

Thursday May 25 1916

France

Dearest Ruth - Just a line to say that I have passed a safe & busy day. I went ever so far on the motorbike this morning in search of two masons' troughs & with a tin of cement in my pocket & an R.E. yard; I was sent on from pillar to post; can so simple a need be so difficult to come by anywhere in the world outside the British Army. But I got 'em at last. The roads were filthy; for a long way I had to go along quite slowly with my feet out for a skid.

When I got to a large town where a great many headquarters are situated I bet thought me of the B.E.F. canteen there & put into the neat little box with the bike carrier over the back what I bought: a bottle of Lemon Squash, 2 pots of Lobster Paste & tin of Ginger nuts & a box of cigarettes. Next time I opened the carrier I found that the lemon squash & 1 pot of fishy paste had broken!!! It's just filled with fishy mess now. Consequently I didn't reach the work till after 11 o'clock. It's getting on all right. On the way back to-day I went to a large & beautiful farm inhabited by R.E. with the object of drawing scaffolding

from them. They asked me to stop to tea & I'm now
in a fair way to making friends with one Captain
Matheson. I'm very glad of this. It's very important
to get on with R.E. just now. Besides I like
getting about & seeing folk. I have to go out
again to night - bother! The night drift is a
ground - there's no getting away from that - we
shall carry cement, sand & wood to night. I
shall try to get away early as I must be out
to-morrow night with a fresh N.C.O.

Thank you Mother for the cake, which
I found here on my return. It looks very good
& is as beautiful as the day when it came out
of the oven. Now I must eat my supper.
As I had no lunch I feel pretty hungry.

Good Night dearest one. Sleep peacefully.

Love to all

Yr most loving

George.

