

Still
Great
Depression
in US and Eng

42. Collyhurst Ave
Morton

Blackpool S.S.

Dec 1937

Dear William & Arvilla (not forgetting
(The Family) - If silence is golden
then there is a mighty big fortune lying
between Collyhurst Ave. and 340 W. Buell St. and
now that Christmas is on the wings I
thought that it would be a good idea to
break through that golden wall. Well I have
had two letters in the rack for some eight
months or more. The one Arvilla in Jan &
the one that you wrote in Feb. William you
remember the little miracle and after those
good fine letters and intentions I let
you down so badly.

Well I cannot play on the old gag
that I cannot find the time to write as
I am in bed at present with Rheumatism
and have been in for nearly a fortnight
Prior to that, well my intentions were good

but the longer things went on the harder it became and the less time I had. So here goes something of my doings etc. since last I wrote you I was out of work at the time.

Well in March I got a job at a Cafe in Blackpool. Known as the V.C.P. Restaurant — United Cattle Products as cellar-man & store keeper. I started at 7-30 A.M.

I had to get the boilers going, put the bins out get the milk up in the kitchen and get things under way in general before the staff came about quarter to nine. Then carrying box of trips up to the shop & running potatoes through the cleaning machine & dressing them of their eyes was more than sufficient until 2 o'clock when I usually had my dinner.

Then hundred & odd job came my way until after tea. It was 11-30 P.M. when I left the shop that night as I had to lock up etc. Of course I had two & a half hours off, but it did not count for much as I was still tired and it was cold and meant me going to the pictures many a time. Though I did manage to take my

time off about 7-30 P.M. at times and I would go into the Theatre across the road and see a good musical comedy or a first rate play, or even a football match in the afternoon we used to work it, the other fellows Bob, & I.

I had half a day off from $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 P.M. and sundays we were closed. It was then I intended writing you but I was always dead tired. After about a month of this we opened out night for the ~~se~~ the staff was increased, another man was set on in the cellar with me, the potatoe job in it self being quite a full time job then I used to help him with the spuds. But I'd lots of other work besides portering for the cellar to the kitchen, and doorman (second commissionaire to Bob). Thrown in. Of course we had some rare guests lined up I see them lined up in the staircase & along the passage for 10-30 A.M. until 10-30 P.M. with maybe just an hour case between dinner & tea and tea & supper.

There was about fifty of a staff and Bob & myself were the lads who's work put us in contact with every department and of course there were times when we had some grand fun with some of the staff. In fact it kept us going and then to I believe. You know Blackpool is really a rodder of a place in the summer season and the illumination period and it becomes a full time job from morn till night feeding all these empty tubbys turning our time off two hours sometimes an hour and other times, no time off at all.

Mother got work there in the summer to, as vegetable cook in the kitchen which I consider a hard job. and a rotten one to, but she was her own boss practically and that made her content at her work which she proved quite capable of doing well. But for all that wages are very poor in Blackpool they wouldn't bide thinking about. Labor so cheap. Like mother I was happy enough at my job in some ways, but it seemed an

hap'azard sort of existence, but beggars cannot be choosers and a job is better than none at all.

Of course I used to take good advantage of my time off when I was off at a convenient time of the day. And some times I would go on the North Pier and listen to the band in the open air sun lounge, odd times I would go dancing on the central pier in the open air arena though very rare as I suffered a lot with rheumatism. Then sometimes there would be opportunity for me to spend a couple of hours in the South Pier Floral Hall listening to the really first rate orchestra there. Every body would of course be so sedate & smartly dressed & well I showed signs of wear & tear there.

Then of course a season at the Gaiety almost provides material enough to write a book.

Well all through the summer I just about kept at my work though being bad with rheumatism and by the end of the lights

(Illuminations) I was just about crippled
anyhow I did a couple of weeks work later
as Bob the other fellow, was off work and then
I found myself in bed. as I could not
walk. Rheumatism is a complaint that
takes some getting rid of so I am hoping
for the best. Naturally the rest as done
me a world of good. But every joint of me
seems full of it so I shall have to try this
and that and I've got scores of rheumatic remedies
from various friends which I will have to try
when the doctor has done his bit.

Mother finished working after the lights
along with me but one of the kitchen
hands has been ill so, mother's been
working there and is likely for doing so until
after Christmas. Naturally the work much
easier now in the winter and they close Sundays
again now. My Aunt Ada (Mrs Padden) is
attending to my requirements while I am in bed.

Now I'd better be moving a bit, what
do you say? How about those letters of
yours in hand at last. Well Arrilla when
it comes to writing a letter you are a

chatterer! As I read through your letter I seem to have almost helped to wash the children, eaten some of last year's turkey, seen that dirty big coalman come in from his work, looked into those hazel eyes of yours, you were telling me about! Oh my, you'll be saying I'm positively awful? I had my nose registering at 13° deg. Fahrenheit below zero, through that severe weather you get out there and - I guess I had better quit or you will be waiting to box my ears or telling Big Bill Yancy that while he was missionary he might have brought me up better.

Well I'll have a wack at answering Williams' letter now he really deserves it I must say and he had to wait all this time, but then it was after 12 o'clock when I got to bed & I was up again at 6-30 A.M.

It was good to have that letter from you, though of course I like Arvilla to write

letters letters as well. I was glad to hear that your job more permanent and financially better than you have had for the last few years. Lucky for you that you are fairly big built as it must be a heavy job. How have you gone on with those plans for the new house, did you manage to get to erect it this summer as you planned.

Naturally your idea of house planning is altogether different from over here as you are ~~have a~~ ~~big~~ bed room on the ground floor along with the living room and two small ones in the attic part. I see the basement a fine idea, the furnace will be for the general central heating of the place. But what about the fire-place in the living room is that for appearances, that cosy homely feeling, as one might say or is it some kind of american cooking type. etc. Well I hope that your plans have materialized by then as you intended, though I know that many times we have our ideas changed somewhat

through a variety of circumstances and they have to be ~~shut~~ sheltered and put in the castle in the air catering.

So I am hoping things have gone fine and that I shall be receiving a snap of the edifice & whole its family on the doorstep.

Last Christmas mother & I went over to Burnley to spend our Christmas at Moore's. This Christmas will be a more doubtful matter, though of course ~~they want us to go over if possible~~, but I do think it likely being as I am at present. Sis Moore and her little girl Glennys came over for the day on Sunday. I might had that John her husband is now District President for the Liverpool Conference. They had their Conference at Liverpool about a month back, but I was unable to get there. I believe it was one of the best for years. By the way Bro Fred Broadbent took an engineering post down at Plymouth and I've since heard that

he as just set sail as the junior engineer
 on a British cargo boat a new one last year
 to go through the Panama Canal and all up
 the west coast of America. Whoever
 Bill, David & Shannon will be just
 another year older and of course that
 will mean a lot. Mother sends her
 best regards & best wishes to you
 all. And we close now with the
 Seasons Greetings cards that I trust
 find you all in good health.

Frank Ford.

P.S. The British Missions new address
 is 5 Gordon Square, London W.C.1.

o'clock train which is the last, under wartime conditions. Its a poor do, anyhow this Christmas we are hoping to spend three full days together the first time we have ever had so long together and its been going on nine months. By the way do you remember a Ada Macaula a friend of mine who odd times came out to Pattern St., Bill well that the girl, not Cissie Miles whom I now you would remember for ~~shurs~~ at By the way Arthur Holgate as got married to a girl down at Groydon ju a year ago to date.

I Have been standing for work at a Biscuit Factory ~~near~~ by us and had seen the manager a couple of times and on more than one occasion I was confident of getting a start, but it didn't ~~come~~ off. They started a couple of hundred young girls, cheap labour, so prospects have gone flat so it seems. Well I've been in bed three or four days, I went to the pictures one night, (about three weeks back) and when I had been in the pictures about an hour I went all groggy and dizzy, so I got up and walked out but as I walked up the passage but on landing to the corridor I must have fell to the ground as I came round on a chair with the attendants round me, anyhow after I got warm etc., I walked it home, but for the following three days wasnt I sick and ill. It was some form of food poisoning anyhow I was real poorly, we had been having some pork over weekend, so what ever you do Bill my lad, keep off pork this Christmas, Ha: ha::.

Now about that genealogical work I put it in the hands of Bro. Gardner as I informed you, well I have written to him and I have got a letter back to the following effect. Your brother Elder Dean Ellsworth as got the data and money £2 as been paid over to him and he has had it since June, so that leaves Bro. Gardner clear of the matter and myself like-wise. Your brother did the work for himself so as to get experience of it. Bro. Gardner as written a letter to that effect to the Genealogical Society of Utah. So I suppose that your mother will know all about it. Hoping your brother was quite successful in his efforts. So I guess I need not say anything more about the matter.

Mother sends her best wishes to you all, she keeps just fair in health on the whole of course had time no real stable work give plenty to worry about if we let it get on top of us so its impossible to say that we are prosperous and happy without such securities.

Anyhow we find the wireless good company and we have just been listening to a radio performance of, Edward German's, "Merry England".

We enclose Xmas greetings & best to you all for a Happy New Year. For Sharon David I enclose view card which I bought them in the summer but never got to writing.

Best Wishes Sincerely Sis Lord & F

*1937?
[David
1936]*

end we hope to be enjoying a well earned holiday and visit up north.

Like wise you will be almost through the winter by the time you receive this letter, so hope that you have enjoyed good health and that the children have got through with-out illness as winter is generally a trying time where young folks are concerned.

You speak of the Christmas lights and street scene makes me think the it will be good to see the shop windows light up again some time, this black out we just have to accept as the normal and there it is practically over all Europe and yet just across the water in Ireland streets & business go on as normal.

Well we'll now closing with good night and Best Wishes for the future.

Sincerely yours

Frank & Ada.

Blackouts
in Europe

WW2

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EXAMINER 3791

Mr & Mrs W. Yancey

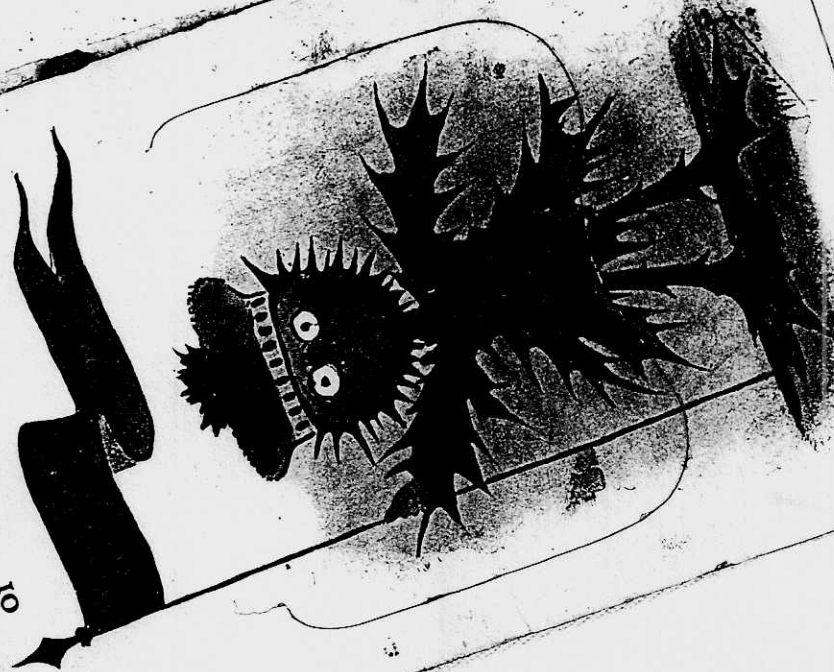
Route 1

Pocatello

Idaho

U.S.A.

Some of the Points
of INNERNES



Air Raids
in WW2

8 Gascoigne Rd
New Addington
Croydon
Surrey.

1942 (1943?)

Dear Friends

A few lines to let you know how we are getting along and to let you know that we received the Indian Blanket that you mentioned in the letter from you that we received previous.

Ada and myself wish to thank you for the kind thought and rather novel gift, such things always come in useful in a variety of ways like-wise thanks for the good wishes for our future, which were expressed in the letter.

I had meant to answer them a couple of weeks back, but I have had the hang over from a severe cold

~~from~~ for weeks. I have been fortunate to ~~keep~~ keep at work. I have been going on the bus & tram connections to work every morning usually I go by bike. It's $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour to an hour run a good seven miles from here to the works with lots of hills on the home-ward journey, so when I get fit again I shall not feel like starting out again. But the bus cost over seven shillings a week. so I'll be riding again in short of a week I suppose.

It's lovely up here in the summer but likewise tough & bleak in the winter. However we feel to have got almost through the winter and when the winter was approaching and had to be faced we wondered however we would get through & I have said life's exciting & tough enough up here with out a war and being on the battle front as it has been. I've

cycled through shoot & shell night
 after - night wondering what would
 happen next. Anyhow we have got
 so far, these last few weeks
 have been quite, no raids to speak of
 and we are quite relaxed, & relaxed
 perhaps when you consider that the
 all affair is far from over yet.

Mother is ~~staying~~ staying up
 at Burnley so we told her we had
 heard from you and sent the card
 over to her. And she wishes me to
 send her kind regards when I write.

We are a kind of nursing the
 idea of going up to Burnley & Blackpool
 for a week if I can get off work
 in early "May" to see Ada's people &
 my folks, but what might have developed
 by then with all this paper ~~talk~~ talk
 of invasion I don't care to think, it might
 be in the category of things that never
 happen, let's hope so. So all being
 well and we are trying to save for that