No519 1931

14. St. Phus bood Court, St. Johns Wood. London. N. W. 8. 19/11/31

Dear Stacky.

he have now a pormanent home in hondon, a small furnishes flat, just a permy bus ride from Gafrid St. Ito a comical Victorian place with tamiq porhaits (in oils) in the dining room and inlaid furniture in the living room. Three beautiful old prices that you would love. The charty- coveres chairs book impossing but date back to the days before springs so that they are hot lusturious. But there is some nice our silver + some remarkable our china, Rochugham + Sporse, in the enormous china cabinet. The place is centrally healid" that means kept at about 60 to 65 by his-

water and the English Think 4 is almost Shiftings hot. he, with our decadent Colonial Easte, prefer it a lette warmer very ofter or the her him on the electric preplaces. I which Min are Several. One of the best features is the kitchen. heals are preparet just as in a restament but sent don to lift + sewed in you own apartment. Beauty ast costs about 13. or 11/6 4. you are very cornivorous, lunchen (4 courses) 2/6 + dunier 3/6. The Cooking is excellent + longthing is sent dom with wormer plates + in course silver dishes ready to put in the Fahle. Offer the meal is ones you put the dishes back on the lift t only have to wash up the univer . Jules + sprows. The quite an ideal way. Eve usually take one meal a day + They send is such large portums

that if we order 2 we have almost enough left for ansher metal. Now we order one meal but omit one comse either meat or fish + double up on the other. Thus is always every sorp + desert for 2. So Yn See it a requea bargain Counter. They Sem delicions Chicken. Luckey. Phiasant, Sweetheads. etc. a luite ununaginature about desseits as Tuglish cooks always are, but they come out strong on milk proddings. Its giving us quite an insight into English ways of living because we have to 8hop + deal inthe tradesna + so meet all sorts of queer people. Yesterday Its distrest small boy I have ever seen. with a very large process' apon rang to hele + when & I Mones it he amoment hunself as " allshow". Seeing was in a fog. he repeated it - " Bagleys.

I have the mans in It hall came to the rescue. Heshamp F. Baglep. Edgeware Ross. This Still Didn to Seen very Clea & Et the mais explaines. Vim, paragin, sorp r dipso." Then & I tumbles to it has he was taking orders for cleaning goods. I husbard sous by one special shop. So we ordered some look 3 ols Smeight soap + fane the Kisdu a permy which I of hopie he was to buy some fifebruog with. He was a 4 por advertisement of their waves though intellectually quite E bright + Shing. Om landlady is a consis of Sir mamice anderson, Ette langs physician, or one of them. When she heart I has at once, at at the Seen to at once, s Mm J. U will to my take consin + ask him who womens he to I best man to consult. " we supposed she woned for get all about F. Ir but two days later appearer a note from Sir mauries } kindly recommensup some Dr. Seat, a spriendist in neurotis. & Which he sand his comsin saint we have being English, both we have been here less than two weeks but already

E have done a lot + met a number of people. We had tea J. on ma. were m. Raymond-breeis, a Canadian. Ithink 5 the was me of the Carrells. met a mrs. Bethane, who is a & men of Lady hors, Toronto, a Lady Kirkpatrick (husbans = Indian general) + lons. Knochhoffen whom we know in O Hawa. \$ She is 86. + as bright as a dollar. Gt 83 86 clumber E to the lop of St. pauls with her franchs on regut out on to the vort. up the final ladder rale. She saw that all to way up there here signs: The Deans requests visiting hat to with homes eli. But she feet hu achievement deserver to be recorded So hadi. Clara Kerekhoffer and Boh aps to Who is first thinken than clumber to the lojo and written their waves.

But they hope they want he seen.

In That although they aren. I apart of food. They are ownerly aprais 1 the Dean

Pretty bright wasn't it.

In Extreme has asked us to tea som. or to-day we for to the hycem Club, the most famous bomen's Club as to great of many machen home, The writer, + to-monon to the Cumucan bomen's Club as greats of an anerican woman you see how priendly + 1 and people are. Already we have

E ver preids. London is cutarily a wonderful polace. New york E's more exciting but you are mady to leave it in \$. 40 5 days. London foco on + on. There is something £ new every pay. he heard the Gresham beeline on ashonomy It are going to the Hubbert Lectures nest week. Head & a Stramsty concert + open o several polaps. The list Es is muchamslible. You must come some time prepares \$5 to stay o get into it. It is fum. In my hand seems slightly better but I have been to rather burnies about it. all the joints are appeled, & pom It, 8honeder down, + are Sometimes quite paripre. E But you see I can now write fairly well. I have her states of to consider a Dr. because there are so many quacks + I flight you thought Time womes probably come it. I buddenie , my liver isn't working very were + that may aggravate it. Have difficulty with fats + Sugars.

## MB Williams to [unreadable], 19 Nov 1931

### <u>Transcription / Additional Information</u>

Nov 19 <u>1931</u> 14, St. John's Wood Court, St. John's Wood, London, N.W.8. 19/11/31

Dear Stalky [MB's brother Ernie]

We have now a permanent home in London, a small furnished flat, just a penny bus ride from Oxford St. It's a comical Victorian place with family portraits (in oils) in the dining room and inlaid furniture in the living room. Three beautiful old pieces that you would love. The chintz-covered chairs look imposing but date back to the days before springs so that they are not luxurious. But there is some nice old silver & some remarkable old china, Rockingham & Spode, in the enormous china cabinet. The place is "centrally heated" that means kept at about 60 to 65 by hot

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water and the English think it is almost stiflingly hot. We, with our decadent colonial taste, prefer it a little warmer very often & then we turn on the electric fireplaces of which there are several. One of the best features is the kitchen. Meals are prepared just as in a restaurant but sent down the lift & served in your own apartment. Breakfast costs about 1s or 1 1/6 if you are very carnivorous, luncheon (4 courses) 2/6 & dinner 3/6. The cooking is excellent & everything is sent down with warmed plates & in covered silver dishes ready to put on to the table. After the meal is over you put the dishes back on the lift & only have to wash up the knives, forks & spoons. It's quite an ideal way. We usually take one meal a day & they send us such large portions

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that if we order 2 we have almost enough left for another meal. Now we order one meal but omit one course either meat or fish & double up on the others. There is always enough soup & dessert for 2. So you see it's a regular bargain counter. They serve delicious chicken, turkey, pheasant, sweetbreads etc. A little unimaginative about desserts as English cooks always are, but they come out strong on milk puddings. It's giving us quite an insight into English ways of living because we have to shop & deal with tradesmen & so meet all sorts of queer people. Yesterday the dirtiest small boy I have ever seen, with a very large grocer's apron rang the bell & when I opened it he announced himself as "Allshow." Seeing I was in a fog he repeated it, ", Bagleys

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[Written in the left margin, vertically]

The fruit lasted all the way across & we ended up with a party in Cornwall.

Then the maid in the hall came to the rescue "Keshamp" Bagleys. Edgewater Road." This still didn't seem very clear so the maid explained. "Vim, paraffin, soap & dipso." Then I tumbled to it that he was taking orders for cleaning goods. Evidently sold by one special shop so we ordered some good old sunlight soap & gave the kiddie a penny which I hope he uses to buy some Lifebuoy with. He was a poor advertisement of their wares though intellectually quite bright and shiny.

Our landlady is a cousin of Sir Maurice Anderson, the King's physician, or one of them. When she heard I had arthritis she said "Oh, but you must have that seen to at once. Now I'll write to my

cousin & ask him who would be the best man to consult." We supposed she would forget all about it but two days later appeared a note from Sir Maurice kindly recommending some Dr. Scott, a specialist in neuritis, which he said his cousin said we had. Very English, both ways.

We have been here less than two weeks but already

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[Written on the top margin]

Do you know a good book on anything that I could buy. specialists cost 3 & 4 guineas

have done a lot & met a number of people. We had tea on Mon. with Mrs. Raymond-Willis, a Canadian. I think she was one of the Cassells. Met a Mrs. Bethune, who is a niece of Lady [Moss], Toronto. A Lady Kirkpatrick (husband Indian general) & Mrs. Kirchhoffer whom we knew in Ottawa. She is 86 & as bright as a dollar. At 83 she climbed to the top of St. Pauls with her grandson right out on to the roof, up the final ladder & all. She said that all the way up there were signs: The Dean requests visitors not to write names etc. But she felt her achievement deserved to be recorded so wrote.

Clara Kirchhoffer aged 33 [sic] and Bob who is just thirteen

have climbed to the top and written their names

but they hope they won't be seen.

For although they aren't afraid of God

They are awfully afraid of the Dean

Pretty bright wasn't it.

Mrs. Bethune has asked us to tea soon & to-day we go to the Lyceum Club, the most famous Women's Club as the guest of Mary Macleod Moore, the writer, & to-morrow to the American Women's Club as guests of an American woman. You see how friendly & kind people are. Already we have

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[Written in left margin]

Weather truly British, rain every day but only about 50.° Fog yesterday. Quite an experience. Love Fuzzy.

a circle & Mrs. Herridge hasn't begun to look up her old friends.

London is certainly a wonderful place. New York is more exciting but you are ready to leave it in 4 or 5 days. London goes on & on. There is something new every day. We heard the Gresham lecture on Astronomy & are going to the Hibbert Lectures next week. Heard a Stravinsky concert & opera & several plays. The list is inexhaustible. You must come some time prepared to stay & get into it. It <u>is</u> fun.

My hand seems slightly better but I have been rather worried about it. All the joints are affected, from the shoulder down, & are sometimes quite painful. But you see I can now write fairly well. I have hesitated to consult a Dr. because there are so many quacks & I thought you thought time would probably cure it. I believe my liver isn't working very well & that may aggravate it. Have difficulty with fats & sugars.