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Mondays can always get me down

To some people, being rich might mean being able to afford a BMW, a 7,000 square foot home on an estate lot and a wardrobe full of designer clothes. To me it would mean never again having to suffer that Monday morning feeling.

Even when the children were small, and I was staying at home "doing nothing," Monday morning was the low point of the week.

Wakened at an inhuman hour by the dulcet tones of CBC-FM, the dreamy indolence of our weekend would be rudely shattered by the nasty reality of having to get on with the unpalatable chores of everyday life.

It's no accident, I'm sure, that our garbage pickup is on Tuesday, at an hour so ungodly that nobody but a sadist would expect me to crawl out of bed and put it out then.

It therefore goes out on Mon-



kate's corner

kate gilderdale

day night, and the scattered remains can often be spotted the following morning, after a passing raccoon or squirrel has thoughtfully rescued it from its plastic prison.

Collecting and putting out garbage is the perfect Monday pastime - depressing, unromantic, intellectually bankrupt and totally lacking in an afterglow of achievement.

A well delivered sales report or a successful client meeting may be widely acknowledged, but the most neatly, efficiently packaged garbage won't win you accolades from anyone.

From mid-August, summer's pleasures are unpleasantly over-

shadowed by the imminence of the most profound Monday morning feeling of the year.

It starts building up with the arrival of back-to-school advertising flyers, increases at the beginning of the Ex and reaches its zenith on the first day of school which, ironically, falls on a Tuesday.

While I realize that even being disgustingly rich couldn't save me from this particular phenomenon while our children are still at school, the pain of Mondays in general would be greatly eased if neither I nor my husband needed to participate in the 9 to 5 ritual in order to keep ourselves solvent.

Money may not buy happiness, but it can buy the freedom to do what you long to, instead

of what you must, to make ends meet.

Having the time in which to write a book without worrying about a paycheque would be, for me, the ultimate freedom, and would surely enable me to take a kinder, gentler view of Mondays, even if it didn't produce a literary masterpiece.

On the other hand, would the end of the Monday morning feeling also cancel out the heady joys associated with Friday?

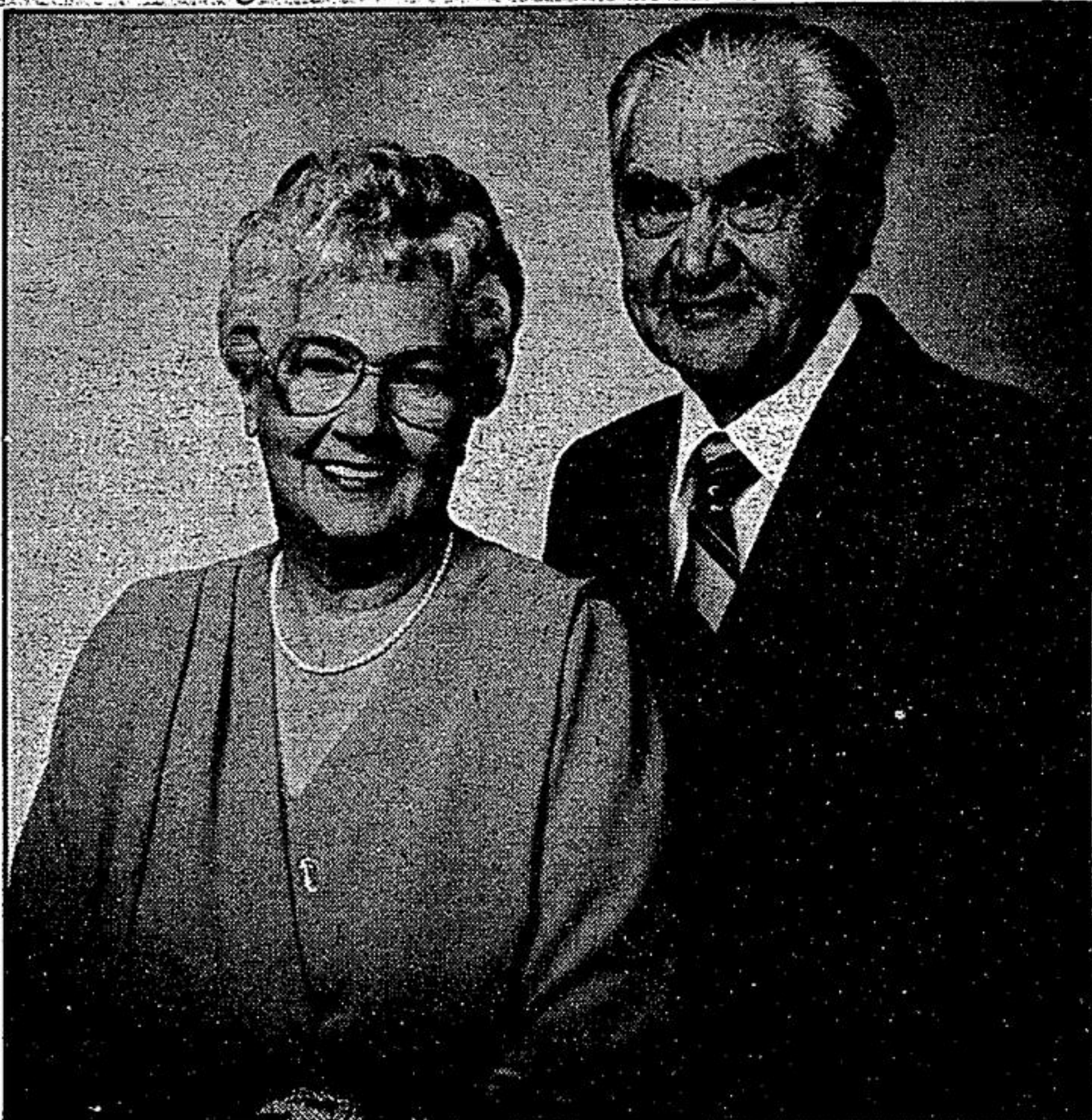
On Friday nights I sleep the sleep of the just no matter how many urgent assignments I've put aside, even though the guilt associated with procrastination will return in full measure to

keep me awake into the wee small hours of Monday morning.

Monday, like flossing your teeth, cleaning the oven or having the cat's shots updated, may be the necessary hairshirt which allows you to celebrate Friday with the cheerful abandon of the recently reprieved prisoner.

Perhaps we really do need to suffer Monday to feel we've earned the right to enjoy Friday, but it doesn't alter my jaundiced view of that unlovely day.

"Every other day of the week is fine," sang the Mamas and Papas in nineteen sixty something, "but whenever Monday comes you'll find me crying all of the time." I rest my case.



Happy couple

Family and friends joined recently in the celebration of Fred and Georgina Alsop, who marked their 50th wedding anniversary. The happy couple were married in 1940, when Canadians were fighting in the Second World War.



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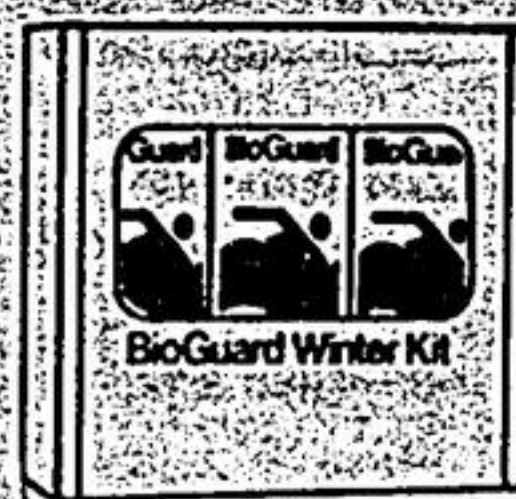
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