

June 20 Tuesday

(45)

117, HERBERT ROAD,
WOOLWICH,
S. E.

My dearest.

I have had a letter from you this morning. I'm afraid you must be having an awful time with the wet and cold and food difficulties. I rather gather by you saying that you want more tea that you have had the last lot I sent you. Do say definitely when you get things it is so much more satisfactory to me. I will try to send you some tea & soup packets today. If you get all the cakes you have been sent lately you ought to have plenty for Mary has sent you one to the old address & I onto the new. Cake will do instead of pudeling a bit. I think I might send you some dried fruits it would be a bit of a change from tinned & prunes are very wholesome. I do like having baby without Violet for a bit. She is such a sweet. She is not being very good this morning. She was tired when I put her down but she only slept for half an hour and now she is crying but I cant take her

up yet. Its very nice being here with
Mary. I think there is a great feeling
of happiness and contentment through the
house. It is very calm after the atmosphere
of Bridget. Do you know I find that
Ralph & Stephen were at school together
& are friends. It is extraordinary what a
lot of people are friends with one an
other.

I think very likely you wont go on being
short of food because Ralph says you
are the only people so far in the astillyan
way that he has heard of who are having
any difficulties he says most of them
where fed awfully well & even had
cigarettes provided for them.

Will you be going to observation posts
now? And will they be right forward
in the trenches? I do wonder so
whether we are going to do any thing
in they way of an offensive. Ralph
says that he has heard of many
people being on the move lately &
they have all been moving southward.
So you can guess what he thinks.
At the same time I dont think every

one ought to know where their people are & where they are moving to because if Ralph can draw these conclusions other people will be able to. He says a new army order came out quite a short time ago to the effect that officers must be more careful what they say as strong measures would have to be taken. People are so silly about wanting to show off their knowledge quite regardless of whether it is wise to or not. I do think it is a pity that nature has not arranged that boys and girls should come alternately or something of that sort so that every one could have both kinds. Mary is so anxious for a boy next that she says she will hardly dare to have another for fear it should not be a boy. Bridget has made up her mind to have a girl because she feels she will not be as bitterly disappointed as she was last time. And you know that I want a boy next time very badly. I have been having such fun with baby in the garden. I have been swinging her in a hammock and she has been laughing like any thing.

I do wish I could know when the war
will be over. I do so want to be able
to look forward to you coming back
at some definite time. I do look forward
to the end very very much, but it is
vague. Your leave will be lovely but
so short. I shall have to let you go
almost as soon as I have got you.
Darling I do think you will be safe
but I want to know you are.
If we have a future life where there
is no death it will be very nice. I don't
think I mind dying but I mind
parting dreadfully, most specially from
you. If my soul could hold the hand
of your soul and go together to the
great new adventure of death, then I do
not think I would fear it at all.
But even if we died at the same moment
I expect we should each have to go
alone. I could have to leave baby I
think, because her life is not my life,
but my darling yours is.

Good night dear

Very very much love I send to you
and many kisses

Ruth