Series No. 10.

TELEGRAMS BOOKCRAFT LONDON
TELEPHONES MUSEUM 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

July 16th 1915.

Dear Mother –

As we anticipate rather a busy time to morrow & Sunday, I thought I would write you to-night. London is still our address, & lovely as it is, I do think of staying in town in the un-known looms large in the distance, & shall be thankful when the break has been made, & the fresh work a thing of the past.

Yesterday a.m. two more girls left us for Abercliffe, so only 9 are left, & as the regular girls all leave for their own Hospital on Tuesday, we are pretty sure to be needed for the many vacancies – especially as 150 patients arrived yesterday @ Chiredon & more are expected. Our chances of France pick @ present look pretty thin. However we aren't here to pick & choose, & get such a holiday here can't grumble no matter what happens.

Dolled told me I got a finished look on the boat, & when she showed me the awkward snap. Twas hard to agree, but I think the camera is to blame for somewhat of an exaggeration. Muddles to say have gained a little since being here, though not

what one might expect considering I am having such a lazy time of it & being so well fed. But somehow Dudley seems to patronizing always then to me.

I feel I have been somewhat lazy about writing the boys, but once your letter is finished & are occasional as I have else, I feel I can't write anymore, it seems a pity, when one has such a chance to see what is to worth while to spend more time in the house than necessary, to get enough energy to start going again. Anyway I don't think either of the boys would ever bother flooding through the lengthy detail I send you - However first send us what you think they would enjoy.

We have been having a good deal of rain lately, but always managed to enjoy ourselves in spite of it.

I wrote you last on Sunday night, July 12th - Tues. a.m. I refolded with Muldred, & on making sure there was no chance of anything happening that day, rushed to Waterloo Station & caught the train to Aushenuele to the Camp Nora, having previously made arrangements by letter, on the chance of being able to go.

TELEGRAMS BOOKCRAFT LONDON
TELEPHONES MUSEUM 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

The Lake is within five minutes walk of the Italian, so had no difficulty in finding it. Had lunch & left that evening by the 6 p.m. train. The afternoon was a little dull, think Nora not at all keen to go out so didn't try to persuade her, but had a good talk, which I know ~~we~~ was a great relief for her, for she told me she had seen no one except Uncle Robert for 3 weeks!! Found it seem awful, & Kitty & Fred within ½ hrs. walk.

Aunt Nora seems anxious to come to Lennada, yet I think dreads the necessary up-heaval, & her conscience sticks her about leaving Aunt Sarah – & there it is. It would take too long to tell you my feelings regarding the whole affair, but it certainly is a disgrace to think of Nora & Fred allowing their brother to live in such a place. The flat inside is bright & very comfortable, as the rooms are large etc. but the locality is beyond description, the entrance abominable, & I believe it is as damp & cold as can be – Naviver dare repeat all

this to the family, for it does no good. However they leave their in Sept. but no one knows when they are to go. Aunt Sarah looks a little bit more, but otherwise looks much the same as mine yrs. ago. Aunt Rosa appears much younger than I had expected, but evidently her rheumatism troubles her a great deal, & I think there must be something wrong with her heart, for she can only crawl along, seven then gets a nasty purple color, & loses her breath. Uncle Robert came in, & was very nice but of course old & somewhat feeble. As he is 86 it is not to be wondered at. England is certainly a great spot for old people.

I wish you were here so that I could tell you in detail about our talk but it will have to keep I am afraid, for there are other things I want to tell you about now.

Unclded much me, & after dinner at the Club we went to Queen's Hall to hear Hillaire Belloc lecture on the War, he seeming to have made quite a name for himself in that respect. But we were disappointed. In the first place our seats (2/6) were very poor, & tho his lecture was so technical it was difficult to follow. However our curiosity was satisfied.

Telegrams Bookcraft London
Telephones Museum 1232-1233

Kingsley Hotel
(Near the British Museum)
Hart Street
Bloomsbury Square
London

Wed. a.m. started as usual with Winifred, & then we went into the City, & after 3 attempts managed to see St. Helens Bishopsgate. Am wondering if that is the church Lunde took us to, that was so wealthy? We wanted to get some odds & ends at Cammages & stopped there on the way to the Hotel for lunch. It was raining in the afternoon, & thought it a good opportunity to go to the National Gallery & enjoyed it immensely in spite of many of the gems of the collection having been removed for protection.

Went up to Bunyards for tea as Winifred was anxious I should sample their wedding cake, & we the place. On the p.m. we had a real lazy time of it & read, for about the first time since arriving. The man of Gru is much interesting so far.

Thurs. a.m. we had to go to Robinson & Cleaver again about our new Eaton collars, & then there to have our panama hats waxed at Leetts as they had drooped into a most untidy state. After lunch, as it was a beautifully clear day thought we would make

the most of it & go to Hampstead Heath, where we walked miles & miles! One certainly can get some beautiful views there. Came home in time to get cleaned up & get to the Hofers for dinner @ 7.30 p.m. which we quite enjoyed. They have a very comfortable home, & do things in the swell. English not at all formally. Had first salmon – cucumbers – Partridge – French-fried potatoes, salade. Raspberry short-cake – cheese. Coffee – liqueur & wine for dinner. A home-cooked dinner lasted mightily good after 6 weeks hotel fare.

To-day it rained in the a.m. & poured all afternoon. After breakfasting we went down to the Landas Museum & took disgust & and Friday the only day in the week it is closed & wandered around several interesting & very new streets. After lunch as it was too wet to do anything else, it being a regular Canadian downpour, we went to the Hippodrome, which was packed to the doors. The show was only medium very spectacular & one or two beautiful scenes, but so far the Revues I have seen don't appeal to me – I would far rather have good vaudeville.

Telegrams Bookcraft London
Telephones Museum 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

~~choir~~ Aelia & Claud some sentences, this divided me at each side walking around to the front, & down the main aisle to the choir stalls, which are at the end of what remains of the present church. You can't imagine what a pitiful it made!

It was rather late when we got back to lunch, & then we went to evensong @ 3 p.m. @ The Temple, where we had a splendid service, but very tiresome sermon. Our Italian & two Frenchmen were in train, for the place was almost empty. You've no idea how tired & hot we were (it being 86° in the shade) dressed up in our cloth time! Came home quite exhausted, & lay down until supper time 8.30 p.m. & for the first time since we arrived a little tired.

Monday a.m. Evening spent & breakfast at the Cecil Chambers (not Mansions) as Gold. You be fore) we took a bus into the City, & saw all or his old churches we had seen mentioned in our guide books. All proved of interest, because old, but apparently the whole part been more or less restored about the same time & struck by much splendid & ornamentation. Came back to the Kingsley for lunch per usual & found to our delight that some dame who

had been foolish enough to suggest taking us to Hampstead we could not bring ourselves to refuse, tho' unable to go, so as this was the day of a special levee at His Majesty's at which the King & Queen were to appear we rushed down just to get a glimpse of them. Arrived just in time to see them. The Queen looked as a much handsomer woman, but took far less attractive & modern dress as the previous day. About a week ago we tried to get seats for this, but the house was sold out except for guinea seats which of course we didn't think worth it. However being on the spot asked for standing room, & to our surprise got it, & then to our delight found 2 seats. They were in the best part of the gods, but as we only paid 2/6 each felt we were more than lucky for we could see & hear perfectly, although we were miles from the stage. Because it was a magnificent performance. All all star cast with Tree as Cardinal Wolsey. Bancker as Henry VIII Violet Vanbrugh as Katherine, Lewis Waller as Duke of Buckingham & Lady Tree, Ida Crosby, Ainley & many other star taking the small parts. But as great a treat as it was (& I shall never forget it) I was thankful when it was over. The heat was so intense. We went to Fullers for tea afterward & didn't get home

TELEGRAMS BOOKCRAFT LONDON
TELEPHONES MUSEUM 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

This evening I have sent to your working Hyde, thus I want added a line to Uncle George & send off a card or two much to end.

In case we are sent off suddenly to France I think I had better risk sending the Clock to Uncle, otherwise will wait to hear from you.

Your 4th letter reached me yesterday. Am sure you must be glad Annie has finally got off, but am afraid it is going to be very lonely for you & Uncle

What will Lemple away & so many ask of him.

Hanover make the most of the opportunity to get a good rest.

Yesterday as coming in found a note signed. What looks like a possible G. A Arnold, saying he was sorry to miss me & if he nothing better to do to send him a line to a London address given. Am wondering if it can be Mr Geo Arnold, yet knowing him so slightly not expecting to hear of his being Lee Lane & doubtful. Hanover will answer the note & perhaps we shall see.

As you say Margaret got through nicely, suppose the Lad the operation after all.
Give her my love.
By the way I've written each of the boys just once, & when I've settled think it a good plan to write a general letter with an extra line for yours say, though I find it difficult not to put in the little asides as I go along.
Well I really must stop. Will send your letter over again later, & if I've missed anything will mention it in my next.
So au revoir for the present. Heaps of love always dear

Yours lovingly
Lilie.

TELEGRAMS BOOKCRAFT LONDON
TELEPHONES MUSEUM 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

until quite tired, & again were thankful we had nothing to do in the p.m. Sunday Again went with Guildford to church & found he had to go down to the Cam. Afternoon near Lambeth Bridge as same known, & of course went also. Afterward we crossed the bridge to get a glimpse of Lambeth Palace from the outside & a look at St. Marys Church, which is most attractive. From there we had to go up Tottenham Court Rd. & thoroughfares for a buckle we were ordered to get — By this time it was nearly 2 p.m. Came back to lunch, & after a rest & wash, dressed & took a taxi in style to The Mansion House, the Mayor-in-Chief having got hold of 4 invitations for us from Sir Hans Sloane. Of course I was awfully disappointed in seeing it. The Lady Mayoress was quite an attractive woman, & the room she received in was very pretty, some fine old paintings I imagine on the walls, & beautiful flowers everywhere. Tea was served in the large Hall small tables set everywhere, & a rather larger one in the centre for the Mayor & his wife & party. The crowd was fairly mixed. Some

very nice looking people but others — simply terrors — because I was more interested in the footmen than anyone else. Yesterday we stopped in front of the Exchange Bldg. & heard some of the recruiting speeches. You know they are having a big campaigne here this week, & really the whole thing makes one feel almost humiliated. It seems the recruits are not coming in as anticipated & need all the speakers are taking a threatening attitude, & telling the crowds that unless they come in now voluntarily, just as soon as Lloyd George gets the authority & numbers to exceed the mark, then there is to be Conscription when they will be taken by the collar & pressed to join, & be compelled to wear a different uniform stamping them as Conscript men, etc. etc. This attitude seems necessary with the lower classes, but it makes one feel sick to hear it. I hate conscription in theory, but certainly over here one sees the necessity for it in time of war, for the class of people who ought to go are not doing so. They say 75% of the men who have joined are married men between the ages of 28 & 38, averaging 3 children in each family,

Telegrams Bookcraft London
Telephones Museum 1232-1233

KINGSLEY HOTEL
(NEAR THE BRITISH MUSEUM)
HART STREET
BLOOMSBURY SQUARE
LONDON

which means of course a big expense to the government. I can't lead all this to the family – but I think goodness I can't have to earn my living over here! I noticed this clear distinctions when here before, but much more so this time. I am inclined to think perhaps our uniform has something to do with it, for it stamps us as nurses, & of course a nurse has no standing at all. Well I'd like to say a whole lot more but haven't room, but its this attitude that makes me want to go to France.

In the evening we went to see Tennis Cadie in "The Man who played God". The play I imagine is not let good melodramatic, but the company was a.1. & Tennis Cadie a star in himself. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. We coming out it was raining with rain drops bad through over our hair, along with several hundred others for a taxi; as we have only 1 clock dress & no umbrella we didn't afford getting soaked.

To-day it rained with rain all the morning so I was sulking pretty tired stayed in bed, read your letter & read a book & some papers. In the afternoon we called

as Mrs Hooper, who lives at Porchester Terrace (a very attractive house) as she had found that we use their fern for the flower show at Holland House. You never saw such flowers!!! It is really quite by the Horticultural Society & Holland House by courtesy allow the use of part of their grounds. By paying an extra shilling, we were allowed to wander all over the private grounds, & get a good look at the outside of the House — both of which I enjoyed far more than the actual tents full of flowers.

The whole garden is simply a dream, & every stock just land beside a Campanula a rocking, true garden, each one more perfect than the last. The House itself is most picturesque, even from the outside looks like a home.

So-night I have spent the whole evening writing this, because it is always late when we finish dinner. Once I get to work you will not be getting such long epistles, for of course there will be nearly as much to tell you. But every minute here I feel I ought to be at Work, for I may not have the chance again. I want to send a line to Mrs Hunt & must stop & start another page.

Dearest Mother, - a little tiresome for you perhaps but

Pennsylvania. Right near the Hill is a sort of quaint old House where they take "Guests" for Tea. Thought some day it would be a lovely place to go for a week's holiday. For the country around is beautiful. Came back by a different road, & got the 7.25 train @ Chorley Wood Station, having walked about 11 miles. When I got in had a phone message from Eleanor, saying they had arrived safe. She offered to come down & see me, but it was their ~~to~~ nearly 9 p.m. I had to leave my supper & pack, as we didn't know what time we were leaving & I had an appointment with the hair-dresser early, so

earlier but let off, & I think
she was just as pleased,
for it was a long way down,
tho we could only have had a
few minutes together anyway.
Mar. I had my hair done
& did a little shopping while
Muldred rested; sent 3 pr.
gloves off to lovely. Felt I
might have sent her something
earlier more original
but couldn't think of anything
I had wished, & at the same
time wouldn't be too bulky.
We took the 2.15 train down, &
for round were not much.
After some time a big bus
came for us & we reached the
Lodge or Nurses Home, where
we sat for an hour or so before
the matron came, when we
had tea, & sat around
anxiously until dinner time

after which the Walkers showed us our rooms & had our luggage taken there.
Winifred & I are in a large room on the ground floor with 8 beds in it & 6 small rooms. There are five large French windows so we get plenty fresh air. In the evening are allowed a grate fire, so nearly are most comfortable, though they say in ~~damp~~ wet weather it is frightfully damp.
In the meantime it's mightily nice – the only problem is getting washed. It's somewhat a fight to get near any water in the a.m. or p.m. either for that matter.
It is topping hearing to write, for the others in the

Altogether it was a record day. The Hospital received a batch of new patients. Two in number. They have reached Taplow @ 12.20, a distance of 2½ miles from the Hospital, & everyone was <u>tired</u>, Clothis c Langid, & in bed by 3 p.m. And the Wards as neat as a new pin — The rush was on account of a visit of the King & Queen who arrived while unnoticed. I was sent to a Ward in the afternoon to help out, as nothing was doing in the operating room.

The King of course is small, but wonderfully healthy looking. He was awfully

nice little men – stopped & spoke to almost every one in the ward I was in (47) the Queen following & doing the same. By cause we had a splendid chance to see the Queen.

We go on duty @ 8 a.m. & get off at 8 p.m. & supposed to have 3 hrs. off. but I cause on a day like this candidly.

Certainly the work has sick anything like as hard as private-nursing, even in France. Just again in the British Hospitals, while they have terrible rushes @ times, in-between whilst the work quiets down. Well time rushes, & we have a big day

a head fire to-morrow in the offending room, so had better get to bed. I just wish I could get told of you what you about things. but ——

Winifred has a dreadful cold & is feeling generally rotten. She is in one of the Medical Wards.

Well will tell you more about the Hospital another time. Being with the men makes one realise the magnitude of the War. It is painful to see how everyone of them dread the possibility of their having to go back.

Good night & heaps of love to all especially you my pom

Lottie.

Mums all a-1.