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Disclaimer: This document was written in the 1930s and concerns memories of 1930s life; as such there may be opinions expressed or words used that do not meet today's norms and expectations.

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## My Kind of Thirties

### FOREWORD

The keeping of diaries is an occupation fraught with problems. Should the diary be confined to a simple record of personal events, at the risk of producing trivial and consequently boring narrative? Should the diarist endeavor to suppress the personal element, seeking rather to express his views on the contemporary social and political environment, and thereby risk subsequent judgment of his opinions as being unfounded and misguided? Or should he attempt a mixture of these two approaches, only to be confronted with the difficulty of maintain a credible balance between them, for there is often little or no relation between most people's daily experiences and public events. As these diaries follow the first of these alternatives, they must therefore be prefaced by the warning that a reader may find them both trivial and boring.

However, even the insignificant may become interesting, and the trifling, important, merely by the passage of time, and it is in this hope only that I have put these notes into readable form. Distance, it is said, lends enchantment to the view, and to look back on life as it was (for me) fifty and more years ago may have it own fascination. Nostalgia, nevertheless, is a deceptive sentiment, and is not to be indulged for its own sake. Living is for the present only.

The years between 1931 (the beginning of the Great Depression) and 1939 (the outbreak of the Second World War) were filled with tension, anxiety, poverty and distress, but the human spirit was not quenched. I was greatly privileged to be a student at Glasgow University within that period and, further,

through the medium of the Students International Club. This club, under the amiable and wise direction of its resident Superintendents, Mr and Mrs Appadurai Aaron, from South India, was a home from home for these students, as indeed it was for me, although my own home was so close at hand. I remember it with gratitude and affection.

Glasgow  
May 1984

\* 1935

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Tuesday, 1st January. 1 a.m.--First Footing. Ansari--"Sick as a dog." 4 a.m.--Bed at last. What a night! Recovering until midday. 2-5p.m. seeing "Are you a Mason" at Playhouse Cinema. 7-9 pm. Kelvin Hall Carnival. 10-11 p.m.--International Club.

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Saturday, 12th January. Busy morning in office. Fine dry and frosty day. Met Molly at 5.30 p.m. Had tea in Craig's then went to see "Treasure Island" which we greatly enjoyed. Afterwards walked about town and had a look at several Print Shops.

Coffee in the Royal (Spanish Room) then Molly got 10.30 p.m. train to Lenzie. Invitation to Lenzie on Saturday.

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Friday, 18th January. At Court this morning with Mr. Boyle who was getting the worst of it in a Debate in the case of Malone v Currie. Took lunch in town, then went out to Bishopbriggs to spy out the land for tomorrow (Charities Day). After tea, went to University to get my collecting can, thereafter to Club. At 11 p.m. left with mother and father for Students' Midnight Matinee in Regal Cinema. Met Club boys there and saw "Radio Parade of 1935." Almost 3 a.m. when got to bed.

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Friday, 25th January. A day of wind and snow. Went to Hamilton Sheriff Court at 10 a.m. Snowing heavily. Back in office, not much to do in afternoon. Mr. Boyle in Edinburgh on business. Met Jim Hutton after tea and went with him to see "Give her a Ring" and a very good Silly Symphony--"The Caterpillar and the Ants".

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Wednesday, 30th January. Very disagreeable weather. Went to Barlinnie Prison in afternoon to see some clients (criminals in custody). At night could not get down to work, and went to see "Hips, Hips, Hooray!" (Wheeler and Woolsey) and "Merry Wives of Reno", which I found very funny. Managed to do some work after getting home.

Friday, 1st February. Very wet day. Busy in Court all morning. Conducted a short discussion before Sheriff Bartholomew. Had a very busy afternoon, too, collecting Bail money for another Barlinnie prisoner and getting him released. At night went to see "Dirty Work" (Ralph Lynn) and had a good laugh. Jim Hutton went with me.

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Thursday, 14th February. In Court for Proof again today. We (that is, Mr. Boyle) are making quite a good impression on the Sheriff so far. There was some amusement in Court due to the rather ridiculous answers of one of the witnesses. I left Court in time to get to University at 4 p.m. for Civil Law exam. Found it very hard going as I had not sufficiently studied some of the topics on which questions were set. To get some relief from pressures of the day I went at night to see "The Count of Monte Cristo", and thought it very good.

Saturday, 16th February. Miserable weather again today. Went to Baillie's Institute Library in afternoon and did some work there. Harry Rae was also in the Library and I had tea with him in La Scala. In evening went to Club and chaired the meeting. The speaker was a Mr. Weir ("Ochiltree" of "The Evening Times") and his subject was "Newspaper Production". I didn't think he spoke very well, but he seemed a very affable man. He wants me to ring him any time I like!

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Tuesday, 19th February. A fine day at last, with bright sunshine. No Court this morning, so had a comparatively easy time. Having no University Class, went at 3.45 to see "We Live Again", the film of Tolstoy's "Resurrection" at The Picture House.

Studying again in evening and writing out a recent composition (Waltz) to send to Denmark!

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Wednesday, 27th February. Confined to bed again. Got up in the evening, and, whether wisely or not, went to the Picture House and saw Zasu Pitts in "Sing and Like It." Made me laugh a lot, for which I was very grateful.

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Friday, 15th March. Stayed off work and spent the morning studying in Mitchell Library. Civil Law exam from 2-5 p,m. Thought the paper pretty stiff, but feel I have made a good attempt. Off the chair at night, and went to see Greta Garbo in "Queen Christina" which I found rather disappointing. Wishing Molly was home again.

Monday, 18th March. In Court this morning and fairly busy. Phoned Mr. Wotherspoon and found he was confined to the house. Met Jim Hutton, and went

with him to see "Cynara" in Hillhead Cinema at night. Rather good. He came home with me and we played Bridge till midnight. Bought "Scotland in Eclipse" today.

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Wednesday, 20th March. After a morning in Court went to Woodside Baths at 2.15

p.m. and had first swim this year. Then went to Renfrew and spent 3 hours from 4.15 interviewing a number of witnesses. Back in Glasgow at 8 p.m. and went to see "Evergreen" and "Soul of a Nation" without having anything to eat first.

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Tuesday, 26th March. Pretty tired this morning and took things easy during day. In afternoon saw "The Battle," a very fine Russian film. At night stayed in to work at Civil Law in preparation for oral exam on Thursday.

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Thursday, 4th April. Weather very cold but bright. Not much to do in office. Went to "Ochiltree's" office in afternoon as arranged and had pleasant conversation with him. After tea met Jean Mackie and went with her to see "Sequoia", a very fine nature film, which we both enjoyed. After seeing her home (to Knightswood) called on Terry, but found her feeling very miserable as Hamilton is still unwell in Denny and she complains that none of "the gang" have been to see her recently. Hope she felt better after my visit.

Friday, 5th April. Still slack in office. In afternoon had an interview with Hugh Alexander about my getting in to McGrigor Donald & Co. He tried to speak to Mr. Ramsay Gemmill of that firm by 'phone but was unable to contact him. At night went to Paramount Cinema with Jim Hutton. Then we went to Unity Club and met two lady members there with whom we chatted till after 1 a.m. They lived in Scotstoun and after walking home with them and back to town it was 3 a.m. when I got to bed.

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Friday, 19th April. Another early start today. All went very well in office. Interviewed a number of clients on Mr Boyle's behalf,--and seemed to satisfy them.

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Received parting gifts from girls in office, a silk handkerchief from Ella and a tie from Betty. Reciprocated

with cigarette case and handkerchiefs respectively. Saw them off regretfully by train on their way to Rothesay, then met Mr. Weir and saw an awful picture with him--"Strictly Confidential." Got home for first time today at 10.30 p.m.

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Tuesday, 30th April. Another fine day. Met Hugh Alexander and went with him in morning to see Mr Gemmill of McGrigor Donald & Co. at their office in St. Vincent Street. It was arranged that I should become apprenticed to that firm and I am to start there tomorrow morning. Very pleased. In the afternoon saw "Are We Civilised?", a film which left the answer in no doubt. Stayed at home quietly in evening as feeling rather tired and must be ready for tomorrow.

Thursday, 2nd May. Second day in the office, and feeling a little more confident. had my first opportunity to do something directly for Mr. Buchanan. At night went to see Jim Hutton and we went to the Leica Exhibition of photographs in the Maclellan Galleries. After that we saw "365 Nights in Hollywood", and "Love Time" (a story of Schubert's life) in La Scala.

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Monday, 13th May. After a bright start, weather became dull and cold. Met Ella in St. Vincent Street at 5.30 pm. and arranged to see her at 9 p.m. After tea played tennis with Jim Hutton and then went to Picture House Cafe and met Ella who had been seeing the film there. Saw her off by train to Hamilton at 10.30 p.m. Heavyrain this evening.

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Saturday 25th May. 'Phoned Mr. Wotherspoon and arranged to see them on Tuesday. In afternoon went with mother to Regal Cinema and saw "The Old Curiosity Shop"-- an excellent picture. Weather really beautiful today. Sat in Kelvingrove Park reading for an hour after tea and then went to Club where the lady members put on a very enjoyable entertainment.

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Saturday, 1st June. Long morning in office. Found that Indenture was invalid because it had been signed before being stamped instead of after! What a damned nuisance. In afternoon went to see Tom Walls and Ralph Lynn in "A Cup of Kindness". At 6 p.m. left for Cartha Tennis Club where played with Ian McPherson. Very good game. Afterwards, Bridge in Club house then home at 11.50 p.m.

p.69

Monday, 15th July. Holiday today. Rose about dinner time. In afternoon went with mother to Paramount and saw "Ten Minute Alibi", which I thought very good. After ten went to Club and accompanied some of the boys to "Half Past Eight" show at King's Theatre, which did not think much good.

Friday, 19th July [staying with grandparents, Park Road, while parents on holiday] Had lunch at Park Road, which is my temporary abode now. Weather very bad at night. Went with Aunt Kate to Gem Cinema and saw "Unfinished Symphony", a film of Schubert's life, which

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contained some very fine singing, as would be expected.

Saturday, 20th July. Quiet morning in office. Left at 1 p.m. with Hugh Alexander to play golf but, as it was so windy, went with him instead to see "West of [El Pecos?]." After tea at Newlands, the wind having abated a little, we played golf at Whitecraigs and managed to have quite a good game.

Tuesday, 23rd July. Fine weather today but little to do in office, so feeling a bit fed up. Letter from Portpatrick. Met Molly at 7 p.m. and went to see "The Mighty Barnum" at Paramount. Said a fond goodbye after coffee in the Ceylon. Called on Jim Hutton who has just returned after week end holiday and collected pocket book and lighter which I had left in his flat.

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Saturday, 3rd August. A warm day and it felt rather oppressive after my week at the seaside. Met Molly at 6.30 p.m. and went to the Paramount Cinema where

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we enjoyed a Walls-Lynn farce, "Fighting Stock". After I saw Molly off on train, discovered that I had left my coat in the carriage!

Saturday, 10th August. Went this morning to office of John Steuart \* Gillies in West George Street, agents to Bell Bursaries, and made copies of some previous exam papers. 'Phoned Mr. Wotherspoon and found that Molly had gone to Hawick. In afternoon saw "Anne of Green Gables", a good picture. At night stayed at home and listened to First Promenade concert on wireless--Paderewski played Polish Fantasia Concerto.

p.73

Saturday, 17th August. Weather very sultry. Spent afternoon at Club, and then met Molly in town at 6 p.m. Tried to get into Regal to see "David Copperfield" but "House Full". Went to La Scala instead and saw "Bride of Frankenstein" which was pretty poor. Had coffee afterwards, and a pleasant talk in Miss Buick's Restaurant and Molly got the 11 p.m. bus home. Gave her the present of a watch-lighter tonight.

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Thursday, 22nd August. Quite busy day in office. Met Molly at 6.30 p.m. at Regal Cinema and saw "David Copperfield" which we enjoyed very much. Had coffee in Regal Cafe, and a walk in town afterwards. A beautiful warm night. Molly wearing a sleeveless frock, no coat. Saw her off at Station, going on train myself as far as Cowlairs. This was our last night out for a while as she returns to Denmark soon.

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Wednesday, 28th August. Dull day in office. At night met Jim Hutton and we went to La Scala to see "West Point of the Air." Then to Unity Club where we had coffee and played Ping-Pong till 11.30 p.m. I wish Milly were in Denmark. It is a case of so near and yet so far just now.

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Saturday, 31st August. Cheered up by a letter from Molly this morning enclosing negative of a photograph of herself--which I took to Jerome's to have coloured print made. In afternoon went with mother to Paramount Cinema and saw "The Scarlet Pimpernel." At night called on Terry and Hamilton and played Bridge till 1.30 a.m.

Tuesday, 3rd September. Cold worse today. And weather still poor. Called in on Harley Cunningham this morning and walked into town with him. Went to Mitchell Library at night with intention of working but, after a short time, went to King's Cinema--and saw a good Polish film--"Young Loce."

Wednesday, 4th September. Passed the day busily enough, and, at 5.30 pm, walked home in the company of George Roxburgh from the office. After tea went with mother to Gem Cinema and saw a fine picture--"The Old Fashioned Way" (W.C. Fields). Afterwards wrote letters to Molly and Mr. and Mrs. Wotherspoon.

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Friday, 6th September. met Jim Hutton at 8 p.m., and went with him to La Scala where saw Seymour Hicks in "Mr. What's his Name." Afterwards to Unity Club--and home about midnight. I really must settle down to work again. Exam only two weeks from today.



Monday, 9th September. A bright but cold day. Mr. Webb on holiday, which allowed me to move a peg up in office, but had a quiet day. Felt rather dull and in hope of being cheered up, went to Gem Cinema after tea but had to endure two third- rate films. Wrote a postcard to Molly explaining reason for delay in returning negative.

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Saturday, 14th September. Spent morning in office drawing up Minutes of Meeting of Trustees. In afternoon met Jim Hutton and went to see "Baboona" and "Life Begins at Forty". To the Club at night and then to 9 Belmont Street (Mrs Reid's). Terry, Margaret (Kppels) and [Chan?] there, and we played Bridge. Home about 1 a.m.

Thursday, 19th September. After a night of very heavy rain, more rain throughout the day. Did not

p.79

feel inclined to work at night, so went to see "It's a Gift"--W.C. Fields--at Gem Cinema. Very disappointing.

Tuesday, 1st October. A fine crisp day for

p.80

a new month. Returned to work as usual and put in a not uninteresting day in the office. At night went to Savoy Cinema and saw "Les Miserables" which was really excellent. There was also a passable Variety Show and a film of the Max Bear v Joe [?] fight, plus a Walt Disney cartoon. A very enjoyable programme.

Thursday, 3rd October. Bad weather continues. Passed the day busily enough in office. At night Jim Hutton called and we went to Regal Cinema and saw "Reckless", which was reasonably good. Heard today that Italy and Abyssinia are now at war.

Wrote to Molly and got to bed before midnight.

Saturday, 5th October. Spent most of the evening paying Class Enrolment Fees at University. Met a newly arrived foreign student there, Karum Chaud (Indian) who is here to study Law. Had coffee with him in Copland's. In afternoon went with Tun and Ansari to see "Kid Millions" and at night to Club where met George Kirk, just back from France and had long conversation with him.

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Thursday, 8th October. First attendance at Courts [?] Law Class-8.30 a.m. Saw a goodly number of "Ken't faces" there. Professor Dewar Gibb's manner of lecturing seemed reasonable. To office when Class finished at 930 but not much doing there. At night went to Gem Cinema and saw, "Girl in Pawn" and "Lady of the Boulevards." Reading interesting book on Jurisprudence--"The Science of Law" by Sheldon Amos-- borrowed from Library.

Thursday, 10th October. Bad weather again today. At night met Jim Hutton and went with him to Picture House to see "Bulldog Jack". Home at 9.30 p.m. to study the day's lectures, which I find very interesting. I am pleased to be studying Law. Wish I could get more text books but they are so expensive.

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Saturday, 19th October. A very welcome letter from Molly today. Went in afternoon to see "Roberta," a film consisting for, the most part of fashion parades, singing and dancing. At 7.30 pm. went to a Party at 9 Belmont Street, (Mrs. Reid's) and had a jolly time till 3 a.m.

Saturday, 26th October. In afternoon went to Cranston's Cinema and saw "Prix de Carottes" a French [?] analytic film. At night, to Club where there was an interesting discussion session in progress. I feel that this is going to be a fairly active and perhaps prosperous season for the Club. Afterwards, called at 9 Belmont Street and found most of the regulars there, except Hamilton.

Tuesday, 29th October. Rain, rain, most of the day. This completes my first 1/2 year in McGrigor Donald & Co. Only 2 1/2 more to go! Did not feel like working tonight, so went to see "British Agent" which was fairly good. Later heard Lord Snowden's Election Address on wireless, and early to bed again. A night of gales and rain.

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Tuesday 12th November. Another uneventful day in office. Had been hoping for a letter from Molly, but nothing yet. After tea, could not reconcile myself to work so went to Gem Cinema, returning home at 9 p.m. to find house filled with Aunts and grandmother (McIver) busily engaged in a "Sewing Circle". More talk than sewing, it seemed to me. So I retired to get on with some Scots Law.

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Thursday, 14th November. An unusually busy day in office. Did not feel like going home at lunch time, so went to Craig's in Gordon Street. At night went with Jim Hutton to Paramount and saw "Crusade," a very spectacular film. In the Cafe afterwards met my cousin Doreen and a friend of hers and had a nice chat with them.

Monday, 18th November. Meal Monday--so no classes. (Fortunately we don't have to bring our bag of meal to the University!) Went to King's Theatre at 4 p.m.--and saw "The Brothers Karamazov," a German film of Dostoevsky's novel. Very sombre but excellently acted. Perhaps just a little too much "Camera Art" in places. Stayed in at night to work, but concentration somewhat lacking.

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Saturday, 30th November. Miserable weather again today. In afternoon went to see "Dante's Inferno" at the Picture House and thought it very good. After tea, to Club where had an enjoyable evening, including a Party Games session. Later, called on Terry and Hamilton and played Bridge with them and Tun till 3 a.m. Walked home through a snowstorm.

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Wednesday, 4th December. Feeling rather tired this morning, not surprisingly. [previous entry, home at 2.30 am] Instead of going home for lunch, had a few biscuits and went to Cranston's Picture House for an hour. Saw part only of "Becky Sharp." Hungry in afternoon but managed to get a cup of tea in office, for the first time since I came there--over 7 months ago! What a contrast with Mr. Boyle's office where tea is always "on tap." Seems that only partners and [?] staff are supposed to qualify for tea here. Stayed home at night, played a little Bridge and read some of "Soldier's Pay."

Thursday, 5th December. Jim Hutton arrived at 6.30 p.m. and we went to Paramount to see "Private Lives" which was very good. Jim may be leaving for London soon to take up an appointment in the Bank of Scotland there. I shall miss him.

Friday, 6th December. Two letters this morning, one from Molly which I read with great pleasure, and the other from John Steuart & Gillies informing me that my [?ery] money would be paid next Thursday, which I read with deep and great satisfaction. Jim Hutton informed me today that he would be leaving on Sunday. At night went with Mother and Kate to Gem Cinema and saw "Gay Divorcee". Extremely cold night.

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Tuesday, 25th December. Molly 'phoned this afternoon and we arranged to meet and go dancng tonight. Then when I met her, looking prettier than ever, at 7 p.m it was a wet and stormy night and we decided to go to the pictures instead. So saw "Scrooge" at the Paramount Cinema and enjoyed it. A happy evening. Am to go to a Dance in Lenzie on Saturday.

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Thursday, 2nd January. Late of rising again today. Met Molly at 3 pm and we went to see a Ralph Lynn-Tom Walls comedy at the Picture House. Then went to Lenzie. Ansari arrived soon after and we had a late dinner followed by a game of Bridge till time for the last train.

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Tuesday, 7th January. Attended on Law of Forensic Medicine for first time today, and found it very interesting. Met Molly at 5.50 p.m. and took her to tea at home. Afterwards we went to the Regent Picture house and then she got the 10.55 p.m. train to Lenzie, on which I accompanied her as far as Bishopbriggs. Got home at 11.45 pm., having had a very happy time.

Friday, 10th January. A busy day in office. Wrote to Molly. At night went to see "The Informer" at Paramount Cinema and thought it the best film I had seen for a long time. Great acting by Victor McLaglan. Reading "World of Light," a play by Aldous Huxley.

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Friday, 17th January. Snow as well as frost today. Worked for a while in Library after tea, then went to see "Naughty Marietta" at the Kings. Family away to midnight matinee at Royal Cinema, but I chose not to go.

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Friday, 24th January. The thought of studying again tonight did not appeal, so went to see J.M. Barrie's "The Little Minister" which I found rather too sentimental.

Managed to do a little work afterwards.

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Wednesday, 29th January. After a busy day in office sat Jurisprudence exam from 4 to 5 pm. and found it not too bad. Met Mr. and Mrs. Wotherspoon in town at 5.30 p.m. and went to see Grace Moore in "One Night of Love" at the Regal Cinema. Home by 9 p.m. and doing some study.

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Friday, 14th February. Nice letter from Molly with Birthday greetings (present to follow). Also note from Customs that it had been held up! Being pretty tired and in need of cheering up after Scots Law exam today,--went to Regal Cinema at night and saw "She Married her Boss" and a delightful Silly Symphony "Who Killed Cock Robin"

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Wed. 26th Feb. Saw film "Der träumende Mund" (Elisabeth Bergner) Fri. 6th March. Saw "The Ghost Goes West", an amusing film.

Thurs.19th March. Forensic Medicine Exam. Saw film of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Regal. At night went with mother to visit Mr. and Mrs. Boyle.

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Monday, 23rd March. Considerably [?] after 11 hours sleep, and off to office in beautiful weather. Had to do some work at night in anticipation of Oral exam tomorrow but managed to fit in a visit to the Cinema.

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Thursday, 2nd April. Mild and dry again. Learned that I had passed in all three Exams and am duly gratified. At night went to Regal Cinema and saw "Dr. Socrates" which was slick enough, at any rate. Feeling Molly's absence very much just now.

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Friday, 10th April Good Friday, but office as usual. At night went with mother to see Laurel and Hardy in "Bonnie Scotland", which we found very funny. Toots, our cat, is giving trouble with his nocturnal excursions.

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Wednesday, 22nd April. Feeling in a rather peevish frame of mind, which does not please me,

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or others, I presume. At night went to see a French film ["Unions"?] at King's Cinema. Good, but rather gloomy. Not what I needed.

p.112

Tuesday, 5th May. Not feeling too bright today after last night's exertions. Went to Gem Cinema at night and found time afterwards to read a few lectures. Had a letter from Molly today, also a phone call from Jim Hutton announcing that he was now back in Glasgow.

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Thursday, 7th May. Phoned Jim Hutton and arranged for him to come for tea tonight. After tea we went to "Theatre Royal" but found we could not get in, so went to King's Cinema and saw "Escapade".

Afterwards played Bridge at Unity Club until

12.30 a.m.

Thursday, 14th May. Rather tired this morning. Saw Mrs. Reid off by train at 10

a.m. on her way to Germany. At night saw Elisabeth Bergner in "Escape Me Never" at the Gem Cinema and thought it a very fine picture. Managed to get to bed at reasonable time tonight.

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Saturday, 23rd May. Lovely weather today, but after busy morning in office, went to the Picture House, and saw "Captain Blood", a racy sea tale. At night went up to the Club but did not stay long and was home by 10 p.m. Reading some of James Bridie's Plays.

Thursday, 28th May. Busy day in office. At night got bored and so went to Gem Cinema (bad habit this!) but coming out met a Miss Scott, formerly of Woodside School, and walked home with her. Long conversation on phone with Mr Wotherspoon. Molly due home in a few days.

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Saturday, 6th June. Went to Westerlands in afternoon, paid entry fee of £1:5/- and became a Club Member. Took part in an "American Tournament" after which

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I had to time to rush off and meet Molly in town at 6.45 p.m. Went with her to Cranston's Cinema and saw "Moscow Nights". A busy but satisfying day.

Friday, 12th June.

Very bad weather. At night called on Jim Hutton and, tennis being out of the question, we went to King's Cinema and saw "The Last Days of Pompeii," very spectacular. Supper thereafter at my house.

[trip to Iona in June and July]

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Friday, 17th July. A dull, showery day. Not a good start to the Glasgow Fair holiday which starts tonight. At night Jim Hutton came for tea and then we went to the Regal Cinema, but were bored. Returned for supper at [8?] p.m. followed by a short game of Bridge.

Saturday, 18th July. Raining off and on all day. In afternoon went with Mum and Dad to see "Follow the Fleet." Spent evening at the Club until 10 p.m. then John Marra and I called on Hamilton and Terry and played Bridge till 2 a.m.

Wednesday, 22nd July. A dull but dry day. Very busy in office, not getting away till

6.5 p.m. After tea felt too tired to study, so went to Gem and saw "Drake," the usual "For God and England" kind of stuff. Wrote to Molly at Ardnishaig.

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Tuesday, 1st September. After a very busy day in office, again felt disinclined to work at night and went to Gem Cinema to see "Crime and Punishment" which though very good.

Thursday, 3rd September. Raining all day. At 6.45 p.m. met Molly fresh from new teaching experiences. Went to New Savoy and saw a very good picture--"The Petrified Forest". Coffee thereafter and hearing all about School. Then to Station for 11 p.m. train. A very pleasant evening.

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Thursday, 17th September. Working in Library, from 10 a.m. till 12.30 p.m. and from 2 to 6 p.m. Went back there after tea but decided to give up at 8 p.m. and went to Gem Cinema with Oliver Ashford.

Saturday, 19th September. Worked steadily from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. then met Molly in town at 7 p.m. She is quite better now, and looking fine. She gave me a bunch of white heather for luck at the exams. We went to the Playhouse and saw "Brides are like that," quite a good picture. An enjoyable evening.

Monday, 21st September. Exam in Constitutional Law from 9-12 noon. Found the paper fairly good, on the whole. In afternoon saw "Rhodes of Africa" at La Scala, and at night did a little work at Library for

Wednesday's exam.

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Wednesday, 23rd September. Broke a tooth accidentally this morning, and had to go to Dentist, which rather disrupted my last minute studies. Public International Law Exam from 2-5 pm. Found it much to my liking. Met Molly at night and saw a really funny picture--the Marx Brothers in "A Night at the Opera."

Thursday, 24th. September. Back to office routine this morning, feeling much relieved that exams are behind me. Met Jim Hutton at 6 pm. and went to see "Mr Deeds Comes to Town", a very good picture. He came home with me for supper and a game of Bridge.

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Wednesday, 30th September. First cold day. Met Molly at 7 p.m.--wearing a black fox fur and looking rather stunning. Went to Cranston's Cinema and saw "Wife and Secretary," but parting at Station afterwards is always a wrench.

Monday, 5th October. After busy day in office met Molly at 7 p.m. and went to see a very fine picture--"Fury", with Paul Muni. Really enjoyed our time together this evening--except for its brevity.

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Saturday, 10th October. The fine weather of the last two weeks continues. In afternoon could find no one about so went to the Pictures. To Club at night then to Belmont Street to see Terry, Hamilton and others. Hamilton suffering from earache. Played Bridge, and got home at 1 a.m.

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Friday, 16th October. At night Jim Hutton called and we went to see "Suicide Club" at La Scala. Then to his digs for supper, getting home about midnight. I dream of getting to bed quietly some night about 10 p.m.-but seems unlikely.

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Wednesday, 21st October. After a busy day at Classes and office, decided to seek some light relief, so went to Gem Cinema, where saw the usual C3 programme. Did an hour's work thereafter. Am finding Conveyancing fair tolerably palatable so far.

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Wednesday, 4th November. At lunch time went from office to attend an Extraordinary General Meeting at the Union. No lunch. Met Molly at 6 pm. No tea! Saw "Mary of Scotland" at Regal Cinema--No good. Had nice chat afterwards over a cup of tea and biscuits which I really needed.

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Tuesday, 10th November. Very busy in office preparing for Martinmas Term day (tomorrow). Met Jim Hutton at night and went with him to Savoy Cinema but saw nothing worth mention. He came home with me for supper.

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Saturday, 21st November. In afternoon went with Jim Hutton to see "Piccadilly Jim" at La Scala. At night attended Scottish National Night at the Club which went very well. Phoned Molly and arranged to meet her on Monday. Finished night with visit to Terry and Hamilton--and got home wearily at midnight, after a very full and enjoyable day.

Monday, 23rd November. A very cold and foggy day. Met Molly in town at 6.30

p.m. and was very glad to see her again. Went to La Scala and saw "One Rainy Afternoon". Then tea in Orchid Restaurant and to Station for 11 p.m. train, and a fond farewell.

Thursday, 26th November. At night went to a special Film Show at the Union organised by the Saltire Society. Saw two Art School films--"Hell Unlimited" and "Colour Cocktail" and the Russian film--"Mother" by Pudovkin. All pretty heavy going. Home in reasonable time.

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Saturday, 5th December. Snowed most of the day. The King's Marriage dilemma has set everyone and everything in a turmoil this week. How will it all end? Met Molly at night, in spite of the snow, and went to Pictures. Saw her off at Station happy in the knowledge that I am to see her again tomorrow.

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Monday, 21st December. Feeling at loose end this evening so went over to Gem Cinema, and saw some third rate picture. Afterwards, did some study at home, but not as much as I would have liked.

Saturday, 26th December. Went to office this morning only to find it closed, as I had half expected. After a walk around town, went up to Club. In afternoon went to see "Louis Pasteur," a fine picture. At 5 p.m.

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Aunt Peggy and Cyril called and stayed till 8 p.m. I always enjoy conversations with them. They then ran me up to the Club in their car and left me there. Met Oliver Ashford in the Club and had supper with him in town. Home about 11 p.m. Further discussion with mother about myself and Molly.

Monday, 28th December. Pretty ill at ease today--and finding it difficult to compose myself. [27th phone conversation with Molly, to meet to discuss future 29th] At night went to Regent Cinema by myself and saw a picture called "Suzy." Walked home and met about half a dozen people I knew on the way.