

Dear Jim, you may not face the need and I do hope the side benefit is not as important to you as to us, but after the local attention to the supposedly more acute energy problem out there this update on how our heating is owrking out. I am reminded of teaching myself water discipline in World War II. It is not all that hard and was an asse~~t~~ and remarkably little inconvenience. Did it on the boat, on the way to Africa. By the time we landed I could get along on one canteen of water a day. On retiring I turn the furnace off entirely (oil-hot air). Thus far the outside temperature has gone to the upper teens. When I get up, I turn it on, keep the blower working all the time, whether the burner is firing or not, and ine crease the temperature gradually, in increments of two degrees. Most theormostats are only that sensitive, that is, can vary by two degrees. I find that I can be comfortable at 60° in the early a.m. and am not really unfomfortable at that temperature with my World War II long underwear that 'il remembered we had not discarded. I put on a vest sweater and have a sweater jacket if I need it. Forecast was for the low 20s this night, I've been up more than 30 minutes and haven't had to button the vest yet. We find that Lil is not uncomfortable withthe thermostate at 63, the highest I have had it recently, unless she is just sitting, when she may use an afghan. Earlier 63 was a little uncomfortable. Days when I'm home alone I never got it that high unless there is a strong wind and jt is cold and not sunny. On a real sunny day, because of all the Thermopane, I can turn the whole system off and do. When it gets colder, as it will, we may have to vary this, but I don't think by much. The savings are fantastic. We've been able to do much the same with electricity. And I haven't begun to use the fireplace yet. I've not been able to cut much wood and I'm stockpiling what I have for a possible acute shortage. If getting up at 3 is not too tiring, I'll cut more this morning. My plan is to be able to keep myself comfortable enough with the fireplace when Lil is working all day, which begins in 18 days. I've been toying with the idea of holding back \$100 when I get the O&D settlement for a small chain saw, which will enable me to cut more wood and, of course, use it more. I think this situation will not be over this winter. Aside from increased demand from growth and the benefits of GL's leadership, there is too much in this for the USSR and the Arab governments, none of which can hope to survive peace with Israel and the existence of a government in their heartland that usplies comforts and a decent standard of living for its people. Aside from its politics, any Israeli government will do this. It is cultural, not political...You do not get the low temperatures we do and you apparently do not have the electricity problems of this area, getting as much as you do from hot springs in the mountains. But I fear that we may face the need for wheelbarrows to take money to the grocer, so to the degree I can I'm battenning further our already-battered hatches. I've taken more time to try to collect more of what is owed us, with two of the wholesalers having done stupid things that seem to to~~al~~ the running of the statutes of limitation. Problem is they are located when I can't be my own lawyer if I have to go to court. But these sums are so large that collecting the principal and waiving interest to get a settlement from these two plus the O&D settlement would almost end our bank indebtedness. That would mean a new world here! I have a young lawyer friend in NYC who can negotiate by phone with the wholesaler there but can t go to court but in California, nothing. Best, HW 12/15/73