

1/1/70

Dear Js,

This is an explanation in anticipation of delay in getting the earlier letter mailed. We are really snowed in. Telephones and electricity are in service and not in jeopardy (but now I wish I had a CB transceiver last night when the wind started driving the snow) and we are not uncomfortable, not lacking in food. It is simply that we are 500 feet from the road and the average depth of the snow between it and us is more than 6 foot until - hit deeper drifts at the end. I'm digging.

And, of course, I'm pacing myself. No more than a quarter of an hour of it at a time, and that little I do feel. I've abandoned the optimism with which I began and instead of trying to dig out the entire lane, I'm just making a path wide enough to lead Lil down safely Monday a.m. (she has a trick knee) so she can open Black's 1971 season on time.

I doubt if I'll have the path done by the time the mailman comes (I'm told the road is open), so the postmark will reflect not interference but the caution prompted by the approach of my 58th year after too long a period of sedentary life.

This is the one major problem of living with such beauty and in peace where a mountain begins. It is no problem if one enjoys moderate means. A neighbor, a vet and a nice guy, has a small tractor and a snow blow. He is clear shortly after the snow ends. But he has to live along the road. His tractor couldn't even get into the road end of our lane, with out the snowblade in use. The snow is so deep he can't even ride in the lane.... Maybe, some day, I'll have one of those little jobs and a snow blower attachment, and then when such weather hits, it'll take little time and no real work to get out.

This is a more severe storm than the run of the mill. When last I heard both BC air ports were still shut down. The official depth at Jules was 15 inches.

I'm using this machine because I have too many carbons in the portable, where I suspended an analysis of what was made available to Paul and me on Vallee. I had to get them in and out. I've finished the analysis of the Perrie materials, of which I wrote. Reminds me I have to write Paul, to whom I gave some confidential data on the CAP and I've heard nothing about any work ~~xxxx~~ he and Scmitt did on it.

So, we had a quiet New Years day, with me reading Jones' "A Private Army" while resting between snowfalls. I've been meaning to for a long time, for I have a source inside the "Inutemen. He sends me interesting things. This is broadening my knowledge of them.

Have a good year!