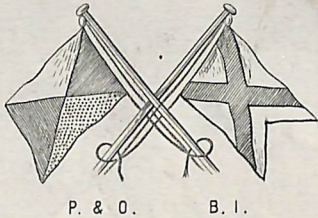


1922 2



P. & O. S. N. Co.  
S. S.

March 7, 1922

My dearest Ruth, Nothing could be less eventful than our voyage so far. We go smoothly along in smiling sunshine day after day; & the members of the expedition are a happy smiling company with plenty of easy conversation. Each morning Frick has give a demonstration with the Oxygen apparatus & we play about with the valves - it is simple enough; but one of the men for use in case the other does not work wishes holding a rubber tube in one's mouth & I sicken with the thought of the saliva dribbling down. I hope it won't be necessary to use it.

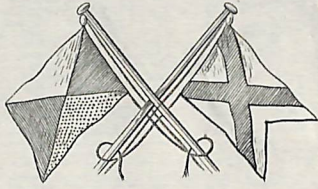
This is an old ship but sufficiently commodious; my own cabin is a stage below the others & in rather a smelly corner - however my protests have led to the extinction of some few bad odors & it is tolerable enough.

I read much - I am through with Keynes's books though I shall keep it for further digestion & am

very carefully studying 'Suggestion & Autosuggestion' -  
the logical structure is flimsy but I'm greatly  
interested. For exercise deck tennis has so  
far provided some amusement - Wakefield &  
Someswell are both keen. Rich rigged up a  
punch-ball on the first day, but I haven't seen him  
use it yet. He is behaving very well so far.  
Indeed I'm liking all the bunch very well & not  
least Noel who has done quite a lot of 'lonely  
wandering' & is reserved & interesting about  
his experiences.

I've been busy to-day with my article for the  
Blackie Encyclopaedia - I've finished off, but  
I doubt if it's what they want; the important  
matter is that they should send a cheque for  
£10. And to-morrow morning at an early  
hour we shall be in Port Said & this letter  
will be put on board some other mail boat  
homeward bound.

I'm sending also 'Night & Day'. Will you try &  
read it & if you can get on with it send it  
through, remembering that the real subject



P. & O.

B. I.

P. & O. S. N. Co.  
S. S.

in the writers mind is the difficulty of intimacy.  
It seems to me that almost nothing is more  
important - that while we must accept the  
sad fate that we can't always reach the best  
possible with the other individual if only we  
take trouble to learn a little more how to do it  
- that we <sup>ought</sup> to do. Another subject  
more prominent in the beginning is simply the  
drifting current of thought - a thought it's not  
quite brought off successfully I think all that is  
very interesting too - the commonplaces content  
of minds & the way things happen there.

I said nothing to <sup>Ingham</sup> ~~Wade~~ the other day  
inquiry of Will's visit to him. If you hear  
anything of that do let me know.

Dearest love, is it a very bad gap now that I'm gone? I hardly like to ask for fear of suggesting loneliness to you, but with the children you'll know how to put that away. I hate the fact of your not being with me & even more the thought of my not being with you, as though I had been cruel to you; & I don't want ever to hurt you the least little bit. I've been thinking again about going to America - & I think you must come with me if I go there.

I've got your photograph & those of the children the same as last year; but if ever Robert or anyone take any new ones, particularly if you mind you send some on to me.

I suppose you will be seeing Arrie before long. Give her my special love.

Kiss the children for me.

Great love to you always, dear Ruth

Your loving  
George.

