

3 Centuria Drive Opole.

January 19th 1940.

Dear Susan & Geoff. Thank you for letter written on Tomas Day & posted on that day, it came yesterday so was a long time in the way. I really expect another letter but mails are uncertain. Last week I sent you (Geoff) a job of snits I had omitted. I forgot to answer the type the Tomas parcel we borrowed one of Dad's prams & Auntie Dr. & I wheeled it to the Post Office, which was a very easy way. What a pity Sadie & Harold could not come to you on Tomas Day. Sadie is unfortunate for when I was with you she was in bed with cold at Elsie's. She is also prevalent here & there are long columns of deaths in the papers - it has carried off many old people of 80 & 90 besides young folk. I forget if I told you that Gordon Heron died of double pneumonia & flu. We are still having unusually cold weather, & many have been the burst pipes & frozen ones - the plumbers are having a very busy time. Aunties had to have their supply pipe

thawed last even^g, as no water was running
into the cistern & they were afraid having a
fire would cause a boiler explosion. So for
a small paraffin lamp thawed my freeze up.
It had a snowfall in the early morn^g, about 3
inches of snow. I brushed my paths clear before
breakfast it was so light & easy to brush. I hope
there won't be any more, tho' it looks very ominous.
We are hoping to go & see Briara tomorrow if we
can go. Harold is to take us, but we shall not
have much more than an hour with Brian be-
cause Harold does not get home in time to go
earlier. But this saves us any walking, & usu-
ally we have rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ hour's walk
each way, tho' we could wait & take an al-
ready overcrowded bus. We would rather
walk than wait in the cold. There has been
skating for some time. To don't get any weather
reports on the wireless now as they seem to think
they might help the enemy, but judging by the past
it seems to me quite as likely they would mis-
lead him. Pat had a letter from Mrs
Pidyard. She said her husband has been
very busy & that she constant anxiety

has aged him very much. In the last war
he was a Commander in the Navy. The
Germans are very bitter against Britain. It is
thought they will attempt to push thro' either
Holland or Belgium. On Sunday aftⁿ, after
having dinner at Aunties I am going to Reefs
house & look after Baby for Dad while she
& Harold & Geoffrey go to tea at Dollie Burrows
at Bidston. Harold is still using his car
it is low powered (8) & he thinks he would not
save much by laying it up for this quarter, as
he would have to pay at a higher rate if he
takes the licence quarterly. I am sitting
by a big red fire - everything very quiet. ^{for which}
I see the Bank of Montreal is the one that
Martin's Bank has agents. Barbara still
has her 'help' she tried for two situations
without success; she paints her nails
red - a perfectly sickening thing - looks like
a reversion to savagery when meat was torn
up & eaten raw! Luckily it has never
caught on well among really educated people
here. Poor little Tom he would be tired with

the festivities. The oven must be very large to
 take two such large turkeys - it is as much
 as ours will do to take one of less than that
 weight. Tho' we have not had one for some years
 now. Surprisingly Auntie M., had one but was
 ill & unable to have any so Jennie had to
 enjoy it alone! Various friends helped there to
 eat it cold. I am glad you have a comfortable
 Chair, Susan. I have a little rocking chair &
 use it a great deal. I called at Par's this morn'g
 & when I came away Geoffrey called out "Come again
 soon, Nan. I am" he loves riding on his bicycle &
 guides it splendidly. I am making a jumper
 for Geoffrey with grey & blue wool - some I had
 left over & have now got some wool (wheeler) to
 make steering gloves for seamen. Few people
 seem to make them. Most women wear knit-
 ted scarf hoods. Not so many are wearing
 trousers. Slim women don't look as bad as others.
 but they are not attractive. With dear love to
 you all from your ever loving Mother.

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M. & D. G. Hewson
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