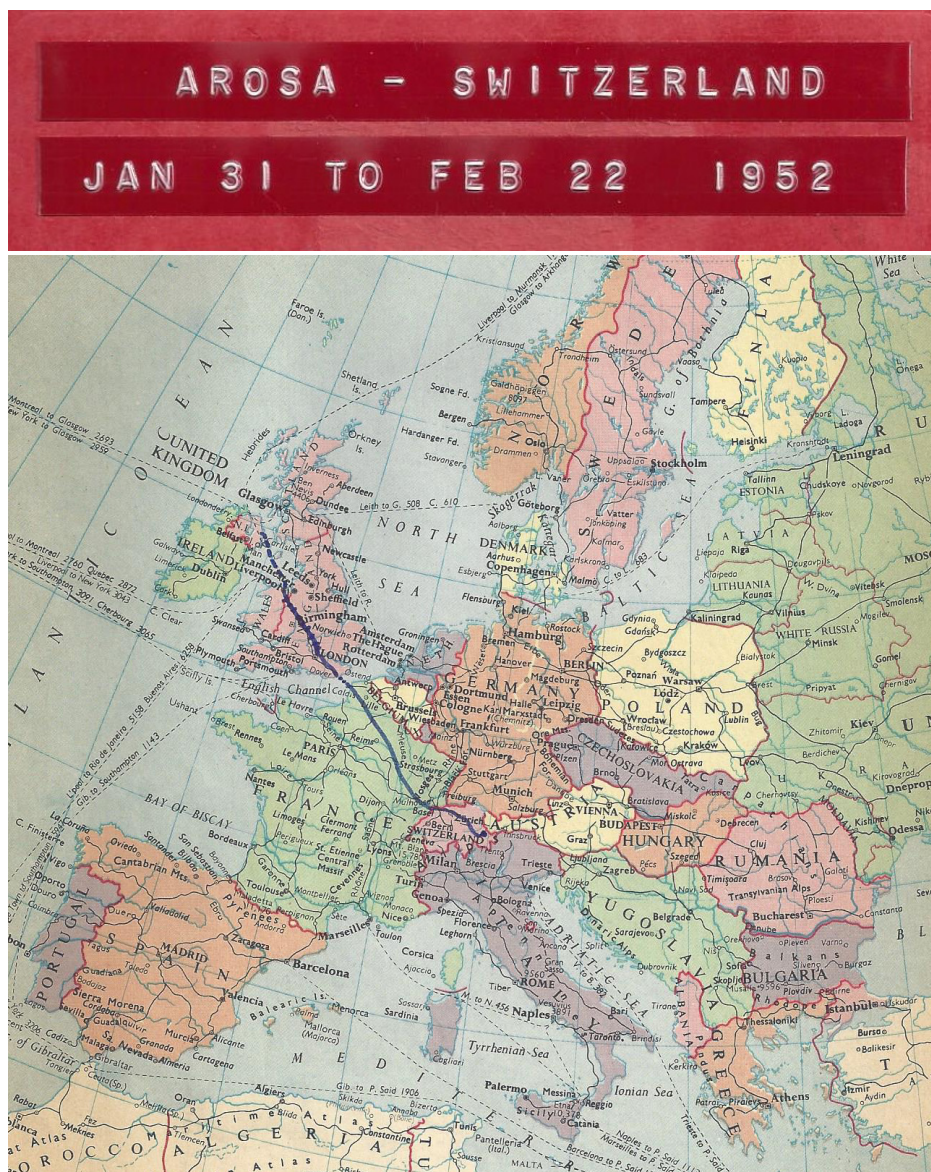


TRAVELS NOW AND THEN

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AROSA 1952



What follows is my transcription of my father's journal for the February 1952 skiing holiday in Arosa, Switzerland, along with the photographs that my father took during that holiday.

Thurs. Jan 31

Hectic morning - snow, ice and slush at home - car driving difficult.

Dep. home at 1.30pm - Belfast - messages - left M. and boys at Ritz - to see "American in Paris" with Irene. Boys rather "strung-up" with excitement.

Called in bookshop - had haircut - went to Red Lodge - cup of coffee - back to Ritz at 7.00pm where everybody miserable and cross. Picture not appreciated by boys, B. tired - had headache - so off by car to Liverpool boat. To cabins - then Michael and I took car back to garage and walked (very slippery and ice) to boat. Settled down - walked decks - Colin a bit frightened on dark upper deck - could not believe boat was moving at first - so little sound at slow speed in river.

Got boys to bed - restless and too warm - gave them ??gr ?? each (already had ?? at 7.00pm). B and self had tea, toast, etc - worst service imaginable at table (boat old and mouldy - "Longford"). B and self to bed by 10pm. Cases: 2 fairsizes (self) and medium and small grips and medium rucksack: all easily carried. B and self in ski pants - boys in windbreakers. Note: Best in future to go straight from home to boat.

Fri. Feb 1

Cup of tea at 7.00am. All slept well except B - but she rested.

Boat put into dock (not river) with snow falling - rotten arrangements for transport to station - hauled bags to bus - dashed and caught 5.20am London train by skin of our teeth. Had breakfast (flakes?, rolls, marmalade, tea and coffee 2/6). Later went along for lemonade. C. marked up route on old AA map. Colin and

M. very good - snow and fog - but bright and clear near London.

Prof. Rodgers - among others - on train. He helped me with big grip (handle had broken).

Dumped bags at Euston - tube to Picadilly - bumped into John Boyd who is here for interview as head of broadcasting in Ceylon.

Lunch - Lyons - off to Moss Bros. where boys got boots, pants and anoraks - very smart. No boots small enough for Colin (written in boat train) B and I got good Swiss-type boots and bought goggles for children at 13/6? each.

Called Cooks Picadilly for tickets - then into News Theatre - tea - and back to Euston for bags - taxi to Victoria (7/6) - train to Beconsfield? from platform ? (returns 10/- for all).

Heavy going with bags and tired boys to 42 Southend Road (Haddon Hotel?) where ? greeted us.

Old baronial type of house - all in one large room - very comfy. Desmond Little? away at Newcastle. Supper and bed - very tired.

Sat. Feb 2

Slept late - into Harrods - left B and boys - coffee Russell Square - met Brian? Gordon? and got on like a house on fire. Went to little French cafe, gin and French, 1/2 doz. oysters each, jugged hare and red current jelly - carafe of red wine - gorgonzola and a roll - two cups black coffee. Excellent (30 pounds 17 shillings?)

Took couple of wrong turns on tube after this! Met B and boys feeding pigeons in Trafalgar square at 2.30pm.

Bus to Cumberland Hotel and wash up - bought a box for "Humpty Dumpty" at Palladium - Lyons of Piccadilly for feed - to pantomime at 7.00pm.

Long but excellent - home very late and very tired (about 11.30pm).

Sun. Feb 3

Lazy start - took Ian Little? (aged 4) into Victoria - bus ride to Tower Bridge - explored - Picadilly for lunch.

Attracted much attention (even in London) with 4 boys and the ski clothes.

To zoo - rather ??? - only had 1 1/4 hours - dashed around. Tea at Marble Arch - bus home about 6.30pm. Lots of cleaning up and packing. Baths.

Later Larry? Gibson and wife (nee Bodger?) along with Mildred (she was at a course in West End) called for a drink and supper. Most enjoyable - but Mildred had to go early for 11.30pm train to Dumfries?

Mon. Feb 4

Up early - off well - got bags to Victoria and left them. Bus to Trafalgar Square - Horse Guards - just missed changing of the guard - but Colin saw them riding off in their red cloaks.

Bought some "eats?" in Lyons of Strand - lunched there - bus to Victoria - comfortably got the train leaving 1.00pm. Very few travelling - very comfortable. Also very fortunate in weather - distinctly warm - dry and odd blinks of sun.

Reserved seats - lots of others free - everyone settled down quietly (? effect of Avonine? at lunch?)

Through customs with minimum of trouble and left Folkestone 3.15pm. Really beautiful French boat - "Cote d'Azur" - light maple woods - grand seats, etc.

Soon went to Salon de The and had lots of tea, rolls, butter and jam and slices of cake (total 10 shillings). Then necessary passport formalities - explored various decks.

Mid-channel fairly rough and high cold wind blowing. Delightful to hear French again. Few people on board. Last half sea passage very rough. Boys OK but B looks green. Went to bar - ordered a Brandy and French (3 shillings) - but B didn't touch brandy - dashed out but was sick before reaching "Dames".

Folkestone (CB: he must mean Calais or Ostend) at 5.00pm (French 1600 hours) and left 1/2 hour later - easy change in Customs on train.

Compartment all to ourselves: didn't have dinner but picniced on our own stuff - plus a bottle of red wine I got on train (560Fr or 12/6).

Got couchettes made up before 8.00pm - boys into bed - complete and tired.

Tues. Feb 5

Boys (except Colin) awake from about 5.00am (I was awakened for tickets several times during the night). Eager to "see Switzerland" - looking out at snow. etc. Got them to rest a bit - but eventually rose and went of breakfast before 7.00am. Still rather dark. Lovely rolls lots of butter and jam, coffee in big cups (boys had mostly warm milk) - for all - 10Fr.

Got couchettes up - sat down and looked at snow. Grey sort of weather with snow falling. Brighter when we got to Chur (at 9.00am) - on to local railway. Boys love snow? by the trains - sledges, snowploughs: then superb journey up to Arosa - fantastic route; clearer as we rose. M wants to know why they have "so many Christmas trees".

Left bags to porter at station - strolled through town to Pension Walhaus. First impression - everything broad, open and free from crowds: beautiful ring of high mountains. Pension rather charming - clean, well heated, plenty of towels, comfortable beds with Swiss-style eiderdowns. Plenty of lights in rooms and handy switches. Boys have double room in basement - Colin sleeps in small bed with us. Baggage arrived - got our shoes - off to Sprecher's for skis, boots for Colin and a luge (total 110 Fr. for 2???); also bought red socks for Colin.

Lunch 12.30 - food Swiss, beautifully served - dining room small - but only about 12-14 dining. Out to try out skis - rather mixed - Colin cold and a bit lost - boys a bit too dashing - but making heroic efforts and very good ones too. Weather snowy and cold by now - so had tea (? name of cafe) after I had got money from bank. Michael feeling sick (altitude), dizzy and was sick on cafe table.

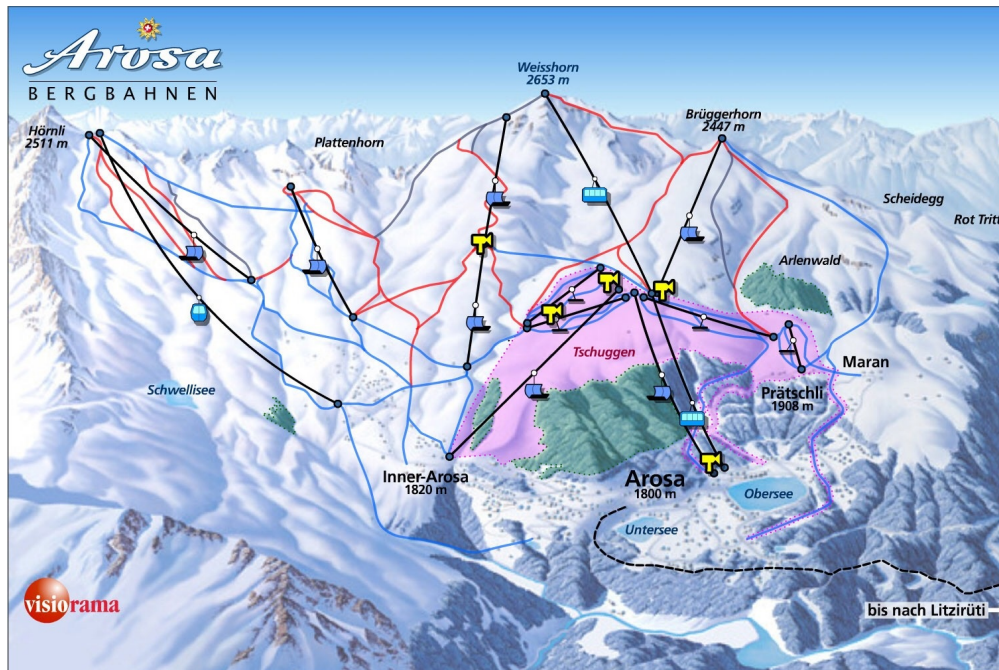
Home - got Michael to bed - went to sleep almost immediately: rest had dinner at 7.00 and off to bed. Colin coughing indoors (only) and kept us awake half the night - finally vomited. B. and I very sleepy.

Wed. Feb 6

Colin and B. stayed in bed - so sent up a light breakfast. Boys and I in good form - out on skis to practice slopes - doing very well; joined late by B. and Colin and luge.

Lunch - then boys and I (with skis) and B. and Colin (with luge) got bus up to Pratschi? (3 Fr. and no charge for children) ; wonderful sun - glorious views - beautiful powder snow and pistes not difficult. Easy walking paths. B. and Colin came down with luge and boys and I "sprawghled" down on skis - they did amazingly well - considering they don't yet know how to turn - having only vague notion of stemming.

Met B. and Colin at rendezvous - so had hot chocolate (pot) for 2.40 Fr. and lots of tea for 1.25 Fr. in Carmena. Home - wash-up and read a bit - had fine dinner - boys in bed by 9.00.



2016 Map of Arosa ski lifts and runs



A walk around the town of Arosa Switzerland



A walk around the town of Arosa Switzerland



A walk around the town of Arosa Switzerland



At the practice slopes in Arosa Switzerland



At the practice slopes in Arosa Switzerland



At the practice slopes in Arosa Switzerland



Up on the mountain in Arosa, Switzerland

Thurs. Feb 7

Finding bedroom much too hot for me at night - snoring - eyes puffy in morning, etc. All slept well.

Dullish day: yesterday someone took our luge from back of Pratschli bus, so we took theirs; in evening lady phoned me about "swap" so first thing to Spechers and made the exchange.

Got three boys started at ski school - though how the lady instructor managed Colin passes understanding. He makes little effort - is inclined to lie down in snow and look pathetically about for someone to pick him up after making the slightest of efforts - for form's sake - to help himself. His dark eyes and chubby cheeks - the rest of him swathed in ski togs makes most people think of him as a little girl. However he can amuse himself for a very long time going down hills with the luge.

C. and M. were too good for class I - so were quickly elevated and did really well. Both a bit "browned off" at being better than the others and at most of the instruction being in German. B. started practicing on skis. So with all settled I went off and tried the Tschuggen? lift - quite easy - and had good run down - only one fall when I once got "wind-up" - and a slight toss at that. Otherwise did some good fast cornering and enjoyed it. Picked the others up - lunch.

Arosa people sent rather nice notice of sympathy to all British guests on death of King. Service to be held in English church.

C. and M. set off in afternoon with class - but to Pratschli - to come down. Both quite thrilled - C. was congratulated on how he did and both seem to have got on very well. C. no falls. M. bit excited about it all. Meantime B. and I worked on practice slopes - B. trying stem turns and I succeeding fairly well with Christies. Colin watched skating and played with luge.

All to Carmena for tea and then home. Wandered out for razor blades. Called on way home to look at Brit. Ski Club cocktail party in Alaska bar. The bar is quite amusing but I didn't like the look of the 20-odd English people. So didn't drink - came home for dinner. Memo: ceiling in Carmena bar is made of rucked? plastic material (like curtain stuff) - effective.

Good dinner - read - saw boys to bed - then B. and I strolled out. Dazzling moonlight - in lovely remote mountains - lights on hillside - like Christmas scene. Really idyllic.

Have cut down heat on radiator in room tonight and filled bath with water to moisten air.

Note: General standard of skiing not high - and instruction seems fairly good. What one wears doesn't seem to matter much. Fair number of small children's classes. No sign of snobbery - though plenty of signs of wealth. Prices in shops fairly favorable.

Memo: Horse taxis - gaily painted - big rugs. Snow plows for roads. "Train" of bogies, pulled by jeep?, full of snow. Plenty of paths - quite miles of them - kept for walkers. Man who goes around roads with shovel lifting snow soiled by horses!

Frid. Feb 8

First snow falling - later getting more dense; out in good time - all with skis except Colin who had luge. Boys to Class III. B on her own and I went up Tshuggen lift again. Shared a seat with French boy who spoke no English - says French resorts much dearer than here for him. Also told me that juging in evening very popular here - not sure what route but "gets train back at 11.00pm" - so I suppose it is down this road to station down line.

Very difficult to see on top - but came down with fair confidence - took the harder (red) route and got on quite well. Back to school - boys seem to have got on well ; instructress came over to say that she couldn't believe C. had not skied before - he came down so well from Pratschli yesterday. Snowing hard by lunch time - so decided not to let boys go up on top.

?? interested in fellow guest, M.Beck(?), a Pole (now British) who passed(?) through France, interred in (?) - got to England - later twice in concentration camps (joined R.A.F.?).

B. wrote letters + ?? - out after lunch in fairly thick snow - but reasonably warm. C., M. and I practised on slopes - M. got real whopper of a toss on striking a hole after coming straight down the very steep "Christie" slopes; hurt his ear (of all things!) - even the inside of his glasses were stuffed with snow.

Boys doing amazingly well : traversing, making fair attempt at "Christies", herring-boning with ease up steepest slopes and seem indefatigable. Put on skis at door of pension even though they have to walk up a steep bit of road at start.

B. and Colin came along with luge - still snowing and getting a bit colder; went for walk to Strandbad? and through tiny paths, deep in snow, up across railway and up to Kursaal where we had the usual tea and chocolate (6.30 Fr); rather a nice building inside - fair sized dance-floor, raw wooden balcony, small stage (where we sat) and tables divided from floor by wooden partition; good 5-piece band, gaming room, etc. They show flicks there every Tues. and Fri. evening - no proper cinema. B. and I danced. Home in rather bitter, fine cloudy snow - all had good hot bath and nice dinner (soup, salad of leeks and celery, meat in small pieces (beef macaroni and cheese (fine), and beautifully baked apples with custard.; finished off Johannisberger white wine - very good. After dinner C. and M. came with me for walk - still snowing finely - but didn't feel cold - even though 10 degrees below zero. Boys thrilled with lights on hills, shop windows and inside of Post Office - which really is very fine. Men working hard to keep ice-hockey rink free for Olympic team which arrives to train here tomorrow.

[Struck at ugliness of German as a spoken language - harsh and unpleasant.]

Proprietor proving very kind - boys thrilled by offer of chocolate for breakfast (we had asked for cold milk instead of coffee for Michael but he would not let us drink raw milk (no T.T. test here - but would give cold boiled milk). Breakfast, incidentally is a great success - rolls and butter greatly loved by boys - don't even bother much about jam or marmalade with them. They eat much less of other meals than I had expected.

Sat. Feb 9

A splendid day in spite of almost continuous fine snow falling. (Snowploughs working constantly on roads, ice-rinks, etc.) Got B. to go to ski school - C. and M. also. Colin and I set off with luge - got bus to Pratschli - saw handsome snow plough working and odd glimpse of what might be sun higher up mountain. Bob-run too soft with recent snow - so set off with luge down bus-route; not fast - but Colin enjoyed himself and behaved very well. Called at Bahnhof to see if O.K. about couchettes if we leave early and visit Zurich en route for home. Also found out train connections and discovered local train times back from Litzruti if we want to luge down to it.

Colin and B. saw a squirrel in the snow as we set out this am.

Found the others had very much enjoyed Skischule - B. found herself rather better than the others; C. still thinks it is too easy! Home together for lunch.

Still snowing so B. decided not to go up with afternoon class - so left B., M. and Colin to potter about - Colin and M. with luge - while C. and I went up Tshuggen ski lift; in spite of different heights we got up without falling off! Fairly cold on top and snowing moderately. Descent excellent - C. had one fall - father three!!! C. came at amazing speed - doing natural "Christies" on lower fast pistes and ended by insisting on coming straight down very steep (red route) last piece which I certainly wouldn't. Whole trip took less than an hour - I had expected two - so joined the others rather early at practice slopes. B. tried some traversing - C. showed off his Christies. Then B. decided in spite of warning to go "slap-down" the main slope - and "bit the dust" in soft snow at the bottom - but wasn't hurt.

Off to Carmenna for tea; asked once more for a pot of chocolate ("portion" in name) and got chocolate with cream! (3 different versions for same request so far!) [Forgot to say that this morning C. and M. had hot chocolate for breakfast - great success!] Danced with B. - and took her into the almost communal "toilette" (Swiss type). M. upset Choc. and mopped it up from plate with his hankchief. B. points out how good looking the waitresses are. Then went up to station to bookstall - bought magazines - children discovered and used slot machines (had forgotten that these must be new to them). Charming lady in bookstall - we said "Thank you" - she said "the thanks are mine!". [Street salutation here is "Fruatze"?? - reply often "fruss fot"?? and people pleased at such greetin.]

Good dinner - vermicelli soup, liver and bacon with saute potatoes. Pudding Victoria with jam sauce - wine. Had intended lugging after dinner - but too full. C. and M. carried on with kitchen staff till window got broken!! Long chat with man from Torquay and fellows from Luxebourg. Bed.

Sun. Feb 10

Still more snow!!! Quite unusual weather - bad luck. However, off to skischule (B., C. and M.) and I took Colin's skis and mine and got him to have patience enough to give them a fair trial; actually he stayed on them quite happily till 11.00am when his old theme song began i.e. "I want an icicle" (this has several variations - "I want another icicle" - "I broke my icicle" - or - "I have twelve icicles"!!!). So I broke a few off the edge of the Skischule hut roof for him and he played happily for 1/2 hour - but his hands got very cold - and so did the weather - so induced him to don skis again. Saw B. in the distance making slightly heavy weather at side slipping. Everybody a bit cold after class so off for lunch - still snowing.

During morning Swiss Olympic team played Swiss Canadians on nearby rink (ice hockey) but weather too uninviting to think of watching. Everything going on as usual - even though Sunday. After lunch B. and Colin left behind - took boys - thought of skiing from Pratschli down to Litziruti (return by ?? railway) but soft snow made this not advisable. So bus to Pratschli - skied down: difficult soft snow so tosses more than usual: but not many and all excusable. I had one spanking fast run at end - just to surprise C. into what I really could do!! But C. continues to amaze me; he really does have a beautiful natural style of ski running and his turns are excellent. M. is still inclined to straighten his knees and stick out his bottom - so comes to grief more often. Down surprisingly quickly (3.10pm) - boys begged to go up again - but went to steep slope of practice fields and did a bit of work; about 3.45pm discovered B. practicing traverses and side slips (Colin playing quietly with luge) - so all joined in and we had quite a party on a steep little slope. Onlookers shocked at ease with which boys more or less run up hill with "herring-bone". and without sticks!

Still snowing - off to Carmenna for tea and boys had bottles each of Orangina (1Fr) and some small cakes. B. and I danced. Sitting in a little bar in the cafe - beautiful smooth wooden table. M. says "girl who serves us has had a different frock every day we have been in." Colin knocked over his glass - no damage done. Colin and B. off home - I took boys up to station for English papers; charming lady at bookstall promises to keep empty cigarette packets for C. Called in nice bookshop on way home and bought really charming children's calendar in German (3.60Fr) and also good touring map of Switzerland (2.30Fr).

Home - dressed decently for first time - excellent dinner - Russian ?? to start with (firmly boiled egg in middle covered in Mayonaise - peas, raisins and odds and ends round its base - circumference strips of lettuce. Then chicken and beautiful chips; coffee ice cream: all very filling. Still snowing and forecast on radio of more!!!

Mon. Feb 11

Wonderful day - morning grey but after breakfast sun came rather hesitantly. B. to Skischule. C. and Colin to play with luge (C. not keen on Skischule - too slow and "boys push in front of you".) and I took M. off to Tshuggen ski lift. By the time we got up, sun shining gloriously - mts. beautiful - snow dazzling - M. thrilled. He came up lift very well (beside me) though it is awkward to have to put the "arm" almost down to my knees to accommodate them and carry their sticks also.

[Note: Sound of bells on ?? horses - and of church clock chiming the quarters?].

Easy going down - easy snow - M. very good - improving his running position - but when he gets afraid up straighten the knees and out goes the bottom behind and soon he sits down! He did some good turns on the final difficult piste - they are both better and safer on piste than on soft snow. Down fairly early and over to B. who was thrilled at how she did in class and keen to go up in afternoon with them also very keen on present instructor.

So after lunch gave M. 50c for chewing gum, etc. and left him and Colin to dress themselves (after sitting in sun on balcony) and play with luge till we came down. B. off to class - C. and I walked to Carmenna lift - long slow walk - far better to take bus. Reached there at 2.30 - terrific queue for lift - upper part of town very open - but hotels (Bellevue? etc.) awkward to get to and from. Up to top without mishap - beautiful open valley - long snowy slopes. Hornli life away up to left - Weisshorn to right. Came down via Carmenna hut; called in "Igloo Nestle" - entrance through 10 foot snow tunnel - signed visitors book and had Nescafe; inside dark - wooden bar seats - cowbells - birdcage- skeleton of fish. C. got Nestles eyeshade and a few cigarette packets. (He asks me to pick up snow covered empty packets at most awkward moments - hands full of skis etc.). Run down fairly fast - nice place for Christies - one or two rabbit classes spoiled parts of our runs - but C. had no real falls. He did panic rather pathetically on last steep slopes for a moment - possibly the effect of good skiers crashing through - or of light which made contours difficult to distinguish - but he got over this and did alternate Christies admirably to bottom.

Run down to road to Kursaal where B. already was. I went on and found M. and Colin playing very happily at curling rink - Colin's pockets stuffed with cones. M. delighted because he had found another 50c so not only bought chewing gum but Colin and he had 10c each to put in the station slot machine. Pulled Colin up to Kursaal on luge - tea with B. - boys had Orangina and cakes. B. thrilled to have gone up Tshuggen lift but sorry to have done run down to Carmenna from top which seems harder and not so interesting as run to ? into Arosa. But glad to have accomplished it nevertheless. Left rest of class to go up Carmenna - wisely I think.

Dawdled - watched the gaming - astonishing versatility of croupier with stick - and tossing winnings out with terrific flourish. Later rather nice dancer did a small "floor show". Then home - B. and C. on skis - Colin, M. and I on luge. Nice how many people will turn to give you a push if you are going slow - very friendly and helpful.

Sewed new elastic on bottom of Colin's trouser legs - then fine dinner - soup - omelette with small peas inside, chips, salad with beautiful beetroot - ripe pineapple prepared with Kirsch - and wine.

Left boys again to look after themselves (after we saw Colin to bed) - and off to ice rink to see an Ice Show. Payed 3Fr each for "Stelplatz" - but got up a ladder and had splendid seat on top of wooden barrier; fine show of really good skating. Best - a clown who was superb - and a good girl who was European Champion. Got cold - fine snow falling again - home and found boys asleep quietly and all well. Excellent day - though B. and I both feeling legs a bit stiff.

[Note: B. very amused at C.'s consternation that a man danced with her 4 times whilst they waited for me in Kursaal!!!]

(Find it refreshing to open window of bedroom a "chink" and turn down the radiator at night).

Tues. Feb 12

Snow early morning but odd blinks of sun later - but whole afternoon a "drizzle" of rather wet warm snow - nasty. B. went to class - I took C. and M. and Colin (C., M. and self with skis and Colin with luge) on bus to Kulm; walked up hill and taught Colin how to steer himself on luge. Then put on skis and came down slope with C. and M.; repeated this - then C. and M. off on own to ski down the middle of Arosa. Put my skis on luge and Colin and I rode down to join Ma on practice slopes. Practiced a little and then home for lunch.

Snowing again but persuaded B. to join me on trip up Tshuggen - very misty and snowy at top. Managed run to Hof Moran? quite well - though B. had a couple of fair falls; after that she lost confidence - so didn't do the last part too well.

Bought papers at station and arranged about keeping couchettes if we join train at Zurich. Found boys digging happily in snow - all to Carmenna for tea chocolate and dancing.

B., C. and Colin home - Michael and I wandered up town looking at shops and eventually found bloc? where our photos were (taken at Ice ??) ordered P.C.size (2Fr !!) and bought little stockmagel? for 60c in wood shop.

Home - all had bath and good dinner. Got bill for extras for week - surprised it is so little (26Fr). C. by now seems to have dozens of cigarette packets.

Notes: Double panes in windows - sides of windows lock into each other (diagram) Doors also all shut by same principle.

Got boys to bed. B. and I went for stroll about 10pm - lights beautiful - but fine snow still falling.

Wed. Feb 13

More snow!!! Decided to go for long walk - so set out at 10.00am - went down through trees toward Strandbad?; beautiful high banks of soft downy snow. Squirrels almost tame will come down for nuts from your hand. Birds singing - some lovely little ones like finches. Struck a good footpath round lake and up to upper part of town over railway. The (after a call in photo-express) across main road and on up through more woods - to path of Tshuggen Ski lift where Colin saw it working for first time. Some good skiers passed through woods : on across mountainside and down to Oversee? beyond railway. Home by 12.15pm - long, tiring but enjoyable walk. Good lunch - C. let fiz out of "Papaita Bottle" all over his trousers - Colin upset his glass.

Walking paths are most numerous and lovely - lots of people - mostly elderly - using them. Lunch. More snow. A kind of fog over top of Tshuggen and low down in valley - no sign of sun.

Colin with luge - rest with skis to practice slopes. Snow difficult - wet and sticky so slipping difficult. Saw and chatted to French chap who was doing Telemarks thro soft snow - so tried a few (my first) - think that with practice I could manage reasonably well. Did one or two properly - but most ended in collapse in soft snow.

Collected family and off to Post Hotel for tea and dancing . Near railway - big, cosmopolitan, not particularly smart - but has virtue of being central and near ski lift. Lost Colin on the way home but found he had gone on so was able to do a bit of shopping as intended. Still snow - and cold foggy atmosphere; rather browned off. B. spotted girl in Post Hotel who, on her way to Leck? last year shared our compartment in train. Spoke to her. Slightly "browned off".

[Note: Struck again by gay and sharply contrasting colours of house walls, shutters, etc.; also by drawings, designs and Gothic lettering on houses: don't know what the mottoes mean. Architecture in general modern and quite striking: buildings often 6-8 storeys with balconies whole way up; saw one "bay" room this am built out from house on kind of central stilt - thus (diagram).

[Two pages with detailed drawings of the construction of luge or sleigh.]

[Note: bed clothes more than sufficiently warm - ? top sheet, thin blanket, then coverlet, then a big "Swiss" eiderdown and this latter big and loose - has nice coloured cover and outer sheet-like, buttoned on slip: hard to make at home ?]

[Note: electric switches of "turn-round" type; house hold power plugs are 500 volts.]

Before dinner, made plan of luge we have - though both smaller and larger editions exist.

Good dinner - soup, roast beef and balls of roasted potatoes, salad and cherry tart - finished off the wine and the beer; rather anxious to go for walk but B. not anxious - so chatted to Torquay man and Dutch lady - and to bed at 10.00pm.

Torquay fellow strongly recommends Switzerland about last week in May or beginning of June: some points he made: (1) see Blausee? (near Kunsteig?) (2) Geneva beautiful - but too expensive to ?? (3) Don't stay in Interlaken but go just beyond - say - Hotel du Lac at Goldswil? Cheaper - beautiful though outside not striking (4) liked Fleur-de-Lys hotel at Neuchatel (5) Got packed lunches at hotels where he stayed the night. [Note: no need for packed lunches at Arosa as all runs possible and back to hotel for meals].

Dutch lady talked of riding weekends in Holland - also mentioned holidays on lakes - boating - in Holland; one can hire boats there.

Mr. Basch, the Pole, has "taken up" with the new arrival, a Swedish girl and everyone is pulling his leg.

Thurs. Feb 14

Even more snow!! We are having the most appalling bad luck - but have the consolation that had we gone elsewhere we would have thought we erred in not going to Arosa!

Out on foot - posted cards in Post Office - lovely building - vine growing in main office (as well as in porch) - lovely clock built in to the wall. As usual girl assistant speaks excellent English. On up street into little shop - and all chose different Arosa badges for our jerseys. Bought little skirt for Paula.

B., M. and Colin went on up to collect photo etc. C. and I back for skis and up through snow on Tshuggen lift- took to left and found going fairly good but snow still "sticky". Sun fairly good but foggy mist below us in Arosa. Got to bottom of Carmenna lift at 11.30am and decided we just had time to go up and down before lunch. On the way up saw unusual sight of wooden lift seat parting from its attachment.

Still fine weather - had exhilarating run down though Christies sticky in snow. Skied down street and home just five minutes late for lunch. B. seems quite happy with her morning. Got letter from Sally - mainly about Paula - delighted to hear she seems wonderfully well. Poor Sally didn't know to put more than 2 1/2 penny stamp on letter (so 15c postage due).

Good lunch - B. taken a liking to light Swiss beer.

Boys out with luge - persuaded B. to come up lift and maybe also up Carmenna. A long queue at Tshuggen lift (2.30pm). Attendant gave me a shove in the back at the start so that I almost fell off - or rather almost never got started. Up safely - no sun - snow - but some sun on higher peaks - so went to left (Carmenna direction) and had quite a nice and very enjoyable run using deep snow where piste seemed difficult. B. enjoyed last long run on piste - some sun at times - country beautiful. 4.00pm when we got down and decided to come on down road. Found C. at P. Office - very sorry for himself - very cold (? what had he been doing?) but M. and Colin rosy, happy - seemed to have had great fun together with luge. Carmenna for choc. and tea and cakes (7Fr - 1.70Fr); got a couple of new cig. packets for C's collection; during tea, evening sun on tops of mountains - golden and lovely.

C. and I up town (others to home) and left skis in to be waxed - bought ??? and a few more photo views; tried to find Swiss greeting cards but didn't see exactly what I wanted. Home by 6.00pm - got exceptionally cold (good sign - absence of ??) - snow glittering like diamonds in light of street lamps.

Excellent dinner - ? vingrette (fish), meat and rice, meringue, wine. Dutch lady (who went home today) left choc. and cigs. for us. Looked outside - striking stars, intense cold; thought of taking Michael on luge run to Litzriti - but he seemed to be too sleepy - so said nothing. After settling Colin down in bed, found B. had taught boys to play whist. Showed them 3-card trick- to their amazement. And so to be about 9.30pm.

Fri. Feb 15

No snow falling!! Sun rather hazy but definitely shining at last! Out fairly early - collected skis from Sprechers - nicely waxed and running much better (2 pairs 1Fr) Took C. and M. up Tshuggen lift complete with cine camera. C. to travel alone - but missed the "stick" at the start - fell off - but picked himself up and got the chair after M. and me. At the top paused to take shot or two and then off down run to Carmenna lift. An odd stop for "shots": sun not bright but pleasant. M. did very well indeed. Safely down - no queue at Carmenna lift - up on it. Cost for boys = 2 holes in abonnement (self=3). Further shots at top - but sun wrong for taking the broad expanse of valley. Over to Carmenna Hut: on the way asked girl the make of her anorak (kind I admire - dull yellow - loose attached hood - no waist or tie-in - just a little bit at each side over hips). She said she bought it in Germany - trade name "Minoflex".

M. thrilled with igloo - signed his name in visitors book; boys had Nescao (1Fr each) - I had Nescafe (80c); found that girl attendant had been in Belfast and Dublin! This same Igloo had been at Davos (on the Weissfluchisch?) last year. Talked to two men and girl in Igloo - said Davos poor compared with Arosa - skiing marvellous (but no better really than here) - but town itself quite disappointing. Not so free and easy - or as pleasant as here. Klosters etc. are in shade - so avoid. They also told me that apartments above Carmenna cost 1000Fr per month - sleep 8 people - small kitchen, etc. Idea is to have rolls and coffee for breakfast, rolls, coffee and some meat for lunch and have main hot meal in evening in restaurant below for 5 or 6Fr. (Must compare with prices here - later). Run down to Carmenna from Hornli does not look too difficult.

Run down from hut good - after shots of Igloo: M. did surprisingly well - got one bad toss at foot of bumpy straight run - but apart from this stemmed from side to side of big slopes beautifully; near bottom C. had gone on - I was leading M. but got into a straight fast downhill position - didn't want to do a hard Christie and I knew M. couldn't manage it at that speed - so went on straight to hut on left after you cross the road where people watch: did hard Christie to stop - turned round and to my delight there was M. (rosy and delighted with himself): straight down thereafter in town and home by lunch (12.40pm).

Took one or two shots on balcony after lunch (where this is written) - sun still a bit clouded over - but still very nice. B. writing a note to Sally.

Since sun not too bright decided against spending afternoon in town. B. and boys went to practice slopes - I off to try Weisshorn run with cameras round me like a Christmas tree. Note: Found out that if you announce your double run (to Weisshorn etc.) at first lift point it costs you one hole less in your abonnement.

Up Tshuggen lift with Dutch man who recommended chairlift to Hornli for children but suggested spending only a morning or afternoon on it - not a day. Says run down not difficult but be careful. Got shot or two before getting to Weisshorn lift (and one at top) - but light too indistinct for good colour - probably better in morning. Fell on way over to Weisshorn lift - usual way - by hitting soft snow when travelling fast: find that with Kandahar? binding on one notch only, a great help in avoiding injury on falling.

Weisshorn lift odd - strap around bottom - patent clip you catch on to ring at end of rope - rope then attached to travelling cable. Long way up (about 15-20 min.) and goes well round to back of mountain. View at top into next valley and over neighbouring peaks really grand. Didn't go into hut at top but made off on Maran - Litziruti route; other routes - (1) fairly easy across mountain to top of Carmenna lift (2) more or less straight down winding through soft snow - steep and difficult.

Maran route log (3.5 miles) and not too difficult and very interest. It goes around back of mountain and scenery changing and delightful. Wide vistas of virgin snow. Drops into tree-tops in valleys; some lovely light violet tints on distant peaks. Found cameras a nuisance at speed - in future must put them in rucksac; even a small camera swinging round unbalances one at real speed: however, no falls and fine run down to join B. and boys in Zimmer? tea room (beside Post Office). Nice but no music or dancing; value good: we sat on the right side which was no smoking unfortunately. Everyone seems to have had a good time: B. getting some slide on the traverses: Colin and M. happy with luge. C. found 1/2Fr and asked to go up the Tshuggen lift alone. B. so impressed with courage and initiative that didn't care to say no - so C. came down through Maran alone - and without a fall!! A considerable achievement for a 10-year-old - and first 2 weeks skiing in life.

Noticed tea (which tastes well - always served with rich cream and lots of sugar which the boys eat) inside pot is very big-leaved and coarse and ? Good jug of hot water always and tea strainer.

B. forgot and left ?? outside ski-hut; went for it and when she came back pointed out the high level of common honesty here. One often sees glasses, gloves, etc. stuck up on prominent point - for owner to take. Also I leave my skis anywhere that is convenient - outside hotels, shops, in ski-hut etc. After tea wandered up town to look at a few shop windows. B. had already bought cake of toilet soap (2Fr). Note for future - always bring soap - never supplied on continent though we get lots of clean towels.

Home for wash and dinner. B. not feeling well - thinks she has a tummy upset - ? rich food? Soup, dish of all kinds of cold meat cut very thinly, large dish of spaghetti (very good), grated cheese for dressing, salad: caramel custard and usual wine.

Decided to take M. on luge run down to Litziruti - C. had been up top more often than he. So muffled up and set out - but snow on road rather rough and not icy enough and pitch dark in forest. Bright stars but no moon; so strolled with him up town instead. Bright sparkling lights - intense cold - 12 degrees below zero - shop lights delightful (window displays must be heated or glass would not remain clear). Home 9.30pm and to bed; turned down radiator and opened window a chink.

Note: radiator a god-send for drying out wet gloves and odd bit of washing.

Note: can we get pattern for making our own ski pants (in Zurich?).

Memo: "Dry" lavatory at Carmenna Hut (which is almost completely below snow) - leading down into fast stream so deep down you can hear it but not see it: so complete absence of smell etc.

Sat. Feb 16

Sun actually shining into bedroom before we went down to breakfast! All out with skis and luge to practice slopes - took cine and still kodachrome : sun really lovely and mountains delectable. Then up main street taking odd shots. Found rucksac most comfortable for holding cameras etc. Called in Credit Suisse Bank - drew 20 pounds and banked 50 pounds for future reference: no pass books, etc. - one just calls in any such bank anywhere in Switzerland - show passport and draw cash. Down again - some shots at station - home for lunch.

Sun a bit more cloudy (about 14 degrees below) and very fine snow falling (almost like fine ice powder). Set off by bus for Kulm (C. and I with skis) to Hornli ski and chair lift: saw B. set off in chair and Colin beside her : then M. (very brave) alone in another chair. The I went off in ski lift (similar to Weisshorn) towing C. behind me. (Fare 6 holes each for C. and I - total of 15 holes for B., M. and Colin = roughly 9Fr. [B., M. and Colin for return of course.] ; long run - chilly - glorious wide sweeping snow slopes with only occasional ski marks - unbelievable loveliness.

Up top at Hornli - climbed up to hut; misty and cold - so view poor - but found others thrilled with journey up - entranced with whole affair. Into hut which is beautifully heated - full of people having all sorts of drinks ; built-in ??? -at-the wall clock - fine modern flush lavatories - extraordinary in this spot perched up on a pinnacle about 8300ft up. Noticed many people having tots of brandy with tea and on menu saw "Tasse withy rum ?? 1.30Fr".

All had cups of Ovaltine - hot milk served separately from sugar and little packets of Ovaltine (each 1Fr). I felt distinctly "height-conscious" - dizzy and a bit deaf - and should have waited 1/2 hour but was anxious about light as it seemed to be acquiring that luminous mistiness which obscures all contours - when I can see no sign whatever of even the most acute drops into space. So set off rather early with C. - first across a slightly frighteningly steep traverse with big lumps of frozen snow - where I took a couple of tosses. B. and others waved goodbye - then on across a really long traverse - C. skiing wonderfully well - much better than I - till we found ourselves above Carmenna Hut; light now better - but ears still singing and knees distinctly wobbly - so didn't ski well - though we came down really fast (no-one passed us - we did the passing!). Passed Mr. Byne? and Batch - C. took the last big drop without a pause or a fall - and by this time I was OK - so really Christied down from there with assurance and enjoyment - and no mistakes.

Light poor on top - so M. took the rucsac: waited a few moments at Kulm - and there was B. and the boys just walking up from the chairlift!! - frozen but very happy. The downward journey was more frightening apparently than the upward - Colin says "just like an airplane". Awkward time for bus - so walked down to Karsaal? - hot choc., tea and cakes and saw wonderful floor-show - man and girl amazing. B. almost lost her dark specs. (had left them in "Damen") - but got them. Straight home for good dinner - soup, liver and bacon, mashed potatoes, salad - in sort of gravy ring with ?? (boys had two) - wine. Weather in later part of afternoon poor (Home 6.30pm). Altogether a wonderful day.

Note: B. finds one more shirt for boys would have been a good idea (ie 4 instead of 3 each): also some scribbling paper.

Everybody getting really bronzed.

After settling Colin at 8.15pm went down to find B. and boys playing whist; had a few rounds - then taught them rummy? which they enjoyed greatly; also a couple of simple card tricks which dazzled them!! They off to bed at 10.00pm (late) - and B. and I at 10.30pm after finishing the beer left over from lunch.

Note: Horse eating snow - probably for a drink. Also big St. Bernard dog harnessed and pulling two luges.

Sun. Feb 17

Hazy morning - but later bright strong sun - though still surprisingly cold at times (14 degrees below). Sent C. off to finish last class ticket - B. to practise on slopes. M., Colin and I walked with luge to take a lot of black and white snaps - and an odd bit of cine. Mountains and colours glorious. Later joined B. and C. at ski hut at 11.30am - found C. had gone up to Kulm to class and left at half time (? what did he really do? - he went to class with bad grace!) Got some action shots of family - then C. lay down in snow saying he had a pain in his tummy.

Lunch - left B. and Colin in sun on bedroom balcony - C. and M. watched Arosa play Riesbach? at ice hockey for a time - boys thought it was terrific - then to Tshuggen lift where there was a terrific queue - special day train in from Zurich. Chatted to English girl who knew N.I. well - was at Leck? last year - small - but harder skiing than here: says Merkur? good here - also Bellevue (though a glorified pub) - Weitzerhof? not bad.

Sun on top but peculiar deep violet mist below in valley ; icicles falling. Climbed to see building at Tshuggen top - big - seems some sort of observatory. Then climbed up to look down on Weisshorn lift - then down Carmenna run - well - but my right ski had to be taken off to scrape off ice collected in icy powder snow. Got some shots of speed skiing on Carmenna slopes - and took C. and M. over small jump. Home to pick up B. and Colin at Carmenna (choc. and tea and cakes) - danced - out early to see Tshuggen lift going - B. and I walked up - but it had stopped. Strolled through homegoing crowds at station - then home - B. pulling Colin on luge and M. getting a tow on skis behind. C. had gone on with my rucsac.

B. ear-lobes badly scorched by sun - and found she had taken out too little clothing.

Dressed in skirt, trousers, etc. for dinner (mushroom pate, salad, chicken and chips, peach pie, wine). Boys ate well. It has been surprising how small their appetites have been since we came. Saw boys to bed - then out to Hotel Post for evening. Pleasant - slightly ??? (afterwards we discovered that the bar downstairs has more character and attraction for dining): drank half a litre white wine and enjoyed a mild quiet evening. Ver amused at five English chaps - all sitting together - ?? worried if they would really get their ham and eggs in the morning - 4 drank beer and 1 tea! Hilarious!

Beautiful evening on the way home - Herr Hendelsohn waiting up for two English guests.

Mon. Feb 18

Really glorious day: sun dazzling the tops of the mountains at breakfast: after planning what best use we could make of abonnements, etc., we set out early leaving Colin to play with the maid, Irene. All four of us went up Tshuggen lift - two boys in front, B. and I together: glorious sun-swept dazzling snow on top and all the world down below looking heavenly. Down toward the Carmenna lift - we all had an excellent run - B. doing her best descent yet. I think she was really surprised at how well C. and M. skied.

Came on down main road with B.: stopped to watch some squirrels feeding from a child's hand - beautiful creatures - seem fond of monkey nuts.

Left B. to go home - and up Tshuggen again with boys to do the run again: this time we took it fast - then up Carmenna lift - still sun pouring down the valley. A really fast run down from Carmenna - only a couple of tosses amongst us - poor M. still will not bend his knees when he gets nervous. (Lovely serious soft snow trails coming down from Hornli).

Down from Arosa ? again for lunch - both boys seem quite weary. Found B. and Colin very happy - they had sat outside Carmenna drinking Orangina, etc. B. still feels a bit wobbly - so wants no more skiing. Sun on balcony after lunch but a few wisps of cloud make a great chill suddenly. B. and Colin using an abonnement to take bus to Kulm and walk down - having first deposited their skis, luge, and Colin's boots in Sprechers.

Boys and I up Tshuggen again - skied to Weisshorn lift - and all went up it separately - particularly creditable for M. Slight snow - but still brilliant enough on top for boys to see wonderful views. Came down Maran run: C. fell only once, I got a couple to real tosses and M. fell a few (4) times - one particularly nasty toss which hurt his right leg. He was very good about it - skied on - and all took the last difficult piece below Maran without a fault - the boys coming down the last fast piece!! Station at 3.55pm so rushed to ski-lift myself (I still had 2 holes left in abonnement) - boys to walk up to Karsaal?.

Now getting very cold and grey - so much so that I could not see contours on top - so skied down in "darkness" - and did all the better for it - a no-fall descent - a no-stop: splendid run and arrived at Karsaal barely 10 minutes after boys - B. and Colin already there since 3.45pm - I arrive at 4.30pm.

During day met man who thinks Engelberg much more difficult than here. Also man from Zurich who stays in apartment above nearby garage - 5 adults and 2 children - 750Fr. per month. However he doubts if one can get apartment for less than 4 to 6 weeks.

Face and body singing from so much ski-running - roughly 10 miles of skiing with a days drop of close to 10,000ft!! Never dreamt it would be possible this holiday. Must give C. top marks for really good ski-running - very sure, full of courage and ability. M. also - but more childish and wobbly.

Tea, dancing and a lovely cabaret (same as last time) - out by 6.00pm - left own skis in Sprechers - home - wash - a good dinner. All the family very pleased with such a full and fine day for last day of the holiday in Arosa.

Chatted with Mr. "Batch" after dinner - gave us his address:

M.E.Bacz, 207 Union St., Torquay, S. Devon.

Also strongly recommended Grundewald - especially Miss Steiner at Sport Hotel, Jungfrastrasse, Grundewald - a good second class hotel - good food - convenient to station - he is well-known there. Note 8-day tickets on railway up to Scheidegg - taking it up (amongst others) to Alesch? Glacier, skiing down to intermediate station, up again and so on: also doing Jungfrauoch run - but skiing down from (say) Schiedegg: also 1.5 to 2 hour walk obliquely up from Schiedegg to Mannlichorn?. Says Ski-hoist (and slopes) on Lauterhorn very steep.

Packed quickly - saw boys to bed - B. and I chatted with Belgian couple on honeymoon; rather nice couple - their French is rather difficult to make out.

Asked us to call if in Belgium - address -

Jean M. Magnee, Docteur en Droit, 20 Rue de la Colline, Verviers.

But note they may be going out to settle in Iceland.

Paid Herr Hendelsohn for extras and 200 cigs to take home (40Fr. in all). Arranged about morning call - and so to bed. [Colin's bedtime remark: "The hairs starting to grow under my arms, Daddy".]

Tues. Feb 19

Addresses:

Lady whose knee was hurt (wife of radiologist - 3 children):

M. Kijme-Becker, Frieschelaam 4, Paterswolde (Dr.), Holland.

Girl who gave us choc. and biscuits before she left:

Susy Herzog, Buchdrucherei, Rheinfelden

Girl from Zurich who gave Colin animals:

Friedy Dunki, Dorfplatz, Rorbas, Rt. Zurich

Up early - lovely morning - bags off to station at 8.00am - breakfast at 8.15am. Gave H. Hendelsohn 20Fr. for maids - all seemed very pleased. Note: write to Cooks re H.Hendelsohn (written in train). Good breakfast - sun blazing down as we left Arosa - glorious view down valley to Chur - very hot in train - last glimpse of Weisshorn with ski tracks. Chur 10.30am - beautiful run down to Zurich: train went to main Bahnhof - so got on local train back to Enge to park bags. Outside Enge station sat on bench and ate pack lunches (much to amusement of everyone). Excellent lunch - we couldn't eat all. Watch trains (blue) with trailers. Then into Zurich via lakeside; walked down whole of Bahnhofstrasse - lovely - but remote and impersonal - and not busy. Into station cafe for tea and Ovaltine (3.90Fr. for all). ? difficulty about what to do with children in evening - searched papers. Memo - waitress who returned with 1Fr. - overcharge!! More shops - B. bought nylons and some choc. Into large store (?) . Enquired at several ? - but only over 18 allowed in. Eventually tried Cooks who advised Congress House.



On the train home from Arosa, Switzerland

Took train to Dolder - up in Dolder Eicbahn? (rack railway?) - tunnel for kids (3Fr. return) - out in little jeep at top over icy roads to icerink - in to rink (1Fr.) and watched skating and ? of rink. Cold.

Back into Zurich - to Congress House - excellent dinner (20Fr.) and into drawing room where really good band and singers performed. Drank Coca Cola at bar till 10.30pm - train to Enge - and caught ? train at 11.00pm - into couchettes where this is written.

Zurich disappointing - cold - people poorly dressed - not too clean outside - not attractive (in winter). Waitress (speaks 4 languages - works 9.00am to 12pm 6 days a week) recommends Lausanne. Interesting head waiter - had been to Ritz (London) - very kind in getting omelettes for children. Chatting about standard of home life in ? - also about all sorts of nationalities doing business in Zurich - Chinese, Russian, etc. No love for Italians or black marketeers.

Not suitable type of day for children.

Wed. Feb 20 (in train)

Excellent nights sleep for everyone - not too hot in carriage. Rather nice Swiss travel agent going on holiday in London - slept in remaining bunk. Very little bothered with customs, etc. - up at 7.30am - along to dining car for breakfast. Almost got stuck on way by corridor door jamming on carpet! Plain breakfast for all 5 - 8.60Fr. Good wash up and shave in nice hot water - sun now shining (raining when we wakened). French countryside flat, rather uninteresting - swampy.

Sorted out various bits of baggage for London. Customs and passports all fixed up on train so that we have nothing to do but go straight to boat at Calais.

M. rather over-excited on journey - bouncing about and getting into trouble: Colin very good. C. wanders away on his own to explore corridors, look at maps: very much an individualist and much better on his own. M. and Colin good together - but C. gets in their hair if he is with either. ? How does M. manage to look always so grubby - shirt tail almost always out of trousers and back of hair tousled!!

Note: no shortage of food on train - we have far too much of everything.

Train relatively empty again. Gave B. an Avomine? at 9.00am and another at 11.00am - so likely she won't be sick this time. Coming near Calais - flat calm day. Finished bottle of red wine we bought on way out - just saw sea - flat, blue and lovely.

Change over to boat easy - once more "Cote d'Azur" - lovely ship; off straight to Salon de The (after looking in dining room and deciding we didn't want lunch); salon fresh with lime-yellow chairs, pale wood panelling, off-white and green curtains in bold design. Boat left early (12.00 noon French time) - we had coffee, rolls, butter and jam and cake (10 shillings total).

Got good saloon seats where B. snoozed; boys and I made frequent runs around decks in sunny but coldish wind blowing. Tried all various lavatories!! (Note: Colin has zip at side of trousers - awful nuisance).

Easy crossing - no sickness - off boat quickly - through British customs - got same rather charming man as on going out - told truth about nylons (5) and cigs. (400) and choos - didn't open bags. Sun shing in England. Warm: got our reserved seats on train without difficulty. Boys and I looked at bookstall and looked in buffet - but they didn't want anything to drink!! Bought B. the Daily Express. (Travelling 2nd class by rail in England and Continent - 1st class on boat in Irish and English channel).

Quite warm day through fruit-fields of Kent; apple trees being pruned: willows pollarded? and "sallies" tied in bundles. First sight of green grass pleasurable - get the feeling that I want to put my feet out of the carriage and feel soft grass under them!

Train rather grubby though a small effort is made toward hygiene by presence of two small towels, some warm water and soap in lavatory: but carriages grubby (worse than the French which were good this year) - and, of course, not in the same world as Swiss.

B. wakening up from "dozing mood" - and feeling rather hungry; boys have all been to wash place to clean their hands and comb their hair.

Victoria on time (3.05pm) - dumped rucksac and one small bag in left luggage office there - then tube to Euston where we dumped two larger cases. At Euston called in cafeteria (newly "done up" - rather nice - quite good food) for rolls, buns, drinks and tea. Refreshed set off by tube to Army and Navy store to look at handbags and see around. Struck by emptiness of shops - assistants have nothing to do (? effect of King's death or of economic crisis?). Disappointed (on the whole) with this shop - so off by bus to Piccadilly: waited about 3/4 hour in queue to get into Eros News Theater (2/1 each) - saw King's funeral, etc. - out about 7.15pm - to Lyons for drinks, rolls and buns.

Bus to Victoria - collected bags - off to Beckenham - dark - boys very weary - all tempers a bit short - safely to Leiths where children went straight to bed. Had drinks, stuffed olives, supper (with tea) - talked to Desmond till nearly 2.00am. Bed. Leith's amazed at how brown we all are! And pleased with nylons and chocolate we brought.

Thurs. Feb 21

Up reasonably early - everyone clear-eyed and fresh. Got Moss Bros. things packed in own boxes - seem to have a lot more room in our bags than formerly. Good breakfast - bus to station - into Victoria by 10.30am - parked Moss Bros. bags (to be collected) - bus to Piccadilly Circus. Dumped rucksac. When there, decided to walk down to Horse Guards and let Colin see changing of the Guard. Fresh, cool bright morning; good view of guard-changing. B. and boys thrilled; got one or two snaps.



Changing of the Guard, London

Back up on foot to Swan & Edgars where B. bought a bag and some socks; everything very reasonable. Then to Lyons for early lunch (12.15pm). Others had soup, rolls and ice-cream: I had spaghetti and American tart and suffered sore tummy time bedtime!

Straight by bus to Heals's? Magnificent shop - astonishingly low prices - quick run round and decided not to buy any more furniture, glass, etc. in Belfast; it would be worth fare to London to buy. Saw beautiful circular oak table with occasional "insets" at 15 pounds - bought it.

Walked down to Oxford Street - into Millets? where B. and I each bought a cycling helmet. B.'s is white - will make good ski-hat also: excellent shop. Almost bought meta, two-tier bunk with mattress (total 12 pounds) - but difficulty about transport (Ref. Heal's).

Bus to Selfridges - on way up Regent St. noted good corner for future shopping - on right Hambley's, Jaeger, Libertys etc close to each other. Quick run round sports and toy department of Selfridges - saw a little television (first time for B.) - then up to restaurant for afternoon tea (five shillings, four and a half pence for all).

B., M. and Colin then caught No.73 bus from door of shop straight to Euston. C. and I by bus to Piccadilly, picked up rucksack, tube to Euston - arrived 4.15pm. Collected big bags and got reserved seats on full and long Liverpool train - left 4.30pm - after buying some magazines.

Ate some fruit - read - washed up: I changed into a clean shirt. Dinner at 6.00pm - goodish - soup, choice of fish, meats, etc., sweets (ice cream): C. had coffee with B. and me (total 30 shillings). Played some rummy but M. very tired. Liverpool 8.30pm - onto boat: struck once more by bad arrangements for transfer of passengers from train to boat: treated like cattle: no responsible attendant. Bus leaves once? - and you make your own way through bare, smelly shed - no proper notices and no officials to welcome or guide you - whole business deplorable.

Got Ulster Monarch (thank goodness!) at Prince's Dock - good cabins - boys explored as usual. Only 100 on board (usual about 700). Colin and M. soon to bed - B. followed. C. and I watched clever job of getting boat out of dock and into Mersey. Then about 10.00pm C. went to bed - all had 3/4gr. Terminal?

I went into dining room - had pot of good coffee, toast, butter and jam (1/6). Down to cabin 11.00pm. B. and others all asleep. Calm night but quite cold on deck; now midnight.

Tomorrow I shall see Paula.

Fri. Feb 22

Boys awake (and well) about 6.00am.- had to let them get up: cancelled cup of tea in bed - better to go up and eat breakfast. All dressed without haste - boat docked about 7.30am : ate plain breakfast (2 shillings each) - cereal or fruit juice, plenty of toast, jam, coffee.

Parked bags on board - all walked to Rottgers where B. was to get hair-wash; boys and I collected car - running beautifully - did some messages - day fine, dry and lovely. Set off for home about 10.00am: everything beautiful at home - Paula in great form: all feel wellthough later in the day I felt intolerably sleepy.

Holiday over - up to Hospital - there all day - Larry Higgins in evening - on to Hunt Ball in Antrim: everyone astonished at bronzed skin. Glad to be back in our own house.

Here, for reference, is my father's original journal:

Habit morning

Thurs. Jan. 31
 Hectic morning - snow,
 ice & slush at home -
 car driving difficult.
 Dep. home 1.30pm →
 Belfast - messages -
 left M. & boys at Ritz - to
 see "American in Paris" with
 Irene. Boys rather "stump-
 up" with excitement.
 called in bootshop -
 had haircut - went to
 Red Lodge - cup of coffee -
 back to Ritz at 7.0pm. where
 everybody miserable & cross.
 Picture not appreciated by
 boys. B.T. tired - had
 headache - so off by car
 to his foot boat. To
 cabins - the usual etc.

This contemporaneous travelogue was written by my father, Wilfred M. Brennan, during a skiing holiday in Arosa, Switzerland in 1952 (JAN 31 TO FEB 22). My mother and brothers, Michael and Colin, accompanied myself and my father on this holiday leaving Paula at home in the care of Beally, our maid. In the text B⁺ refers to my mother, C. to me, W. to Michael. The text was revised by me in 1972, almost 20 years later. My comments are sometimes added below the original though, after 20 years, my memory is misty - only impressions remaining. In general it remains one of the most notable highlights of my childhood - the beauty of the scenery and gliding pages of this ^{skiing} ~~skiing~~ frozen forever in my mind.

took car back to garage &
 washed (very slippery & icy)
 to boat. Settled down -
 walked deck - Colin &
 his frightened on dark
 after dark - could not
 believe boat was moving
 at first - so little sound
 at slow speed in mist.
 got boys to bed - robes -
 too warm - gave them
 34g. Thermal sock (already
 had brownie at 7.0pm):
 B.T. & I had tea, toast etc.
 & worst service imaginable
 at table (Boat old &
 mouldy - the "longfist").
 B.T. & I to bed by 10.0pm.
 Coast: 7 fairingies (rep) +
 marmite & small "quips" +

medium frame mattress:
 well easily covered.
 B.T. & I in the ports -
 boat in wind-whirls.
 city: Boat in future to go
 straight from home to boat.
Frid. Feb. 1st
 up of tea at 7.0am. All
 sleep well except B.T. - but
 she rested.
 Boat put into dock (not river)
 ice snow falling - other
 arrangements for transport to
 station - loaded bags to
 bus - dashed - & caught
 8.00am. London train by
 B.T. of our teeth: had
 10.00pm (black, rolls,
 marmalade tea & after 2/6 can
 later went along for luncheon

C. marked up route on old
 A.H. map: Coln. str. very
 poor - snow + fog - but
 bright & clear near London.
 Prof. Rogers - among others -
 on train. He helped me
 to buy "Orie" (Lond. bus
 ticket).

Jumped bags at Exeter -
 tube to Plymouth - bumped
 into John Boyd who is here
 for interview as head of
 Broadcasting in Exeter.

Knock - Lyons → off
 to class. Brod. where boys got
 books, points & animals -
 very dark: no books.
 Lipped hole enough for
 Coln. (written in boat train!).
 B. + L. got good Lewis type

books & bought popples for
 children at 13/3 each.
 Coln. wrote - friendly
 for the first - then into
 Hans Thake - tea - back
 to Exeter for bags - took to
 Victoria (7/6) - took to
 Beaton for platform &
 (return 10/1 for all).
 Heavy going with bags &
 tried hard to get to the
 Rd. (Haddon 400) -
 where, then, greeted us
 old colonial type of
 house - all in one large
 room - very comfy.
 Diamond little away at
 Haverstock. Sister & bed -
 very tired.

Dec. 2

Steph. later - into Harris
 left B. & boys - called
 Russell Spence - met Owen
 Gardner & B. on the
 house on fire. Went to
 little French cafe - pin &
 French, in day, oysters
 each - piggy bank + red
 curtain jelly - soup of
 red wine - porridge &
 a root - two cups black
 coffee. Excellent. (? & know)

Took couple of wrong
 changes on Tube after this! -
 met B. & boys feeding
 pigeons in Trafalgar Square
 at 7.30 pm.

Went to Cumberland Hotel -
 cashed up - bought a

box for "Humpty-Dumpty" as
 ballad in → house of
 Piers for fast → to
 Victoria at 7.0 pm.

Long but efficient -
 home very late & very
 tired (about 11.30 pm).
 Monday Feb. 3

Lay off work - took Ian
 Litter (aged 11) → Victoria →
 bus ride to Tower Bridge -
 appeared → kindly for
 lunch.

Attracted much attention
 (even in London) to 4 boys
 & the M. clothes.

To Zoo - rather weary -
 only had 1 1/2 hours -
 dashed round. Tea at
 Marble Arch - but -

Home about 6.30 pm.
 Lot of cleaning up &
 packing. Bath.
 Later, Mary, Susan & wife
 (née Bury), along with
 Valued who was at a
 concert in the boat called
 for a drink & dinner. Most
 enjoyable — but Valued
 had to go early for 11.30 pm
 train to Dumfries.
 Mond. Feb. 4.

Up early — 8.15 —
 got bags to Victoria &
 left them. Bus to
 Grosvenor Square → Horse
 Guards — just missed
 changing of guard — but
 Robin saw them riding off
 in their red cloaks.

Bought home 'gate' in
 Lyons & Strand — handled
 there — bus to Victoria
 comfortably for this train
 leaving 1.0 pm.

Very few travellers — &
 very comfortable. Also
 very fortunate in weather —
 distinctly warmer — but
 a bit bluish of day.

Reserved seats — lots of
 others for — everyone
 settled down nicely (?)
 after a brownie at
 lunch.

Through London etc. &
 main of trouble & left
 Euston 3.15 pm: really
 beautiful fine boat —
 "Clara & Agnes" — light maple

woods — good seats etc.

Boat went to Calcutta & The
 & had lots of tea, rolls,
 butter & jam, & slices of
 cake (total 10/6). Then
 memory for soft familiarity
 of loved ones' dishes.

Mid-channel firing
 stopped & high cold wind
 blowing. Delighted to hear
 French again. Few people
 on board.

Last 1/2 hr passage very rough.
 Bags OK. but B! looked queer.
 Went to bar — ordered a
 brandy & Fr. beer (3/6) —
 but B! didn't touch brandy —
 dashed out but was back
 before reaching "dinner".

Followed at 5.0 pm. (Fr 18.50)

& left to know later — long
 change — Customs etc. on
 train.

Comfortable all the
 way: didn't have
 dinner — but picked on
 our own stuff — plus a
 bottle of Red Bull I got on
 train (5.60 Fr. — i.e. 12/6).

But conductor made up
 before 8.0 pm — boys into
 bed — complete & final.

Tues. Feb. 5.

Boat (except when) awake
 from about 5.0 pm. (I was
 woken for toilet etc.)
 Made this during the
 night. Eager to "see
 Switzerland" — looking
 out at how nice for

them to rest a bit - but
 suddenly rose - & went
 for breakfast before 7:00 PM.
 Still rather dark. Lovely
 rolls lots of butter & jam.
 Coffee in hip cups (boys had
 mostly warm milk) -
 for all - 10.10 PM.
 Got comfortable up - sat
 down & looked at snow;
 very soft of weather &
 snow falling.
 Brighter when we got to
 chair (at 9:00 AM) - & on
 to leave railway. Boys
 have been to the train -
 10:00 PM, breakfast: then
 left to join up to house -
 for breakfast: clear as
 we rose: M. wants to

know why they have so many
 Christmas trees!
 Left boys to Porter at station -
 walked this town to Brown
 Hallam. First impression -
 everything broad, open, & free
 from crowds: beautiful
 view of high mountains.
 Brown rather charming -
 clean, well heated, plenty of
 towels, comfortable beds to
 boys style "roomdown".
 Plenty of lights in rooms &
 handy latches. Boys have
 double room in basement -
 Edin keeps in small bed &
 us.
 Luggage arrived - got out
 shoes - H to Spencer's for
 shoes, boots for Edin, & a huge

(total 110 fr. for 7 fr): also
 bought red boots for Edin.
 Lunch 12:30 - food here
 beautifully served - dining
 room small - but only
 about 12-14 dining.
 Out to try out this - rather
 mixed - Edin cold & a
 bit lost - boys a bit too
 drinking - but making
 heroic efforts & very good
 ones too. Weather heavy
 & cold by now - so
 had tea (? some of coffee)
 after I had got money from
 bank. Michael feeling
 sick (altitude), dizzy -
 & was sick on coffee table.
 Home - got Michael to
 bed - want to keep about

immediately: not had
 dinner at 7:00 & H to
 bed.
 Edin coughing indoors
 (only) & kept us awake
 half the night - finally
 vomited. R's & I very sleepy
 bed. Feb. 6.
 Edin & R's stayed in
 bed - so that up a light
 breakfast. Boys & I
 food from - out on this
 to practice slopes - doing
 very well: joined later by
 R's, Edin & hope.
 Lunch - then boys & I
 (to this) & R's, Edin (to hope)
 got bus up to Pratelli
 (3 fr. - no change for
 change): wonderful

In - glorious view -
 beautiful forward view -
 bikes not difficult. Easy
 walking better - B. &
 Colin came down to help -
 boys & I "pranchled" down
 on this - they did
 amazingly well -
 considering they don't yet
 know how to turn -
 having only vague notion
 of turning.
 Lost B. & Colin at
 sundown - so had
 hot chocolate (hot) for
 2.40 Fr. & lots of tea for
 1.15 Fr. in Casanova.
 Home - wash-up -
 read a bit - had fine
 dinner - boys in bed

by 9.0
 Thurs. Oct. 7.

Picking bed room much too
 late for me at night -
 morning - 27.5 fath. in
 morning 8.0. All right well.
 Dullish day: yesterday
 Simon took our bags from
 back of Piatelli's but, he we
 took them: in morning
 lady phoned me about
 "book" - so I got first thing
 to Spach's & made the
 exchange.
 Got 3 boys started at
 the school - tho' how the
 lady instructor managed
 Colin passed understanding
 He makes little effort -
 is inclined to lie down in

How & looks pathetically
 about for someone to pick
 him, after making the
 slightest of efforts - for
 form's sake - to help
 himself. His dark eyes &
 chubby cheeks - & the
 rest of him huddled in
 his top - makes most
 people think of him as a
 little girl. However he
 can amuse himself for
 a very long time going
 down hills with the legs.

C. M. were too good for
 class: - so were quickly
 elevated - & did really
 well. Both a bit
 "browned off" at being
 better than the others -

& at most of instruction
 being given in French.

B. started practicing on
 this - so with all
 settled - I saw H. &
 tried the Telegraph lift -
 quite easy - & had
 good run down - only
 one fall when I was
 got "wind-up" - & a
 slight toss at that. Others
 did some good fast
 coming - enjoyed it.
 Passed the others up to
 lunch.

As soon as people see rather
 nice notice of sympathy
 to all British people
 on death of King: seems
 to be held in high regard

C. M. let of a gift with
 class - has to be left -
 to come down. Both
 quite tired - C. was
 disappointed on how he
 did - & both seem to
 have put a very well.
 C. - no fall, B. a bit
 excited about it all.
 Mountain B. & I worked
 on tractor shop -
 B. trip then -
 & I proceeded fairly
 well to Christo's.
 Colin watched shooting &
 played a bit.
 All → camera
 for tea → home,
 looked out for rego-
 blades - called on way

Have cut down heat on
 motor in room tonight -
 & filled in with a
 mountain air.
 Note: Road standard
 driving not high -
 & instruction seems fairly
 good. What one wants
 doesn't seem to matter
 much - Fair no. small
 children's classes. as
 high of not very - the
 beauty of type of exalt.
 Prices in the fair
 favorable.
 Note: Horse taxi - fair
 painted - trip up.
 Snow plows for roads.
 "Train" of boys, pulled
 by jeep, full of snow.

home to look in at B. &
 the club cocktail party in
 Alaska bar. The bar is
 just opening in but I
 didn't like the look of
 the so-called English people.
 I didn't drink - came
 home for dinner.
 Note: eating in American
 bar is made of metal (?)
 plastic material (like
 custom stuff) - expensive,
 food drink - and -
 for boys to look - the
 B. & I walked out.
 Daytime moonlight -
 lovely scene mountains
 light on hillside -
 like "Christmas" scene.
 Really idyllic.

Party of fathers - quite nice
 of them - happy for
 vacation.
 Note: the first round
 made with travel lifting
 from forest by horses!
 Note: Feb. 8.
 Fair more falling - but
 getting more dense: out
 in foot times - all of this
 except Colin who had hope.
 Boys to clean in B. & I
 in snow - & I went up
 to camp again.
 There's a "hot" with
 French boy who speaks no
 English: says French
 resorts much denser than
 here for him. Also told
 me that buying in snow

very popular here — not
 his what route — but
 "Get train back at
 11:00 pm" — so I suppose
 is down this road to
 station down here.

Very difficult to see on
 top — but came down
 to fair confidence —
 took the back (or d) route
 + got on quite well.

Back to school — boys
 knew to have got a well:
 instructions came out
 to say the condition below
 C. had not tried before —
 he came down so well
 from Pritchard yesterday.

Having done by
 lunch time — so decided

not to let boys go up on
 top.

Firstly interested in
 fellow passenger Mr. Beck a
 P.R. (name Pritchard) who
 found the 'P.R.' —
 intense in Paris — got to
 England — later home in
 some camps (found R.P. etc.)

R.P. wrote letter + P.R. → one
 after lunch in fairly thick
 snow — but reasonably
 warm. C. & M. R. practiced
 on ropes — M. got real
 suffer of a torn on P.R.
 & hole after coming straight
 down the very steep "chute"
 slopes: hurt his eye (of
 all things!) — even the
 inside of his glasses were

Stuffed to know!

Boys doing amazingly
 well: 2 or 3. traversing,
 making fair attempt at
 "chutes", being-boring
 with 1 or 2 up P.R.
 slopes — & then ineptly
 put on P.R. at door of
 P.R. — when this they
 have to walk up a steep bit
 of road at P.R.

Later R.P. + Colin came
 along with him — still
 having a getting a bit
 colder: went for walk
 to Boardwalk & through
 tiny forest down in snow,
 up across railway &
 up to Kussal where
 we had the usual tea

+ chocolate (6.50 fr.); with
 a nice building inside —
 painted dance floor, var
 wooden balcony, small
 stage (where we sat), &
 tables divided from floor
 by wooden partition:
 food 5-piece band:
 painting room etc. They
 know places this every
 P.R. P.R. evening — no
 proper cinema.

R.P. R. demand.

Home in rather little,
 fine cloudy snow —
 all had good hot bath
 + nice dinner (soup;
 salads of (?) lettuce & celery,
 meat in small pieces (beef,
 macaroni & cheese (fish),

+ beautifully balanced after
 with instead; finished
 off of champagne white
 wine - very good. After
 dinner, C. M. came with
 me for walk - still
 snowing finely - but
 didn't feel cold - however
 this' 10° below zero.
 Boys thrilled with lights
 on hills, shop windows
 + inside of Post Office -
 which really is very fine.
 Her walking hard to
 keep ice - hockey rink
 for Olympic team
 which arrives to train
 tomorrow.
 I stuck at dinner at
 expense of home as

a spoken language -
 back + impression.
 Inspector having very
 kind - very kind by
 offer of chocolate for
 breakfast (we had asked
 for cold milk, instead
 of coffee, for Michael -
 but he did not let us,
 drink some milk (not
 hot) - but cold pure
 cold boiled milk). Breakfast
 indirectly, is a great
 success - rolls + butter
 greatly loved by boys -
 don't see better much
 about fine or normal
 with them. They eat
 much less of other meals
 than I had expected.

Sat. Feb. 4

A splendid day - in fact
 a almost continuous fine
 snow falling. (Snowflakes
 working constantly on roads
 ice - under etc.)
 At 8:30 to 9:30 chocolate -
 C. M. class; then 12:30
 off with bags - not too
 pretelli - two handsome
 snowflakes working, + odd
 plumes of what might be
 from higher up mountain.
 Bob - men too hot + recent
 snow - he got off to huge
 down bus - wrote; not
 fast - but Colin enjoyed
 himself + behaved very
 well. Called at Behndorf
 to see if OK about chocolate

if we leave early + visit
 Zurich on route for home.
 Also found out train
 connection - + observed
 local train times back for
 Kitzbühel if we want to
 leave down to it.
 Colin off! Saw a squirrel
 in the snow as we set out
 this am.

Found the others had very
 much enjoyed chocolate -
 B. found himself rather better
 than the others: "Still
 think it too rainy!"

Home together for lunch.
 Still knowing the B. decided
 not to go "up" with after
 class - to help B. M. +
 Colin to get about -

Col. M. & large - while
 C. & I. went up on P. & S.
 P. & S. - in the afternoon
 heights we got up without
 falling off! Fairly cold
 on top & blowing moderately.
 Recent spelling - C. had
 one fall - Father there!
 C. came at amazing speed -
 doing natural christies on
 lower foot piece & ended
 by insisting on coming
 straight down very steep
 (Red Route) last piece, etc. I
 certainly wouldn't!
 What trip took less than
 an hour - I had
 expected two - to finish
 the others rather early
 at practice stages.

the's home training -
 C. showed off his climbing
 then B. decided in the
 afternoon to go "step down"
 the main stages - &
 "bitch the climb" in soft shoes
 at the bottom - but
 wasn't back.
 Off to Limerick for tea:
 asked once more for B. of
 chocolate ("Barbar" or name)
 & got choc. & cream! (3
 different versions for some
 request to for!)
 [I forgot to say that this
 morning I never had
 hot chocolate for breakfast
 great success!]
 Danced to B. - & later
 her into the church

communal "Pallet" (Swiss
 type). M. upset choc. &
 melted it up for B. &
 to his handiness!
 B. points out how good
 looking the waitress is
 then went up to station
 to look at - bought
 magazines - children
 discovered, & used, slot
 machines (had forgotten
 that these must be new
 to them). Charming lady
 in hotel - we said
 "Thank you" - she replied
 "The thanks are mine!"
 [Street Salvation
 here is "frazzle" - reply
 after "frazzle" - & people
 very pleased at each

Picking up:
 food dinner - communal
 soup, beer & bacon &
 "Pork" potatoes, "Porking
 Victoria" & for some -
 wine.
 Had a number looking
 after dinner - but too far
 C. M. "came on" with
 kitchen staff till winter
 got broken!
 Long chat to man from
 Torquay & fellows from
 Loughborough. Red.
 Mrs. P. & C.
 Still more how!! -
 quite unusual weather -
 had lunch. However - off
 to Mischel (P. C. M.) -
 & I took Chris's trip & mine.

+ got him to have patience
 enough to give them a fair
 trial: actually he stayed
 on the boat happily till
 140 am - when his old
 theme - long began i.e. - "I
 want an ice-cream" (this
 has several variations -
 "I want another ice-cream" - "I
 broke my ice-cream" - or - "I
 have broken ice-cream" (!:)).
 So I broke a few off the edge
 of the biscuits but not
 for him - + he played
 happily for a while - but
 his hands got very cold -
 + so did the weather - so
 induced him to do this
 again. But in distance

making slightly "heavy
 weather" as to his sleeping.
 Everybody a bit cold after
 class so off for lunch -
 still raining.

During morning hours
 Olympic team played
 Russian Canadian on
 nearby rink (ice hockey)
 but weather too uninviting
 to think of watching.

Everything going on as
 usual - even the holiday.

After lunch B. + Colin
 left behind - took boys +
 thought of going from
 Helsinki down to
 Helsinki (return by Russian
 railway) but B. + Colin
 made this not advisable.

So back to Helsinki - +
 Paris down: difficult to
 know to travel more than
 usual: but not many
 + all of us: I had
 one M. for me at
 end - just to inspire C.
 into what I really could do!
 But C. continued to argue
 on: he really has a
 beautiful natural style of
 B. - running - + his hands
 as well as: M. is
 still inclined to M. +
 his hands + his one
 his bottom - so comes to
 grief more often.
 From beginning of July
 (3.10 P.M.) - boys began
 to go up again! - but

went to Reg. M. of
 practice field + did a
 bit of work: about
 3.45 pm. discovered B.
 practicing tennis +
 like M. (Colin playing
 pretty things) - so all
 joined in + we had
 just a party on a steep
 little slope. Colours
 showed at once + which
 boys now or less run up
 hill + "hurry home" +
 5 kids!

Still raining - off to
 Cornelia for tea: boys
 had bottles each of
 orange (1/2) - + some
 small cakes: B. + 2
 drank. Sitting in a

little bar in the cafe -
beautiful smooth wooden
table.

M. says - Phil who serves
us has had on a different
table every day we have
been in.

Colin knocked over his
glass - no damage done.

Colin off home - I
took boy up to Native for
English paper & chewing
lady at bookstall
promises to keep my
big baskets for C.

Called in nice bookshop
on way home & bought
really charming children's
calendar - Gorman (h.3.6)
& also good touring map

of history (h.2.30).

Have - named decelerity
for the first time - shellfish

dinner - Russian bread to

Post card (Family boiled

egg in middle covered to

Mayonnaise - post, rain

& words and ends road

to have - champagne

of strips of lettuce: then

chicken & beautiful chips:

after ice cream: all

very filling.

Full morning - & forecast

on radio of now !!!

Monday, Feb. 11th

Wonderful day - morning

grey but no wind, post has

come - rather beautifully -

By to the bank - C. & Colin

to play & huge (C. not here
on this side - too slow
& "boys' first in front of
you") - & I took M. off.

to Trollope's this day. By

the time we got up, he

shining plainly - into

beautiful - snow day -

M. Thilled. H. came up

after very well (iridescence) -

though it's awkward to have

to put the "I" down down

to my knees to accommodate

them - long thin sticks

also.

[Note - sound of bells on

hanging horses - & of

- clench close clinging

C. & M. [M. Thilled].

& at it is very going down!

any more - M. very good -

improving his running

position - but when he

gets afraid - up

straighten the knees & out

push the bottom behind -

& force to sit down! He

did some good turns on

the final difficult pieces:

orderly both on left &

sepr on feet then in

left hand.

Down fairly early & over

to B? who was thilled

to have he did in class -

& then to p. "up" in after.

to then: also very keen

on present instruction.

So after lunch, post

M. so C. for cleaning pen etc.

+ left him alone to do
 himself (after sitting
 in front on balcony) +
 stay + hope till we come
 down. B? it to class -
 C. I walked to Comuna
 life - long time back -
 for better to take bus.
 Reached there at 2:30 - +
 terrific queue for life.
 The park of town very
 open - but little
 (Kellens etc.) ordered to
 go to + from.
 up to take 3 misch -
 beautiful open valley -
 long heavy slopes -
 Horli life away up to
 life - wisdom to R.
 Come down via

Comuna bus: called
 in "Togo Nestle" -
 outside there 10' high
 tunnel - signed visitors
 book + had breakfast:
 inside dark - wooden -
 bar seats - corbels -
 bridge - skeleton of
 fish: C. pot. shells
 eyelids + a few sp.
 baskets. (It asks me
 to pick up some more -
 covered night basket
 at most awkward
 mounts - hands full
 of this e.g.). Run down
 fairly fast - nice place
 for Christmas - as a
 two "rabbit classes"
 Hailed parts of our mind -

but C. had no real fall.
 It did panic rather
 pathetically on last
 steep slope for a moment -
 possibly effect of food
 R. not coming through -
 or of light which made
 contours difficult to
 distinguish - but he
 got over this + did
 alternate climb's
 admirably to bottom.
 Then down to road to
 Karsaal where B? already
 was. I went on +
 found M. Robin playing
 very happily at curling
 rink - Robin's father
 helped to come -
 M. delighted because he

had found another sc. -
 so not only bought
 cleaning gun (etc) -
 but also the last
 10 c. each to put in
 Karsaal slot machine.
 Pulled Robin up to
 Karsaal on bus - tea +
 B? - long had orange
 + cakes. B? walked to
 bus gave up Trollyper
 light - but long to have
 done more down to
 Comuna from top -
 M. seems harder + not
 so interesting as run to
 R. into Arona. He glad
 to have accomplished it
 nevertheless. Left rest of
 class to go up Comuna -

wisely, I think.
 Danced - watched the
 group - astonishing
 versatility of couple
 to dance - + to sing
 winnings out with
 tambour flourish. Later,
 rather nice dance did
 a small "floor show"
 the house - B. + C. on
 floor - others, H. + E. on
 legs. Nice how many
 people will turn to give
 you a look if you are
 doing that - very
 friendly + helpful.
 Had new electric on
 bottom of Colin's tower
 legs - then fine
 dinner - soup -

oulette + small peas
 inside, chips, salad +
 beautiful beetroot -
 nice pineapple forward +
 Kirsch - + wine.
 Left box again to look
 after themselves (after we
 saw Colin into bed) - + it
 to see him to see an
 ice-cream. Picked 3 Fr.
 each for "Kahleitz" -
 but got up a ladder + had
 Maudie bat on top of
 wooden bunnies: fine
 show of really good
 meeting. Best = a clown
 who was superb - +
 a good girl who was
 European champion.
 Got cold - fine snow

falling again - home
 + found boys asleep
 quietly + all well.
 Excellent day - this
 B. + E. both feeling legs a
 bit stiff.
 [Note: B. very amused at
 C's consternation that a
 man danced with her
 4 times - whilst they
 waited for me - "broad!!"]
 (Find it very refreshing
 to open window of house
 a "chance" + turn down
 radiator at night).
 Tues Feb. 12th.
 Snowy early morning -
 but odd blinks of sun
 later - but white again.
 a "drizzle" of water wet +

warm snow - nasty.
 B. went to class - I,
 took C. to school (C.M.,
 + sleep + B. - Colin + large) on
 bus to Kilm: walked up
 hill - taught Colin how to
 steer himself on legs -
 then put on his + came
 down slope + C. on. :
 + passed this - then C. +
 H. off on own to the down
 to middle of house. In
 my ship on legs +
 Colin + I rode down to
 fire the on ~~the~~ (radio)
 ship: passed a
 little - then home for
 lunch.
 Snowing again - but
 persuaded B. to join

me on top of Tschugg
very misty & snowy at
top. arranged me to
Hij River pit well -
the 1st. has a couple of
fair falls: after that
the last confidence - so
didn't do how far too
well.

Bought papers at Kato +
arranged about keeping
condenser if we join train
at Thich.

Former boys digging
happily - know → all
to Cammer for tea,
chocolate + dancing.

Mr. C. red home -
stayed at wondered of
town looking at there +

eventually found place
where our photos were (taken at the actual):
ordered P.C. big (2 fr.!!).
+ bought little book for
60c. in wood shop.

Home - all had bath +
good dinner.

Got bill for extra for
week - surprised it is
so little (26 Fr.).

C. by now seems to have
dozens of sig. packets.

Notes.

Wells found in window -
+ sides of window "like" in
rock other side -

Doors also all shut by
same principle -

1st boys = bed - R. + E.
went for walk at 10 pm -
light breeze - 1st fine
snow fell falling.

Wed. Feb. 13th.

More snow!! Decided to
go for long walk - to get
out at 10 am - went
down the trees towards
roadbed: beautiful:
high banks of 10 ft downy
snow: appeared almost
true - walk came down
for nuts from your hand.
Birds singing - some
lovely little ones like
finches: took a
good footpath round
lake + up to upper part
of town over railway.

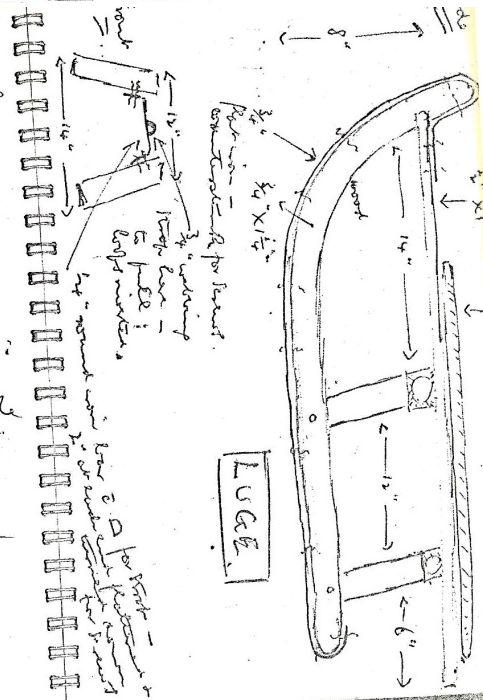
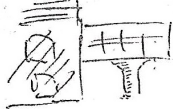
Then (after a call in
photo shop) across main
road + on up through
more woods - to
path of Tschuggen St. -
where Col. has it
looking for first time.

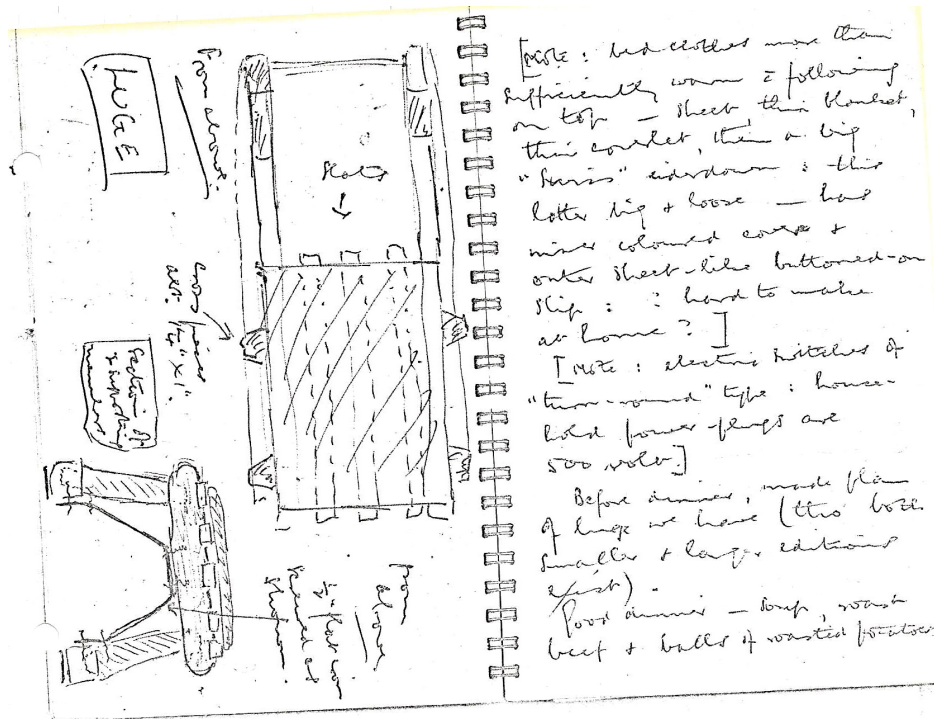
Some good birds passed
thru woods: on across
mountain side + down
to Orser beyond railway
Home by 12.15 pm -
long, tiring but
enjoyable walk. good
lunch - C. let off
out of "Popite" bottle all
over his trousers - Col.
upset his pants:
walking faster on
most numerous + lovely -

lots of people - mostly
elderly - using them.
Lunch - more now - a
kind of fog over top of
Inchiquin + low down in
valley - no sign of rain.
Colin - happy - rest with
this to practice P. ops. how
difficult - wet + sticky -
so slipping different.
Saw + chatted to French
chap who was doing
Telemales thru pop know -
so tried a few (my first) -
+ think that with practice
I could manage reasonably
well. Did one or two
possibly - but work
ended in collapse in
pop know.

collected family - off to
pop Hotel for tea + dancing.
Then railway - long -
conspicuous - not
particularly dark - but
best value of being
central + near P. ops.
lost Colin on way home
but found he had been on
to was unable to do a
bit of nothing or intended.
Still there - + cold
foggy atmosphere: rather
browned off.
But noticed girl in
pop Hotel who, on her
way to back home bar,
shared our discomfort
in train: after to her.
Highly "browned off".

[note: Known again by
grey + heavily contrasting
colours of house walls.
Matter etc.: also by
drawings, designs +
picture lettering on
houses: don't know
what the mottoes mean.
Architecture is formal
modern, + quite striking:
buildings often 6-8
storeys, + balconies whole
way up: saw one "boy"
room this one built
out from house on
kind of central stile -
thus.





[Note: bed clothes more than
sufficiently worn & following
on top - sheet thin blanket,
thin coverlet, then a big
"buris" sideboard - this
latter big & loose - had
nice colored cover &
outer sheet-like bottomed-on
slip: : hard to make
at home?]

[Note: electric outlets of
"turn-round" type: house-
hold power plugs are
500 volt.]

Before dinner, made plan
of things we have (this book
smaller & larger editions
first).
Poor dinner - soup, roast
beef & balls of wasted potatoes.

bed, & changing to:
finished off the wine & the
beer: rather agreeable to
be for walk over of? not
anxious - he chatted to
Portuguese man & Dutch lady
& to bed at 10:00 PM.

Portuguese fellow strongly
recommends his island
abt. last week in May or
beginning of June: some
points he made -

- ① See Klause (near Vondorp)
- ② fine beautiful - but
too expensive to stay in it.
- ③ Don't stay in hotel
but go just beyond -
say - Hotel du Lac at
Goldschmid. Cheaper -
beautiful - the outside

not making.

④ liked plan - de chys hotel
at Amsterdam.

⑤ got packed himself at
hotel where he stayed the
night.

[Note: my need for packed
clothes at Arona - as all
was possible - & back to
hotel for meals.]

Dutch lady talked of
riding weekends in Holland:
also mentioned holiday
on lakes - boating -
in Holland: one can
hire boats there.
Oh, Basch, the pole, has
"taken up" with the new
arrival, a Dutchish Pil -
& everyone is fulling his by

Thurs. Feb. 14th

Even more snow!! We
are having the most
effhellingly bad luck - but
best the consolation that
had we gone elsewhere, we
would have thought we were
not going to Arosa!

Out of foot - posted cards
in P. Office - lovely building -
mine showing in main office
(as well as in porch) -
lovely clock "built in" to the
wall. As usual, girl
assistant speaks excellent
English.

On the river - its little
boat - & all close against
Arosa bridge for a jolly.
Boat little visit for kids.

For as I then went on up
to collect photo etc. -
C. & I look for this - up the
more on Tracheggan left -
took to left & found pump
fairly good but knew this
"stinky". In fairly good
but foggy mist below us
in Arosa: got to bottom
of Communa left at 11:30 am.
& decided we just had time
to go up & down before lunch.
On way up saw unusual
sight of wooden attachment
from its attachment.
Well fine weather - had
philosophy run down -
the climbing "stinky" in
snow. Went down
river - have just five

minutes late for lunch.
B. seems quite happy with
day morning - got letter
from Kelly - mainly about

Paula - delighted to hear
she seems wonderfully well.
Poor Kelly didn't know to
fast more than 2 1/2. Half
on letter (+ 15c. postage due).

Good lunch - B. taken
a. looking for higher horse bar.

Boys out with legs -
persuaded B. to come up left &
maybe also of Communa. A
long piece at Tracheggan left
(2.30 pm.) - attendant gave
me a shove in the back at
the boat - so that I almost
fell off - or rather almost
never got started. If safely -

no. in - know - but
some in on higher peaks -
to west to left (Communa
direction) & had quite a
nice - & very enjoyable -
run - using deep snow
where first seemed difficult.
B. enjoyed last long run
on piste: saw in at
times - country beautiful,
4.0 pm. when we got down &
decided to come on down
road.

Found C. at P. Office -
very sorry for himself -
very cold (? what had he
been doing?) - but
ok. & then very happy -
seemed to have had great
fun together with legs.

Commence for choc. & tea & cakes (7 Fr. & 1.70 Fr.): got a couple of new cig. baskets for C. collection: during tea, evening here on top of mountains - Golden, & lovely.

C. & I. up town (other to home) - left this in to be insured - bought 200. Three times to town (4.50 Fr.) & a few more photo views: tried to find horse painting cards - but didn't see exactly what I wanted. Home by 6:30 pm. - got myself cold (good sign - absence of fever) - snow glittering like diamonds in light of stars tonight.

Intellectual dinner - then vineyard (Feld), met & nice, marriage, wine. Dashed today (who went home today) left choc. & cig. for me. Looked outside - nothing. Star, illness cold: thoughts of taking Michael on legs near to hitting - but he seemed to be too sleepy - he said nothing. After settling down - but, found R. had taught boys to play whist. Showed them 3-card trick - to their enjoyment! And so to bed. 9:30 pm.

Feld, Feb. 15.

No more falling!! but rather heavy but definitely shining at last! out.

fairly early - collected first from Becker - nicely worked & running much better (2 pairs - 1 Fr.): took C. M. up to school left complete to come home.

C. to travel alone - but missed the "stick" at the house - fell off - but picked himself up & got the chair after M. & me.

At top found to take a "hat" or two - then H. down near to Commence left - an odd story for "photo": he not happy but pleasant. M. did very well indeed. Left down - no gun at Commence left - up on it.

cost for boys = 2 letters in Monument (ref = 3).

First photo at top - but he was wrong for taking the broad view of valley.

Over to Commence that: on the way asked girl the "make" of her anorak (kind I admit - all yellow - horse attached hood - no waist or tie - just a little bit at each side over hips) - she said she bought it in Germany - trade name = "Kinkflex". M. dined with 12:00 -

signed his name - visitors book: boys had "Pescos" (1 Fr. each) - I had chocolate (0.80 Fr.): found

that of attendant had
been in the past & Dutch!
This time Igloo was at Davor
(on the Winnipeg side) but
no.

Talked to two men & girl in
Igloo - said Davor from
conferred with Arosa -
Principi marvellous (but no
better really than here) - but
taken into of quite disaffection.
Not so free & easy - or as
pleasant - or as close.
etc. as in the past - to avoid.

They also told me that
of a small close Communa
cost 1000 Fr. a month -
Keep 8 people - small
kitchen etc. : idea is to
have rolls & coffee for breakfast

rolls, coffee & some meat for
lunch - & have more hot
meal in evening in restaurant
below for 5 or 6 Fr. (Must
compare to prices here - etc.).
Run down to Communa from
Hornli does not look too
difficult.

Run down from here good -
after that of Igloo: M. did
surprisingly well - got one
bird too at foot of heavy
straight run - but after
from there, returned from
side to side of big P.P. set
beautifully: near bottom
C. had gone on - I was
leading M. but got into
a straight fast downhill
position - didn't want to

do a head "Christie" and I
knew M. couldn't manage
it at that speed - so went
on straight to left on left
after you cross road where
people watch: did head
"Christie" to Hornli - turned
round - & to my delight
there was M. (way & delighted
with himself!) : straight
down thereafter - into
town & home by lunch
(12.40 pm).

Took one or two "stills" on
balcony after lunch (where
this is written) - sun still
a bit clouded over - but
still very nice. P.P. writing
a note to Billy
since we not too long.

decided against heading after
in town. P.P. boys went
to practice P.P. set - I got
try lesson in - with
course round me like a
Christmas tree. Note. Found
out that if you announce
you don't run (to Hornli)
at first left point, it costs
you one hole less in your
account.

After P.P. left I Dutch
man who recommended
chairlift to Hornli for children -
but suggested heading only
a morning or after, on it -
not a day. Says run down
not difficult - but be careful
get that or two before
getting to Hornli by P.P. (i

one at top) - but light too
indistinct for good colour -
fore. better in morning.
Fall on way over to Wisconsin
high - usual way - by
hitting B&W know when
travelling fast: find that
to Kander's binding on one
"island" only a goat help
in avoiding slipping or falling.
Wisconsin life odd -
roof around bottom -
patient clip you catch on
to ring at end of rope -
rope then attached to
travelling cable. Long
way up (abt. 15-20 mins.) -
+ you will round to back
of mt. View at top into
next valley & over neighbour

ing feels really good.
Didn't go into hut at top -
but made off on grass -
hiking route: other
routes - ① fairly easy
across mt. to top &
Columbia life - ② more
or less straight down -
winding thru B&W know -
steep & difficult.
Vera route long (3 1/2 miles)
+ not too difficult - & very
interesting: it goes
round back of mt. &
Kander's clamping &
delightful. Some vistas of
virgin snow - & drops into
two - top in valley: some
lovely light violet tints on
distant peaks.

Found canvas a nuisance
at speed - in fact a must:
but then - no use: down
a small canvas hanging
round unbalanced one at
real speed: however, no
falls - & fine run down
to fire B. & boys in timber
two - room (beside P. H. H.).
Oliver - but no music or
dancing: value good: we
sat on B. side which was
"no smoking" unfortunately.
Everyone seems to have
had a good time: B.
getting home "slide" on the
travellers: calm, M.
Lobby & large: C. found
B. & H. and asked to go up
Travelling life alone: B.

So impressed with courage
& initiative that didn't dare
to say no - B. C. came down
thru B. alone - & so a
fall!!! A considerable
achievement for a 10-y. B. -
+ 1 1/2 hrs. living in life!
noticed tea (alt. tables well -
along & round & rich cream &
lots of sugar - alt. the boys
eat) inside but is very hip-
leaper & coarse & pale, food
big of hot water always -
+ tea strainers.
B. forgot & left forced outside
M. - but: wait for it & when
he comes back, pointed out
high level of common honesty
but: one after six phases,
Glover M. stuck up on

from the point - to come
 to take: also I leave my
 this anywhere that is
 convenient - outside hotels.
 Mrs. & I. But St. -
 After tea, wandered up town
 to look at a few shops
 windows: R. had already
 bought case of toilet soap
 (2 for 1). Also for future -
 always bring soap - never
 supplied on continent - tho'
 we get lots of clean towels.
 Home for wash + dinner:
 R. not feeling too well -
 thinks she has a tummy
 upset - ? rich food?
 Soup, dish of all kinds of
 cold meat cut very thinly,
 large dish of spaghetti (very

good), butter cheese for
 dinner, salad: asparagus
 cucumber - + equal wine.
 R. said to take M. a large
 run down to hitjins -
 C. had been "up to" more
 often than he. So napped
 up + set out - but snow
 on road rather rough -
 not icy enough + fatal
 dark in forest: bright
 stars - but no moon! So
 skollid with him up town
 instead. Bright rolling
 lights - intense cold -
 12° below zero in dark
 lights delightful (window
 displays must be heated
 or glass is not remain
 clear). Home 9.30 p.m. + t

bed: turned down radiators
 + opened windows a "chink".
 Note: radiator a poor find
 for drying out wet gloves,
 + out lots of washing.
 Note: can we get pattern for
 making our own ski-pants?
 (? in tunnel?).
 Memo: "My" inventory at
 Commerce Hotel (which is almost
 completely below snow) -
 learning how its fast stream
 so deep how you can know it
 but not see it: so complete
 absence of small etc.

Sat. Feb. 16

Sun actually planning into
 tomorrow before we could have
 to breakfast!

All out with ski + bags to

Proctor Hotel - took car +
 steel Kodachrome: Sun
 really lovely + mountains
 delectable. Then up main
 street - taking odd shots.
 Found meter most comfortable
 for holding camera etc.
 Called in Credit Suisse Bank -
 drew £50 - + banked £50
 for future expenses: no less.
 Look etc. - one just calls
 in any high bank anywhere
 in hitjinsland - show passport
 + draw cash.
 Down again - some shots
 at Native - home for lunch.
 Sun a bit more cloudy (70
 14° below) + very fine snow
 falling (almost like fine
 ice-bergs). Set off by bus

for Kulu (C. R. with him) to
Himli. He - & chain-lift:
Saw B? get off in chain & then
beside her: then M. (very
brave) alone in another chain.
Then I went off in the lift
(Kulu to him) towing
C. behind me (Saw 6 holes
each for C. R. - total of
15 holes for B?, M. & chain -
roughly 9 ft. [B? M. R. for
"atoms of course"]): long
run - chilly - glorious
wide sweeping snowdrifts -
with only occas. thin mounds -
unbelievable loneliness.
Up top at Himli -
climbed up to him: misty
& cold - to new floor -
but found others chilled &

forming up - entrance to
whole affair. Into him who
is beautifully heated - full
of people having all sorts of
drinks: "buck" - "up-ah"
the wall clocks - fine
modern Hindu lanterns etc. -
also ordaining in this host
perched up on a pinnacle
about 8,000 ft. up). Noticed
many people having lots of
brandy & tea - & on new
floor "Tasse tea" (with plum & oil
coffee for 1.70).
All had cups of evattine -
but milk served separately
from paper & little packets of
evattine (each 1 ft.). I felt
distinctly "height-conscious"
dizzy & a bit deaf - & should

have waited to her, but was
anxious about life as it
seemed to be acquiring that
ominous mysterious wh.
drives all contours -
when I can see no sign
whether of even the most
acute doubts into space. So
set off rather early to C. -
first across a slightly
frighteningly steep traverse &
big humps of frozen snow -
where I took a couple of
towers. B? & others waved
goodbye - then on across
a really long traverse - C.
skipping wonderfully well -
much better than I - till
he found ourselves above
Commander's: light snow

better - but east still
"frying" & seemed distinctly
wobbly - so didn't ski well -
tho' he came down really
fast (no one passed us -
he did the passing!).
Passed Mr. Byrne & Batch -
C. took the best hip shot & a
pause or a fall - & by this
time I was OK. - so really
climbed down from there
to assurance & enjoyment -
& no mistakes.
Light snow on top - so M.
took the rest: waited
a few moments at him -
& then back B? & the boys
just walking up from the
chainlift!! - frozen but
very happy. The downward

primary was more fighting
affectionately than the others -
Celine says "just like in an
airplane". Andward time
for lunch - he walked down to
Marshall - hot, close, tea &
cakes & saw a wonderful
floor show - man & girl
dancing. B. almost lost her
dark dress (had kept this in
"Jamaica") - but got them!!
Straight home for good dinner -
soup, liver & brown, mashed
potatoes, baked - lots of gravy
ring & pain (boys had two)
some - better in latter
part of after. poor. (Home 6:30.)
Altogether a wonderful day.
Note: B. finds one more
thing for boys would have been

a good idea (i.e. 4 instead
of 3 in all): also, some
knitting paper
Finally getting really
bored.
After supper, Celine at 8:15 P.M.
went down to find B. & boys
playing chess: had a few
rounds - then taught them
Rummy - which they enjoyed
greatly: also a couple of
simple card tricks which
dazzled them!! They sat to
bed at 10:00 P.M. (late) - &
B. & I at 10:30 P.M. after
finishing the beer left
over from lunch!
Note: Horse "ding" house -
fairly for a while. Also
hip P. head dog, harnessed

+ pulling & legs.

Sun. Feb. 17

Hazy morning - but later
bright through sun - the hill
surprisingly cold at times
(14 degrees below). Sent C. & H.
to finish last class ticket -
B. to practice on slides.
H. & Celine & I walked with
lugs - to take a lot of
black & white snaps - & an
old bit of film. Out &
Chorus glorified. Later
joined B. & C. at Phil's
at 11:30 a.m. - found C. had
gone up to kitchen to class &
left at 4:30 time (? what did
he really do? - he went
to class & had race!).
Got some action shots of

family - then C. lay down
in house saying he had a
pain in his tummy.
Lunch - left B. & Celine in
him on bedroom balcony -
C. & I. watched B. & C. fly
disbark at ice factory for
a time - boys thought it
was "tinfoil" - then to
P. & C. left above the
wall a tinfoil glass -
Special day - time in from
Lunch. Chatted to English
but who knew of I. well -
was at least last year -
small - but harder hitting
than here: says B. & C.
good but - also believe (the
a - "fainted" but) - buty had
not bad.

him on top but pencils
 deep under mist below in
 valley: "cascades" falling.
 Climbed to the building at
 Trechup to the big - some
 house just of observation. Then
 climbed up to look down on
 hairshorn left - then down
 Comuna river - well -
 but my night ski had to be
 taken off to keep it ice
 collected in icy ponds
 snow: got some. Most
 of speed skiing on Comuna
 slopes - & took C. over
 small jump. Home to
 pick up B. & climb at
 Comuna (Choc. - Sta. de Choc.)
 Road - not early to go
 if Trechup left being -

B. & I walked up - but it
 had rained. Huddled there
 hanging around at station
 then home - B. filling
 C. on legs & on getting
 a tone on his head.
 C. had gone on with my
 messac.
 B.'s ear - looks badly
 scorched by sun - & found
 that she had taken out too
 little clothing.
 Dressed in skin, trousers etc. for
 dinner (unknown food, salad,
 chicken & eggs, peach pie,
 wine). Boys ate well. It
 has been surprising how small
 their appetites have been
 since we came.
 Saw boy to bed - then

over to Hotel? for evening.
 Pleasant. - slightly pleasant
 (afterwards we discovered that
 the bar downstairs had
 more character & attraction
 for drinking) : down to the
 white wine & enjoyed a
 mild quiet evening. Very
 amused at 5 English. chaps
 all sitting together & prob.
 worried if they were really
 from the same regts in the
 morning - 4 drank beer
 + 1 tea! Glorious!
 Beautiful evening on way
 home - the Henderson
 waiting up for 2 English
 poets.
Mon. Feb. 18
 Really glorious day : - him

dogging the tips of the mts. at
 breakfast : after planning what
 best use we could make of
 a bonfire of st. - we set one
 early, leaving Colin to play to
 the wind, here. All four
 of us went in morning light -
 two boys in front, R. & E.
 together : glorified him - kept
 dogging him on top & all
 the while down below looking
 heavily : down towards
 the common life - we all
 had an excellent run - R.
 doing his best descent yet.
 I think he was really
 surprised at how well he did.
 Died.
 Came on down next road
 E. R. : stopped to watch some

squirrels feeding from a
child's hand - leafy
cactuses - seen food of
monkeys - etc.

Left R. to go home - + no
Pacheco again & boys to do
the run again: this time we
took it fast - then up
Cerro de la Cruz - the sun
forming down the valley.
A really fast run down from
Cerro de la Cruz - only a couple
of losses amongst us - for
M. Hill will not lose his
bunch when he gets nervous!
(lovely serious M. Hill has
tails coming down from
Himali).

Down from Broadtop again
for lunch - both boys run

into the water.
Found M. Hill in very
happy - they had sat
outside Comuna building
during the M. Hill
race - a bit wildly - to
wonder so much thing.
Sun on balcony after lunch -
but a few wisps of cloud
under a great chill suddenly
M. Hill - only one
downward - to take best to
Kilua & walk down -
having first deposited their
P. Hill, R. Hill & C. Hill boots in
M. Hill.
Boys 1/2 up Pacheco again
Pied to Lissahon life -
all were up it separately
particularly creditable for M.

Right now - his heel
 brilliant enough out for
 boys to see wonderful views.
 Came down from the
 C. fell only once, I got a
 couple of real tenses, & M.
 fell a few (4) times - one
 particularly nasty one where
 he hit his R. hip. He was
 very good about it - tried
 on - & all took the last
 difficult piece below Mass
 without a fender - the boys
 coming down the last fast
 piece!! Nation at 3:55 PM
 so rushed to his ship myself
 (I still had 2 holes left in
 abominable) - boys to walk
 up to Kussal.
 How getting very cold &

grey - so much so that I
 could not see contours on
 top - so tried down in
 "darker" - & did all the
 better for it - a no-fall
 descent - & no stop:
 Glanced up - & smiled at
 Kussal barely 10 minutes after
 the boys - He replied
 already that time 3:45 -
 I arrived 4:30 PM.
 During day met man who
 thinks English much
 more difficult than here. He
 came from Zurich who stands
 in apartment above workshop
 Porge - 5 adults & 2
 children - 760 Fr. for month
 however he doesn't if one
 can fit apartment for less

than $4\frac{1}{2}$ or $5\frac{1}{2}$.
 Face + body "hinging" for
 so much this morning -
 roughly 10 miles of hiking
 with a day's work of climb
 on 10,000 ft!! Never
 dreamt that it wd be
 possible this holiday. Must
 give C. to be made for
 really good this morning -
 very hot, full of energy &
 ability. M. also - but
 more "childish" & wobbly.
 Pa - doing - a
 lovely carver (same as last
 time) - out by 6 PM -
 left over this in kitchen -
 home - wash - a good
 dinner. All the family
 very pleased with both

a full + fine day for last
 day of the holiday in Arosa -
 Chatter to Mr. "Baltic" after
 dinner - gave his
 address -

M.E. BACZ

207 UNION ST.

TORQUAY, S. DEVON.

Mrs. Knapley recommended
 Grindelwald - 2nd. Miss
 Maria at 8 PM Hotel Jungfrau
 Grindelwald - a good second
 class hotel - good food -
 convenient to station - he is
 well-known there. Note
 8-day ticket on railway up
 to Kleinmieden - taking it up
 (amongst others) to Arosa
 from, hiking down to
 intermediate stations, up

again & to on: also
 doing for transport on
 but being down from (for)
 Sunday: also 14-2
 hour walk & picked up
 from Sunday to Monday
 says in house (1500) on
 Lambton very steep
 Packed quickly - have
 boys to bed - 10:30
 Chatted to Belgian couple on
 honeymoon: rather nice
 couple - then French is a
 little difficult to understand.
 Asked us to call if in
 Belgium - address -
 JEAN M. MACNÉE
 Doctor in Drott,
 20, Rue de la Colline
 Savvies.

But not - they may be
 going out to settle in Iceland.
 Paid 400 for hotel for
 stay & 200 incl. to take
 home (40 Fr. in all).
 Arranged about morning -
 call - & go to bed.
 [Colin's bed-time note:
 "The hair's starting to grow
 under my arms, Daddy" 11]
 Tues. Feb. 19.
 Up early - lovely morning -
 boys off to station at 8:00.
 Breakfast 8:15 pm. Love
 H. & M. & son for
 meals - all seemed very
 pleased: note - went
 to Coler & H. & M. & son
 (in the morning).
 Good breakfast - done

Blazing down as we
 left Arosa - glorious
 view down valley to
 Coire - very hot in
 train: hot steam
 of locomotive - & the
 tracks. Care is now
 beautiful run down to
 Zurich: train used
 to run Balldorf - so
 put on local train back
 to Engel to park bags.

Outside Engel Station:
 see a bench & ate back
 lunches (much to
 amusement of everyone).
 Excellent lunch - we
 didn't eat all. & water
 towns (blue) & trailers.
 Then into Zurich - via

Lakeville: walked
 down whole of Bluff-
 track - lovely - but
 quite informal -
 just being. Into
 station cafe for tea &
 something (3.90 Fr for
 all). Just diff about
 what to do with children
 in evening - worked
 best. Home -
 Larkins who returned
 & 1 Fr - overcharge!!
 More stuff - for lounge
 & for home. Into large store (Bosch).
 Spent at Zurich
 airport - but only
 over 18 allowed in.
 Eventually treated to

Addresses.

Wife who has been lost (wife
of Reichel - Schenck).

M. KITHE-BECKER

FRIESCHELAAN 4

PATERSWOLDE (DR.)

HOLLAND.

Girl who gave us clock & bracelet
before the trip:

SUSY HERZOG

BUCHDRUCKEREI

RHEINFELDEN

Girl from Zurich who gave clock
animals:

FRIEDY DÜNKI

DORFPLATZ

ROBBAS

KT. ZÜRICH

Who advised Comper Home.
Pots from to Dolder -
up in Dolder to Dolder -
tunnel for cars. (3 fr.
abroad) - out in little
jeep about over top
roads to Zurich - in
to miles (1 fr.) & wait there
waiting for car to
come. Got
Back to Zurich - to
Comper Home
Lycellus Avenue (28 fr.)
into dining room
there really good food
& things performed
Dinner Coca Cola for
till 10:30 pm - then
to trip (via) & I
could not find time to go

at 11.6 pm. - into
bouchelettes - where this
is written.

Travels disappointing -
"old" - people poorly
dressed - not too
clean outside - not
attractive (in winter).
waiters (speaks 4
languages - works
9.0 am till 1.0 pm 6
days a week) reminds
Londoners.

Interesting Head
waits - had been to
Ritz (London) etc. -
very kind - getting
one letter for children etc.

Chatting about husband
of home life in home. -

also all sorts of
nationalities doing
business in London.
China is famous for
its love for statistics or
black marketeers.

Not a bit of a type of
day for children
Wed. Feb. 20. (on train)

Excellent night's sleep for
everyone - not too hot in
cannole. Rather nice
hair towel agent, going
for holiday in London.
Left in remaining bank.
very little bottled in
customs etc. - up at
7.30 am - along to
dining car for breakfast.
Almost got stuck on way

by corridor door joining a
cabin! Plain breakfast
for all 5 — 860 Fr.
food wash-up & shave in
nice hot water — nice
new things (raining
when we awakened)
French country side flat,
rather interesting —
bumpy.
Got out at various bits
of baggage for London.
Customs & passport all
packed up on train so
that we have nothing
to do but go straight
boat at Calais.
H. rather over-affected
on journey — bouncing
about & putting into

London: Colin very good.
C. wanders away on
his own to explore
corridors, look at maps:
very much an individual
& much better on his
own: M. & Colin good
together — but C. sits
in this chair if he
is not sitting.
Note: no shortage of
food in train —
we have for too much of
anything.
How does H. manage to
look always so quiet —
shirt tail almost always
out of trousers or back —
hair toward!!
Train relatively empty

again.
 for a room at
 3.00 am & another at 11.00 am
 to find she would be
 here this time: coming
 near Colais - flat calm
 day.

Finished bottle of red
 wine or bought on way
 out - just saw sea -

flat, blue - lovely
 champagne to boat early -

once more the "Cote d'Azur" -
 lovely trip: off straight to
 Salon de Thé (after looking in
 dining room & deciding we
 didn't want lunch): then
 fresh - lemon-yellow chairs,
 pale wood paneling, off-
 white & green curtains -

bold design: boat left
 early (12.00 noon to time) -
 we had coffee, rolls, butter &
 jam & cake (10/- total).

1st good Salon party
 after for moored: boys &
 I made frequent visits
 round decks - humming,
 but coldish wind
 blowing. Tried all
 various pastimes!! (Not -
 Colai had gift at side of
 glasses - awful nuisance).

Easy evening - no belated
 off boat quickly - through
 British customs - got
 some rather charming
 man at our finger out -
 told truth about thyphoid (?)
 + cigs. (400) + choc. -

didn't see dogs.

Been thinking in England -
 known: got on narrow
 tracks on train & diff.
 Port & I looked at bookstall,
 & looked in Buffet - but
 they didn't want anything
 to drink!! Bought B. the
 Daily Express, (travelling 1st
 class by rail - England &
 Continent - 1st class on
 boat - Irish & English
 Channel).

Butler came along this
 fruit - fields of kind: apple
 trees being pruned: willows
 followed & "bellies" tied in
 bundles. First sight of
 green grass pleasant -
 for the feeling that I

can't to put my feet out
 of the carriage & feel soft
 grass under them!

Train rather queer -
 tho' a small effort is
 not towards beginning by
 presence of two small bowls
 one warm water & soap in
 lavatory: but arranged
 quibbly (worse than the
 French - who were good
 this year) - & of course,
 not in some "wells" as
 here.

B. waking up from
 "dogging mood" - & feeling
 rather hungry: boys
 have all been to wash
 face to clean their heads
 & comb their hair.

Victoria on train (3.05 pm) -
 dumped a Ruess and some small
 bag in left luggage after the
 train took to London where we
 dumped two large cases.
 The ~~officer~~ Mr. Weston called
 in Cepetaria (needy "dane-
 up" - rather nice - quite
 good food) for rolls, bread,
 drinks, tea: refreshed:
 got off by tube to King's
 Cross, then to hosts at
 handbag + see around.
 French & assistants of King's
 assistants have nothing
 to do (! effect of King's death
 or of economic crisis?).
 Disappointed (on the whole)
 to this point - to off by
 bus to Piccadilly: waited

abt. 3/4 hr. in queue to get
 into Grosvenor theatre (2/1
 each) - saw King's funeral
 etc. - out abt. 7.15 pm. -
 to Lyons for drinks, rolls
 & bread.

Bus to Victoria - collected
 bags - off to Robinson -
 dark - boys very noisy -
 all buses a bit short -
 safety to kitchen where
 children have things to
 eat.

Had drinks, stuffed olives,
 supper (to tea) - talked
 to Diamond till nearly
 10 am. - bed.

Keith's amazed at how
 brown we all are! And
 pleased to stay long &

chose. we bought.

Thurs. Feb. 21.

if reasonably early -
everyone clear-eyed &
fresh: for Mrs. Brod.
things packed in over
boxes - seem to have
a lot more room in our
bags than formerly.

Good breakfast - bro
to Hanoi - via Victoria

by 10:30 am. - packed

Mrs. Brod. bags (to be
collected) - ^{by train} ~~by train~~

pleasantly surprised when

there, decided to walk

down to those pads &

let Colin see changing of

ground & fresh cool

bright morning & good

view of head-changing,
B. & long slender. for
one or two bags.

Back up on foot to
Hanoi & Hanoi where B.
bought a bag & some
books: everything very
reasonable.

Then to Hanoi for early
lunch (12:15 pm).

Also had soup, rolls &

ice-cream: I had

Macaroni & American cake

& dipped from "Sour

cream" till bed time!

Straight by bus to Hanoi,

Maplewood Hotel -

astonishingly low prices -

quite unusual -

& decided not to buy

any more furniture
 than etc. in Dept. 10:
 it wd. be worth fare to
 London to buy. Saw
 beautiful circ. oak
 table & occasional
 "nests" at £15 -
 bought it.
 Walked down to
 Oxford St. - into outlets
 where for £2 each
 bought a yellow helmet.
 Br's is white - will
 make good Ki-hat
 also: excellent bag.
 Almost bought metal
 two-tier lunch &
 mattress (total £10) -
 but difficulty about
 transport. (Ref. Healy).

But to keep things
 on way of Regent St. -
 noted post come for
 future shipping - on
 Right: Hambley's
 Japer, Liberty's etc. close
 to each other. Note.
 Quick run-round
 to stay dept. of
 Regent St. - saw a
 little Tolson (1st time
 for R.) - then up to
 Restaurant for aft.
 tea (5/6 for all).
 Br. as. station then
 caught No. 73 bus from
 door of Shop straight to
 Euston: Cost by bus
 to be sure, picked up
 Russac - take to

Boston - arrived
 4.15 pm - collected
 big bag + postcard
 seats of full + long
 Liverpool train - left
 4.30 pm - after buying
 some magazines.

Ate some fruit - read
 washed up: I changed
 into a clean shirt.

Dinner at 6.0 pm -

Portish - top choice

of fish, meat & veg.

break (ice-cream):

C. had coffee & B. + B.

me (total 20p).

Played some money -

but M. very tired.

Liverpool 8.30 pm -

onto boat: much

once more by bad
 arrangements for
 transfer of passengers
 from train to boat:
 treated like cattle: no
 responsible attendance.

Boat leaves one - &

you make your own

way this' time, really

bad - no power.

noticed - no officials

to welcome or find you.

Whole business quite

deplorable.

Got onto Monarch

(thank goodness!) at

Prince's Dock - food

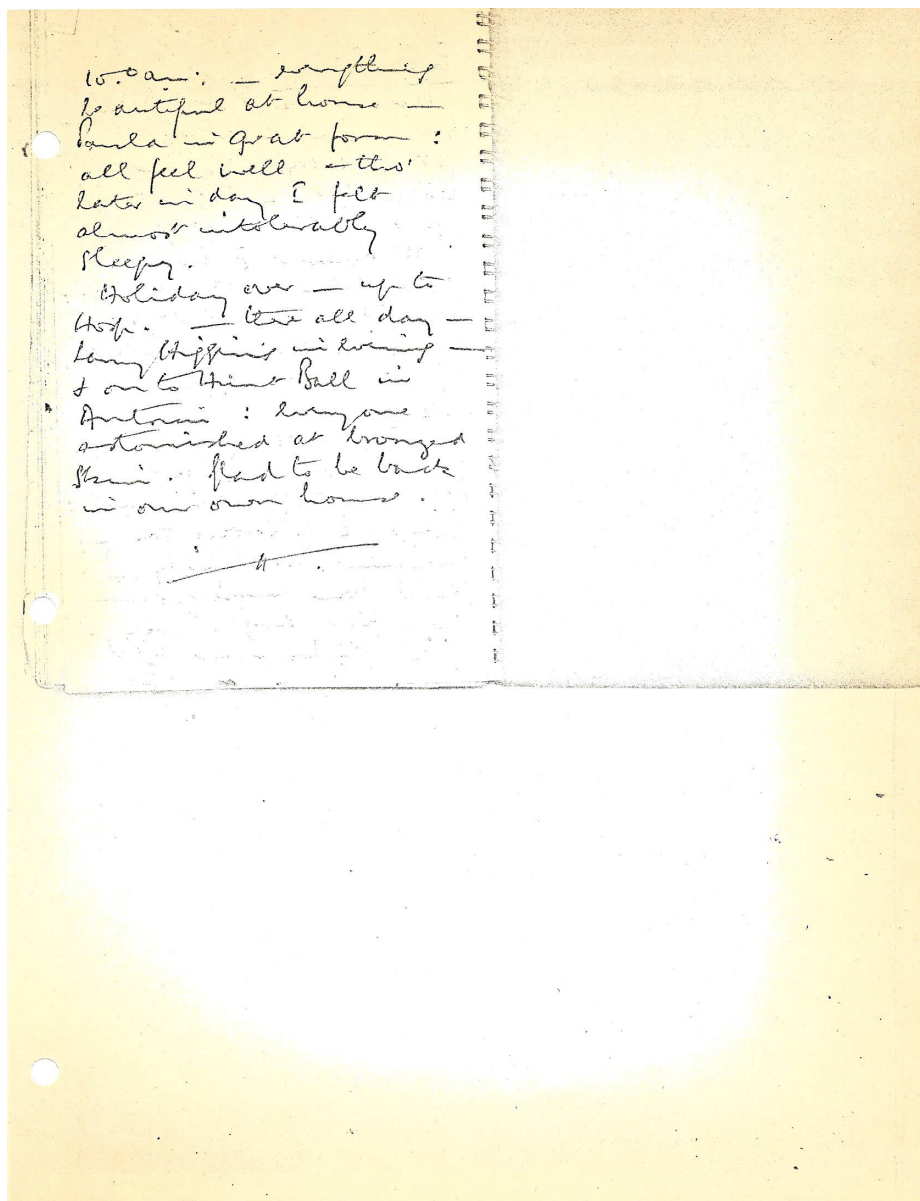
cabin - worst

offered as usual:

only 100 on board

(anal alt: 700). Clin
for. too to bed —
Bo followed. C. & I
watched clear job of
getting boat out of
dock & into Henry.
Then alt: 15.00 P.M. C.
went to bed. — all
had 34 gr. Tunal.
I went up to Dining
Room — had pot of
good coffee, toast
butter & jam (1/6).
Down to Cabin 11.00 P.M.
Bo & others all
asleep: calm night
but quite cold on
deck: now midnight.
Tomorrow I shall
be Paula.

Wed. Feb. 22
Boys awake (& well) alt:
6.00 — had to let them
sit up: cancelled cup of
tea in bed — better to go
up & eat breakfast.
All dressed & haste —
boat docked approx 7.30 am.:
ate plain breakfast (1/2
each) — cereal & fruit juice,
plenty of toast, jam,
coffee.
Packed bags on board —
all walked to Rotter's where
Bo was to get hair-wash:
Boys & I collected car —
running beautifully —
did some messages —
day fine, dry & lovely.
Bo off for home alt:



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 Christopher E. Brennan