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Typescript of diary of Lady Mountbatten, 1941

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D I A R Y

of

LADY LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN.

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Jan. 1. London. Dickie awarded the D.S.O. in the New Year's Honour List, which was a nice New Year send off. Well deserved and he should have had it long ago. Had a County Meeting at No.43 and lunched with Robert at the Aperetif, where we celebrated Dickie's Honour by drinking champagne cocktails. Visited Holborn Tube Station First Aid Post, which is near Covent Garden and then to Bermondsey ones, getting back fairly early, I am glad to say. Icy cold.

Jan. 2. To the Depot and a lot of St.John work and Kay to lunch. Have now got a Mrs. Carroll doing shorthand and typing for us for St. John. A great help. Visited the Cinema with Kay and had some scrambled haddock with her before going to see Aldwych, Covent Garden, Bond St., Oxford Circus and Piccadilly Circus. Back late; quite dead. Posts still far from satisfactory.

Jan. 3. Icy cold and snow. A Meeting at 43 and endless St.John work. Have now been appointed Lady District Officer to act as Lady Deputy District Supt. to Miss Walker for St.John. Violet and Fred Cripps lunched, he had just seen Dickie in the north. Hoped to get away to Broadlands, but work kept me too late and after going to Miss Thomson's (my Lady Div.Supt in Kensington), At Home, I did some work and then retired to bed with a cold.

Jan. 4. London, Broadlands. Icy cold still and some snow. Saw two St.John nurses, who go on duty tonight at Bermondsey, and then motored down to Broadlands, stopping for a drink of sloe gin with Mary Phillips on the way. Aunt Victoria and Isa there. Walked the dogs in the afternoon and saw the Evacs, 4 new ones. Had dinner in bed trying to cook my cold out.

Jan. 5. Broadlands. Day marred by death of Baby Wallaby, which I found in the Dugout, having obviously just come out of its mother's pouch, and I fear died of cold. Too sad and it was so sweet. Walked the dogs and arranged about new quarters for the evacuees and hose problems. Saw the Vet also about the ponies and little wallaby. Little Air activity, though last night quite noisy. Fall of Bardia imminent, though some of the Italian garrison still holds out. Heard later Bardia fell on this night.

Jan. 6. Broadlands, London. The fall of Bardia reported and many prisoners taken by us. I did a lot of work in and around the house, discussed garden problems with Smith and Estate and pony ones with North and house with Whittingstall. Early lunch and motored up after. Snow on arrival and quite a lot fell. Dined with Joan Larcom at her Flat and came back early to bed.

Jan. 7. London. Busy day with usual work and many interviews, Miss Lees and I lunched and did a lot at home and with Mrs.Carroll, who is doing typing etc. for us. Had an interview with the M.O.H. for Westminster, Dr.Shinnie, and the Miss Tuckwells and at 5.30. picked Kay up to go to the Cinema. Dined at home after and Robert came too. Later at 9.10. went off to work again and did rounds of Posts, returning about midnight.

Jan. 8. A lot of work in the morning and a visit with Angela Limerick to see the newly appointed Shelter Minister, Alderman Key. Intelligent, keen, but nowhere near sufficient of a personality. Started to open 55 Eaton Place as a St.John Committee Office. Gave Miss Walker lunch at home. After went to Odhams Press to see Miss Myson's First Aid Post (Holborn Division) and through the works after. Colin stayed the night. Dined at Hungaria with him, but returned early.

Jan. 9. London. Less snow and mush warmer. Paid a visit to Mr. Ogden, the dentist, and did some work at 55, which we have opened at last. Lunched at the Mirabelle with Sir John Duncan and then departed to Finsbury to the Public Health Centre to see the M.O.H. and his second in command. Thence to the oculist and a short shopping tour at Selfridges. Very hard to get things now. Dined at the Mirabelle with Budget Loyd and had a pleasant evening. Air Raid and a lot of noise after three quiet nights.

Jan.10. Bun arrived up for the day to have an interview, but I only saw him for a short time as he had to lunch and leave again on the 4 o'clock train. I lunched with Peter at the Apéretif and then met B. and we talked and I drove him to Kings Cross. Later atarted on a tour of Hackney Posts, Covent Garden and City and only returned at 11.15. p.m.

Jan.11. London, Broadlands. Had quite a lot of work to do in the morning and Robert to lunch, so did not leave London till the afternoon. Stopped at Broome Cottage en route and saw Harold and continued to Broadlands for late tea. Aunt Victoria and Isa there.

Jan.12. Broadlands. A dull rather rainy day. Walked the dogs, coped with the house and gardens and evacuees. Also saw Dickie Benson and Monkey Grenfell, who looked in for a drink. Walked with Aunt Victoria and Isa in the afternoon and Looked through all the houses, fed the wallabies, etc. A lot of letters in the evening and retired to bed for dinner.

Jan.13. Broadlands, Christchurch. Very frosty and foggy early, and cold as wll. Isa Buxhoeveden left and I motored ovee to Christchurch after for our Joint County Meeting, only returning at 1.30. Walked with Aunt Victoria in the afternoon and we planted three cedars in the Park and met the Norths. I also dealt with kitchen range, boiler, pony and house questions. Turned out perfectly beautiful later in the day, bright and sunny.

Jan.14. Broadlands, London. Left early by car for London. Roads like a sheet of ice and most dangerous, and could only go very slowly. Lunched at the Apéretif with Robert and an S.S. man called Boyce, whom I'd met years ago. To 55 after and saw Miss Peel, who is going to help me with St.John work, and dealt with a lot of things. Jeanie, Robert and Colin dined. Quiet evening. Aunt Victoria left for a visit to Queen Mary.

Jan.15. London. Joint Committee Meeting in the morning, followed by a visit to the Depot and a hurried early lunch at home with Stella and Miss Lees. At 1.30. the V.A.D. Selection Board and then a visit with Angela Limerick to see Dr.Stock and Miss Watts, Ministry of Health Advisers. Early food and then visited Bermondsey Shelters, where we have 3 nurses working. Also stopped at Aldwych House, where we have opened a new Post.

Jan.16. London, ~~Brox~~ Portsmouth, Broadlands. Motored down to Portsmouth with Dick, leaving at 8.45. Roads like glass and terribly skiddy and took nearly 3½ hrs. Drove through the poor much bombed town and into the Dockyard, where not such extensive damage was done. Found "Kelly" just in and went on board. Dickie looking very fit and ship marvellously rebuilt after the terrible torpedoing last May. Motored over to Broadlands for very late lunch, stopping at Nona's en route to pick Topsail up. Walked to see all the ponies and gardens. Quiet evening and sorted photos.

Jan17. Broadlands, London. Called at 6.30. and took the 7.35. train from Winchester, which of course arrived late and only reached Waterloo at 10.5. Appointment to see Lord Reith, but as he was having tooth trouble, his second C.O. saw me with our Brook House troubles. (Office of Works). Saw him at the end. Miss Lees down with chill, so everything topsy turvy and struggled with St.John

Jan.17. London (cont) problems till late. Saw Lorna and Pamela too. Had Kay to lunch. Spent evening at Hackney with indigestion and the M.O.H. Dr. Dart. Saw 3 Shelters and 2 of our nurses.

Jan.18. Heavy snow falling and looked lovely, but turned to rain and slush later. Decided must spend weekend in London, owing to various St.John problems and Miss Lees being ill. Lunched with Robert at the Apéretif and went alone to see "Escape" with Norma Shearer and Robert Taylor. Good. Later to a NewsReel with Robert, who also dined. Bun calledme up early from Grimsby.

Jan.19. Spent some time in bed writing etc. and then walked the dogs in the Park. Heavy thaw and morasses everywhere. Looked in at Brook House to see how the repairs were proceeding. Joan Larcom and Robert lunched and she and I went to an excellent Malcolm Sargent concert; Bach, Brahms and Beethoven. George came to bathe and dine before going north to Scotland on the 10.15 train.

Jan.20. London, Broadlands. Busy morning interviewing St.John nurses, dealing with correspondence etc. and manifold dramas. Miss Lees still away with flu and most of our people sick and away. Went with Mrs. Prentice to see Dr.Thistlethwait's Shelter, Dr. for St.Pancras. At 4 motored down with Robert to Broadlands for two nights. Teeming rain and took hours.

Jan.21. Broadlands. Saw Mr. Robinson re books and he finally bought quite a good number for a good price. Then dealt with pony problems and had Gould, the Vet, and Petts, the dealer, in consultation. Decided to put Welcome, Perica and Nelson down, and probably Shrimp, and feed up and take in some others. Had the Baillie Grohmans and Con Benson and Alec Ashburton to lunch. Walked with Robert, the dogs and a gun miles along the river to the second baulk and then back right up to Middlebridge as we crossed and had no key for the first one. Peaceful evening.

Jan.22. Broadlands, London. I came up on the 8.50 train. All disorganised and arrived very late owing to Time Bombs etc, To the Office and then to the Depot. Lunch at home with Mrs.Heron (E.N.S.A.) To the Depot again and 55. Had my hair done and went to Dixey and picked up my gas mask glasses!! Then bought some flowers costing as much as pearls! Price of things now staggering. Hutchie and his wife to cocktails to hear about their son - Jeremy, whom I'd seen in "Kelly". At 7.45. went off to Finsbury to meet the M.O.H. Dr.Brooke. and see some of out people in First Aid Posts and some unsympathetic trained nurses.

Jan.23. London. A busy morning ending with a Flag Dat Meeting at St. James' Palace. Sir John Duncan, Felix and Mary (sister) lunched and I spent a busy afternoon at the Depot and the Office. Evening spent at Bermondsey with Pamela McKenna and Lorna Atkinson, having first given them food at home. Saw 6 of our St.John nurses at the First Aid Posts and ended by visiting Courage's Brewery, which is owned by cousins of Lorna's!! Saw the big public Shelter there and they gave us delicious sandwiches etc. Only got back at 12.30.

Jan.24. Felt awful all day with cracking neuralgia etc. Got through a lot of work however and saw the Miss Tuckwells and gave Mary P., Robert, Colin and Mr. Instone lunch. Arranged about our Rookery Beat fishing with the latter. Dined in bed in a flood and Colin came and had it in my room on a tray.

Jan.25. London, Broadlands. A bad,wet, dull day. Worked at 55 till 12 and then left by car for Sunningdale, where I lunched with Mary and Harold and then continued to Broadlands. Walked the dogs on arrival and had late tea. Lovely quiet evening and no one staying in the house at all. Talked early to B. on the telephone.

Jan.26. Broadlands. Not a nice day, but a very nice peaceful one. Walked right through the Park and all along the river and in the afternoon through the gardens. Wrote letters, played the gramophone, read and knitted and sorted through things.

Jan.27. Broadlands, London. Bad weather, rain and dull and cold as well. Walked with Smith and Harold, seeing about trees and gardens. Then left for London at 11.30. arriving for lunch at 1.30. Miss Lees back from her flu and had it together. St.John and private correspondence and to 55. Lorna Atkinson came to see me, having been down to Plymouth and seen Dickie and dined in "Kelly" last night. No Air Raids on London for a week now. Most sinister and must be planning some devilry!!

Jan.28. London. The usual sort of day with a good deal of St. John work accomplished. Had Robert, David Boyle, Tom Troubridge and Micky Hodges to lunch. More work after and a long Depot Meeting. Had Miss Peel and Mrs. Thorold to early dinner and we went to various Shelters in Westminster.

Jan.29. Dull, depressing weather. Miss Ely to see me early re ~~sleeping~~ Stepney St.John work. Then a tricky series of interviews at the Depot and later work at 55. Marjorie to lunch with startling news of her proposed divorce from Brecky. Kay and Peter to tea and I dined with Colin at the Hungaria.

Jan.30. Same dull weather and lights on most of the day. Had Hannah, Molly Hudson and Lady Hall to lunch. Busy afternoon with St.John and Depot work. Peter and I went to see "Freedom Radio" at 6.30. and after had dinner at the Berkeley Grill. Good Film.

Jan.31. Depot, 55 and interviews with a lot of St.John etc. Had Angela Limerick and Mrs. Creswick Atkinson to lunch, to discuss Shelter problems. She has just been appointed to deal with the Women's and Children problems. I went to a lecture at the Paddington Health Centre by Dr.Annis Gillie on Infectious Diseases in Shelters. Artificial Respiration demonstration after and later back to 55 and the Depot. Had some early dinner and then went up to two Hampstead Tubes and other Shelters and Covent Garden and Bond Street.

Feb. 1. London, Moundsmere, Alresford, Broadlands. I left by car at 9.30. after an early talk to Bunnie on the telephone. Motored down to our St.John Convalescent Home Moundsmere, near Basingstoke, where we had a House Committee Meeting, and went over it after. Only 11 Civilian Air Raid patients so far. Lunched with Molly at Langtons and talked late. On to Broadlands for tea. Walked and wrote and played the gramophone and wireless and knitted.

Feb. 2. Broadlands. Sent the car over to Portsmouth for Dickie who came for the day during a convoy. He picked up Aunt Victoria and the Crichtons at Botley and they all came over to lunch. D. and I did a lot of business and walked. I then drove back to "Kelly" at Portsmouth with him and had tea on board and saw them sail at 6 p.m. Motored back to Broadlands.

Feb. 3. Broadlands. London. A lot of business in the morning with Mr. Donger and McVean re burst boilers in gardens, house, etc etc. Also saw Tiller, Geary & Smith. Snowing and icy cold. Took the dogs for a short walk. Had some early bovril and motored up to London in the lunch hour. Took quite a short time owing to little traffic en route. To the office and did quite a lot of business. Esmé Howard Johnston staying with me. Robert came and dined and Esmé and I gossiped before.

Feb. 4. London. The usual busy day and not nearly enough hours in it. To the office and Depot and various interviews. Frances Day picked me up for lunch at Claridges, but only arrived so late I had little time. Saw Lady May in the afternoon and various others, including 2 county members reporting for duty. Dined at the Mirabelle at 7.30 with Jeanie, Hutchie and Mr. and Mrs. A.V. Alexander, 1st Lord. After picked up Lorna Arkinson and we toured Marylebone Shelter First Aid Points and saw our members. Mrs. Fewster B.R.C.S. took us round, as she is in charge for the Council. Also later to Covent Garden.

Feb. 5.
~~Thx~~ Joint Committee Meeting and a Visit to Dartmouth House where the English Speaking Union were being visited by the Queen. They send us a lot of woollies etc. Saw Stella J. and Mr. Rehder the lawyer before lunch, to which I had Rosie Paget, Peter and Robert. Work again, and Mary, Kay and I went at 7 to see "Tin Pan Alley/ at the Regent. After I gave them dinner. Snow falling and Air Raids and no taxis, so they had to walk home. Bun called me up lateand said a new job with Budget was fixed. Lovely.

Feb. 6. Snow on the ground, but warmer. Work all morning and lunch at the Apéretif with Robert and Charles Lambe and his new wife. Ugly but nice. More work and a quiet evening and dinner in bed.

Feb. 7. Work at the Depot and at 55 and lunch with Miss Lees at home. Tom and Evelyn Baillie Grohman to tea and bed, some early dinner before doing a tour of Hackney Posts and Westminster ones. Back around midnight.

Feb. 8. London, Broadlands. An unpleasant morning at 55 coping with St.John dramas. Early lunch at home with Joan Larcom, after which we went at 1.30 to see a Matinée of Diversion No.2 with Edith Evans, Joyce Grenfell, Dorothy Dickson etc. Heaven and frightfully funny sketches, especially Joyce Grenfell's "Canteen" and "Library". Motored down to Broadlands late arriving at 7. Micky Hodges came for dinner and the night.

Feb. 9. Broadlands. Micky and I took the dogs for a walk and he left at 11. Then went out again and did a lot of work etc. Motored over to Greywood at 3 to see Aunt Victoria, who is laid up and has been quite ill and had tea with Nona and Dick. Quiet evening and dinner in bed.

Feb.10. Broadlands, London. A Joint Committee Meeting in the morning. Also walked the dogs and had a little early lunch. After motored up to London and arrived in time for a little dinner with Robert and some work with Miss Lees.

Feb.11. London. A busy office morning and lunch with Mary and Laurie at the Mirabelle. Back to the office and had a long interview with Dr.Shennie, the Westminster M.O.H. at 3.30. Had a little drink with Colin and Gladye, who came in at 6. Then early dinner with Lorna Arkinson at her flat. After went to Battersea where we inspected First Aid Posts and Personnel. Very well organised and M.O.H. MacDonald charming. Later to the Aldwych Shelter and Aldwych Tube. Late bed.

Feb. 12. A hectic and very busy morning, work at the office and attended the Ceremony af Ambulance Presentation (British Volunteer Ambulance Corps) by Niarcina to the Greek Government. Then to the Memorial Service for Ewan Wallace, who died last Sunday. Very sad. Had a drink with Kay after and lunch with Sybil and Rock. The Kents and Hannah there. Work till late and took Miss Peel round Bermondsey Shelters and Personnel, ending up at Swan & Edgars and Piccadilly, Oxford Circus.

Feb.13. Depot early and the rest of the morning spent at the office. Gave Louise Lorraine lunch at home and had along talk with her after. Then walked back to the office and did quite a lot of work. Mary to tea (having had Laurie in despair in the morning) as Mary wants to finish the whole thing, as it's not a success. All very difficult. Dined with Colin at the Mirabelle after going to a News Reel.

Feb.14. London, Broadlands. A busy morning and visits to the Depot and a lot of work at the office. Robert came to lunch and I spent a busy afternoon coping with St.John affairs. Left for Broadlands at 6, only arriving at 9 in rain and dark, which made progress very slow. All alone for the weekend.

Feb.15. Broadlands. Lovely day especially in the morning, when there was brilliant sun and skies. willows along the river looking quite lovely. I interviewed Mr. Donger, walked the dogs and spent a long and fruitless time coping with the telephone. Major Tennyson Smith and the County Secretary came in on their way from Moundsmere to Bournemouth. Bunnie called me up from Edinburgh and hopes to be down in the south next week to start new job with Budget.

Feb.16. Broadlands, Wherwell. A dull, wet and really depressing day. Took the dogs for a pleasant walk in the morning down the river and back by the Farm. Motored over to Wherwell for lunch with the Jenkins, both of whom I found with streaming colds. Quiet evening looking through old letters and albums and writing to America to the children.

Feb17. Broadlands, London. A busy early morning as usual, interviewing the various departments and got up to London about 12. Lunched at home with Miss Lees and then spent most of the afternoon coping with manifold sleeping difficulties and searched wildly for Full Time Paid Workers for Medical Aid Posts. Robert and I went to the Monseigneur News Reel and dined at home after.

Feb.18. London. To the office and last night a bad raid on the Bermondsey district also Poplar and Millwall and a big Bermondsey Shelter with hundreds of people hit. Two Red X nurses and Dr. and many shelterers killed. Our 6 St.John & County members all right. Lunched with Robert, Micky and Peggy Carlow at the Aperetif. A Gas lecture by Miss Calvert after at 55 and then went with Lorna and Pamela to see the Red X and St.John Propaganda Film at the Odeon. Bunnie arrived down from the north. He has a new job with Budget Lloyd.

Feb.19. London. The usual day of routine jobs and lunch at home with Stella J. and Miss Lees. Peter came in after tea and we had a long talk and were joined for dinner by Bunnie, who is staying here till he finds a house or a flat.

Feb.20. Busy morning and lunch at the Mirabelle with my Boss, old Sir John Duncan, in cracking form! Then our second Gas (Decontamination) lecture by a man who did a real Music Hall "Act" and nearly sent us off into fits of laughter. Robert and Bun dined together and I went to Wandsworth to see our S.J.A.B. members and the Medical and First Aid Posts and Points. The M.O.H. Dr.Caley, took me round. Very well organised.

Feb.21. Had my hair and nails done and spent the morning at the office and Depot. Then had lunch at home with Bun and after motored down to Broadlands with Peter. Dickie there having arrived last night, as "Kelly" is boiler cleaning. Robert came for the weekend too.

Feb.22. Broadlands. Long walk with Dickie and the dogs all round the Park and Farm and back by the river. Robert and Dickie rode in the afternoon and Peter and I talked and gramophoned. Aunt Victoria arrived back in time for tea, after being away and ill at Nona's for some time. She returned to bed for dinner.

Feb.23. Robert left early and we all spent a quiet day. I rode with Dickie in spite of a streaming cold all through Luzboro' and looked at the tree cutting. Walked in the afternoon. Glorious weather and the place looking a picture. At 6 had the Mayor, Mr. Chambers, Corporation and wives up to the house for Dickie to present his Coat of Arms for the Town Hall, as the newly elected High Steward of Romsey. We gave them sherry and talked nineteen to the dozen, After had a long interview with North and Harold the Forester.

Feb.24. Broadlands, London. Rode again with Dickie, Peter having left early. We went to Nightingale and round about and had a glorious day again. Afternoon spent doind business, visiting the gardens etc. and motored up to London late arriving about 7. Kay and Jeanie and Bun and Robert dined with me at the Hungaria and we danced till about midnight.

Feb.25. London. The Investiture at Buckingham Palace, when Dickie received his D.S.O. from the king. Saw him before and after the ceremony and I sat with the families and was joined by D. after he'd received his. About 200 people being decorated. Walked home in blazing sun. George, Marina and Sybil Cholmondeley and Bun lunched and I worked after and attended a Gas Lecture. Dined with Sally Norton, Bun and Dickie at the Mayfair and danced. Quite gay and amusing.

Feb.26. Down to Bermondsey in the morning with Angela Limerick and Audrey and others to attend a Memorial Service for 2 Red X nurses, and Doctor and many killed in a big Shelter some days ago. Also a number of Wardens killed in the District while on duty, and others of the Civil Defence. Very touching. Charles Lambe, Robert and Peter to lunch, but I had to leave early for my V.A.D. Selection Board. Dined at home, but left at 9 to go to Bermondsey and Gloucester Rd. etc. and see First Aid Posts etc. Dickie left on the midnight train to rejoin "Kelly"

Feb.27. London. Took a Depot Meeting. Worked all the morning and lunched with old Lady Hele, where I met Pamela McKenna and Hannah. To Drury Lane Theater, where A George (Kent) was shown all over the E.N.S.A. organisation by Basil Dean and the Directors. Really very interesting. Back to the office and at 7.15. gave Lorna Atkinson a quick dinner and after we went down to Stepney, where we met Mr. Adams, the A.R.P. Comptroller and were taken all round the Shelters and Medical Aid Posts and Points, many staffed by St.John men and women. Tremendous progress been made since Adams was appointed.

Feb.28. London, Broadlands. To the Ministry of Health at 11.30. to meet Mr. Ernest Brown, the new Minister. Took Angela Limerick with me. Seemed very nice and sympathetic. Interviewed a lot of St.John nurses up for duty and lunched with Robert at the Apéré-tif late. Bun joined us and also lunching was the R.A. Artist. More work in the afternoon and at 5.30 left with Bun to motor down to Broadlands for the weekend. Aunt V. and Isa Buxhoeveden there. Quiet evening.

March 1. Broadlands. Lovely day. Walked with Bun and the dogs across the river and through the water meadows and back up the river. In the afternoon drove down to Longbridge and walked through those meadows, trying for snipe and duck, but too wild. I visited our painter's 'Estate) daughter, who is seriously ill with cancer ( ) after tea. Quiet evening again.

March 2. Broadlands, London. A long walk in the morning with the dogs and did a lot of work in and around the house. Left at 2.30. and motored up to Sunningdale with Bun, where we stopped for a quarter of an hour to see Harold. Then on to London and went direct to the Carlton to see an excellent Film called "Arise my Love", with Claudette Colbert and Reg Milland. Late dinner and early bed.

March 3. London. Usual work and interviews and worries! Dined and lunched in, Bun still staying, but is taking Kay's sweet little house in Hobart Place. Letters from the children and news of Dickie, who was supposed to go to Broadlands for lunch today during a convoy.

March 4. Committee Meetings and visit to the new Chelsea Sick Bay and a day full of all kinds of work. Walked round with Bun to see 8A Hobart Place, his new abode. The evening spent at Deptford, visiting Shelters and First Aid Posts and Points with the M.O.H. Dr.Keith and Deputy Dr.Outram, the latter a very nice woman. Conditions in smaller Shelters disgraceful, no light, sanitation or heating in many.

March 5. London. The Joint County Committee Meeting at 11 and lunch at home with Bun and Stella J. and Miss Lees. Dined at the Mirabelle with Colin and Gladye. Very gay but crowded and atmosphere apalling.

March 6. London. Interviewed nurses and dealt with usual problems. Robert, Kay and Bun lunched. To the Depot late. Took Kay at 6 to see a News Reel and saw a shot of Dickie and myself leaving Buckingham Palace after the investitures. Dined early with Bun, after which we walked round to Hobart Place and inspected his mansion. Very wet weather these days.

March 7. Busy morning at the office and then a very pleasant lunch at Bun's new little house, which he has taken from Kay, 8A Hobart Place. Sweet with delicious garden and quite tucked away. Budget, his General, and Robert lunched too and Mary cooked the lunch. Stepney dramas in the afternoon. Eily Donald and her sailor son to tea and at 6.30. went to see Betty Poole in a Nursing Home. After a round of First Aid Posts and Points, 7 in all, getting in at 10, when I had late dinner with Bun at home.

March 8. London, Broadlands. A hectic morning trying to leave London, which I finally succeeded in doing at 12.30 only. Visited Chelsea Sick Bay, the office and did a lot of letters, shopping and interviews. Glorious day and motored down to Broadlands at late lunch at 2.30 and walked the dogs across the Park and by the river after. Floods everywhere and a lot of roads and paths under water. Aunt Victoria only staying. Took a District Nurses Meeting and walked out in the sun again after. Starting cold with shivers. Café de Paris hit in bad London Raid, about 40 people dancing killed and many injured. Also Buckingham Palace hit again.

March 9. Broadlands. Felt very mouldy all day with slight temperature and aches and throat. Marjorie and her parents for lunch and stayed some time looking at old albums. I walked the dogs and arranged the flowers and got them looking really nice with azaleas in pots and lacandias and primulas. Retired to bed for dinner, having done a certain amount of letter writing, which made me feel most virtuous. Lovely day early.

March 10. Broadlands, London. Better on the whole, so did a lot of business in bed, where I remained till lunch. Motored up to London after, arriving for tea and dealing with some problems on arrival. Jugoslavia on the verge of joining up with the Axis. Poor Greece, with Rumania and Bulgaria already gone, and German troups massing on her frontiers. Too tragic, after all her magnificent fighting against the Italians in Albania. Had dinner in bed, to try and cope with my cold.

March 11. London. A Sick Bay Meeting early and then an inspection of it followed by work at the office. A quick lunch at home and then started a tour wuth Godfrey Winn (Journalist) to show him work of the Joint Organisations Red X and St.John Sick Bay and Old People's Home in Chelsea, and First Aid Post at the Adelphi, run by St.John. Tea and a Mobile Unit at Bessborough Street. Angela Limerick and Pamela McKenna came too. Then, after a brief interval, between 6 and 7 gave him, Angela, Miss Peel and Mr. Prentice dinner and at 8 started off to see Bermondsey Shelters and Posts, Holborn Tube and St.Martin's Crypt. Returned completely exhausted and feeling very ill at 12.15. p.m.

March 12. Cold about the same, but felt better on the whole. A Regional Meeting at 12 conducted by Alderman Key, regarding Shelters. Useless. Robert and Bun and Sibyl Colefax lunched and I then worked till 6. Bun came and dined at 8.30. and we spent a cosy evening after a good dinner. Big bomb in Queen St. Saturday night, destroyed back of my ex-Charles St.house. Buckingham Palace lodge and other bits hit again and a lot of damage again. Also poor Café de Paris, in which 50 people were killed and many injured, also on Saturday.

March 13. London, Broadlands. Glorious bright sunny day, but cold, giving me a jaundiced view of life and an inflamed eye, not improving matters. Work all the morning also at the Depot. Had my head washed and got back late to give Sir John Duncan, and Pamela McKenna lunch. Again to the office till 5, a little shopping, and departed for Broadlands at 6.15. Arrived about 8.15. feeling icy cold and mouldy and retired to bed.

March 14. Broadlands. Woke with two very sore eyes, which did not make me feel any brighter. Stayed in bed till 12. and then got up. Glorious hot sunny day and could really sit out and bask in it. Place looking too lovely and brilliant sun showing everything up. Dickie arrived over for lunch from Portsmouth at 12.30. and Roddie Wannamaker and a friend of his, Comdr. came down for lunch too, to go to sea with D. after. They left at 3. I sat and walked in the sun and retired to bed after dinner again. Kay and Robert arrived late.

March 15. Broadlands, Totton. A most beautiful still sunny day again. Took a longish walk with the dogs and then sat out and literally basked in the sun. Kay slept till lunch and Robert motored to Bournemouth to see an aunt, but returned at 1. I had to go to Totton at 3 to inspect the First Aid Post and Calmore Nursery Division with Major Tennyson Smith, and what seemed to be the whole County Staff. Addressed the members after; very smart turn out and nice people. Tea etc. Bunnie arrived down for dinner and we all spent a quiet evening talking. Cold a little better.

March 16. Broadlands, London. Another glorious day, though a little foggy till midday. Took a long walk with Bun and the dogs down along the park and river to Longbridge and back by Lee. In the afternoon sat in the sun and we rode Patrick and Gollandrine. Bun, Kay and I motored up to Sunningdale for dinner with Mary and Harold, and then crawled on to London in the Blackout.

March 17. London. Cold again, but fairly clear. Usual day of work, 55 and Depot, and bad day for things going wrong. Felt awful too, which didn't improve matters. Jeanie to lunch and Colin and Bunnie dined. The former spent the night and we all three had a long political discussion after dinner.

March 18. Glorious day, even in London. Depot and 55 and a visit to No.3 to see Pamela McKenna, filled in the morning. Bun and Miss Lees lunched and he and I walked round after to see his Hobart Place garden and make summer plans. Then across Green Park to the War Office. Crocuses and bird life too heavenly, fat tame duck of all kinds waddling about. More work and at 5.30. an E.N.S.A. Welfare Committee gathering at Drury Lane, over which I presided. All kinds of County members attended. Quick early dinner with Bun and then visited Dr.Pins and Stepney.

March 19. A Meeting of the British Volunteer Ambulance Corps, followed by lunch at the Mirabelle with Colin. Work all afternoon and at 6.15. gave myself a lovely treat, by going to see the Film "The Philadelphine ", with Katharine Hepburn, James Stuart and Cary Grant. Excellent. Dinner after with Bunnie at his little house, Very noisy night and bad raid over London. Many machines, bombs and gunfire.

March 20. A Ladies Executive Meeting before the Ex. General one at 12 o'clock at St.James' Palace. Lunching after at home with Cousin Felix, to see what could be done about our financial affairs; Spicer and Pegler came after. I attended a St.John Press Conference after, at which we gave details of St.John work and War work. Mrs.Somerville Smith and a friend to tea and had Bun. Harry Jacobson and Peter to dine. I went off to Finsbury and Hackney at 8.45. and returned at midnight.

to dine. I went

returned at midnight.

March 21. London. Work all morning and had Budget, Marjorie and Bun to lunch. More work after and had my hair done. Saw Betty Poole in her Nursing Home and visited Oxford Circus Medical Point at 8. Dined at home with Bun.

March 22. London, Broadlands. Some work at the office and then did some shopping until lunch, which I had at Bun's house, as he has at last achieved a cook!! After we played the gramophone and then walked back to Chester St., where Peter met us and we all drove down to Broadlands in time for late tea. Aunt Victoria there, otherwise no one.

March 23. Broadlands. Cold day and very windy. Spent the morning down by the river and Bunnie tried for a salmon, but got a chill instead and never moved a fish. A peaceful quiet afternoon and B. left for London at 5. I walked with Peter; a lovely evening and later Dickie Benson came in to drink, also North to see me on business.

March 24. Broadlands, London. Had my Joint Committee Meeting in the morning and also did a lot of business and walked the dogs. Had early lunch and then drove to Winchester with Peter and we took the 2.45 train to London, arriving up fairly punctually. Dined at the Kensington Restaurant with Marjorie, Pam Schreiber, Budget Loyd, Bunnie and others, after to Cam House to an A.T.S. Dance, but did not stay long.

March 25. London. Work as usual and a visit to the Depot too. Lunched at Hobart Place with Bunnie and did more work after. Also went to the Royal College of Surgeons, where Anna Zinkersen has a Studio, and where she started a quick Uniform picture of me. The evening spent at Bermondsey in downpours of rain and wind. No Air Raid for a number of nights and peace reigns. Jugoslavia signed pact with the Axis.

March 26. London, Broadlands. Usual work and a day of annoyances and worries and everyone temperamental and difficult. Mrs. Birkbeck of our North Eastern St. John District lunched, also Pamela McKenna. All the afternoon spent at Grosvenor House at a County Representatives Meeting. Very heated discussions and Lord Iliffe heckled!!! Tea after. Motored down to Broadlands at 6 in sheets of rain, arriving after 8. Budget came for the night and Bunnie, as they were inspecting in the neighbourhood.

March 27. Broadlands, London. Breakfast at 7.45. and then motored up with Budget and Bun, arriving at 10.15. Usual work and lunch at The Café Royal with Peter. A sitting for Anna Zinkersen in the afternoon. Head washed and nails done. Bun and I dined quietly. Revolution in Jugoslavia and the Government unseated. King Peter put on the throne and Regent Paul deposed. He and Olga fled to Greece.

March 28. London. Worked and then lunched at Hobart Place with Bunnie, who had Robert and Kay. Took a Committee Meeting after and then did more work. To sit for Anna Zinkersen at tea time, feeling more dead than alive however. Dined early and spent the evening at Bethnal Green, seeing Shelters and visiting Dr. Bolland and Dr. Davis, the M.O.H. and Shelters doctors.

March 29. Worked till lunch with an hour's sitting at the College of Surgeons for Anna Zinkersen. Portrait being done in St. John uniform and really very good. Lunched with Bun at a sweet little Restaurant in St. Martin's Street, "Pastoria". Excellent food and small and quiet. Then went to the Empire to see "Flight Command"; very exciting and good. Tea and another sitting - the final one - and then joined Bun and went to see "Little Nellie Kelly" with Judy Garland. Charming. Late dinner at home.

March 30. London, Royston, London. Icy cold with icy wind. Motored down to Royston for lunch and collected various of Bunnie's belongings. Rosie Paget to see me ~~with~~ in the afternoon and also Miss Guest. one of our St.John Irish members, just over for two weeks' duty in Bermondsey, instead of taking her usual holiday! Went with Bun to see an excellent Film called "No Time for Comedy" with Jimmy Stewart and Rosalind Russell and dined quietly after.

March 31. London, Broadlands. A lousy morning and lunched at Hobart Place. More work after and at 5 motored down to Broadlands for two nights, as George was coming to stay to do inspections around. Brought Fl.Lt.Ferguson with him again, and we spent a quiet evening with Aunt Victoria.

April 1. Broadlands. Teeming rain till late. In spite of it walked the dogs morning and afternoon, visited the Farm, etc. and had a most enjoyable time. George back for late tea and talked before and after dinner.

Ap. 2. Broadlands, London. A wet day again. George left early to do his days tour and Dickie arrived over from Portsmouth just before he departed at 10 and was able to stay till 4. We walked and rode and Robert arrived down for 2 hours to see Dickie too. I left at 4 when D. departed and motored back to London. Spent a quiet evening in, dining at home.

Ap. 3. London. A busy day of work, and also a visit to Stepney to see the Rest Centre there, run by the L.C.C., where we had 2 St.John nurses working. Had Dodo Sherlock and Robert and Bunnie for lunch to which I returned very late. Work till 5.30 and then an interview and a short visit from Peter. Joined Colin and Gladye at the Berkeley and went to the Odeon to "The Trail of the Vigilantes". Bunnie joined us and after we returned to Hobart Place and Budget and Harry Jacobson came, and we dined and he played till all hours.

Ap. 4. Had a busy morning seeing the Publicity people for Red X and St.John and then Lady May, Mrs.Thorold and others. Lunched with Sir Courtauld Thomson and he had an enormous party, including Sir John Anderson, a terror I thought and the real oppressor of Bengal!! the Ronald Cross pair, Venetia James, Sibyl Colefax and others. Went to see the Red X shop after and got stuck to buy things, the best of a lot of junk! Work after. Dead. Rosie Paget staying, so we dined early, plus Bunnie and Peter and at 8 I started off for St. Pancras, where I was touring Shelters and Medical Aid Posts. The Mayor's wife M.O.H. Radford, Comptroller Bainbridge and Dr, Thistlethwait, Shelter Dr. all insisted on coming too.

Ap. 5. London, Broadlands. Did some work early and then a lot of shopping, as I never seem to get a chance these days. Lunched with Bunnie at Hobart Place and we then motored down to Broadlands, arriving for late tea. Took a walk with the dogs and spent a quiet evening.

Ap. 6. Broadlands, Sunningdale, London. A rather nice day, and spent most of it on the river, where Bunnie killed a "Kelt" causing great excitement. I walked and sat in the car during the proceedings, as although fine, a bitter wind sprang up. In the afternoon sat and talked and walked the dogs and inspected the gardens and grounds, also saw North. Motored up to London after tea, stopping at Sunningdale on the way for dinner with Mary and Harold. On to London after.

Ap. 7. London. Usual work and attended a short Memorial Service to Gordon Leith in the City at 11. Marjorie came with me and returned to drink sherry after. I lunched with Sir John Duncan after and went to a Flag Day Meeting at St. James' Palace. Tedious as usual. Pamela McKenna looked in to see me on business and I tried to compose a short speech for an Anglo-Chinese lunch tomorrow. Bun came in to dine and we had a quiet meal.

Ap. 8. Work at the office and went up to Grosvenor House to see details regarding the lunch. This went off very well; Anglo-Chinese with me presiding. Had the Belgian Ambassador and Chinese Ambassador by me, and the latter, Lady Snowdon, Bishop of London and Lord May spoke, besides myself. More work after and interviewed Sisters for Mountsmere. Dined with Bunnie, who had Frances Day, Peter Stewart, Harry Jacobson and Budget. Sang and played and it was great fun.

Ap. 9. Work and then a visit to the Midland Bank with Pamela McKenna, whose husband is Chairman. Saw all the A.R.P. side, Board Rooms, etc. A Lutyen's building, very fine. Lunched there after and made arrangements for Flag Day, in which they will help. Looked in to see Bun, and visited the Chelsea Sick Bay to make arramnements for Lord Horder's opening tomorrow. Pamela Lytton and Pamela McKenna dined and we toured Bermondsey Shelters after - me with a streaming cold again.

Ap.10. A busy morning at the office and Depot and lunch at the Belgian Embassy with Baron Cartier. The Willingdons, Lady Charles Montagu, Jimmy Alba and Mrs. Ronnie also there. After to the Chelsea Sick Bay, where I introduced Lord Horder, and he opened it, having made a tour od inspection first. Bun dined with me at home. News very bad, Jugoslavia and Greece invaded by Germany some days ago, and the Germans already in Salonika. We had to retire from Berghesi and most of Cyrenaieca. Lost 3 Generals prisoners.

Ap.11. London, Broadlands. Work and interviews all morning and lunched at Hobart Place with Miss Lees. At 3 motored down to Broadlands, and Robert arrived at 8. He, Aunt V. and I dined and talked after and went early to bed.

Ap.12. Broadlands. A lovely mild day with a lot of morning sun, and real springlike atmosphere. Flowers getting beautiful, but daffodils very backward on the whole. Walked and drove Robert down to High Bridge to start him off fishing. Gladye and Colin Buist arrived for late lunch and we went off down to the river, where we saw Sir John Foster kill a 20-lb salmon and Colin lose one. Mary and Harold and Bunnie arrived between tea and dinner.

Ap.13. Cold and dull day and still very cold. Went to Church in the Abbey with Aunt Victoria and Harold after distributing chocolate Easter eggs, procured with the greatest difficulty, to the evac. children. Walked down to watch the salmon anglers, Colin and Bun, after. Robert left before lunch and I rode with Bun after. Anna and Teddy to tea and walked round the gardens after.

Ap.14. Bun left at 7 a.m. and Colin and Gladye at 9. Mary and Harold later in the morning. I took a long walk down to High Bridge with the dogs and back by Lee via the Farm. Wrote and walked and gardened before and after tea and dealt with household and Estate matters. Quiet evening with Aunt Victoria.

Ap.15. Broadlands, London. I left at 8.15. and motored up arriving at the office at 10.30. and worked till lunch, which I had at Hobart Place. Shopped in the afternoon and then worked again. Bun appeared early at 6 and we went to see Fred Astaire's new Film "Second Chorus". Not at all good and most disappointing. Very bad Balkan and African news, and all most depressing.

Ap.16. London. Dickie appeared from Devonport on the morning train and I waited some time to see him, but he was so late, I went off to the office and did some work first. Then saw D. and did a lot more work till lunch, which we had at home. Joined D. for a Film at 7 and dined at the Hungaria with Robert, Angie Laycock, Noel and Bunnie, and danced after. Very bad Air Raid started during dinner and went on ceaselessly all night. House had very near shaves and bombs whistled down all round. Bunnie appeared about 3.30. having lost all his windown and doors etc. We wandered around, climbing over débris.

Ap.17. London, Broadlands. Felt awful after no sleep. Poor old London looking very tattered and bad damage everywhere. Did work and saw Felix and Spry re financial affairs. Owing to new Budget with Income Tax at 10/- and Super Tax at 19/6, we are in a pickle and will be reduced to below £5000 a year spendable income!!! All very difficult. Had Charles Lambe, Robert, Micky and Bunnie to lunch and worked again after. Dickie, Peter and I motored down to Broadlands at tea time, as D. has a few days' leave before going off to the Mediterranean with his Flotilla.

Ap.18. Broadlands. A quiet day and walked and worked and spent a peaceful time. The daffodils all nearly out, owing to the warmer weather, and place looking lovely. Robert arrived late for 2 nights and we listened to gloomy news on the wireless. Jugoslavia gone and German occupied already, Greeks still fighting on, with our troops helping, but fear it will only be a matter of time before they have to give in too.

Ap.19. Rode with Dickie. Lovely day, but cold wind. Rode through Town Copse and Yew Tree and back by High Bridge. Walked with the dogs and Dickie had 2 Officers to tea. Bunnie arrived for Sunday after tea.

Ap.20. Walked with Dickie, Peter and Bunnie. Robert left about 11 and Dickie went off by the 1.20. train from Salisbury to rejoin "Kelly" at Devonport. They sail for the Mediterranean tomorrow with the Flotilla.. Did some painting of the wallabies' cage in the afternoon with B., covering ourselves with paint from head to toe! Downpours of rain, but a lovely evening. Peter, Bunnie, & Aunt V. and I alone in the evening, heated political discussions.

Ap.21. Broadlands, London. Busy morning. Glorious weather. Dealt with house and garden and Estate problems and at 11 had my Hampshire Joint County Meeting. Early lunch and then motored up to London, arriving about 3.30. and going direct to the office. Dined at Hobart Place and had an early quiet evening.

Ap.22. London. Work at No.55 and had my hair done during the lunch hour at Elizabeth Arden. Had some food there. Took our Depot Meeting after and then did more work at 55. Mary (sister) arrived to stay for the night and we talked and dined early and then I went off round Westminster Shelters. Walked back from Marble Arch Tube station in company of charming American Medical Student!

Ap.23. Mary left. We had our Joint County Committee Meeting and I did other work and lunched with Robert at
Awful damage all over Lonfon after last Wednesday's raid and our Pent House suffered a second time. Saw Sir Philip Chetwode at 4 and talked on various matters. Bunnie and I dined early and I then visited Bermondsey on my usual fortnightly round. All these nights fairly quiet, but Plymouth badly attacked again.

Ap.24. London. Went to Hampstead in the morning to open a Sale in aid of the District Nursing Association. Many Red X and St. John and A.R.P. there and quite a nice crowd. Toured the stalls after and made many purchases. Lorna Atkinson lunched and after I took our Chelsea Sick Bay Committee Meeting. At 5.30. went with Bunnie and Major Clayton to see George Black's new "Varieties" with Flanagan and Allen and Frances Day. She excellent and 2nd half of Show first class. First rather dragged. Budget Loyd also came. After I changed and we went to dine and a party at Frances' ; great fun and stayed till 4.30. Bee Lillie, Noel, Duff, Hugh and Carroll Gibbons and wife, Lyle Evan and a Pot pourri of people there.

Ap.25. Felt awful after 3 hours sleep. Busy day and Kay, Robert and Bun to lunch. Work all afternoon and joined B. at the Empire at 7 to see the new Marx Bros.Film. Very funny. Quiet dinner after and early bed. News from Greece very bad and Germans all but in possession. King and family left Athens for Crete. All very depressing.

Ap.26. London, Broadlands. Much refreshed and felt life could continue! Interviewed nurses and dealt with many problems. Then had my hair set and gave B. lunch at home. After we motored down to Broadlands in time for tea. At 5.30. took our District Nursing Committee and Annual Subscribers' Meeting at the Vicarage, Quiet evening, only Aunt Victoria in the house.

Ap.27. Broadlands. An icy wind blowing, but otherwise fine. Bun tried for salmon unsuccessfully. Dickie Benson and Alec Ashburton lunched and we walked in the gardens after. North and Mr. Wills, a Market Gardener, to see me after regarding future plans for the garden. Walked with Bun before dinner, which we had early. Motored up to London after, stopping at Hartley Whinting at the pub. to hear Winston broadcast. Got up about 10.30. Greece evacuting, Germans have nearly over-run it.

Ap.28. London. Usual routine of work. George and Hannah lunched and I did more work in the afternoon. Dined at Hobart Place with Bun and Robert. All these nights in London raidless. Plymouth and other towns getting it.

Ap.29. Work at the Depot and at 55. Lunch with the Willingdons at Eaton Place. Big party including Polish Ambassador and wife, Sir Courtauld Thomson, the Simons, Sibyl Colefax and Lady Leconfield. Work after and a little shopping. Colin in to drink and dined off a succulent steak at Hobart Place with Bun.

Ap.30. Work at the office and many problems to cope with. Saw Mrs. Blois before lunch to discuss the sale of pictures. After had a quick lunch with Bun before attending the V.A.D. Selection Board, which was endless and did not release us till 4.30. Back to the office till 5.15. when I went to the dentist. Later to the Regal to see "Married but Single" with Melvyn Douglas and Rosalind Russell. Late dinner at home. Quiet night again and no raid. Plymouth very badly hit again last night, 5th time in 9 nights. Reduced to shambles and heavy casualties.

May 1. London. A morning of usual work, followed by lunch at the Café Royal with Peter. Back to the office and Depot in the afternoon. Colin looked in later and I dined with Bun at Hobart Place, where we had delicious "Paté Poussins"!! No raids all this week and perfect peace.

May 2. London, Basingstoke, Alresford, Broadlands. Busy morning and dealt with many questions. Lunched at Bunnie's, Robert and Mary and Harold also there. After motored down to Moundsmere Convalescent Home to attend the House Committee Meeting, etc. 72 patients now there. Went on to see Molly at Langtons and only reached Broadlands at 9 o'clock. Aunt Victoria away and a pleasant peaceful change.

May 3. Broadlands. Lovely day and delicious sun. All the trees coming out and flowering shrubs and trees, a beautiful sight. Place looking quite lovely. Walked and discussed garden and stable problems. Fetched Bun at Winchester at 3 o'clock and we had early tea and then took a long two hours walk all down the river and water meadows and had a beautiful peaceful evening.

May 4. A really glorious hot sunny and cloudless day, the best this year. Had a late morning, having put the clocks on one hour, and so lost some sleep. Clock was 2 hours ahead of Greenwich to have longest daylight possible. Bun and I took lunch down to the river and fished. Had a delicious meal on the Rookery beat and could not have enjoyed it more. Basked in the sun, and I hooked a fish, which I lost through ignorance. Saw North on return and walked in the gardens and spent another quiet night.

May 5. Broadlands, London. Called at 6.15. and left in the car with B. at 6.50. reaching London before 9 o'clock. Feeling very sleepy and cold and gaga. Did a full day's work and lunched at home in a very short time. George came for a bath and dinner on his way to Scotland, and Kay and Bunnie also dined at home with me.

May 6. London. To the Depot and to the office and lunch at the Mirabelle with Colin. More work in the afternoon and at 5 o'clock a visit to the dentist. The evening spent in Shoreditch touring First Aid Posts and Shelters with Dr.Boucher. Saw a number of our members doing grand work.

May 7. The London Joint County Committee in the morning and lunched at home with Miss Lees and Stella J. Discussed business with the latter. Had my hair done at teatime and tried to concoct a speech for a Foyle lunch tomorrow, which makes me feel quite ill already. Dined early and went to Bermondsey to see our members after. All these nights fairly quiet, but other towns getting it badly.

May 8. Usual work and then went to Grosvenor House to attend one of the big Foyle Literary Lunches, as a speaker, being held in connection with the Red X and St.John. Lord Willingdon in the Chair and Greek Minister the other side of me. Terrified, but all went off well and everyone seemed pleased. Maurice Healy and Courtauld Thomson also spoke. About 600 people and place packed. To the City after to see the Packing Centre for the Prisoners "Personal" parcels, sent by families. Lady Mayoress came round with us. Tea after. More work at the office. Bun came to dine and being both quite exhausted, retired early to bed.

May 9. A very busy morning with appointments and people to interview Also went to see Lorna Atkinson. Lunched at Claridges with Alec Ramsay and worked again after. Robert and Colin came in to drink and Bunnie later. The latter and I went to see Ginger Rogers new Film,"Kitty Foyle". Absolutely marvellous and perfect throughout. Dined very late on our return, 10 o'clock.

May 10. London, Sunningdale, Broadlands. A lovely day. A Short morning's work at the office and at 1 motored down to late lunch with Mary and Harold at Broome Cottage. Then later on to Broadlands. We walked the dogs and Bun took a trout rod and I went through the gardens.

May 11. Broadlands, London. A lovely day, though quite a cold wind. Drove down to the river and fished. Lunched by the river and saw a salmon killed by one of Tenants, but were unsuccessful ourselves. I went back early to see North and Wills, a market gardener who is going to take over the kitchen gardens. Walked with the dogs and in the gardens and had early dinner. Motored up to London after, arriving late for bed. Found Esmé staying for three nights.

May 12. London. A busy morning and a St.James' Palace Flag Day Meeting. Lunch with Sir John Duncan at Claridges and worked again after. Took Esmé to dine with Bun, and found Micky also there. Pleasant quiet evening. Dirt and damage in London awful, after Saturday night's bad raid.

May 13. Very busy all day. Bun to lunch and after went for a minute to the Coq D'Or to see Anna Zinkersen and some friends. Very tired and had early dinner while Esmé, Colin and Robert all came in and talked to me. At 8 left for West Ham. Difficult to get through the City, where fires still burn and damage is bad. Toured Shelters, Rest Centres and First Aid Posts with M.O.Hs Dr.Pugh and Dr.Thomson Squed, who have done grand work, as have the St.John women. Council very short of personnel. Back Late.

May 14. Had some Flag Day photos taken at 43 Belgrave Square and did a lot of work during the day. Lunched at Hobart Place with Bunnie and two friends and then worked again. Took a Sick Bay Meeting. Went to see X-Ray Mobile Units, a gift from New Hampshire to Hampshire, and then had a Conference with Angela Limerick and Phyllis Thorold. Saw Lady Milne later and at 6 had the Secretary of the Seamen's Hospital, Mr. Lyon. To see "Boom Town" with Spencer Tracy, Claudetti Colbert, Clark Gable etc. and dined at home after with Bun.

May 15. Cold again and had an awful headache all day. Mrs.Winant, the new American "Ambassadress" presented Mobile X'Ray Units from New Hampshire, U.S.A. to our Hampshire. Dodo Sherlock to lunch. The afternoon spent down at Great Missenden, where a Convalescent Home for Civil Defence Workers was opened by Sir Philip Chetwode, and Lord Horder spoke. Hilda Emmott to see me, very trying. Later Robert. Dinner on a tray alone.

May 16. London, Broadlands. An extremely busy day. Bunnie Lunched with me at home and I had Robert and Bertram Ede, just back from Malta for a few days, for drinks. Gave good news of Dickie and the island generally. Robert and dined at Hobart Place and I motored down to Broadlands very late, arriving just before midnight. Aint Victoria staying again.

May 17. Broadlands. Glorious day and place looking quite lovely. Had various Officials of the Ministry of Health to see over the house, which will shortly be a Hospital. Terrible complications. Bunnie arrived at teatime and Betty and Andrew Yates for dinner and the weekend.

May 18. Broadlands, London. A perfectly lovely day with blazing sun and no wind. Walked down the river, fished for trout and spent a delicious time. Place looking too beautiful. Had Major Cornwallis West and Bunny Tattersall to call and various Ministry of Health and Hospital Officials to cope with. Bunnie and I motored up late, arriving at 11.30. Yates stayed on at Broadlands till tomorrow. Had bad toothache all day, which was maddening.

May 19. London. The usual busy Monday with ceaseless worries and dramas. Also had to visit the dentist to cope with my tooth, which is still bad. Lunched at the Mirabelle with Budget and Moyra Loyd and the C.-in-C. Home Forces, General Brooke. Very nice. Had my head washed and dined with B. at Hobart Place.

May 20. Usual work and Kay and Bun to lunch. A lot to do at the office and a speech to compose. Had Esmé to tea and Mr. Churcher, the lawyer, to see me. Dined early with Bun and we went to see a really good Film "Lady Eve".

May 21. Lovely weather and seems to be a little warmer. Busy at the office and had to go to Claridges to see about the War Weapons Stall. Also lunched there with Robert and Bun. More work after and Gladye looked in at teatime. Tried to work up a speech for tomorrow for the Red X and St.John Garden Party. Bun and I dined alone and spent a quiet evening. Still with toothache.

May 22. Usual work and lunch at home with Miss Lees. After tried to work up my speech for the Red X and St.John Meeting at St. James' Palace. Alice Gloucester there and a lot of our people and Civic Authorities. Went off all right. To the dentist where I got my tooth fixed at last. Thought of dining on a tray alone, but eventually Robert came and had a quick dinner and I dropped him at the Admiralty on my way to Bermondsey to see our people.

May 23. London, Broadlands. A hectic day of interviews and work. Looked in at Claridges again to the War Weapons Stall. 100 millions raised in London already!! Lunched at the Café Royal with Peter. Anxious day. Germans still attacking Crete with paratroops and fear we have suffered severe Naval losses,,including "Kelly". D. all right we heard, thank God. En route to Alexandria. Our troops still golding on and maysucceed in keeping theplace. Bun came to dine and at 9 Peter picked me up and we motored down to Broadlands arriving at 11.30 p.m. "Hood" sunk, chasing "Bismarck".

May 24. Broadlands, Winchester, Southampton. Bad wet day, but rain most welcome and country parched. Saw Wingman Hospital and Donger and at 11.30. drove into Winchester to the County Hospital, to present the Mobile X-Ray Unit, sent by the people of New Hampshire, U.S.A. After, all round the Hospital. Excellent. Saw Dr. Fuller and all the Officials. Mrs. Stewart Wortley came back to Broadlands to lunch and we attended a similar ceremony at Southampton at 4, when I presented another to the Mayor for the Borough Hospital at the Town Hall. Tea in the parlour after and the ceremony included speeches, dedications etc. Downpours of rain and freezing!! Bun arrived and we walked in teeming rain.

May 25. Broadlands, London. Much finer early, but started to rain later and continued most of the day. Colin arrived for lunch and Bun and I took a long walk with the dogs right down by the river Rookery and back by the Farm. He, Peter and I motored back to London late, had ear trouble, and only reached there in absolutely tropical downpours at 12.30.

May 26. London. The usual maddening and tiring Monday. Hannah and Bunnie lunched and I tried to compose a speech for an E.N.S.A. lunch and nearly went mad doing it. Bun came and dined at home. News from Crete bad and everything too depressing for words.

May 27. Usual work. Feeling awful. Attended an E.N.S.A. lunch, at which George took the chair and I had to propose the 'Guests'. Kingsley Wood, A.V.Alexander (Chancellor of the Exchequer and First Lord) there. Also Lord Tyrell, the President of E.N.S.A., and crowds of people. A.V.Alexander gave out we had sunk the "Bismarck", but "Kelly", "Kashmir" and 2 Cruisers and 2 other Destroyers sunk off Crete. Many saved. Did more work and looked in at the Depot. Lorna and I dined with Bun, and she and I went to Bermondsey.

May 28. London. Endless messages about Dickie. Very touching. From every kind of person and telegrams and letters. Usual work and a Depot Meeting. Early lunch with Bun, who was going off to the country with Budget. Met Katherine Ramsden. Worked till 5 at the office and then went and had my head washed. Bun and Robert to dinner.

May 29. London, Broadlands. Work till 11 and then went to a Victory Palace Show of "Black Varieties" given for all London Civil Defence Workers, through the kindness of Mrs.Walerson and the South African Fund administered by Admiral Evans. Very representative and wonderfully enthusiastic audience. Went round to see Frances Day after and Angela Limerick and I lunched late after at the Evans. Work then till after tea. Bun and I motored down to Broadlands late. He has a week's leave and I am taking a few days off too. Found Isa Buxhoeveden at home till tomorrow and Aunt Victoria as usual.

May 30. Broadlands. Funny dull day and hardly any sun. Bunnie fished a bit and I walked the dogs and looked round the place. Nona came to lunch and Moyra and Budget Loyd arrived to stay. They fished all afternoon. Isa left with Nona. Peter Stewart arrived late for dinner, but Robert, who was coming, could not do so and his leave has been postponed.

May 31. Same sort of dull day with a sort of Scotch mist and horrible cold north wind early. This dropped later, thank goodness. Budget fished for salmon and killed a fine 18½-lber, also 3 good trout yesterday and another today. Bun had no luck! We caught up "Chico" from the Park and rode her and Patrick later unshod, so had to go gingerly. Walked with Peter up from Longbridge and saw a lot of fishermen.

June 1. Broadlands. A fine day, but with a cold wind. Budget and Bun fished energetically, but caught nothing. Peter and I sunbathed by the river after lunch and I walked down No.3 beat and watched B. fish. Lovely there, but no rises, salmon or trout. Quiet evening. Moyra away all day visiting friends near Winchester.

June 2. Icy cold and north east wind, otherwise fine. Bun killed 2 salmon before lunch, 11 and 13-lbs. Great excitement, on No.2 beat. His first!! I walked down with the dogs and saw the second killed. Rode after. Chico slipped over bank and came backwards, luckily not on me, but got a good shaking! Trout fishing after tea and dinner. Heard Dickie flying home southern route, hopes to arrive on 8th.

June 3. Peter Stewart left early and the Loyds after lunch. Bad ~~rainy day. Had a hectic morning. Field Hospital people and Mr. Don~~ rainy day. Had a Hectic morning. The Hospital people and Mr.Donger first, then Miss Lees and Mr. Field arrived to stay to work and fish! He is her "Young Man"! Then Partridges and Agnew men - furniture and pictures - as the house must be cleared for the Hospital. Awful job!! Worked all day. Diningroom being stacked with our stuff and Boudoir we made into diningroom!

June 4. Broadlands, Sunningdale, London. Very dull early but cleared during the morning and became a hot, piping, thundery day. Heavy storm and rain later. Bun and Mr. Field fished and had quite a successful time. After lunch Bun and I rode up to Luzboro' and talked to Harold, the Forester. Bun and I motored up to Sunningdale to "Early Wood" to Winnie Portarlington for dinner and he stayed the night. I proceeded on to London.

June 5. London. Hectic and tiring day. Joint National Flag Day Red X and St.John. Started at 9 a.m. on a tour of Kensington, Holborn, Stepney. Shoreditch, Finsbury and the City to see Flag Depots, Holders and Sellers. Lunched at the Mansion House with the Lady Mayoress and Lord Mayor(Wilkinsons). Work in the afternoon. Robert to see me and Esmé, who had stayed a few days at the house. Dined at the Cholmondeleys and returned early to bed.

June 6. London, Broadlands. Very busy day at the office. Lunched at Bun's, at Hobart Place and worked till tea, when I had my head done. Dined at Bun's again and found Harold there. Motored him as far as Sunningdale and then went on to Broadlands myself, arriving very late, about midnight!

June 7. Broadlands. An energetic day of moving furniture,sorting things, etc. etc. Also interviewing Hospital authorities and Estate people. Miss Lees still down here to help me. Sorted out old books after dinner. House packed with stuff of all kinds and very hard to decide what to move and what to throw away.

June 8. A dull warm day with a lovely sunny period in the afternoon. I walked the dogs back from the river, after taking the Lysters down in their car to fish. Moved furniture and interviewed and made plans for the future and after tea gardened with Miss Lees. Mizzie fell into the Japanese garden pond and nearly drowned. Just got him out in time!! Worked with Miss Lees on house things a lot.

June 9. Broadlands, London. Had a Meeting of my Joint County Committee, followed by an early lunch and some house arrangements. Reached London about 4 and did some work at the office. Also saw Mrs. Atkinson and had a long talk. Dined at home and Bun came round and had it with me.

June 10. London. A hard morning's work and a great deal on hand. Had a quick lunch at Bun's and then picked up Peggy Jessel and Molly Hudson and we all went to the Phoenix Theatre to a Trade Show of a Film "Forever England's" to which they had invited a large number of Red X and St.John. Good Gaumont British news too. More work afterwards. Went out and dined with Bun at the Mirabelle and danced After spent a quiet evening.

June 11. A very busy morning of Meetings etc. and the usual work. Feeling awful and terribly tired and the heavy weather doesn't help much. Lunched with Bun, who had 2 others. Work again after and tried to compose a speech and a broadcast. At 8 went to an excellent News Reel with Bun and Robert and after dined at Chester St. No raids all this time.

June 12. London, Six-Mile-Bottom. Hectic work and more than ever to do. Robert, Peter and Bun lunched and I worked feverishly till 5.30. when I picked up Peter and we left en route for Six-Mile-Bottom and he for Cambridge. Dropped him out at Royston and I arrived to spend the night with Mary at 7.30. She has a Corps billeted on her. General Osborn and the A.D.C., Freddie Horton and the Brigadier, dined and we talked after.

June 13. Six-Mile-Bottom,Newmarket, Cambridge, Ely, London. I was fetched at 10.15. by Miss Powell, one of our District Officers and Ministry of Health Officials, and Mrs. Manby, our Cambridgeshire County Officer. We started on a terrific tour. First to see the Ministry of Health Hospital Train at Newmarket. Excellent and beautifully equipped. Then to Richmond Lodge, the Newmarket Hospital, with all the additional Huts for patients built on. Thence to Cambridge to see the Blood Research Laboratory; very up-to-date and the best in England. Lunched in Cambridge and then proceeded to Ely to the "Palace",which has become a Joint War Convalescent Hospital. I addressed the people, some Red X, but chiefly St.John

June 13 (cont) and met hundreds and went all round it. Tea and then a visit to St.John Corps Headquarters in Cambridge. Dr. Maurice Smith our Commissioner. Back to Six-Mile-Bottom and only reached London at 8.30. Dead. Bun dined.

June 14. London, Broadlands. Work at the office till just before lunch, when I rushed off and did a little shopping. Budget Loyd and Bunnie lunched and after I went to the Warner to see "The Letter". Very good. At 6.15 went to the B.B.C. to rehearse a Talk to Malta (at the request of the Island) and did it at 7. Then motored on down to Broadlands, arriving at 9.30. Robert also there and Aunt Victoria.

June 15. Broadlands. Looked through books with Mr. Robinson and re-arranged them. Took Robert down to the river to fish and later Brigadier Briggs. Rode with Robert after tea and weeded and gardened with Aunt V. before. Lovely day. Briggs had a quick dinner with us before continuing his trout efforts. Robert lost a large salmon.

June 16. Broadlands, London. A glorious baking sunny day. Motored up before lunch, which I had with Bun at Hobart Place. Garden looking lovely. Worked at the office all afternoon and went to see a Film in the afternoon by myself and had some dinner on a tray afterwards. Still expecting Dickie to arrive.

June 17. London, Broadlands. Usual work and a very busy day. Lunched at the Mirabelle with Colin. Had many different messages regarding Dickie and finally was told he was arriving back tomorrow Went to a Film, dined and then motored down to Broadlands, stopping at Broome Cottage on the way for a short visit to the Phillips. Found Robert at Broadlands still.

June 18. Broadlands, Poole. Motored over to Poole at 10.30. and went out with Robert in the launch to meet the Flying Boat "Clare" which Dickie arrived in. Looking very peculiar in borrowed clothes and travelling as Mr. Lewis Mountain. The "Clare" has been delayed continually owing to engine trouble and bad weather. Motored to Broadlands in time for lunch and spent a busy but quiet day. Robert left after dinner.

June 19. Broadlands, London. We motored up to London for lunch and had Charles Daniel and Charles Lambe to that meal. Worked all afternoon and had my head washed. Bun came round to dinner and the St.John ~~Atkinson~~ Hutchinsons came in for news of their Jeremy, who was in "Kelly" and saved.

June 20. London. Busy day and piping hot all this time. Work at the office and with Lorna Atkinson. Lunched at Hobart Place with Bun, Budget, Captain Storey and Marjorie also there. More work after. Micky looked in late and Dickie, Bun and I went to the Deanna Durbin Film and dined late at home.

June 21. London, Broadlands. Worked all morning and then lunched with B. at Hobart Place. Robert and Bun also there, and Peter. Motored down to Broadlands after with B. Dickie following with Peter and we all stopped at Sunningdale for tea with Harold. Arrived at Broadlands for dinner. Quite a bad Air Raid in the afternoon and a lot of incendiaries dropped all round the Park and some very heavy stuff. We walked out to put them out and were up till 4.

June 22. Broadlands. Felt pretty awful and spent a depressing morning going all round to see last night's damage. Lovely little Sand Pits cottage burnt to the ground by incendiaries and H.E. Middle Toothill Farm and houses badly damaged, also Upper and surrounding ones. About 24 H.E.s dropped and many incendiaries. Walked and had the Crichtons, Isa and Lady Somerville to tea. Glorious hot weather.

June 23. Broadlands, Coppins, Windsor. Spent most of the day rushing round and doing house things, etc. Also had Harold down for the day; he came by train and stayed till the evening, when he returned to London with Bun. Dickie and Peter went up to London on the lunch train and I motored across country to Coppins at teatime. We went and dined with the King and Queen at Windsor. Marina and George the only other guests and Lilibeth came down too. Walked in the grounds after. Perfectly lovely evening. Back to Coppins for the night.

June 24. Coppins, London. Motored over to Farnham Common early to see Betty Pound, who has been so ill. Then picked up Dickie and we proceeded to London. Straight to the office and had Bun and Miss Lees lunching. Very busy afternoon's work amd later in the evening went to a Film with Dickie and Bun.

June 25. London. Worked all the morning. Dickie's 41st birthday. Lunched with Bunnie, who had Frankie Bell and a friend of his, Pryor, also from the Argentine, lunching. They have both joined up with R.A.F. More Meetings and work after. Dined at the Mirabelle, Dickie and I, Angie Laycock and Bunnie and danced there in honour of Dickie's birthday.

June 26. A very busy morning and lunch at Admiralty House with the Alexanders. The only other guests Winston and Clemmie. The Prime Minister in grand form and interesting lunch. More work later. Dickie and I went to see a baddish Film and then had late dinner at home.

June 27. Work and Meetings. Had Pamela McKenna and Sir John to lunch and worked at the office again after. Took Budget, Bunnie, Frankie Bell and Pryor to see "Rise Above It". Quite good. Also heard Tony Kimmins broadcast on the Battle of Crete with the "Kelly's" fight. Dined after at Bunnie's house and Robert, Peter Stewart and Harry Jacobson also came.

June 28. London, Cherkley. Usual work in the morning and lunched at the Apéretif with Colin and Bunnie. Dickie and I went to see a Matinee of Black Varieties and visited Frances Day. Then motored down to Cherkley for dinner and the night. The American Ambassador and Mrs. Winant there, Cummings of the News Chronicle, and various Express and Standard people. Also Jeanie, whose little house we went to see first, quite close by. Very late bed. The new Dietrich picture "The Flame of New Orleans" after. Not very good.

June 29. Broadlands. Walked in the gardens and said goodbye to Max before leaving for Broadlands, which we reached about 11.45. Colin arrived down by train to fish and spend the night. We gardened and walked and sunbathed, and the Jenkins and Abel Smiths came to tea. Admiral and Mrs. Lyster also fished and came in for drinks after. Colin got 2 good trout.

June 30. Broadlands. Piping hot day with brilliant sun. Rode to Nightingale and fished after lunch, but much too bright. Colin left early. The Larcoms came to fish and lunched with us. I gardened and sunbathed too.

July 1. Broadlands, Windsor, London. Another blazing day. Walked and sunbathed and lunched in the garden and did a lot of work as well. Dickie and Ileft by car for Windsor at 4.30, to drop one of the chameleons for Lilibeth. Saw her and Margaret. Then on to London, where I had my head done and we then rushed out to dine with the C.I.G.S. Sir John Dill. The Nyes and Capt. Nutting also dining. On to Bunnie after and he had Frances Day Harry, Eric and ourselves for supper.

July 2. London. A busy day and really hectic at times. Had an interview with Mrs. Atkinson followed by one with Miss Wyatt, The Commandant of the Sick Bay, whom I had to sack. Then a Joint County Committee Meeting and a Lunch and Conference at the Depot for our Collecting Centres and Committee. All very tiring and I had cracking neuralgia as well. Joined the V.A.D. Collection Board later and in the evening went to Noel Coward's First Night of "Blithe Spirit" with Bunnie, Dickie and Angie Laycock. Dinner and dancing at the Mayfair after. Very hot all this time.

July 3. Interviews and a lot of work for St.John. Had the Swedish Minister, Mr. Prytz, the Lambes and Mr.Hutton of "Picture Post," and Bunnie to lunch. Attended a Red X and St.John Service at Westminster Abbey at 6, to which Marina came. Noel, Mike McMullen and Bunnie came round at 8 and we went to see a private showing of "Down Argentine Way" and 2 Disney's. Food at home after.

July 4. Usual long morning's work and very hot still. I lunched quickly with Miss Lees and at 2.30 went for a short time to a matinée of Noel's play, given for the Red X and St.John. More work after. Dickie went off to Broadlands, picking up Angie on the way. I had my hair done and dined with Bunnie in his garden. Quite delicious.

July 5. London, Broadlands. Work and shopping. Lunched with Bun at Hobart Place and found Mary and Harold also there. After Bun and I motored down to Broadlands, arriving for late tea. Found Aunt Victoria, Angie Laycock and Dickie there. Walked the dogs and played a round of Golf on the Romsey course, which is on our own property. Quite nice.

July 6. Broadlands. Glorious piping hot weather and the place looking a picture. Bun fished early and I rowed him down on the river later. Too bright and no good. Lunch in the garden after sunbathing and more after. I also did some weeding and tying up in the garden. After tea played Golf at Stoneham, I very badly. Bun and Angie left after and we fished.

July 7. Broadlands, London. Glorious hot, blazing day. Fished early and then rode with Dickie all through Yew Tree,Moor Court, etc. Teddy Heywood Lonsdale ~~and wife~~ for lunch and to spend the day. Sunbathed, gardened and had the Norths to tea. Motored Teddy back to Weybridge after, continuing to London myself.

July 8. London. Terribly hot and really overpowering. Also thundery. Took a difficult Flag Day Meeting at St.James's Palace and after had George, Hannah and Sophy Hall to lunch. Work all afternoon and a visit to Betty Poole at 6. Later had my hair done and was so hot and had such . Retired to bed early.

July 9. Had A Committee Depot Meeting and the usual work at the office. Lunched with Robert at Pastoris and had my Chelsea Sick Bay Meeting after. Work till late and at 7 went with Pamela McKenna to a Show at Kensington in aid of the Red X and St.J. down by the A.R.P. Point, but far too long. Had some food with B. at Hobart Place after, and sat in the garden.

July 10. London. Took a Flag Day Meeting and lunched with B. who had Kay, Robert and Lord Munster also. Did more work. Fitted at Gill and visited Sibyl Colefax in the London Clinic. Angie Laycock dined and she and Dickie went out dancing after, while Bun and I motored down to Hurlingham. Lovely.

July 11. Sweltering heat continues. Worked all morning. Sadie and Kay lunched and after I had an interview with Lorna and Pamela. Recorded at the B.B.C. for South Africa for the Depot at 5 and saw the Director, General, Mr. Ogilvie, after, Paul Hammond. Had people in for cocktails, Paul Hammond and his niece, Mrs.Rathbone, Admiral Thormby and another Naval Mission man. Robert and Bun dined and we went to a bad Film.

July 12. London, Oakwood Hill. Sweltering heat all morning, but which broke later in the day with a fearful thunderstorm. Worked all morning and lunched at Bun's. He and I motored down after to Colin and Gladys Buist for the weekend. Terrific downpours and gales and tropical storms on the way. Treesdown and floods. Found Poppy staying, and an enchanting place and farm. Kaysie settling into tiny house next door and Dolly Beatty in another. They all came for drinks. Gardened and watered, as the storms had not reached here.

July 13. Oakwood Hill, Liphook. Rain at last and much fresher. Patsy Ward arrived for lunch, also Andrew Yates. Bun and I motored over to Marjorie's house near Liphook for tea. Awful quarrel and quite miserable. Colin on duty in London all day. Bun took a gun out after dinner and we got one small rabbit. Lovely evening after the rain and country looking delicious.

July 14. Oakwood Hill, London. Called at 7 and left at 7.30. for London, dropping Andrew at Dorking Station on the way. Work all day except for 2 hours spent in Hyde Park for the big Civil Defence Parade. Winston addressed and reviewed them and it was a magnificent sight, 6,000. Our people well represented. Lunch at Bun's, Dickie and Robert also there. More row and feeling very unhappy and nervy. Bun, Peter and I went to a Non-stop Revue and Dickie left from there to train for the North. Peter, Bun and I fed after at the Café Royal.

July 15. London. Usual work. Had Captain Goodley and Mr.Denys Lowson ~~xxxx~~ our new Vice-President to lunch. More work and at 8 went to the Ladies Carlton to meet Angela Limerick and the American Red X International Commissioner, Mr. Allen. Dined and after took him a tour of the Adelphi First Aid Post and Bermondsey Tube and Shelters. I continued late seeing our members.

July 16. Our Joint County Committee followed by Margaret and Bun to lunch. Interview with Lorna and others later. Had my head washed and at 8 went with Bun to see an excellent Film, "The Devil and Miss Jones" . After dinner at Pastoris and joined Natcho Landa and Audrey Rubin at the 40s.

July 17. Worked all morning and had various tricky problems. Lunched quickly at Bun's and had an Emergency Sick Bay Meeting after. A big Sherry Party at Sybil Cholmondeley's at 7. Marina, the whole Admiralty and W.R.N.S., Clemmie Churchill, Cecil Beaton, Noel, the Americans, plus Quentin Reynolds, the Commentator, the Diplomatic Corps etc. Quite amusing. To a News Reel with Bun and dined at home later.

July 18. Depot and usual work. Poppy Thursby, Paul Hammond, Micky, Peter and Bun to lunch. Back to the office till 4.30. and then to a Tea and visit of the American Red X nurses at Grosvenor Crescent and Bessborough Street. Some of them just arrived after being torpedoed on their way over. Dined at Bun's Harold also there, but leftat 9.

July 19. London, Winchester, Southampton. Left for Broadlands on the 8.30 train, breakfasting on it and reaching Winchester about 10.15. Picked up there by Mr. Donger, who motored me home and we went through plans etc. Then walked and gardened and at 2.30 went into Southampton for the last day of War Weapons Week, 1 million and a quarter raised. Civil Defence March Past and address by the Regional Commissioner, Mr. Harold Butler. Teeming rain. Tea at the Civic Centre. Bun arrived at teatime and we fished after dinner.

July 20. Broadlands, London. Lovely day and went down to the river early to fish. Got my first salmon in the Cottage Pool on No.2 Beat. Great excitement and nearly died of anxiety. Small 9½-lb fish, but lovely and fresh and in good condition. Just up from the sea. In the afternoon fished again and walked and saw North. We dined early and Bun and I motored back to London and stopped at Sunningdale en route.

July 21. London. Had various interviews including one with Angela Limerick and an Emergency Meeting at Lord Iliffe's regarding our Disney Performance. Lunched with Bun who had Robert and a Brigadier. Saw Mr. Hope and various other people during the afternoon and had a really hectic day. Silvio came and fitted me. Met Bun at the Odeon and saw a really excellent Film called . After dined at home, trying evening with long discussions and misery.

July 22. Hectic day of trying to concoct speeches, making them and going demented. George and Hannah lunched and Mary P. and Noel looked in before. At 2 went off down to Streatham to see the local Red X shop and after to visit No.5,1st Aid Post, staffed by our people. At the former received by the Mayor and speechifying and the same afterwards at the Post. Spent the evening at Bessboro' Street, where they had a concert. May Harrison and Pamela McKenna violin and piano and the Shell Mex House Choir. Party given by the Westminster City Council. Joined Harry Jacobson, Frances and Bun at the Savoy after.

July 23. Opened the Derry Gardens at 11.30. in aid of the Merchant Seamen. Drinks after with the Mayor, Mr. Trevor Bowen and others. Lunched with Bun and attended the County Conference of Red X and St.John after. Long and tedious. Mr. Allen of the American Red X came in to see us. Later Sir John Duncan, George, Bun and Kay, all joined us to go to the new Disney Film Première, "Fantasia", which we are being given for the Red X and St.John. Excellent and really inspiring. Food at home after.

July 24. Lovely grilling day, wasted in London. Worked at the Depot and at the office till lunch, which I had with Sir Kenneth Barnes at the Carlton Grill. After visited the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, and watched 2 acts of a play given by the students. Then to a meeting with Basil Dean regarding a Gracie Field concert for our Fund. Later helped entertain the American Red X Nurses at the Ladies Carlton Club with Mrs.Atkinson. To the Y.M.C.A. Officers' Club in Whitehall at 6.30. Saw two very bad Films with Bun at the Empire and dined with him, Robert and Dickie later.

July 25. Work all day and lunch at home. Kept many appointments and had a ceaseless flow of business. George came in to "bath" and drink at 7 and I had Bun to dinner. Dickie went off down to Broadlands about 7 o'clock. Awful sweltering heat.

July 26. London, Broadlands. Heavy thunderstorm and downpours of rain in the night and rain continued most of the day. Interviewed members and worked all morning. Lunched at Hobart Place and after returned to pack etc. Then motored down to Bds. with Bun in his car, stopping at Sunningdale en route for tea, and saw Harold.

July 27. Broadlands. Glorious day and country looking heavenly. Fished unsuccessfully all morning. Walked and sunbathed all afternoon. Dickie's new Commander, Lovegrove, and wife came to tea. Bun took a rook rifle and shot after and we walked all down the river. He left after dinner and Dickie fished.

July 28. Broadlands, Christchurch. Motored over to Heron Court for our County Committee Meeting and returned for lunch to which Nona came. Walked and arranged things in the house and joined Dickie down by the river in the afternoon. He did no good fishing however. Noel Coward arrived to stay very late, the car having broken down in Winchester. He and Dickie talked late.

July 29. Broadlands, Basingstoke, London. Walked and worked and settled house problems. Lunched early and then motored up to Basingstoke, to Park Prewett, where there is an Annexe, Rooksdown House with 200 beds for Maxillo Facial cases. A Pavilion for rest and recreation was being presented by the Danish Commissioner Philip Chetwode Reventlow etc. all there and Harold Gillies, who runs the place. Dorothy Malmesbury and I received the Pavilion from Sir Philip, on behalf of the Hampshire Joint County Committee. Then a tour of the Hospital and tea. On to Moundsmere for the House Committee Meeting and then back to London. Peter dined and spent the night.

July 30. London. Work at the office all the morning and Bunnie to lunch early before he left for Scotland. Then attended the V.A.D. Selection Board followed by a Sick Bay Meeting. A lot more work till late and finally had dinner on a tray and retired to bed fairly early.

July 31. Work all morning including a Ladies Committee Meeting at St.James's Palace. Had Hannah and Miss Flo Du Cane to lunch and in the afternoon took an E.N.S.A. Meeting. A Shelter Nurse Tea Party at Bessborough Street, attended also by all the Medical Officers. Robert picked me up at 9.30. and we went to Frances Day's,where an enormous party was assembled. Quite gay, and good music after dinner. The Alexanders, Duff, Walter Monkton,etc.

Aug. 1. London. Quite exhausted all day and so much to do with interviews. An appointment with Kenneth Clark at the M.O.I. Lunched with Lady Holland, Pamela McKenna and Molly Hudson. Work all afternoon and a Meeting with Admiral Munroe at 5, regarding the Depot. Colin and Kathleen Dewar to drink and Budget and Bunnie to dinner on their return from Scotland.

Aug. 2. London, Broadlands. A hectically busy morning and an interview at the M.O.I. Then lunched with Bun at Hobart Place and at 4 we motored down to Broadlands, stopping for tea at the Cricketers' Arms. Found Angie and Bob Laycock there for the weekend. Bun fished after dinner. Glorious evening.

Aug. 3. Broadlands. Fished in the morning and had a pleasant though not a successful time. Then returned for lunch. Lovely hot afternoon and walked in the Park and by the river and did a little garden tidying. Dickie and Angie played Golf. Dickie Benson to tea. More fishing after dinner.

Aug. 4. Broadlands, London. Bad day, though early it was not too wet. Downpours later however. Bun and Bob Laycock left on the early train. I fished early while it was still fine. A Gymkana took place in the Park in aid of the Local Hospital, but was ruined by torrential rain. Nona and Dick came with Aunt V. after lunch, having housed her for the weekend. Angie and I left at 6 and I dropped her at Basingstoke and then proceeded to London. Bun dined.

Aug. 5. London. Work as usual and various interviews. I lunched at Hobart Place with Bunnie and worked again later. Dickie arrived up before dinner and we took Angie and Ben and Bun to the Cinema, where we met Bob Laycock and Henry Pellissier and saw "Lady Hamilton". After some of us went to the Mayfair.

Aug. 6. A very busy day and had some Meetings. I had Pamela McKenna and Mrs. Dawson to lunch and worked till late. A.V.Alexander, the 1st Lord, came in for a drink and at 7.30. Dickie and I went to see a private Showing of "Citizen Kane". A really marvellous Film, based on the life of W.R. Hearst. Then back home to dinner, where Bunnie joined us. Noel played and sang and told us of his new Film, based on "Kelly".

Aug. 7. Hectically busy day. The Phillips family and their little evacuee guest for lunch. Miserable afternoon. Went to Chelsea and Fulham Div.Headquarters at 7 for a gathering with Lady Abrahams and her members and the M.O.H. etc. Said a few words, then dined late at home with Dickie, Bun and Robert.

Aug. 8. Downpours of rain a good deal of the day. Had Winnie, Kay, Robert and a Captain Taylor to lunch. Work after and Peter came in later. I went to the Empire with B. and after we dined at Pastori. Lovely evening.

Aug. 9. London, Broadlands. Work all morning and a little shopping and a visit to Sibyl Colefax at the Dorchester before lunch, which I had with Bun at Hobart Place. Then motored down to Broadlands, stopping at Broome Cottage en route. Robert arrived for dinner and we fished unsuccessfully after, Started to rain. Peter also here having come down with Dickie in the afternoon.

Aug.10. Broadlands. Lovely day with lots of sun, but some rain later. Fished for salmon in the morning and trout later. Anna, Teddy and Marjorie lunched and I sunbathed and gardened after. Walked with Bunnie and Robert with a 2.2 rifle and got a moorhen. Bun fished later, a marvellous rise and he got a nice trout. Robert left.

Aug.11. Broadlands, London. Bun left very early. I had my Joint County Committee at 11. Downpours of rain all day, except for brief sunny spells. Did a lot of business in the garden and house and interviewed North and others. I left for London by car at 4 with Peter, Dickie staying on at B. till Wednesday. Bun gave me dinner at Hobart Place and we spent a peaceful evening.

Aug.12. London. A busy day. Letters to be answered. Interviews with Lorna Atkinson, Nancy Tree, etc. etc. Lunched with Bun and worked all afternoon again. Colin and Mike looked in to see me and at 7.15. I joined Mrs.Dwight Davis, Mrs.Entice and Angela Limerick's party to dine at the Ladies Carlton and after we toured Bess-Borough Street, a Gas Cleansing Station in Kensington and Piccadilly Circus. Bun dined with me later.

Aug.13. Dickie arrived up for lunch, which we had at home and entertained Felix and Mary and Walter Monkton. Work all afternoon and had a busy time. Kay, Noel and Jeannie and Bun came to Cinema and dined late.

Aug.14. London. Busy day altogether, and lunched with Budget and Bun at Claridges. Interviews and work till late. Had various people in to cocktails, including the Baileys, Paul Hammond and various others. Dined at the Savoy with Marjorie, Bob and Angie Laycock, Bun, Robert and Noel. Excellent dinner and quite fun. Farewell party.

Aug.15. London, Bristol. Hectically busy day and thought we should never get straight. Leaving for the States tonight, Dickie to take command of the "Illustrious" rebuilding there, and I for the Red X and St.John. I lunched at Pastori's with Bunnie and went to the Cinema with him after, then saw Mary and Harold to say goodbye. Robert, Bun and Walter Monkton came to see us off at 6.30. for Bristol. Dined on train and reached there at 9.30. Stayed the night at the Grand. "City" very badly bombed in previous raids.

Aug.16. Bristol, Lisbon. Left on the K.L.M. machine for Lisbon at 9.30. refuelling once at Barnstaple, where the R.A.F. took us to have coffeee at their Mess. Good flight and uneventful. Met at Lisbon at 5.p.m. by Teddy Billyard Leake, who is also Naval Attaché there. Long formalities with Passports etc. Long drive into Lisbon, staying at the Aviz Hotel. Lovely. Ancient private house with lovely rooms. Teddy Leake dined with us and after we went to a bad Film. Dazed by brilliant lights and copious food, including butter, fruit and meat!!

Aug.17. Lisbon, Sintra. Lovely day. Vaccinated early by the American Dr. very lightly, as we had failed to get done before leaving. Then drove to the British Embassy, from where Sir Ronald Campbell drove us out to beyond Sintra in the mountains to an entrancing little estate called Quita Rio de Milo. Very primitive, but charming. Pink washed with lovely beams and delicious terraced gardens overlooking the sea. Received by the Ex-Dutch Minister and his wife,Sillurno. Lady Campbell there recuperating after an illness. Lunched out in the garden and walked through pines and flowers after. Wrote letters on returning for mail. Drank with N Gold and the Rogers. All here. Dined late. Coffee with the Davies, Eustis party also on the plane.

Aug.18. Lisbon, Azores, Horta. An early start, but only took off at about 10. Bowing Flying Boat. Lovely machine and very comfortable. Can seat 70 people. Sleeping accommodation, but for far less of course. Long flight with lunch en route till 5,when we reached Horta. Very rough landing and delayed there some hours. Walked in little town. Rather charming, but bleak countryside, though lovely. ℄ Volcanic mountains. Dined ashore and finally took off late en route for Bermuda. Bunks made up at night, but heat terrific, as flew low and not a good night. bumpy too.

Aug.19. Bermuda, New York. Reached Bermuda at 8.30. Met by C.in C. Flag Lt. and a barge, which rushed up off to their Residence. Kennedy Purvises charming, and delicious spot with charming house and perfect white sand bathing beach, and mountainous gardens thick with Hibiscus of all colours, and Bugainvillia. Delicious breakfast followed by heavenly bathe. Took off again about 11 a.m. and flew steadily till 4.30. when we reached New York, La Guardia Air Port. Met by reporters and photographers and endless formalities as usual. Downpours of rain, but warm. Mr.Dresselhuys met us and we are all staying with them at their Plaza appartment. Most sumptious. Met the children there. Heavenly after 14 months and Zelle. Dined and went to a Show.

Aug.20. New York, Oyster Bay. Telephone never stopped and drove us all to drink. Saw various friends, shopped and lunch at the Ritz Carlton. Then did various interviews. Very warm in New York and excess of food, lights and general waste and frivolity rather upsetting. Utter disregard of cost and extravagance quite shocks one now and one is out of time with such shallowness and appalling high rate of living. Drove to Oyster Bay at 7, where the Dresselhuys have rented a charming house for the summer. Very luxurious, but homely, right overlooking the Bay and with attractive Pool and gardens. Children and Zelle came too. Charming little Gould girl, Mrs. D's daughter by her 1st marriage.

Aug.21. Oyster Bay. A lovely, lazy day with the children, swimming and sunbathing, and lazing. The Dresselhuys drove back to New York last night and only returned for dinner. We motored to the Schiffs' house to drop a note for David and stopped at the Piping Rock Club on the way home. Saw Home Made Films after.

Aug.22. Oyster Bay, New York. Swam, sunbathed, did some work and then motored to Centre Island to the Sawancke Yacht Club to go off to lunchin the Marie Anne with Ainley and Meto Georgiadze. A lovely 3-masted Schooner and charmingly decorated. Then Dickie and I motored up to New York and then I had my head washed and we dined with Cornelius Dresselhuys at the Monte CarloBeach. Fefé Ferry's Restaurant. Then to see an excellent Play called "My Sister Eileen". Very funny.

Aug.23. New York, Washington, Oyster Bay. Flew to Washington for the day, leaving at 8.15. and from La Guardia at 9. Very hot there after 1.1/4 hrs.flight. Went to the Embassy and Chancery and had a long talk with various officials. Then did some shopping and lunched at the White House with Jimmy Rooseveldt and his wife and the President's eldest son. Charming couple. Saw Darryl Zammuk too. Flew back at 3.45. awful rush and on arrival motored straight out to Oyster Bay again.

Aug.24. Oyster Bay. A lovely peaceful day with the children, swimming, sunbathing and riding. Piping hot and got beautifully sun burnt. Pool here too lovely. Dickie and Patricia and Lorraine rode, while Zelle, Pammy and I played Pounce, as Pam had a bad bee bite and couldn't ride or swim.

Aug.25. Oyster Bay, Washington. Pouring rain most of the day. Dickie, the children and I motored to La Guardia Air Port at12, where we lunched and he and I should have left by air for Washington at 1.30. Plane cancelled however, owing to weather and we were rushed in to New York and put in a train, which only reached Washington at 6.45. Drove to the Embassy, where we are staying (Halifaxes in London), and saw George for a moment. Just here for 2 days from Canada. Dined at the White House with the President and Mrs.Rooseveldt. Dinner for George. I sat next to the President and General Arnold, Chief of Army Air Arm. Harry Hopkins, Sir Ronald Campbell, Rockefellers and Towers there. Delightful dinner and Films after.

Aug.26. Washington. Grilling hot and unbelievably damp,about 98 in the shade. Had various interviews and one with Mr.Appleby, Vice-President of British War Relief. Lunched with Edwina D'Erlanger and then visited Red X National Head Quarters. Met Mr. Norman Davies, the Chairman, and Mrs.Dwight Davies and had a Press Conference and photos taken. They are planning a tour for me, which I dread. Saw over their Headquarters. Back to join George and go with him to the Gallery of Art with the Mellon and Kress Collections. Very fine. Saw Mrs.Waler Lalham of "Bundles for Britain". George left for Canada at 8. We dined with Eddie and Grisell Hastings at Pieres. Thunder in evening.

Aug.27. Washington, New York. A busy morning at the Red X National Headquarters and at the Columbia Chapter. Lunched at Rex Benson's house, Sir Colville Wemyss of the British Mission also there. Dickie left after by air for Norfolk, Virginia, and I for New York. Reached it about 6 only, as had to get off at Newark and motor in. Dined at the Colony with Doc Holden and went to a Film after. Staying at the Plaza with the Dresselhuys' appartment.

Aug.28. New York. Felt quite awful all day, ill and exhausted and also had a busy day with appointments and shopping. Lunched at the Colony with Dell and Victor Proetz and had Mrs.Morior to tea. She has given a lot of aid to Hampshire Red X and St. John. Had my hair and nails done and Dickie arrived from Norfolk Virginia, at 7.30. We dined at Horn and Hardart at the Automat. Delicious cheap meal! and then went to see "Fantasia" again.

Aug.29. New York, Newport. Hectic morning getting speech for tomorrow typed out and packing and also keeping an interview with Sir Gerald Campbell, head of the Ministry of Information here. Children arrived from Oyster Bay and we four left on the 1 o'c. train to spend some days with Mrs. Vanderbilt at Newport. Doc Holden came up too. Lunch on train and car met us at Providence. Staying at Beaulieu. Immediately we arrived a round of social activities commenced and I hardly think we shall stay the course till Wednesday. Various people dropped in for tea and we went to a large dinner, given by the Gambrills. Quite pleasant, but enormous.

Aug.30. Newport. Windy day and felt awful, but better in the evening, after I had got my Red X address off my chest! Drove to the Ryans for a drink and to collect a car they had kindly lent us. Then lunched with the Holmsens. Enormous lunch followed by tennis at the Cesins. Then dashed back to change into uniform and attended a Red X Reception and Meeting and tea at the Social Newport "Chapter". Had to address the people; terrifying, but all went off well. Dined with the Burdens. Vast dinner again, and then 2 Dances, one with the Van Peldts at the Clambaryko and one at the local Club. Bed very late.

Aug.31. Quite exhausted, so spent quiet morning and then went to Bailey's Beach for a quick paddle! and sunbathe. Gale of wind blowing, so not very pleasant, and black sand and baddish bathe. Very social also!! Rushed back to lunch with the Admiral commanding this area and Mrs Kalbfas. Charming house. Children and I then drove to the Ryans to pick them up and go to Baroness Lambert's little beach to swim. Cold,icy wind set in and we only shivered and drank hot tea and could not attempt to swim!!! An enormous dinner of 50 was given by Mrs.Vanderbilt for us athome. Very trying evening.

Sept. 1. Newport. Morning on the beach and lunch at Dr.Hamilton Rice. An awful drive with Mrs. Neil along the Ocean Drive, Fort Adam and finally to the Golf Club. Back to a Cocktail Party at the Drummond Wolffs and finally dinner with the Sterlings. He is the American Minister to Stockholm

Sept. 2. Spent the morning on the beach. Very warm in the sun, but icy in the water. Had the Gordon Douglases and Frank Roach to lunch and one or two others, including the Warrens. Drove with Mrs. V. de B. to various beaches and finally she left us for the golf and we wandered into the town and shopped. Quietish dinner at home for once and Patricia came down looking very pretty.

Sept. 3. Newport, New York. Packed and wrote countless letters of thanks for this ghastly few days and which has been one series of terrifying social and ridiculous functions, which have really made me sick, kind and hospitable though the people seem to be, and anxious to give one a good time. We left Providence at 2 on the New York train arriving at 5.30. Cinema and dinner at Child's with Dickie, Zelle and the children. Excellent Ginger Rogers pictures.

Sept. 4. New York. An absolutely hectic day and grilling hot too. Did a lot of business and lunched with Nell and Victor Proetz at the Colony. Dictated letters, ahopped and interviewed people. Dined at a little restaurant, the Passy, with Grace Stevens and her husband, Bob, and went to see Gertie Lawrence's play. "Lady in the Dark". Excellent. After to dance at the Larne's.

Sept. 5. New York, White Plains. Grilling hot, about 98 and nearly all humidity. Killing. A busy morning dictating, interviewing and gave Mr. Ruxton, of the British American Ambulance Corps, lunch. Also Reg Gilmor of Sperry's. Various people to see us. Motored out to White Plains, about 50 minutes away, to stay with the Warburgs at Woodlands. Enormous family party and very cosy and pleasant. Took the children with us.

Sept. 6. White Plains. A perfectly beautiful, clear, hot, sunny day. Sunbathed and swam in the big indoor pool. Rode in the afternoon with Dickie and the girls and had tea with Nina Warburg at her little house on the Estate. More of the family and guests to dinner. A very pleasant evening.

Sept. 7. Same lovely weather and lay and sunbathed and swam and lunched out of doors in the garden. Played Golf at the Century Golf Club with Paul and Connie Warburg and Bill Rothschild. Rather fun and lovely course. Tea at the Rothschilds. Quiet evening with dinner guests. Very pleasant weekend.

Sept. 8. White Plains, New York, Southampton Long Island. I left for New York at 11 with Gisela Warburg, and had a hectic hour doing business, getting changed into uniform and starting off again for Southampton, L.I. Pauline Davis sent her car for me and I drove out about 98 miles. A Red X Meeting and tea, at which I had to speak, followed nearly immediately and nearly killed me with fright, but it went off very well thank God. Later the Davis gave a dinner in my honour, very gay followed by guitar music and a wonderful "conjurer". Really rather fun.

Sept. 9. Southampton, New York. Drove into New York with Pauline Davis, dropping her at La Guardia to fly to Washington. I lunched down town at 18 Pine Street at the Chase National Bank, with Winthrop Aldrich and 18 men of the Executive Board of British War Relief. We discussed business and I had to speak to them. Shopped and had my head washed and saw various people before dinner, including Boy Scheftel and Gladys D'Oyley Hughes. Also Miss Heitt from the N.B.C. to go over a Broadcast for me tomorrow. Dick Brugière came round and we dined at the Baroque.

Sept. 10. New York. Dickie flew down to Norfolk for the day. One of the hottest and dampest days I have ever known, 91 degrees and 90 humidity. Nearly killed us all. Had to be at Rockefeller Centre at 9.15. to do voice tests and go through my script etc. Broadcast at 10, then back to do countless letters and see Miss Warburg about Emergency Rescue Committee. Lunched at the Colony with Doc. Holden, Bertram Cruger, Will Stewart and Lytle Hull. Went to see Nell's office and at 3.30. picked up the girls and Zelle and took them to see a Film. A little cooler in the evening and a storm. I dined with Rhoda Clark at her lovely Sutton Place appartment, on the water.

Sept.11. New York, Long Island, Oyster Bay. Much cooler and quite pleasant. Dickie returned from Washington at 12 o'clock, and we lunched at the New York Times office with Mr.Salzburgen, the Chairman, and went all round after, then to see some News Reels of ourselves (arranged by Boy Sheftel) and a documentary called "The World Besieged". A busy evening seeing people and packing. Among others Sylvia looked in (Fairbanks). At 6 Lorraine and Cornelius Dresselhuys picked us up and took us down to Oyster Bay, where we are to stay.

Sept.12. Oyster Bay. Glorious day and sunbathed and lazed. Did some letters and a message for a Federation. Quiet day otherwise. Had tea with John and Tee-Tee Schiff and saw David (Bayham) looking very well indeed. Later called on Susan Hammond and her nephew and niece (Rathbones). Played "Pounce" with the children after dinner.

Sept.13. Another glorious day and rushed early to have my head washed and later sunbathed. Then motored to lunch with the Strawbridges and later went to the Polo at Meadowbrook. Very good fast game. First round of the Open Championships. Back to tea at the Strawbridges. Mr. Marvin came to the ~~Strawbridges~~ Dresselhuys for the weekend and Mrs a sweet old lady to dinner; Mrs.Lyons.

Sept.14. Oyster Bay, St.Louis. Heavenly day and sunbathed all morning and swam before lunch. Then we were picked up by Peggy and Tommy Hitchcock and went out to Meadowbrook to see the Polo. Another very good game in the Open Championship. Dickie and the children then drove me to La Guardia Air Field, where we nearly missed my plane for St.Louis and had a terrific rush. Flew from 6 till 11 o'clock via Pittsburgh and Indianapolis, and was met there by my host, Mr. Allen, the Chairman of the Red X Chapter, Various others and the Press. Then drove with police out-riders and sirens all the way into town and am staying with the Allens at their charming little house. Very hot and damp.

Sept.15. St.Louis, Chicago. Very damp and terribly hot. An exhausting day. First to the County Chapter to see the work there and meet the people. More photos, press and police escort. Then drove to the Greek Workers Unit and had to speak to them. Then to the Schools, where a mass of children of the Junior Red X were assembled and I had to speak to them. Then all over the big Chapter. A lunch of 700 at the Statter Hotel, at which I had to speak for 40 minutes and by then I was a rag. Then a Press interview and a quick return to the Allens to pack. Followed by a visit to the County Club, where a reception was held for me. Off to the Air Field and to Chicago. Dined in the air and arrived. Met by the local Motor Corps and stayed at the Blackstone. Went out to supper with Paul Zeisler, Peter's friend.

Sept.16. Chicago, Mineapolis. Another damp, hot day and feeling very exhausted already. Spent the morning visiting the British War Relief, where I saw a lot of the work, and then attended a lunchat the Chicago Woman's Club, where there were about 60 and I had to speak and meet them all. Then to visit the local Red X Chapter, which is the biggest in the U.S.A. Met all the workers and talked to as many as possible. Then to have tea at the hotel before leaving for the Air Port again. "The Motor Corps" saw ua off. (Saw a lot of the Press at various intervals). Reached Mineapolis about 8 and were met by various members of the Red X and my hostess, Mrs.Carpenter, whom we are to stay with on Lake Minnetouka. Drove out there.

Sept.17. Mineapolis, St.Paul, Milwaukee. Crystal Bay, a most heavenly place and house right on a point,sticking out into the Lake, and brilliant day. Glorious trees and flowers. Fetched at 10 to start my round. Police escort as usual! Visited the local Chapter premises, and had a Broadcast interview. Saw all the workers, then a drive round the Lake of Isles and an enormous lunch of 700 at the Curtis Hotel. Representatives from St.Paul, the twin city, invited. St.Paul grabbed me after lunch and with police escort we dashed there. Rather lovely and older than Minneapolis and great rivalry!! Visited the Red X hut. Did another Broadcast interview; met all the people including the Mayor and wife, and was given a key to the city. Then to Mrs.Meyerhauser's house for drinks before leaving for the Air Port. Left at 5.30 for Milwaukee. Dinner on plane. Met by Seamans, whom I am staying with.

Sept.18. River Hills, Milwaukee, Detroit. Delicious place about 10 miles out of city, very English in appearance. Saw some Press people and then drove into Milwaukee with usual police escort, to visit local Red X Chapter and also British War Relief. Back to River Hills for lunch, to which the Mayor and about 12 others came. Had a big Meeting at the local Country Club of about 60 Red X workers and spoke to them and had a tea after. Then early dinner at Mrs.Seaman's and they took me to the Air Port. Miss Stokeby came as far as Chicago and I then proceeded to Detroit. Arrived at 11 and was met by Mrs.Ford and MrsDwyer and others from the Red X. Staying with Mrs. Ford. Sweet old lady. Charming House.

Sept.19. Detroit. A busy morning, as usual visiting the Red X Chapter and workers, and this was followed by am enormous lunch of about 600 at the Statter Hotel. All women, I spoke to them as usual and they were a marvellously enthusiastic audience and touching. Many Scotch and English too. We visited the Packhard plant in the afternoon and saw the marine engines (for Scott Paynes) and enormous plant. Drove also by Chrysler Hudson etc. Detroit a marvellous place for cars. Cocktails at Mr.Gardner's and dinner at the Country Club in my honour. All seemed rather drunk, but very sweet otherwise.

Sept.20. Detroit, Washington. Drove out early to Dearborn, to see the Ford Plant. Quite amazing and completely self-contained; 22 square miles. Went all through furnaces and lead process, glass, electric plant, car assemblies. Saw ships of iron ore,etc. etc. Lunched at Dearborn and in the afternoon went to see Greenfield Village, Mr.Ford's Museum and Architectural Settlement with all specimens of original buildings, etc. with contents all erected in lovely grass surroundings, and to Edison's Laboratory and to the Museum itself. Flew later to Washington, arriving late. All kinds of depressing news and felt sunk and in despair. Staying at the Embassy.

Sept.21. Washington. Saw 2 Red X peoplein the morning regarding a Broadcast for Red Cross Roll Call tomorrow, and then lunched at Leslie Bensons. Nin and various others there. Sat in the garden and sunbathed and tried to make out a speech for tomorrow in the afternoon. Feeling exhausted, ill and depressed beyond words. The Potts and Hastings picked me up and we went out to dine with the McCormick Goodhearts. Back to bed fairly early.

Sept.22. A hectic morning getting my speech typed out, telephoning etc. and at 11.30 left with Mrs.McKay and the Motor Corps for the Roll Call Ceremony Bands. Representatives of State Departments etc,etc. and crowds round the platform in the street. Had to speak and broadcast for 8 minutes. Terrifying. Then was given a lunch at the Chapter Columbia by the heads of departments. More speechifying. Then toured a Hospital Walter Reed, where Gray Ladies are working (recreational nurses) and then saw Surgical Dressings and Roll Call Headquarters. Returned to Embassy exhausted. Saw Joe Davis of Co-ordinating Cttee. and later Martha Crock and Mrs.Atwill. Head washed. Dined with the caseys. He is Australian Minister and both are charming.

Sept.23. Washington, Philadelphia, BrynMaur. Called at 6.45. and left on the 8 a.m. train. Met at Philadelphia by Anita Strawbridge, Mrs.Roland, Red X, etc.etc. and Railway Officials. Drove to hotel. Interviews and photos. Lunch of about 1000 at which there were certificates presented, speeches made and I talked for ½-hr. Representatives of all Red X branches and Executives and a few British War Relief, and Anita's own Unit Aux. No.1, which works exclusively for England. After lunch shook hands and talked to hundreds and then toured the Chapter building. Then drove out to Bryn Maur to stay with the Strawbridges. Big dinner. Quite nice.

Sept.24. Bryn Maur, New York, Oyster Bay. Visited Mrs.Strawbridge's own British Relief Unit at Bryn Maur and then had lunch with somefriends of hers. Left on the 3.30 train for New York and spent some time repacking there at the Plaza. Then motored down late to Oyster Bay with Cornelius Dresselhuys. Children there, but Lorraine Dresselhuys away and Dickie left for Honolulu to visit the Pacific Fleet.

Sept.25. Oyster Bay. A lovely peaceful day. Spent the morning out fishing in small boats on Oyster Bay and caught flounders etc. on a hand line! Great fun. Glorious day. Dictated letters and sunbathed in the afternoon and had a quiet evening.

Sept.26. Oyster Bay, Washington, Chicago Lake Forest. Patricia and I drove to La Guardia Air Port at 8.30, leaving at 10 for Washington. She is being given a 10 day trip to California with me by Carola Rothschild. We sight-saw in Washington with Pauline Davis' car. Lincoln and Washington Memorials, Supreme Court and Capitol Art Institute, with Mellon, Kress Collections etc. Also went to Red X National Headquarters and saw Pauline Davis and Grace Eustis. Then to the Embassy to collect mail and to be ushered in to the Windsors, who were receiving before continuing their journey to Canada. Flew to Chicago at 2 o'clock via Pittsburg, arriving at 6. Met by Mrs. Cathcart and her daughter, who took us to stay at Lake Forest and gave a dinner for me. Patricia not very well, so retired to bed. We talked late.

Sept.27. Lake Forest, Chicago. Sight-saw round Lake Forest and drank at the Armours' home. Then motored into Chicago for lunch with Paul and Miriam Zeister, Peter's friends. Charming. Then did a little sightseeing; the Aquarium and Bronzes of types of Man by Malvona Hoffman in the Field Museum. Had tea withthe Adlers and Sperrys, friends of Gisela Warburg. Patricia and I dined at the Blackstone and left on the 10 o'clock aeroplane for San Francisco. Sleepers and really very comfortable, but rough and bumpy at first. Storms.

Sept.28. San Francisco, Barlingaine. Glorious sunny hot day. Arrived in at 8 and drove to the Palace Hotel, where we are staying. Breakfast and bath. Picked up at 11.30 by Mrs.Dhiel and Mr. Freer to motor out to Mr.and Mrs.Roth's place, beyond Barlingaine "Filoli". Quite lovely in a valley between mountain ranges. Glorious gardens. They are Malson Shipping Line. Swam at the Bishops and Kings Pools, friends of Dhiels. Mr. Freer's son, Larry, joined us from Stamford University. Saw Donkey Base Ball. Tea with the Camerons and visited Barlingaine Club. Back to San Francisco and Mr. Freer took us to the top of the Max Hopkins where from the Tower, with all the gigantic plate glass windows, the view is superb of lighted San Francisco. Dined at Hotel.

Sept.29. San Francisco. Mrs.Dhiel, who is Chairman of the Red X Volunteer Services, fetched me for lunch, to which she had invited Mrs.Fisher, our Consul's wife, Mrs.St.Aubyn, President of the British War Relief, Mrs.Costa, etc.etc. Lunched at St.Frances. Then visited Red X Headquarters and British Relief's and Thrift Shop. Also addressed hundreds of volunteer workers at teatime and met countless of them. Back to have my head washed and

Sept.29 (cont) and gave drinks to Mrs. Crawshgand Fisher (Consuls). Dined with Mrs.Selly McCreery, following cocktails at Mrs.Dhiel's. Later went out with Mr. Tucker and Paul Smith of the San Francisco "Chronicle". Very intelligent and charming. Went to "The Forbidden City" and stayed up till 2.30.

Sept.30. San Francisco, Del Monte, Salinas. Called at 7.30 and had to do a broadcast at 9, feeling far from bright after my late night! Then another in "Women in Defence" Programme at 11. Left by car with Mrs. Dhiel at 12, lunching at the Country Club at Balingaine en route. She motored Patricia and me down the coast, stopping at the Redwood Trees at Santa Cruz en route and then on to Delmonte Monlery and Cyprus Point and Pebble Beach. Saw the Sea Lions and Cypruses and drank at the Cyprus Point Club. Dined with the Sam Morses at the "Lodge", Delmonte, then drove to Salinas and Patricia and I took the 11.45 train "Lark" for an overnight trip to Los Angeles..

Oct. 1. Glendale, Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles. Heavenly hot day. Met at 8.30 at Glendale by the Fairbanks, Mr. Newlin, Chairman A.R.C. and Mrs Johnson and other Red X people and the Press! Followed by photos and interviews. Left for Mary Lee and Douglas' lovely home at Pacific Palisades, above Santa Monica. Heavenly site, right in the mountains, with glorious views over the ocean. Breakfast and bath and sunbathed. At 2 p.m. Mary Lee and I motored into town, picking up Mary Pickford on the way, to go to my big Red X gathering at the Washington Theatre. Addressed the workers and volunteers and had a wonderful gathering. Tea and Reception at Gurney Newlin's. Chairmang A.R.C. Los Angeles Chapter. Dined at home. Walter Wanges, his wife Joan Bennet, Roland Young, Gloria Swanson etc.etc.

Oct. 2. Pacific Palisades. Message to say Dickie's Clipper had turned back owing to bad weather. Spent the morning at the pool and had the Jerry Kerns to lunch. Walked in the garden after. In the morning had done a broadcast recording for the Red X and did another in the Studio at 5. Dined at Virginia Zannucks and saw a bad Film after, Sonya Heine's new one "Sun Valley Serenade". Various people there, including Connie Bennett and her new husband Gilbert Roland , the Ernest Lubitsches and others. Back to bed late.

Oct. 3. Pacific Palisades, San Pedro. Morning spent in a rush, as we heard Dickie was arriving and Doug, Patricia and I went off to the Air Port to see him arrive, which he finally did at 12. Back to Westridge for lunch and after drove to Warner Studios, where I dropped them and continued myself to the Red X, to visit their Headquarters, Production Units, etc.and speak to countless people, as usual exhausted. Returned to dine with Mary Pickford and Buddy Rodgers at Pick Fair, and after had an excellent Film, Charles Boyer in "Hold Back the Dawn". Met Charlie Chaplin our old friend Irene Dunn, Jack Oakie, Paulette Goddard, and many others.

Oct. 4. Westridge, California. Saw one of the British Relief Women and discussed things with her by the Pool. Then Dickie and Doug left for San Diego for an inspection and Patricia and I went to lunch at the Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios and Restaurant with the Mervyn Leroys. Spencer Tracey, Edward Arnold and Robert Taylor lunched too. Very nice. Saw some of the sets after and scenes being shot, including scenes with those three Katherine Hepburn and Norma Shearer and Melvyn Douglas (Fairbanks) gave a large party for us at Westridge and dinner. About 18 dined and 200 danced. Garden patio lit up, excellent music and Ethel Waters entertaining. Mixture of Film Stars, War Relief Workers, Diplomatic Services etc. Very successful. Met George Murphys, Melvyn Douglas, Boyers, Colmans, Gary Coopers - practically the whole Film World. Bed 4.30.

Oct. 5. Pacific Palisades. Feeling a little jaded and not a little tired, so spent a lazy and ga-ga morning and finished late down by the pool. Dickie and Douglas went to the Amusement Park and we lazed. Frances Dhiel from San Francisco and a friend looked in, and we dined with the Darryl Zannucks at their Beach House. Saw "Here comes Mr.Jordan" after with Bob Montgomery. Heard Walter Winchell over the radio doing his Sunday night news commentary, for which he gets 5000 dollars a week. Excellent.

Oct. 6. Decided to stay on another day. Lazed and sunbathed and drove into Westwood and Hollywood and Los Angeles in the afternoon to shop. Visited Magnin's, one of the finest shops in the world. Went to a News Reel with Mary Lee;and Patricia, Dickie and Douglas were visiting the Disneys Studios and Dickie attended the Film Industry Lunch, to thank them for the R.N. All dined, plus Charlie Chaplin at Beachcombers. Wonderful drinks and foods, latter Chinese. Rum hot coffee with cinnamon orange and lemon peel and excellent Tahiti cocktails. Later saw the new Disney picture at a private showing.

Oct. 7. Pacific Palisades, Aeroplane. Sunbathed and wrote letters and lunched at the pool. Terribly sad to be leaving this lovely place, Motored to and took the 5.10 plane east, passing through Tuscon El Paso, Nashville etc. Small plane, but very comfortable and slept fairly well.

Oct. 8. New York. Reached New York at midday. All staying at Mrs.Vanderbilt's, at 640 Fifth Avenue. Pamela and Zelle already there, so Dickie, Patricia and I joined them. Some people lunched and in the afternoon we shopped, collected mail, etc. and paid bills at the Plaza. Also saw the Dresselhuys. Dined at home and Mrs.V.de B. took us to a really bad play.

Oct. 9. New York, Princeton. Glorious day. I was fetched by the New York Red X Motor Corps, who took me out to Princeton, New Jersey, for the Regional Conference, at which I had to speak. Representatives from all over the State. Held in the University Gymnasium. Was shown over and round by the undergraduates,who also interviewed me and were alarming. Sat between the President, Dr.Dodds, and Dr.Kinsolvery. Enormous gathering. Motored back in the afternoon. Had my hair done. Dined at 640 and went to the "Rodeo" taking the girls, who loved it. Good Show.

Oct.10. New York, Boston, New York. Awful weather and heard plane to Boston, I had intended taking, cancelled. Rushed to take the 10 a.m. train and reached Boston at 2.40. Met by Miss Robeson, Director Volunteers, and Mr.Chamberlain. Inspected the Chapter and workers, and then spoke at a big Meeting at the Caught the 5.45.plane back, as the weather had improved, and reached New York more dead than alive at 8. Changed,dined and went with Nell and Victor Proetz and D. to see "Hell A Poppin" Later to the Cafe-Society downtown. Wonderful coloured music.

Oct.11. New York. Shopped with Zelle and the girls and all lunched with Mrs.V.de B. Took the children to Radio City. Good Film and Show. Dined at home Quietly and went to bed fairly early.

Oct.12. New York, Washington, White House. Quiet morning and did letters and telephoned. Patricia in bed with bad cold. Steve Pell, The Hares and others to lunch. Dickie and I left on the 3.30 plane for Washington, to spend two nights at the White House. Visited Pauline Davis and had a long talk. Dined quietly, sat next to the President. Jimmy and his wife also there and Harry Hopkins, etc. Deanna Durbin Film and News Reel after. Dickie talked late to the President and I for a time to Mrs. R.

Oct.13. White House, Washington. Wrote letters and went to the National Headquarters of the American Red X, where I said goodbye to Norman Davis, the Chairman, who gave me a service pin, and others. Lunched at the Embassy with the Halifaxes and met a nice Mrs. Lee, who took me after to her hairdresser. Drove out at teatime to Chevey Chase to see A.V.Alexander's cousins and then drank with Grace Eustic. Dined at the White House at 7.30. The Morgenthaus, Secretary to the Treasury, also there. Dickie and I talked to the President late in his study.

Oct.14. White House, Annapolis, Richmond,Virginia. Drove out to Annapolis with Dickie at 9.45 and saw all over the Naval Academy, with its 3,200 Midshipmen. D. addressed them at 11.30 and told them some of his experiences. We then lunched with Admiral and Mrs.Russell Wilson, who is commanding there and who had a lunch for us. Motored back to Washington and then had a 2½ hr drive with Pauline Davis to Richmond,Virginia, where we has a Red X dinner and Meeting after. Drove back to Washington with Pauline, had sandwiches and I then took the 2 a.m. train to New York.

Oct.15. New York. Arrived back at 8 a.m., dead and did various letters and businesses and tried to write a speech for tomorrow. Lunched in at 640 and then had a short rest and went to the Plaza with Patricia to collect some things. The Cassel girls to tea and took them to a News Reel after and the Heintzes (Frances Dhiel's daughter) came for drinks. Then Douglas F. and his mother, Mrs.Whiting, picked us up and took us to dine at the 21 Club. After to see "Arsenic and Old Lace". I took the 12.30 train up to Boston, arriving in early. So tired could cry!!

Oct.16. Boston, Dublin,New Hampshire, New York. Got in early and was met by a sweet old boy, Mr.Lindon Smith, the Chairman of Hampshire Committee, who have sent so much help to our County of Hampshire. He took me to breakfast at the Union Club and then motored me up 80 miles to Dublin, where he lives. Glorious colouring and scenery driving up and really lovely New England architecture and typical colonial Churches and houses. Drove through Harvard at Cambridge and Groton, where President Rooseveldt went to school. Lindon Smith's place lovely and right on a Lake. They had about 90 to lunch from all over the State,including the Governor (Blood), and I spoke to them after lunch. Great success. Motored back to Boston (Mrs.Howland). Got 6.20 plane to New York. Joined D. and Ormond and Mrs.Martineau and after we contacted Walter Winchell and had a long talk.

Oct.17. New York. Spent morning inspecting the New York Chapter of the Red X, together with Mrs.Clark Minor's British War Relief Unit at the top of the building. Had the most excellent lunch at their Canteen. Then joined Dickie and the girls at Dr Ward's, whom we talked to and then visited Miss Hewitt's, their school, where we shown all round. Then had ice creams and shopped fairly unsuccessfully! Dined with Cornelius and Lorraine Dresselhuys at the Pavillon and went to "Best Foot Forward"

Oct.18. New York. Quiet morning and lunched at home. All went to see "The Yank in the R.A.F." at the Roxy, which was quite good and back to see Mme. Banaz at 640, who came in for a drink. Then took Dick Brugière, Patricia and self to dine at Larue's, where we danced till 12.30.

Oct.19. Lunched in and went to see "Lady Be Good", which was rather disappointing. Then wrote letters and Nell came in to say goodbye to Dickie, who is leaving from Baltimore tonight en route for England, and for his new job. We saw him off at the station in an awful rush and then dined at Larue's.

Oct.20. Dickie called up to say his Clipper could not leave after all, having flown all night. Was returning to N.Y. I attended a big Red X Conference Lunch at the Waldorf, where Angela Limerick spoke and I said a few words. About 2,000 pelple. Then came home and went to meet Dickie with the children at 5.45. Visit to the Consul General about his Passport. All dined in and talked and wrote more feverish letters.

Oct.21. Dickie left at dawn to try and fly on the American Clipper and succeeded, though delayed at Bermuda. I was photographed for Red X and War Relief at Vogues by Hirst, in uniform and out [illegible] of it. Lunched with Eddie Hastings at Larré. Excellent for 1.20 for us two, and Tee-Tee and John Schiff, Mary Roxburghe, the Children, Zelle and I all dined at 7 at home and went to Radio City. Good Film though peculiar, "All the Things that Money can Buy". Went for a short time to a party given by Nin Ryan and Burke Carstairs for Virginia Cowles. Awful, I thought.

Oct.22. Beautiful sunny clear day. Rested in bed and talked to Zelle. Lunched at San Regis with Dali, Mr. McDonald and a friend. Then walked andshopped and went to see Dr.Wolf at 4. Tea after with Lorraine Dresselhuys. I dined with Grace and Bob Stevens at their flat and went to an old Film "Ruggles of Red Gap".

Oct.23. A busy morning shopping with Zelle for myself and Patricia. Found some good things, and not too expensive. Lunched at Champlain with Zelle and at 3.15 attended a Press Conference at the Rockefeller British Information Services. Major Ormerod there and others. Then for a treatment from Dr.Wolf and home to rest and see the children. Dined in with Zelle and the girls.

Oct.24. Shopped violently all morning and returned at 1.30 to lunch at 640 with the children, who had just got back from school. Then saw a Mrs.Fenwick, who brought me photos to look at, taken of me by Vogue and then went to Dr.Wolf for a treatment and to have my hair done. Dined at 7 with the Dresselhuys and to see the 1st performance of the New Opera's "Macbeth" and after went to the supper Party they gave at the Plaza too,

Oct.25. Cold sunny and bright all these days. Shopped very successfully with the children and Zelle and lunched at the Algonquin Hotel with Walter Marvin. In the afternoon took Zelle and the children to Radio City to see Fred Astaire's new Film "You'll never get Rich". Dined with Nell, Victor and Patricia at a Restaurant looking out on to the Ice Rink in front of Rockefeller Centre, and watched the skaters while we ate.

Oct.26. New York, Nannet, N.Y. N.Jersey. Took a bus from one of the Terminals and went off into the blue with Zelle and the children for 1½ hrs around across the George Washington Bridge into New York and New Jersey States. Lovely drive and colourings. Lunched at a small place called Nannet, very attractive at the Red Rail and then walked about an hour on the homeward road. Picked up our bus en route and reached N.York at 7. Then walked home. Later went out to see the Quentin Reynold's Russian Topical Film and dined at a Restaurant we passed.

Oct.27. New York. A worrying morning as had no news from Bunnie, who is expected to arrive at any moment, or from Dickie to say he had arrived back home. Then suddenly got cables from both. Bun arrived on the Lisbon Clipper from Bermuda (having come out in a Battleship to his new job), at 12.30. Met him at La Guardia and drove into New York. Lunched at the Passy and then searched for a hotel for Bun and visited Wolf. Back to see the children. Dined at the Passy with Bun and came home early to bed exhausted. D. arrived safely home.

Oct.28. New York, Train. A frantic morning, making plans and decided, as B. had got 10 days leave, to go down to Charleston to stay with Audry and Meto DOrdzadse, who have a lovely Plantation, 9 miles from there. Shopped, packed, found Bun a charming 2 room flat in a Hotel for when he returns and then lunched at Larré's. Picked up our luggage and went to Pennsylvania Station for the 2.35 train south. Very comfortable and pleasant journey, via Baltimore, Washington, etc.

Oct.29. Charleston, S.Carolina, Boone. Arrived in at 9.45 and were met by Meto DDordzadze, who drove us through the lovely old part of Charleston with its colonial houses, which are lovely. Then we drove out to their Plantation Boone Hall, quite beautiful, on the Wando River, which comes up from the sea. Glorious Avenue of Live Oaks, covered with long trainling Spanish moss, planted about 200 years ago. Magnificent trees. Delicious colonial house brick and white colonaded front, typical of the period, and lovely swamps, woods and plantations, Lands given to Major Boone in 1760, under charter from George III. Rode with Audry, Meto and Pauli, her son, and wandered and explored. Not too warm and rather cloudy.

Oct.30. Boone, S.Carolina. Finer day and warm sun, which makes the place even more lovely. Fished in the river for sea trout etc and had great fun, and sunbathed off the boat we fished from. Rode with Meto and Audry and went through a lovely tropical part of the Estate, with palms and pines and Live oaks, smothered in Spanish moss. Too beautiful. In the evening some coloured singers came in and sang Spirituals, which were heavenly.

Oct.31. Glorious hot day and fished for sea trout very successfully all the morning. Caught about 40, one I landed quite large, about 4-lbs. The Mallaleys to lunch. After drove into Charleston and looked at some of the lovely old colonial houses, including the little gem with decorations by Marugo. All falling to pieces, as nothing is ever done here. Too little money and too much trouble!! Lovely wrought iron gates, balconies and lovely fan lights and flying staircases everywhere. Then drove out to Midleton to see the magnificent camelias and azaleas and magnolias. Giants, and one mass of camelia buds already. Lovely sight on the Ashley River and swamps, looking out to the Forests through Live oaks and Spanish moss. Returned over the Cooper River.

Nov. 1. Boone Hall. Fishing in the morning and then great preparations for a picnic. Many delays however and we finally started out on horseback to the place at 2.30. Reached our destination, very pretty on an island at 3.30 and then Meto cooked meat, Georgian fashion, and it was delicious. The heavens opened and deluges of tropical rain descended and we got soaked riding home. People to drinks and the Jack Frosts delightful and typically southern to dine.

Nov. 2. Boone Hall, Train. Lovely day again and fishing all the morning, not quite so successful. Bun went out shooting in the afternoon, but I remained at home on the porch, sunning myself and gossiping to Audry and later walked down to the fishing again. Wrote much needed letters after tea. One forgets everything here. Dined and Meto left for New York on the 10.30 train, while Bun and I stayed till 1.15.a.m. talking to Audry and then caught the 7.50 train north, though of course, in true southern style one hour 10 minutes late, and we sat on a hard bench in a little wayside station waiting for it.

Nov. 3. Richmond, Staunton, Virginia, Hot Springs. Arrived in about 9.30 and were met by Mary Lee Fairbanks' brother-in-law Buness and a friend of his. Breakfasted at the hotel and he then drove us 2½ hrs to Staunton for lunch with his wife at their house and Mary Lee and Tucky Astor, who is staying with her, met us there. Drove through the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, with lovely architecture by Thomas Jefferson, and looked at Nancy Tree's home. Excellent lunch at Staunton. Then a beautiful drive over the mountains to Hot Springs. Autumn colourings too lovely, all maples and chestnuts and oaks and then pines and firs. Scarlets, oranges and peach colours and then all green. Sweet little old house, white wood; Boxwood House, Mary Lee's house. Walked before tea.

Nov. 4. Hot Springs, Virginia, Train. A lovely sunny day and Bun and I rode on the trails through lovely autumn-tinted woods, with magnificent colours. Back to lunch, when we had lovely southern food and then Mrs.V.de B. called and I drove to "The Homestead, in her high, oldfashioned car. There joined up with Mary Lee, Tucky Astor and Bun and we went for a drive in a double buck-board carriage. Great fun. Drove to the Cascades Golf Course after, lovely with some of the best holes in the U.S.A. Then returned for an excellent dinner and they saw us off at 8 on the north-bound train.

Nov. 5. New York. Arrived in late, about 10 a.m., having breakfasted on the train. Did shopping and various calls and business with Bunnie and then lunched with him at an excellent little place called "Chez Gaston" "A la Bonne Soupe". Went to look at the little appartment he has taken in "The Beverley" and then picked up the children to go to "How Green is My Valley" and after to eat at Champlain.

Nov. 6. Shopped and did alot of work at home, then lunched with Bunnie at another good little French restaurant. After which I walked and did a lot of shopping. Dined with Audry and Meto at The San Regis and went to see Helen Hayes' play "Candle in the Wind". Not very good. Then to the"Café Society Down Town" to hear the wonderful Buggy Wuggy music.

Nov. 7. New York Train. A very busy day, shopping, packing and doing business of all kinds, then lunched outwith B. and later in the afternoon picked up the children and Zelle and took them to the Roxy to see Carmen Miranda in "Weekend in Havana". Later to cook our dinner at Bunnie's Flat. He saw me off on the 11.30 train to Canada.

Nov. 8. Train, Canada, Toronto, Hamilton. A long journey and slept badly. Reached Toronto at 12.30 and was met by Mr.Rankine Nesbitt, the Ontario Commissioner St.John. Drove to stay with his Aunt, Mrs.Cawthra, a sweet old girl, and lunched with them and his wife. At 3.45. drove down to inspect a Canadian mine-sweeper,and met the officers and men, sailing tomorrow. Ship just completed. Also met Committee of War Savings Campaign. Then drove over to Hamilton for a big St.John Corps Inspection, Practise and Demonstration. Very cold in huge Armoury. Spoke to them all after. Drove back dead beat at 12.15, arriving after 1. St.John Commanding Commissioner,Colonel Allison.

Nov. 9. Toronto, Train. Church with the Nesbitt Cawthra family, and then lunch with various members of the Red X St.John Joint Nursing Division. Then to the Armoury, where I inspected the Toronto Corps and addressed them in a huge hall. Reception at Hotel after to meet all the people connected with our work. Back home and the Rankine Nesbitts gave a large dinner of 20 for me, including the Governor of the Province and Mrs. Matthew. Caught the train for Ottawa at 1 a.m.. Nearly dead!!

Nov.10. Ottawa. Arrived at 8.15 and went straight to Government House, where I am to stay. Tom Goff met me, A.D.C., and breakfasted with Ariel Baird (Stonehaven), Ernle Chatfield etc. Geoffrey Eastwood. Shopped after a bath and and met the Athlones for lunch. Walked with H.E. after and Ernle. Had Kenneth Baynes' son, Michael,at school here, to tea. Saw the Press after and Miss Inglis, President of the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club, who has sent us a lot of stuff for the Depot. Quiet dinner at home with the family. Ariel Baird, Lady-in-Waiting, Ernle Chatfield A.D.C., Major Tom Goff, Com.Sherwood (Canadian) Geoffrey Eastwood, Comptroller.

Nov.11. Wrote a lot of letters. Several people to lunch, including the Schwerts, friends of Georgie (Navy) and Mr.Burge, Ministry of Labour. Went to have my hair washed and then to a tea given for me by Malcolm Macdonald, High Commissioner. Dined in and the Stones and Fleishmans came.

Nov.12. Ottawa, Toronto,Kapakasing, Winnipeg. Drove to the Air Port at 9 a.m. and flew off in a Lockhard at 9.45 en route for Winnipeg, 1,600 miles, via Toronto, Kapak and Armstrong. Beautiful Lakes and Forests and lovely sun and blue skies. Perfect but head winds and baddish weather just before Winnipeg. Landed at 7, two hours change of time, and was met by the Lt.Governor and Mrs. McWilliams, and our heads of St.John, Dr.McKay and Dr. Douglas. Staying at Government House. Ruth Draper also there. Had an awful rush to change. Dinner given me by Officers of the Brigade and the Asso; Then a big inspection in the Armoury, about 500. Display, March Past etc. and address at the end. Reception followed.

Nov.13. Winnipeg, Plane. Busy morning with Mrs.McWilliams,seeing the Women's Bureau for co-ordinating Women's work, Salvage Scheme, Shop, etc. etc. Shown round by Mrs.Ferguson. Excellent organisation. Then a big lunch at Govt. Hse. all the big wigs and some rather nice people.. Judge Dennistown, who knew Felix Cassel. In the afternoon went to the Naval Training School to see the recruits, who come off the prairies, as volunteers and do an 8-week course, never having seen the sea or a ship in their lives. About 600 at a time. Left the Air Port at 6.30 plane late, but returned soon as engine defect, changed plane off again, but got into bad weather and instead of reaching Ottawa only made Toronto at 3 a.m., more dead than alive. To the Royal York Hotel. Met nice Canadian Nurse, Miss Croute.

Nov.14. Toronto, Montreal. Called at 7 after about 3 hrs sleep, as there was a chance of getting off by plane. This wassoon dashed however, and I eventually took the 10.15 train to Montreal, reaching it at 6.15. Very tired and long bumpy trip. To the Mount Royal Hotel. Big dinner given me there by the St.John Association. Major Holland and I had to speak. Followed by the usual Inspection. Very good, about 600 and Displays and March Pasts. Then address, some of which had to be in French. Reception after again. Major Coates, Com., and Colonel Gaboury, new French one. Miss Kane, L.D.S.

Nov.15. Montreal, Ottawa. Awoke more rested and saw "Shak" Mary's mat.nurse. Later was photographed by Fayer of Vienna in connection with the Queen's Canadian Fund Mes.Ethié, and saw Mrs. Holland and Mrs.MacDonald "Imp.Order,Daughters of the British Empire " to thank. Took the 1.10 train back to Ottawa and travelled with the Allisons. They and the Lewis's (May and Evva's brother) to tea. Quiet evening. Dead.

Nov.16. Ottawa. Stayed in bed and wrote and thought out an address for the afternoon. Lunched en famille, then attended a big St.John Rally at the Capitol Theatre, Music Film (bad) and addresses by H.E. and myself. Quite successful and well attended. A reception for St.John after, Dr.Wodehouse, the Lt and Brigadier Gorseline, 2nd of Order, and many of the Association and the Brigade.. I left on the 7.50 train en route for New York and Montreal. Exhausted.

Nov.17. New York. Got in at 7.22 and drove to breakfast and visit to B. Spent morning shopping, bathing and writing and lunched at the Beverley Hotel. Then did more business and walked miles and later had my head washed. Dined at the Maurice Raviol and talked to B. Returned to 640 at 11.

Nov.18. A busy day planning and seeing people. Lunched at the Mayan Restaurant with Bunnie and then saw Tom Hussey from England and later went with Mr.White of Cooks to see the Merchant Seamen's Club down on the Water front. Very well run and talked to a lot of the men and people connected with it. Dined with Nell, who gave a charming dinner and party for me at her appartment. Stayed late.

Nov.19. Woke feeling awful and very depressed. Tried to think out a lecture for this afternoon, unsuccessfully. Lunched in with Mrs.V.de B. and Grace and Patricia. Then at 3.15 drove down town to 1 Wall Street to the Calvin Bullock office, to give a Lecture. Representative audience of Wall Street, people etc.etc. Civil Defence. Terrifying. Spoke for 30 minutes and then ½ hour's discussion. Back to Willie Wiseman's house to meet various people interested in Relief Activities. Also the Canadian nurses going to S.Africa. Later to be photographed with Illustrious trophies for Bundles for Britain Ball. Dined with Bryces and Bun and went to an appalling Film.

Nov.20. Thanksgiving Day. Lunched at the Majan with Bun and after went back to 640 and picked up the children and Mrs.V.de B. and went to "The Shadow of the Thin Man". Very good. Later dined with Lorraine and Cornelius Bresselhuys and Bun and we went to see "Lets Face It" with Cole Porter music and Danny Kaye as Comedian. Excellent and very gay.

Nov.21. Spent the morning visiting British War Relief and going all through their Organisation and Piccadilly Arcade etc. Shopped later and did a lot of business and in the evening Mrs. V.de B. gave an enormous dinner for me and for May Roxburghe, 48 people and music etc. after. Absolutely Edwardian and terrifying, but beautifully done. Got to bed about 2 a.m. Patricia came down to it too.

Nov.22. Some shopping and work in the morning. Going mad trying to make arrangements for departure next week and cables flying. Visited Sir Gerald Campbell. Information Services for a long interview. Lunched at Mrs.V.de B. with the children and Bun and others. Later in the day transferred and went to Radio City to see "Suspicion", after an excellent meal at a Sea Food Shop and an interminable wait in a long queue for seats. Well worth it, as Show excellent.

H.A.

Nov.23. New York. Lovely lazy morning and enjoyed every second. Place very attractive and everything perfect. Lunched at an excellent Childs on or near Times Square and after went to see Claudette Colbert's "Skylark". Very good. Rested and dined at the Billy Roses Horseshoe. Quite good and interesting. Lovely evening.

Nov.24. Back to normal after lovely rest. Busy morning doing letters, cables, plans and shopping. Lunch with the children and Zelle and Bun at Chez Gaston to celebrate my birthday, instead of on the 28th. Afternoon spent visiting "Bundles for Britain" Warehouse with Me.Bingham and talking to various workers. Then Mrs.V.de B. picked me up and took me down to the Customs House to sign Declarations. Back to an enormous tea, Schiffs, Frances Dhiel, Doc.etc. Dined with Bun and Patricia and Dick Brugière at St.Regis Maisonnette.

Nov.25. A very busy day. Departure by Clipper delayed 24 hrs owing to bad weather. Shopped and had my hair done and had a drink with B. Then all lunched at Mrs.V.de.B.s. Spent the afternoon seeing Miss Hewitt, Dr.Wolf. Tea with Carola Rothschild and then back to 640 to see Nell and Walter Marvin and others. Packed and wrote and dined with B. at the Mayan Restaurant. Back after to 640 to talk. Very sad and depressed. Mrs.V.de B. looked in late.

Nov.26. New York, "Yankee Clipper". Only got to bed at 3.a.m. and was called at 5.45. Left 640 at 6.15 with Zelle, Patricia and May Roxburghe, who was coming across in the Clipper. Pamela and I left on it at 8.30 a.m. and flew to Burmuda, 5 hours. Quite good weather. Met there by Margaret Knollys, he is Governor now, and we went shopping and I saw Bunnie's Uncle, Captain Bryce. Stopped about two hours and then continued all night to the Azores. Fairly calm, but plane cold and hot by turns.

Nov.27. Horta, Lisbon. Reached the Azores early and breakfasted at Horta. Then continued flying all day till 4.30, when we reached Lisbon, very much ahead of time. Nice newspaper woman called Mrs.Robb, on board going to England. Pamela and I staying with Sir Ronald and Lady Campbell at the Embassy till I can get on to London. Dined at home and then attended a Concert given by Astra Desmond at the lovely National Theatre. Rather sad, heavy music, but she sang well, especially the second half.

Nov.28. Lisbon. Bad morning, cold and rainy, but lovely in the afternoon. Went to the town to see about Visas, passages, etc. changing of money and sending cables. May Roxburghe came to lunch. Shopped with Lady Campbell and walked with Pamela after. A long way back to the Embassy up hill and down dale, all on cobbles. Lisbon very attractive.

Nov.29. Visited Dick Schreiber and discussed plans for my departure and then drank coffee with Mrs.Owen. Lady Campbell picked me up and we drove down to the town. Back for lunch at 1.30 and in the afternoon took Pamela for a long walk and shopping till after tea. The Balfours and Derek H Miller, 1st Secretary to Washington, dined.

Nov.30. Lisbon, Estorel. A glorious day. Spent a lazy morning and then drove out to lunch with the Espirito Santos, the big Bankers family, who live beyond Estorel. Very nice, though they have a slightly pro-Nazi reputation. Walked after along the ocean and then drove back to Lisbon. I had to collect my tickets etc. and Passes at the office and then tried to get hold of May Roxburghe at the Aviz. Gave Pammy tea there. Captain Owen, Naval Attaché, and Sir Arthur Lawrence, Red X, to dinner.

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Dec. 1. Lisbon, Bristol, London. Called at 4.50 and left the Embassy at 5.30 to go to Sintra Air Port. Captain Owen took me and we got off at 7 a.m. One refuelling stop and then straight through to England. Reached Bristol about 4 and Miss Lees met me there. Trained up to London and Dickie met me there about 10 o'clock. Pea soup fog and very damp. Dogs overcome with joy. Robert dined and we talked after.

Dec. 2. London. Had awful cold and the London fog did not improve it. Spent most of the morning doing mail and coping with problems, and gave Marjorie and Robert lunch at home. Saw some people in the afternoon and retired to bed streaming for dinner in bed, which Dickie had on a tray. Did letters etc. after. Lorna Atkinson and Pamela McKenna to see me at tea.

Dec. 3. Busy morning, and had John Gunthe, writer of "Inside Europe" and Mrs.Robb, International News, who came over in the Clipper with me, to lunch. To meet Hannah after and to Clemmie Churchill's "Aid to Russia" Meeting, (Joan Larcom to tea), then back to see various people. Robert, Dickie and I dined at the Savoy with Noel Coward, and Noel and I went later to the S and talked late. Went to the Ministry of Information to give a Press Interview after. Hundreds of Reporters.

Dec. 4. Busy morning visiting the office, seeing Miss Peel etc. The Depot, Mrs.Prentice and Phyllis Thorold at County Headquarters. Also saw Lorna Atkinson and Pamela. Lunched with George at the "Bon Viveur" and did some shopping for Bun after. Back to do reports etc. and saw a Magazine writer at teatime. Later Esmé Howard Johnston. Dickie back to dinner late. Wrote and went to bed early.

Dec. 5. London, Sunningdale, Broadlands. Had various interviews and dictated reports and letters. Kaysie looked in to see me after I had talked to Miss Kindersley, a prospective new Hon.Sec. for the Depot, Mr. Maitland Dougall having gone ill. Drove down to Broome to lunch with Mary and Harold Phillips and picked up Peter at the Hotel after and continued to Broadlands. Aunt Victoria there and Dickie having arrived after an "excercise" Quiet evening. My cold still streaming. Hospital getting on slowly.

Dec. 6. Broadlands. An awful day of high wind and later drenching rain and dark and dull all day. Had a shoot. Dickie, Sir William James, C-in-C Portsmouth, Robert and Colin (who motored down for the day), and a nice Marine Preventi from Portsmouth. Also North and Mr. Anson, our neighbour. I went out in the morning. Lady James, Flag Lt. and a friend came over at lunch time and they, Dickie, Sir William and I attended a Fork Lunch with the Mayor and Mayoress at the Town Hall, previous to Sir William opening "Warship Savings Week". Speeches and icy cold. Lost overcoats! Nearly died of exposure in the Market Square!! Tea after. Nona and Dick came over. Quiet evening.

Dec. 7. A much better day. Dickie left by train for London at 10. I walked the dogs and got caught in a terrific rainstorm. The Jenkins lunched and I took Peter out for a tramp when they had gone. Did some letters and some household business. Quiet evening and early bed. Japan attacked Manila, Honolulu, and Malaya, sinking many American ships.

Dec.8. Broadlands, London. Glorious day, bright sun and frost. Left by car with Peter at 9.45. having a very skiddy drive and taking a long time. My hair done on arrival and lunched with Sibyl Colefax. Took a Sick Bay Meeting at 3 and did some work after. Dickie was to leave for the north, but all was cancelled, owing to the new Emergency. We dined with Zia and Harold Wernher at the Dorchester and heard Winston speak. U.S.A. and us at war with Japan.

Dec. 9. London. Mr. Gamon to see me early, re Air Raid Distress Fund. Then Miss Ely. Work at the office later and Mary Phillips to lunch. In the afternoon visited Kenelba's Exhibition and saw Pamela's portrait, which I had lent him for it. Then at 4.30 to Claridges, where Molly Hudson had arranged a "Welcome" party for me, inviting Red X and St.John and Executive people to meet me. Dined in with Dickie, who felt ill and later joined Pamela McKenna to go and see Courtaulds Shelter, etc.

Dec.10. Heard the Battleships "Prince of Wales" and "Repulse" sunk off Malaya and gloomy news everywhere. Lunched at Claridges with Sir John Duncan after a long interview with Colonel Sleaman and Mrs.Copland Griffiths and Mrs.Robson Lowe. Saw the Robert Lutyens here at 4 to tell them about their child I had seen in America. Robert, Dickie and I went to see "Honky Tonk" at the Empire and had supper late. All gloomed beyond words.

Dec.11. Work at the office and here. Had Kay, Marjorie and Mary (sister) to lunch. Did a broadcast after on my trip to the U.S.A. with a Miss Gross band for European stations. Then went to see Doris Zinklesein's model of St.John. Later to shop with Hannah and met George and Audry. Sibyl Colefax in to see me. Germany and Italy declared war against U.S.A.

Dec.12. London, Broadlands. An interview with Miss Darbyshire amd Mrs.Thorold and then work at the office. Letter after with Miss Lees and a rush to get things done before leaving for Broadlands with Dickie in the afternoon. Also trying to get Bunnie's uniform etc. ready for Charles Lambe to take to the U.S.A. Noel Coward arrived down at Broadlands late to stay.

Dec.13. Broadlands. Rode with Dickie early and then gave him a quick lunch before he left for Camberley for a weekend manoeuvre. Took Noel for a walk and exercised the dogs. Justina Nasmith arrived at teatime to spend a few days and visit her son at Winchester. Spent a quiet evening and Noel read and told us of his new Navy Film. Very excellent.

Dec.14. Heard Pamela arriving at Bristol from Lisbon, so rushed off to meet her in downpours of rain and a gale of wind. Drove through Salisbury and Bath and picked her up about 3.30. Lovely to have her back. Very air sick, poor mite! Drove back to Broadlands. Long and tiring drive. Noel returned to London.

Dec.15. Broadlands, London. Attended the "Guardians" Romsey Meeting and then went straight on up to London. Had my hair done and lunched at the same time. Then rushed down to the Mansion House where there was a Pre-Flag Day (Russia) party, with Clemmie Churchill. Zia came in to see me on St.John business. I retired to bed for dinner. Dickie up in the north all this week.

Dec.16. London. The "Aid to Russia" Flag Day. Toured Depots in Kensington, Hammersmith, Fulham. Chelsea and Westminster with Clemmie Churchill, and lunched at the Mansion House. Then took the Lady Mayoress to Bermondsey, to the Town Hall,where the Mayor and Mayoredd received us. Accompanied Lorna to 12 Grosvenor Crescent to see Lord Scarborough and she came back to tea with me. Dined at Quaglino's with Robert and after went to Noel's birthday party at Gerald Road.

Dec.17. A day of Committee Meetings and interviews. Cuckoo Leith and Angie Laycock to lunch and I attended a Concert and Reception for the Canadians at the Mansion House. Bertram Cruger came in for a drink and I had dinner upstairs.

Dec.18. London. Worked all morning and then lunched with the Lyttons at their sweet little house opposite mine in Chester St. More appointments after. Dined at the Mirabelle with Colin, having first given Budget Loyd a drink. Later we went to an awful party, given by B.Lillie, Baker etc. where they were all tight.

Dec.19. Peter breakfasted with me. A busy morning and gave Hannah, George, Ivor Churchill and Colin lunch. Then shopped with Hannah and later alone. Shops empty of goods, but crammed with people. No paper or boxes, and very little choice. Kay and I went to a Cinema at 6 and then came back to feed and found Peter and Robert requiring feeding too! Sat and talked after.

Dec.20. Went to the office and tidied up and then till lunch did some frantic shopping. Had Peter Lambe, Peter Murphy and Robert to lunch. More shopping and sorting out after. Philip (nephew) arrived up for the night and he and Dickie went to a Film after an early dinner. Bad foggy day.

Dec.21. London, Windsor, Broadlands. Wrote and sorted things and then Philip and I motored down to Windsor in time to lunch with the King and Queen. Lilibeth and Margaret and the various retainers also there, including Eric Mieville and Harold Campbell. Saw the Pantomime, Photos being taken after. Then drove on, calling at the Phillips en route, and reached Broadlands for late tea.. Aunt V. there, and she, Pamela, Philip and I dined early, as P. had to return to duty at Portsmouth. I am staying down for a week's leave.

Dec.22. Broadlands. Pamela had the Yates children and Birch for the afternoon and we gave them tea as well. Motored in to Southampton early for Aunt Victoria to visit the dentist and Pamela and I to do Xmas shopping. Very difficult in such a devastated area, but found some things.

Dec.23. Christchurch, Broadlands. Motored over to Christchurch for my Joint County Committee Meeting and didn't get back till nearly 2. Then took Pamela and the dogs for a long walk and messed about the house and gardens etc. Winston Churchill and all the "Heads" in Washington conferring with Rooseveldt. Anthony Eden in Moscow.

Dec.24. Broadlands. Took the dogs for a short walk and then drove Aunt V. and Pamela over to Wherwell for lunch. Molly ~~and~~, Mt.T. also there, full of the usual moans! Dickie arrived down for 2 days at teatime, accompanied by Peter. Early dinner and then talked and did endless Xmas cards etc.

Dec.25. Philip (nephew) came over for the day and Aunt Victoria Pamela and I attended Church at the Abbey. Then Pammy and I walked. during which time Philip and Dickie rode. Large Christmas lunch and Nona and Dick came over and attended large Xmas Tea. Also gave the Staff their gifts. North in to see us and had early dinner before Philip caught his train.

Dec.26. A cold day, but not too bad. Had a shoot, guns consisting of Dickie, Geb.Cuthbertson, Lt.Pownell, Dr.Johnson, Paul Hammond and Comdr.Crawford of the U.S.A. from London. Pleasant shoot, which resulted in 91 pheasants and 110 head of game. The Mayor and Mrs.Chambers, Mrs.Cuthbertson, Mrs.North also came to lunch. The two Americans returned to London after the shoot and we spent a quiet evening.

Dec.27. Dickie left early and I spent a peaceful day, walking the dogs with Pamela and later to Romsey with Peter to shop. Did a large number of letters. News bad, and Hong Kong taken by the filthy Japs after a heroic defence. Too depressing. Situa tionin Malaya also bad and in the Phillippines. Americans evacuating Manila and declared it an open city. Immediately bombed by the Japs again.

Dec.28. Broadlands, London. Very sad, as poor little wallaby Babo died. Dobo having died in the summer, so no more wallabies. Have had them three years nearly, as I brought them back from New Guinea the April before the War. Pammy and I rode, she on Chico, her first ride on a large pony. Car Corbain to lunch. Peter and I motored up to London at teatime and Dickie came in late ~~xxxxxxx~~ for dinner. Back to work after and I retired early to bed.

Dec.29. London. A damp, dark and foggy day, with piercing cold. Worked all morning and lunched at home with Dickie and Bobbie Casa Maury. More work after and kept many appointments. Also had my head washed. Robert came back to dinner with Dickie. Very successful combined operation Raid on Norwegian Coast. Dickie's first venture since he took over the combined operations.

Dec.30. Same horrible day, but a little less cold. A busy morning of interviews, including a lengthy one with Sir Percival Wilkinson. Kay to lunch with me and work again all afternoon. Dickie away on an inspection and at Broadlands for a night and day.

Dec.31. Same sort of foggy weather and dismally depressing. Appointments and work all morning and lunched with Zia and Sir John Duncan at Claridges. After he and I went to see a M. of I. Film at the Avenue, called "Knights of St.John", showing work at Plymouth and"Women in War". More work after and only returned late. Had Kay, Robert and Noel to dinner and Ran Antrim came in after. Just back from Norwegian Raid. We all went to Noel's house to see the New Year in and had quite a cheerful gathering, and lots of punch!!