

Miss M. ...

HOLYWELL WIRRAL

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9 FEB 41

Mrs + Mr Hewson

Langbark

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Canada

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MR
JASK.

From A. Newson
15 Centurion Drive, Meols, Hoylake.

15 Centurion Drive Deoloo

Feb. 6th 1941

Dear Susan & Geoff. No further letter from you, but one may come soon. There does not seem much news. We are glad to have longer daylight. Geoffrey is well & out again, Barbara still has a bad cough, but is out & about. I still go there every day, her woman's child has measles so she cannot come to work for Barbara for a fortnight. Barbara has been having her two mornings a week lately. We have had more snow but it did not stay on the ground & the rain yesterday washed it away. Brian gives us his Free Press & we find these very interesting & send them on to Capt. Cox sometimes - he sends Brian MacLean's papers. Mr. Dixon's housekeeper & a friend of hers were up yesterday & told us all about his last illness & death - he would have been 98 on today - he left everything to his housekeeper we think - house, money etc. She had been many years with him & had

been very good to him, making him com-
-fortable & looking well after the house -
She has had a naval man billeted on her
& has found him the greatest help, he helps
-ed in Mr. Dixon's few days illness & saw
to everything for her afterwards - he got up
coal, swept snow away & was invaluable -
he pays 30/- per week & has all meals
there, so with things at present prices it
does little more than pay expenses but she
is very glad she has him as he is so helpful -
We are still having quiet nights & days, tho'
there have been warnings there has been
no firing. Harold is a fire-watcher at us
this road one night a week & also has
to firewatch over the little bank by the
station some nights. Elizabeth runs about
& gets into mischief - she gets into the safe
where the food is kept, & climbs on tables -
pulls things out of drawers when open &
then stuffs them in again - tries to turn on the
gas taps on the oven. she always finds occupa-
-tion for herself & is full of movement, she is
by no means house trained yet!!

Sat⁹ This morning a letter from you & one from Sadie arrived & were very welcome indeed, & this afternoon another letter came posted Langbank Jan: 13th with Susie's surprise news in it, I am so glad you are keeping so well, & hope you continue all through, how pleased the other children will be at the new arrival. Tom must be quite a big boy now & able to help in small ways, I am glad you have efficient help. I expect Amaryllis will soon learn to ride when warmer weather comes - does she have a saddle? & is the pony quite quiet & used to children. I hope the washing machine comes up to expectation when tried out.

You will miss Bill this summer Geoff - are you keeping your present help?

Eggs are now 3/6 per dozen - rather a difference to you!! We think twice before using one in a pudding. Meat is more plentiful but the ration remains at 1/2 per person per week. Best steak is 1/10 & stewing steak is 1/4 per lb. Sheep's liver 1/10 per lb. - The cheaper

Cuts of meat need longer cooking + that usually means more gas or electricity to cook it. Bread is subsidized + costs 5¢ per 2 lb loaf. We are shortly to have wholemeal bread + later a white loaf with special added products to make it more sustaining. I go to Barbara's every day to help a little. On wet days the children have so many toys out + pieces of paper, cardboard boxes etc. they take some clearing up. Elizabeth loves to empty a drawer onto the floor, + then stuff them all back again - it keeps her happy + busy for quite a time. She goes to sleep about 11 o'clock for an hour - + Geoffrey has a rest after dinner tho' he does not sleep, but lies down + looks at his books. I agree with you Geoffrey that for people like Hitler or Mussolini nothing but superior force is any use. England did everything possible in the appeasement line + all Hitler's promises have been broken time after time. It does not do to have Dictators or Kings with unlimited authority. A Parliament of some kind is necessary to prevent these wars.

I don't think the bulk of the
Italians wanted war & probably
some of the Germans but the
latter have always been army
ridden & have caused five
wars of late years. We are
glad the U. S. are helping -

Barbara & Harold & Chil-
-dren are coming to dinner to-
-morrow - we are having a beef
steak & Kidney pie. We have
had nice quiet nights for some
time now & we are indeed

Thankful. So many innocent
nations have suffered under Hit-
ler & Mussolini - Our armies
in the Dardanelles & with the Greeks
are doing very well - I wonder what
they will do with so many priso-
ners. It is colder now & rain
dash mornings - All will soon be
busy on the allotments. This year
I expect onions will be more grown,
we have had none for so long but
carrots have been excellent & cheap,
2d per lb. Dear love from
Mother.