

3 Centurion Drive, Opals, Holyoke.  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 1940.

Dear Susan & Geoffrey. No letter this week -  
We have had a lot of ~~rain~~ rain this week  
at night & even a little snow one night, but  
it melted very quickly. I am glad to see  
Aunties are gradually getting stronger: it  
takes some time. Jeanne is practically well  
again. Brian Tweedy is home looking very  
washed out after his two illnesses & Nor-  
man is well again after a short sharp  
attack of flu. Margaret wrote that her  
father was very ill & they had to get a  
nurse - a matter of difficulty - as few are  
available but at last they got one from  
Liverpool - however Dr. Seward died on Wed-  
nesday - He has been ill for a long time -  
really ever since he retired - the blood  
vessels had thickened so that enough blood  
did not reach the brain, & it made him  
very irritable & difficult to deal with. He  
had always been such a kind man. MRS

Seward has a widowed sister who will prob-  
-ably live with her at any rate for some time -  
her daughter is a district nurse & hopes  
to have her mother with her eventually -  
Elizabeth is well now & very happy - She raises  
herself up to look after her - she is 6 months  
old now - Dorothy Stokes is dressing the  
Doctor's son - his wife expects a baby any time  
now - a young mother has just died of meningitis  
leaving a boy of 3 & a baby a few weeks old - the  
grandmother has them - the father is coming  
home on leave from France to arrange matters -  
Barbara had a very nice letter from Brian,  
Capt<sup>n</sup> Cox was going to see him this Wed-  
-nesday & next Wednesday is our day  
for going - There is a shop here where  
patients & staff & visitors can buy quite  
a number of things - tinned goods, biscuits  
little cakes, fruit, sweets - they have not  
had it very long - We are to be allowed  
a double ration of butter very soon -  
meat rationing has begun - it is a tire -  
-some business for bubbleers reckoning

dear - a really good sized cabbage recently  
got 1/- Bacon is 1/7 per lb, Sugar 4 1/2<sup>d</sup> per lb.  
Pear applied for an extra ration as she made  
marmalade. she had to show the bill she had  
paid for the bitter oranges. & there is talk of  
inspection to see that marmalade really  
was made. Are you having Bill again this  
Summer, is he any stronger? We have been  
knitting socks, mufflers, & mitts for sailors -  
I have today refilled the chip drawer, but there  
is a large quantity of wood still in the coal  
house - wood that you & Brian chopped. it  
has been a great help. I suppose Amarah will  
soon be able to go to school again.

Sunday. Wet again. but clearing up - I enclose  
Brian's letter. Will have to have house painted  
outside this Spring - it badly needs it.

Dorothy said how fond Barbara is of Tom - Geoff  
- they have several playmates nearby & they ride up  
& down the broad footpaths together on their  
tricycles. With dear love from Mother

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX A  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX B  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX T.

up what each family may spend in the week & taking the coupons each time meat is bought. I may spend 1/10 per week, Aunties each 1/10, Barbara can spend 7/4 which is more than ample - they reckon each child however young as a person. If cheaper cuts are chosen it allows a bigger quantity of meat. Liver, heart, kidneys (offal as it is called) are not rationed - neither are fowls, rabbits, game or fish, sausages, meat pies. So there is plenty of choice. We are sorry Finland had to give in - Sweden seemed afraid to help. They say the Swedish newspapers are all in German hands. Mabel & Alice Cook are staying in Hoyalake. Mabel had bronchitis after Jonas & while she was ill the flat above (left unoccupied) had a bad burst, the water flooding their flat. So Mabel had to be taken to a Nursing Home & there they both came to Hoyalake until their flat was inhabitable again - I think they are both over 80. Green stuff is re-viving after the severe weather, but still

It is coarser than Scotch fringing + generally of poorer quality - too thick for socks - but suitable for mitts for seamen - if for army air force blue is used - but for sailors dark blue - + for soldiers Khaki. People are all busy gardening. Hundreds of acres are being ploughed up - about here + Chester they use a 2 horse plough but in many places they are using motor ploughs. The winter wheat is coming up quite well. I hope the steel granary will be a success - rats cannot grow thro' at any rate - + they should be durable. Wheat seems to be gradually rising according to the papers. Who is going to help you for the summer months? We have just had a Maori speaking on the Wireless - he said the largest number of sheep that he had ever sheared in a day was 246 !! Hitler is threatening severe attacks on all our ports this Easter. Mabel + Alice Cook were at Aunties to tea on Thursday. Harold kindly drove them back to Carlton Terrace where they are staying until Tuesday. Mabel is 84 + had been very ill with bronchitis. Alice is 80 + not able to nurse her like Dr. Knight. So Mabel

was taken to a Nursing Home for 3 weeks & it cost  
£19 - not including the Doctor - !! They live in  
a flat but the lady had left the flat above & not  
turned off the water so that when the frost came  
her pipes burst & flooded the Cook's flat, & it  
is only now fit to live in - Bar has no mail but  
she has her former charwoman back each Mon-  
day wh: is a great help. Eggs are getting much  
cheaper now they are 2/- per dozen. No, I am  
not doing too much - I look at the dirty white  
paint but so far I have not got any further in  
Spring cleaning except that I have brushed the  
walls & ceilings down. Auntie Dr. had a letter  
from Cousin May (Dr. Gilpin) she said Charlotte's  
eyes troubled her, & that Peter Waters (Elsie's father)  
had a housekeeper nurse since his illness.  
which will be a great help to Edith I should  
think, & that perhaps is why Elsie was not  
deeded. It will be a relief to Elsie. I am glad  
the horses came back & saved your hunting for  
them. I hope the little parcel arrived safely.  
I would like to see little Tom. Bar has not had  
Elizabeth's photo taken yet. With dear love to all from  
Mother

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# HITLER'S 11 POINTS

## VATICAN REPORT OF PEACE PLAN

Rome, Monday.—Signor Mussolini, at his meeting with Hitler to-day, is understood, according to a Vatican source in close touch with the diplomatic moves of which Mr. Welles's visit to Europe was the climax, to have urged Hitler to delay his threatened "great offensive."

Signor Mussolini, learning from Mr. Welles that Hitler's proposals were doomed to collapse unless further concessions were forthcoming, is said to have arranged the Brenner meeting.

Hitler's 11-point proposals are reported to include:

1. General disarmament on land sea and in the air.
2. Formation of a small independent Poland centring around Warsaw, with a population of about 10,000,000, with Gdynia a Polish port giving

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access to the Baltic. The Poles would have free access to the port of Danzig, Polish commerce to the Baltic would be facilitated, and the boundaries of the new Polish State would be determined by plebiscite under an international commission. Minority problems would be solved in the Danubian and Polish zones by mass emigrations.

3. Czechs, Slovaks and Hungarians would form a tripartite State allied with the Reich in which Germany would hold certain industrial and communication rights for 25 years.
4. Austria would remain within the Reich.
5. Germany would get back her colonies within 25 years, or at least certain colonial concessions or protection for German emigration to certain zones in Africa.
6. A Danubian confederation would be formed with the participation of Germany and Italy as the "guardian" Powers, and

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would include Yugoslavia, Rumania, Slovakia, Hungary and Bohemia and Moravia.

7. The Balkan status quo to be maintained and frontiers to be protected, such as Bessarabia and Transylvania.
8. Germany's remaining Jews would emigrate to Palestine, Italy and East Africa under the direction of Britain and under the direction of France to Madagascar.
9. Absolute liberty of trade; no tariff barriers for raw materials; and direct contact for economic collaboration with the United States.
10. Special treatment of Italian commerce in Djibuti and free passage through the Suez.
11. Italians in Tunisia to have new status.—B.U.P.

## DUCE BACK IN ROME

Rome, Monday.—Signor Mussolini arrived in Rome at 11.45 to-night from the meeting with Hitler on the Brenner.—Exchange.

## Dustbin Lids In Action

A man who bought his stirrup pump only last Saturday saved three houses from destruction when incendiary bombs were scattered in a residential area. After hearing Mr. Morrison's broadcast he bought a pump and put two buckets of sand in his bathroom. On Thursday night he heard a swishing sound and then smelt something burning. His two neighbours were away from home, and in one house he found a fire-bomb blazing in the scullery. Covering the bomb with a washing bowl, he ran to his own home for the pump and sand and extinguished the fire. In another district a man was seen "operating" with two dustbin lids filled with earth, which he clamped down on incendiary bombs as they fell.

Several families are homeless owing to their houses in one Liverpool district being demolished by a high-explosive bomb. Four children were buried in the ruins of their home in one street, where several people are believed to have been killed. The four children are those of Mr. and Mrs. George Butterworth, who shared a house with Mrs. Bridget Whelan, Mrs. Butterworth's mother.

Mr. Butterworth told the *Daily Post* that the children—Joan, aged eight; George, aged six; Brian, aged four, and James, aged two—were asleep in the kitchen, and his wife was lying on the bed with them just before the bomb exploded. He opened the door to see what was happening when he was thrown along the passage by the explosion. He called to his wife, but there was no response, but there was a small space in the debris through which he was able to get to the kitchen. He again called to his wife, and she answered. Eventually he was able to grasp the hand of his wife, who was trapped, and she was taken to hospital.

Mrs. Whelan was rescued through a window, but efforts to get to the children by crawling through the debris were not successful.

Good work in helping...

LANGBANK  
AP 10  
40  
SASK.

From  
A. Hewson  
3 Centurion Drive  
Meals. Joylake.

LANGBANK  
AP 8  
40  
SASK.

From  
A. Hewson  
3 Centurion Drive  
Meals. Joylake.