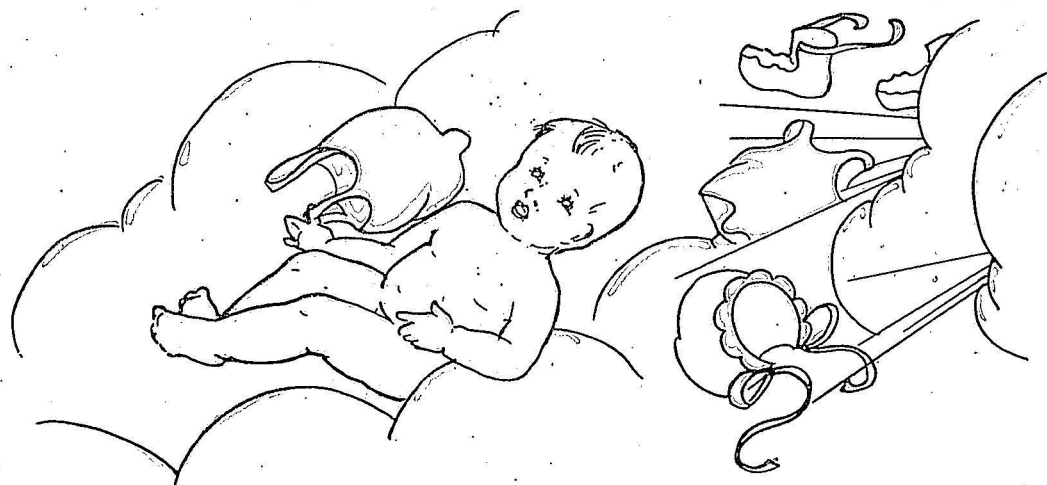




I arrive

*Just blew into town today,
A wee small person I am they say;
Sweet and soft and round and pink,
Everyone's glad to see me I think.*

date February 11th, 1940.

place Right at home, Brownsville, Ontario.

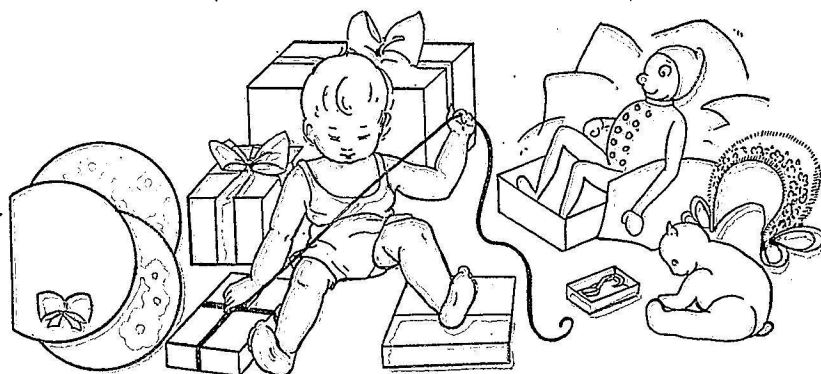
time About 11.50 p.m., Sunday

weight About 8 pounds



Robert's first picture,
February 21, 1940,
at tens days of age.

(North-east bedroom of Brownsville home.
Robert and James were both born in this room.)



Gifts

Golden daffodils for Mother
from Daddy

Crimson cyclamen for Mother from
Mrs. Harry Evans

3 flannel slips, altered and hand-embroidered, from Aunt Alice

Blue and white sweater from Aunt Aleta and Uncle Clifford

12 "Baby-naps" from Grandmother

White stockings from Mrs. Harry Corbett

White bonnet and gold brooch from Aunt Edith McDonald

Hand-knitted white bootie-sockings from Mrs. Charles Waller, Tillsonburg

Lacy white and blue sweater from Aunt Anna Weekes, Victoria, B.C.

Two dollars from Grandpa

Blue romper suit from Marie Elson

Two pair of short socks from Mrs. Arthur King

Two-piece blue suit from Cousin Berta Campbell

White sweater from Mrs. Aubrey Henderson

Blue-and-white felt boots from Aunt Evelyn

Blue-and-white doll rattle from Cousin Betty Weekes

I've ever so many presents folks bring,
Sweaters and bonnets and a soft fuzzy thing;
Toys I can play with and clothes I will wear;
A dish and a spoon, and a fat Teddy Bear.

Lt.
Blue wool panties from Marie Elson, hand-knit.
Blue enamel cup bought "beforehand" by Mother.
"Gabby" from Gulliver's Travels, a rubber squeaker toy, from Daddy
"Plakies", coloured discs on a chain, from Mrs. L. Rajdan
Vermilion teddy bear rattle from Muriel Honsberger
Lt. blue hand-knit helmet from Aunt Alice
Pink squeaky-pig from Aunt Evelyn

Early Visitors

Rev. G. A. Shields, Brownsville

Mr. Lloyd Moore, "

Mrs. Claude Whitcraft, "

Mrs. Harry Evans, "

Mrs. Claude Sinclair, "

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Campbell, Woodstock

Miss Clara Mills, Brownsville } nurses

Mrs. Gordon Scott, Ingersoll }

Miss Muriel Honsberger, home helper, Brownsville

Mrs. Harry Layman, Brownsville

Mrs. Harry Corbett, "

Mrs. Charles Hall, "

Mrs. James Gay, "

Mrs. John King, "

Mrs. Albert Deller, "

Mr. and Mrs. Montie Park, Fair Ground

Mrs. S. S. McDonald, Tillsonburg

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Leonard, and Wesley Leonard, S. Cayuga

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McDonald and Betty, Tillsonburg R.R.

Mrs. M. H. Ker, Brownsville

Mrs. G. A. Shields, ..

Mrs. William Williamson, "

Mrs. Jack Wood, ..

Mr. and Mrs. C. Honsberger and Reta, Brownsville

Miss Marie Elson, Mt. Brydges and Tillsonburg

Letters and cards from:

Margaret Gay (esp. for Mother - "Get Well Soon")
Mrs. M. H. Ker
Mr. and Mrs. John King
Hopkins family
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Sinclair
Mr. and Mrs. William Kaar

} Brownsville

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Leonard, South Cayuga
Miss Evelyn Leonard, Toronto
Mr. Etheridge Leonard, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba
Mrs. Montie Park, Fair Ground
Mr. Watson Park, Fair Ground
Miss Maxine Armstrong, London
Miss Marie Elson, Mt. Brydges
Mrs. R. W. Goheen and family, Havelock
Mrs. Henry Berkau, Detroit, Mich., U. S. A.
Mrs. W. H. Park, Simcoe
Rev. C. G. Park, Whitby
Dr. Louis Kazdan, Toronto
Mrs. G. J. Kerr, Lambeth and London
Mrs. J. J. Smith, Blencoe, R. R.
Miss Alice Leonard, Toronto, hand-painted Easter card



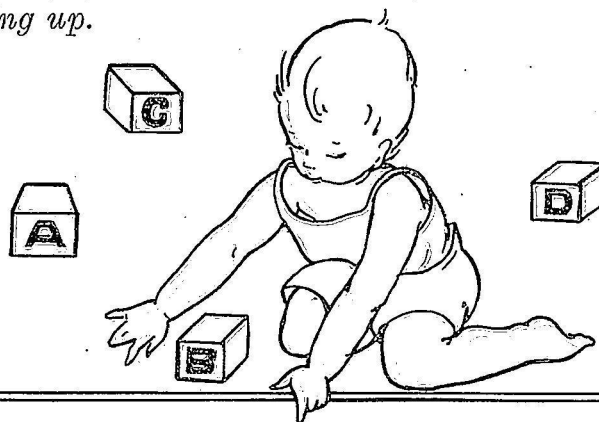
Souvenir of Marie
Elson's visit in March.
(29/3/40)



March 11, 1940,
one month old.

My height and weight

Once I was tiny, but I'm getting tall;
They mark my height against the wall;
I didn't weigh much more than my pup,
But I'm getting fat and growing up.



week		month		Head circumference
Weight	Height	Weight	Height	
1 7 lb. 2 oz.	19½ in.	2 - 11 lb. 9½ oz.	23 in.	15 inches
2 8 " 1 "		3 - 13 " 10 "	23¾ "	16 inches
3 8 " 10 "		4 - 14 " 11 "	24½ " ?	16½ "
4 9 " 2½ "	21 "	5 - 16 5½ "	25¼ "	17 "
5 9 " 11 "		6 - 17 " 7½ "	27½ " ?	17½ "
6 10 " 7 "		7 - 18 " 12 "	28½ "	18 "
7 10 " 13 "		8 - 20 " 10 "		
8 11 " 6 "		9 - 22 " 1 "	28¾ "	
9		10 - 23 " 1 "		
10 12 " 7 "		10½ "	30 "	
11		11 - 22 " 15 "		
12 13 "		12 - 23 " 13½ "	30 "	
14 14 " 3 "				



I sit up

Up I sat and looked around,
There was my Teddy Bear on the ground.

On June 12, 1940, Robert

first sat up of his own accord
but he was still a little
unsteady in the sitting posture at
6 months. Jan. 4, 1941 he pulled him-
self to sitting posture in his brown
crib when all alone. He had occasionally
sat up in his carriage when some one
kept his feet down for him, but now
(Jan.) he can pull himself up by crib bars

I can crawl now

It wasn't so hard to do at all,
I just fell down and started to crawl.

Dec. 4/40 Robert does crawl forward but can
wiggle and bounce a short distance in almost
any direction.

Jan. 17/41 Robert doesn't really crawl but
he can turn and move by inches in any direction.
He can also roll over and over on the big bed.

Feb. 1/41 Robert has perfected his creeping technique. Sitting up with both



feet in front of him, he smacks the palms of his hands on the floor and drags himself rapidly forward. (Before long he introduced the new feature of trailing his left foot behind him while moving along.)



My first word

*I knew it was Mother who took care of me,
So I spoke her name one day just to see.*

8th week and sooner the accidental syllable "mä" made a pathetic plea occasionally.

May 16 - an accidental "inanna" which was taken up again in September and used constantly for a few days.

My first laugh

*I think it's very funny to see,
How my Teddy Bear sits and looks at me.*

Nov. 5 - "ba-ba", with a wave of the arm for "bye-bye", soon replaced by a variety of sounds less recognizable, but very clearly for a few days.

at about one year of age Robert called the dog "Chi-tsee" obviously knowing what he meant.

*Robert smiled when coaxed to do so, Mar. 18 or 19,
and smiled for Daddy and all of us on Mar. 20.
Robert's first little chuckly laugh was heard on
the first of May.*



Things I do

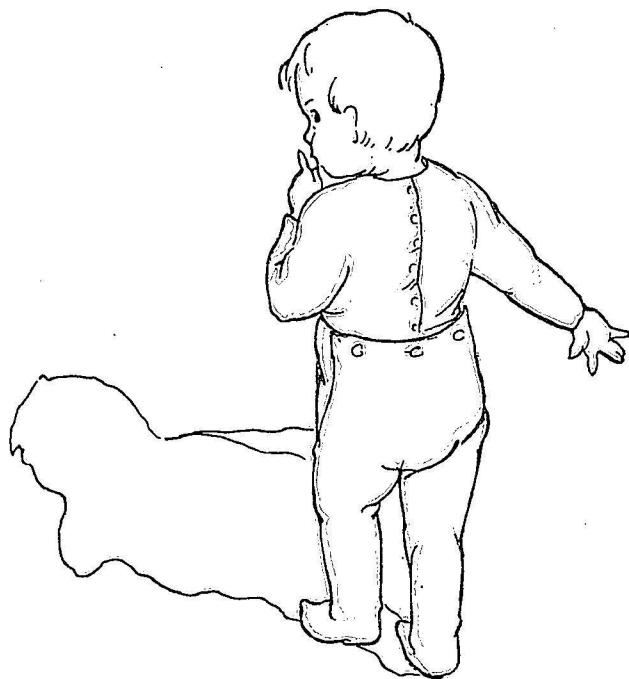
(See "Baby's Doings, I - ")

"Dressing Up", or "Pretending To Be"

A soldier or sailor that sails on the sea;

Or fighting wild animals, or just reading my book,

Or step on my shadow and pretend not to look.





My characteristics

To hear folks wonder whose nose I have,
Or eyes or hair or ways I have;
It seems so very strange you see,
That they'd not know that I'm just me.

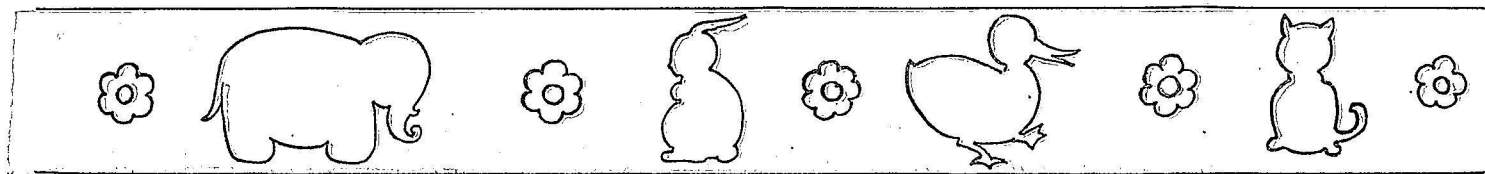
Robert reminded many of Douglas during his first month, but he reminded Mother of Uncle Etheridge more often than of any one else. Resemblance to his sister Winnifred was noted at two months of age, more noticeable after four months.

Apr. 14/40 Robert seems to listen attentively to music or to any unusual sound. Does he like the music we wonder?

May 17/40 Robert is a man of spirit, expressing any displeasure he feels with no uncertain sound, but he beams and coos most engagingly when happy.

May 17/40 Baby's hair is lighter in color and thinner than at first with the inevitable bald spot worn on the back of his head. His eyes are still gray-blue.

May 26 Great sensitivity to sound noted, rattle makes him blink, sudden loud sounds often make him cry out.



July 11 Robt. showed interest in our pet dog before 5 months of age. (Tricie's interest is unquestionable). She "kissed" Baby on the forehead July 9th and he didn't mind a bit. Once she licked his toes, too.)

July 15th Robt. displays almost ferocious energy at times when playing with his feet or his plakies. He yelled with exasperation at his plakies to-day when he could not handle them to his satisfaction.

Aug. 25th Robert has proved himself very excitable, sensitive and responsive this summer. He laughs a great deal and the least little thing will amuse him when he is in anything like a contented mood. We call him a merry little fellow. Aunt Evelyn commented on this quality too when we were visiting in South Cayuga this month.

Sept. 24 Still very excitable! Plays hilariously with brother and sister. May laugh hard and cry hard close together. Does not sleep for some time after playing vigorously.

Sept. 24 Robt.'s hands still seem large for his age. His feet are large too, the left larger which makes me certain he will be right-handed.

Oct. 13 Robt. waved good-bye to Muriel after being showed how.

Oct. 15 Robt. played peek-a-boo with Daddy - all on his own.

Dec. 4 " has developed a violent temper; he kicks or stiffens himself out straight when angry. He is cheery and good-natured most of the time, however, and has a tremendous capacity for delight and enjoyment.

Mar. 25th Spunky as ever, as shown by jumping, screaming, etc., but bubbling over with jollity when happy. Loves to be played with and made much of.

Baby's doings I

- Mar. 15 He followed the little alarm clock with his eyes three or four times back and forth when Mother moved it before him.
- Feb. 12 or 13 He held up his head as if to look around when he was held against Father's shoulder
- Mar. 17 He smiled for Mother
- Mar. 20 He smiled for all the family, and once for Father alone
- Feb. 21 He posed for his first snapshot, on nurse Clara's bed
- Mar. 11 He posed with Mother for his first outdoor snapshot
- Mar. 20 First snapshot with Father
- Mar. 19 He patted Mother's hand with his tiny one.
- Mar. 28 He first wore shoes, and had his picture taken with M. J. Elson.
- Mar. 29 He batted his rattle as it hung from the hood of his carriage, then regarded it with intent interest; however, this action seemed later to have been mere coincidence. On April 12th he definitely played with this little swinging dolly, made up of blue-and-white celluloid balls
- Mar. 24 Robert made his first trip outdoors to attend Brownsville United Church for the first time. He was cajoled into behaving pretty well in spite of hiccoughs, etc. Happy Easter
- Mar. 31 Robert journeyed to Fair Ground - his first experience of travel by automobile - and visited his Grandfather Park's home

Baby's Doings II

for several hours. Daddy and Mother had gone to Fair Ground to bring Betty and Douglas home after their Easter holiday visit at Grandpa's farm.

Apr. 9 He went to Tillsonburg when his parents had some shopping, etc. to do. On this date, too, he had his first tiny taste of ice-cream!

Apr. 10 He paid a short visit to the home of the Victor Woolleys.

Apr. 14 He travelled to Woodstock and back when all the family motored over to visit the Campbells. This was the first time the Campbell girls and Doug. Davis saw him.

7th week Robert started to suck his fists or fingers (a game which he had very seldom indulged in prior to this time) with loud smacking and sucking noises.

8th week He smiled a great deal in a playful and engaging way when Betty and Mother were seeing him to bed. First night barefoot came this week, but wee-laddie went back to overnight stockings immediately.

9th week Baby can talk to us now when he is happy with sweet little cooing oo's and ah's.

2nd month or even earlier he learned to make a pathetic little grimace with the corners of his mouth turned down and his tear-bright eyes wide and pleading. He is quiet and contented while Mother works with him, hopeful and trustful regarding better things to come, but when his patience is gone what a lusty yell he can set up!

Apr. 15 Robert "went around the block" with Daddy and Mother, calling at A. Williamsons', R. J. McClintock's, and A. Hollands'.

Apr. 15 That loud smacking sound, I find, can be made without fist or finger being in Baby's mouth. Tongue and lips alone can make a tremendous noise.

Baby's Doings III

- Apr. 8 Robert had his first long carriage ride when his parents wheeled him down past the school, Douglas and Betty helping to push on the way home.
- Apr. 19 Baby parade! Donald Sinclair, Robert Deller, and Robert Park went a-riding in their respective perambulators, propelled by their respective mothers on the streets of Brownsville. Interesting formation manoeuvres! but Robbie slept thru most of them.
- Apr. 21 Betty stayed with her wee brother while Mother went to church, and helped to give him a carriage ride that same afternoon. Robert also attended part of the Mission Band service the same evening and saw(?) the candle-lighted chorus in which his big sister and brother took part. Douglas saw him and smiled broadly in the midst of his singing.
- Apr. 23 Twice lately Robert has looked at something (once his fist, I think) at such close range that his eyes turned toward each other a little. Fairly often during his first month, rarely during his second, his eyes failed to work together, but their co-ordination, always good, is now perfect.
- Apr. 24-25 Robert set a record of goodness, lying quiet and contented from his dinner time almost till his supper time, then sleeping all night through (10 or 12 hours) and not crying even in the morning when I was getting him ready for breakfast.
- Apr. 26 Cooed, talked and smiled for Mrs. Xer, Betty, Douglas and Mother watching. Douglas caused a laugh with his remark: "That's the first time I ever heard him say 'yes'."
- Apr. 25 Robert learned how to make an excited-sounding squeak by drawing in his breath. His vocabulary is increasing.

Baby's Doings IV

- Apr. 29 Another "baby parade" included both Roberts and both Donalds of Brownsville's baby population, and ended in a very enjoyable afternoon tea at Mrs. Sinclair's. Three of the babies present also partook of certain nourishment.
- Apr. 29 For two weeks or so Robert has been having his bath regularly in the big bath-tub at whose white walls he gazes in wonder. He still seems overawed at being in water but is very well-behaved and good, unless the pangs of hunger become too insistent.
- May 1 Visited little Raymond Grant Bearse
- May 3 Visited Richard McKenzie and Richard's parents. Sampled pabulum for the first time - mixed with sweet prune juice.
- May 9 & 13 First two sun-baths, five minutes and ten minutes in length, respectively.
- May 12, Mother's Day, attended church for a few minutes, then departed to the lobby for orange juice and continued on to the S. I. room. Came under little Ann Williamson's interested scrutiny after service.
- May 17 Robert talks to himself or others, sometimes in a surprisingly low-pitched voice. Once Muriel caught him talking and smiling to his cheery-faced rattle.
- May 19-26 Robert now enjoys vigorous kicking during his bath and has found out how to amuse himself blowing bubbles of saliva.
- June 3 or thereabout Robert added a cooing mmm to his vocabulary.
- May 22 and June 17 — Robert visited Uncle Doctor's in London
- June 9 — Robert visited Marjorie's (Mother's cousin, Mrs. J. J. Smith,) R.R. Glencoe.
- June 12 — He sat up by himself after being propped up to eat his pabulum. Just before he was 5 mos. old he could sit up unsupported for a few moments without toppling.

Porch Poses



April 16



April 16



April 21, 1940.

Baby's Doings V

July 1 — Robert sat in his baby swing for about 15 min. well cushioned all around about, and seemed mildly interested in the novelty. Three "swings" in all before 5 months.

July 11 — Robert used to suck the 1st and 2nd fingers of his left hand whenever unhappy, and the first finger or some part of his right hand when happy, but now his right thumb has become his chief source of comfort in times of hunger or weariness.

July 11 — Robert has been able to seize things for some time by bringing his two hands together, though more than one attempt must often be made before the desired object is grasped securely. He often clasps his hands when there is no other object happens to come under his strong little fingers. This gesture, especially when accompanied by a sidelong look, gives ^{him} an unconsciously coquettish and affected air which is very laughable.

July 10 — Robt. discovered his foot! His hands had explored no further than tummy and knees before this time. — The long-drawn musical sigh, heard usually when a sneeze fails to materialize is another amusing sound.

July 9 — Syllable "dē" and July 10 something like "goo"

Four months — Robert pushes with one foot (his left) and arches his back concavely until he ^{is lying on his right side and} can look straight above him. He seems to enjoy this exercise and tries it even in the bath-tub sometimes.



Some
early
finger-
nails

lost



at one
month

at two
or
three
months

My first step

I wasn't very steady, but it wasn't hard at all,
And Mother held my hand, to see I shouldn't fall.

April 27th
Came to enjoy walking about the
end of May.

My first tooth

It's been so sore and kind of red,
My first tooth's here, Mother said.

1st tooth — July 30, 1940.
2nd " Aug. 4, 1940.
3rd " Oct. 10th 11, 1940.
4th " Oct. 13, 1940.
5th " } very soon
6th " } afterward
7th " — Jan. 17, 1941.
8th " ?

2 double
teeth

by Apr. 12,

4 by end of
August, I
think.



Aug. 1945 — 2 central lower
permanent teeth

First hair-cut, to save curls

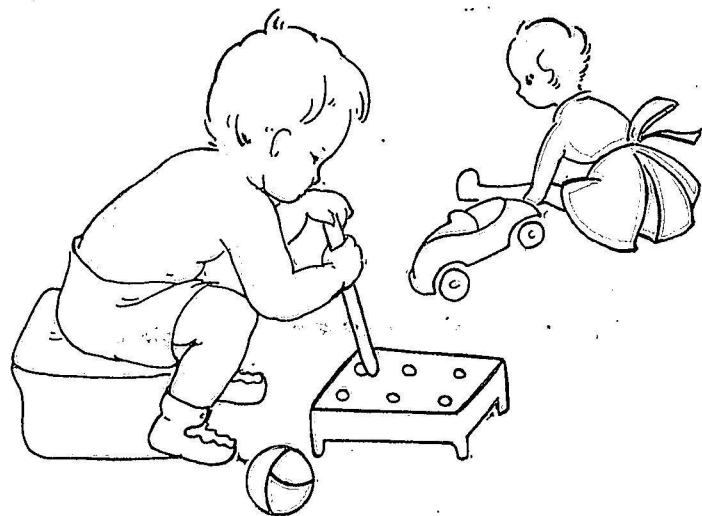


Teeth record

July 1946 - four permanent molars are through but
since when, I don't know

Aug. 1946 - first tooth-ache, lower left 1st molar (primary)

Spring, 1949 - Course of fluoride treatments.



My favorite toys

I've toys of all sorts and kinds,
Some that pulls and some that winds;
Some that stands and some that sits,
And some are just my favorites.

July 11 - Blue celluloid rattle (just the head remains on the suspending string) and Plakies

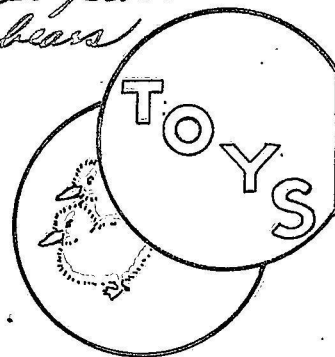
July 30 - "Gabby", a rubber "squeaky" brings an interested smile.

Sept. 24 - Dangling toys are batted with vigour, and blanket clips are about the nicest to chew since Mother won't let me suck my carriage harness strap, nor even my shoe very often.

Dec. 14 Mother's pretty shoe-horn, or plain wooden clothes-pin are favourites. Dolls are delightful but forbidden. Teddy bears aren't bad.

Mar. 25 Noise-makers, bell, horn or whistle, are much enjoyed; also dolls and "big Teddy"

Sept. 28 Carries dolls and teddy bears about very lovingly and says "ah" to them as if talking to a baby.
(Noted on Aug. 17)



Baby's Doings VI

July 16 - Robt. first wore his pretty blue rompers with the chicken embroidery on the front.

July 17 - Robert sometimes blows through his lips making a noisy vibration with his tongue, or sputtering with his lips. Squeaks, squeals, gurgles, and excited little laughs seemingly produced by an intake of breath, are all part of his vocabulary now.

July 30 - Robert's first tooth was discovered while he was on a visit to Cousin Gordon and Aunt Lena's new little home in Fair Ground. Ethel ^{Armstrong} and Adrian Finch, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Finch saw Robert for the first time to day.



June 2.

Grandpa Park
thinks his little
namesake is just
right, "a noble baby."



Brownsville Home

Robert with
Mother and
Daddy,

June 2, 1940.

Unposed pose
by Grandpa
in background

July 24 Daddy
gave Betty a
locket with a
copy of the
above snapshot
inside. (July 24, 1940
was Betty's 9th
birthday.)

a.
sunny
smile at.
sun-bath.
time ———
July 6, 1940



← July 10 ↑
 A big smile for
 Grandfather and
 Grandmother, but
 an anxious look
 for the camera

Baby's Doings VII

At six months and over (up to Aug. 25)

Robert loves to handle things and his surprisingly big little hands are rarely idle during his waking moments. Toys, carriage-side, crib-bars, clothes, bedding, even chair-backs, walls, and door-jambs come within or under his exploring fingers. Everything is carried to his mouth if possible, or his mouth is brought close to it.

Robert can hang on to his little ball rattle enough to shake a loud rattle out of it, and if allowed to grip the handle of a rattle can flourish the toy in great style, adding to its noise by whacking on crib or carriage side.

He can sit up fairly straight and steady, but his insatiable interest in his surroundings soon causes him to lean and reach, then topple. (He has had two tumbles this way that were enough to make him cry, last on Aug. 23rd).

He has put his toe in his mouth at least once, but usually his thumb slips in instead.

Robert has been holding his bottle, unknowingly, for some time, although his seizing of said bottle is very definite at meal time. His hands would soon fall away, for he did not know that his hands were responsible for the position of the bottle. Now, however, he can hold the bottle quite consciously, and even pulls it out of his mouth every little while to allow air to go into the bottle, and puts it right back into his mouth.



July 24



Early September

Sept. 17



Baby's Doings IX

Aug. 6 or 7 - Robert made himself bounce in his swing for the first time to-day.

Aug. 3 - 13 Robert, Betty, ~~and~~ Douglas and I visited Grandfather and Grandmother at South Cayuga. Aunt Evelyn and Daddy arrived Aug. 10.

Aug. 21 - First sun-wheat biscuit, or part thereof, also part of a soft-
approx. boiled egg some days.

Aug. - Robert amused us all lately by reaching eagerly for a spoon containing apple sauce which he seemed to like very much. His first few tastes caused him to make a comical face of displeasure which he turned in a puzzled way to the laughing four who sat around the kitchen table.

Aug. 25 - Robert likes to bounce up and down or jerk himself back and forth while sitting up. If he is held in a sitting (or half-standing) position with his feet a little lower and resting on something solid he almost dances, though his feet never leave their solid resting place. Once, at 5 months or less, he made stepping motions when held with his little bare feet to the grass, but more often he takes an interest in the grass itself, liking to pull it up.

Sept. 2 - Robt. has been learning cup-drinking seriously since Aug. 28th or so, and to-day, for the first time, managed to get along without a bottle all day.

At seven months and over (up to Sept. 24)

Robert is learning fast. He can drink out of a cup fairly well now, with much less slobbering than at first. He sits up beautifully and for long stretches, but often upsets

X

himself by reaching for things. He is interested in everything, and tries out as many things as possible in his mouth. He can stand up for a few seconds while holding on to something, but has not offered to pull himself to a standing position. He tries hard to reach a sitting position when lying down but can't quite make it. He comes very close to succeeding when in his carriage for he pries himself upward a little by the help of the sides.

Robert talks or gurgles a good deal to himself when content and "scolds" or mumbles rather plaintively, when feeling a little impatient. He has a wide range of monosyllables at his command, but has connected any one of them with a specific action or object as yet. Several weeks of vigorous "da or da-da" have been followed by a reversion to "ma-ma-ma"; but now this in turn is being replaced by a varied jumble of sounds, such as a, goo, go, ga, ba, bla, da, dü, cü.

Robert can bounce in his swing pretty well now, and more satisfactorily since it is suspended from two door-springs. Yesterday he rolled all the way over on to his stomach and a short time ago he rolled off his bath stool but another stool prevented his falling. Aside from falling over on his rug on the floor or elsewhere he has had only one fall at home. I think! Then he squirmed out of a chesterfield chair.

Sept. 24 - To-day Robert picked up his sheet which was pinned around his waist as he sat in his carriage, and peered

Baby's Doings XI

under in search of the shoe he had already removed several times from his foot. He follows moving objects, even a high-flying swing, with his eyes, ^{and} is attracted to buttons and all bright colours. His hearing is quite acute; he turns towards a near-by sound with ease, and even tries to locate (to him) unusual distant sounds which the rest of us hardly notice.

Robert has been sitting up for most of his bath in the big tub for two or three weeks now. He likes to splash his hands into the water and play with a floating soap-dish or blue jar-cover from his bath-tray.

Baby hates to have his nose cleaned or face washed but doesn't object to a stick-swab in his ears or between his toes. He seems a little ticklish, chuckling sometimes when towel or powder is applied to his body. (Oct. 2 - noticeably ticklish).

One of his ways of expressing pleasure is a long noisy croak made by drawing his breath down his throat through his open mouth. He smiles and laughs readily, and even "makes eyes" or talks and crows to get attention. He has taken to pounding things with palm, palms or whatever he may hold in his hand. Banging on the aluminium tray of his high chair is particularly satisfying. The power and speed of his blows during this game is surprising.

Sept. 15 - Robt.'s first full-length church service at Culloden church on the occasion of Culloden Anniversary.

Oct. 2 - Robt. rolled over on the sun-porch bed to-day, went to sleep in his high chair for the first time, and almost squirmed out of his carriage when the hood was tilted forward.



Robert looks up with
interest as Borden's
Milk Truck roars
down the street; Trixie
is tired of posing.

September 17th
poses,
1940



Baby's Doings XII

Oct. 1 - Robt. visited Uncle Doctor in London while Daddy wrote the second of his F. C. R. F. primaries.

Oct. 2 - Robt. has been kicking the toes of his shoes against the under side of his high chair lately. He also found he could bang his heels against the pew back in Culloden church the day he attended service there. He sat on the pew back while Daddy and Mother stood for the hymns sometimes.

Oct. 20 - Robt. ^{Mother and Father} attended evening church, Delmer anniversary service, and behaved fairly well, though he did pull Miss Margaret Hogg's hair once as she sat in front of us.

Oct. 29 - Robt. love to pound the piano keys with his palms. He was shown how a few times but now recognizes the black and white keys as a source of possible delight.

He also has formed the habit of stiffening his body when he is about to be set down or lifted to a sitting position. The result when you are trying to have him sit up he stands up instead.

Robert enters into Betty's and Douglas's games very heartily - in spirit. He waves his arms and calls out his excited or approving "ah".

We are delighted just now with Robert's charming appearance when dressed in his pale green sweater and dark brown corduroy overalls.

Another recent trick is smacking his lips, but pulling off shoes to chew them has long been a popular pastime.

Sept. 28/40.
Robert eats
an apple.



Plakies and play-funnel
on tray of
high chair



Robert and the
big peach,
Sept. 28/40.



Baby's Doings XIII

Dec. 4, 1940. Robert now likes to lean far back over the arm of his green high chair in order to peer behind him. He bounces vigorously when allowed to sit up on rug, in buggy, or in play-crib; sometimes rising 2 or 3 inches from what he has been sitting upon, but always with his heels still on their original level. Since getting his play-crib, Nov. 23, he has learned to draw himself a little way up by the vertical bars until he reaches a half-sitting or even a kneeling position. When placed standing upright, holding by the top bar of the crib, he enjoys flexing his knees, ^{or} patting the bar with one hand. He is learning to let go cautiously in order to fall back from standing to sitting position with a complete tumble.

Vocal tricks, etc. include producing the on-and-off effect to a long-drawn monosyllable by stopping his mouth with his fist in two or three quick successive thrusts, clucking with his tongue against his teeth, or more often, clapping his tongue down behind his teeth. He says "go ya," "na-na-na," and many unpredictable and varied baby words. From Nov. 5th on, for a few days, he would say "ba-ba" and wave his hand when told to say "bye-bye". Then he changed to "da-da" or "dy-dye" and refused to wave!

Robert was a cheerful, good boy during W. M. S. service Dec. 1st in the evening, but had to be amused all the time, was constantly on the move.

He much enjoyed his Aunt Evelyn's and Aunt Alice's visit Nov. 22-24. He insisted on trying to put Aunt Evelyn's locket into her mouth.
He drinks plain whole-milk now, luke-warm.



Nov. 24, 1940.
Souvenir of surprise
visit from Aunt Evelyn
and Aunt Alice.

Baby's first Christmas XIV

Robert enjoyed his first Christmas very much in spite of a slight cold. He took delight in gazing at the brightly decorated tree and showed an eager desire to seize any ornament within reach - or almost within reach.

Grandfather, Grandmother, Aunt Evelyn, and Aunt Alice, and Uncle Wesley were all here at the Brownsville home for part of Christmas Day. What lusty carol singing we had at prayer time that morning. Singing praises to the new-born King seemed to have a new and beautiful significance to Mother as she held her first "Christmas baby" in her arms. After Grandfather read the lovely Christmas story and led us in prayer, Daddy unloaded the tree. Robert had already received nuts, an orange, and (for a joke) a pair of rubbers that once belonged to Betty or Douglas, or both, also a big green balloon. These gifts had been in or about his little lustrous white stocking that morning, as it hung from the mantel between Betty's and Douglas's. From the tree the young man received a nice blue wool suit from his Leonard grandparents, a little teddy bear from Douglas, a green trimmed oiled silk bib from Betty, a yellow-trimmed roaster bib from Bonnie, a tiny bugle whistle from Aunt Leta, a pink squeaking rattle doll from Ethel Armstrong, and an Air Force dolly from Muriel Honsberger. A pair of brown stockings from Gordon arrived the next Sunday and a bonnet and ball came from Uncle Etheridge in Winnipeg.

On Dec. 19th Robert attended the United S.S. Christmas concert and showed evident interest and delight in many of the numbers. His comments were heard for some distance when he recognized Betty and Douglas reciting on the platform.

Robert looked up in such a shy, pleased way when he found he could squeak his pink squeaky doll by squeezing it.



Dec 25/40

Baby's Doings XVI (XV on other side of this leaf.)

Feb. 15 Robert's "preacher" gesture consists of clasp and unclasp the fingers of an extended hand.

Robert is fond of our fox-terrier, Tricie. We suspect he has been trying to say her name for some time but it became definitely recognizable about a week or so before his birthday. He will call her when he hears her off outside, sees her in the house, or sometimes when he merely enters her domain, the kitchen, or approaches the door by which she enters the kitchen. He sometimes imitates her bark too, once made a 4-word "sentence" thus: "Buh, buh, buh, chu-tse" (French u) He always used a tiny, shrill, high-pitched voice for Tricie's name, though he uses a lower pitch ordinarily.

Robert takes a keen interest in the tinest things, - a few shreds of cotton batting on his fingers, a tooth-pick, a thread dangling from the bathroom curtain, the label on a towel, the writing and stamp on an envelope, and so on.

Robert always tries to replace lids on boxes, jars, etc. - if he has a chance. Everything must be put somewhere, whether it is over the edge of tub, crib or high-chair, or merely down the register.

Robert likes to talk hollowly through a card-board mailing-tube, and loves to make things go whenever possible. He once unrolled many yards of bathroom paper and piled it in mounds about him on the bathroom floor.

13th month Robert still attempts to say "Tricie", "bow-wow", and sometimes can be persuaded to say something like "bye-bye" while raising his hand in farewell. Dada and mamma are now perfectly plain though not yet completely associated with their true meanings. "Duk duk" for Douglas is noted occasionally. Robert shows that he knows the uses for the following: shoes, rubbers, bats, hair-brush, once an ear-swab, cup (which he began holding for himself Mar. 5), etc.

Robert's Doings XV (Back / page for XVI)

Jan. 4 Robert began sitting up in his crib at will.

Jan. 7 he stood up by himself for the first time in his play-crib.

Jan. 8 he practised getting up on his feet until he became quite expert. On this day, too, he learned to blow his Christmas whistle, just by imitating the blowing of others. Results were best, however, when the whistle was placed in mouth correctly by some one else, otherwise he would often put the handle, or the red end of the bugle, in his mouth, or insert the blue end so far that he covered the air outlet.

Jan. 17 Robert has been not very well since his sickness of Jan. 2nd but he has proved his powers of resistance. He has added several new tricks to his repertory: trying to comb his hair with his little pink comb, trying to replace a cork in a medicine bottle, sucking in his cheeks until his mouth looks like a tiny three-petaled flower, making his walker back up, rubbing and twining his hands together when some one else is doing so, pulling articles to him by their strings.

Jan. 19 Robert played pat-a-cake while watching Mother do so.

Jan. 23 Robert first made his walker move forward and all directions, taking great pride and pleasure in his new accomplishment. (So did Daddy and Mother.)

Jan. 27 Robert had his first hair-cut to-day. He behaved very well almost throughout the process, and looks so much more like a real little BOY now.

Feb. 15. Robert is fond of draping towels, lino, ribbons, etc. over his head, even when not engaged in one of his favourite games, peek-a-boo. He has used hair-brush, shoe-tree, and rubber shoe-brush in an apparent effort to brush his hair. He tries to put a shoe or rubber on his foot, and has once tried to replace Betty's white tam (borrowed for outings) on his head. Robert often turns out his lower lip, especially when unwilling to eat. What a bell-shaped looks this gives him.

My first birthday

*Here I am just one year today,
A little bit fatter so they say;
It's quite a nice world it seems to me,
And I picked out the best family.*



February 11th, 1941.

Robert Watson had a very happy first birthday. He showed appreciation of every present he was permitted to handle, was much interested in the flaming candle on his tiny, be-ribboned birthday cake, talked excitedly during a good deal of his birthday supper, and enjoyed especially the sizable treat of ice-cream which he was allowed on that occasion.

Daddy had decorated our Christmas



cake with "Robert 1940", traced in red candies on the white icing. (Daddy made that delicious icing, too.) Mother saved the top layer, therefore, to be used as Robert's first birthday cake.

Cards - From Aunt Evelyn and Alice, a hand drawn one from Aunt Evelyn, and one from Mrs. Hopkins.

Gifts

Grandfather and Grandmother sent sixteen war savings stamps to buy a war savings certificate for little grandson. Application was made for this certificate in Mother's name. Douglas purchased, wrapped, and delivered a toy accordion for his little brother. This was unwrapped for Robert just before Betty and Douglas left for school, and in a few seconds Robert was playing it and feeling quite pleased with himself and the toy.

Mother finished up Robert's valentine quilt and Robert seemed to admire the pretty blue colour of the back ground, though he may not have noticed the quilting stitches in rosy pink.

Betty, Mother, and Muriel all helped with the sturdy cloth scrap-book in which to paste bright paper pictures for the little fellow's interested enjoyment. He seems very fond of pictures.

All these gifts show in Robert's birthday snapshot, taken in the late afternoon sunshine, at about 5.20 or later.

Baby's Doings XVII

(13th month cont'd.)

balloon, and bib. He reaches up to play piano keys and tries to put his ear ^{to a watch.}
He climbs up on his feet more often, pulling himself by crib-side, chute, or someone's clothing.

14th month

Robert imitates every sound he hears, almost, if he can manage it at all. He sometimes says "tick-tick" while bending his ear to listen to a wrist-watch or raising a pocket watch to his ear. He blows with his mouth to imitate nose-blowing, or the roar of a train or aeroplane, squeals to imitate Daddy's "rooster call" or some of Douglas's exuberant screeches, also copies Daddy's ^{long-drawn} "morning" "ho-hum" (etc.), ^{and} says "buh, buh" very often when he hears a dog barking.

Robert can climb to his feet with only a flat wall by which to steady himself, can stand alone for a few seconds (after which time he elects to sit down, usually, in order to feel more secure) and will walk right along when both his hands are being held. He will take a few uncertain steps while holding on to some article of furniture, or while one hand is held. He creeps very rapidly in a sitting position, dragging himself forward by the palms of his hands while one foot, his left, trails out behind. He operates his walker with ease and skill, and at first ^{took} the walker position (knees bent and toes turned out) when we ~~were~~ trying to help him to walk really. Now he stands straighter but still turns out his toes.

Robert understands a number of expressions now. "No, no" has

Baby's Doings XVIII

conveyed its correct meaning since before he was a year old, and soon after he would act appropriately on "Put it back".

Now "Put it in (there)", "Sit down", "Work", "Walk", "Trine", "Put your hands all have definite meanings for him. in", or Put your foot in (up, out, etc.)

Vocabulary at 19 mos. at 20

Baby

Back

There (dah)

Pretty (pitty)

Car (cah)

Down or done (dn)

Up

Please (bee)

Tan tan (thanks)

Ta Ta

(Forgotten)

He likes to drop things down the clothes chute, the swinging door of which has long been enjoyed as a plaything, as are all swinging doors or drawers he can open, rattling knobs, and flat panes of glass, tiny bits of paper or other materials, removable corks and covers.

Robert admired very much the gold buttons Grandma Park put on his green sweater, also the cunning bunnies on his crib spread (arr. Mar. 25/41) from Grandmother Leonard. He looks so pleased and fingers things delightedly to express his approval. He hangs on and screams when he does not want to have something taken away from him.

Apr. 10 approx. Robt. said "ba(ck) ba(ck)" when told to put something back in place.

Robt. stuffs large pieces of banana or apple in his mouth and sometimes has to choke them out again.

Apr. 12. Robt. sometimes pulls out the refrigerator wall plug!

1941

Baby's Doings (19)

Apr. 14 Climbed all the way upstairs unaided.

Apr. 21 Robt. looks toward the bassinette when brought into Jimmy's room and tries to climb up to see the baby.

Apr. 22 Robt. stood up proud and pleased in his first leather boots.

Apr. 20 Creeps on all fours on rugs in preference to his usual pull-and-slide progress which is easier on hardwood floors. (See picture below)

May 16 Tries to wipe up a puddle (?) on the floor with floor-cloth

April 3rd →

Robert's favourite style of 'creeping'.



← April 27th

First picture of Mother and all four children



1941

Baby's Doings (2a)

Aug. 8. Robert climbed on the sun-porch bed to see the train pass by on the track, half a mile away. Later he often climbed on a chair for the same purpose.

Aug. 8. Robert imitates Jimmy's baby squeals and noises, bends carefully over him saying a loving "ah" or cautiously "kissing" him - with the end of his tongue.

Aug. 9 Robert pulled Douglas's aeroplane around by a string. Later he preferred pushing various toys on wheels while crawling beside them on his knees. Soon he added noises to imitate the sound of car or aeroplane - copied from Douglas whom he imitates in almost everything.

Aug. 16 Robert didn't have much fun with his fine Kiddie-Kar (Aunt Evelyn's gift in April) until he learned recently to back up after running as far as the wall or railing of his play porch. To-day he finally learned to turn corners and can go where he likes on a "ride".

Aug. 30 Mother caught Robt. standing on the spare room stool looking very charming in her wide white hat and admiring himself in the mirror.



April 27
Plump and
energetic



May 19
"Watch me
feed myself!"



May 30, when
the Berkau
cousins were
here for a visit.
(Brownsville, 1941)



July 1, 1941.
Robert steps
into his father's
shoes.

May 8. - Portrait of Robert on west
steps of Brownsville home, the
day he was baptized in Brownsville
United Church.

May 16. -





{ July 17, 1941.
 at Marjorie Smith's,
 Highway #2, near
 Glencoe, Ontario;
 first day of holiday
 trailer trip to
 Muskoka District



Aug. 30, 1941.
 "Fat but cool"



Brothers

Robert and James Park, at Brownsville,
August 24, 1941.

Baby's Doings (21)

17th month Robert learned to say Bel for please and occasionally tan tan for thank-you.
He seems fond of his doll, hugging and cuddling it.

18th month
Robert pushes toys along the floor in front of him.
He likes the novelty of prancing on his tip-toes.

19th month
Robert likes to rock in the little rocking chair. (Sept. 5)
~~He can make the~~

Sept. 16 Robert amused us by imitating a truck of Douglas's.
He lay on his back on the floor, moving himself about headfirst by pushing with his heels on the floor. At the same time he emitted a plane-like varying roar.

Sunday, Sept. 7^{was}, Daddy and Mother's sixth Wedding Anniversary and brother James' Christening Day.
Grandfather and Grandmother Leonard from Delhi visited our home in Brownsville.

Christmas 1941 Uncle Clifford and family were our guests.
(Robert "ah-ed" with delight when first shown the decorated tree and tried to grab the ornaments.) Correction - this happened Dec 1940. East



Robert at
Camp Ararat,
Fox Lake,
Muskoka.



July 23, 1941.



Christmas Eve, 1941,
Brownsville



Taken
April 1942.

My new home,
211 Byron Street North,
Whitby, Ontario, Canada.

February 11th, 1942.

My second birthday

*I've learned to walk, to talk and say
The smaller words the grown ups' way;
And on my cake, two candles show
My birthday is today you know.*



*On the snowy walk
by Daddy's garage,
twelfth day after my
family moved to a
new home in Whitby,
Ontario.*



Gifts.

Brown wool suit from Grandmother Leonard
(see Feb. 11 pictures)

Brown and yellow teddy bear from Daddy
and Mother

Picture books from Betty and Douglas (?)



1942 Robert's Doings (22)

January-February - A week was spent with Jimmy at Delhi with grandparents while the family moved to Whitby, Jan. 31st, and began the business of getting settled.

Robert had started sleeping with Douglas in Brownsville in the brown iron single bed. This arrangement was continued in the north-east bedroom, the sewing-room, at Whitby.

By the Spring of 1942 Robert was a very good talker. Here are some samples: I wan' it, "O.K." (very emphatically); H'lo Dimmy; { Mommy commy
I tant weach win'ow; (Mama's coming);
Wobbo noo doo (Robert's new shoes);
I⁽³⁾ pill buttons, I det parkin; I like and I don' like;
Here, Betty, put it in your pocket. Take my bib off, please. (These are up to June '42) bucka = button

In June Robert started first on the game of pretending, put himself to bed for the first time, started talking games such as calling

1942

Robert's Doings and sayings - 23

h'lo and did-bye from the car window, giving
laughingly the opposite answer from the one
looked for. e.g. "Is your name Robert?" "No, Bobby."

"Is your name Bobby?" "No, Robert."

In May Robert learned his first prayer at Mother's knee.
June 20. Tried to wash Jimmy's face while they

were both in the bathtub.
Sometimes kisses Jim as latter lies on bath-stool.

June 26 "I must look into (this) 'dis!"

Sept. 14 bapume = bathroom (Later "bafume")

Other sayings and expressions:

"Don' cwy Dimmy, aw wight minnit."

ches' peel = chesterfield

"I dress up me"; having climbed almost into Jimmy's
overalls.

(Put on some of own clothes now.)

Once said "Bless mubber" at prayer-time
even though I had said, dictating, "Bless Mama".

I divink my nolk (milk) a' up.

Appo won't tick me (Apple won't make me sick)

With Grandfather Leonard, on a
visit back to Delhi, March 1942. Brownsville
was also
visited.





April 14



May



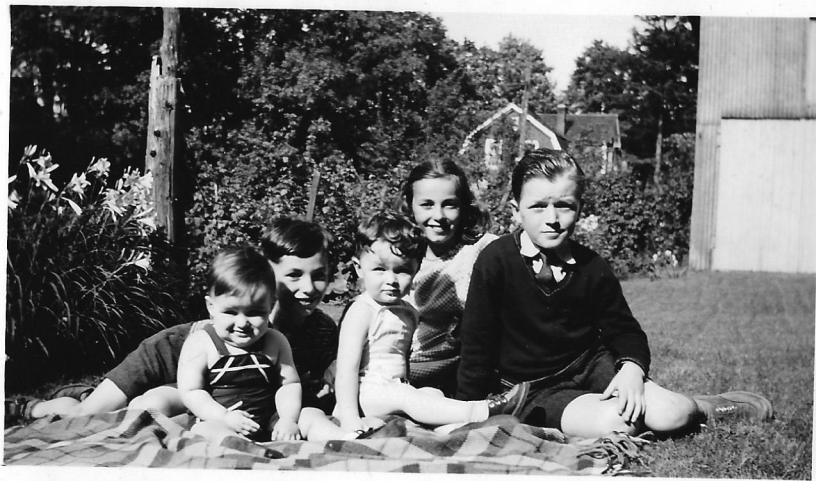
& June, 1942,
in Whitby

In May of 1942 Robert could fasten safety pins into a short chain, and enjoyed decorating his sweater front with safety pins, too.



Jimmy and Robert

More June views in Whithy.
June 6, 1942.



Jimmy, Douglas, Betty,
Robert, Raymond Collins
(301 Byron St. N.)

1942 Robert's Doings and Sayings — 24 —
Sept. 30 - Grinds up dry bread for Mother, unaided.
October - Builds and interesting "pantoon bridge" out of fruit baskets.

November - Robert insists, "It was hot, I sed (said)!"

Takes Jamie away from sugar bowl and returns spilled sugar from floor to sugar bowl.

Fridiwaiter = refrigerator

"It's s'pose he dis way, sposen't it?"

Argues with Jimmy that his name is "Robert", not Augur, as Jimmy renders it. Each boy repeats his own version of the name growing louder (and more exasperated on Robert's part) with each repetition.

"Frixie can whistle, mommy!" when terrier whined shrilly.

"I kump down my^(s) self."

"Announces with pleasure a new word by Jimmy."

December - "It goes in here, go n't it?"

"Twicky" - mu' ha' baf, she's foots dirty."

"Mappet" = mat (+ carpet)

1943

- 25 -

February - after watching Mother, Robert remarks,
"I don't shut my eyes" (when I drink implied)

To - "Who lives at Mr. Osborne's house?" Robert
answers, "Bobbie 'n' ev'ryting." He says Mr.
Obben or Aunt Obben for Gordon Osbornes.

Whitby friend

To "What makes holes, Robert?" he replies, "Fin spots."
biscobo = bicycle

April, 1943, was the
date of a much
enjoyed family
visit to Grandpa's
farm and home.

Member's Card

Baby



Band

*All over this great round beautiful world
Are babies with dear little faces,
And some are dark and some are fair,
And some live in distant places.*

*And all of the little folk far and near
Should think of each other with love,
For all have the same wide earth for home,
And the same dear Father above.*

Robert Watson Park

Is a member of the Baby Band

The Woman's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada

Whitby

Feb 3/43
DATE

CHURCH
Sora L. Sturgeons
BABY BAND SUPERINTENDENT





In the garden,
June 1943.



The Park Brothers.
April 1943, soon after
Jim's second birthday.



1
9
4
3



Hallowe'en and Christmas
in Whitby

Back row:

Douglas Park
Catherine Park
Rev. Clifford Park
Mrs. Elizabeth
Brodie
Aleta Park

Middle row:

Betty Park
Bonnie Park
Jeanne Allard

Front row:

James Park (with
"Panda" and mallet
Robert Park

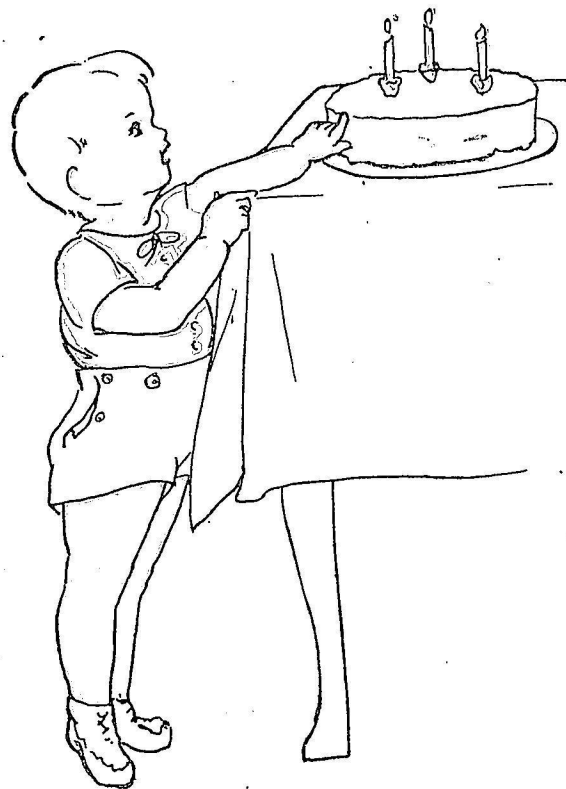
Photographer: Wilford Park

My third birthday , Feb. 11, 1944.

*It's lots of fun to have birthdays,
So special, I wish they were always;
I can say little verses and count one, two, three,
For the three little candles on the cake that's for me.*

(Indoor snapshot not clear.)

*Gifts included war saving stamps from
Grandfather and Grandmother Leonard*



1944 Recollections

I might did - I might have done (Probably '44)

Robert started to Junior Church in February when Mother and Betty were in charge, also attended a few times later when a neighbour, Barbara Foster, had the younger group of the Junior congregation

Easter time brought another pleasant visit to Grandpa Park's. Eight people consumed over two dozen eggs on Easter Day. Colouring Easter eggs was part of the fun that week-end.

Easter "family prayers" in Grandpa's parlour must have made him remember old times. Mother played for the Easter hymns and Grandpa led in prayer.

Robert, Jimmy and Mother also had a four or five day visit in Delhi with Grandfather and Grandmother Leonard in February this year. Then in June R. and J. spent ^{almost} a whole month in Delhi, with Mother there too the last week or so, while she was recovering after pneumonia.



Spring scenes, pictured as on March 24, 1944, a
souvenir of the visit to Whitby of Aunt Adelene,
Mrs. Etheridge W. Leonard, of Winnipeg and Minnedosa,
Manitoba.

1944 Recollections

Robert and Jimmy got better acquainted with cousin Judith Elaine Cowan during their June visit in Delhi. All three little folk visited the Big Sand Hills of Houghton Tp., Norfolk Co., on Dominion Day.

About May Mother tested Robert on his letters. He knew at least 10 of them by shape, but in some cases did not know the name; D, for instance was just Douglas's letter.

July, 1944 Robert can count to 20 with the exception of the number 15 which he generally omits.

Robert is very headstrong, protesting in a very objectionable manner when not allowed his own way.

July 23rd - Aug. 6th the family visited Couchiching Inn for vacation, and Robert was proud, before our departure, of being able to put his face under water. He had been imitating Douglas who learned during this visit to do a little diving and water-stunting. Swim records on this visit were as follows: (Approximate distances) Daddy - 140 yd., Mother 80 yd.



Father, sister, and
brother.

Feb. 11, 1945, Whitney



Brother Jim, Cousin
Judith Cowan,
and I, in
Delhi.
Apr. 1, 1945.

1945 Recollections

All the Parks visited at the home of the Leonard Grandparents over Easter Sunday, most of us attending Delhi United Church for Easter morning service. Several ^{of us} went also to the evening service and heard Aunt Evelyn sing an Easter solo. Colouring Easter eggs was a popular pastime during this visit.

Robert and Jim stayed in Delhi all through July while Mother, Father and Betty were on a trip to the West Coast and back. On Aug. 2nd Aunt Evelyn (Mrs. Eric Henderson since July 27th) and Eric brought them to Toronto and Mother collected them there to return by bus to Whithy.

Nov. 9, 1945 the Parks moved to Deep River, Ontario.

9 Beach Ave. on the banks
of the
Ottawa



The Deep River home, as
snapped in January '46.



Deep River School,
seen from Beach Ave.



Robert, as he looked
on his first day of
kindergarten, in Whithy.
Sept. 4, 1945

1945

Robert started Kindergarten at King St. Public School in Whithy, under Miss Corbett. After the family went to Deep River he moved into Grade I under Miss Vernier. His first two months in Deep River, Grade I occupied a temporary school, a "war-time six," at 53 Algonquin St. After the new year, 1946, the new Deep River School was in use.

Our first Christmas in Deep River we had a tall spruce for a Christmas tree, trimmed with lights, bells, and a few decorations from former years. For the teen-agers-and-parents party, Dec. 28th the lighted tree was set out beside the front steps.



Jan. 5, 1946
in Daddy's
"flight boots"



Feb. 11, 1946

Below:

Robert's sixth

birthday party.

Guests: Judy Lawrence (Robert)
Dugal Carmichael, Jim Park,
Douglas Hatfield.



1946

Robert's birthday party featured a decorated table, a cake with candles, crepe paper hats (some made by Mother) "salt cellars" for nuts and candies.

Robert is very particular about having his clothes all match or harmonize this year.

May 24th he went on a family ride in our new motor boat several miles up the Ottawa. ^{This was Baby Brother Warren's first boat-ride.}

June 29th saw another boat-ride and picnic, our first at "Echo Cove". Parks and Kirkbrides went together, Robert and Jim playing with Michael Kirkbride, aged 3.

Robert took a few swimming lessons in summer holidays and could soon swim 10 feet, but with head down and face under water the whole way.

Robert went to the covered bridge near Des Joachim and some miles beyond. The occasion was our sight-seeing drive with the Clifford Parks.



Betty, May 1946



Robert and Jim,
June 1946.



James, first day
at Kindergarten,
Sept. 4, 1946.



Mothers and Children of Beach Avenue

Back row: Warren Park, Mrs. Park, Elizabeth Carmichael,
Mrs. Carmichael, Mrs. Hatfield, Margaret Hatfield,
Mrs. Roaf, Mrs. Sargent, Mrs. Lawrence, (Elsie Beckley)
Robert Ritchie, Mrs. Ritchie, Mrs. Kirkbride

Middle row: Douglas Park, Margaret Carmichael,
Brigid Roaf, Robert Park, Willsie Hatfield, Dermot Roaf,
Douglas Hatfield, Dugal Carmichael, Douglas Ritchie

Front row: Jane Roaf, Judy Lawrence, Michael Kirkbride,
Rachel (Ray) Roaf, Donald Hatfield, Ian Ritchie, Jim Park.

Aug. 21, 1946.

Parents

(by Wilford Park)

Mother - Catherine Edith Leonard of Delhi, Ontario.

Father - Wilford Edison Park M.D. of Brownsville Ontario Canada.

They were married in Delhi, Ontario on Sept. 7, 1935.

Mother was born in Alberta, Canada ^{July 31, 1911}. Her parents were William Martin Leonard and Edith Weekes. Grandfather Leonard was Irish and born in Donaghadee County Down, Ireland Oct 23, 1871. Grandmother Leonard was of English extraction and born at Gloucester, Ont.

Mother went with her parents to China before she was two years old. Her parents were missionaries at Chengtu. He was a builder of the mission buildings. Mother returned to Canada for a year or more when her parents were on furlough but returned with them to China again. She spent about 13 yrs in China and got her early schooling there. She could speak some Chinese. Mother & her parents returned to Canada & Mother's high school days were at Tillsonburg, Ontario. She was a brilliant student and received a medal for her high school distinction. Her father served on various circuits in Ontario as a preacher. Mother became a high school teacher and taught school for a few years before marriage. She could read Latin, read and talk French and a couple of years before her death she learned to read and speak Spanish. Mother was a devout Christian and made her religion a living part of her life. She

was much loved ~~First~~ Home by all who knew her, and had many true friends. She was a woman who knew real joy in the beauties of nature. She loved art and poetry. She wrote some poetry and it usually reflected her appreciation of beauty and God's presence. Mother died on Jan. 21, 1955 with cancer in the liver, which originated in one of her breasts. She loved Robert very much & expected great things of him.

Daddy was born at Fair Ground, Ontario on March 27, 1901. His father was Watson Park & his mother Mary Emma Lara Cutter. Watson Park was of English extraction being descended from Sir Robert Parke of Preston, England who came to the U.S. on the ship Arabella in 1630. landing at Boston. The family settled & became prominent in Connecticut. Watson Park's greatgrandfather, Dr. Amos Park left his practice in Palmyra, N.Y. and came to Ontario because he remained loyal to the British crown.

The line of ancestry is as follows — Wilford Park — Watson Park — Phillip Bender Park — Halsey Park — Dr. Amos Park — Silas Park — Hezekiah Parke — Robert Parke — Thomas Parke — Sir Robert Parke.

Daddy went to high school at Vienna, Ontario; graduated as a doctor of medicine from the University of Toronto with Honours in 1927. He practiced medicine at Brownsville, Ont. until Jan 31/42 then started a career in industrial medicine at Whitby Ont. Later became director of health services at Canada's atomic energy project at Chalk River, Ont. Then on Dec 29/49 he took the family to Minneapolis, Minn. where he became director of the Div. of Industrial Health for the Minnesota Dept. of Health. He became prominent in industrial medicine and details can be found in ~~Whitby~~ who, in medicine. He was always an active churchman holding many church offices and in Sunday school work.