TONNY and ANNIE CALDERWOOD'S DIARY
January 1 to June 4, 1959

transcribed by Elizabeth MacLean

Jan. 1, Thursday	*Tonny*: Cloudy - 18° above. Chored and delivered milk downtown run. Jane stayed down with us last night – went up to Burgess' when I went with milk. Pumped water this P.M. We had roast fowl for dinner. Up to Burgess' tonight. Alta had her annual Christmas tree party. Prudy and I visited with Milton Ames.
Jan. 2, Friday	*Tonny*: 2 cross chains and putting on $1.10 pd. Snowing – 32 above changing to rain this P.M. Nan went on milk route with me. Had chains put on at Brown's. Snow and rain most of day. We went up to Bill and June's to supper. Owen and Mary Grant there. We had a very nice time. Cow medicine from Dr. Abbott $2.25.
Jan. 3, Saturday	*Tonny*: 28° clear and windy – thawing. Nan delivered milk. I chored, pumped water and then had Bill Hopkins coming down to help me take Stimpson's Island cow and Alice cow over to Tumbledown barn and bring the Button's cow's heifer and Stimpson Island cow's heifer back here. Towed them behind the tractor. Pat and Mike came up about 5:00 P.M. to spent the night.
Jan. 4, Sunday	*Tonny*: Still warm and thawing. Mike and I delivered milk. Rested fifteen minutes this P.M. before I started chores at Tumbledown. Took Pat and Mike up to ferry about 10:00. Visited at Burgess' about an hour.
Jan. 5, Monday	*Tonny*: 10 above this morning, coming colder all day. Delivered milk. Nan stayed home and mended. Did chores at other barn on way home. Pumped water. Down to zero at dark with strong N.W. wind. Blew hard all evening. Down to six below at 11:00 P.M.
Jan. 6, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Four below this morning. Still blowing hard. We both went on milk route. Did chores at other barn and here. Down to four below tonight about 7:00 – going back to 2° above by eleven.
Jan. 7, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Two above this morning. Sun shining which helps some. Couldn't thaw out pipe into cistern with my torch so the cows weren't watered until I came back from milk. Had Bill Hurd come down with his big torch to thaw the pipe. Pumped water and chored.
Jan. 8, Thursday	*Tonny*: 4° above. Light N.W. breeze. Sun shining. Nan went on milk with me. Stopped at Burgess' long enough for Nan to look at Alta's presents. Split a little wood before starting night chores.
Jan. 9, Friday	*Tonny*: 12° above. Westerly breeze. Cloudy. Nan went on milk route with me. Pumped water after I came home. Over to other barn to do chores. Called on the Grumpy's a half-hour or so when we went over after potatoes.
Jan. 10, Saturday	*Tonny*: 12° above, sun shining. Westerly breeze. Nan went with me on milk route. We had coffee at Burgess'. Did chores on way home.

Jan. 11, Sunday	*Tonny*: 6° above, light westerly breeze. Nan went on milk route with me. Pumped water when we got home. Rested a 1/2 hr. and then did chores at other barn. While I was doing my milking chores we were invited up to the Beveridge's to a Sunday night snack. Had a very nice time even though we had to thrash to get there.
Jan. 12, Monday	*Tonny*: Owe Shorty [for] trucking stove 2.00. 24° above and sunny. Westerly breeze. Nan went with me on milk route. Had Shorty haul a Franklin stove for me from Don Witherspoon's. Sawed up most of the big wood left in the dooryard. McCulloch ran out of gas.
Jan. 13, Tuesday	*Tonny*: 30° above – calm and snowing, stopping about 9:00 A.M. Nan delivered milk. I pumped water, watered up and cleaned the discard hay out of the barn floor. Split on wood pile what time I had. Chored.
Jan. 14, Wednesday	*Tonny*: 17° above. Calm and sunny. Very nice day. Nan delivered milk. I chored, split wood and kept fire going to keep wash water hot. Nan washed after she got home. I just about finished the splitting. Pat went to Rockland from V.H. Took her cat over to Abbott's – Dr. Abbott that is.
Jan. 15, Thursday	*Tonny*: 22° above. Cloudy – spitting snow. N.E. breeze. Changed to freezing rain. Nan stayed home. I delivered milk. Stopped at Brown's to see if Pat could make the car door latch and he found two springs broken. Was late getting home. Had to do Tumbledown chores by flashlight after pumping water here. Very slippery and wet tonight.
Jan. 16, Friday	*Tonny*: Just freezing and a glare of ice. Had quite a struggle getting from the barn twice with two pails of milk each trip. No school anywhere in this area. Bill Hopkins showed up here just after breakfast about a letter he had from R.M. [Robert Montgomery] Rained all day. Very slippery delivery milk. Did Tumbledown chores on our way home. Rain and fog taking most of the snow and ice.
Jan. 17, Saturday	*Tonny*: Used Julia Bull on Button's heifer's heifer. 28° above. Snow squalls, mostly bare ground now. Nan delivered the milk. I pumped and watered up. Then started cleaning up the papers and letters on my desk getting ready to do income tax work.
Jan. 18, Sunday	*Tonny*: 14° above. Very nice day. Nan went on milk with me. Pat and Mike came up at three P.M. Had supper with us.
Jan. 19, Monday	*Tonny*: Pretty morning but cool. 10° above. Nan delivered milk and visited at Burgess' this P.M. I chored and worked at desk. Julia Beverage passed away suddenly at 8:00 tonight, evidently heart trouble. S.W. snowstorm tonight. Quite tough for a little while.
Jan. 20, Tuesday	*Tonny*: 26° above. Nice day – mild. We delivered milk around the island run. Worked at my desk what time I had.
Jan. 21, Wednesday	*Tonny*: 28° above and snowing. Practically no wind, but N.E. what air there is. Has changed to rain. Very slushy. Put chains on before going with milk. Pumped water. Rained and blew hard all night.

Feb. 13, Friday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan went on milk route with me. Worked on income tax papers what time I had.
Feb. 14, Saturday	*Tonny*: Lovely Day. Chored. Nan went on milk route so I could work on my income papers. Pumped water late this P.M. Made a run to town after doing Tumbledown chores.
Feb. 15, Sunday	*Tonny*: About 28° this morning. About 8 inches of snow during night. Nan went on milk route with me. Did Tumbledown chores on way home. Made first copies of income tax papers what time I had this P.M. Bill Hopkins down this evening with finished copies of sales agreement about Uncle Teed's place. Stayed late enough to take my finished income papers back with him to mail.
Feb. 16, Monday	*Tonny*: 6° above. Calm and sunny, but clouding up. blew hard S.W. this P.M. Nan washed. I delivered milk. Worked on Ern's wages account this P.M.
Feb. 17, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Chored and delivered milk. Nan went with me. Hiram came home from Mass. today. Called me on the phone tonight. Says he is feeling pretty good.
Feb. 18, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Nice this morning, about 30°. Rain this P.M. Light snow tonight. Nan went on milk with me. Visited Hiram on our way home. Pumped this P.M.
Feb. 19, Thursday	*Tonny*: 20° above. Overcast. Barometer at 29. Light snow last night. Delivered milk. Nan went with me. Stopped at Ern's on way home to help him with his S.S. papers. Growing cold tonight.
Feb. 20, Friday	*Tonny*: 4° below – Wind W. and clear. Nan went on milk route with me. When we stopped at Tumbledown on our way out with milk to feed up we found that the Stimpson's Island cow had calved in the tie-up and the calf was still living in the gutter. Pretty cold. Got them into the colt pen and the cow started cleaning him up. He was pretty cold. When we came back so I made him a blanket and got him to suck some. Pumped water. Was nine o'clock when I got through chores and still didn't get cows watered as my torch wouldn't go to thaw out water pipe out of cistern.
Feb. 21, Saturday	*Tonny*: 2° above when I was up at 3 o'clock to replenish the fires and thaw out the water pipe under the sink. It had just caught. Really frozen across to Stimpson's today. Didn't break out all day from eastern end of Stimpson's to off of Bull Rock. Nan went on milk route with me. Milked out the Stimpson Island cow. Calf appears okay now – a bull of course. About all the time I have is to chore.
Feb. 22, Sunday	*Tonny*: 2° above again this morning. Man, what a steady cold winter. Can't see any water looking out of kitchen window. Nan went on milk route with me. Came right home to pump water. Didn't get discharge pipe quite thawed before started pump so blew safety plug. Had to go up to Bill Hurd's to get a new safety valve. Finally got chores done in the time to get up to the Beveridge's to supper at 8:00. Had a nice time. 2° above when we came home.
Feb. 23, Monday	*Tonny*: 8° above. Chored and delivered milk.

Feb. 24, Tuesday	*Tonny*: 16° above and overcast some. Nan went on milk route with me. She washed when we got home. I pumped water. Had several cross chains put in at Wayside on way home.
Feb. 25, Wednesday	*Tonny*: 10° above and clear, warmed up some this P.M. Nan went on milk route with me. Had coffee at Bill Hopkins. Chored.
Feb. 26, Thursday	*Tonny*: 10° above. Clear and calm. Warmed up nicely this P.M. Nan took the milk while I had Elliott Brown haul the Stimpson Island cow and calf home from Tumbledown and take the two red heifers over there from here. Cleaned out the colt pen after bringing home the Stimpson Island cow.
Feb. 27, Friday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan took the milk. I chored here and then worked at Tumbledown. Cleaned out back of the cows, and cleaned out the sheep troughs and put them in place about graining sheep. Nan came home with word that Nan, George Beverage's wife, had dropped dead this forenoon. She was only 53.
Feb. 28, Saturday	*Tonny*: Nice day and warm. Nan took milk. I chored, pumped water, and wrote letters. One to Abbie and one to Mr. Fay. Also filled out Social Security papers pertaining to Ern Whitmore.
March 1, Sunday	*Tonny*: Nice Day. I delivered milk. Nan went with me. Pat and Mike were waiting to come home with us. Made ice cream this P.M. Took them uptown at 10:00 P.M.
March 2, Monday	*Tonny*: Up at 5:30. The nicest, warmest day we've had. Got our chores done in time to get to town meeting at 10:15. Same officials elected except Edwin Thayer as constable and traffic officer $2,400 salary. Ivaloo Patrick elected Town Clerk. Delivered our milk at noon hour.
March 3, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Snowed some during night. I delivered milk and went to Nan Beverage's funeral. Bearers were Owen and Lawrence Grant, Lloyd Whitmore, Frank Sampson, Dick Ball and Don Witherspoon. Pumped water after I came home.
March 4, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Heavy snowstorm this A.M. almost a blizzard at noon time. Started out about 2:00 P.M. with milk after storm let up. A good nine inches. Prudy and Sal down this evening.
March 5, Thursday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Had a lot of snow to contend with in people's driveways on milk route. Nan went with me. Black Nell calved this P.M. in colt pen. A big bull.
March 6, Friday	*Tonny*: Stormy. Snowed this A.M. changing to rain this P.M. Gale of wind tonight. Nan went on milk route with me. Took Black Nell and calf out of colt pen tonight and put Alice cow into colt pen. We were pretty well pooched by the time chores were finished tonight.
March 7, Saturday	*Tonny*: Nice day but nasty under foot. Nan went on milk route with me. Found a black and white bull calf with Alice cow when I went over to Tumbledown first trip. Milked her out a little tonight. Eliot and Dorothy down to have baked beans with us. Had a nice time.

March 8, Sunday *Tonny's birthday*	*Tonny*: 14° above – wind N.W. Nice day but cold. *Pat*: Today is my birthday. I had a cake with 13 candles. *Tonny*: Chored and delivered milk. Nan stayed home. Had cards on the milk route from Etta and Jennie, Colon and Phyllis Winslow and the Mardens. Pat and Mike up this P.M. and evening. Mike finished putting light in woodshed for me. Pat brought me up a nice birthday cake. They and Nan gave me a Propane gas torch. We had baked turkey for supper. Stopped at the Bill Hopkins a little while when we took the Bunkers to the ferry. 10° above at 12:00 tonight.
March 9, Monday	*Tonny*: 14° above. Looks like snow. Nan delivered milk. I pumped water and then started cutting dry stuff on spring ridge. Quite a little snow storm this P.M.
March 10, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan delivered milk. I chored and then started cutting dry stuff out in pasture above Butchering Place gate by birches. Flo Arey arrived about 10:15 to help me. We made quite a little pile.
March 11, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan delivered milk. I pumped water and chored. Worked on dry wood on spring ridge until Nan got home and was ready to wash.
March 12, Thursday	*Tonny*: Overcast making to snow. Nan went with milk. I stopped off at Tumbledown to do chores. Started to snow just as I started for home. A real tough one all afternoon. Had to put our chains on before going back to Tumbledown this P.M. Was putched [pooched] when I got our home chores done.
March 13, Friday	*Tonny*: Nice day but windy. N.W. and cold. Had a heck of a job getting shoveled out of our door yard. Took Marshall's milk in on snow shoes. Many dooryards not shoveled out.
March 14, Saturday	*Tonny*: 26° above. Westerly wind. Nan delivered milk. I went along with her to Tumbledown to do chores there. Walked back to school house spring and started cutting dry firs there. Nan brought Bob Sprague back with her to help me. McCulloch had broken down when they arrived. Had to use buck saw rest of time. Had to have Wayside bring down a battery before tractor would start. We finally got two trailer loads of wood home. Dalon arrived with his heifer to be bred just as we were dumping grain.
March 15, Sunday	*Tonny*: 16° above. Calm. Went on milk route with Nan. Pumped water when I came home.
March 16, Monday	*Tonny*: Nice Day. Wind S.W. this P.M. Went on milk route with Nan as I took McCulloch up to Foster Morrison's. Thought some thing was wrong with ignition but a spark plug fixed it up. Sawed up enough wood for tonight after we got home.
March 17, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Nice day but windy. Nan took milk. I pumped. Then sawed up the wood with McCulloch we hauled Saturday. Nan brought Bob Sprague with her when she came home. We split the wood. I'd sawed and then went over to Uncle Teed's to start brushing surveying line, lots of snow in the woods.
March 18, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Bob Sprague down. He pitched over top of manure pile while I chored. Then we finished trimming out surveying line to shore.

March 19, Thursday	[blank through March 21]
March 22, Sunday	*Tonny*: Cold, strong N.W. wind.
March 23, Monday	*Tonny*: 10° above.
March 24, Tuesday	[blank through March 28]
March 29, Wednesday	*Tonny*: 18° above. Stayed raw all day. Got chores done in time to go to church. Big crowd there and beautiful flowers. Also nice sermon. Delivered milk on way home. Visited at Marshall's a few minutes and at Eliot Beveridge's. He had just had the fire engines up there as a grass fire got away from him. Pumped water after we got home.
March 30, Thursday	*Tonny*: Raw sowester. Pat up today. She and Nan went on milk route. I finished trimming and hauled out a load of dry stuff from spring ridge and another load from abreast of Merryconeag.
March 31, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Nan delivered milk. I hauled in two loads of dry wood from ridge above butchering place gate. Put saw onto tractor and Flo and I sawed it this P.M.
April 1, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Hay came last night – 1 ton. Elliott Brown and Don Lang brought my hay down. Drove right up to the barn with it by going in by manure pile. Paid Lang $1.50. Flo and I worked in woods.
April 2, Thursday	*Annie*: Shipped Buttons and Violet this morning.
April 3, Friday	*Annie*: Hay came today. *Tonny*: I delivered milk and met Elliott Brown down town at 1:30. Loaded the hay and followed him home here. Transferred the hay from truck to trailer and hauled it to barn.
April 4, Saturday	*Annie*: Flo here. Worked in woods. Rain drove them. Got in about half a day. Clara and Garnet here this evening.
April 5, Sunday	*Annie*: Did chores and delivered milk. Visited at Burgesses an hour or so. *Tonny*: Paid Prudy for Red Panel Truck. *Annie*: June & Bill visited with us this evening.
April 6, Monday	*Annie*: Fair morning turning to a real rainstorm. Flo came down and they worked in woods until after dinner when the rain drove them. It let up a little in the late P.M. and they got in another hour in the wood *Tonny*: burning brush.
April 7, Tuesday	*Annie*: Beautiful day. Ton did chores. Checked the Montgomery line. Located Uncle Ted's bound. Surveyor came this P.M. and completed the survey.
April 8, Wednesday	*Annie*: Showery. Flo didn't come down. Ton worked in woods.
April 9, Thursday	*Tonny*: Foggy starting to rain in good shape about 9:00. Flo worked in woods until about 11:00. I delivered milk, then had the trunk repaired on the car and a grease job done.

April 10, Friday	*Tonny*: Up at 4:30. Did chores and Nan took me to the boat. Nice trip both ways. Didn't have time to do any shopping. Spent most of my time in Burrows and Robert's law offices and in the Depositor's Trust Co. Had a haircut and ordered a new Serta mattress at Meredith's Furniture.
April 11, Saturday	*Tonny*: Foggy almost raining all day. Flo came over from Grumpy's about 10:00 and we worked in the woods.
April 12, Sunday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan delivered milk. I chored, pumped over the top of the manure pile. Also repaired broken board in porch floor. We rested a couple hours this P.M. Up to Burgesses this evening. Went in Red Panel truck.
April 13, Monday	*Tonny*: Nice day. 28° above. Flo worked in woods all day. I worked this P.M. Nan washed before taking out milk. We shifted from abreast of Merryconeag to ridge above butchering place gate. I had to grind my double-bit before I went in to woods.
April 14, Tuesday	*Tonny*: 30° above. Flo down. We worked in woods. *Annie*: Pumped water. Worked in woods. Pat & Mike up.
April 15, Wednesday	*Tonny*: First Martin. Flo down. We worked in woods. Nan had permanent "Toni" at Bertha's this P.M. Went uptown after grain before doing any chores this morning. Rear end bearing or something going to the devil in the Panel truck. Frank S. brought Luther Glidden down this P.M. Ordered a second-hand rear mounted manure fork for Ford NAA.
April 16, Thursday	*Tonny*: Flo stayed over to Gregory's last night. Elliott Brown took up the old metal culvert beyond Stinkey's this morning and hauled it over to me. Flo and I dug up the old wooden one below the garage and put that one in this P.M. Bill Hopkins down this P.M. to look over Montgomery's bounds since we surveyed. Flo spent rest of his day in woods.
April 17, Friday	*Tonny*: Flo worked in woods until I finished chores. Nan delivered milk. Hauled two trailer loads of rotten rock, gravel from top of Apple Tree Hill (part of a load Geo. Beverage dumped there last summer when he had a flat tire). One to put over the culvert and one to put by barn gate. Nan down to V.H. to garden club this P.M.
April 18, Saturday	*Tonny*: Flo not down. I chored. Went with Nan on milk route. Pumped water. In woods and junked up nearly all the trees that Flo has been trimming out the last two days. Eleanor and Abbie came this P.M. Called on them a few minutes when we did sheep barn chores. Garnet and Clara down this evening to write out cemetery meeting notices.
April 19, Sunday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Nan delivered milk so I could make out milk tax report. Came to $2.29. Ordered a pair of high cuts (Lineman's shoes) and a pair of white sweater band flatties from Montgomery Ward's. Rested an hour or so this P.M. Don and Cynthia called about 8:00 and would have spent evening if we hadn't been going up to Sampson's to Frank's birthday party. Prudy and Sal, Harvey and Shirley, and Owen and Mary there.

April 20, Monday	*Tonny*: Overcast. Looks rainy. Flo down. He worked in woods this forenoon. I got in for about an hour before dinner. Then it rained so hard we didn't go back in. Took Flo home about four and did Tumbledown chores at same time.
April 21, Tuesday	*Tonny*: Nice day except wind being easterly. Road crew hauled a few loads of rotten rock, gravel onto Grumpy's road so I had them haul about ten loads onto this road from power house to barn. Spent what time I had spreading gravel and clearing out ditch. Pat came back with Nan from delivering milk. Don and Nancy Carlton were with her. They went home about 4:00 P.M.
April 22, Wednesday	*Tonny*: Nice morning. *Annie*: Dug in culvert and plowed an hour.
April 23, Thursday	*Tonny*: Nice day. Went to town with tractor and trailer to bring home load of grain and my pure bred Holstein calf from Frank Calderwood in Union.
April 24, Friday	*Tonny*: Took lamb and sheep pelts to Fgt. shed. Brot [sic] home load of shavings from Brown's.
April 25, Saturday	*Tonny*: Nan delivered milk. I shook out 150 bags and tied them up in 4 bundles, 2 to Newcastle Grain and 2 to Rankin Grain Co. Val came up to visit this P.M. He went to town with me when I took the bags to the fgt. shed and brought home to Tumbledown a 1/2 ton load of hay on the trailer.
April 26, Sunday	*Tonny*: Overcast. Rain spatters. Ern down to visit this A.M. Chored. Went on milk route. Then we rode down to look at Elmer Hopkins saw mill, and kept on clear to Herzog's. Looked around at the Eunice Brown place, and the Bert Grant house. Forest Adams is tearing down the Morrow barn. Came home Middle Road. Called on the Eliot Beveridge's a few minutes after driving in to C.I. Gates. Don and Cynthia called on us this evening.
April 27, Monday	[blank through May 30]
May 31, Sunday	*Annie*: Grampa Gilchrist passed away this morning. Violet & I delivered milk. Had our lunch out back. Went on a ride.
June 1, Monday	*Annie*: Violet & I delivered milk.
June 2, Tuesday	*Annie*: Violet and I delivered milk. Ton & Bud met us up town and we went to Vinalhaven for the afternoon.
June 3, Wednesday	*Annie*: Bud and Violet left this A.M. I delivered milk. We planted glads and dahlias. I went to Vinalhaven with Auxiliary. Ton plowed some more on oat & pea patch and plowed a junk by garage.
June 4, Thursday	*Annie*: I delivered milk. Washed when I got home. Also mowed part of Fay lawn. Ton picked up rocks on his oat and pea patch and spread manure on it. Went after grain.