her books are always interesting but this seems one of the lighter ones. One feels, for instance, that Pisistratus was not quite like the characters she describes.

Jan. 24 Louise is marooned at Jackie's, unable to get to Chicago because of the snow there. Reports it is mostly because television spreads bad news but one gets the impression that our weather here is better than anywhere else in the county. We have been had a good deal of rain, making for good plant growth this year.

Jan. 25, 1979 To Dr. Reuter, who has returned from a refreshing vacation in Egypt, with a cruise in the Mediterranean. My blood pressure is 144 over 80. Big John Connally has announced for the Republican nomination for the presidency next year. He seems to have attracted support from Herbert Brownell, Thomas Mosser and a few others, but I suspect Ralph Yarborough was correct when he said, at the time Connally joined the Nixon cabinet, that this was the first time on recorded history that a rat had swum out to a sinking ship.

Jan. 26 Vivian dined with us. Sue and Catherine Riddle are going to Nice for a winter vacation. Nelson has sent on to me a letter from Clyde Reeves, who is retiring after 32 years from his state at Le Mars, Ia.

Jan. 27 Nelson Rockefeller has died of heart failure. He almost made the presidency and probably would have done so had his great energy and ambition not been marred by hubris. His failure mirrors that of the Republican Party divided against itself.

Jan. 28 We have had four inches of powdery snow, fortunately now melting. Zellner's estate has paid $20,200.00 to the income beneficiaries this year, in addition to Bernice's annuity of $2400.00 and Louise's of $1800.00. Reading Burbank and Dall's "The Harvest of the years", the life of Luther Burbank. One's chief impression is that Burbank had an extraordinary clear and sensitive feel for plants and their ways. I wonder whether his new creations will continue true after years of cultivation and use.

Jan. 29 Reading Barber's The Sultans, the story of the Turkish sultans from Suleiman the Magnificent to Kamal Ataturk. Sketchy and superficial but with much interesting material. One wonders whether the Turks will ever have a stable government. The book confirms what I have always suspected - that the harem was a boring place for all.

Jan. 30 The New York Times and the TV screen are playing up stories of dumps of dangerous chemicals near Louisville. Unless something is done Loudoun County will become the dump heap for Washington.

Jan. 31, 1979 Teng, the vice premier of Mainland China, is making a state visit to this country to mark our recognition of his government after 30 years of make-believe on our part. I saw him on television tonight and found he had an attractive personality.

Feb. 1, 1979 Today is the 68th anniversary of this diary. It was begun at my desk near a western window on the second floor of the old school building in Burdana, the upper part of the school presided over by Annie Dahs. Elliot Want died at 7:30 this morning, bringing to an end many months of suffering from cancer. Dorothy, his mother, has been taken to the hospital with what may be a heart attack.

Feb. 2 Herbert A. Burst has become treasurer of ACF, which means, I suppose, that Wilbur Anderson has retired. Wilbur was a good man and did his job, but he was no Burdett. To see the Wants. Dorothy is at home again but in bed. Faulkner is also much shocked and grieved at Elliot's death.

Feb. 3 Sat off my 1979 personal property tax return to the commissioners of the Revenue. I have also sent to Mrs. Flint for typing a substantial part of my federal income tax return. Reading Updike's "The Coup". It is a highly stylized, often poetic story of a native of a fictional African country, Kush, and is often amusing but really a throw back to Anatole France and Norman Douglas.

Feb. 4 To Elliatte Want's interment. The formal funeral had been at his church in McLean when Elliatte had been an important member of the vestry. Elliattes death has been a disaster for his mother. We dined with the Farnells in Hillsboro, a charming party which included their daughter and an interesting young woman lawyer, whose name is Williams and who works in the office of the dedicated Edward Bennett Williams in Washington.

Feb. 5 The Barbers Club in New York is being discontinued. Many of its customers have moved uptown and many now eat in company dining rooms. Ella Christian Settle is dead at 92, the last of the once large Christian family.

Feb. 6, 1979 I have letters from the new editor of the proposed new edition of Coleridge's poems, Griggs' successor, and from a man who is writing the life of Charles Allier. Reading James R. O'Donnells "The Bunker". The story of the last days of Hitler is an old one now but O'Donnell manages to get in some interesting stories.

Feb. 7 As we fly from Dulles early in the morning the Feds and ourselves had engaged rooms at the Dulles Marriot Hotel. It began to snow badly in the early morning so we had Thompson take Kathryn home, the dogs to Miss de Butts and then us to the Hotel, where the Feds had already preceded us.

Feb 8 The whole Washington area is covered with a heavy mountain but we got away on time on American Airlines and were in Tucson in the afternoon. We put up again at the Sandman Hotel and had dinner at Charro's restaurant. Tucson looks somewhat down at the heel as though the winter had been a bad one.

Feb. 9 The Akres, who were visiting friends in Tucson, met us at the airport. The Sonora Desert, seen from the plane, looked especially forbidding. We were at the Hotel Playa de Cortes in time for lunch. The Freds are on the ground level, since Ethel finds stairs difficult, and the Akres and we are in good rooms on the East quadrangle.

Feb. 10 It seems warmer here this year than at the same time last year. Both yesterday and today have been sunny and the bay sparkles cheerfully. We have seen no fishermen as yet. So far as we can tell the personnel at the Hotel remains the same, including Fernando and Salvador at the desk and Armando the head waiter.

Feb 11 Reading Boulle's The Bridge over the River Kwai", one of the better standardized suspense novels based on World War II. The action is fast and credible and the characters seem attractive. When we were here last year the large room west of the office was being rebuilt into what we thought was a television room. It is actually a dance hall.

Feb. 12, 1979 Shopping in Sayonas, as usual an unsatisfactory process. The supermarket is undoubtedly better that the old shops but the inventory is low and prices for branded goods are high by American standards. Liquor seems higher than last year.

Feb. 13 Today we rented a car from Budget Leasing and drove to Alamos, a very old town being restored and maintained a la Waterford. Had an excellent lunch at the De Los Tesoros, visited the local church and drove about the town to enjoy the local architecture, said to be in the Andalusian styles. There is said to be an American colony here but we saw none.

Feb. 14 Warm and sunny. The orange trees are loaded with golden fruit, while simultaneously blossoming. The fruits, judging by my one sampling, is not too palatable. Reading updike's "Run, Rabbit Run, a splendidly written but confusing book. Our canine friend of last year, Mama the Mexican" is back with us.

Feb. 15 Margaret has a touch of dysentery, a mishap we avoided last year, and as miserables. Chuck and Anne, much more active than the Feds and Reds, have succeeded in getting the tennis courts put in order. Anne is also swimming in the pool. I am finishing my rereading of Douglas' "South Wind", a very dated book.

Feb. 16 Reading Laurie Lee's "The Edge of Day", the story of a boyhood in England, full of life and detail. The pelicans are full of life and audacity, searching the area for food. Strangely enough we see few gulls here. Perhaps this seems inland to them.

Feb 17 We have met fewer people this year than last. Perhaps our group seems to be full and self-centered. No one seems to be fishing and the tennis courts are unused except by the Akros. There are a few more Mexicans than last year. Every Mexican I have seen has very black hair, presumably the heritage of their ancestry. A few new houses have been built near the hotel.

Feb 18, 1979 I now have dysentery although I have been quite careful about salads and fresh fruits. Reading Plutarch's Theseus, Lycurgus and Solon. I wish that my education had included more Greek. Margaret now has a cold.

Feb. 19 We rented a car again today and drove to San Cristobal, also visiting the fine beach where "Catch 22" was filmed. An interesting place but now deserted. Margaret's cold is worse. Reading James Haskins life of Scott Joplin. Although we knew something of ragtime as a boy, and I faintly remember the Tiger Rag, I cannot remember ever hearing Scott Joplin in those days

Feb. 20 We hear that the Washington area has had intense cold and five feet of snow. The Ashes, Freds and ourselves have found it convenient to have our drinks in our rooms, all having vodka and tonic except me. Dubonnet is reasonably priced but sherry is scarce and very expensive. Most people drink tequila.

Feb. 21 With the weather a little cooler we have been having a fire in our fireplace. It takes a good deal of nagging to keep in wood, which is largely driftwood and very hard. It makes a warm fire. We have a number of Canadians here, including one couple from Vancouver who speak very slightingly of Trudeau. They dislike French Canadians very much and Trudeau's chief sin is that he is one.

Feb. 22 We have a letter from Doris White, which, in addition to telling about the bad weather, has an extraordinary piece of news. Lige White and Anita Groft are betrothed. He is devoted to trains and besides is a divorced Episcopalian minister. She is devoted to horses and her friends are horsy. She is very pretty and seems to be charming, so I hope they will be happy.

Feb. 23 We saw the Akers off at noon but by dinner they were back again, their plane having been canceled. They plan to leave early in the morning.

President Carter has been visiting in Mexico, where we hope to buy petroleum, but his visit has attracted little notice.

Feb. 24, 1974 The Times finally got off early this morning. Rereading Eudora Welty's "Losing Battles". She owes much to Faulkner, it seems to me, but manages to imitate his humor without his gloom and dreary intensity. The book is a parody but, allowing for that, it might have been written about a reunion of a Kentucky family.

Feb. 25 The bougainvillea and hibiscus have come out a good deal since we came here. The pepper trees are fine. Reading Heinrich Boll's "The Clown", a fascinating and convincing novel but not a very clear story. Perhaps the author meant only to provide vignettes.

Feb. 26 Shopped in Guaymas again. Finally succeeded in getting a small tube of denture adhesive at a high price. Reading "Tales of the Foreign Service", edited by one Hilton, an amusing group of true stories of hops and mishaps in foreign service.

Feb. 27 Among the friends we have made here are Mr. and Mrs. Peter Seeger. They are from near Vancouver, but came from Germany a few years ago. Mr. Seeger's uncle was a prisoner who was sent to canada during World War II. He liked the country so much that he persuaded his nephew to emigrate there.
Feb. 28 Rereading John Deans "Blind Ambition". As before I am torn with contrasting views: admiration for his ability and dislike of his personality. Since the Ahrens left we have been very quiet here and will be glad to leave. Rogers' hip problems make it difficult for him to walk or even stand and Ethel walks with great difficulty.
March 1 Ethel and Margaret have about exhausted the possibilities of the little dress shop at the hotel. M. bought only a blouse, but Ethel has bought a dress and other items, as well as a blanket and other articles from an itinerant vendor. A long letter from Barbara tells us how that they handled a bad snow in Loudoun county.

March 2, 1978 We flew to Tucson this afternoon, without any of the problems the Aires encountered. We are lodged at the Sandman Hotel again, and are eating at Carrans Restaurant. Barbara, reached by telephone, says that the weather in Loudoun is hotter and that the temperature is 60°.

March 3 We rented a car from an agency recommended by our motel and took a long drive, spending 2 hours at the Desert Museum and visiting Old Tucson. The Museum has a deceptive air of simplicity but is actually a large and well planned collection of cactus and other desert plants.

March 4 We drove to the Sabina canyon this morning and the Coronado National Forest. Took the bus ride along the river, which we found very interesting. We also walked the Nature Trail for a short distance, until our energies gave out, and tried to sort out the needles of desert plants there displayed.

March 5 We drove to Nogales today, with stops at Tubac, Sonaita, Green Valley and Patagonia. We were told at Tubac that the Kenyon Ranch was no longer in operation as a tourist resort, but that Sis Allen was believed to be alive but not well. We had lunch ~~at~~ in Patagonia in a fine restaurant maintained under the name Stage coach Stop. Sonaita looked entirely strange. Jane Church has a new house there but we did not call.

March 6 We had an uneventful flight to Dulles today but when we got there we found that all of our baggage and that of the Fredd had been misrouted to Indianapolis. We are at the Marriott Motel.

March 7 We came home this morning, having arranged for our luggage to be sent to Leesburg when it arrives. At home at 9:30 A.M. A fine, sunny day. On the whole the place looks well although the magnolia grandiflora is very brown. Emma Henley is dead at 92, having outlived her husband and Arnett, her only child, by many years.

March 8, 1979 Malcolm writes that Clare has been made Executive Editor of Classics, all of which would be very encouraging except for the probability that Classics will not survive much longer. Fulton Want came by to see us. He says that Dorothy has rallied somewhat from the deep depression following Elliott's death.

March 9 The Arkansas Gazette reports that Bailey Johnson is dead at 79 and Nettie (Barnette) Moss at 95. Nettie's brother, Duke, and sisters Belle, Lela and Hildene survive. Duke is almost 84 and I think that Belle is older.

March 10 The weather continues fine. We dined with Vivian, together with Alice Whitley and Katherine Riddell. Vivian has had great difficulty reorganizing her life since Jack's death and Katherine has been a great help to her. Rereading Daval's "Testaments of Time"; the story of the search for lost manuscripts, especially Egyptian, Greek and Roman documents. A fascinating and well told story.

March 11 We dined with the Brownriggs, together with the Akres, Elizabeth Riley and the Sweezeys. The Sweezeys seem to have greatly enjoyed their New Zealand trip. Mary Jane has had a recurrence of her malignancy but seems resigned and not too unhappy. She is a fervent catholic and her faith has helped.

March 12 our daffodils, tulips and Pussy willows are showing up well. Unfortunately our wild onion crop is even better. Eddie (Edwin D.) Ford is dead. Possibly one might call Eddie a genius, bearing in mind that many geniuses are eccentric.

March 13 Charlie (Charles D.) Breitel, having retired as chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, has became "of counsel" to Proskauer, Rose, Goetz & Mendelsohn. I hope he makes some money. A great judicial career does not bring monetary rewards. To see the Frank Whites. He has little animation. Mary Jane Brownrigg is facing another operation.

March 4, 1979 We have had our first major disaster at Washburn. Seven of Dailey Sutphin's black angus steers have died after eating yew clippings piled on the brush pile in front of our machine sheds. We have piled clippings there for 20 years with no adverse results. Dr. Robes opened two of the steers and confirmed my guess that it was yew poisoning. I hope that our insurance will pick up the loss.

Mon. 15 Powers Thomas offers one some hope that the insurance will pay for the steers. We dined with Alice Whitley tonight, together with Catherine Redd, Duncan Powers and Elizabeth Riley.

March 16 Jim Birchfield is back in the hospital, has had two operations and is in a critical condition. We have had a good laugh over a story about our good friend, the late Armus Reed Welbourne. We moved about some monuments in the cemetery adjoining his house. "Just a lot of Methodists anyway"

March 17 Had a long talk with Daley Sutphin about his steers. We have had a long and affectionate relationship with Lavender (who hauled water for ausplants in the drought of the 1960) Wendell and Evelyn and Daley, so he resolutely says that he will accept no money from me for the steers. But, of course, it is my fault and I shall certainly pay, hoping to re-coup by insurance.

March 18 Mrs. Robinett has put up a TV aerial for us, so now our old Zenith gives us clear pictures. Fred's house had a bad grass fire, scorching 5 acres and endangering several houses before being brought under control. Louis Loeb is dead at 80. He guided the legal actions for the New York Times for many years.

March 19 Sheldon Tefft writes that a friend is trying to get material for a memorial volume on Leaf Irey C. Cheshire who died last year in his middle 90s. Cheshire's major achievement was in real property but in my time we thought of him as largely interested in conflicts of laws.

March 20, 1979 Jewell aliver is dead at 77. The alivers lived diagonally across the road from us when we were all children and we were fond of Jewell and his brother, Kyle. Byron Farwell came over to see the library and stayed to lunch with us. This afternoon we went with Alfred Dennis to see Judge Alexanders old house, now on the market again, but we found it unsuitable.

March 21 Powers Thomas telephoned that the insurance company had approved my claim for the dead steers. The average weight and price, 650 lbs and 85c. Reading Tharp's The Peabody Sister of Salem, a fascinating book. Wonderful and wacky people. One suspects that they greatly influenced Hawthorne

March 22 To Dr. Reuter. He is an ardent horticulturist; and upon my telling him about the death of the ~~[illegible]~~ steers from eating yew cuttings, he said that cuttings from yews and wild cherries developed, in the wilt stage, cyanide. Dr. Reuter is especially interested in azaleas.

March 29 Reading Cooper's "J. B. Priestley: Portrait of an Author". A good job on the whole but not enough so to make Priestley exciting as an author or a man. Leslie Ford has had an accident while driving her car. She was only bruised a little but a school friend had a broken leg. The car, which cost $7,000.00 a few months ago, was a complete wreck.

March 30 The atomic reactor at Three Mile Island, near Harrisburg, Pa., is malfunctioning and is causing great excitement and fears of excess radiation etc. Marshall Hallaway always said that I felt, quite erroneously, that an atomic reactor was a form of an atomic bomb. It seems that I may have been right. The magnolia stellatas are flowering.

March 31 Another fine day. Reading Breasted's "Pioneer to the Past", Charles Breasted's life of his father James H. It seems to me that the elder Breasted, more than any other Egyptologist, understood the value of ancient history and the techniques of making that history available to us all.

April 1, 1979 our new real estate tax assessment leaves the basic values unchanged but slightly decreases the reduction provided for the use tax, i.e. the estate tax valuation is a little more. Henry Bourge of the Princeton Library, an old friend of the Stevens, is dead. To see Rene this afternoon. She is battered but unbowed.

April 2 John R. Bullock is dead. He had a distinguished legal career and was for a long time, I think, the senior partner in the Taft firm. James Thomas and his wife came out this afternoon with the check for $3867.50 for Daley Sutphin's steers. A happy solution for us.

April 3 Sat. my federal income tax return ready for mailing. Reading D. B. Wyndham Lewis "Emperor of the West", which starts out to be a biography of Charles V, but turns out to be an impassioned defense of the Catholic Church. The faults of the Church are admitted, but the results of the reformation are said to be chaos and anarchy.

April 4 To the oatlands council meeting, the first since November. The February meetings were called off because of the bad weather. This evening we dined with the Akres, who have the Fiedlers from Minorca as their house guests. Mr. Fiedler says that Minorca is not suitable for winter vacations.

April 5 Mailed my federal income tax return. Loretta writes that Hilson's arm is still troubling him so that he cannot write. Tonight we had a dinner party for the Akres and their guests the Fiedlers. The other guests were the Dietz, Wings and Dennises. Neva Wing says that ~~the Neva~~ her name is an anglicised form of a Spanish name. Her family were Spanish californians. one seldom meets any of them.

April 6 High and cold winds. The Holy Jalouette is coming out and seems to have stood the cold better than the star magnolias. Wilford Thragmarton, Eula Fandan's husband, is dead and Eula herself is critically ill. They are a little older than I, and Eula claims to have helped bathed me as a baby. A fantasy, I suspect.

April 7, 1979 Alice Whitley has sold her charming little house on Carnuall Street to the Fred Flemmings. She is on a waiting list for Swedish House and can stay on here for a year or so. The cold weather has ruined the bloom of the Yashinas. Reading Townsend's "The Last Emperor", which was lent me by the Dietz. A disappointment. The author spent too much time on a general history of the period, which he did rather sketchily, and too little on Tsuge VI, which he could have done well.

April 8 We had midday dinner with the Senators, the other guests being the Freds and Braunells. Mr. Braunell tells me that he has also lost some cattle from poisonous plants and feels Magnolia stellata and Yashinas are showing damage from the recent freeze.

April 9 Regular gasoline here is now 80½ per gallon. Reading Brandes' "Reminiscences of my childhood and youth. Pretty thin stuff on the whole but with some interesting comments on the period.

April 16 Filed my Virginia income tax return. June Brickfield says that Jim is much better although his eyesight is impaired. The Soil conservation people have paid me an additional amount for 1978, $68.25. I did not renew for 1979.

April 17 Kitty McGraw writes that Maynard Wheeler's condition is very serious. The cancer is apparently about to take him off. We had a long talk with Dave, who is discouraged and at a loss. She cannot get a private room at the nursing home until June 1 and she has to take Frank out of the hospital very soon. No one has any idea as to how long Frank will live.

April 18 Frank Marr came by and brought us a very handsome red leaf Japanese maple. A seedling, I think. John Biggs, Jr., a senior judge of the Federal court of Appeals is dead at 83. He was a close friend and executor of Scott Fitzgerald, the novelist. I had a brush with Biggs just before he went on the bench in the 30's, a struggle over Phyllason rights

April 19, 1979 We dined with Vivian last night together with the Wantos. Vivian has never adjusted to being a widow and seems always to be restless and wandering. We hear that the Edwards have sold their apartment in Florida, have bought a house there and are going to sell their house here. April 20 our daffodils and tulips are fine this year and the flowering crabs are about to pop. The drooping cherries were not very good. Jane and Peter Packard dined with us, together with their grandchild Tiffany. They have bought, as an investment, two houses in Green Valley, the resort at Tucson, Arizona, where we were last month. April 21 Frank White has been taken to the hospital again and the problem is how long he could be kept there. Davis came by tonight to discuss the matter. No proper room in the long term care units is now available but one is expected by June 1. Saw Jim Birchfield today. He is improving.

April 22 To early services at the eastlands church this morning. The plaque to Margaret Finley, donated by the eastlands council, was dedicated. our white flowering myrtle is full of flowers. The roofers have finished replacing the front half of our garage roof. The shingles (asphalt) had buckled.
April 23 Anna Mae Peal is dead at 73. I cannot remember having seen her in more than 50 years. For some reason she lacked the easy affection and camaraderie that characterized most of the Peal family. Mailed my farmers' return to the Bureau of the census. "old farmer Peal", no less.
Aug. 24 The Viburnum carlesii north of the wood house is coming out full and handsome and the same is true of the Viburnum trilobum around the reservoir. Both were carefully pruned last year. The Kwanzan cherries and dogwoods are blooming well. The Viburnum lantana and yellow top junipers are doing well. Jane Rogers has Japanese yews today

August 25, 1979 our Jersey cow has become a mother again and we are licking our chops over the prospect of milk. To the hospital to see Rene and Frank. Rene is going to Fort Meyer to be with the Webbs a week. Frank greeted his doctor with a statement that he was making a list of people he never wanted to see again, pointing out that the doctor's name headed the list.

April 26 We have had a good rain. To Mrs. Saunders' (Dutton's Mother's) funeral. Dinner with Vivian

April 27 Mr. Smith, Chuck's former partner, worked as a young lawyer for White & Case, and as a part of his work prepared Mr. White's income tax returns. Mr. White paid his income tax under protest as he considered the tax unconstitutional. The rain has washed away much of the bloom of the crabs. I hear that Connie has taken over the management of the Melay farm.

April 28 We had written to Kitty McShane to ask her to visit here and she telephoned today to fix a date. She says that she is not up to the trip. Very sad for a lady once so active. We dined with the Isaacs tonight. Maynard Wheeler is dead. Like my mother, I have outlived all the good doctors.

April 29 Lunched with the Dennises to help entertain a National Trust Group, a Mr. and Mrs. Jewett, Mrs. Philip Willkie (Wendell's daughter-in-law), Mr. & Mrs. Palmer and another couple. Discussed Wendell's career with Mrs. Willkie, who takes an objective view.

April 30 The Akres have put their place on the market, with an asking price of $347,500. This is an immense sum but the whole real estate market seems crazy. Reading Evelyn Waugh's "Put out More Trumpets", a stylized book redeemed to some extent by clever phrases and humor. The author seems to owe a good deal to Wodehouse and Meredith.

May 1, 1979 We are drinking Jersey milk again, thanks to our morose cow, Milkie hates people but feeds them. The plumbers, McCann, have been at work again trying to keep the cattages in water. I have had to buy a new water tanker. our poor barber, Raymond, has been badgered into cutting hair for senior citizens at $1.75, half the usual price. Since I see no reason why a poor colored man should subsidize me, I pay full price.

May 2 To the outlands council meeting. The National Trust has finally convinced us that we must incorporate and be quasi self supporting. Reading Lincoln's "A Streak of Luck", a life of Thomas A. Edison. Old Edison was a true genius but, as usual, he was also full of crazy ideas.

May 3 My small trees from Girard Nurseries are really superb, the best I have had in years. The Senoras have given us a trick elec light, the current switched on and off by touching the leaves of a plant.

May 4 Rain again. Makes us gloomy but is good for the garden. To the Thomas Balch book sale, but the pickings were fewer than in earlier years. Reading Irving et al "Anatomy of a Scandal".

May 5 The new tank in the miller's cottage did not solve the water problem. The spring appears to be O.K. but the water supply is spotty and discolored. It looks as though we may have to put in a new pipe. To a large dinner party at the Freds given in honor of the Lindquists. As usual Julia seems dissatisfied. They say that my old friend John Mathis, formerly of Lone Star cement and now the Lindquists' neighbor at Mathews, has been very sick.

May 6 We had a dinner party tonight for some of our younger friends (some of them are not even 60), including inter alia the Patches, the Lynches, the Devines, the Achesons, the Arthurs and the Mahons. Doris White also came to support the elderly hosts. We enjoyed the Patches very much and had almost tearful talk about the Fletchers.

May 7, 1979 I have a nice letter from Prof. F. H. Lawson thanking me for my reminiscences of Geoffrey Cheshire, which Lawson says he will use in his obituary of Cheshire for the British Academy. We dined at oak Hill together with Joe's brother and sister in law. An interesting couple from Madison, Wis. Joe gave me an interesting pamphlet on the centenary of Sullivan & Cromwell.

May 8 our clematis montana rubens is flowering profusely. We dined with Mary Zeiler, together with Frances Snodgrass, the Wantos and the Akres. Mary is enjoying her retirement, especially since all of her children are doing well. Frances says that she is hanging on to her form and coming out reasonably well.

May 9 A new waterpipe has been laid from the spring to the miller's cottage. I am terrified when I think of the cost. Anyway we have water. We hear that the Sudbrey land has been sold by the efforts of his son-in-law, Price Unknown.

May 10 The Garden Committee of Oatlands, of which I am the only man member, met and walked through the grounds, which are lovely this year. We then lunched with the Prendergasts at Oak Hill. The American box at Oak Hill and at Oatlands looks much better than ours. We hear that the Akres are asking $347,500 for their place. It seems to me that gas shortages may well drive down suburban values, so the Akres may have lost the peak.

May 11 Dined with the E. B. Whites for their baked shad dinner, an annual event. E. B. is an administrator c.t.a. of the Coleman Gore estate, which seems to be amazingly encumbered and complicated.

May 12 Spent the morning at Oatlands (members day) exhibiting to visitors specimens from the Levi P. Morton and Corcoran libraries. M. and Rene picked me up at 1:30. Rene is about to offer her place for sale, possibly at $400,000. She too may have lost her best market. We went this evening to the Phillips' large buffet at The Rescue Squad building.

May 13, 1979 A quiet day at home. ~~Our~~ locusts, both the black and the Hispidus are blooming. Rain. Reading Dalelan's Autobiography again. He was perhaps too versatile to be really good. Many of his ideas now seem naive and obsolete but one admires his industry and good will.

May 14 A long letter from Larry Thompson. His mother died in February at age 89. She was in bad shape in her later years. Larry and Ann are ~~separate~~ separated, amicably but apparently decisively. They never could work out a satisfactory living arrangement accommodating his work in U.K. and hers in Canada. Thus poor Larry, devoted to married life, has had three wives and lives alone.

May 15 The bloom of the American dogwoods is declining and that of the orientals is beginning. The Weigelias, calycanthus and white azaleas are also blooming. Heavy pruning of Weigelias last year have helped.

May 14 using Kleenex as our parking lot. Susan Jones telephoned that Howard Fellows has suffered some kind of seizure and can't come to our dinner party. Henry J. Walz died on April 27th. He must have been in his 90's.
May 17 To Dr. Reuter. Shopping in Leesburg. The Katsura tree we moved to the west lawn is flourishing. The same is true of other recently transplanted trees except that some of the Japanese yews have developed dead branches.
May 18 Janie Dimond came by to see us, seeming relieved now that her Leesburg house has been sold. Mr. Craighead tells me that his normal gasoline allocation has been cut 40%. Reading Grahame's "one man one vote", the story of Baker v. Carr. A little amateurish in both arrangement and narrative, but does bring out the Tennessee background. One is reminded of the monkey case of 1925 where good natured play was also part of the plot. I am not certain yet that Frankfurter was not right.

May 19, 1979 The Successors took Doris White and the Reals to the big lacrosse party at the Fields. The weather has been wet and dreary for two days, but fortunately cleared so that it was pleasant on the lawn. Fay Willcox says that she has put her house on the market and I hear that her price is high.

May 20 quiet day at home. Transplanted some seedling English yews and winter flowering jasmine. Reading Canat's "Streak of Luck", a biography of Thomas A. Edison. An amazing man. A tinkerer with great imagination and energy, all mixed up with cussedness and ignorance. Fortunately, he had no taste for political intrigue as mere money-making.

May 21 our asparagus took a real beating last winter and we have had to prune heavily, in one case almost to the ground. One also learned Moore's decisions in the Second circuit, appearing some secrecy as to jurors (called the arrangements jurors case) is attracting wide attention. He continues to be very active.

May 22 Reading volume 2 of Virginia Woolf's diary, lent to me by Barbara Fred. She had a great gift for illuminating an incident and finding a happy phrase, but her general personality and judgment leave much to be desired. The remarkable thing is that Keynes and Lytton Strachey clung to her. It was during this period that Vita Sackville West became a part of her life.
May 23 To Eastlands for a tour of the gardens with Miriam Rabb, Millicent West and Martha Lynch. We then dined with the Crowder guests at Oak Hill. The gardens are unusually fine this year. To my great regret I learned that Miriam Rabb is leaving Eastlands in September.
May 24 our substantial order of small trees from the Sinard Nursery has been sent very well. Almost all are large and vigorous and are doing well. Nice letter from Jack Burditt. He must be a little disappointed at the negative attitudes in the Republican party, but he says nothing.

May 25, 1979 ~~May 26~~ The Jones and Dicks dined with us. Helen Spinner and Howard Fellows had to beg off because of illness. Charlie, who is 5'2, is very distressed and resentful. He thinks that the energy crisis will destroy the value of farm land. He denounces our mutual friend Hank Meeker, for misleading statements about petroleum potential; also John Warner for being a parasite on ~~voters~~ unions and Howard Baker for his warning that petroleum may be nationalized.
May 24 The house that the Ballingers are building is coming along, so they may move soon. Reading Morris' "The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt", an interesting story well told.
May 27 To Elizabeth Riley's for cocktails. Douglas Phillips tells me that he has just had a cataract operation, performed efficiently and almost painlessly by Dr. Johnston. Alice Brooks seems to be fading rapidly, probably the early stages of arteriosclerosis.

May 28 our deutzia gracilis is uncommonly fine this year. unfortunately, the clerodendrons failed to come through, but they are surrounded by rootlings. We are trying to save geraline during the crisis. The oil companies are coming in for much criticism. of course many of the charges are not true, but they did muff the shale oil opportunity badly. They started and did not follow through and they discourage governmental development.

May 29 Snapped at the K-Mart our new freezing stock, for the first times. To my surprise I found some good merchandise at reasonable prices. Betty Semmes is running for supervisor. She is finding it impossible to make a living on her small farm and thinks that somehow the Board of Supervisors can save the farmers.

May 30 Rain again. Jimmy Wingo came by to see me and to borrow some books to read during his Arizona field trips this summer. oil seeming and developing. Jimmy has apparently finally decided to go in for physics - geology.

May 31, 1979 Rain again. Received two pairs of summer slacks ordered from Deland. our wrens seem very happy in the home provided for them on the woodhouse. The robins nesting in the wisteria on the gallery must be about ready to hatch out their young.

June 1 We picked ten pounds of strawberries at Sheaters self-help patch near Round Hill. McCann's bill for the new water pipe and tank etc at the Mellen cottage was $872.36, much less than I had expected. Frank White has to leave the hospital (his Medicare is running out) and that means Doris has to find a nursing home for him.

June 2 Marie Graves is in the hospital with a broken hip. As usual no one knows whether she fell and broke the hip or vice versa. Since Bill's death Marie has almost altogether given up normal activities, although she did get to Phoenix for a few weeks last winter. She seems to consume too many drugs.

June 3 We had a luncheon party today for 16, including the Whittons and Grenatas. Col. Grenata has, as usual, discovered that the atomic reactor accident at Three Mile Island was the result of a communist conspiracy; i.e. sabotage.

June 4 our 47th wedding anniversary. We must have been under the protection of a guardian angel to have lived together so long and so happily. To a meeting this evening of the Directors of the Loudoun County Historical Society. The new blood hasn't done much building for the old Society. John Lewis has sold his place, at a good price I hear.

June 5 Reading Telford Taylor's "Munich". As one might expect it is accurate, detailed and thoughtful, but I find its organization difficult and its style diffuse. This afternoon we signed up to put Woodburn in an agricultural district. I doubt much will be accomplished but perhaps we can repel a few developers. Bought a new television set for Kathryn's room

June 6, 1979 Thompson and Charlie have done some good work in cleaning up the patent house garden. During my walk there today Twiggy and the Ballenger's dog, Freckles, had a terrific dog fight, which distressed Mrs. Ballenger very much. In fact, Freckles was merely holding Twiggy and little blood was shed. Dined with the Isaacs, together with Mary Godfrey, Vivian and Vivian's friend, a Mrs. Wallace

June 7 Davis dined with us. The catalpa trees are unusually fine this year. Reading Reckmon's Setting National Priorities, the 1980 budget. Under the circumstances Carter has prepared a good budget but it will not be popular.

June 8 Dined with the Akres at Catalpa Grove, then went on to see the Waterford Players presentation of "The Merry Widow." The Wilkersons are leaving the area so this is their last performance. One of the Akres' guests was Mrs. Patterson, widow of one of the National Cash Register family.

June 9 Spent part of the day with Miss Barnes and Mr. Humphries working out details for the Hundred Mile Ride Saturday. As usual Woodburn will be the last stop. To the Finingers to see the Maces (Chuck, Helen and Bill) and then to dinner with them at the Laurel Brigades. Carter is to be married in October to a young man in the Atlanta office where Carter works. The Maces look very well.

June 10 To the Whittens, taking Davis with us, for a large party for Jay's engagement. A tempestuous rain enlivened the party. Bob keeps saying that he intends to retire but also continues to work.

June 11 The magnolia grandiflora is blooming with freshness but, alas, none of our winter-scarred specimens are flowering. The New York Times is publishing stories, calculated to produce a great scandal, about several hundred subway cars sold by Pullman to the city. George Green and Walter Berry, disgruntled, have alleged that the trucks of the cars are unsafe.

June 12, 1979 our philadelphus enchantment is in full bloom and the sorbaria Aitchisonii is beginning. Two of our Exbury azaleas are dead and another is in bad shape. Fortunately we have 3 extras. The bloom of the privet is unusually handsome this year.

June 13 one of the guests we met at the Akres recently was a young Mr. Elder who has purchased land and expects to build near Lovettsville. He is an assistant at the Folger Library. Tonight we had a dinner for ~~Frank~~ Blanche Sawyer. The other guests were the Freds and the Isaacs.

June 14 To Leesburg for a hair cut. Craighead, from whom we have bought gasoline for many years, tells me that his allocation has been cut 40%. Marie Crowens is in a bad way, probably the victim of a stroke. She has become a recluse since Bill's death, almost never leaving the house and sometimes unable to leave her bedroom for days at a time.

June 15 To Leesburg early this morning for gasoline. Early supper with the Reynolds and then with them to Wolf Trap to hear the Philadelphia Symphony directed by Eugene Ormandy. Ormandy, who is, I think, about to retire. We heard Prokofieff's classical symphony in D major and his Scythian suite as well as Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2.

June 16 M- saw Marie today and found her quite confused. Reading Leakey and Lewin's "People of the Lake". I had expected to find a story of the explorations made by the Leakeys around the lake, but found a somewhat boring study of evolution and anthropology. One suspects that the actual writing was done by a journalist who was a beginner.

June 17 To Washington with the Freds to lunch with Baxter and Martha Woods at the Washington Club, which is housed in the old Patterson house designed by Stanford White. The other guests were Miriam Leakey, who looks surprisingly well in her late 80s, and a Mrs. Dala, once secretary to Dean Acheson.

June 18, 1929 up early to get a tank of gasaline. Frank Mason is dead. He must have been getting into his late 80's. Probably his life has been very lonely since his beautiful wife, Ellen, died two years ago. Frank was a bright and interesting friend, although he had many cranky notions, finding a communist under every bush. He probably got many of these ideas reading for W.R. Hearst and for Herbert Hoovers in his sad later years

June 19 The Fiels have sold their place, where they have lived since 1950, and have taken a lease of the Hammond house, near owned by Mrs. Symington. They will eventually build or buy a new house. Neither of the Fiels are well and the big house is just too much for them.

June 20 ans Japanese iris is blooming. Not much of a stand but very cheerful and decorative. The chinese chestnuts and snake trees are also blooming. The Kentucky coral honeysuckle is blooming profusely.

June 21 Telephoned Fahnestock to sell 300 shares of Gulf oil. A disappointing investment although I did make a small profit. Mark Beach of Waterford, aged 62, has been killed in a sad accident. He was operating a brush hog on a slant when it turned over and mangled him fatally. Mark and Jill were divorcees when they married and so there are 3 sets of children
June 22 The Freds dined with us, and Rogers and I went on to an outlands conversation, with Bryan Farwell as the speaker. Bryan has some sort of job with the University of Virginia to study small municipalities (Bryan is mayor of Hillsboro) and has been touring the state. He has a very strong voice and an infectious cheerfulness.
June 23 We went to see Marie Cravens today. She was quite rational but suffering very much and feverishly calling for a pain killer. our mid century lilies are blooming. Since Charlie Rinker came back to us the place looks much better. He hates weeds and rubbish.

June
~~July~~ 24, 1979 Lunched with the Hunts, together with the Freds and Doris. Dorothy seems thinner day by day. Reading Berman and Weizmann's Ebla, the story of the excavation of a city of the 3rd millenium B.C. in Syria. Archaeologists and clergy and newspapers have had a field day trying to connect Ebla with the Bible story.
June 25 Our hypericum Hidcote is just beginning to bloom. Reading Kate Douglas Wiggin's "My Garden of Memory", an unknown but attractive book. She must have had an unusually attractive personality to have met and become friendly with so many people, beginning with Charles Dickens, who would not usually have been attracted to New Englanders.
June 26 Packing books for U.K. I read that the authorities in Ballard County indignantly repudiate the idea that revenue sharing should be abolished. Everyone is in favor of decreasing governmental spending until they try to cut it.

June 27 Up early to get gasoline. Mr. Robinette returned our color television after having had it for about a month. Mary Jane Isaacs has to go into the hospital tomorrow to prepare for an operation for ~~[illegible]~~ feared cancerous growths.

June 28 Mary Jane Brownrigg is in the hospital and is believed to be in a hopeless condition. This morning the Boyles arrived by bus from Washington, Brian and Sayle, and Stephen and Karen, Brian's children by his first wife. Brian is a black haired young man, looking younger than his middle thirties. Sayle seems to trying very hard to be a good stepmother and the children, especially Karen seem fond of her.

June 29 Took the Boyles over the grounds and the mill square. Brian is amazingly knowledgeable about planting. We then went to Marvin Park. As money is scarce there the season has been shortened and the staff reduced. The Boyle children seem interested in everything

June 30, 1979 We had a good and much needed rain. The news about Mary Jane is very bad. The Bayles lost boy has this morning. Brian is back at his old job at Reynolds Metal, but is ~~not~~ actually only interested in municipal government and hopes to get back in it.

July 1 Talked to Nilsan about the family reunion. In spite of the gasoline problem the whole family plans to go, including Mary Emma and Carol Sue with their new husbands. The Ahrens and Phil Brauening dined with us. The Ahrens leave tomorrow for Maine and do not seem to be worried about the gas crisis. Phil seems resigned but very sad about Mary Jane.

July 2 Mary Jane Isaacs has had her operation and the first news is good. No malignancy has been found. The New York Times says that the Sudberg land was sold for $3,150,000 to a half-brother of King Khalid of Saudi Arabia. Jane and Jim Birchfield came by to see us.

July 3 We dined with Vivian. Margaret has a virus attack which has left her quite miserable. Fortunately our weather has been cool so she can sleep well.

July 4 A wet foggy dog, which has no doubt spoiled many celebrations. Margaret is in bed with a virus attack so I went on alone to Anita Graf's house for a pre-natal party. She has a fine place, built as to house and grounds, and she and Hugo should be happy there. Reading Judge Sirica's "To Keep the Record Straight", a short autobiographic narrative followed by the story of the Watergate cases. A good story and well told in spite of some rained touches here and there.

July 5 Our social security payments are now adjusted to something just under $10,000.00 per annum. All pure welfare. Reading Felix Salten's "Bambi", a much animated book. The 20th century is a little late for animals who think and talk like vaguely religious and romantic humans.

July 6, 1979 Reading Halberstam, "The Powers that Be", the stories of Luce's Time etc, the Chandlers of the Los Angeles Times, C.B.S. and the Grahams of the Washington Post and Newsweek. My major reaction is alarm that so much power should be in small groups, especially Luce and the Chandlers. The author is too favorable to Luce, who did so much damage during the China debacle.

July 7 our robinia hispida is throwing up a good many roatlings in our vegetable patch. The Freds, Vivian and Doris dined with us tonight. Frank seems to be reconciled to the Charlestown nursing home.

July 8 To the oatlands chapel for the marriage of Lige White and Anita Graf. She is a radiant and vital young woman, one of the two masters of the Loudoun Hunt and an accomplished horse-woman. Lige, with his two daughters and thinning hair, is a lucky man. A nice reception at the Laurel Brigade.

July 9 Eula Fondaw Thorp-
morton is dead, having barely
survived her husband. I had
a telephone conversation with
her on one of my recent trips
to Lucerne and she claimed to
have hated me as a baby. Not
a very likely story as I am al-
most as old as she. We dined
with the Freds tonight. They
seem reconciled to leaving "Wide
Horizon" where the have lived
almost 30 years.

July 10 Don Rowling writes
that my old friend Walda
Root is dead. He was in
poor health 30 years ago.
Walda's chief claims to in-
terest were (i) that his sister
married Franklin P. Adams and
(ii) that his ancestor wrote so
many well known songs, in-
cluding "There's Music in the
Air". Mary Jane Brannigg is
sinking and Phil has given
up hope.

July 11 Reading the Memoirs of
Madame de la Tour du Pin,
surely one of the most lucid
and enjoyable books to come
down to us from the time of the
French Revolution. Her energy and
practical skills carried her safely
through the dangers that destroyed
so many of the French nobility.

July 12, 1979 Nice breeds and butter letters from Brian and Karen Boyle. Boyle is doing her best as a second wife and stepmother.

July 13 To ann Hill for the dinner to the William Averell Harrimans, after which we proceeded to a cottage where Mr. Harriman was the speaker at the "conversation". He is strongly in favor of the ratification by the United States Senate of the treaty with the Russians, "Salt II" conversation after dinner with Harman and George McGee. Both of them are afraid that, if the treaty is rejected, the hawks in the Kremlin will be strengthened

July 14 Shopping this morning. Then cocktails with Doris, Reading Herald's "Mistress to an Age", the life of Madame de Stael. Her place in history, while impressive, is dimmed to some extent by her sexual adventures, which were really not very important. Her real personality seems to have been shrewd and mannish.

July 15 To a lunch lemon party given by Evelyn and Albert Carr in honor of their son who has just married a German girl. She made a brave attempt to be the ~~best~~ forth-coming bride but her poor English put her at a disadvantage. Tonight we listened to President Carter's televised speech on the energy problem. At last he seems to have realized that the Federal Government has to intervene to enable us to escape from the vendors of imported oil.

July 16 I hear that the Winns want to sell Dodana Manor and have asked that the zoning be changed from residential to commercial. Since this was George C. Marshall's home, the only permanent one he ever had since his boyhood, we would like to have the Government purchase it as a national monument, but there seems to be little hope.

July 17 Doris and Vivian dined with us. Mary Jane died at 11:15 this morning. Fortunately she apparently felt little pain at the end. Mary Jane was perhaps, since Irene ~~Wilt~~ Wright's death, the most beloved person of our acquaintance.

July 18, 1979 To a large dinner party at the Russell Harrisons in honor of Thomas Kane, a landscape architect who has done some work for Oatlands. Burr Ridge, the Harrisons home, is itself a fine and careful bit of landscaping. The splendid views have been carefully preserved and great masses of rhododendron and azaleas have been used to good effect.

July 19 This morning we had a meeting at Oatlands of the Garden committee, at which we had Tom Kane as a guest. I then took the party to lunch at Reed Johnson's restaurant. Tonight we went to the funeral parlor to see the Brauninggs family, some of whom I had not seen for years.

July 20 With the Sweeneys to Mary Jane's funeral at the Middleburg Catholic church and then back for lunch. Ross Peril seems to be bearing up better than we had expected. To ask Hill tonight for the party for the John Lewises, who are moving in a few days to their new home in the Shenandoah Valley.

July 21 A hot muggy day. our magnolia grandiflora is blooming at last, although the flowering is meager. one fortunate thing this year, probably a legacy of two cold winters, is that we have very few Japanese beetles. Maybe we can reestablish the rose garden.

July 22 Weeding and hoeing. I can work only a few minutes at a time. our royal pagoda tree is blooming profusely. I had a talk with Joe Fisher a few nights ago about Carter's efforts at "fine-tuning" the economy. Joe is not as pessimistic as I about complicated economic moves, but does say that the necessity for legislative action complicates matters. Joe is about to introduce a new bill trying to solve the deadlock on gift-estate tax taxation.

July 23 With the Packards to Walptrap to hear a concert, with commentary, a la Victor Borge, by Fervanti & Teicher, two products of the Juilliard School in New York. The music was puzzling to M. and me but was much appreciated by the audience.

July 24, 1979 Reading Lord Beaverbrook's long-delayed life of Rudyard Kipling. A rewarding book but hardly a flattering one. The author and his son seem amazed at the unwillingness of Kipling's daughter to have the book published when it was finished 30 years ago, but to me her attitude is understandable. The book does one thing very well; it stresses Kipling's family connections, e.g. with Stanley Baldwin and Edward Burne-Jones.

July 25 Bernice writes that she is slowly regaining the 10 pounds she lost during her virus attack. The long expected package of books from the Strand Book Store has at last arrived. Reading Ireland's "The Great Shakespeare Forgery", the story of the young Ireland's fabrications.

July 26 Francis Christy is dead at 82; and I have just learned that Pat (Patrick J.) Hodgson died in December. "Chris" was a fine lawyer, careful and constructive. Pat was more of a business type, an insistent and imaginative man of sentiment and action.

July 27 The New York Times has a long story about the dissolution of Bibla & Tannen after 50 years of selling books. I have not seen much of the place in recent years but it has been an old favorite of mine since the 30's. Reading Charles Hamilton's Scribblers and Scoundrels, a pot-boiler about the sale of autographs.

July 28 David Farrell has sent me a first draft of the W. Hugh Peal bookplate, intended for use by U.K. Library. It is handsome enough except that the tobacco plant looks more like a thistle in the rosette stage than tobacco. To lunge cock tail and buffet at the Acheson's. Chippy was there with his new girl friend, so a marriage may be on the way.

July 29 Very hot. Struggling with the weeds in the carnal nursery. Reading Peter Quennells ~~at~~ autobiographical "The Marble Foot". An interesting but not exciting book. Like so many moderns P.Q. has eliminated much of the narrative interest by mercilessly pruning away the pretences and fiction so common 60 years ago.

July 30, 1974 Alice Whitley gave possession of her house today and spent the night with us before going on to Seaduin House tomorrow. Doris White joined us for dinner. Alice made a handsome profit on her house. She is finding it harder to keep house.

July 31 It continues very hot. We are combatting the weed problem by the use of black plastic in the nursery - as recommended by George Grossmon. Reading Quennells "The Sign of the Fish". He seems to have known many of the literary ~~Friends~~ individuals and groups of the 20s, 30s, 40s + 50s, but to have avoided too close an entanglement, especially with the Bloomsbury Group. His marriages seem to have been quite casual affairs.

Aug. 1 Very hot. The gasoline shortage is vanishing but we still have the odd-even days. Doris White is planning to move to Leesburg, the small house on the Devine property, for the winter and will probably sell her country house.

August 2 Paul M. Mazur of Lehman Brothers is dead at 84. The Times obituary gives much attention to his skill in retail business but does not mention his detective fiction, at one time much admired. Reading David Cecil's Jane Austen, a ~~long~~ long essay rather than a researched biography. Perhaps better than any other critic Cecil can understand her social circle and its effect on her books.

Aug. 3 Flew to Chicago this morning and was met at O'Hare by Jimmy Sacre and Larry Leger. Most of the out of towns guests are lodged at the Ramada Hotel in St. Charles, adjoining Seneca. Hilson, Louise, Bernice, the Sugers, the McCamases and Thursbys family are here. The Sacreys have a pleasant home on a shady road. Ann will go to college this year.

Aug. 4 "Little" Hugh Pratt is 6'1" tall and weighs 185 pounds. Tony Suger, about the same age is little than ~~5'10~~ 5 feet and correspondingly lighter. Bernice is much thinner but seems well. Larry and Jackie Suger seem much more mature but are still a handsome pair.

August 5, 1979 The Savages have ~~roof~~ provided food and drink for all the large family party for three days. Thursday drove me to O'Hare this afternoon and in spite of a long delay I managed to get from National to Dulles about 9:30. As Thompsons on vacation M- met me.

August 6 Rene is back at home, after spending two days in the hospital. Margaret chauffered her and tried to get her to stay with us, but she is going to Fort Meyer to be with the Webbs. Donley Moore is dead at 83. He was a veteran of World War I and made a career of the American Legion. Reading Bishop's "The Crown of Mexico." The whole Mexican adventure was as childlike as a fairy tale. If Maximillian had been an ordinary man instead of an Austrian Archduke he would have been sent to an asylum.

Aug. 7 Reading Christies "Le Corbeau sur la Nuque". Picking our string beans which are blooming and bearing profusely My back holds out only 30 minutes at a time over tomatoes and squash nearby bearing well.

August 8 The Esselstyns have bought 3 acres of land near Hamilton and will build a house there adopted from a Williamsburg house. We have a letter from Mary Watson, now Mary Manuel, who now lives in Fresno, California. She had remarried but her second husband is now deceased.
Aug. 9 Elizabeth Riley and Phil Brownigg dined with us. Phil seems calm and resigned, but admits to having some sleepless nights. I have another letter from Prof. J. C. C. Mays of university college, Dublin, about the Coleridge material he wants for his new edition of the poems. Due to a postal strike in Ireland he has only recently received the letter I wrote him in January.
Aug. 10 Vivian and Doris dined with us. Continued very hot. Reading Fuseli's "The Borgias". He portrays them as a grasping Spanish family with many good and many bad qualities, but seems to acquit them largely of the worst accusations, e.g. poisonings. Both of the popes seem to have been sincere in their attempts to save Europe from the Turks.

August 11, 1979 Mary Taylor took Elizabeth Riley, M- and me to Kennedy Center this afternoon to see "Every Good Boy Deserves a Favor", with Eli Wallach, René Auberjonois and R. Ramsay. The music was by André Previn. A queer play, the scene of which was a lunatic asylum. The music was good but too unusual to appeal much to me. I had a painful sensation in one of my legs, which frightened me.

August 12 To a large party given by Helena and Bill Patch, the guests all being old friends of Hermine and Bert Fletcher, Helena's parents. The Patches have greatly enlarged both their landholdings and their house.

Aug. 13 We went to see the Howards this evening. They are giving possession of their house on the 15th. Ed tells me that he made almost a $100,000.00 on his house, and he sold the Florida apartment for $95,000 as against a cost a few years ago of $35,000.00. Neither of the Howards is very well.

August 14 Susan Bacon writes that her father, Malcolm McMasters died of cancer in July. A sad blow, although we have seen little of him in recent years. Jim Wingo came to see me today. His parents have finally moved to their new house in McLean. Vivian spent the night with us. Lucy Lockett continues to telephone Vivian announcing her imminent arrival.

Aug. 15 Chase-Manhattan has raised its prime rate to 12%. The inbate speculative house will soon come tumbling down. Reading Quennell's "John Ruskin", a balanced and reasonable book which nevertheless recognizes the sadness of Ruskin's life, one sees again the extraordinary naiveté that often mixes itself into the most talented and industrious character. Possibly modern doctors could have cured Ruskin of course they might also eradicate his genius.

Aug. 16 Rogers Fred has at last resorted to a chiropractor for relief from great pain. He says that Joe (his cousin Dr Rogers) will disown him. We hear that the Akers have sold their place

August 17, 1979 Sent off a long letter and a collection of Coleridge photostats to Prof J. C. C. Mays who has taken over Griggs' unfinished edition of the Poems. Also the only important manuscript I have is the copy, said to be in Charles Lamb's hand, of "Youth and Age". There are some variants from the printed version.

Aug. 18 We saw a small deer on our west pasture today. They seem to be unusually in the area. Spent two hours cleaning daffodil bulbs. The Sweezeys came by to see us. But seems very restless. Our clematis paniculata is coming into bloom and perfumes the whole area.

Aug. 19 The Freels and Davis dined with us. One of the concorder fleet over us today making so much noise that I was afraid that windows might be broken. Fortunately the concorde planes are losing so much money that they will probably be discontinued. Nelson has traded his 1978 Impala for a 1979 one at a cost to him of only $1655.00.

Aug. 20 We have the itinerary for the English trip and find it quite exciting. Rain today. Jim Wingo came by to return books I lent him in the early summer. He seems determined to go to law school but will probably work for a year or two after graduating from M. I. T.

Aug. 21 We dined with Vivian tonight. Reading Michael Stevens' life of Vita Sackville West. Surprisingly the book almost entirely neglects V. S. W.'s writings on gardening (except the poetry) and also almost ignores the making of the gardens at Sissinghurst. Harold Nicholson gets very little attention in the book. The novels are, however, given due attention and a good deal is made of the relations with V. S. W's parents

Aug. 22 One of our Viburnum carlesii north of the wood house seems to be suffering from a blight, nature unknown. Reading Richard Hofstadter's "The American Political Tradition". In spite of the author's great reputation the book seems bloodless and abstract.

Aug. 23, 1979 We have this year found blue salvia and cleome to be a good combination, especially for the isolated spots so apt to be ugly. Salomon Brothers has published a study of the best investments in the last inflationary decade and has found that Chinese ceramics and rare ~~Tibetan~~ books lead the list.

Aug. 24 To outlands for the last of the conversations. This time Bill Chewning, our resident radio commentator, interviewed Tommy Jewell and several other young Loudoun county business people

Aug. 25 A dreary raing day. A watermelon vine on our compost heap has climbed to the garage roof and is producing some handsome melons. Reading Edgar Wallace's L'Affaire Walton. We lunched with Rene. She has reconciled herself to the sale of Dunrobin and has given away many of her possessions, but her freezer is still full to overflowing and she still has great zest and hopes.

August 26 Susan McMasters writes that Seback Van Steenburg died in May. Coral wrote us last year that Seback was hopelessly ill and had to be restrained. He was one of the finest physical specimens I have known and must have been pathetic in his final illness. We are also worried about Coral, who has not answered our letters - which is quite unlike her.

Aug. 27 Joan Seale telephoned. Rogers has been assigned to State Department service in Washington and Sam is to live with them there. He has reluctantly given up his apartment in Athens. Charlie Rinker is to work for us 3 days a week, having the additional day free since the Hammonds have left.

Aug. 28 With the Packards to Wolf Trap to see Rogers & Hammerstein's adaptation of Molnar's "Liliam". A remarkably good job considering the difficulty of presenting such a musical on the al fresco conditions at Wolf Trap. Joan Cunningham was very good as Julie and some of the dancing was excellent.

Aug. 29, 1979 Wet and foggy.
Rereading Arthur Krock's
"Memoirs". A man of many
contradictory qualities Krock
seems never to have enjoyed
his interesting life. In some
respects he was abler than
Scotty Reston, but he
lacked Reston's balance and
integrity. Reston has never
fallen for the left hook con-
servatism of the coolidge era
and he is less impressed
by the personal side of
political life.
Aug. 30 Inflation is gaining
on us. Butter is near more
than $2.00 per pound and farm
gasoline more than $1.58
per gallon. The prices should
result in some lessening in
demand. Reading Quennell's
"Alexander Pope", a sympathetic
presentation of a difficult
subject: one still wonders
how he as an eccentric and
a catholic fared as well as
he did in his time.
Aug. 31 We had a small din-
ner party tonight for the
Prendergasts and Dennises
Alfred has rallied splen-
didly from what we feared
was cancer. Eeda has just re-
turned from a summer in Norway.

September 1 To a large buffet at the Acheson's, birthday celebration for Lenie and two of her descendants. Patrick Anderson tells me that he will have a new book out in about a year, one following the line of interest of the book about assistants to the President. Patrick says that there was such stunted gossip about Estes Kefauver's flirtations

Sept. 2 Marie Craven has been taken to the same nursing home in Charles Town, W. Va. as Frank White. Reading Wagler's "Boy of Pigs". one shudders at the cross incompetence shown not only by the C. I. A but also by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Sept. 3 Frank Silcrist, who has an inquiring mind, has examined a specimen of reed size planting which we have always dismissed as Scotch broom, an examination and inquiry it turns out to be one of the lespedezas, bicolor I think. Reading E. H. Coleman's "Memories of my youth". He came a little too late for the early 19th century flowering in England and America, but he was alert to the opportunities he had.

Sept. 4, 1979 The berries on our viburnum Sieboldi are very fine, but the cornus stolonifera in the same bed are not giving us the color expected. Reading Hutton's Philip Augustus, a somewhat pedestrian and disappointing book. Perhaps no more could be expected from a patharler in a series, but the time was a fascinating one and stirs the imagination.

Sept. 5 Dined with Vivian, together with the Dietz. The small house which the Dietz have reconstructed on Cornwall St. is nearing completion. They will have about $80,000 in it when renovation is completed and cannot hope to

Sept. 6 Our electricity is still off. Took Helena Patch over our small nurseries to help her pick out some trees and shrubs. She and Bill lost some tulip poplars, which they had bought too large (a very difficult tree to transplant) and we are helping them with young evergreens and the like Bob Swezey is reported better.

Sept. 7. Mr. Faust, who worked on our trees a few years ago, came by to see me. He seems to have come originally from Tennessee. Prof. Mayo of Dublin has written to thank me for the Coleridge postcards. He seems to accept the idea that the text of "Youth and Age" written on the flyleaf of my "Biographia Literaria" is in the hand of Charles Lamb.

Sept. 8 To the Randall Harrisons for a big party for Miriam Rabb, who is leaving Oatlands at the end of this month. We had to park in a new place and I saw for the first time that the Harrisons have a fine cedrus Atlantica Argentea. Frank Marx, who was at the party, told me that he had supplied it to the Harrisons at the same time he sold us two, one of which, alas, died a few years ago.

Sept. 9 The New York prime rate has gone to 12 3/4 %. Bad news for business. Reading Samuel Warren's "Ten Thousand a Year." A poor book in many ways, with highly conventional characters, it is nevertheless interesting to lawyers because of its wealth of legal detail and sidelights on English social usages [illegible]

Sept 10, 1974 Cooler weather.
our leather leaf chrysanthemum on
the border of route 704 has
blooms ones but we hope to
save it by cutting it back
almost to the ground. We have
a letter from Michael Mc Master
written on behalf of his
mother in response to a
letter of condolence we had
written her when we heard of
Malcolm's death. Apparently
she is continuing on in her
house with Michael to help
her. Jean has been in bad
health for a long time and
must find life quite difficult.
Sept. 11 our fall flowers are
a disappointment this year,
largely perhaps because we
were not up to the effort
required to produce the usual
large masses of dahlias,
phlox, mums etc.
Sept. 12 Reading Henri Pi-
renne's Economic and So-
cial History of Medieval Europe.
It is difficult for an ignoramus
like me to understand Pirennes
great reputation. Perhaps he
understood better than others
the impact of the Moslem
advance into Europe and the
concurrent growth of the towns
and the great monasteries

Sept. 13 We dined with the Freds together with the Akres. The Freds will probably not go to Mexico this coming winter but the Akres may. Barbara's mother is in very bad health and is waiting for a room in a nursing home, which means that Barbara, herself in bad health, has to spend a great deal of her time caring for her mother. The prime rate at the Chase-Manhattan has gone to 13%

Sept. 14 Dined with Vincon, together with the Isaacs. The Isaacs are looking better but are worried because Sauge has to have new dentures at a cost of about $600.00. Roger Zylstra, who has bought the Eberle house and land (about 40 acres) for ~~$3~~ $325,000.00) wants to buy our Virts corner land or part of it as it adjoins the Eberle land and would protect his view as well as giving him farm land.

Sept. 15 We continue to get more dampness in the house as a result of defective guttering. The McIntyre Brothers are working on it. Our workmen's compensation policy premium has gone up to $532.00 per annum. Rene had a final big party today for her family.

Sept. 16, 1979 To the Wings for a large buffet supper. Very fine weather but a little too cold for a garden party - so we crowded into the house. Line White says that he and Anita have agreed that she would have no duties in connection with his clerical duties and he is to have no duties in connection with her horses. He says that he hasn't been on a horse yet.

Sept. 17 We had a last meeting of the Oatlands Council today, since we are about to convert ourselves into a non-profit corporation with greater control over Oatlands. Like many charitable foundations The National Trust for Historic Preservation is feeling the pinch of rising expenses and stationary or falling revenues. De Long Bowman is much worried about prospective drops in stock prices.

Sept. 18 our old friend Tommie Welch is dead at 85. Bonnie Dale survives. Aaron McElyea is dead at 63. Heart failure, I believe. The Bill Dennisons are building a new house, and we had guests there a number of times and stuck

Sept. 19 We dined with the Freds, together with the Akres. It is sad to remember that this may be our last dinner (last of many in the 30 years the Freds have been at Wide Horizon) since the Freds move in October.

Sept. 20 For several years I have been worried about the large silverleaf maple in the paddock, which has been slowly dying after being struck by lightning. With firewood becoming scarce a colored man on route 704 is taking it down for the wood. Roger Zylstra, who purchased the Eberle house and 40 acres of land for $325,000.00, has telephoned to ask whether we would sell him our 86 acres between the Eberle place and route 15. We have always regarded the land as our best hedge against inflation, but at our ages we would like some additional cash and less worry. In addition, I think that the steps being taken to reduce inflation may lead to severe deflation.

Sept. 21 We dined with Doris. She expects to move to the Devine cottage at the end of November and eventually will put the present place up for sale.

Sept. 22, 1979 Reading. The Freds came by to see us this afternoon. In view of the inadequacy of airplane food we had a light meal at home before leaving for Dulles. Phil Brownigg and Martha Lynch are already in England, so our party consisted of the Powell Harsons, Tom Kane, Joan Williams and the Peals. As usual we found the 747 made for midgets.

Sept. 23 Arrived at Heathrow very tired after a night on the B.O.A.C.S Boeing 747, not a civilized vehicle. Waited an hour for our luggage. Cashed $200.00 American Express check at $2.22 to the pound. Shared a taxi to Grosvenor House with Tom Kane. Cost £11. our room, at $154.00 per day, is nothing special. M and I had a walk in Shepherds Market and a poor lunch of goulash soup. Tonight the Harrisons gave a dinner for the whole party, now enlarged by Phil Brownigg and Martha Lynch and her sister, at Scotts Restaurant. The actor, Rex Harrison, with an unnamed lady, was at a nearby table.

Sept. 24 A continental breakfast at Grosvenor House is about $7.50 per person. After that repast we gathered in our minibus, where we were joined by Laurence Rich of the British National Trust, and set off for Claremont. Claremont was built for Richard Clive but is chiefly known as the later property of King Leopold of Belgium and as the temporary residence of French royalties, Louis Philippe etc. The National Trust owns ~~at~~ only the grounds, which were exhibited to us by Peter Mansfield of the National Trust. There are many fine old trees, beech, Lebanon cedars, oaks etc. A lake, artificial, I think, gives a good touch. From Claremont we drove to Ham House, near Richmond. It is really a museum garden, like our Williamsburg, and is laid out in squares and walks. There are many fruit trees and many hawthornes, one has a sense of a renaissance type, self contained manor, but much of the planting is new. Back to Grosvenor House for dinner.

Sept. 25, 1979 We started early for Sissinghurst, again accompanied by Lawrence Rich. Nigel Nicholson met us with the head gardener, a woman, and took us through the garden and gave us lunch. Sissinghurst again impresses me as an experimental garden (good one) with little pretensions at landscape architecture. There are a few fine old trees, such as the ashes, but the glory of the garden is its great collection of flowering plants, clematis etc. Some rare nicotiana. Beech hedges have been used with great effect and seem very adaptable to shearing. ~~Nicol~~ Nicholson told me that he did not much like Michael Stevens' life of Vita Sackville West. I had received Stevens under the impression that a doctorate theme only was involved. On our way home we stopped at Nyman's Garden, chiefly interesting for its fine evergreens, including hollies. It was interesting to me that the gardener has made use of Photinia Villosa, which we have but which few appreciate.

Sept. 26 Departed early in our minibus for Rowsley, near Haddon Hall and Chatsworth, accompanied by Graham Ashworth and driven by a friend of hers, a young American woman now married to an Englishman. We drove mostly on new trunk roads, occasionally passing a new city. The Peacock Inn, a charming old hotel with excellent wine and food pleased us very much.

Sept. 27 To Haddon Hall this morning, where we were met and escorted by the head gardener, Mr. Weller. It is really, as Tom Kane points out, a garden of the 1920's. A good deal of handsome color from Sargent's cherry, cornus stolonifera and clematis. To Chatsworth this afternoon where we were escorted by Mr. Link, who has been here for decades. We admired a greenhouse ~~the roof~~ led by Paxton, the American mountain sequoias, many fine American pines and fern leaf beeches. We were sorry to see that the box was subject to the same decline as ours in Vergennes. Bitterfull coloring near the mansion.

Sept. 28, 1979 We had a festive dinner at the Peacock last night, at which the Ashmeaths were present, and this morning we set out for Edinburgh where we are lodged at The Caledonian Hotel. This afternoon young Eric Robson a roaming official of the Scottish National Trust, took us to Dunbar, a new garden of the National Trust. I was impressed by a large number of old houses, including the Roman. One of the hostesses was the young Countess of Minto, who turns out to be a New Jersey girl educated at Radcliffe near us. I was also impressed with Dr. Henderson, a bearded young man, the Director of the Edinburgh Royal Botanical Garden. Edinburgh must have a warmer climate than one would have expected since much of its planting is barely hardy in Virginia. The staff gives me a feeling of real confidence, i.e. they seem to understand botany and their needs as a garden. The pathologist, a jolly woman, admitted that one or two of her "commies" were puny.

Sept. 29 Our faithful minibus has departed but Eric Robson drove us today in a small bus belonging to the Scottish National Trust to two gardens near Aberdeen, Crathes Castle and Pitmeddon. At Crathes our escort was headed by Douglas MacDonald, a jolly, elderly gent with a strong accent. The garden has specialized in color grouping, red, yellow etc) They are proud also of their sequoia giganteum but I especially liked the colored trees and shrubs, such as prunus pissardi. We had a bountiful lunch, at which my table mate was an elderly forester, who told me that he couldn't eat mutton or lamb, but lived on salmon, when he could get it, pieced out by beef. This afternoon we motored to Pitmeddon, a smaller but charming garden. I admired especially the espaliered fruit trees.

Sept. 30 Took a long walk this morning on Prince's street. To the Botanic Garden this afternoon where I again admired the interesting collections and the model small gardens for instruction.

October 1, 1979 Up at 5:30 AM. to get the shuttle to Heathrow, where we parted with the other members of the party. Took a taxi to the Waterfield (cost again £11). Had an excellent lunch at the hotel restaurant, reckon as as good as ever, and a long rest. Tonight we saw the film version of Henry James "The Europeans", with Lee Remick & Langella a costume and period piece.

Oct. 2 To Harrods, where we found the prices terrible. An ordinary shirt is $30.00 and an ordinary tie is $20.00. Bought only one undershirt and one pair of shorts. The place was full, however, and buying was brisk. We dined at the hotel.

Oct. 3 To a matinee performance of "The Sin Game" at the Lyric Theatre, with Jessica Tandy and her husband Hume Cronyn. Beautifully acted and staged it was nevertheless somber for two oldsters like M and me. Perhaps for the same reason all the productions we read about seem dull. We walked back to the hotel and dinner very tired and dispirited.

Oct. 4 We set out this morning on a shopping tour. Turnbull and Asser had the usual neckties at prohibitive prices (between the stops in the Burlington and Piccadilly arcades). Hatchards failed to have the Coleridge items I wanted. We bought three tins of tea at Fortnum & Masons. Then, and the furniture polish bought at Harrods, are our only acquisitions. Arabian chess is now common in London.

Oct. 5 Forgetting the limits on amenities at Heathrow we took a taxi there too early and had very poor lunch. The plane finally got off at 4:30, very crowded and uncomfortable. As we neared Boston we got the bad news that it was fog bound, so we were detoured to Montreal, finally arriving in Boston about 1 A.M.

Oct. 6 The BOAC put us up last night in the old Hotel Bradford. This morning we got the shuttle to New York and from there the shuttle to Washington which we reached after 11 A.M., very tired. Thompson met us with the sad news that Bob Bunzey died soon after he left. We had felt better and come home but his heart gave out immediately.

Oct. 7, 1979 Frank White is back in the hospital, our dogs seem to have fared well in their two weeks with Miss de Butts. Doris, David and Janet came by to see us. Muros a hostess at one of the Waterford Houses this afternoon. Our nights are getting chilly again.

Oct. 8 Bill Harrison, who is building a new house, came by for some taxus Andersoni and yellow tipped junipers we are giving him. We have used all the lowgrowing taxus and junipers we can use and have had trouble giving away the excess, fine young trees, nevertheless. To see Helen Swezey. Her daughter Maria and her daughter-in-law and children are with her. Maria, a nun for many years, teaches in Korea.

Oct. 9 Dined with the Akres, together with Doris and the Freds. Rogers seems to be much better and credits the chiropractor treatments with the improvement. We drove home in a very heavy rainstorm, driving dangerous

Oct. 10 We have an incredibly heavy snow for this time of year and the trees, still in full leaf, are much broken and otherwise damaged. Our electricity is out and we are cooking on the fireplace. Fortunately, the roads are still open as the snow melts rapidly. Smaller trees and evergreens do not seem to be damaged much.

Oct. 11 Electricity off all day. We lunched and, with Doris, dined at The Summit Restaurant. Fortunately, the weather is not very cold so our fireplaces kept us reasonably warm. Charlie and Thompson are cleaning up the broken limbs on the roads and lawns.

Oct. 12 Our electricity came on about midnight last night. The New York prime rate has been raised to 14½%. This should certainly cool the speculative fever. A lot of us who have had paper gains in real estate are going to be poor again. And a good deal of instalment credit and other payables are going to wither. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has sent us a black pussy willow, salix melanostachys

Oct. 13, 1979 To the Eppsells to a large party. During supper Colonel Grenata gave me a long discourse on the need for more military power and force, the usual American Legion patter. Alice Baine says that the American people have been kind charitable dupes, and that we should now put our foot on the necks of other peoples.

Oct. 14 Doris gave me five pairs of Franks shoes, four of them slip-ons. They fit as though made for me. Reading Robert E. Elegant's "Dynasty", a story about a Hong Kong family, mixed Irish, English, and Chinese. A gripping and instructive book, although sometimes a little simplified and over dramatized.

Oct. 15 Fred Fondaw is dead 84. I am so glad that I took the time on a recent visit to Western Kentucky to go to see him, of his immediate family Bertha, Lena and Bernice survive. To a meeting of the Outlands Council, The National Trust, which is having budgetary problems, in an effort to have outlands self supporting.

October 16 our real estate and property taxes for the year come to $4652.12, just a little more than last year. The land-use valuation helped a great deal. Our old friend Glen Lloyd, whom we first got to know when he was ~~Gladstone~~ Gladstone Hodgins' assistant, has died of a heart attack - at 66. He had continued growing and selling plants.

Oct. 17 Tom Keene and his son, Barnabas, are with us for a night. Tom has decided that oatlands entrance should be returned to its original position, i.e. from the old Carolina Road. It suits me all right if not too expensive but we must keep the entrance from Route 15 or lose many visitors. I am also urging Tom to have his daughter write about Joseph Paxtons attractions as a horticulturist

Oct. 18 The Ranes left at 11 A.M. on their way back to suburban New York, having spent an hour and a half looking at our Mill Square and gardens. Tom has one of those ~~quite~~ quiet, amiable personalities that endear him early in acquaintance. He is also quite receptive to suggestions

Oct. 19, 1979 Margaret is in bed with a bad cold and I have to do the shopping Rene brought us a cake she had baked for us, in spite of her busy period in closing her house.

Oct. 20 I have not acquired the head cold and spent most of today in bed. Charlie and Thompson have largely cleared up the brush. our primroses are giving a small dividend of late bloom. Reading Katherine S. Whites "onward and upward in the Garden. To a large extent it is a discussion of seed, perennials, shrub and tree catalogues, including my own favourite Kelsey, now, alas, defunct. She seems to have been better at reading and using catalogues than we have been, but her preferences are much like ours, White Flower Farm, Burpee and Park.

Oct. 21 In bed almost all day Katherine has stayed over a day to help out. I get colds so seldom that I have little skill or patience with them. The fireplace in the small setting room is a comfort

oct. 22 Kinley Miller is dead. I never knew any of the Millers well except Mabel, who married Paul McGehee. She still survives and has apparently not remarried although he has been dead not far from fifty years.

oct. 23 our electricity went off again, fortunately only for a few hours. The Wall Street Journal has published a long article on the problems and deficiencies of Virginia Electric Power Co. ("Vepco"). I fear that the company cannot survive with much federal or state help. At present it seems to be trying to decide whether to convert its nuclear plants to coal. Robert S. Benjamin of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin etc is dead at 72. I knew him when he was trying to reorganize some naval companies.

oct. 24 George Wagner has patched up our old 1974 Impala so well that it works almost as well as new. Reading Stenersen's life of H. L. Mencken. It shows much research and reflection but is wooden in style and deplorable in humor. Mencken should be sipped like good cognac.

October 25, 1979 Rene telephones from Distaff House that she has already met some old friends, one of whom she had not seen since they were girl scout leaders in some army camp, and made new ones. Our bill for fuel oil for the main house has arrived, $1450.00. This should take us to about the middle of February. David Farrell has sent me the final proof of the bookplate for the W.H. Seal collection. The plant still looks more like a thistle than tobacco

Oct. 26 Doris dined with us. She is getting ready to move to the Devine cottage early in December. Their house will be put up for sale in the spring

Oct. 27 Thurston is planning a large birthday party next September for his mother's 80th anniversary. In the meantime he and Betty seem to be making progress on their new house. Perhaps theirs is the best way to build a house, a little at a time after thought, trial and error. The geographic location of Monett seems to me to be good - Eastern plant life with some western tinge.

Oct. 28 John Budd, whom I have always thought of as a rising star of the railroad world, is dead. He hardly lived up to our expectations, but that may not have been his fault. Reading Galen's "A Surgeons World", a collection of articles done into a book. The style is common place and the contents boring although it does have some interesting information.

Oct. 29 Thompson and Charlie have almost completed the new fence running from the corner of 704 and 770 to the end of Woodmere at the Flemings. It would probably cost $40, more to renew all the fences on the place. In to Keesbury for a hair cut. Citibank has raised its prime rate to 15¼

Oct. 30 Judge Harold Medina at 91 continues to do his judicial work although many of his bodily functions are impaired. Apparently he continues to sit on many cases. Reading Evelyn Waugh's "Decline and Fall". At times he is almost as amusing as Wodehouse and he sometimes reminds me of Anatole France, but in general he just seems to be nasty and angry.

Oct. 31, 1979 My cold has taken a turn for the worse and I stayed in bed today. Our yasting cherries are an attractive red and the sweet gums have more color than usual. In fact this years colors are better than usual.

Nov. 1 We had a dinner party tonight for the Winslow Williams, Akres, MacDonalds and Phil Brauns. Helen Williams says that the real estate market is very slow. Chuck and Ann Akre have just returned from New York and say that a good dinner in a modest French restaurant runs to $40.00 per person. Bill MacDonald says that the Charles Town race tracks with which he is no longer connected except as a consultant, have done very badly because of the gasaline shortage.

Nov. 2 A bad rain all day. This has been the wettest and darkest fall I can remember. Mrs. Eisenhower is dead. Rene and others have told me that her last years were embittered by the stories about the General and his lady friends. Mr. Zylstra telephoned to ask about the Dunrobin land

Nov. 3 our head colds have suddenly worsened and we are shut-ins, missing two parties. The Zylstras (Wm and Mrs.) came by to see me about the Dunnehin land. They want it very much but, I fear, will find it impossible to finance it: they paid Rene $325,000 for her house and 40 acres, a large price, and may find it impossible to find enough for a down payment on another 84 acres (about $300,000).

Nov. 4 Reading The Windsor Story by Bryan and Murphy. It corroborates a great many things told us by Susie. One finds it difficult to understand the mild inconsistencies in Edward's character: generous at times and incredibly mean and heartless at others; fond of his family and also faithless to them; and hath fond of his country and willing to damage it. Perhaps one can sum it up by saying that he never grew to maturity.

Nov. 5 Trudy Gray and Eeda Dennis came by today to show two of Trudy's Welsh cousins the Wadhurst gardens. I fear they found them not up to Badminton.

Nov. 6, 1979 We went yesterday afternoon to the Waits to see Dorothy's sister, Virginia, a charming woman. To North Fork to vote. Poor Betty is still hopeful of winning her race for supervisor but her chances seem to me to be remote. To the Round Hill bank

Nov. 7 Betty Semmes, who was so hopeful in her race for supervisor of this District, was defeated almost 2 to 1. She will be bitterly disappointed. My Mass Mutual Reits bonds, for which she paid 76+, are down to 62 in a general collapse in the bond markets. The American Embassy in Teheran has been taken over by Iranian students and a great many hostages are being held. This will cause a great quarrel.

Nov. 8 Doris and the Freds dined with us. Talked about a proposed winter vacation in Yucatan to Dr. Reuter. He seems to be building a large practice here although his main office is still in Washington. Porter Chandler is dead at 80. He was a fine lawyer and a good man but had little humor or magnetism.

Nov. ~~10~~ 9 Jack and Jane Burditt are coming to see us next week. By coincidence they turn out to be friends of Tom Kure, who has done some local scape gardening for them. Our Holy Jalwette Cherry is giving us a final dividend of bloom. N.B.C. announces that David Brinkley is about to retire. He resembles Zellner, both in facial contours and in his manner of speech.

Nov. 10 Andrew L. Samory, the best of the foreign exchange officers at Manufacturers Trust company in my time, is dead He was a very brusque but able type. A Hungarian by birth he made his way by unusual hard work and intelligence

Nov. 11 Rain all day. Frank White had a sinking spell today and decided he was dying, asking everybody to pray for him. Reading Maxwell Perkins letters, "Editor to Author". Perkins was a grandson of William M. Evarts and therefore a cousin of my old friend and boss, William M. Evarts, Jr. of the Murray Aldrich & Roberts firm. I think there was also a relation with Harrison Tweed. Perkins was an unusually patient and sensitive man, a godsend to the Fitzgerald types

Nov. 12, 1979 Frank White died
due - as he had expected, finally
passing at 1:30 A.M. this morning
It has been a long and painful
four years for Doris, but she
has borne up quite well. To a
lunch party at the Acheson's
this evening. Chip tells me
that he wants to stay in
Singapore, where he represents
his California bank, for two
or three years more. He says
that American prestige was
never higher in the Singapore
area.

Nov. 13 The salutation of
funds, conducted by Margaret
and others, for a memorial to
Mary June Browning has
been successful enough to
get a room named for her at
The Kauikeolani Memorial Hospital

Nov. 14 our red oaks are
showing unusually bright
coloring this year. Reading
~~Nov~~ George Haven Putnam's life
of his father, George Palmer
Putnam. Both father and son
seem to have been worthy
citizens but I suspect that
the father had the truer
literary taste. He seems to have
had spontaneously close ties to
his authors, especially Wash-
ington Irving

Nov. 15 To a meeting of the Oatlands Garden Study committee held at Millicent West's home in Upperville. The big problem is whether we renovate the Oatlands greenhouse. The National Trust and the Virginia Garden Club will each contribute $28,000.00, but I cannot see where the maintenance funds are to be found. The Oatlands budget is a tight one and I can see no hope of increasing its revenues.

Nov. 16 David White and his family, arriving for the memorial service for Frank tomorrow, are staying with us. The three children, two girls and one boy, are unusually attractive children

Nov. 17 We are having our Indian Summer, warm and sunny. Frank's memorial service was held at the Leesburg Presbyterian Church a large crowd. We had the whole family party and a few others for lunch. The White children are fascinated with the cows, especially seeing the baby cow get milk from the big cow. A very handsome group of children. Frank was very proud of them.

Nov. 18, 1979 The Donald Whites left this morning. We luncheoned with the Freds, the first guests entertained in their new house. Sam Morrison is dead of a heart attack on a hunting trip. He had had several attacks so we are not surprised. He was only 60, although he looked as old as I. He was an excellent doctor, alert, learned and almost intuitive in diagnosis.

Nov. 19 Fine, warm day. The Iranians are still holding our Embassy and about 50 hostages. In view of the unstable conditions in the Persian Gulf area and the importance of its oil, this could lead to World War III. Fortunately the Islamic world seems to be divided to unite into any course of action.

Nov. 20. Another fine day. Reading S. N. Behrman's "Memoirs of a Publisher - 1865 - 1915." The old boy must have had great charm and certainly was a useful citizen, but seemed to dispense his energies too much. In the modern phrase he was too much of the "Establishment."

Nov. 21 Lenard Cooper is dead at 73. He was somewhat like his father but perhaps lacked old Lenard's ambition and great ability. He had none of the flamboyance of his uncle, Herbert Bayard Swope. We have our first Christmas card, this being from the Leonard P. Moores. Lew continues to sit as a judge.

Nov. 22 We had our Thanksgiving dinner with Vivian, the last of many as she is vacating her home in a few weeks. Mrs McCoy, Dr. and Miss Talinn and Mrs. Scarlett were the other guests. The Talinns have retired to a ~~nursing~~ home but appear to be alert and happy. Dr. Talinn seems at last to have leisure for reading and we had a long discussion of Manchester's life of MacArthur.

Nov. 23 To Sam Morrison's funeral, one of the largest I have seen in Leesburg. Sam seems to have had problems with his women, but he was immensely popular with his patients. We went, that evening, to a large buffet supper at the Tylers. Their boys are growing up to be fine youngsters.

Nov. 24, 1979 Among the books Doris has given me, as she is cutting down her personal possessions, is a copy of Clark's English Grammar, 1855, which explains and illustrates diagrams. It seems to me that diagrams were a very important tool in elementary English and I cannot understand why they are no longer in use.

Nov. 25 A gloomy rainy day Reading Clark Hopkins "The Discovery of Dura-Europos", a rather uninteresting book on an interesting subject. One always wonders at the progress made in Egypt and the Near East in the three millenia before A.D. and wonders whether the new troubles there will again send the area back into chaos.

Nov. 26 Elizabeth Riley and Alice Brooks had cocktails with us last evening. Alice is rapidly failing and Elizabeth is worried about her living alone; Alice is no longer able to drive a car and, since Elizabeth also has health problems, there are inconveniences. Today we transferred our medical records to young Dr. Lilles

Nov. 27 Bauer Kipke, whom I have not seen for a long time, has written a new book on the S.E.C. He is now at N.Y. University Wherever he is he will bring intelligence, industry and integrity to the faculty. Reading Andrew Lang's "Books and Bookmen", a disjointed but interesting discussion of the book business over a long period of time. Lang's erudition and great love of literature make one accept a good many drawbacks.

Nov. 28 Vivian has sold her house for $200,000.00, with about 20% down payment and a 10 year monthly pay out at 12½% per annum on the deferred balance. I have a letter from Larry Thompson to the effect that Richard is about to be married. A wealthy Jewish girl, I believe. Mary's husband, divorced, is now in jail for some type of robbery.

Nov. 29 We had a dinner tonight for the Baines, Tom Taylors, Cockards, Silchrists and Elizabeth Riley. The Silchrists have made an attractive addition to our group of friends.

Nov. 30, 1979 Arthur H. Christy, the son of my old friend, Frances Christy, has been named Special Prosecutor on the Hamilton Jordan cocaine matter. The whole thing as a charade meant to satisfy public opinion but, at least to that extent, it will be helpful. I hear that Dan Devine will become an administrative judge in Washington in January.

Dec. 1 We have a Christmas card and note from Jane Clark, who continues at her Greenwich home. Reading the first volume of Henry Kissinger's memoirs, "The White House years". Although the style is on the heavy side it is lightened by many little pencil portraits that remind one of Saint Simon. The book is remarkable in its details and scope and should have lasting value as a source book.

Dec. 2 quiet day at home. The Freds came for cocktails and to discuss our proposed trip to Jamaica in February. Tonight we heard on TV an interview with the authors of "The Brethren" an expose of the U.S. Supreme Court

Dec. 3 Haman Titsworth is dead in Bandana at about 87, survived by Pauline and their son Dick. Haman was about the only relic of my childhood left in Bandana, although I should perhaps include Paul and Lawson Randolph. Haman was always jovial and folksy in his manner, with none of the gravity of his father and uncles. As a youth his clothes were a little flamboyant but always well chosen and he always dressed with care.

Dec. 4 our old friend, Mrs. Rhodes, who has provided dinner rolls for us for years, is very sick. Reading volume one of Marianne North's "Recollections of Happy Years". I wish someone would do a book of reproductions of her botanical paintings

Dec. 5 To a meeting of the Oatlands Board, Ted Soude is the representative of the head office on our Board and he and Powell Harrison had almost an open quarrel over what in effect was almost nothing. Mr. Zylstra, with my permission, has had ~~Wed~~ Wendell Kline appraise the Virts corner land. Kline came up with a value of $233,730.00

Dec. 6, 1979 Mailed 5 cartons of books to U.K. For the first time I today paid slightly more than ~~$1.00~~ $1.00 per gallon for gasoline. John Connally is quoted in The Washington Post as saying that he had known many business men and that 90% of even the best of them were mediocre, pompous, narrow, stupid Neanderthals. True enough but "Big Joven" must have had a few drinks to make him say it.

Dec. 7 Marie Crowens has sold her farm to John Sleeter for more than $400,000.00. The Sleeters are almost like children to Marie and she is delighted that John could get the farm. Rereading Alberta Hannums "Spin A Silver Dollar", a delightful book about the Navajos in Arizona.

Dec. 8 We had our garden study dinner reunion tonight for the Powell Harrisons, Lynches (Tom was unable to make it), Arlen Rife, the Dick Williams, Tom Kane, Phil Brownrigg and the Dennises. A gay dinner, with champagne, showing of slides and many reminescenses. Tom Kane spent the night with us.

Dec. 9 Tom left at 11 A.M. Kissinger seems to have liked Ken Rush very much, especially because Ken was willing to join Nixon and K- in bypassing Rogers, Secretary of State and Ken's superior. K- says that Nixon had not known Ken at Duke. K confirms that Ken had been slated to be secretary of state to follow Rogers.

Dec. 10 Irene Stone writes that Dee is entirely helpless but seems to have no pain. It seems likely that he has had a stroke. We also have a card from Jean McMaster but not much of a note. Her arthritis probably renders her unable to write.

Dec. 11 We hear that Clare Melay is in a nursing home in Stamford, Conn., but not even the Isaacs have had any communication from her. The Arabian prince who bought the Godfrey land has, it is alleged, brought in some wild boars - apparently wild boar hunts are still popular in Arabia - and wild stories are going out that they have escaped. My guess is that the animals are our own razor backs - a la Ohio River bottoms.

Dec. 12, 1979 Tonight the Isaacs took us and the Silchrists took the Freds to the Hayloft dinner theater at Manassas. We had a good dinner and saw a somewhat bawdy farce called Patrick Pearse Motel, with Irwin Zoff, Blaise Carrigan, Jack Parris and Susan Torney. The performance was not up to Broadway standards but was good for the dinner circuit.

Dec. 13 Charlotte Willkie ~~Pihl~~ Pihl (always pronounced PEAL) is dead at 80. She was the last surviving sibling of Wendell Willkie. She was a woman of ability and artistic gifts but not, to my mind, a pleasant personality. Since her name was pronounced like ours we were often mixed up, which probably displeased ~~us~~ her.

Dec. 14 Jane and Jack Burditt came to lunch. Tom Kane has been doing some landscape work for them and is as interesting to them as to us. Jack says that ACF is being pressed by Chrysler to buy some preferred stock. ACF is doing its car financing abroad in Eurodollars.

Dec. 15 Nilsson writes that Estelle Reeser (Mrs. Bill) Northington is dead. She must have been about my age. Malcolm writes that Classic, the magazine of which Clare was Executive Editor, has failed, so Clare is looking for a job. Classic was a ~~poor~~ poor prospect from its beginning, but perhaps Clare has gained experience and prestige enough to enable her to get a new job.

Dec. 16 To a large party at the Lynches last night. The crowd filled the many small and congested rooms and the lighting was of the most fashionably dim. Reading Colette's "Cheri" in translation, which I fear loses much of the subtlety and charm of the original. At any rate one wonders why such fuss is made about such people

Dec. 17 one of our chief Lebanon Cedar "Conversation pieces" has blown over in the heavy wind. Its root structure was unable to hold it. The pine one by the paddock fence continues to hold its own. Davis have moved into the Devine cottage and the Akres have taken over her house pending the renovation of their Waterford dwelling

Dec. 18, 1979 Davis and the Akres dined with us last evening. Davis has given me a pair of Frank's bedroom slippers and a mass of his shirts. Petroleum prices are going up again. Dan Devine's law firm has dissolved. He is to be a judge. Tom Horne is to be commonwealth attorney and Jim Meckling and Billy Birch are to be his assistants. M- and I have to get new lawyers.

Dec. 19 Murray I Gurfein is dead at 72. Coming to the bench in the 1970s, very late in life, he had as his first case the struggle over the publication of the "Pentagon Papers". He wrote what seemed to me the best of all the opinions in the case and was elevated to the court of Appeals. I knew Gurfein only because his partner, the late Orrin Judd, was a close friend but I liked and admired him on his own merits.

Dec. 20 M- took Davis and Lucy Watson to Dulles this morning to speed them on way on Christmas trips. Eeda came by this afternoon to give us greetings and some fine Norwegian cheese.

Dec. 21 With the Freds to ~~Berry~~ Charles ~~Little~~ Tower to see Marie Crawens who is living at the Jefferson Manor nursing home. She seems well and reasonably alert but can be moved only in a wheel chair. The place is clean, seems to be well run and has young and attractive staff. Marie's room is a small one but she was more or less restricted to her bed room even at her home.

Dec. 22 The Rogers Ransoms have moved to Florida. Rogers has, I suppose, a pension in addition to his social security and savings. Reading "The South Since Appomattox" by Tom Clark and Abe Kirwan, both old friends. I have had the book for years but never gotten to it. A very creditable job, although a little dated in some of its views.

Dec. 23 We had a midday dinner today for the Dietz and Fred families. It was chiefly for the Dietz' daughter and her husband, Johanna and Jacob Katzenelson, and their three children, Sara, David and Terah. Jacob, a professor in a Hebrew university, is on a two year leave of absence and is working at the Bell Laboratories. An interesting and attractive family.

Dec. 24, 1974 Delbert Reese telephoned. He has had a minor stroke accident, but is all right again. Irene Stone wrote that Dee was helpless but did not seem to be in pain. We tried unsuccessfully to telephone her today. As usual we had our Christmas Eve dinner with Irene Bate, Jackie Haley and the Acheson family (complete except for Tuppy and his family who are in Singapore).

Dec. 25 Shepard Spurr telephoned that he and his are well. We had our Christmas dinner as usual with the Fuchs, the Baxter Woods being the other guests. Barbara's mother, Mrs. Stewart is very frail. Rogers III has, somewhat to my surprise, developed a lively interest in books.

Dec. 26 Reading Tom Wolfe's "The Right Stuff", the story of the test pilots who went on to become the astronauts. The style is unpleasant to me, full of wisecracks, sneers and gossip, but the book is full of interesting facts.

Dec. 17 To the Mahans bought at a party to straw their fine new home on (or rather off) Dry Mill Road. A very long driveway made me fear that it would be difficult in winter, but the house itself is lovely and convenient. At their ages M- and I would have looked on the new home as a palace. Now that Dan Decenzo's firm has dissolved M- and I are thinking of turning to Mahan for our legal work.

Dec. 18 With Chuck Akre to Washington for the lunch given us by Bernie Nordlinger at the Fran d'or, a fine French restaurant new to me. John Brixler was also a guest. The party was a sentimental occasion, with many stories about our dealings in the 40's. Bernie is a great flatterer and devotes much time telling the others how much he had learned from me both as to the techniques of corporate law and the necessity for a scrupulous integrity. Bernie is 71 and due to step at 75 but says that he may decide to stay on. He spends much of his spare time on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Dec. 29, 1979 To a large party at the Liningers. With Billy Dew as their architect the Liningers have greatly enlarged their old house, but the result is not very happy. Billy says that the building business is flat now as a result of high interest rates. He has been at work for about 3 years on a mansion he is building for Smith Bowman on a bluff overlooking the Potomac.

Dec. 30 The Patches' landscape man is moving a large dwarf cypress from one spot to another. The question as to whether to take the Serbian spruce, unless we have offered the Patches, will be settled later. Paul Brown rugby lunched with us. Tonight we gained the Dennises for dinner at the Evans Farm Inn. Originally it was intended to be a Dennis family party in honor of Eola's parents, but it was discovered this today was Margaret's birthday and it turned into a birthday party for her. Eola's parents are a sweet and sympathetic couple.

Dec. 31 In our earlier years at Woodhaven we had a gay holiday season, culminating in an open house New Year's party with champagne and black ties. Most of our old friends are now dead, living in rest homes or moved to warmer regions. We spent our last day of 1979 quietly at home and went to bed at the usual hours.

This has been an unhappy year and ends in confusion and turmoil. We seem to be embarking on a course in foreign affairs that will lead to a war with Russia or a military struggle in the Near East or both. Hatred and fear of the Russians (and formerly of the Chines) has been cultivated for many years for domestic political purposes and now seems about to precipitate a deadly conflict. Everyone seems to forget that we are very vulnerable because of our economic problems, our massive investments in Europe and Asia and our wide commitments. Our rural citizens have been the most virulent haters of foreigners and will now pay a heavy price.

January 1, 1980 Our squirrels have discovered our bird feeders and have almost taken them over. They continue feeding as we approach, casting a baleful eye at us until we are nearly on them. No one seems to eat squirrel any more although they were considered delicacies in my youth. We went to the Senates house egg nog party this afternoon.

Jan. 2 quiet day at home Reading Riche's Daily Life in the Time of Charlemagne. According to the Author life in Charlemagne's time still retained a good deal of the amenities and settled order inherited from the Roman Empire but soon to be lost in the smash-up that culminated in the middle ages.

Jan. 3 To Dr. Reuter this morning. My blood pressure has dropped so I need no longer take diuretics. Jim Wingo came by to see me this afternoon. He still seems unsettled about his plans but will probably go to law school, perhaps after a year of work.

Jan. 4 A light snow began falling. In the late afternoon Tom Kane arrived with his daughter, Rachel, and their son, Barnabas. Rachel, who is at the University of Vermont, wants to go over my Paxton (and other horticultural material) with a view to writing a thesis. Tom says that my horticultural material is better than that at the university.

Jan. 5 Yesterday's snow has given us several inches and made driving difficult and dangerous, but Tom's four-wheel drive car got us to Joan Williams' luncheon. He has now been joined by his son, Tim, who eats with us but sleeps at the Lyndes as all our bedrooms are filled. Joan, in spite of difficulties, gave us a good lunch with good French wines. Tom is supposed to be advising on the wildlands garden but cannot do much in this weather.

Jan. 6 The Kanes left this morning. We met Doris at Dulles at noon and she took us to lunch at the Holiday Inn. In taking Katherine home we got stuck in a snow bank, from which we were pulled by a snow plow.

Jan. 7, 1980 Corry, the Chesapeake Bay retriever of Rogers Jr. and Barbara Fred, has died. Corry was a neighborhood favorite and we all mourn her. George Avery sends us news of Len and Patty Moore. Len continues to sit as a judge in spite of some physical problems. George and Virginia have been touring with garden groups under the sponsorship of Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Jan. 8 Working on my 1979 income tax return. We dipped into capital a little less in 1979 than in 1978. We dined with the Akres, who are house-sitting in Dons' house. We had a report today, which fortunately proved inaccurate, that our Tallulah had been struck by a car while chasing a deer.

Jan. 9 M's bridge foursome lunched here and I added my shining countenance to that festival. Carter has stopped American grain sales to the Russians and the grain markets are in great confusion. Our Republican friends, who have been saying "get tough" are shocked and censorious.

June 10 Oscar L. Ewing is dead at 90. I knew him as a young lawyer in New York, from which he went on on Roosevelt's team to an interesting career in government and politics. Caroline Arthur tells me that "Bing" and Foster Retchet are being divorced. Bing inherited a substantial sum from Noble and Marian Gregory so she never had to face the discipline of "making do".

June 11 Thurston and Betty have moved into their new home, which should be a very pleasant residence. Reading Michael Karlis "Charmed Lives", the story of Alexander Korda and his unusual brothers who did so much for the moving picture business. We learned about Hungarians from them. Very well written.

Jun. 12 We dined with the Freds, together with Vinnan and Davis. We hear that Rene is better but still in the hospital. I have a letter from Haley Randolph, Ransom's son, who is the principal of the Mary Todd school in Lexington. Haley's son an honor graduate at U. K. was the runner-up in the recent Rhodes Scholar election.

Jan. 13, 1980 To a large cock. tail party given by the Dough Phillips. They like their new house on Marion Cork Road South. Doug seems to be sailing somewhat although he is not all by our standards

Jan. 14 To Leesburg to cash a check, make a deposit and get the dog licenses. I also took 5-00 shares of Adams Express to Bob Whitton at Alex. Brown & Sons to sell at the market, which is about 14 (a good price). We also agreed to extend Miss $20,000.00 to B.F. Saul Bonds for one year at 14% interest I mailed my 1979 Agricultural Labor Social security report

Jan. 15 According to the latest news Rene is much better but still in the hospital. Reading Frank R. Kent's "The Story of Alexander Brown & Sons." To my mind the story of the Brown firm is more edifying than the story of the Morgans. They have caused less controversy and are still as salubrious a rock in a stormy sea.

Jan. 16 Reading H. Remsen Whitehouse's The Life of Lamartine, a better book than I had anticipated. In spite of a lifetime of effort I still find it hard to make sense out of the lives of the 19th century French "sensibility" writers. They seem vague when I expect precision and practical when I expect romance.

Jan. 17 Reading Lamask's "Aaron Burr - 1756-1805", a superior biography. Perhaps because of Burr's misfortunes his life has always seemed to me to command more attention than would have been expected from a man of few great achievements or influence on posterity. He had little of the versatility of Jefferson or the pathbreaking activities of Madison and Hamilton. Perhaps his illustrious ancestry and his misfortunes lend romance to his life

Jan. 18 We had a dinner party tonight for the Freds, the E. B. Whites, Helen Gurley and Doris White. Helen has begun to rebuild her life with great competence and courage. She intends to continue at her house.

Jan. 19, 1980 A bright sunny day. To St James Church to hear The Choir of the West, a Lutheran choir from the West coast directed by Maurice H. Skones. Choral music has never been a favourite of mine and I found the highly modern Buonarotti Michaelus too loud, but I liked Mozarts Mass in C Minor and some of the smaller numbers.

Jan. 20 We lunched with the Winslow Williams and on returning home had tele- calls announcing the sudden deaths of Lawson Watson and Fulton Watt. Lawson's death is not unexpected but that of Fulton is shocking as well as surprising, although we knew that he has been ill recently.

Jan. 21 Thompson and I took Margaret to the National Airport on her way to Tucson. Reading Woodward & Armstrong's "The Brethren", a widely read and discussed book on the Supreme Court during the Burger Chief-Justiceship Somewhat gossipy at points but full of interesting information.

Jan. 22 To Fulton's funeral, where I acted as an honorary pall bearer. It has all been so sudden that I still can't quite realize that Fulton, always so vigorous and helpful, is gone. Dorothy has been in very bad health for a long time and seemed today so slight that a wind could blow her away.

Jan. 23 Went by to take Dorothy Hunt some milk and had a long talk with her about her plans. The new house is nearing completion and she will be moving in soon. Fulton's affairs are in good order and there are no money problems. Crisp Welsh is dead at 62, after a long battle with cancer.

Jan. 24 Margaret telephoned that the funeral has been held and that she is returning to Dulles Saturday night. Light snow today. Bill Douglas is dead at 81. I find it hard to assess his long record on the Supreme Court. He was a tireless worker and a good liberal, but he had temperamental defects and sometimes acted from impulse.

Jan. 25, 1980 Sent in my annual orders to Girard's Nursery and Messingers. Among other ~~its~~ items I ordered some Chinese dogwoods, a male Meserve holly, ~~some~~ ~~Serbian~~ Serbian spruce, golden twig yews, Sargent's weeping hemlock, Prunus cistena, holly oaks (for tubs) and Cherokee Princess dogwoods.

Jan. 26 Margaret is back, very tired after long delays in her flight ACF stock is up to 40+, which has been the figure I had in mind at which to unload some of our stocks. I am being cautious, however, as I think that some one may be accumulating stock with a view to a takeover. Poor Fanny Hetzler is dead after a long illness.

Jan. 27 Margaret picked up a bad cold on her travels and is in bed. I took Kathryn home this afternoon so I am nurse, cook, chamber maid and animal handler. Bill Harrison tells me that if agriculture loses the fertilizers based on petroleum, the country may not produce enough food for domestic use.

Jan. 28 To Oatlands for a meeting of the Garden Committee. Our major problem is that we have a large garden with many applications this but a very small amount of money. Our Mrs. Watson is dealing with the fuel oil crisis in her own way. She has quit using the fireplace on the theory that it sucks out more warm air that it produces and has cut her thermostat back to 55°.

Jan. 29 For some reason, which is an insoluble mystery to me, our American hollies have almost no berries again this year. The male holly has the most

Jan. 30 My old friend Bill Marvin, who was a leading partner in Salomon Bros. & Hutzler, is dead. He was 85. Bill spent his spare time as a cabinet maker and in fighting his mother-in-law. He and Jay Parkinson, then President of Anaconda, had a shop on the same floor as the Carnegie Book Shop and we saw a good deal of them. Underneath a gruff manner Bill was a good and likeable man

Jan. 31, 1980. Snow again today. Margaret is still with Bruce Bromley and Lawrence Crosby, both on sick lights, and dead. Lawrence left the law on the depression to become an executive on a sugar company, where he was, as I have heard, quite successful.

Feb. 1 This is the 69th anniversary of this diary. It is probably the longest consecutive and dullest diary in the language. Even as a boy just beginning my teens I had too much reticence to record scandal or emotional problems so the diary has been matter-of-fact always.

Feb. 2 Reading Seaver Wills "The Pursuit of Happiness", lent to us by Elizabeth Riley. Will is very learned and at least one sentence on every page testifies to his wide reading and sensitive ear for the well turned phrase. He is almost paranoid on the subject of Russia, but is delightful and sensible in most of the current scene.

Feb. 3 I have had a relapse in my recovery from my bed cold. It seems almost impossible for either M. or me to throw it off completely. Polly Clemens tells us that her bill for heating oil for one month was $245.00. The cost of fuel and electricity is a bad break for friends of limited income.

Feb. 4 My cold persists. My Atlantic Richfield stock is doing even better than most of the oil stocks. President Carter, following Nixon's example in foreign relations, has outflanked his opposition by becoming more warlike even than Reagan.

Feb. 5 Working on my income tax, one saving grace of this tiresome business is that it causes one to review in some details what one has done with his money during the year. I see that W.S. (Bill) Beinecke is about to retire as chairman of Sperry & Hutchinson. He is about to be 65. We never thought of Bill as a big brain at the Chadbourne firm but he had ~~[illegible]~~ energy and tenacity - which led to a successful business career

Feb. 6, 1980 Snow. Helen Gurezey came by to see us. She seems to be coping adequately in the large house she and Bob bought not long before his death. Margaret's three bridge partners braved the snow and had a pleasant afternoon

Feb. 7 The snow is melting. Frank Gilchrist came by and lent us a copy of Richard Valeriani's "Travelling with Henry". Valeriani is one of the better TV correspondents and tells a good story of Kissinger's travels and efforts. In fact it is a good appendage to Kissinger's own book; one of K's great gifts was a keen and biting sense of humor and Valeriani gives many examples.

Feb. 8 Louise writes that she had a Christmas letter from Vera Wingo ~~Dyg~~ Dye, who seems to have cut herself from most of the family. Margaret had 10 shares of Standard Oil of Indiana when we married and that has risen to 80 shares and is now about to be split again, 2 for 1. Would that we had bought more

Feb. 9 More snow. Rogers says that firewood is now about $100.00 per cord. The high price of fuel oil has led to a great increase in the price of firewood as wood-burning stoves multiply. Unfortunately, the ravages of cutting have left little firewood available and red-tinged dogwoods are making a good showing now.

Feb. 10 A bright sun is melting the snow rapidly. Rene is back at home, but we never know how long her improvement will last. Hilson says that he has been gradually selling off at a good price a small collection of silver coins he made a few years ago.

Feb. 11 Reading Antonia Fraser's "Royal Charles", a spirited narrative with all sorts of tidbits of information about the period. The English Whig historians probably maligned Charles but it continues to be difficult to make him out to be a statesman. His chief merit was that of a peaceful and much of his work was unsuccessful through no fault of his.

Feb. 12, 1980 To Dr. Johnston. He gave me a thorough examination and said that my old glasses were still good, but that I would probably need a cataract operation within a year or two. our school teachers have mounted a drive for increased salaries, the upshot of which would probably be about a 20% increase in real property taxes. our local farmers are already very unhappy about their taxes and this will be the end of the road for them.

Feb. 13 Sat a delivery today of 1704 gallons of fuel oil for our house, representing the amount used since the october refill, and 302 gallons of kerosene for Thompson. The fuel oil was 99.9 c per gallon ~~per~~ plus tax and the kerosene was 101.9 per gallon, plus tax.

Feb. 14 To Dr. Reuter. Long talk with Jim Birchfield, who was also adorning the waiting room. During his long journalistic career Jim got to know a surprising number of prominent people and has many tales about them

Feb 15 Reading Andrew Lang's "Letters on Literature", a somewhat labored and fanciful sketch of the literature of his time, English and American. Lang was pon derous and petulant but he really did have much knowledge and evoked a great fondness for literature.

Feb. 16 To the Cornell Davisons for a lobster supper. The other guests were the Dennises and the Ackersons. The Davisons have been deeply affected by the death of their hired man, who had been with a long time, as a result of injuries inflicted by their Hereford bull whom was supposed to be quite safe.

Feb. 17 We had a luncheon today for Vivian, the Cleaves, the Foods and Davis. Vivian is cleaning out her house preparatory to turning it over to the purchaser about the end of March. Vivian has grown very jittery and nervous and we are all worried about. The fine collection of silver formed by Jack is largely going to Ann. Vivian has given us two rugs for our porch.

Feb. 18 Fern, Rodney and Cary Wango came by to see us. They are well established in their new McLean home. Cary is coming up for promotion to captain but seems to be disillusioned with the army. Reading a survey of the history and potentialities of Maitland which I commissioned by the National Trust.

Feb. 19 To the Round Hill National Bank where I bought $2,000.00 in American Express checks for our trip to Mexico. We have about $1700.00 left over from the English-Scottish trip. Paid $1.17 for gasoline. We have a letter from Irene Stone about Dee. He suffered some kind of thrombosis in 1978 and has been helpless ever since.

Feb. 20 The thermometer rose to more than 50° today, making us wonder why we are going to Mexico. The New York prime rate has gone to 15 3/4 %, surely a heavy tax on the economy. Paul Brown's niece is about to remarry, his fiancée being a 57 year old widow Ann Hart. Paul hasn't been able to stand the loneliness of it, Mary Jane's death.

Feb. 21 The Dietz gave a large dinner party for the Freds and Reds, and would think that we were leaving to explore Tibet. Even the Red flag was raised, illuminated by a search light. The women canvassed every item of fact, real and invented, of the Brownings - last marriage. Dr. Lynn Rife, Martha Keynes's sister, tells us that she is enjoying the small house on North Street, rebuilt & tailed by the Dietz. It stands them almost $100,000.00 and rents for $400.00 per month.

Feb. 22 Phil brought his fiancée by to see us. She is a slender, blonde type woman, very pretty and chic. The Bert Harrisons gave us a dinner party, including the Acheson's, Freds, and Eyssells, E. B. Whites and Davis.

Feb. 23 Thompson drove the Freds and us to the National Airport where we took our plane to Merida, which we reached ~~at~~ in the late afternoon, after a short stop in Miami. We realized we were in a caribbean climate when we found Merida having a temperature of 90°.

Feb. 24, 1980 The Hotel Maria Del Carmen is right in the middle of a large city, said to be almost 400,000. It has a lovely pool, well kept and bordered by beautiful trees and shrubs, but is otherwise a city hotel. Today we hired a taxi with an English speaking driver (named Cozenova, he knew it or not) and toured the city. There are some fine homes, imitations in the French style, built by local grandees who made fortunes in sisal. The fortunes vanished with the collapse of the Sisal trade.

Feb. 25 Most of the guests here are of the overnight type and we have so far found none of interest. Some of the Mexicans are no doubt interesting people, but we cannot penetrate the language barrier. Bought myself a Mayan coat shirt (a Guayabera).

Feb. 26 Reading John Ashmore's "The First Two Years of the Nixon Watch" originally written as columns for The New Republic, the book is interesting in its thoughtful comments on the first two years of the Nixon administration.

Feb. 26 Fortunately for us the dollar still brings 2.2 pesos, the same as last year's rate. We are much interested in the Mayan types. For instance, there are no bald men. Both males and females are short and are usually brown-skinned and active. We see a few swarthy Spanish types and a few are slender, usually women. All seem unusually courteous and agreeable. Nearly all are scrupulously clean.

Feb. 27 We took a bus trip today to Chichen Itza, the vehicle being a somewhat elderly bus with little air conditioning and no washroom. We had a rather poor lunch at the Mission Hotel. The recovered - and, I fear to some extent rebuilt - buildings are most interesting, although the heat was such that we did no climbing.

Feb. 28 M- and I both have slight attacks of dysentery, but not enough to be dan. gerous. Too much melon and pineapple, I suppose. As in Guaymas there are no television or radios available here but we do get The Times, an English language newspaper published in Mexico City. Even Spanish newspapers seem unimportant.

Feb. 29, 1980 Rogers and I went through the Casa Montejo today. Built in 1543-1959, it is said to be the oldest private house in this hemisphere. It is still inhabited by descendants of the builder, Don Francisco de Montejo, the younger, although the male line has died out. We were shown through the house by a tall, gaunt Spanish type (obviously no Mayan blood) and have assumed him to be one of the family. He was courteous but seemed a little shocked when I offered a tip.

March 1. The Freds have been robbed of $155.00 in American money - taken from Ethel's purse left in her room. We had a large wedding party at the hotel last night. The biggest attraction was a pretty three-months old baby. As in other catholic countries it seems that ~~bethro~~ betrothal (or sometimes) an informal marriage suffices as the beginning of family life.

March 2 Shopping at Blanca's, a sort of small supermarket, and then on the main square to buy smoking tobacco.

March 3 Reading Dorothy Sayers "Busman's Honeymoon" for the first time since it was published. I had thought it fairly good at the time but it now seems to be a sort of parody on the British social system, aimed at the people interested in a sort of parody of the British class system. The recent "Upstairs-Downstairs" television series follows the same line but has more substance. We have visited the Merida cathedral a baroque structure but one with some solid merits. Lunched at Leo's on the Paseo Montejo. A poor place.
Mar. 4 Toured the market again. It is far from its potential. We bought a large henequen shopping bag for ~~Margo~~ Kathryn. We see almost no smoking in Yucatan and I have seen only one dog in Merida.
Mar. 5 Barbara writes that Byron Farnell's daughter has been badly injured in automobile collision on Route 9. She also brings us down to date on the Brannigg-Dent marriage. Reading a pleasant little semi-thriller, "The Japanese Corpse" by Van de Wetering. Interesting treatment of Japan.

March 6, 1980 We took a bus trip today to Uxmal and Kabon. Very hot and I did little climbing. Uxmal is very impressive and leads one to think that the Mayas had made some solid achievements. As I was laboring under the sun, bare-headed, a nice middle aged lady practically forced me to take and wear her hat. For the first time on this trip we saw a good many orange trees, some of them loaded with fruit.

March 7 Shopped in the market again to make a purchase for Jane Birchfield. Bought 2 more Guayabera shirts at a shop near the hotel. Reading Isak Dinesons "out of Africa", a fascinating book on life on a coffee plantation in Kenya.

March 8 I have another slight attack of dysentery. My treatment is to sit around the pool and admire the giant rubber tree, probably rising to 50 feet, and other palms and decorative trees. The weather is getting warmer and the women's bathing suits scantier.

March 9 Merida, and probably all of Mexico, is still full of very small shops. Sometimes one feels that all the stock could be transported in one wheelbarrow. I have also seen people selling food on the streets, all the supplies coming from a shoebox. Reading Helen MacInnes "The Snare of the Hunter". As always she creates a good deal of suspense out of an unlikely plot.

March 10 We spent two hours today sitting on the zocalo opposite the cathedral. Almost every native seems to have had his shoes shined at least once a day. Almost every man wears the guayabera shirt, almost a uniform. Many several children, attractively attired ran and shouted. The different classes of the teenagers are distinguished by their skirts.

March 11 We lunched at Los Aulones, a fine hacienda presided over by the grandson of the original owner. The grandson, a true Spaniard, might have stepped out of a Velasquez portrait. To the general consternation I had mountain oysters for lunch.

March 12, 1980 We have become very tired of the food. Always good it has little choice and a scarcity of vegetables and salads. Ethel has been much troubled by mosquito bites. They have ignored me. Howard Fellows is dead. He was getting very frail when we saw him last

March 13 Reading Stewarts "The Moon Spinners", a light but pleasant story laid in Crete The temperature continues very hot. I have been able, through the kind assistance of the hotel management, ~~been able~~ to trace a friend of Phil Hilkerts

March 14 Continued heat Even the Mexican papers are full of a great tragedy involving friends in Northern Virginia. Mrs. Harris, for three years the head mistress of Madeira School, has shot and killed Dr. Herman Tarnower, the propounder of the Scarsdale diet which is widely used. They had been lovers for fourteen years and the doctor was in love with another woman

March 15 We made our way home today, a ~~hot~~ and tire-some journey. Getting our bag-gage through customs in Miami was especially tiresome. We arrived on time, however, at National Airport, with all our baggage intact. Thomp-son met us with the news that our cow has a new calf.

March 16 Martha (Mrs Earn) Hall is dead at 99, of the large Berry family. Her only surviving siblings are Cliff, Elsie and Myrtle (Mrs. Dor-den). Lizzie ~~Thompson~~ Wal-lace is dead at 91. Her wed-ding to Chuck Wallace is one of my earliest memories. We went to the large post-wedding reception given by Phil and Ann Brannigg. She seems very pretty and poised. About 200 guests were in-vited and the gathering was a large one, although a few of Mary Jane's friends have criticised a remarriage so soon.

March 17 We saw the Farnells at the Brannigg's yesterday and they assure us that their daughter is recovering. The stock market has had a bad drop - which was to be expected.

March 18, 1980 our daffodils and tulips are coming up well. Reading Ted Morgan's life of Somerset Maugham, a sad book. Maugham's homosexuality and the resulting social stigma seem to have poisoned his whole life. The New York prime rate has risen to 19%, a necessary but painful event. Arthur M. Wilson, an Exeter colleague, has died. He had become a leading authority on Diderot

March 19 Somewhat to my own surprise I got another four-year driver's license. Dr. Johnston had suggested that it might be limited to day-light driving. Malcolm writes that Clare has not found another job (since Classic folded).

March 20 Two small yews have died in the box bed where they were moved from the cold frame last fall. Probably the dry fall. Marion Ludington is dead at 84. She had been ill a long time. Blanche has sent me an article from a magazine about Henry Cortea. Dapper and urbane he disclaims social ambitions but displays a good deal.

March 21 Monica Boyd, Lola Viets husband, has died at 80. The Boyd-Viets marriage resulted in the meeting and marriage of Bernice and T.K. Nilsen writes that Willie, who was displeased at the latest reassignment by his employer, is about to open a drug store for himself. This seems an unusually ~~pro~~ ~~pitious~~ poor time to open a new business requiring capital.
March 22 We had a dinner party tonight for the Whittons, Silchists, Eyssells, Chuck Abe (Ann is still in Florida) and Mary Zeiler. The Eyssells are having difficulties in getting their new house built. They have the necessary licenses etc but are having problems about materials.
March 23 We lunched with Fern and Rodney Wingo at their new home in McLean. Jimmy was there for his spring vacation from M.I.T. The new house is well arranged and comfortable but not handsome. Perhaps the Wingos regard it as a stop gap as Rodney is already thinking of retirement and a move to San Antonio.

March 24, 1980 Earl Johnson is dead in Wickliffe. Eldora died several years ago but Arthur still lives. We got loan our neighbor, Mr. Phillips, $65.00 for fallen timber on the Viets Conners property. I had not expected any income from what was actually a clean up job.

March 25 Vivian is in the hospital after a bad fall in her house. Fortunately Katherine Riddle was with her and got assistance. Long talk with Betty Lemmes who is to type my income tax return. She is desperately hanging on to her little farm, but is in a bad way financially.

March 26 Reading Kennan's "The Decline of Bismarck's European Order". A splendid book, centering on events in Russia. Then as now foreign policy was shaped more by domestic considerations than true foreign requirements. It is sad to think that the autocrats and the democracies follow the same ephemeral passions and prejudices.

March 27 My 80th birthday
I sometimes feel as though I
were 110. We had expected to
have a joint birthday party
with the Dennises, but had to
cancel that as the Sweeys and
three daughters arrived. The
Sweeys and three daughters
(Ann is holidaying in Florida)
are en route home from
visiting Harry and Jackie in
their new home in New Jer-
sey. Malcolm telephoned.
March 28 The star mag-
nolias are coming out
but have been nipped a
little by frost. The Sweeys
left this morning on their
long drive back to Devon.
Jimmy Mingo came by to
see us. Sea physicists are
scarce so he has a num-
ber of tempting offers, but
will perhaps go back to M.I.T.
for a masters degree
March 29 To a dinner party at
the Freds, which also included
Doris and Helen Sweeys. Helen
is still bravely holding out
at her country home, which
she calls a small one
although it seems a good
size to me. The Freds
are busily engaged in early
gardening activities.

March 30, 1980 To Autlands for Landlaw Day, although M. and I slunk away in time to miss most of the festivities. Byran Fanvold was there with his family, including his daughter in a wheel chair. She was in good spirits and seems to be mending. The Brownriggs came by this afternoon to bring me a bottle of Dry Sack as a belated birthday present.

March 31 I am busily engaged on Mary Soames's biography of her mother, Clementine Churchill, which Malcolm sent me for my birthday. It is almost the best book I have read on the Churchills, full of pertinent detail and well organized. Churchill was a responsible husband to an extent impossible for most of us, but actually less thoughtful than reticent men like.

April 1 our daffodils are blooming in profusion. Fletcher Cox, a friend of Averell Harrison, who is working a book about houses on the National Register, came by to see Woodburn.

April 2 The New York prime rate has gone to 20%, surely a messages of a coming crisis. Mailed our federal income tax return. No taxes for 1979. our magnolia soulangeana is about to bloom. The stellata is coming out.

April 3 To Dr. Reuter, who says that he plans to send some orders from the Mel. Gregers and Girard Nursery catalogues I had sent to him. The photographer from The Washington Star arrived. He seemed more interested in snapping me and the dogs than the building. Ann and Jim Cleary are with us for two days. They are here to drive Vivian back to Cape Cod. Vivian and Doris came to dinner.

April 4 We dined with the Lyons, a fried catfish dinner. Martha and her sisters grew up in Carbondale, Illinois and Arlyn was married in Cairo, so they love catfish as Margaret and I do. The Lyons house is a combination of a greenhouse and Victorian type ~~greenhouse~~ antique shop - full of furniture and plants.

April 5, 1980 The Cleaups left with Vivian this morning, their large car and a U-haul containes filled to the brim. I seem to be getting a head cold so, I spent part of my day in bed. The Internal Revenue Service is still after me to file quarterly reports (form 941) for Thompson and Charlie although when my 1975 reports were audited they were approved as agricultural workers.

April 6 My head cold continues to be offensive and painful. I have about decided after many years of fort to give up on Vines minor. We simply cannot keep the weeds out without destroying the vines roots.

April 7 The latest move in the Iranian situation is that we have broken diplomatic relations. What good that will do is by no means clear. I do hope that the possibility of a general Islamic movement has lessened. Our forsythia this year, especially the Karl Sax, is the finest I have ever seen. We really have too much but we cannot bear to eradicate any.

April 8 Leland Mahony, who came by today to pick up some plants, tells us that he is trying to be appointed a Carter delegate to the Democratic National Convention. Reading Justin O'Brien's Portrait of André Gide. I have had it for years and knew him when he was writing the book, but have not read it before. Justin had an unusual arrangement and shows much learning and ingenuity but does not quite bring Gide off as a great writer. Perhaps I am allergic to the whole tribe of French critics. Three writers: Chateaubriand, Constant, Lamartine, Sand etc. Balzac and France are my choices.

April 9 The Scarlangeana we got from Brooklyn Botanic Garden is doing very well and is recovering from the drastic tree surgery we gave it last year. The Virginia magnolia, however, is not developing very well.

April 10 Dined with Rogers Jr. and Barbara Fred. Among the other guests were the Petersens and Davis White. Rogers thinks that the decline in the prices of gold and silver will not materially affect the value of his coin collection

April 11, 1980 Mrs. Soames in her biography of her mother shows animus against Lord Moran, who was my dinner partner at a Sealies Club dinner a few years ago. He was full of amusing stories about Churchill, never ill natured but far from reverentional. Mrs Marshall later told me - and me that she had heard that Moran had to write his book to repair his financial position since Churchill never paid Moran for medical service.

April 12 Mailed my Virginia income tax return. No income tax due for 1979. Tommy (Dr. James Thomas) Jackson is dead at 79 - after several years of illness of some kind of heart disease. Alice Whitley arrived this afternoon to spend the weekend. We dined this evening with Doris White.

April 13 To the Outlands Point to Point Race. We gave our second (patron's) parking place to the Akres again and they had with them Jill Beach, Chuck's partner, Mr. Sordie, and his son. Alice was with us. We spread our luncheon with the Freds.

April 14 Alice left this morning. Reading "Free to choose" by Milton and Rose Friedman. An amusing book mixing sound elementary economics and cranky ideas. Like Felix Frankfurter (who had a childlike faith in government regulation) the Friedmans believe that the ills of society, many of them the product of ignorance and intolerance, can be cured by a change in institutions
April 15 To Tommy (Dr. J. T.) Jackson's funeral. He was a fine doctor with an unusual and sometimes prickly personality. He was 79. A native Tennessean he was a leader and sometimes obstinate man but I liked him very much. He has been suffering from heart problems for several years
April 16 Our old pear trees are blooming well this year. Reading Sullivan's "The Bureau"; the story of the F. B. I. under J. Edgar Hoover. One of the illusions of the 18th century philosophers was that democracy would render it impossible to have men like Hoover in high place, energetic but fatally flawed for public life

April 17, 1980 Colonel Grenata's campaign against raising teachers' salaries has evoked an angry letter from Eric Morrison in the Loudoun Times Mirror accusing the retired military of greedy claims against taxpayers. We had a dinner party tonight for the Akres, Rendergasts, Brauenriggs and Mahons. Leland Mahon has been selected as an alternate delegate to the Democratic National convention (a carter vote).

April 18 The stock market is slipping badly. I should have sold some ACF stock when it went to 42 but was undecided. Our neighbor, Mrs. William ~~Henderson~~ Harrison, has brought us some delicious homemade scrapple and strawberry preserves.

April 19 We dined with Helen Van Devanter, together with the Isaacs. Helen has sold her house (for, I believe about $190,000) and plans to move soon into her smaller house on Wirt Street. She is a lovely woman and must be fighting off hosts of admirers.

April 20 our eye doctor, Robert M. Johnston, asked me several years ago to let him know if we ever wanted to sell Woodburn. M- and I after a long period of worry have decided that we are too old to continue to live on and manage such a large place, so today we had the doctor with his wife and three children in to look it over. I am afraid that he is more interested in a large farm than he is in a historic site and large gardens.
April 21 Reading Michael Sadleir's Privilege, a very thin book for a man who was a fine critic and biographer. Our crabapple bloom is very heavy this year. Even the little Malus Sargentii is covered.
April 22 Herbert Saunders came by to see us. He is back at his old home across 704, having survived a bad spell of pneumonia this winter. He has just been baptized, a belated gesture. Reading Anatole France's "Little Pierre", a somewhat sketchy and meandering story of the author's childhood and youth. His memory of the 1848 revolution in Paris is interesting.

April 23, 1982. In view of the uncertain prospects of the stock market I have decided to sell the rest of my Adams Express stock, 1164 shares in addition to the 500 shares sold a few weeks ago. Took it to Harry Wright of Alexander Brown who got 12 for it.
April 24 ... flowering almonds are making a good show this year. We had a dinner party tonight for the Bert Harrisons, Winns, Douglas Phillips, Davis White and Elizabeth Riley. Poor Douglas Phillips is fading rapidly but remains his neat, cheerful self. He says that he should be in a nursing home but doesn't want to go.
April 25. The Exeter college Register has a good article on Geoffrey Cheshire. Cheshire had a cool, logical mind that took him further than his more fanciful colleagues at ~~Oxford. Reading~~ Oxford. Reading J. I. M. Stewarts, "The Guardians" a light and trivial look about Oxford in the nineteenth century.

April 24 Shep Sprunt came out from Washington to see us bringing his son, Andrew, who recently ran in the Boston Marathon, making a good finish but not winning. Erica is in Scotland with a singing group. A modest and attractive boy, Andrew much resembles his mother. After they left Arthur and Debbie Anderson, together with their sons Matthew and Timothy, Arthur astonished me by telling me that he was a director of Bill Buckley's "The National Review."

April 27 The Andersons left this morning, driving a new Audi station wagon which cost about $14,000.00. Rain continued. Bert Harrison blames the failure of the mission to rescue the Iranian hostages on the lack of cooperation between the air force, army and Marines.

April 28 Rereading Marcel Pagnol's "L'Eau des collines," a traditional story of villages in Provence, near Marseilles. Pagnol has gone back to old French types, including both humor and tragedy and using time-honored situations and family approaches.

April 29, 1980 Cyrus Vance has announced his resignation as Secretary of State, a decision made before the attempt to rescue the Iranian hostages. He was a good man, prudent and reliable, and the carter administration was wrong to let him go. I have had a recurrence of the bladder infection of three years ago. In spite of some adverse effects at that time I have begun to take macrodantin pills.

April 30 Serge Semenenko is dead at 76. He was a phoney in many ways but very alert in taking over - and in some cases improving - other people's ideas as he did to Bell Taylor and me in our new methods of financing motion pictures. My bladder problems continue.

May 1 My bladder is a little better and I have had no adverse effects from the macrodantin. We are sad because one of Irene's dessert plates (bequeathed by her to Ethel Fred and passed on by Ethel to us) has been broken. Each of the plates has some words and music of French familiar songs.

May 2 Margaret had a luncheon today for Susan Jones, Helen Skinner, Helen Swezey, Doris, Lewie and Rosalie. Susan says that Charlie has been quite sick. We have an announcement of Greg Whittaker's wedding to the girl we met at one of the family reunions.

May 3 Margaret has had another accident backing out of her place in the Safeway parking lot. The other car had a bent fender and the repair cost well mount up. Diana Firestone's filly, Genuine Risk, has won the Kentucky Derby, the second filly ever to win that race. Linda Rheem has been badly hurt in a motor car accident somewhere near Washington. our dogwood is unusually full of bloom this year.

May 4 Reading Lafore's "The Long Fuse". The events leading up to World War I have a melancholy but irresestible fascination for me, especially since I think I see World War III building up year after year. The Johnstons came by to go over Woodburn today. I cannot really judge whether or not they are deeply interested.

May 5, 1980 our Sargent's crab, which we moved last year to the border along 704, is blooming profusely. We had worried that the ground would be too wet, but no adverse results have occurred. Bought a $10,000.00 C.D. at Peoples Bank at 10.79%. Later in the day the rate dropped almost 1%.

May 6 our Viburnum Sieboldi just off the east terrace is blooming profusely. It is being crowded by the yoshino cherry and a large clump of cornus stolonifera so we have decided to eliminate the cornus. Reading a French translation of one of Laroc's books; "Quelle Famille"

May 7 Doris has put her house on the market at $325,000.00. The house itself is rather an ugly Victorian but is in perfect condition. There are 42 acres, some of it very well landscaped. There are many fine white oaks. Wendell Kline came to talk about an appraisal of Woodburn. My own guess is about $1,250,000.00, which would be a great bargain for gardeners.

May 8 Lura Melton Reals, the last of the children of Mart and Nettie Melton, is dead at 94. She was a charming young woman when I was a child, but did not have the effervescent personality that marked Bertha and Harry. Reading Agatha Christie's autobiography A really remarkable woman who succeed misfortune with dignity and competence.

May 9 our red English May tree (crataegus oxyacantha) is blooming well and so far shows no signs of the blight that affects it every year. Judy Magee has written an interesting article about uncle Alf Shelby and other members of the Shelby family. She says that uncle Alf was born in 1824 and came to Ballard county in 1841. All the Shelbys had an air of distinction as one would expect from near relations of the old governor.

May 10 Reading Ramsi's "The Later Churchills", a well written and interesting book but with too much emphasis on Sir Winston. It seems to me that Sir Winston was strongly influenced by the Jerome lineage and also by the Sunderland blood.

May 11, 1980 The Washington Star published the article today about Northern Virginia houses, including Woodburn. The picture of the house is good and one of Tallulah and me is good, especially of her. Margaret refused to be in the picture. The Star has a large circulation in Loudoun County and we have had several telephone calls.

May 12 Laurence Wilkinson is dead at 75. He was an intelligent man with a good sense of humor but always struck me as being unhappy with his lot. He had been an assistant of General Lucius Clay and had, I think, expected to succeed Clay in Germany but did not make the grade. At a meeting of the directors of Oatlands, we are embarking on some new programs which, I fear, may involve us in financial problems.

May 13 Pagnol's "Manon des Sources" shows some falling off from the first volume of "L'Eau des collines". He tries too hard to tie up all the ends, a la the Victorian novels, and uses too many motion picture techniques. Shucks, it is a good and well written book

May 14 our Exbury azaleas are blooming, although they continue to be screamy. Reading Lemonnier "La vie quotidienne en Angleterre Sous Elizabeth". It is full of interesting detail but sometimes it seems to me a little out of focus. It devotes too many pages, it seems to me, to swindlers and bawdry: on the other hand it covers well the games and pastimes of the people.
May 15 To Dr. Reuter, who gave me a new prescription for medication. My blood pressure was 126 over 80, which, I am told that of a healthy high school boy. The Kline father and son, paid us a second visit and went over the fields in preparation for their appraisal.
May 16 To Oatlands for the wine and cheese party, which was disappointing because so few attended. Most of those who came were the Oatlands Council. Reading Ruth Michaelis-Jena's "The Brothers Grimm". A book full of interest, including the fact that two great scholars are remembered chiefly for their fairy tales.

May 17, 1980 Margaret participated today in the Keesling 3 mile walk, being the oldest participant except Billy Cox. To a large luncheon party given by Dick and Joan Williams to announce their sons engagement. From there we went on to the dinner party given by the Freds in honor of their house-guests, the Lindquists.

May 18 We gave a dinner party tonight for the Lindquists, Freds, Cutters and Isaacs. I gather that the Lindquists are tiring of their home near Matheuss It is a large place and requires much effort from aging owners. Ba Cutler says that the recent influx of cubans is upsetting homeowners in Key West

May 19 My trees and shrubs order from Mellinger's has arrived late and some of the items are in poor condition. I see that the Goodhouse firm is now headed by Chas. B. Lauren, Carl S. Rose and Frank B. Stone. Jim Crimmins, Stannard Dunn, Harold Manner and Melvin Goodman are of counsel.

May 20 Continued rain. Reading Agatha Christies "Flux et Reflux". The lady's books are stereotyped, banal and superficial but they have the one great quality necessary for a novelist. They are interesting.

May 21 The yearbook of the City Bar for 1980 contains a list of members dead within the last few years. From the list it appears that Lewis L. Bissell died in 1976 and that Clair B. Hughes died in 1978. Bissell was a wealthy and cultivated man and passed his last few years as a fine bridge player (displaying, no doubt, his ability as a student of higher mathematics) Hughes was a charming man but had, as far as I can recall, few interests outside the law.

May 22 The old wisteria on our gallery, which lack year we think is about to give up the ghost, is blooming profusely. There are, however, no signs of bloom on the vigorous tree wisteria in the big clump near the stable. We dined with the Akres tonight, together with the Eyssells.

May 23, 1980 Reading Chroskes "L'Affaire Prothero". To a cocktail party at Elizabeth Rileys. We are very fond of Elizabeth and are warned that her health seems to be failing a little.

May 24 Elizabeth Riley came to lunch, bringing with her a Mrs. Bowers, whose association with Elizabeth goes back to their young days in Birmingham. Bill Harrison came by for trees and shrubs for his new house. Bill has been very successful so far in his farming and real estate operations. I hope that he is not a victim to what seems to me to be approaching misfortunes for farmers.

May 25 Rain again today. This wet spell has saved the new trees and shrubs from Girard and Mellinger's. Our American holly is blooming lavishly this year Reading Mayer's "The Fate of the Dollar". The book, while informative, seems to me to be too much concerned with technical detail and too little concerned with underlying problems and causes.

May 26 The wild roses which line so many roads and infest so many fields in Loudoun county are blooming profusely. They have become a great pest, although lovely in bloom, in our old orchard. We dined with the Fields tonight

May 27 The news has come that Jane Howard has died in her sleep in their new Florida home. She has been in failing health for several years but none of us realized that her end was near. Reading Tucker's Life in Ancient Athens. I think that it must have been written for prep school students but it is well organized, full of interesting detail and sound in judgment.

May 28 Our trees and shrubs are growing at a great rate, no doubt benefitting from a wet season. Our Kentucky coral honeysuckle is blooming handsomely along the fence in the west garden. The cotoneaster di ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] along the bank of the east lawn has grown rapidly but is having a struggle with weeds and vines

May 29, 1980 Larry Thompson writes about Richard's approaching marriage and his (Larry's) new girl friend. I assume that the marriage with Ann is in abeyance or on the point of dissolution. Reading S. H. Lewes' "Life and Work of Sartre", a moving and appealing book in spite of Lewes' tendency to ramble and some Victorian prejudices. For instance he gives too much attention to the boy and girl romance with Frederika.

May 30 our drains are stopped and McCanns men are pounding and pushing in the basement. We went to Maitlands this evening for the opening of the gift shop, for which we have secured the services of Sarah Cutler. Elizabeth Riley dined with us

May 31 Malcolm writes that Doris Brownell died a few months ago and that one of Herb's daughters is living with him. Herb is now of counsel to Reed, Doyle & Lord. Joe Prendergast says that Hank Weaver has swung far to the right politically, practically a Republican Party man.

June 1 Tom Garner seems disillusioned with his Florida church. His congregation seems to lack both culture and piety. Tom would be happiest in a small parish such as he had in Leesburg as as a teacher, but new postulates are hard to find and financially unpromising and college jobs are still harder to find. To Waterford this afternoon to hear Phil Brownings lecture, with the slides she took on our trip to England and Scotland

June 2 our Philadelphus Enchantment is blooming lavishly. We got this one specimen from Wayside several years ago. We should have bought several as it blooms when most shrubs have ceased blooming

June 3 E. D. (Davis) Coburn is dead at 91. Also Ruby Gleason Johnson. Her husband, Earl, died several weeks ago. We have received the Kline appraisal of Woodburn, $1,751,400.00. My own guess had been about $1,300,000.00. It seems to me unlikely that any sucker can be found to pay the Kline figure.

June 4, 1980 our 48th wedding anniversary. It still seems unlikely that either me or the marriage can have lasted so long. Reading Adams' "Watership Down", a curious and even a silly book about rabbits, but one that has some of the interest that tales of struggle and adventure always carry.

June 5 The local Security office has applied to me for information about Charlie Rinker and has told me that he is applying for social security. We are married because we will be in real trouble if Charlie leaves us. Larry Thompson writes an amusing note about the Canadian-American Boundary Dispute commission, the members of which receive $72,000.00 per annum. I had thought that the commission went out with A.D. Stanley

June 6 Wrapping books for mailing. It rained all day but cleared up in time for the Oatlands dinner. our scheduled entertainers fell down on us at the last minute but Martha Lynch and her family put on a made to order skit.

June 7 We took Doris to Waterford tonight to see a revival of "you can't Take it with You". The old play is somewhat dated, but it was done very well with Juhen and Betty Schenck as the Sycamores, Margaret Morton as Alga and Tommy Rollins as Tony Kirby.

June 8 With the Freds to Army Distaff House to pick up Rene Eberle who joined us as the guests of the Freds at lunch at the Columbia Country Club. The Army Distaff House is a handsome place and Rene has a commodious room with many pictures and pieces of furniture from her old home. Her room is near an exit so she says she lives in the "red-light District.

June 9 We dined with Helen Surgey last night. This year is an excellent one for bloom in privet, both as specimens and in hedges. our Evonymus acuta is also blooming. Reading Paul Scott's "The Jewel in the Crown", an intricate novel about India in the last years of British rule. Most interesting although one finds it difficult to follow.

June 10, 1980 I am suffering from bites from my old enemy, chiggers. When I was a boy we rubbed ourselves with bacon rinds but that seems a drastic remedy now. I am interested to find that crabapple seedlings seem to do best in rather dry places like our parking lot and crevices in the brick walls.

June 11 Lilian Fellows is dead, ~~succeeded~~ succeeded by a very few months Reading Blake's life of Disraeli. A competent book but one leaving me still confused about that remarkable man. The keys to his achievements must have been his courage and literary skill but I could never have liked or understood him.

June 12 Mailed 5 cartoused books to U. K. Mostly sun of the mine rejects from our library. The Feeds dined with us tonight Rogers says that his only recent investments have been municipal bonds. He says that his guess as to the value of Woodburn is about $1,500,000.00.

June 13 Betty Babson telephoned that Leonard Moore had been in Massachusetts General Hospital, probably as a result of a light stroke, but was at home again. Mr. Humphries one of the directors of the 100 mile ride, came by to see me to make some last minute arrangements. Wood burn is the last stop before the termination of the ride.

June 14 Transplanting small crabapple seedlings to the cold frame. Am astonished again to find that they flourish best in the dry, inhospitable gravel parking lot. Perhaps they hate wet feet and get more sun in the gravel. Tonight we had the usual crowd for the 100 mile ride. A gala event for the horse lovers.

June 15 To Reynolds Jewelers to buy a present for Richard Thompson's wedding. ~~Then to the lily show, Mrs. Simmons, the chief speaker~~ Today has been a bad one. The electricity went off at 4 P.M. and we had to eat cold canned foot. Vepco is in a very bad way in spite of high prices.

June 16, 1950 The plans for the luncheon at Woodburn for the judges and other guests at the State Lily Show, have been more exciting than anything since the Virgin Birth. Lois Crane, now in her middle eighties, is the co-hostess and is as energetic and forseeing as the builder of a superitanker. She comes here once a day and telephones twice June 17 To ~~talk~~ cook, bill for the dinner for the Lily Show people. The star of the evening was Mrs. Simmons, one of the leading English lily growers, who is to be a judge and deliver the chief address of our show. Most of our garden club ladies seem to me to know more about social entertaining than flowers.
Jan. 18 our luncheon for about 50 guests. The day is a fine one and our grounds were at their best Mr. Simmons, the somewhat elderly husband of the guest of honor, didn't have any interest in the planting but took many pictures. Mrs. Crane, frail but indomitable, stayed until the very end.

June 19 To the Lily Show. Mrs Simmons was so amused at my account of talking my way into the Physic Garden in London that she mentioned it in her speech today and has asked me to write a letter to the then Director, now retired. We were much pleased with the number and quality of the lilies entered in the show. Davis dined with us.

June 20 At Mrs. Simmons request I wrote letters to William Mackenzie, retired director of the Physic Garden, and Mea Allen, author of delightful books on the Hookers and Tradescants. To night we took the Birchfields to the large dinner party given by Dana Wills at her fine house near the Plains in honor of the Simmons and others. Had a long conversation with Mrs. Wainwright, a Miami lawyer who was close to the late Mr. and Mrs. David ~~Fairchild~~ Fairchild. A number of the Grasvenors were at the party.

June 21 To the party celebrating the golden wedding anniversary of Bessie Mead and Lacey Tynes. Like M- and me they are battered but mobile

June 22, 1950 We saw Henry and Martha Waalman at the Cutts party two days ago. Neither of them seemed very well. Tonight we went to a dinner party given by the E. B. Whites. I had the mis-fortune to be cornered by Colonel Grenata, who is a sort of one man committee for the Extreme Right

June 23. Very hot. Our yucca plants, moved from the east of the garage to the bed by the lilac crescent, are blooming merily. I am going through old diaries gathering material to help a proposed biographer of Frank L. McVey. He left a reputation of austerity at least before his marriage to Francis Jewell, but I remember him as friendly and genial and he appears as such in my diary.

June 24 Martha Lyman has brought us a fine lily as a memento of the Lily Show. The name is Lemon Glow. To see Mrs. Crane and take back some odds and ends from the party. She lives all alone in a handsome old farm house, much improved.

June 23 Reading C. P. Snow's "In Their Wisdom". I can never really understand Snow's great reputation. His characters seem to me to be two dimensioned and the motives unconvincing. I have written to Joe Rogers that M- and I have decided to sell Wardown. It seems unlikely to me that either Joe or Sam would really be interested, their chief interest being in horses, but Donna is much interested in our gardens.

June 24 Shopping in Leesburg. As a sort of memorial gesture I have bought a copy of the late J. P. V. D. (Dacres) Balsdons "Romans and Aliens". Balsdon belonged to the little sexually group at Exeter college and I never knew him well, but his unusual facial features and mocking humor made him a marked man.

June 27 Rereading Barbara Tuchman's "The Guns of August", still, in my opinion, the best popular account of the beginning of World War I. We are probably getting ready for World War III by a similar process of bluff and bluster. No one wants war and everyone provokes it.

June 28, 1980 This is a good year for bloom on the mimosa trees. They produce many seedlings but do not transplant well. Helena tells us that young Billy Cates's marriage broke up after a short time and that Billy is trying to get free June 29. our day lilies are coming along very well, although the ones along route 704 are full of grass and weeds. We had a bad storm today and our electricity went off.

June 30 our place looks like a typhoon casualty but actualy we have only only two serious losses A large native willow on the lower of the patent house has blown over and the large red maple in front of the smoke house is so badly broken that it will have to go. Our men will be busy trimming and cutting for several days. None of the evergreens or smaller deciduous trees show much damage. Elizabeth Raley gave us lunch. Our electricity came on this afternoon.

July 1 Rodney Wingo tele-
phoned. Gary intends to
resign his commission
soon (West Point graduates
have to continue in service
for a certain period), after
which he will take some
post graduate engineering
studies. Our plum
trees are heavy with fruit.
July 2 C. P. Snow, the novelist,
is dead at 74. His technical
skill was always, but I
never really cared much for
his books. One never really
cares much for the characters
and their activities never ster
interest. The J. Ray McDermott
company, which already has
a large block of Pullman
stock, is attempting to ac-
quire more so that it
can get control. Pullman
has had many problems,
but the most always is
that of the defective subway
cars made for New York city.
July 3 our electricity is
off again. Doris gave us
breakfast. I have a long
letter from Daly Randolph.
His gifted son is entering
Harvard Law School this fall.
Daly is anxious to talk to
me about his grandparents and
other relatives.

July 4, 1950 To Leesburg to buy a fresh salmon for our dinner party. We danced with the Freds. The other guests were the Whittens, Doris White, Blanche ~~Sawyer~~ Sawyer and the Mains. Aunt Ted is smiling and happy, but is far from his old self.

July 5. Our electricity went off twice today. I am afraid that Venice is in a bad way. It was one of the earlier converts to nuclear power and its new plants have never worked well. Obviously it is going to have to convert to coal but I cannot see how it is going to realize the new capital.

July 6 Our power returned last night and came on only in the late afternoon. We had a poor breakfast at the Quality Inn. Tonight we had a dinner party for the Freds, Mains, Davis and Blanche Sawyer. Fresh salmon, a great favorite of ours. Rogers walks much better. In spite of all our doubts the chiropractor seems to have helped him. Ethel, however, is not well.

July 7 our magnolia grandiflora, much battered in recent winters, is recovering and even producing some bloom. Reading Cecil Woodham Smiths life of Victoria up to the death of the Prince consort, poised, witty and fair. one is again reminded how much tolerance and common sense Victoria had. Her poor education made her fallible but she made up for it by good instincts and ~~judgment~~ julgment

July 8 Another storm today. Duke Elliott is dead at 86. His sisters, Lela Bell, and Uldene Arington, are cousin Sis' only surviving children. our new prunus cistena is doing well but the ~~apulus~~ ubumum apulus is dead.

July 9 The recent storm has badly damaged many of the trees at oatlands, especially the oak grove. The large Kentucky coffee trees are ruined. Mrs. Walters (Caroline Arthur's mother) has sent me a clipping from The Mayfield Messenger to the effect that the business section of Wingo, Ky., is to be rehabilitated by the federal government at a cost of $1,000,000.00.

July 10, 1980 We had a dinner party tonight for Chuck, Helen and Bill Moore, the Liningers, Freds and ~~Moores~~ Doris. All of the Moore offspring seem to be employed but are trying to get new jobs. Bill Moore is still in ~~Toulon~~ Tucson. Fred Lininger says that he and his bank continue to represent Liberia despite the new revolutionary party which has seized control there. Joe Rogers telephoned to say that the Rogers family are interested in Woodburn

July 11 Flew to Springfield this morning, by TWA to St. Louis and Ozarks to Springfield - Thurston, Betty and Children met me. Bernice and Virginia were already there, having motored from Bastrop and Loretta, Hilson, Louise, Sary and children arrived in the early afternoon. Mary Emma and her new husband, Jesse Arwin arrived in the late afternoon. Betty and Thurston have built a roomy and very comfortable new house. They have put in some excellent planting but the great heat and drought are damaging it.

July 12 The temperature went to 107° today. We are lodged in a comfortable motel and so sleep well. Jesse Amiss, born in 1918, is an original. He has a very long forked beard and is a devout Baptist, but that did not prevent him from drinking two highballs of Jack Daniels bourbon. He says grace at length and Louise and I were caught eating at our first meal together, not expecting devotions. Kettle Hugh is over 6' and weighs 280 lbs. He seems to be a studious boy. He and Margaret both have excellent lent manners.

July 13 Virginia is leaving in a few weeks for a trip to Germany where she will see the Russian Play in oberammergau. She seems almost completely recovered from the trauma of Talmage's death. We have vacated about a good deal, but cannot take much pleasure in the country because of the heat and the drought. Bury had to leave early today to report for duty in Lexington but missed his plane connection in St. Louis. Thurston, who seems very prosperous, has bought a new plot for his business

July 14: 1950 The party broke up this morning and the Watts took me to Springfield, from whence I had an easy flight. I even had time for a hot dog in St. Louis. Took a bus from National Airport to Dulles, where M- met me. I'm afraid I was a little superficial on Missouri about the heat. Aside quota before a fall. It is terribly hot here.

July 15: Still very hot. Davis has sold her place for $315,000.00, which seems to us to be a good price. Jane Birchfield says that she wants to write an article on our achievements as landscapers, especially the trees. It seems to me that our failures (the dove-trees, fern-leaf beeches etc) are as interesting as our successes.

July 16 Alan Valentine is dead at 79. He was a very handsome and attractive man who became prominent at an early age. I see that A.L. Jenner's firm will get a fee (on a contingency basis) of $90,000,000. if the MCI victory over AT&T holds up on appeal.

July 17 To Dr. Reuter. He says that his garden is suffering from lack of rain. our white delphiniums, few in number are fine this year. Reading Norah Lofts "The Concubine", a novel based on Anne Boleyn's love affair and marriage. I do not know whether the history is accurate but the story is good.
July 18 our magnolia grandiflora is blooming, but not profusely. Dining recently with the Akres, who are currently living in the Devine cottage, I was impressed with the Devine planting. Their sorbaria Aitchisoni is more luxuriant than ours and their Florida privet, skilfully protected, is handsome and full of bloom.
July 19 We are having very hot days and have turned on the airconditioner in the upstairs living room (our one room with air c.). We never used it last year. our abelia grandiflora, which was moved to a new position north of the smokehouse last year, has made a fine recovery but its profuse bloom is almost white, probably as a result of more shade.

July 20, 1980 Great heat continues. Reading Alex De Yonge's "Fire and Water", a biography of Peter the Great. One wonders at the great reputation Peter got as the introducer of European culture into Russia. He no doubt took over much technological data from the west, but seems to have neglected the true culture and institutions of Europe. Indeed Russia has not yet taken on those ideas and practices.

July 21 our boys have mastered the art of clipping ~~hedges~~ privet hedges at such times and in such fashions as to keep them always brown and leafless.

July 22 our friend Campbell from up the road has managed to take down the ruined red maple in front of the smokehouse without injuring the small trees around it - all for the wood. Reading Ravage's "Grandeur et Decadence de la Maison Rothschild", a spirited and interesting book. But I still am unable to understand the swiftness of their rise in the world.

July 23 We have had a good rain, which began yesterday. Dorothy Want is in very bad health and has become almost a recluse, living in her small and inconvenient house.

July 24 The Akers dined with us. Their house in Waterford, which has been renovated, is ready for occupancy and they are off to their Maine house for a few weeks. Reading Swanberg's "Whitney Father-Whitney Heiress", a well researched and highly readable story of the traction magnate and his daughter, Dorothy, who married Willard Straight. The old man was an attractive chap in some ways - as was his daughter - but the other characters were stupid dopes.

July 25 To dinner with the Cunnell Harrisons, where the guests of honor were Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland and Michael Brinsley, the new President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Then on to the Conversation at which Senator Mathias was the speaker. An attractive man.

July 24, 1950 We have cut our gasoline usage to about half of the amount consumed in earlier years, largely because we drive less. Rodney Wingo telephoned to say that Fern had had another bad fall and that she was on crutches again.

July 27 Alfred Dennis and Carol Jackson came to see us to discuss the sale of Woodburn. Our first job is to prepare a brochure. It is amazing how much vague and ~~boneless~~ formless information we have on the place, ~~also~~ dates etc, and how little real proof we have.

July 28 The great heat continues. I have at last begun on the first volume of Lewis's letters, the Warnie edition. Young Warn has done a great deal of research and has left us all in his debt, but his language is occasionally cribbed and there are misprints. He does bring out very well Lewis's great unhappiness and isolation after Mary killed her mother and Lewis's sarcasm and strong preferences, even with Coleridge, on matters of taste.

July 29 Talked to Thompson, who has been with us 21 years, about our plan to sell Woodburn. As I feared his is disturbed, but I made it clear to him that we expected that the purchaser would want to keep him and that, in any event we would stand by him until he found a new job. We lunched today at the Summit Hill Restaurant.

July 30 one of the pieces of furniture that will have to go when we move into a smaller house is my roll top desk that was left in the house when we bought Langfields. M- and Helen Swezey have read that roll top desks are worth $1000.00 each and they are looking for a sucker. I am amused in reading the Whitney book to see that Howland Auchincloss was one of the suitors of Dorothy Whitney. Had that been a match Howland might not have sired the son, the famous novelist.

July 31 Sarah Cutter has remarried - to a Mr. Jack Silver. At the reunion Hilson had a copy of the Stahl genealogy (Eliza Campbell's mother was a Stahl). A remarkable production with much material about the Felands.

Aug. 1, 1980 Doris died with us
She has about finished
dismantling her house and
is almost ready to give pos-
session to the purchaser.
I see by The New York Times
that Carl S. Rowe is dead at
70. He was a senior partner
in the Chadbourne firm, but
I always remember him as
the shy, friendly lad who
joined us there in the 30s.
Aug. 2 Very hot. At home all
day except when we took
Kathryn home. our ilex
opaca is full of berries
this year, making up for the
last two years when they
were almost barren.
Aug. 3 Continued hot. Am
reading Barbara Goldsmith's
"Little Gloria, Happy at Last", a
well written but disgusting
book. One bright spot is
the love and never-failing
support of the three sisters,
Gloria, Thelma and Consuelo.
The trial was a reproach to
our legal system, which, of
course, is not adapted at
all for such problems. The
press seems to have been at
its worst. Old Tom Gilchrist,
never one admired by me, gets
some adverse comment.

Aug. 4 Stuart Knower estimates the value of Woodburn to be from 1.5 million to 1.7 million. Helen thinks that it might be built up to $1.75, but that that would make it harder to sell. Since there are some needed improvements, such a painting the roof of the big barn, a new roof for the corn crib etc, we are thinking of asking $1.6 million

Aug. 5 Packing books for the University of Kentucky. Now that we have finally decided to leave Woodburn the need to speed up discards becomes painful but urgent. Helen Williams and some of her associates were out today to take more pictures and get information.

Aug. 6 To a meeting of the Oatlands Board. It becomes more evident to me as time passes that Oatlands will be facing some serious financial problems before long. The federal government has already begun to pull in its belt and the depression is cutting private gifts. Sarah Dickson Cutter, now remarried, has resigned from her job as head of the gift shop. Tom Kane, here to look at the storm damage, came by to see us.

Aug. 7, 1980 After much thought we have priced Woodburn at $1,600,000.00. The Kline appraisal was $1751,400.00, but we are conscious that a few maintenance and capital expenses are necessary to put the place in better condition.

Aug. 8 Signed the brokerage contract today, with Helen Williams and Stuart Knower. They are working on a sales brochure, the cover of which will show the meeting of the hunt in front of Woodburn. This picture was taken by Winslow Williams somewhere around 1940 and is our favorite.

Aug. 9 We dined with Helen Sweezey, having first been present at the blessing of the newly-completed guest house. The priest, a charming young man, is the new rector at the Purcellville Catholic Church. Helen's son, Tug, and his wife and children were also there. Reading Sylvia Jukes Morris' life of Edith Kermit Roosevelt, a charming and well written book. Mrs. Roosevelt was not always sympathetic but was probably just the wife for the volatile Teddy.

Aug. 10 Prospective purchasers are beginning to come in to see Woodburn. Today we had the Kramer family who now have a house in the area. Be in the head of the Hazeltine Laboratories where Mrs. Thompson works.

Aug. 11 Winslow and Helen Williams were out today to take more pictures for the brochure. In spite of all the hundreds of pictures taken over the years few of them seem quite right for the sales brochure. It seems impossible to get any really satisfactory picture of the gardens, which to my mind, are the chief attractions of Woodburn.

Aug. 12 Joe L. Wear of Wickliffe is dead at 83. I am getting into volume 2 of Lewes' life of Goethe. Although somewhat discursive in style and occasionally formless in narrative, the author seems to have a clear consciousness of Goethe's urbanity and general approach to the problems of his time. One wonders how the Germans of a later time abandoned so much in their narrow chauvinism

Aug. 13, 1980 Jerome A. Newman is dead at 83. I would be a much wealthier man today had I taken more advantage of his friendly suggestions. I lunched with M's bridge foursome. Our resurrection lilies are handsome this year. Bob Coogan has sent me some valuable publications on my tax problems arising from the proposed sale of Woodburn.

Aug. 14 Our roll top desk, from which M- and Helen Swezey expected a large price, turns out to be a cheap reproduction, passed by from Sears and Roebuck. So it will go to the rummage sale. Helen Williams has published the sale of Woodburn

Aug. 15 The roll top desk, which M- and Helen Swezey hoped to sell for $1,000.00 proves to be of the wrong type and of no value. M- had also painted it a baby blue which didn't help. The Williams are advertising Woodburn in the Loudoun Times-Mirror, an impressive ad, but one wonders whether it will bring the $1.6 million.

Aug. 15 Jimmy Dietz is going into the hospital for an operation for hernia. To the Patches for a large party. Starting with a small, hunting-lodge-type house, they have added on until it is a large and comfortable place. The Patch parties tend to be loaded with old military, but this one also had many of Lorraine's old friends. Bill tells me that there has been no official stoppage of promotions in the army, but that promotions are being held down for budgetary reasons.

Aug. 16 To the Devines for their 25th wedding anniversary. Their daughter, Mary's, engagement was also announced. Dan's new job, administrative judge in Washington, is much more lucrative than his former job, District Attorney, which is fortunate as they have children to educate.

Aug. 17 The Wingates took us to dinner today at the Meadow Lark Inn at Rockville, Md. A good dinner and a pleasant drive. The good country inn, once a pleasant fixture in American life, is now an almost a lost institution.

Aug. 18, 1980 As Thompson is away I had to buy a gallon of milk - at $2.08 including sales tax. our clematis paniculata, which we cut back heavily in the spring, is full of buds. Ed Jamison has sent me an obituary of Ellen V. Butler Stultzman who has died at 78. I had always thought of her as much younger than I.

Aug. 19 Mrs. Simmons dutifully forwarded my letter to Mr Mackenzie, the retired director of the Apothecaries Garden in London (where she had made me write), and he has answered with a charming letter. Jane Birchfield spent several hours with me in preparation of the articles she is preparing about my activities as a gardener.

Aug. 20 Bill Harrison has brought us some honey dew melons and canteloupes from his own garden. We never get any good ones. Famous Jane Bate, who has also visited Margaret like of Maugham says that Maugham was not a pleasant person except in his own home.

Aug. 21 The Freds and Dans White dined with us. Reading Frank Morley's The Great North Road, a book without much of a thesis but full of story and interesting detail gathered, seemingly at random, from English history. He discusses at length the differences between the invaders who came to make new homes and the Vikings who sought plunder.

Aug. 22 Mailed 6 cartons of books to U. K. The New York Times has printed an interview with Michael M. Thomas, the author of a novel, "Green Monday", which has aroused some interest (but which I have not seen). He is the son of my old Lehman Brothers friend, Joe Thomas, who was one of the more intelligent business men I have known. Young Thomas' theme is that America has a very poor grade of business men, poorly educated and bumptious.

Aug. 23 The Brauns-riggs gave a large barbecue tonight. The house, a handsome stone building on Dry Mill Road seems to be comfortable and we ate on a large stone patio. The best steak I have had in a long time

Aug. 24, 1950 Bill Dawsons
father and mother have built
a large new home on S. Monroe
Park Road near the Isaac's home
and were kind enough to
show it to us this after-
noon. We liked it very much
All of us then had cocktails
with the Isaacs and we then
went on to a family dinner
with the Tom Taylors. They
have an attractive family, es-
pecially Jenny, who is a
poet and teacher.
Aug. 25 Mailed another box of
books to Loretta. She is an
omnivorous reader and of
course has no ready access
to bookstores. Reading Ronald
Steel's "Walter ~~Stee~~ Lippmann and the
American Century": Lippmann
was almost the best example
of the highly educated and fa-
cile intellectual type who
managed to be enormously
successful in spite of
contradictory impulses and
sometimes shallow judgments.
Aug. 26 Dined with the Freds
together with Blanche Sow-
ers and Doris White. Bill
Macdonald has asked us
whether we would be interested
in buying 3/4 of an acre
of his land as a site of a new
house.

Aug 27 With the Cockards to Middletown to see Some Time, Next Year in a matinee performance, after which we came back to Woodbury for dinner. There were only two in the cast, Judith Reagan as Doris and Richard Cathcart Warner as George. Each was quite competent. Pete gave me some details about the controversy leading to the $10,000,000.00 lawsuit against Mrs. Carr. I am afraid that the poor woman got beyond the depth in her real estate investments.

Aug. 28 The clematis paniculata is flowering bountifully this year, and the whole yard is scented. We dined with the Deckers tonight, together with B. Taylor, Roger Bannister and the Brannigans. Dougherty says that their big house is becoming a great burden.

Aug. 29 To the MacDonalds to see the site they have offered us. We examined the plans for the model house he proposes to have Sam build, and also drove to see one recently built on Mt Tilead. Back to the MacDonalds for lunch.

Aug. 30, 1950 Herbert Saunders, who had gotten religious and gone on the wagon, has relapsed and gotten himself killed in a tractor accident. He was really a nice fellow, honest, trustworthy and a very neat gardener, but his intemperance ruined his life. We have had a nibble for Woodburn from the great Russian dancer, Rudolf Nureyef who has hinted that he might pay $1,200,000.00. The whole idea is ridiculous as he seems to have no present idea of giving up the ballet.

Aug. 31 We dined with Dick and Joan Williams. In spite of the great heat Dick took us over the famed garden which must have been the pride and joy of the Finleys. Dick is a handsome and precise man, of medium height and seems to be a bit of an aesthete.

Sept. 1 Our rhododendron is blooming, having recuperated quickly from last month's chill. Reading Hawks's John D. Rockefeller, the Founding Father of the Rockefellers. A rather thin book to one acquainted with persons, but with some realistic and interesting personal data.

Sept. 2 To Herbert Saunders' funeral. It was well attended and a number of people stopped me to talk about Herbert. We took our donations to Maitland for the rummage sale, including an old decanter and several new towels. Saw Lucy Jones, who looks frail but in good spirits.

Sept. 3 George S. ("Gus") Hills is dead at 79. He was a gay and attractive young man who did amateur vaudeville turns and amused us all with an infectious laugh. His first venture into tug-boats was to take a partnership with old Stanwood Menehen, a move that turned out badly during Menehen's decline. Gus then moved to and became the head of the Hoge firm.

Sept. 4 Mr. Weinstein, Nuremberg attorney from Chicago, together with Mrs. Parsons from King & Carmichael and Woodrow Turner from the Hull office spent almost a half day going over Wood Lawn and discussing it. I have strong reservations, which I explained to them, about an artist trying to run a place like Woodlawn ~~in absentia~~ but Weinstein wasn't married.

Sept. 5, 1950 The Tuds dined with us and Rogers and I went on to the conversations at Oatlands to hear Vice Admiral Marmaduke B. Bagne discuss the situation in the Near East. He said in a good many words what we already knew: that no one really knows what is going to happen in that complex world.

Sept. 6 To the Oatlands jumble sale where I bought a few books, mostly paperbacks. The old decanter, which Juanita gave us many years ago (and which we had donated to the sale) brought $95.00. Nicole Sours, our new director, has tried hard but has had little support, so the proceeds will not be large.

Sept. 7 We dined with the Bowman Cutlers, the other guests being the Esselles, Lucie Bate and Elizabeth Riley. Bo seems to be so much better health and spirits since his operation. He says that young Bo is reasonably optimistic about Carter's reelection prospects.

Sept. 8 Rereading, for the first time in many years, Bowers' "Beveridge and the Progressive Era". One forgets how many of the controversies now going on had their first airings in the 1912 period. Beveridge, like Lippmann, had a good many foolish attitudes but had an alert mind and a good deal of range. He was really a finer man than Teddy Roosevelt and his lives of Marshall and Lincoln are better books than any of Roosevelts.

Sept. 9 The Ballingers, who live in our miller's cottage, are heartbroken over the death of their Dalmation, Freckles. He was a playmate of our Tallahah and an enemy of our Twiggy. I see by the report of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden that Leonard P. Moore has resigned from its Governing committee, of which he was formerly Chairman. I fear that he is in a bad way

Sept. 10 Took 4 boxes of books to Rogers Fred for the Shenandoah College of which he is a trustee. To the large party for E. B. White's birthday - the seventieth I think. He is in poor health and looks older, but he continues his legal practice with some success.

Sept. 11, 1980 To Dr. Reuter. He has just returned from a vacation in Germany and is very much pleased at the prosperity and comfort he found there. Hilson writes that Willie is doing well in his new pharmacy. He gets the trade from a large hospital across the street.

Sept. 12 At Vinton Pickens' invitation we went to St James Church to hear Admiral La Racque on the prospects of nuclear war and to see the documentary film about war having no winners. Some of the old army group, Col. Grenata, Bert Harrison, Dr. McRaney and even Bell Patch were on hand to give the Admiral rough questioning.

Sept. 13. To the Virginia Museum party at Rokeby. It is now owned by a young couple named Knop. He is a lawyer turned coal exporter. The place has run down somewhat since the days of the Moores, but the new owners are trying to rehabilitate it. The willow oaks we gave the Moores are thriving and the small lake is handsome.

Sept 14 our drought has proven to be much more serious than we had anticipated. We have lost a few trees and shrubs and our lawns and meadows are getting brown. We have of course watered the best of the new plants bought this year such as the chinese and cherokee stain dogwoods but some of the small evergreens are in trouble.

Sept. 15 Beatrix Taylor has had some kind of seizure and is in the hospital. She has not been having well for some time. I am not feeling very well and have had to renounce my trip to Bastrop Louisiana, for Bernice 80th birthday. Her hearing, like mine is failing a little, but she is well preserved in the whole

Sept. 16 Talked to Betty Pratt today to let her know that I couldn't make it to Bastrop for Sis' birthday party. She says that the temperatures in the Springfield area are still running at 96° in the afternoons. Their business is holding up well although a little off from last year. The newspapers indicate great crop damage in the general area.

Sept. 17, 1980 Cal and Mrs. Bertram are giving up the inn at Purcellville after 12 years. They are an admirable couple and I hope they have enough for an easy retirement. Reading Darmesteter's life of Ernest Renan. Sugary but quite an adequate book. A faithful account by a friend, even a much younger friend, makes up somewhat for inadequacy on research.

Sept. 18 The Akres are back although the renovation of their small house in Waterford is not quite completed. The cost has been much more than they anticipated. Chuck loves projects, however, and Ann's taste is good, so that they will have something to show for their work and money.

Sept. 19 Doris dined with us. She is very happy in her new small house rented from the Devines. Moorcones has filled our fuel oil and Thompson's kerosene tanks $: 816.5 gallons of fuel oil at 97.9¢ per gallon and 217.6 gallons of kerosene at 1.059¢ per gallon. The troubles in the Persian Gulf area are likely to push prices up again.

Sept. 20 With the Isaacs to a large party at the Eyssells at Rosemont. Their new house, on 704 just out of Hamilton, will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks. They have built a somewhat modified replica of one of the Rockefellers' houses in Williamsburg.

Sept. 21 M- and I listened to the Reagan-Anderson debate tonight. This has been a depressing presidential campaign. Anderson is running as a liberal, ~~although~~, although his record is that of a conservative and even a hard liner at times. Reagan, who has followed a bellicose and hard right line for years, is ~~now~~ now posing as a peacemaker and moderate. Carter is making hard line statements.

Sept. 22 Powell Harrison is for Reagan because Carter is too pro-labor. Chuck Akee is for Walt because Fisher has voted for higher taxes. Virginias as a whole will vote Republican because the Democrats are behind the civil rights movement. What a lot to elect a president and congress in a troubled world.

Sept. 23, 1950 John T. Madden is dead at 84. He was one of the more intelligent bankers I knew in my younger days at Chadbourn. To the rummage sale where I bought a few books, largely paper-backs for Loretta.

Sept. 24 Reading Shelby Littles life of George Washington. Littles skill as a novelist and stylist enabled him to give a little more life than usual to the great man. He seems to have liked Washington very little although he ~~the~~ gives much credit for tenacity and courage. Perhaps he was repelled by Washington's mercenary motives in seeking a wife.

Sept. 25 We have had a light but very useful rain. Rereading Arthur Schlesinger's "The Decline of the old order". Future students of American history will be grateful for his volumes on the Age of Roosevelt. Although he is clearly a partisan of the New Deal he gives many details and shows some sympathy for Hoover and his friends. Schlesinger does not pay much attention to the Harding period scandals

Sept. 26 My old roll top desk, which we gave to the rummage sale, was sold by sealed bids and brought $426.00. Roll top desks have displaced brass beds as the most desired antiques in the lesser antique market. We dined with Doris tonight, together with the Akres.

Sept. 27 Malcolm telephoned to thank me for my letter congratulating him on his forthcoming birthday. He will be 82 on Oct. 1. He says that Clare has not yet found a job. Together with the Freds we lunched with the Akres in their new home. Stewart Knower and Mrs. Norris brought out a new offer from Nureyev for Woodburn, $1,250,000, all cash. We turned it down, perhaps unwisely.

Sept. 28 To a large buffet supper at the Wings. Jimmy Dietz looks much better after his operation, but he still seems edgy and tired. Talked to Frances Snodgrass, who was there with her son. She knows all the leaders of Oman and is worried about their problems in the Persian Gulf. Frances has developed a serious case of diabetes.

Sept. 29, 1980 Ed Goshorn came out today with a bevy of advisers to propose that Woodburn be converted to a conference center where, in secrecy and in the middle of rural scenery, conferences could be held. The idea is an interesting one, but Ed seems very vague as to where the money will come from to buy, rehabilitate and maintain it. It is supposed to be a profitable venture but I made it clear that we would furnish no capital.

Sept. 30 The famous Pullman Company is about to be taken over by The Wheelabrator Company, a new name to me. How my old friend Champ Carry would have hated the idea. Many errors and misfortunes contributed to Pullman's decline, especially the defective cars Pullman made for New York city.

Oct. 1 Peoples Bank in Leesburg is a meeting place like the post office in Lolcenter in the old days. I saw Frank Marr there today. He looks very bad and is said to be dying of cancer but he is cheerful and affectionate as usual.

Oct. 2 Mailed 6 boxes of books to N. K. The House of Representatives has just expelled Representative Representative Myers who has been convicted in the Abscam scandal. The papers say that Myers is the first representative to be expelled since the Civil War. That gentleman was Henry C. Burnett of Cadiz, Ky., a relative or friend of the Neal family. His most enraging exploit was to call Lincoln a "long-legged, foul-mouth galoot".

Oct. 3 With Margaret to the Peoples National Bank where she purchased a certificate of Deposit for $15,000.00, with an interest rate of 10+ percent. Plus. Then to help for shop for our party tomorrow night. The sliced beef cost more than $6.00 per pound.

Oct 4 We had our first of two parties tonight, this one for 60 people. The house was a little crowded but the food was good and the crowd very congenial. Joe and Peggy Fisher (he is having a hard race in his bid for reelection to Congress) were the center of attention. Joe says that he is making his own race without trying to ride Carter's coattails

Oct. 5, 1980 Hilson writes that Berthel Jones is dead within a few days of his 97th birthday. His daughter (who must have been Treva, now 75,) was one of the few members of the family present. Hilson says that Myrtle was there, very frail, and that Erma was not there. Lee-down County is full of deer. We saw one today in Henry Beckardts tree lot. They do not seem to have much fear of humans.

Oct. 6 To a meeting of the Oatlands Board. Quite unexpectedly the finances are in a very good order. Ted Sande is leaving the National Trust, probably a victim of infighting. Nicole Sours, our new Director seems to be coming along very well. I see by the University of Kentucky Alumnus that Gerald Griffin is dead.

Oct. 7 Charles Jones has been in a hospital in Winchester and is in a bad way. Re-reading Arthur Schlesinger's "The Coming of the New Deal", which I last read when it first came out more than 20 years ago. A good job, carefully researched and with a good objective point of view.

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October 8 Busy preparing for our second large party - on October 11th. The draught has had a serious effect in Loudoun county. Dutton's corn production on the Dunrobin land has fallen about 50% and Joe Arendergast tells me that he is doing no better at Oak Hill. Dr. Reuter is congratulating himself that he did less planting this year.

Oct. 9 A fine warm day. Started Ivor Brown's "Words in Season" but have given it up after a few pages. He wrote himself in earlier books. In my earlier days I had a great liking for philology and style but never followed it up and must now discard most of the books.

Oct. 10 Further shopping of our party tomorrow evening. The Ballingers are slowly vacating the Miller's cottage. He has done most of the work himself on his new house, but materials and other expenses have run up the cost beyond all expectations and mortgage money, especially for 2nd mortgages, is almost unobtainable. The same probably confronts thousands of young sters trying to buy or build a new home.

Oct. 11, 1980 Our lunar cocktails and buffet party for 70 this evening. Very gay and friendly. The Fishers were there again. Had a discussion with Joe about Rep. Bauman, the bachline reactionary from Maryland's Eastern Shore, who has been caught in a homosexual scandal although he has been a leader in the anti-homo assaults in congress. Lucy and Bessie Mead Lacy made the party although she can hardly walk now.

Oct. 12 To Helen Skinner's large cocktail party at Wellhouse outside Middleburg. Helen Kay seems to be suffering from something like Parkinson's disease. Saw Dana Catts who is jolly as ever. Wellhouse is still a beautiful place with a fine house and impressive grounds. Helen says that Charlie Jones has been in the Winchester hospital, very ill, for several weeks.

Oct. 13 The fall colors are coming out better than anticipated, especially the sugar maples. Our water reservoir has fallen to about 1/2 of its full capacity. The first time this has happened since 1969.

October 14 Sorting out loans for transmission to U.K. Reading Beerbohm's "Kennedy and Roosevelt" A good book although in a rather poor style and with some over-facile generalizations. Kennedy was a forceful person, a good administrator and a man of a fine sense of humor. Unfortunately he had a defective education, strong prejudices and an almost French sense of family ties. He had a true love-hate relationship with F.D. Roosevelt.

Oct. 15 A nephew of the King of Saudi Arabia came to see Wyndham. Apparently he has been searching the East coast for a home. Although I would love to see a good American get Wyndham, this young man is a graduate of an American university and would not be too bad. A Mr. and Mrs. Flamm of Palm Beach also came to see it.

Oct. 16 Twiggy, attacking a dog on a truck, was hit by the truck and we must take him to the Vet - who can't see him until tomorrow. Reading Henry James' short book on Hawthorne. James made it clear that he had done little research but he does have many thoughts about Hawthorne's books and diaries.

Oct. 17, 1950 Took Twiggy to Dr. Rabus this morning and found, as we had suspected, that he has a compound fracture of one of his legs. Walk the Freds to the Ames to discuss our proposed trip to Mexico. Ethel has great difficulty walking and is not at all convinced that she can stand the high altitudes of Mexico city and some of the smaller places that are even higher.

Oct. 18 To a large party at the Freds. Mallie Winn told me an amusing story about the period just before General Marshall was appointed Chief of Staff of the Army. General Drum by the ordinary seniority rules would have had the job and he and his wife made a careful examination of the chief of Staffs quarters at Fort Meyer. Molly by the way does not believe that the story about Marshall and Truman making Eisenhower drop his plan to divorce his wife and marry the Chrysler.

Oct. 19 To the Edmundson tea at Oatlands. An amazing number of costumes shamed my modest threads. Ben Gregory is full of alarm over the probability that Walsh will defeat Joe Fisher.

October 20 Poor Tuesday, when attempts Thompson's truck which contained a dog and suffered a compound fracture leg, is still at the Vets. We have a letter from Susan McMaster Bacon who tells us that Carol Van Steen has died of cancer last April. We knew that something had happened to Carol as she had not answered our Christmas letter and a follow-up letter. Poor Carol was one of the finest friends we ever had. Our reservoir is only half full.

Oct. 21 We are trying to conserve water. Mary Lane Isaacs has been in the hospital trying to have her allergies analysed She is on a very restricted diet.

Oct. 22 Lucy Watson is giving up her cottage where she has lived happily for about 12 years or more. She had been considering moving for a year or more and finally decided to move when we offered Woodburn for sale. She is moving to an apartment in an up-State New York town near Mary Lane. Butter is up to $2.35 per pound. Stayed in all the afternoon waiting for a Mr. Shutter from Texas (former owner of the Washington Store) who never came.

Oct. 23, 1980 Claude Arthur, who with Caroline has been visiting Carolines mother, Mrs. Walters, in Mayfield, has brought us a bottle of red wine from the Lorne vineyard at Murray, Ky.
Reading Burke's life by Lord Morley. The book is more of an essay of interpretation than a biography. Like all Burke's biographers Morley had great difficulty ~~explaining~~ correlating Burke's general principles with his actions. The truth seems to be that Burke was chiefly interested in maintaining a social structure which he had in part misunderstood than in general principles.
Oct. 25 We brought Tuuggy home from the Vets - a sadder but probably not a wiser little dog. He is wearing a heavy cast.
Oct. 25 We have had a rain, not too much but helpful. Together with the Freds and Akres we had dinner - an unusually good meal - with Mary Zeiler to discuss our proposed trip to Mexico. Our county taxes are $6883.00 dollars - $6307.50 for Woodburn, $412.00 for Vets corners and $163.00 for personalty.

Oct. 26 A quiet day at home. Our resident bear is slowly filling Lucy Watson has removed all her property from the Patent House and given up her keys. I paid her more than $500.00 for the oil in her tank.

Oct. 27 Amon Berry is dead from cancer, I believe. The ~~Berrys~~ Berrys are a family of great longevity. Mrs. Darden, Amon's aunt, is nearly 100 I think. Elmer and, I think, Cliff are also still alive. Amon's uncle, a charming and lively woman, still survives.

Oct. 28 We listened to the Carter-Reagan debate. Although Carter displayed a much better grasp of the facts and problems he was awkward and irritable. If the purpose of the debate was to gain votes, I think it fair to say that Carter was the loser. From his point of advantage as President he should never have consented to a debate unless he could destroy Reagan and this he did not do. Reading Lord Marley's "Recollections", a well written and interesting book but one requiring a detailed knowledge of this period. He also has some unusual characteristics in his vocabulary and grammar.

Oct. 29, 1950 We are having some fine weather but the forecasts for rain have not been fulfilled. A large wild goose has joined us at the bank, possibly an injured member of a migration. We had two a few years ago but they fell prey to the foxes. We hope for better luck for the new visitor.

Oct. 30 To Dr. Reuter. The new Brooklyn Botanic Garden Plant dividend is a variegated form of the holly-leaf osmanthus. A charming little shrub but we are a little doubtful of its hardiness here so we are treating it for the time being as a house plant.

Oct. 31 To Dr. Lellis. He found me in reasonably good condition, but says that I should give up cigarettes but can smoke a pipe. I had already largely given up cigarettes. Reading Leslie Stephen's excellent short life of George Eliot in the English Men of Letters Series. I had not recognized her versatility as the independence of the English literary group in the middle of the 19th century. Considering her background her skills in foreign languages and her literary accomplishments remarkable

Nov. 1 Susan Jones reports that Charlie is returning home from the hospital, in spite of the difficulty of getting nurses and Susan's health. Mrs. Bagley, the fascinating horsewoman and a bevy of friends have visited us twice, expressing great interest in Woodburn. She says that I am the only person she knows who has more books than she has.

Nov. 2 A quiet day at home. Reading volume 2 of Lord Morley's "Recollections". It shows some decline from the vigor of Vol. 1. Morley had a strange sense of proportion. He mentions his wife only a few times and very incidentally and he says very little about the Waves War and his reactions to it. One gathers that he was popular but had few devoted friends. Even his books and journalistic experiences are passed over lightly.

Nov. 3 Got 8 fire extinguishers from Morton Riddle - something long overdue. They are of the type recommended by the Hartford Insurance Co. our Japanese cherries are coloring more this year than usual. A dusky African gent has made an offer for Woodburn. I suspect that it is all an hoax.

Nov. 4 Reagan has won the presidency by a large majority and both Fisher and Harrison have been defeated. The election of Reagan was expected but I am depressed by the defeats of Joe Fisher and Harris. Fisher was an unusually able and honest man and his loss is bad for the nation and the State of Virginia. He and Peggy have worked hard - perhaps too hard.

Nov. 5 Hester Ann Bratney is dead at 70, having finally succumbed to the cancer that has harassed her so long. Reading Lord Mahley's Walpole. As expected it is a brief for Walpole and a recognition of his contribution to the recognition and development of the British constitutional system.

Nov. 6 Dr. Johnston's interest in Woodburn has received and he says that his circumstances have changed. He is an amazingly successful professional man but in my opinion has not accumulated enough capital to swing such a large investment. Reading Sandburg's "Sanghog" I was interested to find references to "Skip to my Loo"

Nov. 7 Stewarts and Mrs. Parsons come out today to discuss our friend the doctor's bid for Woodburn. I continue adamant that it would be bad for either the buyer or the seller to embark on such a strained financial program. Reading Harry's "the Alka-Seltzer case", a strange and puzzling book.

Nov. 8 Ethel Fred is having great trouble with her knees, almost losing all power to walk. To a large party of the Silvrists. We have become increasingly fond of the Silvrists. Frank is a vigorous, intelligent and kindly man. Their parties always give us chances to meet new people and those we seldom see. Frank gives a good deal of time to public work.

Nov. 9 Rodney and Fern Wingo dined with us and then we went on to Oatlands for the annual meeting of Keep Loudoun Beautiful (or local association for keeping trash off the roads, decorative planting etc). Joe and Peggy Fisher were there, Rod. denied that not too downcast over Joe's defeat. Fortunately, he never borrowed money as so has no burden of debt. Our efforts have been hampered by the court's invalidation of our "battle" law.

Nov. 10 Ethel Fred is in the hospital for operations on her knees. Young Dan Alexander of the County Health Department came out today to help us devise a way to cure the problems of the malfunctioning of our disposal field for the sewage for our house. He thinks that our problem comes from stoppage of the exits from our distribution box. If he is correct we may solve a hard problem and save a lot of money.

Nov. 11 Bill and Dorothy MacDonald came out today to show us the plans for the house they propose to build for us on the 3/4 th acre plot to be taken from their large site at E. Market and Ayr Streets. It is a wonderful location for us and just the right-size lot.

Nov. 12 Reading Meade's life of Judah P. Benjamin, the most unusual and in some ways the ablest of the Confederate statesmen. It has always interested me that so many of the prominent Jewish families in this country started out in the South. His great success at the English bar is surely the greatest proof of Benjamin's versatility and ability.

Nov. 13 Just as we had hoped, the workmen on our drainage field found that tree roots and mud had blocked 4 out of 5 of the lines from the distributor box. The blocks were replaced and we have what is practically a new field at a low cost.

Nov. 14 Our friend, the doctor who wants to buy Woodlawn has been over to try to convince me that he can swing it. He is only 38 years old and has been amazingly successful in his profession, but he hardly seems aware of the dangers inherent in very large debts. He also, it seems to me, overestimates his ability to make money farming. Not even the best of our farmers could clear $80,000.00 per year on 1000 acres of Lowndes County land. I took I convinced him.

Nov. 15 To the large buffet supper at the Whittons. After much vacillation and moving they seem to have settled down to life in the Round Hill area. Bob is dismayed over the future of the hand market and with good cause. As banks became unsalable business practices and programs of long standing went down.

Nov. 16, 1980 our sewage distribution system for the main house seems completely reestablished. Packing books, making three classes of cartons: (i) those to be forwarded in 1980; (ii) those to be given in 1981; and (iii) those to be deposited at the university, title to which will be passed as I need tax deductions.

Nov. 17 our red oaks have astonished me. Some of them, e.g. those on the terrace, are showing up very ~~red~~ red while other trees have lost most of their leaves.

Nov. 18 Shopping in Leesburg. Abe Bienstock in New York is dead at 75. Abe went on to a distinguished career but I first came in contact with him when he as an inexperienced lawyer was trying to protect the American investments of Dutch who had fled Holland to escape the Nazis. The New York banking lawyers had to help him work out his procedures. Reading Charles Mee's "The End of Order," the story of the Versailles peace conference in 1919. Not a very balanced or thorough book, although it has some amusing anecdotes and wise cracks in a light mood

Nov. 19 Some weeks ago a wild goose, probably injured in some way, took up residence on our brook. As has happened several times before he has disappeared but not without leaving a few feathers. We suspect a fox. Rereading Gilbert Geldes' "The Stammering century". It is a good book but could have been better if Geldes' had had some of Mencken's biting humor. The shepherds are among us again we we need a Mencken to deal with them.

Nov. 20 To a large party at Oak Hill and then to dinner at Oatlands, the purpose being to celebrate the progress we have made this year, especially the work done by the herbal and needle-work groups.

Nov. 21 To the St James Parish Hall to see the documentary movie on General Marshall. It seemed to me a poor job, with too much emphasis on his early life and first marriage. The fact is, I suppose, that Marshall's life was on a scale incomprehensible to our parochial life. Then to a reception at Dodona Manor, where a great many mementoes of the General are preserved.

Nov. 22, 1980 Ethel Fred is in the hospital recovering from her operation on her knee. She seems quite cheerful about it although she has had a good deal of pain. Rogers, Davis and the Akres came to dinner. Had a long talk with Stewart Knower about the late Nuregro officer for Woodburn, $1,300,000.00, all cash. Strange as it may seem the dancer seems to be in earnest.

Nov. 23 To the Carrs' for their annual oyster supper. Albert has just been elected to the Board of Directors of a Warrenton bank and many of the guests were from Warrenton. I see by the newspapers that old Coors and several other members of the Reagan advisers say that he will rule us as General Motors is ruled. A sinister prophecy.

Nov. 24 Mills Drake died on November 11th. I am now, I suppose, the only survivor of the epidemic of spinal meningitis that kill so many children in Bandana about 1900 To a large party at the Rusts at which the guests of honor were the Powells, English relatives of Margaret.

Nov. 25 To the hospital to see Ethel, who, happily, seems to be much better. Lunch with the Dietz, who are happily planning a trip to Australia. Continuing with the Geldes book. The author is very conscientious but misses the ridiculous nature of the uncommonly good rascals.

Nov. 26 We dined with Doris, together with the Freds and Akres. Doris loves her little house very much and is much relieved that the large place has been sold. Working largely through Woodrow Turner we have about worked out the details of the sale of Woodbarn: the price to be $1,366,000.00, all cash; the closing to be on April 30th, we to have a lease of the main house and managers house until Nov. 1, 1981. A good deal.

Nov. 27 Our first snow flurries today. The Junior Freds, Rogers, Sr., and Leslie had Thanksgiving dinner with us. Rogers Jr's. coin collection has increased in value very greatly in the last few years, largely because of its high quality. He says: always the best.

Nov. 28, 1980 Malcolm has sent me some pictures acquired by him in our oxford days, including one of Lemmyer found during our stay there. He has sold some of his land and some he had formerly given Clare - at a very good profit, I believe. I see by The Times that Walter Hoving, now 82, is about to retire from Tiffany's. I had some interesting contacts with him many years ago.

Nov. 29 Wilson writes that Chapman Jennings has remarried - this time to an old childhood sweetheart. She must have helped him walk up the aisle as he is getting infirm. Malcolm has sent me a copy of James Morris' "Farewell the Trumpets"; the story of the decline of the British Empire. Quite readable.

Nov. 30 C B S. Gave a full hour performance today to its Festival of the Lively Arts, on which the leading artists were Rudolph Nureyev and Julie Andrews, who called Nureyev as the greatest ballet artist. I wonder how he will like Woodhaven.

December 1 Long session with Turner, Knowles and Mrs. Norris, in which we worked out most of the terms of the contract of sale. I am still amazed that a bal-let dancer would want to buy Woodburn, especially as he has never been in the house. I gather that John Kennon's exploits as an owner of Virginia cattle farms has become popular with other artists.

Dec. 2 Another anxious buyer for Woodburn has appeared. He wants it for a trade center for some trade association. I suspect that the downpayment would be negligible. Reading Morgan's "The House of Mac-millan". A pot boiler, no doubt, but Morgan is too good a writer not to produce a readable book.

Dec. 3 Rereading Beer's The Mauve Decade. A creditable essay with some appropriate humor and sympathy. How antiquated and hollow the books of the late 1900s are. Beer seems to have found Bryan a mag-netic young man, quite different from the fat and banal man we remember from the 1920s. Life must have seemed much simpler than we have found it in our time.

Dec. 4, 1960 Kenneth Cooper, after having battled for years with Ted Berner's Curtiss Wright, is now trying to buy control of Curtiss-Wright. One feels that it is a mess to stay out of Reading Bedini's Thinkers and Tinkers, an essay on the growth of popular mechanics in the last two centuries. My miseducation was too defective to follow it well.

Dec. 5 The Brownings dined with us and then we (but without the Brownings) went on to hear the Marine Band Concert given in honor of General Marshall, whose statue is about to be dedicated in the Courthouse Square. Lady Lansdown has come to Leesburg for the celebrations.

Dec. 6 To the unveiling of the Marshall statue, which was done by Mallie Wynn with her usual modesty and dignity. Dean Rusk made the chief speech and delighted the crowd by telling them not to be "cry-babies" The statue, which shows Marshall in unfamiliar attire, was been the subject of controversy, many of the citizens wanting to see him as the great warrior in uniform and medals.

Dec. 7 We dined with the Isaacs last evening, together with the Eyssells who are about to move in their new house. Alice Whitley came by today and took us to the new inn at Rur-cellville, which has been purchased from the Bertrams. Of course it still reminds us of our great friends, the Courtneys! The menu is an ambitious one and we have great hopes for the new owners. For some reason the community is not blessed in its restaurants.

Dec. 8 To see Ethel Fred, who is recovering from her operation. She can walk with a walker and is having strenuous therapy.

Dec. 9 Patty Moore writes that Len had a bad fall a few months ago but is recovering and is back on the bench.

Dec. 10 Scovell Martin telephoned, having heard that Woodburn is for sale. He is in bad shape and can only walk with a walker. Spend several hours working on the contract of sale with Knowes, Mrs. Norris and Turner. Contrary to my expectation the Nureyev people seem anxious to buy Woodburn and seem reasonable about it.

Dec. 11, 1980 We are planning a trip to New York during the holidays. Margaret wants to escape a birthday party on her 80th anniversary. Mailed 4 cartons of books to U.K. I have a note from Irene Stans. They have moved in with Mary and Dee has a nurse-maid for her attendance 24 hours a day. Am revising the lease on Woodbury covering the main house and the manager's house from May 1 to November 1. By that time our new house should be ready. We are assured that the occupancy can be extended after that, if required

Dec. 12 Rodney Wingo has come up with a provision of an additional investment to soak up some of the cash we expect to get from Woodbury, but M- and I think that we should leave a conventional estate of the highest quality and saleability. We have no expensive plans, except possibly some luxurious travel. Our friend, D. P., is at Springwood, where the charges are $3000.00 a week. A high price to be divided and from an alcohol binge

Dec. 13 The prime rate has risen to 20% again. A serious development for a country needing so much new capital for development and modernization. Louise Griffin writes that Gayle and Bryan have been divorced. No details. Louise reads writes that ~~Keith~~ Vera has written to her that Mr. Dye is still alive but bedridden. He must be at least 90.

Dec. 14 Lunched with Polly and Bill Harrison in their fine new stone house just off Rt. 704. I much admired the heating and insulating arrangements. To a large cocktail party at the Braunriggs. Had a long talk with Bryan Farwell about the influence of Alfred Mahan. For some unknown reason Bryan is much interested in military matters.

Dec. 15 Marie Rollins (Mrs. Bob) Averby is dead at 92. I hadn't seen her in years and thought of her as dead. She was a charming woman but never got over the loss of her only child in a tragic accident. We dined with the Shires tonight, together with the Freds and Doris, to see again their friends, the Fiedlers, from Minorca

Dec. 16, 1980 The prime rate has gone to a shocking 21%. Barry Weinstein tells me that Nureyev's New York apartment was adjoining that of John Lennon. Lennon had several fine cattle farms in Virginia and was a purchaser of Brae cattle from Bill Harrison and others in Loudoun. It seems possible that Nureyev was imitating Lennon.

Dec. 17 Elizabeth Phillips, Doris White and Elizabeth Phillips dined with us. Reading Bill Douglas' "The Court Years". Douglas could hardly write a very poor book but this one approaches it. He repeats many clichés and much gossip which, even if true and apposite, are out of place in the autobiography of a justice who served so long and on the whole so well. He treats the serious issues also but in a hurt and mussy fashion and often with a personal twist.

Dec 18 Weinstein is coming to Leesburg Monday to wrap up the contract for the sale of Woodburn. He seems to be an experienced and conscientious young man and wants the deal to go through.

Dec. 19 Bo Carter, Sr., tells me that Bo Jr. says that President Carter is very sad and disillusioned over his defeat. It seems to me likely that in spite of a good many talents, great sincerity and some experience, Jimmy Carter has remained a good ol' boy, Southern Baptist type. He just couldn't realize that the song and dance man had more appeal than a good preacher.

Dec. 20 Col. Saunders, who was over the beginning of his old age, a minor little man and then became world famous by marketing a good fried chicken (Kentucky Fried Chicken) is dead. Reading Robert Hoffman's "More than a Trial", a long and sometimes tedious retask of the ~~Dreyf~~ Dreyfus case. Our own elderly military men seem determined to enmesh us in dangerous political ventures.

Dec. 21 Jane Minckler has had another stroke and is in the hospital. To two Christmas parties today: the first a large one at Belgrade given by Frances Bradgrass, and the second at the Fred Flemings, largely a family affair. Too much eating and drinking for an octogenarian.

Dec. 22, 1980 We signed the Woodburn Sale contract today one embarassing factor was that the new survey showed only 415 acres instead of 421½ acres as called for by my deed. If the interest in the public roads were excluded the new amount would be reduced by another 4 or 5 acres. Weinstein handsomely waived the discrepancy. On the whole he is getting a good bargain and he has the good sense not to haggle over minor matters. To a party at Oatlands given by the Dennises. We first had a lantern slide lecture by John Sessener (Eda's father) and then a reception and dinner at the Oatlands main house.

Dec. 23 A gossip columnist (The Ear) in the Washington Star has published a short note about the sale to Nureyev of the old Real Estate, otherwise known as Woodburn and a mocking reference to the slave quarters in the basement. No one seems to know where the columnist got the information. To a large party at the Mahans at their elegant new home on Dry Mill Road. M. and I are very tired.

Dec. 24 This Christmas has brought us some snow and ice. We took Kathryn home very early and then begged off from an usual Christmas Eve party with Lewis. Margaret had made two large pumpkin pies for the party - favorites of the Acheson family - so the Acheson sons picked them up this morning.

Dec. 25 Clear and cold today. We had an usual Christmas dinner with the Freds, whose other guests were Rogers and Barbara, Leslie and Rogers the third, the Boxter Woods family and Mrs. Stewart. Rogers III is making a very large man, a bear type in looks but very courteous and gentle.

Dec. 26 We had a luncheon today for the Dennises, her father and brother (Mrs. Sessenes had a bad cold) and the Farnells. Mr. Sessenes is a student of the Vikings and I was able to give him a book on them with many fine illustrations. He is also very conservative and I was able to supply him with a copy of "Free to Choose" by Mr. & Mrs. Milton Friedman. The Farnells were amusing, as usual.

Dec. 27, 1980 Anne Rodgers writes that she is spending the winter in Florida with Diane and Dick. Dick is in the Rapid Deployment Force. There is no indication that Dick has been promoted to Brigadier, which may, we fear, mean that he is slated for early retirement under the age and grade rule.

Dec. 28 Thompson drives us to the depot in Washington where we took Amtrak's Metroliner to New York - where we are lodged at the Cornell club. We spent the evening with Wynne and Malcolm Goodhue. Clare has no job yet but Malcolm has arranged the sale of the land he gave her several years ago. The land had greatly risen in value so that Clare is in funds.

Dec. 29 To Brooks Brothers this morning where I bought at its sale three pairs of slacks and a suit. I was much pleased with a sport coat but could not find a fit. Lunched with Blanche Wells at The University Club. Had a glance at Dan Metzler, but he was with a friend, female, so did not get a chance to speak to him. Blanche looks very well and happy.

Dec. 30 Margaret's 80th birthday. She seems to be coming down with a cold, but we managed to get to the University Club to lunch with Betty White. Bill was tied up in a business meeting. I then went along to the Carnegie Book Shop for a meeting with Dave Kirschenbaum, Jim Scroft and Harry Warner. Jim's uncle (the "General") died two years ago and Jim seems quite isolated. Dave looks very well for his age.

Dec. 31 Very cold. Stopped at Saks 5th Avenue, where I bought more undershirts. Remained in bed. To Ruth Dean's "at home". After retiring from Mt Holyoke she spent some years in Philadelphia but is now back in a small apartment near Lincoln Center. She looks very alert and vigorous. We wound up our year by a light supper and early bed. Most of the staff at the Cornell club seems new and I suspect that the blacks have been eliminated in favor of the Whites. Saw Malcolm and Wynne again at Ruth Dean's. The long years on a Southern holiday in New York seems grim and cold this winter.

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