

P.R.3 J. Rowan Out.

Dear Alice and Co'y.

8.40 am. 14th June '65.

'Twas nice to receive your letter with the Anglia key, and the news, that Hector has made first discoveries of the root of the M.G. troubles. The valve breakage, piston etc., is not an uncommon trouble for any make or age of engine. It has happened several times to me on the motor cycle, and fairly frequently it is a garage job, on anything from the biggest trucks to standard passenger cars. The causes are legion also, although hard driving at some early period of the engines life, maybe many miles or years before, can be a contributing factor. I heartily approve Hector's tackling of the job. The manual on M.G. should give him all the information as to fit and assembly details. Working by the book may be slow but its the only sure way to learn.

Irene stayed in Simcoe Hospital till Sunday the 6th pm when I brought her home here. On Friday Dr Parker, a staff surgeon, operated with what is known as a "D & C" operation, that one of the other women in Irene's ward called "Dusting and Cleaning", which disclosed that only "afterbirth" was remaining in the womb. So what the medical books call a natural abortion took place last Sunday the 30th. Since then Irene has been regaining strength rapidly along with her inevitable complaint that she "couldn't do anything".

So yesterday she took the SS class as usual, and we spent a time visiting Tom & Verna on return, after which Tom brought his Studebaker Champ ('59 version) out here for shimmy trouble correction; (since he found he couldn't fix it jacked up on his lawn). Verna came and took Irene to a "Langton Centennial celebration", Langton being the name of one of the English Noblemen who engineered the signing of the Magna Charta. The celebration took the form of an "English Country Fair" or some such with period jousting games (two men on a pole with poles trying to push the other off etc etc) and with Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs running 'round dressed in Robin Hood ensembles. They were late getting to the "do", but it seems Premier Robatts was there and V.P. Robinson, and the Queen, if you please, had declined an invitation etc etc. Such wide attention and we'd never heard boo about it!!! and didn't care less as it were.

Tom & Verna have a small guest, a welfare charge whose normal foster home parents were temporarily unable to care for her while that mother was suffering from some crippling ailment. So the lovely little teenager Pearl has moved across the street and a few house down to stay with the Backuses a while. They three and we had dinner together in the evening, Verna insisting on bringing some of the edibles. So that was most enjoyable too.

Verna is much taken with the Anglia, and Tom too, --- says it should be worth 500, altho' he didn't make that an offer. Verna would much like it as a second car, knowing I'd offered it to Mrs McKenney for 350. Mrs McK on the other hand hasn't come right out and pressed me for its delivery date and young Allan hasn't been over to see its progress, one week end after another. All of which seems strange for some one presumably interested enough to buy.

Of course I've the front brake lining to renew, they hold very well and all that, but are worn to the rivets, and further use can only score the drums more. New lining is ordered. The engine did indeed have a rattle when first started up because the engine was practically drained of oil. Once changed with two whole quarts of new oil the pressure etc and sound therefore was normal. I've the ignition switch reconnected with the wires removed, and the dash compartment, side and rear door locks all work nicely with the keys. Trunk lock was about as stiff as possible and still resume operation. I should oil it up presently. So that's all the news that-a-way now. If and when I bring it up for a show off I'll let you know, -- or when we may come up anyway. On Sunday

Had a school boy touring with a group of kids out for a school year end picnic to Long Point, come in with a '59 Renault that had a ripped out clutch, as well as being a badly rusted out job. I couldn't fix it and his father came and towed him and his car away on Monday. But he offered to give me 125 dollars and his old car in trade for the Anglia, he figuring that since he'd just paid 400 for the Renault wreck, it still should be worth the difference. However I didn't have the Anglia licensed, and it was a bad bargain, so I talked him out of it. But that's the kind of money the little European cars can bring.

Wed. am now 7.45 and the lining has come for the Anglia, 465 bringing parts cost on the job to 117.99 and the time was 128 hours before the brake lining change. There was 61.15 cred. from the last payment, so when the job is delivered I should be able to send you; say, 1/2 the difference from the sale price, keeping 1/2 for my labour wages etc. (117.99-61.15= 56.84 from the sale price X 1/2.) ----- Have Rev Brown's car in this am only for body work so must go at it.

*Irene has agreed not to say anything personally in the paper. Thanks so much for your offer of high chair. We still have hopes we might need them - but not for some time now anyway. I don't know when we may get away to see you as Shirley always has more jobs lined up than he can do.*

We do hope you will find time to come and visit us sometime during the summer, and see the progress we are making on the Bushouse. Just now it is rather slow progress, as I get tired out very quickly and have to take time off. I guess I'm just not as young as I like to think I am!

By the way, can you use some quilts at the cottage or elsewhere if you need them? This spring I brought up 9 of them from the basement to dust off and air out. Also I washed up 3 woolen blankets that we have never used. They wouldn't let me give any to the mission bale, even though he admits we'll never use them all in case you or Evelyn could use them. Some of the quilts are mildewed and some quite worn, but 2 look to be practically new. The old curtains I washed up and disposed of since they were pretty well worn out. I haven't yet looked at the old rugs and other items down there. I hope to get basement cleaned out or up sometime during the summer!

Well the boys will be through their examinations by now, and you will no doubt be still working - but the last couple of weeks should go by quickly. Then you can look forward to a couple of months rest! I do hope Hector finds work which he enjoys and is remunerative. I suppose you will be spending some of the summer at the cottage. Are you planning to build your kitchen on this year?

As it is now 1.0 am I guess I'd better get at my day's work, so bye-bye for now

Love & best wishes to you all

Irene