

(77) Saturday July 29

My own dearest The sun is all bright  
this morning, there is no haze like  
yesterday. It is lovely here, but I want  
you, I want you so much. Your letter  
that I had yesterday said so little  
of the danger we are evidently in. I don't  
think it makes me less frightened  
when you bravely tell me anything  
about it. But I am so glad you  
are able almost to enjoy it. I think  
that I like you to feel that because  
I love you to have a joy in adventures  
for the sake of adventures. But adventures  
with the wrong companions is the most  
useless thing. I love it with you and  
yet I am sure that I am not the  
companion that that would help you  
to enjoy dangerous adventures because  
you would be frightened about me.  
I suppose that you were mending a  
telephone wire. I want to know how  
long it took to mend, you say  
the mending time was over by 4:30  
and that you slept in the early afternoon

I wonder if you were mending the telephone all the time so it you are being shelled at you battery.

Dealing you dont know how full of sympathy I am at the awful time of fear and misery you must have had when you thought it was your fault that our men had been shelled out by our own guns. I am so very thankful it was not your fault, but I hate that you should suffer like that my own dear darling.

Dearest are you getting tired and nervous yet in this new place? I am not very happy about you being there. I suppose no one perfectly is very happy about their husbands positions except a few lucky ones like Mildred. What a blessing it is that Bob is safe.

Talking about labor. I do think its a good thing that the attitude of the man should be known by every one because there is no use people trying to help them on the assumption that that they do want to work and to be good citizens when the doubt, and

have no intention of putting themselves out in the least what ever need their country and comrades are in. It is so incredible that people could behave like the Clyde workers that one feels there must be some big mistake somewhere. They must have got the most hopelessly wrong ideas into their heads. I wonder when they will come out again. And I also wonder what the attitude of the present army, when it returns at the end of war, will be to such people. Will they have forgotten entirely or not?

Here is Agapanthus just come to talk to me and he stoked.

I wish I knew which attitude toward work people was the best. There is the practical attitude that Father takes up. He does not merely want to get as much work as he can for as little money. But at the same time he does not extend a vast amount of sympathy toward them and he gives them none if they are lazy. And I expect you feel with me that he some times lays too much stress on the purely money side of the question.

and yet as far as one can see that is the only side the workman thinks about. The people who talk and sympathize and say that laws ought to be made, seem to me to do very little good in the end. That is such a very vague remark that I think its rather useless. But you know the people I mean, many of the set you are in would be the socialist and liberal politicians. I mean people who fuss over workmen till they think they are ill used heads. I am sure nothing does to ~~people~~ <sup>people</sup> more harm than to make them think themselves permanently ill used. And that is one trouble in ~~modern~~ days that people really do nothing themselves so.

I had a long walk yesterday afternoon with Mr Cokerell. He wanted to go and see Mrs Watts so I said I would walk over with him. It was pretty hot, but then he walks pretty slowly so we did not get very hot. I missed having baby in the evening but Father and Mildred had her and took her up the river in the boat

not for her sake but for the sake of  
the Cockeall children who wanted to  
go. Mildred said that Clue was very  
fascinated by the sight of naked  
bathing boys. They are nice to look  
at arent they.

What is your water supply like and do  
you still get a bath every one day or  
two? If your water supply is any  
mudlike that the Godalming supply  
I'm sorry for you.

We had a very good letter from Majorie  
yesterday discharging her from life. There are  
only two girls there now besides herself.  
One she thinks she will like. ~~Very~~ So far  
she likes the work. She had only had  
one day when she wove and that day  
they had been ~~throwing~~ <sup>she</sup> The first  
part of the morning ~~they~~ had been  
more or less inside the threader making  
out chuff and the second half on  
the stack throwing the courses into the  
threader. That was harder work she

said but more fun and easier.

So far she seems to think she will like  
the life, but of course she may find it  
very different when she goes to an  
ordinary farm.

Father was very amused by your report  
about them certainly being a mistake  
some where if you got no potatoes

Yours very very loving

Ruth.

