

Crossways

2. 5. 44

My dear Babs.

Thanks so much for Parcel which reached here on Monday morning. I was surprised that the bandage was so cheap. The Apricots and rice were very acceptable but the latter won't go far towards making the jam.

I have got some wool from Miss Dalton and Miss Broom has taken it round. My leg is about the same as it was at the week end. I had hoped that it would have healed by now, but at any rate I don't think it is any worse

Mush love and a kiss
Mama

Will write later in the week

Xways Ludham Norfolk

Thur 4. 5. 44

Dear Billee

There was a sight this morning which was most impressive. The morning broke with a clear sky and numbers of machines could be heard as soon as it was light. After perhaps an hour the sounds died away and the sky was almost (literally) obscured by vapour trails in all directions making a crazy pattern which needed seeing to believe in. In the end they merged into one continuous cloud before they died away, Ludham became a Clapham Junction for machines. They were coming and going in all directions. I expect the cool strata was somewhat lower than usual and our night temperature was 33 in the air and a cold S.W. wind kept the thermometer down below the 60 mark all day.

I have been cleaning up the kitchen path which has become almost a green way, the dry weather made this somewhat hard but soon dried up the weeds once they were up.

We went over to Mattocks this evening for a game of bridge and came home in the rain, not much but a promise of more to come which it did to the extent 0"30 quite a nice drop. My luck was decidedly in. About time too as I've had some poor cards just lately.

Fri 5. 5. 44

Its been a choice day today heavy showers, thunder and lightening with sharp squalls with very limited glimpses of sunshine consequently have been indoors all day. Glad enough to get the rain. Nevertheless I found plenty to do and time did not drag out

'M' gave her bad leg a knock this evening, went into the kitchen without putting on the lights and collided with a footstool – a painful episode. Hope it does

not mean a set back, but she will dodge about instead of letting me do it for her more's the pity.

Sat 6. 5. 44

The weather a little kindlier today but still a cold boisterous wind, but a bit of sunshine now and again.

I went up to the Village today and on the way took some flowers for Vera and Mrs. S, had a look at her pot plants and brought a fuchsia back for repotting. Her geraniums could do another year in the same pots. Vera marvelled very much at my treatment of her plants, thought that I was killing them outright, but is satisfied now that they are breaking out into new growths.

I finished up under the kitchen window and having removed all grass and other weeds a nice bright show of Virginian Stock is left – all self sown.

M has had her usual weekly do with W.S. It's a good thing not to have to go up to the P.O. Nurse came in the midst of it but they good naturedly waited for nurse to go.

With one thing or another it was not until 10 o'clock that I sat down, and remarked that I could have the rest of the day to myself.

Nurse was not too well pleased with the bad place and 'M' has been too much on her feet today.

Sun 7. 5. 44

Although I set the alarm for 7.30 it was not until after half past eight that I turned out and set about breakfast and took "M" late to the bed room for her. She eventually got up at 10.30 and saw to the dinner with some intervals of "leg up" and has scarcely moved out of her chair since dinner. So I have found plenty to do.

We did not go to Church all day and in the evening England called to tell 'M' that Bird had taken on Sec job for the week. England was going all the time he was here but did not really go until Mrs E knocked at the door and looked perished with the cold and wanted to know what about it. She would not come in and both Mr E and dog were led away.

Mon 8. 5. 44

Although I intended to get up early it was not until 8.20 that I managed it. Got my breakfast and took M a couple of cups of tea in bed, she did not want any breakfast. I took the order up to Throwers, paid milk etc and when I went through the church yard to the milk depot Ainsworth greeted me, he had a bagging hook and was cutting down the rank growing vegetation on the north side of the church. Although he hailed me he had no time for gossip and got on with the job.

"M"’s leg seems to be almost at a standstill although there is some improvement it seems to be a long job. She had had a good deal of rest both yesterday and today.

Your letter that came on Saturday morning says you have not heard much from me since you went back but with extra things to do and the busiest time for garden operations there is very little time to spare. Have written this in 3 instalments.

Now that blackout is later we tried the experiment of a limited blackout only doing the Dining and Bedroom. It was nice to have the daylight in the morning

We had a sharp frost this morning but I was not caught napping and covered up in anticipation. Some self sown potatoes, that had made an early start, were properly blackened and I was glad that mine had not shown through the soil. It remains to be seen what effect it had on the fruit blossom.

Can't see much more so Cheerio and best love

Pa

Tues 9. 5. 44

P.S. addendum, Stop Press, late news or whatever you like to call it.

I did not seal your letter up on Monday but kept it open in anticipation of yours coming this morning and am just snatching a few minutes before tea after having cut the side lawn this morning and the tennis done this afternoon. It's been a nice day and "M" has sampled the seat in the garden but found a big coat very useful.

I should think it a welcome respite to have been finished with the "week" but there is a large amount of satisfaction in gaining such a splendid result and one on which you are to be congratulated.

I expect if Eric wants to see us he will be able to wangle some official business or other to facilitate his entry into this area.

Hope you will be able to get here Whitsun but the great adventure must be getting nearer every day.

As you will have divined the lawn mower has done its job once again but it catches at times and I have to reverse the blades with my hands to get it going again

I had thought about the photo snaps to send to Bert but have not had time to sort any out. I ought to have some spare ones.

We are going to Vera's this evening and I hope to post this and hope to save a special journey

'M' is very pleased about her leg and has thrown over the hot compresses for ointment and says it looks like healing up the lint sticks and has to be pulled away making the place bleed. We shall see whether it heals up nicely or asserts itself elsewhere. Shall finish up now – tea is waiting.

Cheerio Pa

Crossways

Ludham

Gt Yarmouth

7. 5. 44

My dear Babs

Glad to get your letter on Sat: and to know how your week was going, but sorry that it was not likely to be up to last years. I'm not surprised at that, especially as one of my collectors told me yesterday that she had read in the papers (I don't know which) that holders of W.S. Certs would not be able to redeem them till 2 years after the War. Really I think it must be an understanding but if that tale gets about, many people will not buy any more and I shouldn't blame them. Still I read all the Budget reports in the Times and the Chancellor did not say anything of the kind that I noticed. How did the Old Girls draw come off. Was Charlie's 2/6 P.O. in the letter that you mentioned or was it missing. How nice to know that Janet is able to walk a little after all these years, it looks hopeful at last. It sounds as if they are in a very nice part and if you are not able to get here for Whitsun it will make a nice change for you to go to them. Of course we are hoping that you may come here but everything is very unsettled. Nurse was expecting Mary for 10 days last Friday but had a wire to say it was put off till tomorrow (Monday) so she is still hoping. I'm sorry to say she was a bit disappointed with my leg yesterday. It looks a lot better but there is a wretched place about the size of a pea which simply wont heal up. She said I ought to go to bed for a fortnight but unless absolutely necessary that is out of the question, but I'm afraid it is chiefly my own fault, for I was on it quite a lot all last week. I went to Vera's on Wednesday and on Thursday I went up as far as the P.O. and to see about the weeks meat, also did some washing, and on Thursday I made up a good packet of flowers for Mrs Vidler to take with her to London (she left the Hall on that day) you know getting the flowers involved a good deal of walking around the garden. So probably I have only myself to blame for the setback. I was hoping to be able to get to church today but of course I shall not. I got up at 10.30. Vera has asked us to go up there on Tuesday for bridge but we must see by tomorrow. Also there is the Ch. C. meeting on to deal with the agreements and I did want to go to that but it all depends. Vera is going ahead with the V. M. Stall. I went to her place to a meeting to hear the whole thing explained very clearly by an organiser (voluntary) and it was decided to start off on the lives laid down by W.I and Ministry of Food as soon as they could get the M.F. licence thro'. Mr Riches has let them have a lean to next his workshop in School Lane and is going to fix up the necessary fittings for the stall. There are the prospect of a good pair of secondhand scales cheap and great hopes of being able to start in about a fortnight. Anyone can take along surplus stuff and if sold will get what it fetches less 1d in the shilling which goes to W.I. funds and after initial expenses are met is to be given to Local Charities (non Sectarian). Each week a price list will be provided by the M.F. and the maximum must not be exceeded but the Controller (who is to be Miss Thompson with Mrs Swanston as assistant) can sell at far less at her discretion. It will no doubt be very useful for small producers to dispose of their stuff but Riches and Thompson should get quite a good thing out of it. 1d doesn't seem much to me for the W.I to get seeing that they get all the voluntary helpers and shoulder the responsibility. The market is to be open on Thursday afternoon 3.30 – 4.30 and produce must be brought by 3 o/c so that it can all be booked in before opening. Each person will bring 2 slips detailing stuff, one to be left with Vera (See and)

and one to be initialled and kept by producers. Payment for produce will be made as at present arr. monthly, so you see there is going to be plenty for a few capable W.I. members to do.

People seem very keen about it and if properly organised it should be very successful. I wish that I could have a hand in it, but I mustn't at this stage.

Miss Lamb left Ludham last Thursday for a companion-housekeepers post at Thetford and Nell talks of going somewhere for a change. She thinks she will go to Hove! A banned area. She's mad,

How's this for a tale. When the A.R.P. was moved from the old cottage to the cottage that the Farrows lived in (Riches lent it) Miss H told Mrs Stillern that she left behind in the Vicarage garage a corner table that a friend at Wroxham kindly lent her and was now asking to have it returned... As Mrs S had noticed that this table was marked underneath Townsend. (Oh Miss H suggested that Skillern should bring it round to her some time when he was passing). She, Mrs S, went to Mrs Brown and asked her if she knew anything about it. Mrs B said yes, one of the missing tables now belonging to Ken. It appears there were a pair of them belonging to old Mrs Townsend and stored with the other stuff in the Vicarage shed. When Ken took his furniture away the pair of tables were missing and there is no trace of the others. Anyhow Mrs B told Mrs S it could be used by the First Aid for as long as they wanted it. V then said it would go to K. Townsend. So Mrs S had the pleasant of telling Nell that, and that the table never belonged to her friend at Wroxham! Well they say lookers on see more of the game and although I am staying at home I seem to see a good deal of it.

I'm very sorry to say that Mrs Alibone is very ill. She was alright when I saw her on Thursday, but I thought looking a bit tired. She went to Brown that evening and he told her to go home to bed and on Friday they had to send for him, when he said she had had a stroke and her condition was grave. I hope she will recover, she is such a nice woman I think always doing nice things for other people and so cheerfully.

We get our milk brought and weekly goods, now we shall have to see about our own paper I expect. Rita Newton may bring it but I hear that her mother has undertaken to have Stella Newton's baby to bring up and Stella is coming back to Crown House to carry on her work in the Coal business this coming week so possibly Rita will find plenty to do indoors. It seems to me her mother is the last person to undertake the care of a 6 wks old baby. Still with plenty else to think about perhaps she may forget her own ailments nurse told me all about this: and also said that the grandmother still does not know anything about the child, but thinks that Stella is being released from munition work. I wonder how long it will be before some one is kind enough to tell her the truth.

The garden is lovely now with plenty of bloom. I wish I could send you some and feel that it would arrive in good condition. Pa has managed to do a lot out there and has very thoroughly cleaned up all the drives, all down from each gate and down to the back door on the kitchen side. It looks very nice. Next week now that we have had some rain I expect he will find plenty to do in the kitchen garden. I

only hope he will not get knocked up with all the odd jobs extra about the house. He gets pretty tired by the time he finishes up at about 8.30 in the garden. About the flowers the red tulips are beginning to go but we have a lot of mixed colours coming on later and plenty of wallflowers, marigolds, stocks, geum and late narcissus. I wrote to Rene last night; I wonder if you have heard from her again. I also wrote to Olive last week end. Don't worry about the leg for I am very optimistic about it and have just redressed it. The yellow place which I said was the size of a pea only looks about ½ the size it did this morning and all round it is healed over. Anyhow if it is not doing well by about Tuesday I think I shall let Brown see it.

By the way, we have not seen anything of the a/c she spoke about yet I wonder how she will get on for bridge now with Mabel, Nell and Mrs Adcock missing as partners. Things are very quiet here at present, still plenty of Yorkshire dialect about. I saw in the Times that Capt. Phillips was killed, he was here when Corkens (?) was with us and Cissie says that she has heard that Foster also has been killed. He was here with Hamilton in the early days of the K S.L.I. and stayed at the Vicarage.

Well this is a good long yarn and mostly about Ludham. I am thinking of sending for some patterns of tweed with the idea of getting something for a Winter coat which I thought I might get made up in the Summer.

Hope you are feeling better

Much love and a kiss

Mama

Tell Miss S we hope her knee is better

Tues 9. 5. 44

Crossways, Ludham
Gt Yarmouth Norfolk
Wed 10. 5. 44

Dear Billee

Last evening we went to Vera's for a game of bridge and I had most rotten luck being 2020 down in the final score. The greater part of the small talk was about women's' institute's venture of a market stall for members to dispose of surplus – vegetables in the main and I brought home a plywood board to convert it into a blackboard for prices. We came away round about eleven o'clock with the moon just rising - a copper coloured disc in the East and it was not at all dark. We could see our way quite easily

Mrs Swanston brought round a pot of black paint and I duly painted the board over but being plywood and the paint being glossy the result was glossy or flat just as the grain was exposed. Still I think they will be able to check up their prices although it would have been better all flat.

I had the usual trot up to the village in the morning and after the painting episode was over there was not much time for anything else in the morning but in the afternoon and evening I managed to get in quite a good spot or two in the garden and don't the weeds grow fast just this time of year.

"M" went to the church council meeting and from what I hear it was only a one-man affair who told them what to do and everyone had to say yes.

Thur 11. 5. 44

As I forgot to wind up the alarm clock we slept on till 9.20 which made everything all behind until dinner.

Its been a real summers day, 75 in the shade seemed a lot hotter coming after some cold days. It was delightful and I spent all my spare time hoeing weeds, a good chance for they soon died in the hot sun. We did not need a fire all day and in the evening Madge and Sally came over for bridge. I had better luck this time being 1350 up at the end of the evening.

Just as we were going to bed there were several reports but not like bombs. Could not make them out at all. Soon after we got to bed there was a terrific hum of bombers going across – about the heaviest drone I've heard and after an interval another lot, not quite so noisy and various bangs until after one o'clock, after which we both got to sleep.

Fri. 12. 5. 44

Another lovely day not quite so hot as yesterday 73 max. After going to the village I came back and trimmed off the cow parsley from the bank in the front and then cleaned up outside the two gates and had quite enough of that by dinner time. The exercise made me feel as though I wanted to get into some lighter clothing. Whilst I think of it your watch has come back – goes O.K. but loses very slightly. I will try to regulate it.

"M" had a deck chair on the tennis lawn under the Beech tree and took her work out there in the afternoon. Had two visitors – Mrs Trall came first to cadge some flowers. Gave her some tulips but I gave her those full out which made a show but will not last long. It was like her cheek I thought. Madge came later and brought some rhubarb. They have plenty and it saves us over pulling ours Have been sowing some seeds this evening but the ground is very dry and had to water them in. Still its been a grand day although the barometer has been steadily going down all day.

Sat 13. 5. 44

Another delightful morning. 73 again and summer attire seemed almost a necessity but during the afternoon the wind changed to the north and the thermometer dropped 24 deg!! and during the evening ram (?) put in an appearance and with an exceptionally dark evening I blacked out early.

Although I braved it in the garden during the afternoon I gave up this evening and for the first time for over a week I settled down to a mystery yarn "The Saint Steps In" by Leslie Charteris. You might do worse than get it from your library.

M had her usual Sat aft stunt but was interrupted by nurse calling. Nurse was very well satisfied and put on some zinc ointment with the idea of healing it up and said "Leave it undisturbed until I call in on Monday." So that's good news. There was a small spot just near the main sore that we had visions of developing and spreading onto the other but Nurse did not think that would happen.

It sounded like winter again later in the evening with wind howling and thumping and rain drops beating on the window and after 3 days we were glad of a fire again.

We had quite a long yarn from Ted and am enclosing it for your perusal but would like it back again in order to reply to it.

They had one from Mrs E over the way whenever she told the tale of the church clock. Something had gone wrong and Ted in his glory did something about it. The clock struck 6 but when 7 was due pealed out about 200 times and the villagers came out thinking of an invasion scare then Ted found someone who stopped the clanging.

Sun 14. 5. 44

'M' had made up her mind to go to church at 8 am but on looking out it was such a dreary prospect that she went back to bed until 9.30. I didn't follow till about 3 hours later. We could not get anything from Halls but beef so gave it a miss and made do with cheese, egg, rice and prunes, a minimum amount of cooking needed.

It's been cold and cheerless most of the day but no rain and the 1/10" that we had last night has completely disappeared from the garden. We have both been to church this evening. Ainsworth was certainly a little plainer but his sermon was long drawn out and I would sooner listen to Ted. The Mattocks were there and said a lot of this address was a repeat of the morning. The church was very cold and by the time I had walked at Madge's pace with wind in my face I was just about as perished as any time last winter. Still there was a nice fire and we soon got warm. 'M' says will you get some saccharine if you get the chance

I did hope to get this posted this afternoon so will leave it open and get it off on Monday.

Mon 15. 5. 44

Am finishing this up before going to the Village and am enclosing a letter from Gertie Which came this morning via the folk at Bath. Cheerio and hope you can get here for Whitsun and best love

Pa

Crossways Ludham Norfolk

Mon 15. 5. 44

Dear Billee

This has been a day of changes - glimpse of sun, heavy clouds, rain and hail. I spent what time I could until the rain and hail this evening finally put an end to

outdoor operations. I think that I must have pulled up thousands of seeded poppy plants, we should have had a bright scarlet garden had I let them remain.

We listened to an episode of Don Quixote this evening and I was not much impressed with the B.B.C. version and thought less of the impersonator of the title role. After the news we had Monday Night at Eight (put back to 9.25) it was like the curate's egg, good in parts. Puzzle Corner etc were quite interesting and amusing; but before the end I got on with blacking out: our partial blackout did not prove very convenient so have gone all round since.

Nurse came in and appeared quite satisfied with "M"'s progress and dressed the wound with Zinc ointment in an endeavour to dry it up and said that it (the bandage) was not to be disturbed till Friday – looks like satisfactory progress.

Tues 16. 5. 44

We did not feel too energetic this morning and it was after eight before we turned out. 'M' went up to Halls after breakfast as we had nothing from him over the weekend. It's a perishing cold day with a cold wind which has dropped this evening and as it has changed from N to S and the barometer is falling it may become warmer.

I was lucky today with the lawns. I half finished the side one before dinner and then in the afternoon did the tennis lawn and just had time to put the mower away before it came on to rain and put an end to my gardening today.

'M' has gone to Vera's to a W.I. meeting about the market stall and I'm beside the fire writing this. Perhaps I shall get it posted in time for you to get it before Sunday. Although its not actually raining at the moment it's a dismal outlook with great heavy cumulus and brief intervals of watery sunshine, a thundery prospect.

We heard on Sunday the broadcast about the schools effort in the "week" First item and pride of place. I should think that you are proud of it. We had a letter from C this morning and he mentions it as well. He is going to have his holiday early this year, immediately after Whitsun instead of the August Bank Holiday.

Your letter came this morning. How unlucky about Janet but it is not a very serious business nowadays and she should be well on the way to recovery by the time this reaches you. It would be interesting if you could meet Miss Dutton. You might hear how "M"'s effort compares with others.

I'm afraid there is not much chance of Mrs Alibone making a good recovery. She is a very testy patient and quite irritable when she cannot make herself understood and cannot masticate solid food, all owing to partial paralysis of the face.

Wed 17. 5. 44

Another cold showery morning and "M" is doing a bit of washing but I expect things will dry during the fair intervals. Am going up to the village and will

post this during my travels. Cheerio and hope you will be able to get here but we don't know what may happen.

Best love
Pa

Crossways Ludham Norfolk
Wed 17. 5. 44

Dear Billie

I posted my last letter to you in the course of my village crawl this morning: it was not an outdoor day, rain and drizzle most of the day but I found an opportunity to sow some annuals in the garden in the afternoon whilst 'M' had gone to W.I. where a lot of interest is being displayed in the market stall on Thursday. During the evening it mostly rained and I had a holiday with a W.H. Smiths book.

Thur 18. 5. 44

'M' is getting back to nearly normal and so far her leg shows no adverse effects. She spent some time this morning getting together mint, parsley, tulips, stocks etc and I contributed some perpetual onion, lettuce plants etc but it had to be as little weighty a lot as possible as it had to be carried. 'M' is writing and will no doubt give you more details of it but I may say that including some after sales the whole was disposed of at a total price of £3 .2 .0. Not bad for a first attempt. She brought home some onions for planting out. Some "outdoor" chrysanthus, whatever they may turn out to be and some very nice stocky tomato plants, all of which were sent by Boardmans. We finished up the day with having Vera and Mrs Swanston here for bridge. I could do no wrong and after two rubbers had a balance in my favour of 2.200.

They were not late in going and as it was a fine clear evening with a rapidly falling temperature I went out in the garden to put a little soil over my potatoes, most of which were showing through. It was getting nearly dark and 'M' came over to help and came in about a quarter to eleven. After all there was no frost but it went down to 35.

Fri 19 .5 .44

Not a bad day on the whole but a chilly wind and a haze over the sky which looked more like heat – but the sun was shy and there was a nip in the East wind.

"M" went out early to the village, she wanted to see Mrs Smallwood about some W.S. her leg seems to be doing well and is nearly healed up, in fact it showed no discharge when nurse took it down and bandaged it again, said she would call again once more only.

We went over to Mattocks in the evening and got through 4 rubbers. My luck was in again + 1700 but 'M' had atrocious cards and was down to the extent of over

2.000. We got over there fairly early and consequently got home in time to listen to the European news at 10.45 but got to bed soon afterwards.

Sat 20 .5 .44

'M' has been out again this morning, had W.S. collectors in aft. And then helped me in the garden. We have been improving the prospect from the kitchen window – it has been disgraceful lately and as it's the bit of garden we probably see most often, it pays to keep it tidy. Still not too genial but the wind has dropped a lot and it was not too bad, quite a nice bit of sunshine in the afternoon and evening.

We tried the B.B.C. effort after the 9 news, a weird sort of affair. They seem to excel in that kind of stuff at that time since the American Commentary has been put back to Friday. Hadn't got much room for it so shut off, blacked out and had a read till bed time.

Sun 20 .5 .44

Your letter came Saturday morning. What a shame about my letter being ragged open. I put extra bits to make more sure of it but I suppose some sorters had a cup tie with it. Apparently nothing was missing. Mrs Alibone is still progressing but Brown says it may be 6 months before she is well. If so she will be lucky, as I always thought that there was always a permanent incapacity after such an attack.

Reading between the lines of the BBC announcement, it looks as if the second front will be quite a time yet in order that the patriots of the various nations will have time to be accustomed to the "voice" and consequently I am more sanguine as to your chances of getting home for the holiday, getting back is another matter, and of course you know that train services are cut and new time tables brought out.

Yes we listened to the BBC announcement about K.G.G.S. We were already to go to church but waited for that. We went to church this morning and sat in the next pew to Browns, consequently heard him a bit better but not really well. His address was not too interesting or shall I say arresting and I had a hard job to keep myself awake all the time. Want to post this before 5 and want to write a line to C + G so will pack up with best love from

Pa.

P.S. Am sending for material for coat, a nice brown
I hope it comes during the week.

Crossways
Ludham
Gt Yarmouth
21 .5 .44

My dear Babs

Well I wonder if you will really be here next Sunday. We listen to all there is on the wireless and try to read between the lines in the "Times" but after we can only form our own conclusions. Here are mine all things considered. I think you

will be able to come and get back to K. again. I'll tell you more about it next Saturday!! I don't think you know we have your watch, and it is keeping good time so far. (10/6) Not too bad I suppose for these times.

While I think of it, Pa will be glad of some more Bemax, but I don't want to bother you to bring it, if you can get it post it on. Pa has told you all about the leg. It really looks as if it may be quite healed up by next week end. I am very thankful. Nurse tells me she thinks I have been very lucky for when she saw it the first week she thought I was in for a bad time with it. Still I have done "as I was told" (if you like) to a large extent and the house etc. has consequently suffered but I shall soon be able to pull up.

The market stall was a great success especially as arrangements to open on Wednesday were not made before 7.30 on the evening previous. Luckily the W.I. meeting was on the Wednesday and members were asked to spread it abroad as much as possible which they must have done judging by the amount of stuff produced. I went round in the afternoon and helped. It was good fun, as Vera said, "Wouldn't Phyllis enjoy this." She is coming here tomorrow afternoon to sort out and settle things up ready for next Wednesday when producers will get their first payments. The amounts have to be made up and put in envelopes ready to hand out. Just as they were finishing up an officer dashed up with a Shipping order. 50lb of cauliflower for the mess dinner that night! I daresay we had nearly that weight to start off with at 5d per lb but he was unlucky.

Nell has found a job in Norwich to look after a Dr's widow friends of the Bucks. Of course "top A..." again and plenty of help. She has really nothing to do, told us she never wanted to see Ludham again, only her friends the Boardmans and Mrs Brown!! I wonder how soon she will be back this time. We went up to Church this morning but the weather is not much now so I don't suppose we shall go again. We did hear the school news last Sunday and so did Vera. I will close now as Pa is catching the aft. post

Much love and kiss

Ma