



(2) I have the Shack pretty well emptied now, and the  
Heater set up in the basement. For a couple of days and nights, I fired it  
up properly to dry out the basement, excessively dampened by an accident that  
saw some 15 or 20 gallons of water drip on to the floor while the plumbing job  
was in progress. On one of the days, it actually melted up the floor enough to  
make the thermostat work on the oil supply. "levelmeter" of the upstairs stove. This  
device a local plumber gave me, and I had never been able to get the place hot en  
enough before to see if it would work. I still have to check its accuracy.

Thursday was the first really chilly day (down to 3 deg)  
and I turned the stove over to automatic at 7 am. and away it roared. By eight the  
had all the windows half-way melted to the floor with most peels of icy water on  
the sills on floor, but with no sign of the thermostat working. I chiselled under  
melted ice off one more window and set the second inner pane in place. (The first  
double pane had showed no frost in or even listing over that same frosty night) -  
before deciding to put all 24 storm panes in place first. The weather has moderated  
and all the windows are practically free of frost and ice now.

So when the double panes are all in place and the upper  
also on the ceilings, and outer and inner sills, (double panes on the basement  
windows too six of them) then I can be in to calibrate the stove thermostat.  
Meanwhile the wind howls out the fact that the place is a bush, as it combs the  
swaying maples and elm outdoors. The weather fore cast says 25 mph winds tonight  
but by the way it pushed me around while I was placing the storm panes, it is  
more like a cool 40 mph. The house is very solid however and I feel no tremor  
as one frequently feels in bigger and older houses. Must get a storm door for the  
West front however.

Got a bargain on a 20 gallon fuel oil tank, though the  
215 gallons in it still cost 21¢ per gallon. Tank was only \$20.00 second hand of  
course from the oil co. while new price is around \$40 dollars. Eddie the carpenter  
er built a very neat stand for the oil tank, which doubles for propane bottle  
stand below and the oil tank above, as I had envisaged.

Both water walls are in use, with wylvesite shut off  
or open up either or both. Some plastic pipe is on the ceiling to get them covered  
but now there is some 20 tons of hand shovelled earth over them and some of the fill  
septic tank disposal bed. I plan to use this as a ditch filler now, even with  
frozen earth, too (in part). I can leave the 100 tons of earth still to be  
moved, to the tractor loader of my trucker. I can play even more gets round  
to it. Tonnage is much the more impressive figure, a yard equals about 1 1/2 tons of  
sand.

The ceilings are eight feet and the vertical windows are  
come down to 18 inches from the floor. (Mrs. Gilbert enjoys watching out them) and are  
five feet over all (the frames) in height. Mrs. Gilbert says drapes come in 81 inches  
lengths, which with the 60 inches subtract leaves 21 inches for over lap  
above and below the window. I think the drapes need come now lower than 6 or 10" and won  
below the sill, which would make them 8 or 12 inches off from floor. (I can see  
by the reflection in the 42" x 20" west window pane that the wind is actually  
bulging the glass inward, - double diamond glass at that, so it is blowing out.)

The horizontal windows are 24" high over the frames, and all 48" long (over the frames). Their sills are 43 1/2" off the floor. There are  
four bedroom windows that size, one living room, one store room, and one bathroom.

(3)

The kitchen window is only 3 feet high and comes 3'32" off the floor. It is about 66" wide (three 20" panes plus frames and mullions

The west living room big window is (6 X 20" plus 13" for frames and mullions=) 133" or 11'1" over all. Of course it ends up in the corner of the room where the north windows starts.

The north living room big window is (7 X 20" plus 14" for frames etc =) 154" or 12'10" over all. Both these big windows are 8' high over all of course.

One bedroom has a three-panes window ( 66" X 60" high

Two bedrooms have ~~two-pane~~ one two-pane window each set in the corner with panes facing two ways. Their size is 45" X 60" high

There is a single pane window vertical in the stairway but its adornment is not necessary, It is 24" X 60" high, however.

I bet you never imagined what was involved when you offered to supply curtains or drapes etc. If you still want to, there are very attractive plastic drapes available in pleasing selections according to Mrs Gillard who got a set for her 2'6" window (3' overall) for only \$2.98 or some very low price, maybe it was 3.98. Four of <sup>wide</sup> these would cover the biggest window, if four were supplied to the next smaller window. ---but that's 24 or 32 dollars right there. I expect to obtain curtain roller track, but maybe we could use some of the super abundance of blankets and sheets we have here!!

Father is protesting the 2 am. light, his bedroom has no wall or door as yet you see. I could move down to the basement but there is no heat there as of just now. The six basement windows are 42" X 20" also horizontal but if anything they need blinds not curtains, and I have plenty of my old "blak-out tent" material about. (That was my portable darkroom)

It is 10am. now and perhaps the mail man has gone already but most likely I'll be in town before the 4.30 pm. mail closing time anyway.

Cheerio for now until my next report.

Yours truly, YCDB,

*Wesley W.*