

3 Centurion Drive - Meola, April 21<sup>st</sup> / 40  
(Sunday)

Dear Susan & Geoff. As always I was de-  
lighted to get two letters this week from  
you. We are having real April weather -  
Sunshine & showers - & very cold wind  
early in the week but better now, & the  
cabbages that were thought to have been des-  
troyed by severe frost earlier on are now  
most flourishing. I wonder what make of  
sewing machine you will get - mine is a  
Singer hand machine - I have had it  
a great number of years & it has never  
had anything wrong with it, & goes now  
as well as ever. Mother had a treadle  
machine but I like the hand one just as  
well. The new machines will go both  
backward & forward wh: is a great con-  
venience for fastening ends of seams. I like  
to be able to carry my machine about & get  
it into the best light wh: differs as the  
day goes on. We are much appreciating

The long days - It is light outdoors until  
9 o'clock - here we have had moonlight for a  
while - The blackout has shown us the  
multitudes of stars - so lovely - but with  
electrically lit roads they were not  
noticeable - Elizabeth has had bronchitis  
(slight) & had to be kept indoors, the Dr.  
said she was not really ill with it, but  
the cough has been troublesome - he said  
there are never so many cases of it at  
the Babies Home - that you would almost  
believe it to be infectious - some of the chil-  
dren were coughing up blood! However  
the cold winds have almost gone down &  
probably the Dr. will let Elizabeth out  
tomorrow. I have been there in the  
afternoon so that Paer could go out  
with Geoffrey. Geoffrey is out the whole  
day long with a little girl (Pauline) &  
a little boy Peter - they play together  
very amicably with their tricycles &  
motor cars - up & down on the pavement.

Harold is better again & digging busily  
for victory! He is setting all sorts of veg.  
-tables & his soil is extremely sandy.  
Cabbages are 6<sup>d</sup>! His in front here are  
hundreds of them, I expect they will re-  
duce the price soon. Mr. Auntie M. &  
I went to see Beniam on Wednesday,  
we had tea with him in the large Hall-  
at a table to ourselves - He has much  
more freedom now & goes to different  
parts of the Hospital on messages, he  
is not now kept locked up & he looks  
& is much better. He sleeps in a  
different ward which unfortunately  
is very crowded. They have had to  
empty the Annexe which a large  
building wh. they formerly used - to  
make room for the Military patients -  
they had about 250 of those there  
time, & have room for 400, but the  
cases are mostly accidents or trouble  
caused by cold, etc. Beniam is allowed

out each evening for a walk for two hours with another patient, but no attendant. I have just finished a woollen knitted coat for Geoffrey. I am knitting some stockings for Amaret - but they won't be done until the autumn I expect. Owlaid eggs are  $2/3 + 2/6$  per dozen; they have risen again very soon, they were  $1/5$  in Wales last week but were expected to rise. We are looking forward with fears to the Budget - for new taxes. I have agreed to have the house painted by Stanley - it will be £17-10-0 - he will clean out + paint all gutters + woodwork with two coats of paint + coat of varnish - burning off where necessary old paint + giving that an extra coat. Both wages + paint have risen since last time + there it was £16-10-0 just before I came to Canada. The house + railings bad - by need doing - the sun, rain + sea air make paint perish. I am glad you liked the socks Geoffrey. With dear love from  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Mother.