

The Amy Johnson Letters (Part VI)



**A collection held by the
Local Studies Library at the
Hull History Centre [L DIAJ]**

Part VI covers the period between
6 September 1927 and August 1928

Amy Johnson was born in Hull on 1 July 1903. Her family were of Danish descent and were established fish merchants; Andrew Johnson, Knudtzon & Co. In 1925 she completed her BA Degree in Economics at Sheffield University and returned to Hull to take a secretarial course.

In 1926 she had her first experience of flying on a five shilling pleasure trip. The following year she moved down to London to pursue a career in advertising. In 1928 she began taking flying lessons and within two years was not only a qualified pilot but had also become the first woman to qualify as a ground engineer.

In May 1930 Amy made a solo flight to Australia in a Gypsy Moth D.H.60 G-AAAH which she named Jason (the trademark of the Johnson family fish business). Although she failed to break Bert Hinkler's record, she was the first woman to complete the 11,000 mile trip, and as a result she was given considerable press coverage and received telegrams of congratulation from across the world including King George V and Queen Mary and the British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald.

When she returned to England she was presented with a CBE and in August 1930 the Daily Mail newspaper gave her a gift of £10,000 for her achievements. She was also given a civic reception at the Guildhall in Hull. Further record flights followed including London to Moscow with co-pilot Jack Humphreys in January 1931 and then Moscow to Tokyo.

In 1932 she met and married the Scottish aviator Jim Mollison and in December she broke his record for a solo flight from England to South Africa. In July 1933 the couple attempted a non-stop flight from England to New York via Canada. Their plane ran-out of fuel just 50 miles from their destination and they both received minor injuries when the plane crashed. Despite this they were given a ticker-tape parade through New York.

In 1934 Amy and her husband made a record flight to Karachi in India as part of the Australia MacRobertson Air Race, but they had to withdraw from the full race. In 1936 Amy regained her record for a flight between London and Cape Town and the record for the fastest return flight.

In May 1940, Amy joined the women's section of the Air Transport Auxiliary flying both machines and men to wherever they were needed. On 5 January 1941 on a routine flight from Blackpool to RAF Kidlington (near Oxford) she went off course due to the poor weather. She bailed out into the Thames estuary and was seen alive but the rescue attempt failed and her body was never recovered. She was officially presumed dead in December 1943.

In 1932, Amy used a gift of a purse of gold sovereigns presented to her by the children of Sydney to purchase a gold cup for the City of Hull; [The Amy Johnson Cup for Courage]. This trophy is awarded to a Hull child (aged under 17) for an outstanding deed of courage.

In July 1974 a memorial statue was erected to her honour in Prospect Street, Hull.

In 2003 the Royal Mail issued commemorative stamps to mark the centenary of her birth.

Description of the collection:

Purchased in auction at Christies by the Hull Local Studies Library on 16 Oct 1985, the full collection of 286 letters charts Amy Johnson's life during a six year period, 1922-1928. In one letter dated April 1928 she talks of the start of her flying lessons 'now for the good news - I'm joining the London Aeroplane Club and then I can get tuition and always use their aeroplanes'.

The majority of the letters are from Amy to her partner Hans Arregger but the collection also includes letters to Amy from her father at Andrew Johnson Knudtzon Ltd. and from Vernon Wood of William Charles Crocker and Company of London offering her a job with the typing staff at three pounds per week.

As was common at the time, Amy wrote to Hans almost every day during the height of their relationship and some of her letters contain twenty pages or more. In view of this we have created six volumes to aid downloading and reading of the collection.

Related material:

The Local Studies Library also holds the Amy Johnson Library. Initially part of the Johnson Bequest to Kingston High School in 1941 the collection of 250 books was transferred to the Local Studies Library in December 1987 when the school library closed.

For more information about the books and records relating to Amy Johnson at the History Centre see [Discovering Amy Johnson at the Hull History Centre](#) available from the History Centre website.



212
 London.
 Tuesday.

I'm so glad there was a letter this morning darling. - yours was the only one, but I had all I wanted. I had got up to go to the office altho' I was very tired, but I didn't feel awfully well when I got there, & I left after lunch, as the wood was away & there was very little to do. My cold is much better than it was & I feel better in myself, but all the same I'm ready for a change of air & surroundings. I wish it was for a longer time tho'. How awfully short it will be & there is so much to do - I'll have to do my duty to my people, which will be very exacting, I expect - & all the same I'll be so awfully wanting to be with you. I wish you had come this weekend, darling - The last year a long holiday? I could have had you all myself. But still, it would have been too expensive for you, & I wouldn't have been very good company I'm afraid. It will be nice to go to the Hills. I hope if we can manage it, but I must arrange

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on promises anything until I see how things work out at home. I feel very strongly that I must not spoil things for them there, so you mustn't be cross, darling. - It will be awfully hard for me not to be able to see so much of you as I'd want to. You must come to London afterwards somehow for a weekend to make up for it. Will you?

You've been very busy writing to Mother & Father & Mother & I'm, & I'm awfully tired, so please excuse a long letter, darling. You've been the only one provision with letters for a long time & I haven't written home for over a week.

You've done a splendid camp & show to-day for the Widening Program. It is perfectly plain, but quite good considering how very reasonable it was. I got it wholesale.

I had a Viro hand massage this afternoon which has done me some such a lot of good. My hair is in very bad condition & I'm getting rather worried about it. It comes off in handfuls & it's full of scurf.

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Electrical treatment is the only thing to cure it, I believe. The joint again on Wed. night, & have a good effect for coming home. I hope to find something so that we can go out to Hamburg perhaps one day.

Yesterday we had 4 for breakfast - 3 Brown & myself. Helen Bell went & I hid up, dusted & swept the floor, made the bed & darned all my stockings. Then I went to church & after lunch we read quietly for a bit & had coffee & then went a long walk, had some tea at Spence Corner House & then went to the Reliance to see a Hawaiian film which has been made a piece of. - I hated it, & it gave me a violent headache. Then we came in & I made a crab salad for supper. We ate a very good supper & some time later went to bed so peacefully what seemed quite a long & full Sunday. (Helen was up at 7.30 as the film was at 10. Winnie was let off).

Now I must hurry, darling, as it's close on 11 o'clock & I'm very sleepy tho' not tired. I suppose I'll have to

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 LONDON N.W.1
 12 15 AM
 6 SEP
 1927

H. Arregger, Esq.,
 3, Chamber Place,
 Chelmsford,
 Yorks.

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Wait till Wed. for a letter & that that will be the last one till I see you. Will you do hope there's one tomorrow. Will there be, darling. - Specially 'co I'm not quite well?

I love you, darling. - & the way I keep you say to me sometimes.

All my love & many kisses,
 To Alice

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
 (Reference L DIAJ/212)

'I'm so glad there was a letter this morning darling.'

6 Sep 1927

213

London.

Wednesday 13.30/4

Tomorrow, darling I am coming home.
 I can hardly believe it at last come
 & I'm feeling really unreasonably
 excited. I don't know how much of it
 is due to the thought of seeing you &
 how much to going home - but it
 will be nice to see the house & garden
 & everyone again after so long. It's
 nearly 7 months since I left home.
 But that a long time. Thank you
 for your letter, darling. I did wish
 I could have been with you when
 you hadn't got your glasses, so you
 wouldn't need them to love me, would
 you? - You must wear them
 always, darling, if it is doing your
 eyes so much harm to go without
 them. You may take them off only
 when we are by ourselves & you don't
 need to strain your dear eyes to see

213

LONDON W
12.55 PM
8 SEP
1927



H. Arregger, Esq.
 3, St. James Place.
 Heath.
 Yorks.

anything. I'm sorry they are getting
 worse, but you mustn't worry.
 We have moved over to-day to
 our new room at the office. It is
 very nice indeed, but we have just
 been told we're not to stay there. It
 is a pity because it's by far the
 nicest room. They're making all
 sort of alterations. But we're going
 to fight for it as much as we can.
 Miss Beckett has had 7 years of that
 other awful room & she really is
 entitled to some decent quarters.
 (She is the Owners' secretary, & I shall
 share with her. She's about 35 &
 a permanent old maid, but a very
 nice girl all the same).
 Please excuse a long letter, darling.
 So I'll be seeing you soon. On Friday
 morning I will try to come to the office
 to see you. If I can't manage it I'll
 phone. But darling to see you but
 I want you all the time & it will be very
 too tantalising to know you're there &
 can't get to you. All my love & kisses,
 A.



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/213)

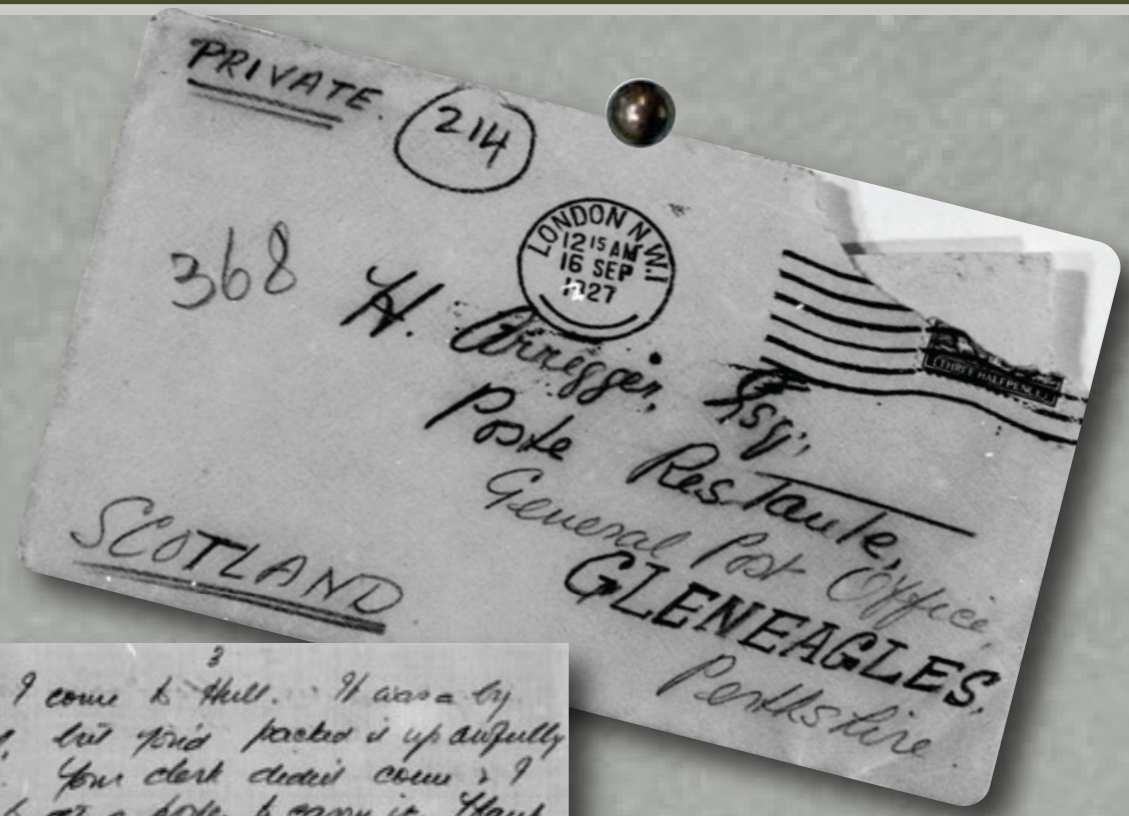
'Tomorrow darling I am coming home.'

8 Sep 1927

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Thursday 9 p.m.

Please excuse pencil darling. I've left my pen at the office - or at least I hope you find it there. I am very disappointed for your sake that the weather is so bad. I do hope you will enjoy yourself in spite of it, but I expect you will in such good company. Darling, I'm awfully miserable. Dinner's out to dinner tonight & I'm by myself. I've been miserable ever since I came back - it's unsettled me awfully going down & seeing you & I can't get used to things here. Of course, I shall in time but just now I'm feeling it not worth while to be alive. It's all right at the office coz you've been even so busy - didn't leave till 7 tonight, & I haven't had time to think. The flat seems so dull & empty & everything is dirty like your rooms, only the surface is cleaned. Our rooms badly need whitewashing & distemperung & the floor re-staining, carpet cleaning etc. I do so loathe dirt-



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it depresses me. The rooms have been cleaned to-day, but not as I would clean them.
It is doing me good writing to you, darling, so that is next best to talking to you but oh, I do want you so awfully. I wish you could feel just for a little while what it's like to want anyone so much as I'm wanting you & then you might have some sympathy with me. And you didn't improve things by making me bring those pictures. I wanted you anything to be able to put them back on your walls, but I can't now. I know I first made the mistake ever to say I wanted them. I wish I hadn't - I would far rather do without. You never showed me the one you brought from Brownie & put up instead. I didn't think you meant what you said then, but evidently you did. Tell me what it's like, please, I shall bring those pictures back the next

3
time I come to Hill. It was a big parcel, but you packed it up awfully well. Your clerk didn't come & I had to get a porter to carry it. Thank you, darling, for sending me the soap. You put one over the head & it looks awfully nice. I haven't decided yet when to put the other. I'm so afraid someone may spoil them. Coz everyone's so careless here. It's in use having nice things - I'm keeping all my coats & tablecloths etc. put away. I'll use them when I can afford to furnish a flat of my own. I wonder when that will be!
Miss Roberts leaves on Sat. She has got some lovely wedding presents. The staff have given her a happy clock with Westminster chimes. I can't forget Rene's little horse. I did love it so.
Minnie seemed pleased to have me back again, but I'm afraid I

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disappointed coz I so obviously was miserable to be here again. - And I didn't want to go home at all! - But it's funny! Oh, darling, I wish I knew where you are. I want you so awfully. - Can't you feel how much I'm wanting you? - It's so weak & silly of me to lose control of myself like this. - I'm ever so tired. Perhaps that's why I can't make myself be sensible, as I usually do nowadays. I've lost every scrap of interest coz I can't be bothered to do any shopping. I hate the sight of food. For every meal I've felt hungry till I've tasted some food & then I've suddenly not wanted anything. I'm going to set the breakfast table & then I'll go to bed. Maybe I'll feel better in the morning. Oh, what I thought last night, I didn't feel a bit happier this morning. Oh, darling, do please come & live near me when I can see you often & love you all I want to. You could make me so happy. -
All my love & kisses
to Marie

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/214)

'Please excuse pencil darling, I've left my pen at the office.'

16 Sep 1927

(215)
 London.
 Sunday.
 Thank you for all your letters darling. I'm sorry I haven't been able to write to you in return, but that of course was not my fault. The first year being such a splendid time, and I hope you'll be able to still have better afterwards to write. I have been very interested in all that you have told me & the fact you've been able to visit some of these places & see some more of beautiful Scottish scenery. I am hoping to hear your description of the Trocadero - when I have often longed myself to go, & when I'll go someday. I must let you out to see in some thing! You have already seen far more of England than I have.

I think Oxford is the only interesting place I've seen which you haven't as yet. I often think of the pleasant acquaintance I made there, which I can never forget because I was able to see what they could have done. You will doubtless have had pleasant memories of Stourport - you must let me hear of your interesting conquest. Your explanation that she is not like "Fanny's" proper Stourport" conveys absolutely nothing to me, as I'm not familiar with that boat. Are you keeping up the acquaintance when you return to Hull, & was it just a passing interest? I am surprised that you received my letter, because I was under the impression that Stourport was a village with the hotel which

may or may not have been called a "Stourport". After I had sent your letter to the "P.O." I found out from Annie that was both a village & an hotel of that name, so I concluded my letter would go to the village. I am glad you received it as I was so glad to hear you asked for it when I received your letter this morning. I was very calmed & happy to hear you say "keep up" & "clearly" in it. How silly I must have seemed to you, arriving in the midst of your parties. However, I have learnt my lesson, & shall not be caught of myself again to such an extent as to let you see how clearly I am feeling - at any rate, not when you are on holiday. When you were in Reclams, did it occur to you that you were in Stourport on our way to the States? Best of course you wouldn't have seen it



must Stourport's acquaintance, so I must expect it. I have been very good of you to manage to find time to write me letters. I am grateful for them indeed, and I am looking forward to lots more. You will doubtless have had a good time in Reclams and you will have lots of interesting things to tell me. Don't forget I always prefer to know all the things you're doing. You have very busy since I was back. Our room looks nice & clean & will give you & the picture up - I am also getting my German electric fan - I bought a nice one, which makes a nice touch of fresh green. - We have 3 or 4 more also filled with Red Crystaline. All set. I was busy & didn't get out except to do the shopping, which is a long & tedious task in this district on a Saturday. It is worse than a Hull Fair crowd.

Yesterday also I worked hard - dived our room in the morning & cleaned the silver, made some tea in the afternoon & Annie's birthday cake at night. It is a big one, almost like a Texas cake, & the girls & I ate it. In the evening on Monday we were celebrating by a little party on Saturday - Annie is wearing 2 pieces of lace, which I have not seen. - Both of them charming. They're both from Paris. On Sunday Annie has invited 2 Scotch boys - cousins of hers. - The ones we went to the skate with the first time? How Annie love. You remember?

Those two incidents - she can do well as well to tell unfortunately because of sleeping accommodation - & it wouldn't be so lovely if you could come the weekend Annie goes. I think of course you will be more hard up than ever, but you seem to be able to manage somehow when you really want to - I'm awfully curious as to how you've managed this "millionaire's" trip - but of course it isn't my business. How Dr. & Mrs. Brown "reached" you? They do seem to be very nice people and I'm glad they realize & appreciate your fine qualities, which they must do to choose you from among their many friends & accompany them on this trip. I am indeed proud of that. Have you found an opportunity yet to let them know you belong to someone & are no longer "single" and single. - (I don't mean what really)

It was my first day to-day with the office in my new job. Did you think of that to-day? But Wood of course was in Manchester, but I dealt with his correspondence for you as I was able & got things ready for his return tomorrow. I expect I shall be very busy from now onwards. I am glad, as it won't give me time to brood & become morbid. I'm also trying to fill up my nights & am trying hard to get some money for evening classes. What sort are best. The ones I'll have to miss a few weeks, as fees are payable in advance. I've just had to send for a wedding present, & I mustn't forget Annie's birthday. Money is a problem. No 20 post it now, & I'm awfully sleepy. Goodnight, darling. Lots of love, Amy.

Tuesday, 10 p.m.
 Thank you ever so much for your letter this evening, darling. You will know the look of my hair & expect I hope you feel the good effect of your holiday for a long time. What's the new holiday? - Texas? I have had a very busy day, have enjoyed it, & I was there at 6.30 when I left, & I was there at 9. I must be there every evening at 9. It was I'd like to say before we go the sea-ship workers, then I had to start my laundry. I have done it in an hour, & the rest of my day, which isn't bad at all. Annie is going to get this for me, & then I'll drop a ball, cool down, & go to bed. I must get a lot of sleep now. I hope your business will be all right & that you'll be busy. Love & see you if you can manage it, without you. But don't forget to write up for your Texas holiday. Write me lots of news please, & tell me all your news & what's going on. I'm glad you've been thinking of me & what you were doing. How did you & I sleep last night?

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/215)

'Thank you for all your letters darling.'

21 Sep 1927



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Thursday.

3 mins. to 11.

I've not having anyone for the time

Darling: I'm sorry I can't possibly write you a letter tonight, but I'd like you to know I'm thinking of you being in Hull again, & possibly feeling a bit flat & fed up. Thank you awfully for all your letters: You've been a dear to write me every day & to think of me so often.

My new job is taking all my time. I'm then from 9 till 8 every day. But I love it.

All my love, darling,
Kisses, Ya cherie

216

LONDON N.W. 1
12 15 AM
23 SEP
1927



H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Newber Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/216)

'I'm sorry I can't possibly write you a letter tonight, but I'd like you to know I'm thinking of you.'

23 Sep 1927

217

London.
Saturday. 8.9.27.

Thank you, darling, for your letter. I was far too tired to write you last night, & now I am having to make a very special effort. So I'm so tired I can't even sleep - I've been trying for the last half hour to have a short nap. I'm sitting at my typewriter in front of the fire - which is one of the nicest kinds of gas ones, like yours only far longer, - Winnie is doing the shopping. Last night it was 7.30 when I got in & I had tea, washed up & then put the almonds in my oven to bake. (I also a smaller one to send to Mollie). I want to bed soon after 10 (Winnie had gone to the theatre), but couldn't sleep for some time. - I was still so tired this morning that I had to rub my eyes to make them keep open & that made them cry. But I think I'll get over this stage in a week or two when I've got more accustomed to my new work. I felt tired when I first started to keep house,

but now I'm used to it & it's not the same effort. It's surprising what an immense difference Winnie can make to everything. Unlike you, a good skin unsalted tea is useful, but I get over it in time. I'm already quite settled down again now, & my western house seems a thing of the past. Today I had a P.C. from Topsy to say she was coming to tea at 4 o'clock & bringing a parcel. Had your tea as usual at all to prepare - it was after 2 when I got in & I selected what we had finished lunch. I had just started to make the whole icing for Winnie's cake, as we'd decided to have it for tea, when they arrived at about 3.15, & Topsy said her present had had no lunch & was very hungry. However we managed all right & had a very nice tea ready by 4.45. With the cake and a hot drink for the hungry person. The cake is a great success - I suppose I shouldn't say so as I made it, but it does taste

good. Would you like some? It's better than the "wedding" cake from Helen's was it? Did you ever follow that mystery? - Tomorrow I am spending the day at Soldier's Home. Mrs. Harman says she'll be up this morning & asked me why I hadn't been to see her, & where I go tomorrow as I'll be alone. I said I would, but I'm not really there. I must prefer my own little home. Winnie & I are so happy & comfortable here, & I think I'm awfully lucky to have such a cosy place I can hardly think of as home. The only thing I would like better (and better) is a flat of my very own with all my own furniture & a small amount to do the work. I wish Winnie & I were each getting £5 (I've never had so much - I had 4 of mine yesterday) & someone would kindly set us up with some furniture, we could easily manage of our own. That is what we are aiming for. This we probably shall be able to do it for about 3 years, tho'

217
LONDON N.W.1
12.15 AM
26 SEP
1927
H. Arregger, 3, Chamber Place, Heel, Yorks.

it is nice to have something in life to aim for. I think we shall start to work, so I can see something that will be the first. The bank factory, which I left this job & left London also, prospect of the new getting married, as for experience will be (I told you about it) the quite ruled that possibility out of her life. Mrs. Wood isn't back at the office till Tuesday afternoon - so I'll have a nice rest, but I'll wait up for it all the rest of the week. The best of it all is going to Leghorn. Myself & stay in your & I shall be by myself. Don't you ever feel your like to follow when I'm in the surroundings? But you know the same way as I do about such little things, do you? I'm glad you had such a perfect sleep & that you don't feel flat to be back in Heel again. Lots of love, Amy.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/217)

'Thank you darling for your letter. I was far too tired to write you last night and now I'm having to make a very special effort..'

26 Sep 1927



218

London.

Tuesday 10.45
p.m.

Have you enjoyed your weekend at Brid
darling? I was thinking of you during
the beauty of this spell of beautiful
weather. I looked of course for a letter
this morning, but remembered you
would probably not have time. I am
writing tonight, tho' there isn't much
time even now, as I don't know when
I'll have another opportunity until
the weekend again. My new job really
is taking practically the whole of my
life, & I've little time & energy or
interest left over for anything else.
As you say, I'll probably be unable
to speed up on the routine work, but
now is the "slack" season, - the busy
time starts in October, so what it will
be like then I really don't know.
And Mrs. Wood's frightfully particular.
She won't have a single mistake or

alteration in any letter & if a sentence
doesn't sound just right she sends it
out to be done again, however late
it is, & it's no joke doing letters again
as one has to think for miles to make the
pink carbon, then take the white
carbon & then transfer the postal number,
etc. Although he is in Manchester
to-day I have been busy the whole
of the day & only left at 6.30.
Tomorrow will be awful, as he only
arrives at noon on this occasion &
will attempt to do 2 days' work in one
afternoon. There is one good thing at
present & that is that Miss Healey &
I are in decent surroundings, but
even that will be spoiled shortly, as
they are arranging to bring 2 more
girls into our room. It will be a
awful squeal & we're dreading it. -
I can't work with lots of people rushing
about round me, & however I'll
lean on the Dictaphone with the

typewriter going I really don't know -
& both the other girls are awfully heavy
typists, which irritates me. I don't like
to mention it to Mrs. Wood before it
actually makes official, & we of course
are never consulted. Tho' the men always
who are considered first. - For decent
specimens one wouldn't grumble. My
word, how I have changed my ideas
from preferring men to girls. I was a
fool. Yesterday Winnie & I were up
early & worked ever so hard in the
morning. We swept, scrubbed paint
& dusted in every wood & corner - I
do wish the place weren't so dirty - it
got that same drab look that your place
has, of dirt under the surface. We'd
love to have it repaired & discoloured
& ceiling whitened, & carpets & curtains
cleaned. But that's a far off dream.
However we're very happy in the meantime.
I was late at Mrs. Harmer's, but
just enjoyed myself there. Mrs. Fitch-



218

H. Arregger Esq.
3, Heumber Place
Heel, Yorks.

Was there to lunch & tea & then cleaned the
car & wait to the Commercial. I have
a message from both of them that
they can always do with some apples
if you have any to spare.
Also secured to look me very
much to Mrs. Harmer's & Mrs.
Fitcher - astounded, as he's really
very shy. Mrs. Harmer said he'd
been asking for me & that was why she
brought me up. He mentioned you
Dundee as well & asks when you're
coming again.
How I must rush for the post.
Much love.
Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/218)

'Have you enjoyed your weekend at Brid darling?'

27 Sep 1927

219

LONDON
SEP 30
8 15 PM
1927

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, Humber Place,
Sheff.

Mrs.

219

London.
Friday, 1. 4. 15 P.M.

My dear Hans,

I'm writing these few lines in my lunch hour. I wrote you last night but was too tired to go on & post it, & now have decided not to send that letter as it's not a nice one at all. I think you must have had those bumps done on your hands & that's why you're not writing. So what is it? I hope they will soon be better & that you will have any recurrence of the trouble. I'm wondering if you're finding it awkward to do things for yourself, because if you're not able to write there'd be other things you can't do either. I & I were at home & could perhaps help you, but I can't do much from this distance.

2.

Thank you for your last letter. I've been far too tired when I've got in & answer it before & too busy during the day - this is the first day I've kept up with my work but I'll probably get it all this afternoon. I like my job, but it certainly is taking all my energy & life - I get no rest between 7.30 & 8.30, get a meal & go to bed, & even then it's 11 or so when I'm in bed, & as often as not I can't sleep. I started writing to you last night at 10, & it took me till nearly 11 & I couldn't finish the energy & meal & the post will do it. The night before, my friend Lilian Dalton came to see me just when I'd started tea (8.30) & at 9 o'clock Lilian's sister came. It was

3.

11.15 before we could clear the table & wash up the pots.

I've decided to join for Roman classes during the winter - have missed some, but I'll try & get tonight. I go there a week - Mondays at 6.30 (I can get because Mrs. Wood is in the class) & Fridays at 8.

On Sunday I'm in for the 2nd Lot of music coming, which I couldn't come last Sunday - I don't feel like entertaining. My friends & sisters are always coming. - oh, this, just comes in for a meal & then goes. I'm off to pay extra for the violin but can't start calculating how much for the book & how many pieces of wood they've taken etc. - but it

4.

water house keeping cost out expensive in the long run. Altho' I seem to make it go better as far as always she who borrows - it is a good screw - I bet it beats you, doesn't it?

I should certainly join these classes on Architecture if I can. I'm the money. Are you joining well with soon he did, would it?

You don't seem to know what I'm to tell me about Mrs. Leeds' "wedding" cake. - Give my love to her & tell me in full how she's doing. I've had some news. Why have you & Cora not written to Mrs. Leeds?

Write as soon as you can & tell me all the news. Have you heard from your American friend - what's your next holiday, etc.?

Amel Lee.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/219)

'I'm writing these few lines in my lunch hour.'

30 Sep 1927



From: Amy Johnson, 21 Hucksbury London, E.C.4.

220
 LONDON E.C.4
 OCT 3 3 58 PM 1927
 Herr H. Arregger,
 Hausa Hotel,
 Kiel.
 Germany.

220
 London.
 Monday
 12.30 p.m.

I am sorry to hear that you're having such a rotten time darling. I hope you'll have that "little bit of luck" which will put things right again. I'd no idea of course that things were going wrong this last week, and I do not think it would have done you any harm to have written to me & told me your troubles - I'm not a child that I always need a wait "nice" letters.

What is this lawsuit in Switzerland? I didn't know you had one coming on, or at any rate I didn't know anything except that a little while ago you consulted Dr. G. on something, & I don't believe it could have been on this case. - Wasn't that the Kiel business? I am very glad that you feel at last

2

that you want to tell me some of your worries, - but it is unfortunate that next Sunday is the very one it has been arranged for such a long time that I should go to Brighton & see Topsy. I don't at all want to go, but can't very well get out of it, it will make a change anyway. - And as I'll be away, Winnie has arranged for a friend to come & stay with her for the weekend. - I could of course cancel my visit & could do so if there were a chance of your coming, but I don't feel I want to be there this weekend - this girl is especially Winnie's friend & I should be very much obliged & possibly spoil things for Winnie as well. This is also the only week Topsy can do with me. Winnie is going the only other week she can

3

go. Can you not come then? - The 22nd October is it, & I shall be all by myself for the weekend. I could put you up, so it wouldn't cost much more than your weekend fare. I wasn't going to ask you, but I feel much happier because you will be over specially to talk to me, and I'm awfully sorry I can't make a commitment. - You're not sure of coming either, else I might even now decide to stay in London, & it will be too late to alter things by the time you can let me know - if you very much want to see me, wire Sat. morning, will you? - Don't you remember that I told you I was going away? Winnie & I had rather a busy day yesterday - we worked hard all the morning, & I don't think we

4

Winnie is in the afternoon & evening. They are very nice boys - Scotch. One of them is engaged to a girl in Glasgow & is being married at Glasgow - he's only 26, works in a shipping office & gets nearly £400 a year.

I don't go to my class on Friday - was far too tired & miserable. - I'll start tonight, Winnie & I have bought a bookcase as a makeshift system. - I've written for my books.

Best of luck - things are sure to come all right - am looking forward to a letter to know how you're getting on.

All my love, darling,
 Yours, A.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/220)

'I am sorry to hear that you're having such a rotten time darling, I hope you'll have that "little bit of luck."

3 Oct 1927

222

Tuesday night, 10.30 p.m.

Darling, - I wonder if you realise how much I worry when you don't write for so long. It is now a whole week since I had a letter from you, & you haven't given me the least idea as to why this is. You know that my imagination is very fond of picturing the most unlikely things, and every day I am thinking and every night dreaming of what can have happened to you. I am also wondering whether your mother and sisters are all right, because there must be some serious reason why you have forgotten me so. This week has seemed so very very long - I seem to have spent it waiting for a letter. I know I'm a fool to care so much & I'm being awfully hard to control myself now, but here again all my good resolutions have broken down & I'm writing you asking for a letter - a thing I'd determined never to

222

do again. It is because I am so afraid all is not well that I'm always forced to give in and again show you my feelings. You could stick out for ever & never write if I didn't, but I can't. I sometimes think you take advantage of that.

I don't want to spoil your holiday so I'll leave all the things I have to say till you're back again & have time to listen to me sometime.

There is no news - I just work & work. I'm gradually getting very bitter & old, unideal & uninteresting - Here's no wonder you're turning away from me, except that you haven't seen enough of me lately to notice the change.

I was by myself last weekend as usual went away, but I enjoyed the quiet. Please write me a few lines to tell me why you're not writing, so that I can stop worrying.

Dearest love to your mother & Mary & Hedy & Family. Love Amy



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/222)

'Darling I wonder if you realise how much I worry when you don't write for so long.'

19 Oct 1927

223

London.
Monday 10 p.m.

I have just got your letter, darling, by the last post, when I had almost given it up. I am replying straight away so that you will get it sooner.

It is good news that you have won your law case & that you are doing good business with oil. I hope everything turns out as you expect it & that you'll feel your lip has been worth while.

I'm sorry it wasn't fine enough this weekend for you to do any climbing as you had planned. It may be a long while before you have the chance again. He's the wicked fiend who's able to keep away from Switzerland for long.

It is nice to know he remembered

by your people & your friends - But no one can realize how dear those memories are to me. It's just like a dream in my life, except that everything stands out so distinctly clear. - For often I think that those few days were real life & all the other is a dream. I don't think how you bear to leave it all & come back to school. - But you are lucky that you can go back again when you feel like it.

You had a quiet weekend whilst Annie was away - have done quite a lot of work, however, & yesterday I went again to see "The Lion", which I enjoyed just as much the second time. That is 2 weekends I've been on my own, but I don't expect to have any more for some time. If you can't come at the

weekend Annie & I will be pleased to have you spend as much time as you can to love, & I'd say Mrs. Hitchcock will be pleased to arrange for you to sleep at Porters Head. Shall I let Annie know when you're coming so that he can ask Mrs. Maxmiller if she can do with you? - If it's only for one night it may be worth it, as I expect you'll be there up, won't you?

There is really nothing of interest to tell you. - I am going to a dance on Wednesday night, but don't care at all about it.

Thanks for Mary's little message. It's so good to hear to work on for pleasure. I wish her luck & a good time with her. And please will you thank Hedy for so much for her letter & the beautiful songs. The pictures made me ache with

223

LONDON N.W.1
9 15 AM
25 OCT
1927



Herrn H. Arregger,
Hochbühlstr. 7.
Luzern.
Switzerland.

Longing for the mountains. She writes most beautiful & perfect English. She is awfully clever. I will write & thank her personally in a day or two, but will you please tell her how how much I appreciate her kind thought.

Please give my love to your mother, & Mary & Hedy & family & remember me to Dr. & Mrs. G. & Hans Peter. I'll tell him what immense pleasure I get from his picture, please - or perhaps you don't know. - & his. Colonel if you see her. I long & long & long for Switzerland & Lucerne & all the dear friends & so quickly learnt to love so much.

Let me know when you're coming & if you want me to arrange anything.
Dearest love to all.
Amy.

I liked your last postcard.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/223)

'I have just got your letter darling by the last post when I had almost given it up.'

25 Oct 1927



224

London.
Monday 10.11.27

Darling, just one or two lines 'cos it's very late. I had to write to mother first & do some ironing so it has made a short evening.

You're wondering if you've yet found out anything fresh or if you will only know tomorrow. The anxious to hear from you to know how things are going. You'll let me know as soon as possible, won't you?

You've been as nice as you could possibly be to me the few hours you've been here, darling, and I am sorry that the time was so short, tho' the longer you'd stayed the kinder it would have been to let you go.

You're already very sorry I've been

The clock's going fine all the time, it jumps sometimes.

"not very nice" for such a long time - just a few minutes' talk with you has put everything right, as I knew in my inmost heart it would.

I didn't trust you enough, & I certainly ought to know you better than that by now, oughtn't I!

I sent a P.C. to your mother & posted the parcel. Will you please tell me again, darling, when you write who sent me the clock, because you're sorry I find I can't remember which you said & I shouldn't like to make a mistake when I write 'Don't forget, will you?'

Winnie & I are looking forward even so much to the apples. Winnie said she liked you a lot this time & I asked her why & she said it was because you were so pleased to see me! Don't worry too much darling & don't work too hard. I wish I could be helping you, but you're loving me a lot. All my love & kisses, cherie.

224

PADDINGTON
12 3 AM
1 NOV
1927

H. Arregger Esq.
3, Stumber Place,
Hull.

Herts

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/224)

'Darling, just one or two lines 'cos it's very late. I had to write to mother first and do some ironing, so it has made a short evening.'

1 Nov 1927

225

London.
Tuesday 10.15p.m.

Just another line or two, darling.
I'm hoping there'll be a letter from
you in the morning - a nice one.
I'm so glad that I can expect a
nice letter from you now. I've been
wondering all day how you were
and getting on & if things are so
bad as you feared. Do let me
know, would you.

Lillian has come down tonight
& she is going to post this for me
'coz it's raining fast - it was a
stormy morning. - I was out
nearly all the time. Mr. Wood
didn't come back till lunch time
& I went out with Mr. Pratt on
a lot of Company work. It was

very interesting. I missed my
lecture tonight because I was
working till after 7 & the lecture
was at 6.30.

Thank you, darling, for all the
nice things you brought me from
Switzerland & for all the messages
you delivered. I'm enjoying the
chocolates & cigarettes ever so
much & looking forward to the
apples. The clock goes well but
still jumps.

I did so love to see you, &
want to see you again soon. Maybe
I shall.

I love you, darling, such
lots & lots.

All my kisses,
Ta chérie

225

LONDON
NOV 2
12:59 AM
1927



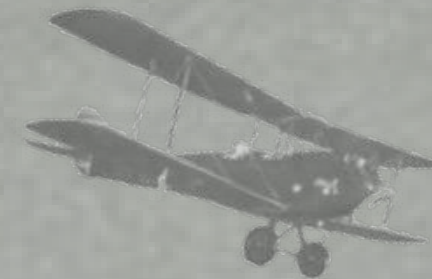
H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, Humber Place,
Hull.

Yours.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/225)

'Just another line or two darling. I'm hoping there'll
be a letter from you in the morning - a nice one.'

2 Nov 1927



226

London.

Wednesday 9. 30p.m.

Thank you darling for your letter which has just this very moment arrived. I hoped there would be one by this post but was going to write you anyway, 'cos I thought whilst your worried with business you would like letters from me often. Do you?

I'm awfully glad that you think there's hope of improvement & that you needn't fear the worst. I hope the end of the month will show you're no more need to worry.

The apples have arrived to-day but I haven't yet opened the case. It looks as though it would be difficult to open & I think I'll leave it till the morning when

2.

perhaps I'll have more energy. I'm awfully tired to-day - was in about 7 & I then wait shopping & had a nice meal ready for business when she came in. We washed up & I prepared some things for tomorrow's meal & took to Fallow & paid my daughter's bill & now it's nearly 10 o'clock & I've had not a minute's leisure since the whole of the day. My eyes ache very much. The weather is rather trying, don't you think? It's too unreasonably warm.

We don't seem to get on awfully well by post, darling. - Letters are not a bit so satisfactory as talking. I always so want you to tell me some nice things, because in spite of being a "business woman" &

3.

getting old I do badly want spicing & making a fuss of & I never get it. Would you have had to have made a very big effort to have told me you were glad to see me in London, or something of the sort? - I know your unadmonishing & don't say a quarter of what you think, but I do so brace up the little personal bits about me. Do try & say more of what you think, darling. (or do you not think things either?).

I shall be very glad when I get an appointment at the office - it is rather a struggle just at present - Tomorrow I have to go down to Somerset House to do some search work which will take a long time & I simply don't know how to manage



LONDON N.W.1
12 15 AM
3 NOV
1927

226

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, St. James Place,
S.W.1.
Yorks.

it. Today Mr. Wood says for me to go over & take the papers in one of the cases I'm dealing with. I was introduced to the client who was in & joined their conference. I feel I've got much more status now at the office & am glad of it because I don't like to be just one of the crowd.

Write often, darling, please & tell me all about everything that happens. I never tire of reading your letters even when they're full of the weather as they sometimes have been. I'm always optimistic in looking for the nice bits.

All my love, darling mine -
& lots of kisses. When will I see you again? Am longing to.
La chérie

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/226)

'Thank you darling for your letter which has just this very moment arrived.'

3 Nov 1927

227

London.

Friday 10 p.m.

Thank you, darling, ever so much for your letter yesterday. I never thought of you realising yourself that your letter wasn't so awfully nice else I wouldn't have mentioned it. I understand, darling, how you're feeling & won't feel at all cross if you can't give your whole mind to me when you're writing my letters. You won't worry, will you? Just write as & when you feel you want to talk to me.

I hope you're feeling a bit more used to the shell climate by now & not feeling so tired & heavy. There seems to be something tho' in the whole atmosphere everywhere

227

which is producing weariness & irritation in lots of susceptible people. I have experienced it very keenly for some time & often wish we could have a cold, dry bracing day. It's been rather better to-day, however.

I've had a very busy night washing my hair, doing my laundry, getting boxes, etc.

I am now in my dressing gown & must try to persuade Winnie to take this letter for me to the post.

Please excuse more tonight, darling. I've still a lot to do. Don't work too hard this weekend. What will you be doing tomorrow & Sunday. I wonder.

All my love, darling,
 & lots of kisses
 Ya Chérie

LONDON N.W.1
 12 15 AM
 5 NOV
 1927

H. Arregger Esq.
 3, Kumber Place,
 Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
 (Reference L DIAJ/227)

'Thank you, darling ever so much for your letter yesterday.'

5 Nov 1927



228

London.

Monday. 10.15p.m.

Your nice letter darling has made me want to write you a few lines. - I had almost forgotten there would be one waiting for me from Saturday. so it was a very pleasant surprise when I got it. When you wrote those nice words at 12 o'clock on Friday night you never guessed I was still up getting ready to come & see you, did you darling! I did enjoy the surprising you as much as anything & you really did seem glad to see me.

Have you done a good day's work today I wonder. I haven't, although it has been a very full day. The journey this morning was wretched because it was so bitterly cold. It was almost as cold as in the bro yesterday. I was very glad to reach town & be able to exercise my limbs.

228

I enjoyed reading the magazine you bought for me & the Digest of the Duchess of York was very good, tho' it was only the beginning of it. There were also some interesting articles on artistic drawing room decorations which I enjoyed reading although I haven't the artistic sense.

I had a great deal of work to get through this afternoon & having to show the new girl things delayed me a lot. Also there was no desk or typewriter for her & whilst she was using mine I had to wait. It was therefore late when I got to my swimming class, but I quite enjoyed it. My limbs were very stiff whilst I was & badly need some exercise. - I had built (that) for my lunch as you advised, darling. Now I've tried (but my teeth show it in accordance with my new resolution - but I can whisper it to you) so will get ready for bed.

Write to me soon darling. You were a dear to me this weekend & gave me a nice time. All looking forward to seeing you again. All my love & thoughts & prayers

LONDON W.1
12.15 AM
8 NOV
1927



H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Chamber Place,
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/228)

'Your nice letter darling has made me want to write to you a few lines.'

8 Nov 1927

230

London.

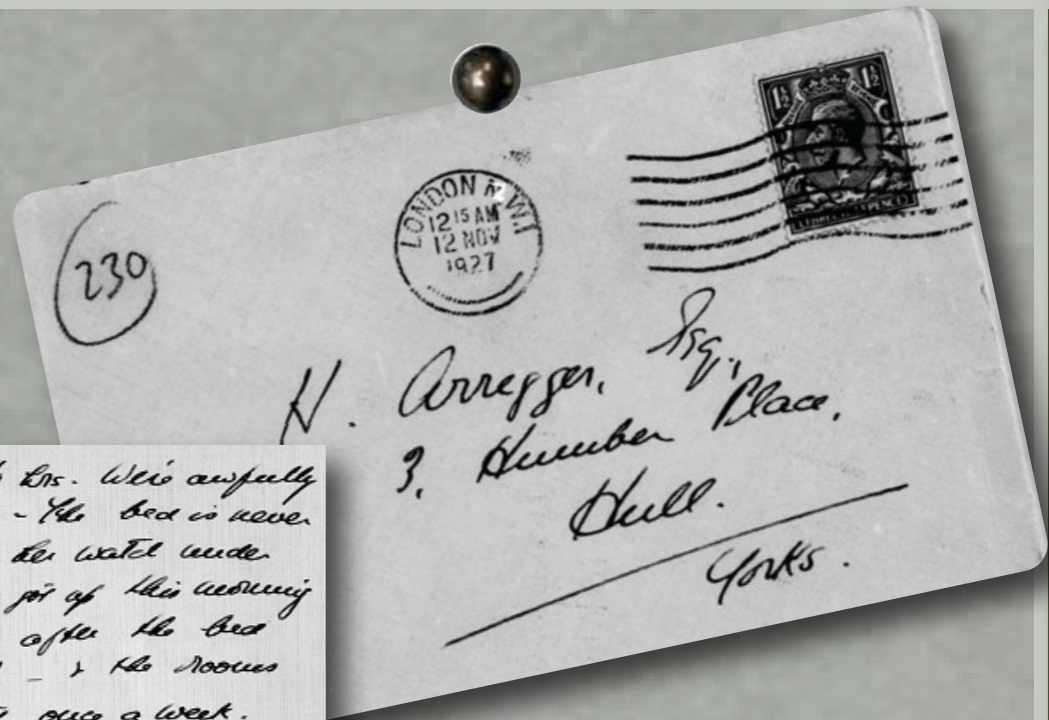
Friday, 10.15.27.

Thank you for your letter, darling. It was a nice one. Now I do wish I could give you another surprise tomorrow. I'm wishing now I hadn't come last week so that I could come this weekend. It's only the money that stops me. - I wouldn't mind the long journey at all so long as you were waiting for me at the end of it. If you know that Belle (Winnie's sister from Paris) was coming I'd have waited & come tomorrow, because I feel a bit de trop, & altho' she's an awfully dear girl, I do get rather wearied of the incessant conversation on the factory. I tucked late last night & only got in at 9.30. Then I'd to get a meal & wash

up & it was about 11.30 when I was just settling down to sleep when there was a knock at the door & Belle presented herself. She'd sent a wire which we'd never received. We're having to sleep in a bed because we're no better for the camp but now the cold weather's come. Winnie & Belle talked solidly till about 2 o'clock - I was tired, but Winnie was awfully glad to see her sister, whom she loves ever so much. Pappy was coming this weekend & I had to warn her not to come. I'm afraid she will be ever so disappointed. You got a bad cold coming.

Darling - I'm sorry I go in cold & draughty. This flat is bitterly cold & icy draughts come from under & round & the door & from all the windows & we use it - world

of you in about 3 1/2 hrs. We're awfully fed up with it here. - The bed is never made (Belle left her water under the pillow when she got up this morning & she found it there after the bed had been made!!) - & the rooms only dusted about once a week. I hope you're successful in finding something suitable because here Leech's is not good enough for you & you ought to have decent food when you come in from the office. If you can't spend the winter in Hull you may as well be comfortable but it is a job moving so many belongings, isn't it? - That's what stops us as well. Mother tells me that Grandma & Grandpa have got a new car - a Buick - & Polky drives it - Oh, I know, an Austin. You'll have to look up Polky now & have some notes



4. half. Belle smuggled a bottle of port over, we've just been drinking it. It's a pity you're particular how to enjoy such simple celebrations. You've been awfully busy again to-day. I've been waiting out this morning at 11 o'clock for the Royal Exchange for the service. The crowd was immense - I couldn't get further than Waterloo - & the Selous was next in reserve. You could have seen the Union Jack flapping on the top of a building. You're looking forward to a letter tomorrow, darling. I hope I won't be disappointed. You must think of me a lot this weekend as I can't be with you. I'll be thinking of you. And come as soon as you can to see us. I do want you lot. Write & tell us how you & Winnie are getting on. All my love, darling & lots of kisses. To Winnie

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/230)

'Thank you for your letter, darling. It was a nice one. Now I do wish I could give you another surprise tomorrow. I'm wishing now I hadn't come last week so that I could come this weekend. It's only the money that stops me.'

12 Nov 1927

231

LONDON N.W.1
12 15 AM
14 NOV
1927



H. Arregger Esq.
3, Stumber Place,
Hull,
Yorks.

night it was 12.30 before we were in
(we went to the Crown House after the
theatre) & then we sat up till 1.30 &
then they talked in bed. I was up
at 10 this morning. - It really is
too much after the specially hard
week I had last week. But I
won't go on grumbling, darling, I
do the accumulation of work I
have done rather worry me.

Write & tell me how your
business is going & what you're doing
with yourself.
I do want you & love you, darling.
All my love & kisses,
La Clerie

231

London.
Sunday 9p.m.

I had almost given up hearing from you
on Saturday, darling. Belle & Winnie
& I went to the theatre at night. We only
left here about 8.30 & Winnie had to
come back for the tickets. - In the
first interval at the play she pulled
out a letter from you & I was awfully
pleased to have it. She had met
the postman on her way back. I
did wish I could be with you this
weekend, darling, but you must
always be expecting me because
it's a too expensive hobby. - And
I don't feel I'd somehow like to
come along again to how. Leeds,
tho' if any time I'd the money &
wanted awfully to come, no
consideration of any kind would stop me.

2.
The play on Sat. was awful. It was
the only one for which we could
get any seats. - "The Silver Cord"
The acting was good & the story was
probably very true to life - it was
in fact precisely a history of Winnie's
experience when she visited Eric's
people in Ireland & was so coldly
received, so disgracefully treated.
Belle has gone back this afternoon.
We saw her off at Victoria at 3.45. -
just the time I met you in a
fortnight ago! - How I wished it was
you I was seeing to-day - but not
off! Will you ever give me a
surprise, darling! This never
occurs, I know you would if you
could afford it. You would do lots
of things for me, wouldn't you, if you
could. But yours awfully good to me

anyhow.
I've just written to Hedy & Emily
& thank them for the clock but I can't
write to Henry till I know his address.
Will you let me have it, please, as
soon as you can.

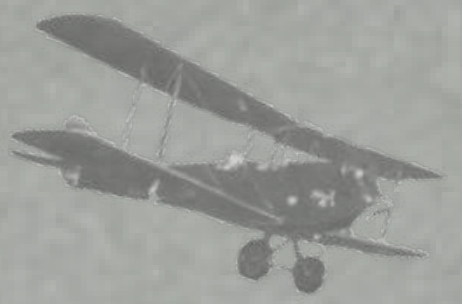
3
You moved the clock tonight near
the mantelpiece and it looks very nice
there. I would have liked to have
left it where you put it but it really
was too drab.

Are you writing me a long letter
to-day, I wonder. - I shall look
for it first thing in the morning.
Belle, Winnie & I are very tired this
weekend & I haven't had the advantage
of having had my sides with me.
Thursday it was quite 2.30 before they
stopped talking & I could go to sleep. -
Friday it was nearly as bad. Last

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/231)

'I had almost given up hearing from you on Saturday, darling.
Belle & Winnie & I went to the theatre last night.'

14 Nov 1927



232

London.
Tues. 10.30 p.m.

You are the only person I would write to tonight, darling. - I'm not sleepy or awfully tired but I've had an exceptionally busy day. Yesterday I worked hard & went to my swimming club at night. - It was splendid & really did see a lot of good. I had a cold shower before I got dressed to harden me against the cold outside. I fell in fire frame to do a whole lot of laundry I had soaking ready but unfortunately Winnie was awfully late in & I didn't get the pots off the table till 9.30. I determined I would do it tonight so left Winnie to wash up. I started at 9.15 & finished a few minutes ago. Am now trying to

dry them in front of the fire because there's no room on the kitchen shelves.

I found time, however, to read your letter the minute it came - & was sorry it wasn't longer, altho' it was quite a nice one. Am glad you enjoyed your weekend. What do you mean by a hectic time? Did you have a lot to drink? Thanks for the P.C. from Blackpool. For once I didn't really envy you, altho' a breath of fresh sea air would have been very welcome.

We're still enjoying the apples, darling, & they're keeping awfully well. I've just found the clocks slow, darling, so must run to the post. Will write more next time. There'll be another hard day tomorrow. We're awfully busy. All my love, Amy Johnson.

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LONDON W. 1
12 15 24
16 NOV
1927

H. Arregger, Esq.
3. Chamber Place,
Hull.

Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/232)

'You are the only person I would write to tonight, darling. I'm not sleepy or awfully tired but I've had an exceptionally busy day.'

16 Nov 1927

233

London.

Thurs. 10 p.m.

Thank you for your letter, darling.

Friday. 2.30 p.m.

I'm sorry, darling, but I didn't get any further than the above last night. I was just too tired. I'd only that minute finished washing the tea. Thump up & when I sat down in the easy chair I hadn't enough energy left to make the pen go over the paper, tho' I'd have been all right if you'd been there.

Did you enjoy your party last night? I was thinking of you in your "stabby demon jacket" & wondering if you were amongst the sort of people who would judge you by such things. My

My left wrist has gone wrong again & I'm not to shut up my baller strap. It's a nuisance.

experience of you has been that your charm of manner when amongst a crowd of your friends makes one not notice the clothes you have on. - that's badly expressed, as usual, but maybe you know what I mean. Mr. Wood had to go to Oxford this morning & he isn't back yet. Last night I was here awfully late because he wanted to clear a lot of work up before he went.

I wish we were going away together somewhere quietly for Christmas, darling. I'm not looking forward to all the noise & excitement & fuss. If only we could be by ourselves I'd be looking forward to it. I'll write you a longer letter this weekend because I've nothing to interest you now - & probably won't have then. I was glad to hear of your opinion about your business. All my love, A.

233

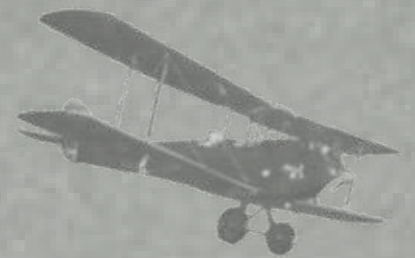
H. Arregger Esq.
3. Gumber Place,
Hull.
Yorks.



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/233)

'I'm sorry darling, that I didn't get any further than the above last night. I was just too tired.'

18 Nov 1927



(234)

LONDON N.W.1
12:15 AM
21 NOV
1927

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, Stumber Place,
Sheff.
Yorks.

(234)

London.
Sunday, 6.30p.m.

Thank you ever so much for your letter, darling. I'm sorry I haven't written often or longer letters but it was always so late before I could begin to write to you & then I was too tired to think. This weekend I've not been tired & have done a lot of work. Yesterday I did shopping & made a cake in the afternoon & had a nice dinner ready for Winnie when she came in from her hockey match. This morning we worked as usual & this afternoon Lillian Dalton came down. We've just finished tea & in a few ~~more~~ minutes we're going to the pictures to make a change, as it's been too wet to go for a walk as we had intended. I didn't realise how much I'd been counting on your coming to-day

2.

darling, until you said definitely that you wouldn't be coming. You'll have to be quick if you're going to get a week-end here before Christmas, but I hope you'll manage it. It would be lovely to have you here for more than a few hours. It's even when you're here a few days I don't see so much of you as I would like. Have you any idea when you'll be coming? Does it depend on your business again? I'm glad you enjoyed the party. It was a surprise because I didn't think somehow that you would. You didn't tell me you were going to the Palais. Whom did you go with & who did the party consist of? Did you enjoy yourself? It will soon be worth while your getting a new dinner jacket, would it, if you're entering "society" once more? - I can't imagine you in a tail coat?

3

Have you ever worn one? I think you'd look awfully funny - at any rate, not so graceful as you look in a dinner jacket. Tell me all about the other innovations you get, darling, whether you accept them or not, would you? Next week I'm beginning with classes. - or I believe I told you, didn't I? So how on Monday I have sewing, Wed. I classes & Friday our class. I hope it won't be too tiring, but perhaps it will do me good to have other interests. I haven't lost interest in German but there seems no object at all in continuing to study it, so I thought it better to do something which will probably benefit me. It was nice of you to let me have a letter for the weekend. - I hardly

expected one as the other only came at night - but that should have come earlier, shouldn't it. I hope something good will come of your business including the other day. Was it in regard to oil? Let me know all developments, would you, 'coz I want to see you getting on. I wish you could earn enough money not to have to deny yourself. Do you think you ever will? - that of course, you can't know. I hope also you'll soon get some decent digs. It's a shame you have so much trouble at Mrs. Leach's. - but I'll be awfully sorry not to be your sister any longer. That was better than nothing, even tho' it was only make-believe. Will there be a letter for me tomorrow. I wonder. I'm glad now that you didn't come to-day because you'd be here by now I expect & how I can still look forward to your visit. All my love to Ethel.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger Reference L DIAJ/234)

'Thank you ever so much for your letter, darling. I'm sorry I haven't written often or longer letters but it was always so late before I could begin to write to you & then I was too tired to think.'

21 Nov 1927

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/236)

'Only time just to say I love you & want you
darling. I hope there'll be a letter tomorrow, -
a nice one. When are you coming to see me?'

23 Nov 1927

236
Tuesday, 10.50 p.m.

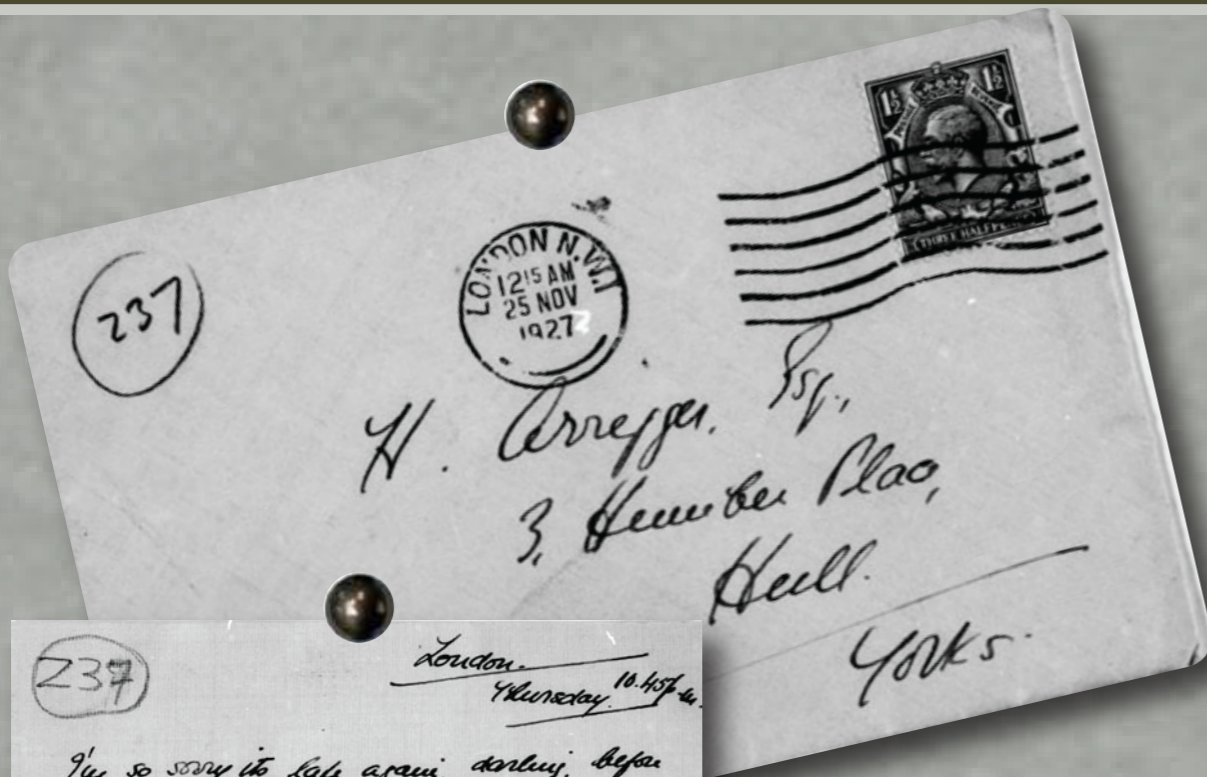
Only time just to say I love you &
want you, darling. I hope there'll
be a letter tomorrow. - a nice
one. When are you coming to see me?
Tomorrow night I may not have
time to write. Classes are till
9.30 & a friend of Winnie's is
coming to stay with us, worse luck.
I'm not up to visitors.

All my love & kisses,
Ya Chérie

I had a P.C. from Mary
yesterday.

Oh damn, here's this visitor -





Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/237)

'I'm sorry its late again, darling, before I can begin your letter & I wanted to be able to take my time over it.'

25 Nov 1927

237
London
Thursday 10.11.27

You're so sorry its late again, darling, before I can begin your letter & I wanted to be able to take my time over it. I was late as usual & very inevitable, & then Lillian came, but the all right now. Thank you ever so much for your long letter, darling. It was waiting for me last night when I got in at 10 o'clock & I wasn't quite too tired to read it. I needed you though for more than any letter. You been reading you badly these last few days when everything seems to be irritating me. I was awfully fed up the night before last when Winnie's friend turned up a few minutes before 11. I had to search my trunk for shoes but after that I went to bed & left

2.

Winnifred to get up the Campbell & wait coffee etc. The room was a pigsty when I got up the next morning. She went back to-day but at breakfast there was a P.C. from Kippie to say if she can come for the weekend. You just too tired for visitors & Kippie never has been a great friend of mine. I shall have her undisturbed all Saturday as Winnifred is out with an awful friend of hers from Sheffield who's coming to see her & take her out. If only I could look forward to your coming to see me, darling. Give us idea how much I need you. It isn't just that your business should come always first in your life when you're everything in mine. Well it always be like that? If only I could just come & see you when you're specially tired & be petted & spoiled. What's what I'm

3

weeding awfully badly. But you only like me when I'm in a right mood, don't you, darling? -

I don't mind about you going to these parties & dances. - though you don't seem to tell me about them until you've actually been - except to go with a long explanation about taking Woodbine when you always told me you ought to take her out more than you do. I could be jealous of her. - it's absurd. I'm only jealous of your charming sociability for those parties of people like the Sissous who have the privilege of enjoying that charming social side of yours which I never see now. If you continue going to a lot of dances etc. & pick out one or more particular partners whom you dance with & talk to more than others than I shall mind your going

4

going out so much. I'm a wee bit jealous of you having the chance to enjoy yourself because I haven't & I would so awfully like a little pleasure sometimes. You not come my evening club since I came to town & my first only once. Christmas would be much fun, darling. If you're at the Sissous Boxing Day. Christmas Day & Christmas Eve then isn't much chance for me is there? Anyway Christmas is still a long way off & its not good to anticipate too much. How I must run. I do want you badly, darling.

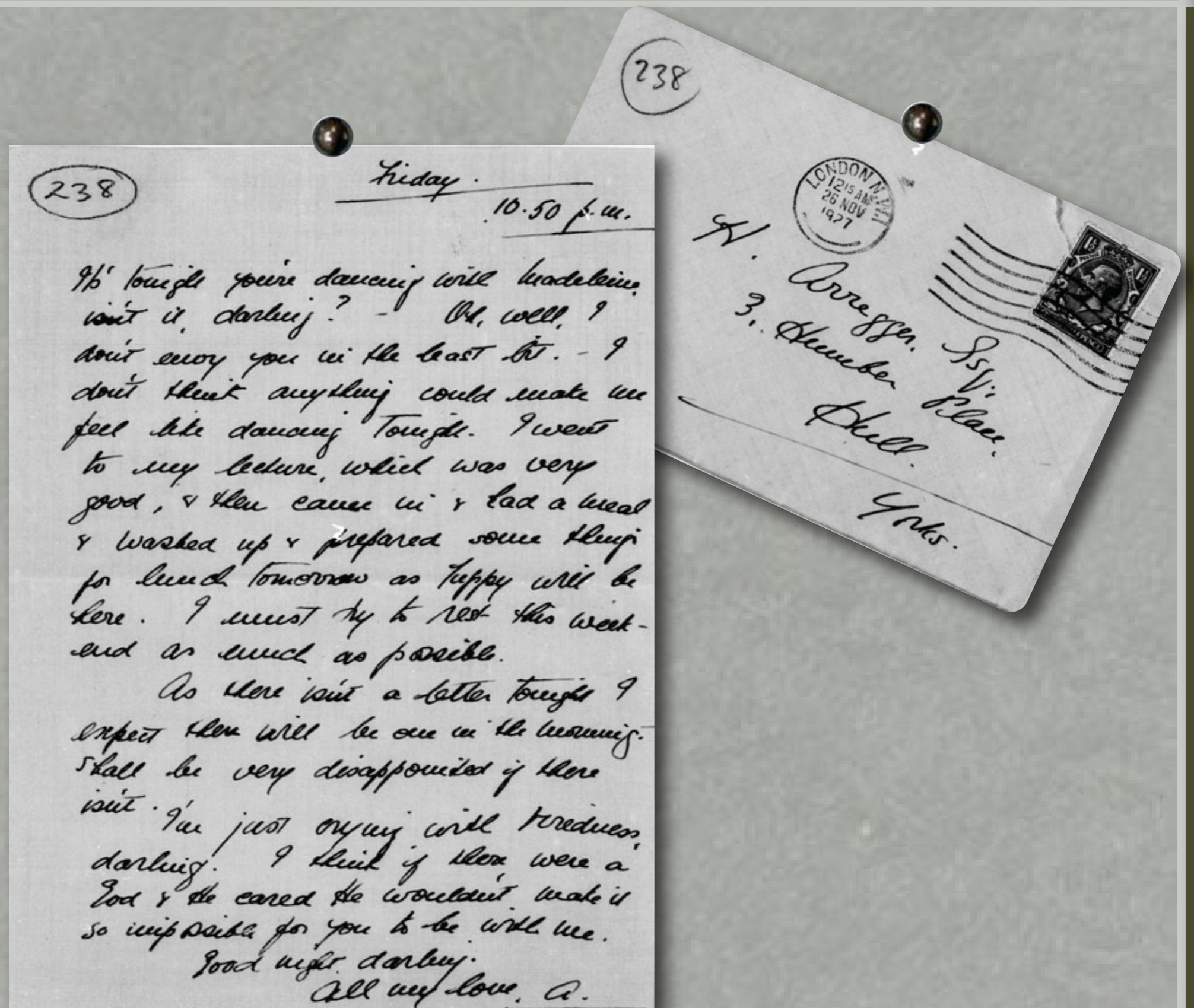
To cherie



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/238)

'It's tonight you're dancing with Madelaine, isn't it, darling? Oh well, I don't envy you in the least bit. I don't think anything could make me feel like dancing tonight.'

26 Nov 1927



239

LONDON N.W.1
1215 AM
28 NOV
1927

H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Humbly Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/239)

'I was glad not to be disappointed yesterday, darling, & the letter was a nice one. I'm feeling rather more cheerful to-day & I think its because I've had quite a lot of rest.'

28 Nov 1927

239

London.
Sunday 8 p.m.

I was glad not to be disappointed yesterday, darling, & the letter was a nice one. - I'm feeling rather more cheerful to-day & I think its because I've had quite a lot of rest. I slept until about 10.30 this morning & it always does me good to have my sleep out every so often. Last night though I had a bad headache, the neuralgia sort. Tuppy considerably dropped me a P.C. in the morning to say she wouldn't bother me for lunch & would come along to tea. I was glad for it & had my lunch out & got my shopping done & a little rest before she came. She has gone again now as she can't stay till the morning because of her school.

You're glad you enjoyed 'The White Horse' I don't know who would be taking

parts this year. The acting was splendid when I saw it. I wish I could come to see 'Orion & the Lion' (you got the title the wrong way about) & I'd love to play the maybe Harold in one of his plays the customary celebration. How ought to be. You never seen one of his plays acted. & you've not read another since I promised you not to. You have my 'Maud' haven't you? Tupp has helped herself to 'Hobbs' & taken it away with her. The people in the flat are also rather fond of helping themselves out of the bookcase. Yesterday when Tupp came she opened my drawer took out my hair-brush & used it. just calling out 'You're using someone's hairbrush. Hope you don't mind.' Am I unreasonable in thinking such things? - I can't bear my belongings to be touched by

other people, except you & you can do anything you like with anything that belongs to me. Winifred has just washed her hair & says they are in front of the fire (being cheerful spite! She only has one pair so has to get them dried & worn to wear tonight. That's a thing I cannot understand - If she wears without cigarettes for a week she'd have enough money to buy herself another pair. I shall give her a pair for a Christmas present. You glad you told me about the covers for Mrs. Fife - I had forgotten it was she who needed them & was thinking it was your brother & had selected sending a pair for Christmas. how I must think of something else I wish the time to make things for everyone but I haven't. It was a class the time to see Wednesday night which made me only get in at 10.

4.

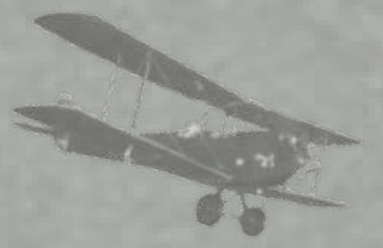
On Wednesday I have 2 lectures from 6.30 to 9.30. I shall go to them when you too find time.

Did you enjoy your dance with Madeleine? I hope there'll be a letter out & bring all the weekend like last time. I wonder what you're doing just at this moment, darling. How I wish I could see.

You're sorry your business isn't very bright & I do wish you'd pay Mrs. Leed. I don't like to think of you owing her money. Still give you a bit if you really want me. Do get it paid, darling. If she's hard up it must make it difficult for her if she doesn't get her money regularly but as you say she ought to let you have a bill.

We won't quarrel, darling. If you come to see me you're not very optimistic about your business, but hope you never again depend on your business? - You never see my mother. Goodbye, darling, all my love, etc.

Will you please tell me how this business goes. I can't face you with the bill if it is.



(241)

Tuesday, 11.30 p.m.

If I had known there would be a letter for me tonight, darling, I don't think I should have gone out. After I'd finished my letter to you I felt so lonely that I didn't feel like staying in by myself. It was pouring with rain & I knew I'd have to go out to post the letter so went to the pictures. There's an excellent cinema just round the corner & the film was a good one, but I felt so lonely all the night.

It was nice to see your letter waiting for me & I feel I want to reply to it right away when I can post it tomorrow & you will have it first post Thursday morning.

I'm glad you've begun to be

something I've made myself.

Yesterday, however, I was doing some Xmas shopping & bought a lovely little glass ornament which I thought would look nice in your drawingroom. I've had it packed up specially for abroad so that it won't break. But if you don't think they'll like it I won't send it. I know that what you told me was true & I haven't an artistic sense & so quite possible my taste in this matter is questionable. It's a tiny plant made of glass - the pot & leaves of white glass with flowers of palest pink. They're absolutely the latest fashion in ornaments & Peter Robinson's have wonderful ones. It was 6/6 so you needn't think I've been spending pounds. Will you give me

busy and I hope you have a good season. Please tell me every scrap of good news you get about it - & the bad as well.

I was most surprised to learn I'd written you a "nasty" note. - Really, darling, it was not intended that way at all. - I can't remember just what it was about but I know I was awfully tired that night & I was perfectly sincere in saying you the energy you must then have been feeling to be dancing - as I thought, & I knew that even if you'd come along at that moment ready to take me to the Savoy I wouldn't have had the energy to go. What made you think it was nasty? I don't think I've had a single thought about

you since I saw you in London when you came back from Switzerland which hasn't been a nice one so how could I write you a nasty note. You must believe me, darling, don't you? Tell me what it was you didn't like. I was so tired & wanted you so much, but I wasn't a wee bit jealous to think you were dancing with Madeline. One little thing - hardly worth mentioning - which irritated me just a bit in your letter I was answering was what you said about someone asking the Consul if there were anything between Madeline & you. You seemed rather proud of it but to me it was so utterly absurd - from what you tell me you don't see Madeline more than half a dozen times in a year. I don't know who the

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/241)

'If I had known there would be a letter for me tonight, darling, I don't think I should have gone out. After I'd finished my letter to you I felt so lonely that I didn't feel like staying in by myself.'

30 Nov 1927

(241)

LONDON
NOV 30
2 5 PM
1927 B

BRITISH INDIA
FAIR FEB 20
FOR TRADE
THREE HALFPENCE

H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Chamber Place,
Sheff.
Yorks.

person was to be made - probably she - must be an awful fool. If you're satisfied, darling, that I didn't intend to be nasty?

You're not sending expensive Xmas presents to your people, darling. - I know perfectly well that their kind thoughts of me don't depend on how much I send. Why I need specially best than I could afford was in an attempt to convey in some practical kindness to me in the summer. Your thoughts about my apparent ingratitude have always rankled & I don't think you have ever or will ever understand about that. This year I intended simply to send small souvenirs - if possible

2.
your opinion, darling?

You don't seem to be very pleased about my present to Family. I couldn't have given the idea a thought if it hadn't been for my bonus, but surely I can do as I like with that. I gave you the last one & you didn't doubt a moment as to whether I could afford it, & this time I hope to be better off still as I'll probably have a rise in the New Year. I know I still owe you £3 & I know I can't afford to give you it before Xmas. Do you think I ought to have paid off my debts before giving such a present to Family, darling? Or have I overdone it for being a mere outsider of your family? If you think that it will worry me rather, but otherwise, please don't spoil my pleasure, darling.

3.
I've just remembered that I didn't receive any letter within our Friday night - the one I had on Sat. was written in the afternoon, or so you put on it. Didn't you send it?

I quite agree with you, darling, about 3 hours' being too much on a Wed. night after a hard day's work, but unfortunately I can't have them just when I would like. It wasn't so much time that is really seemed as this I was going to waste the whole winter, which was why I finally definitely decided I must do something at once. The lectures I wanted to go to most were on Company Law & those are from 6.30 to 8 on Monday evening, which clashes with my swimming. I felt it would be

4
most unwise to give up the only bit of exercise I can get, so I can't attend those lectures. It's the 2 on Wed. night I specially want to go to - one on advanced Bookkeeping & Income Tax (of which I know nothing & ought to do I have now to look after the Annual Returns of all the private Companies in Mr. Wood's hands) & the other on Procedure at Receiving & everything to do with the procedure re Companies. The one on Friday night is on Banking & Exchange & I shall just attend when I feel like it. I wish the 2 I wanted didn't come together but I can't alter it. What would you do if you were me? It's only 12.30 a.m., darling! Goodnight & all my love & thoughts & kisses. I wonder if you have any idea how much I want you. La Chérie.

242

London.
Friday. 9 p.m.

I'm in by myself, darling, until Winifred comes in about half an hour's time. It was my class & I left the office in fairly good time but was held up in the tube. It's an awful experience - the train was packed to its utmost limits - fortunately I had a seat, but there was very little air for breathing. We were stopped in the tunnel about 20 mins. & then crawled to the next station when everyone had to get out. It's an eerie feeling to be there in the tunnel & hear trains getting nearer & nearer until you think they're just about to crash into you & then go off in another direction.

2.

I was for to take for my class so got a bus & came in. Have only just worked up the keyboard after my solitary meal.

I was pleasantly surprised to have your letter the night before last - it's perhaps just a wee bit disappointed in its contents. The delightfully romantic photo I hear of you on the mantelpiece is I think really responsible for the bumps with which I so often come back to earth, where I find how prosaic & unenthusiastic everything is. Do you remember you once told me I was prosaic?

Last night I went to the post with a letter for Mother I'd managed to write during the day, & the night was so fine that I felt tempted to stay out, so went a long walk

3

& really came in about midnight. I was in the mood for adventures, but of course nothing happened, as nothing ever does.

I found out a couple of days ago that I have a secret admirer in the flat. He's only seen me twice - once when I was cooking for Christoph & once in a while perfume & again when I borrowed a lemon for Winifred who had a cold - so it can't be very serious as yet. He's only a boy, about 6 foot tall & 19 years of age. Winifred & I agreed that for it to be really romantic I ought to be a rich woman. We have so little to amuse us, so you must excuse this childishness, darling.

I'm glad you enjoyed the lecture on 'Organic Patience'. That makes another thing we'll talk about sometime.

as you say, what a lot of them!

I wonder if you're at the dance tonight. - I wish I was with you. I'm lonely & very badly wanting something to happen. - I still feel young enough to want some fun out of life.

I hope you enjoy your party at the Finnish Consulate. Are you glad you're again able to attend these social functions now that you're free of me? Does Mrs. Erickson show all parties, etc. - how do you enjoy it, I wonder.

Do you know what I found in my sock the other day? - a pair of your socks. It's forgotten all about them, but have now bought some during wool & will darn them & wash them & send them to you.

Winifred is in hospital at the party. I don't think she's at all in her right frame. I wish you were coming this week end. All my love, darling, A.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/242)

'I'm in by myself, darling, until Winifred comes in about half an hour's time. It was my class & I left the office in fairly good time but was held up in the tube.'

3 Dec 1927

242

10 p.m.

Your letters just come, darling - the first is very late & I've given up expecting a letter tonight. Oh yes, do please come on Sunday. I'll be happy if I can look forward to you coming. It's perfectly convenient as Winifred & I have no plans for the weekend & are not expecting any visitors. I'll send her out & then I can bring you in for tea & will have a nice talk. It's I didn't know for how long I keep in my letters which I should answer. It's not a very nice letter tonight, darling, but I'll leave it as it is. Wish yours had come earlier. Oh, I am glad you're coming. A few hours is better than

nothing & if I know how to myself it's better than a constant when I hardly see anything of you & have to show you with others as usually happens.

I would be lonely to have some danger if they're severe. I haven't found any nice that I've bought lately. We're almost finished the apples. They're still good & have lasted awfully well.

I'm not tired or dull now, darling. I don't mind you coming up with Madeline. It's never given her a thought in connection with you but if you put many more ideas into my head, I'll soon begin to think there's some degree of hell in the Consul's friend's idea.

I'll meet you at 8.15 X on Sunday. All my love & kisses for you & then, darling. To cheer.



243

London.
10.45 p.m.

There isn't much time left I'm afraid to write to you, darling. I've had a very big wash which has taken me almost 2 hours - but it is nice to feel my things are done & only now need ironing. I wonder if you managed to get some sleep on the train. It was awfully nice of you to make such a long journey to see me, darling - especially for so short a time here. But you did seem sure it was worth while when I asked you, didn't you? And you were very nice to me after we came in. I do hope you have to come again before Xmas. But there are only

243
LONDON N.W.1
12.15 AM
6 DEC
1927
POST - LY
CHRISTMAS
H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Quince Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

2 more weekends.
It has been quite nice to-day & I went out for about 3 1/2 hours at lunch time! At 12.15 I had my lunch & then went to look at the shops - the time down Regent Street & to Piccadilly Circus. They are so wonderful & I felt quite proud & glad to be being in London. There was one shop in Regent Street which I'd brass-wash - there were lovely things & awfully reasonable! I'd have liked to have bought some - e.g. pair of brass candlesticks, brass ash-trays, cigarette box, etc. I did buy something - a toaster fork! - for 1/6 & a very nice one with a little don't sitting cross-legged at the top. I almost got a belt to match the sheep on your key but thought it wouldn't be any use except as an ornament.
I'm very sorry to have to tell you that the little clock has stopped again. It was stopped when I got in last night - again! This morning when I got up & also tonight when I came in. That's funny isn't it? However, I've started it again & will see how it goes.
Whipped in much brighter tonight - the weekend's not always done her good. but it doesn't last long enough. She made me laugh tonight - I told you that I didn't want much lunch yesterday but she said I'd had quite nice so

as it was paid for I put it on another plate & put it in our cupboard. You'll be glad to see the woman stared at my plate when she cleared the things away but that it had only just stuck her wily - because there were no plum-stones left! That thoroughly amused us & it doesn't sound at all funny to relate it.
I went swimming tonight & enjoyed it very much. - none of the others wanted to go so I went by myself. It does freshen you up & makes you feel energetic.
I wonder if there'll be a letter from you tomorrow. Hope so. Goodnight, darling, - all my love & kisses & very specially nice thoughts for you being such a darling yesterday. I do love you.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/243)

'There isn't much time left I'm afraid to write to you, darling. I've had a very big wash which has taken me about 2 hours, - but it is nice to feel my things are done & only now need ironing.'

6 Dec 1927

244

London.
4.30 p.m.

I was looking forward to a letter last night but as there wasn't one I didn't mind so much as I could then look forward to it this morning - & it was a nice letter & didn't disappoint me, darling. You are always specially nice though just after you have seen me. The sorry you didn't manage to get any sleep on the train. I slept very well & have felt very bright & energetic all this week.

9 p.m.

I was optimistic to think I could write you a letter at the office, darling. But it is my lecture night till 9.30, & I didn't think I'd

2

got a letter off tonight so wrote a few lines which I was having my tea. However, there was far too much work to do to get off early & by the time I'd finished it was too late & I was too lumpy to rush off to 2 lectures. So here I am instead having just woken up & about to begin my morning.

When I looked in the Gross shop, darling, I specially noticed the door-knockers & if they had been worth while, would have got one for you on spec. But although cheap & quite nice, they are not antiques & then were the original or even very good designs. They were usually about 1/6 to 2/6 each. However, I'll keep a look out & get one if I see anything suitable. (Please excuse the sundress - the paper slipped off my case).

3

I have now finished my morning & am glad I have tomorrow night free for sewing. It will take me all my time to finish what I want to do for Christmas.

A letter from Mother has just arrived. She says Anne has got a new job & is very excited but I haven't any further details. Shall be hearing from her as soon as she writes as it's my turn to write.

I readjusted the price of paper you put behind the clock & it hasn't stopped to-day so far. I think it was a bit too far forward.

You're a darling to say such nice things to me in your letter - I do appreciate & remember them, & I know you wouldn't say anything unless it really meant it.

244

LONDON N.W.1
12:15 AM
8 DEC
1927

POST
CHRISTMAS

Arregger, Esq.
3, Devereaux Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

Wingfield says you can come again as soon as you like if you bring some more oranges - we haven't finished the other yet but are thoroughly enjoying them. I quite shocked Wingfield last night by saying I for my supper. It is rather pretty, isn't it. But they were so nice.
Mother & Father are giving me a present & I can buy something to get something to wear & I can get it & bring it with me. Have you any suggestions to offer?
I hope you come for a week-end, darling, & stay the Sunday & then you can come with me to show your new present. Will you? All my love, darling.
Hans

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/244)

'I was looking forward to a letter last night, but as there wasn't one I didn't mind so much as I could then look forward to it this morning - & it was a nice letter & didn't disappoint me, darling.'

8 Dec 1927



246

LONDON W.1
12 15 AM
12 DEC
1927

POST
- FC
CHRISTMAS

H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Deember Place,
Kell.

Yorks.



246

London.

Sunday, 9.30p.m.

Why did you disappoint me yesterday, darling? I mightn't have minded so much if you hadn't promised me a letter. But I'll probably know in the morning & I expect it will just be that you hadn't time or that you went out Friday & went too tired when you came in.

I have been writing that to-day was last Sunday. There's only next week-end left before Xmas - do you think you'll be coming then? If you don't come before Xmas, can you not come for New Year weekend? If you could do that I wouldn't mind coming back after Xmas. Winifred has a week's holiday & will only be

2

arriving on the Sunday.

We've spent our usual Sunday - rather late up, worked this morning - this afternoon was rather wasted in preparing things for tea & talking to Miss Dodd & fetching some bottles, etc. Tonight Winifred has been to the pier & I've finished a knitty for someone's Xmas present.

Mother's sent me some money to get any suitable things I may see for Mollie's & Betty's Xmas stockings - shall quite enjoy doing that.

There was a letter from Agnes yesterday to say they have an agent in Lucerne from whom tea can be obtained. They have written to him asking him to send samples direct to your brother & hers. Yfs.

3

That is better than taking it from her, isn't it?

You put two nails behind the clock & it is going very well now, but I have to keep straightening it so the weight pulls it down. Did the little one look coming again when you were back last week?

I'm looking forward to our dinner on Wednesday - I think we're having a private room at Rallid. It's sure to be a good dinner but the girls say the menu usually struck you more than is good for them. Anyway I'll be with Mr. Wood I hope & will be all right.

What are you doing to-day? I wonder, darling. Have you also been thinking of last Sunday? It's really my turn now to come & see

4

but I'll be coming at Christmas & then it's your turn again.

We've only 2 or 3 oranges left & we're awfully sorry - they're far nicer than we can get in the shops. The next time you come to town will you let us have a case, darling? - We'll save up for it.

It's bitterly cold to-day but nice fresh. I only went out for a little while this afternoon so I wanted to get a lot of work done. Only 2 weeks to seeing you again, darling, even if you can't come next week. So I'll have to see Mrs. Leach down the street if it's better. Give her some small thing?

All my love, darling & heaps of kisses, to them

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/246)

'Why did you disappoint me yesterday darling? I mightn't have minded so much if you hadn't promised me a letter.'

12 Dec 1927

Miss A. Johnson,
1 c., Oxford & Cambridge Mansions,
Marylebone Road,
N.W.1.

WEST KENSINGTON
7 20 PM
9 DEC
1927
W. 1A

J. LYONS & CO. LTD.
WHOLESALE TEA DEPARTMENT
CADDY HALL
KENSINGTON
LONDON, W.14

11 BRITISH INDIAN STREET, CALCUTTA.
9 PARK STREET, COLOMBO.
77 PATERNOSTER ST. DENVER.
BIRMINGHAM.
JAMES WATY STREET.
SHEFFIELD.
LAMBERT PLACE, LAMBERT STREET.
NOTTINGHAM.
CAMFORD STREET.
MANCHESTER.
NORTH WESTERN STREET ANDWICK.
LIVERPOOL.
BRICK STREET.
LEADS.
MILL STREET, WADLOW ROAD.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
LOVAINO CRESCENT.
GLASGOW.
GRAFFON STREET, C.I.
BRISTOL.
REYNOLDS STREET.
CARDIFF.
c/o G.W.H.LY., GOODS YARD, FETTERAL ROAD.
SOUTHAMPTON.
15 COMMERCIAL ROAD.
BELFAST.
21/23 PRINCE STREET.
IRISH FREE STATE.
28 HIGH STREET, DUBLIN.

9th December 1927.

Miss A. Johnson,
1c., Oxford & Cambridge Mansions,
Marylebone Road,
N.W.1.

Dear Madam,

Replying to your letter of the 8th instant, we beg to inform you that there is an Agent in Lucerne from whom Lyons' Tea can be obtained.

We have sent the address of this Agent on to the friends whose addresses you have given us and we hope they will be able to obtain what they require from him.

Yours faithfully,
J. LYONS & CO., LTD.

(247)

London.

Tues. 10.50 p.m.

I'm so sorry darling, it's so late & I haven't time to reply properly to your two letters. I've had an awful day - only got in at 9 o'clock & since then have had such a lot to do. Winifred has a black toe nail when she got hit at hockey & went to sleep in front of the fire & has been asleep all the evening. - They never washed any of our faces this morning & it's taken us half an hour to do the washing up. It's our dinner tomorrow & I've had quite a few things to get ready as we must take

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/247)

'I'm so sorry darling, it's so late & I haven't time to reply properly to your two letters.'

14 Dec 1927

2
everything to the office & change them & one needs a frock which isn't too fancy. & shoes one can wear in the street & yet with a light dress-
sh. & other things to think of as well. I've just washed my hair.
I had 2 long letters from you yesterday morning which was awfully nice, darling. But what happened to the one you wrote at 6.15 on Friday that it didn't arrive till Monday? - You made quite a few mistakes in grammar & spelling in your letters, darling. - did you write them quickly?

It was nice of you to say you would have come on Sunday if there had been a hip. I'd so love

to see you. Not long this now & then I'll see you again. If you're going to the Seasons on Saturday where will you be on the Sunday?

Please don't be cross, darling, that I haven't time to write any more. I only wish I had enough time to sit quietly a little while & think. I'll write you a longer letter on Thursday & tell you all about tomorrow.

All my love, darling, yours,
Lots of kisses
Ta cherie

(247)

LONDON N.W. 2
12:15 AM
14 DEC
1927



CHRISTMAS

H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Hebble Place,
Leeds.

Yorks.

249

London
Monday 8.30 p.m.

I couldn't be cross there isn't a letter from you to-day, darling, because there isn't one for you either. I don't know whether you'll be very cross with me when I tell you why - I was just too busy to notice the clock. I'd sleep so long in the morning - in I was tired - when there was so much to do & then I had to make up for lost time & worked hard all the evening. I just couldn't believe my eyes when I glanced at the clock & saw 11.20! & I hadn't written a single letter of all I had to write. Are you

249
LONDON N.W.1
20 DEC 1927
POST CARD
FOR
CHRISTMAS
Arregger, S.J.
3, Chamber Place,
Hull.
Yours

2. You quite ask me
of myself is such a thing has
ever happened before.
It was awfully nice of you to
do me have a letter Saturday
morning as well as Friday night.
I was pleased. Next weekend I'll
be with you & I hope we'll manage
to see quite a lot of each other -
do you think we shall? I
don't yet know whether I'll go
off on Friday night but I'll ask
her. Word & then I'll know
definitely. I've just heard also
that William's sister from Paris
will be spending Friday night
here so it will be most convenient
if you will love.

3.
I had a letter from Judy on Saturday
saying she was writing to you by
little note - it is beautifully done.
She said she was writing to you by
the same post so you will probably
have your letter now as well. It's
really very charming of her to
make such lovely things for me
when she doesn't even know me
very well. I also had a
glorious long letter from
Nancy - oh, but I told you,
didn't I?
I've been shopping to-day,
darling, & for my two
presents from Mother & Father
I've bought myself a very
smart little frock for the
office - I'll bring it home so

then you'll see it. It took nearly
all the money & then with the
rest I've got 2 pairs of silk
stockings, in I'm getting rather
badly off for these. I was
undecided between underclothes
which I need very much -
& lined gloves which I also
need, but decided at last for
the stockings. I have now got
all my Xmas presents &
must get busy sending
them off in time for Saturday.
I have to work night at the
office this week so that Mrs.
Wood can go off on Friday.
Her snowed under will work.
I'm glad you're not at
Cotttingham on Tues. (or Mon)
night - will be happy, too?
All my love, Darling!
to write

Letters from Amy Johnson
to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/249)

'I couldn't be cross there isn't a letter from
you to-day, darling, because there isn't one
for you either.'

20 Dec 1927

250

London.
Wed. 8.45 a.m.

I think I've time for just a few lines now, darling, because I know it will be impossible again tonight. I mean to write to you but right in answer to your nice letter but in the middle of the 2nd attempt 11 o'clock struck so I've that up too. I wasn't well last night - no to-day & would stay in bed if it weren't that Mrs. Wood is so busy she's afraid he won't be able to get off on Friday. I had an awful day yesterday and wasn't exactly in a fit state for so much rest, besides Mrs. Wood being very awkward the letter I got. I was only in about 8.45 & had no

2
sooner settled down to a little peace as Winifred had told me she would be out for the evening than she came in & brought for me some coffee. When I'd gone about 10.30 I suddenly lost all control of myself & you'd have been quite ashamed of me, darling, for crying like a baby. I didn't realize that my nerves were getting a bit weak again. And then in my bad week & it's very bad indeed & most inconvenient & I've also got a cold & have been Winifred all my handkerchiefs about a month ago & she hasn't washed them yet. I must do my laundry - an awful lot - tonight & as I'll be late in that's why I know I'll have no

3
time for letters.
I'm awfully sorry I haven't yet rung up Mrs. Hilschi - I never thought of her - no indeed of anything except my work & the draught at the office - but I'd like to find a minute to phone her to-day.
It's quite likely I'll get off on Friday night although Mrs. Wood doesn't sound a bit promising when I asked her. He was nasty last night. But he's so much to do I don't think he quite realizes what impression he's giving - or cares.
I've finished the 6 Kantons I was subcontracting for Henry, Betty & Friday - wonder if you would like them, but they are not very well done

250

LONDON
DEC 21
1927

POST
- F
CHRIS



H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Chamber Place,
Leeds.
Yorks.

because I couldn't see it all well, the key which stitches made my eyes ache rather in the last light. But maybe they'll understand & not be too critical. - do you think so?

It is a wretched morning - raining hard. I must hurry and wait to go to the office & Mrs. Wood a lot of work from yesterday I don't have stayed to finish her letter. I'm so looking forward to seeing you, darling, but I want you to love me & spoil me & be so kind & grateful.

I'm glad you're resigned to doing without your winter holiday - it's good anyway anyway.
All my love & kisses, darling.
Jo Marie

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/250)

'I think I've time for just a few lines now, darling, because I know it will be impossible again tonight.'

21 Dec 1927



(251)

London.

Thurs. 10/11.

Thank you for your letter, darling.
You must excuse me from me
now because I'm afraid I
haven't time. - Yours was very
kind, wasn't it? - It only
arrived tonight.

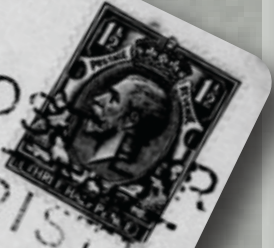
I just want to tell you I can't
manage to get tomorrow night -
I have far too much to do & am
tired out. I'll finish my work
tomorrow night & will come on Sat.
morning so may see you Sat.
afternoon. Where would I find
you? Many lov. Kitchi up.
All my love. A.

(251)

LONDON W. 1
23 DEC
1927

H. Arregger Esq.
3, Humber Place,
Hull.

POSTAGE
CHRISTMAS



Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/251)

'Thank you for your letter, darling. You must
excuse me from me now because I'm afraid
I haven't time.'

23 Dec 1927

252

LONDON N.W.1
12:15 AM
29 DEC
1927

H. Arregger Esq.,
3. Hunter Place,
Kilburn
Yorks.

252

London.
10 p.m.

Darling, you were naughty to leave my Xmas present in an envelope like that without telling me anything about it. I was awfully surprised because I didn't think you would give me one that way. I'd been hoping you would have said something because I wanted to tell you that I would have been quite happy without a present so that Shirley could have the benefit just as if I were one of your sisters. - but you didn't give me a chance to say anything & I didn't care to broach the subject. I don't like to send it back, so what shall I do, darling? Shall

I wait until you come & keep it for you, or do you really want me to buy a present? It is awfully sweet of you to want to spend so much over me & I do love you for it. Thank you, darling.

It was nice of you to come to the station & buy me the oranges. The journey wasn't bad up to Doucasket, but after that it was miserable. I changed to the back carriage & managed to get a seat, but it was bitterly cold - no heating at all & I found afterwards it was because the train was so long. We didn't get in till nearly 5.30 & in temp X the train was so long that it couldn't all get alongside the

platform & everyone had to walk down the corridors inside with their luggage. It was awful. I've got a bad cold & a sore throat & rheumatism across my shoulders & am not surprised.

When I came in tonight Mrs. Hadkinson fetched me into their room & it has been quite jolly. I've just come in here to write to you & my hands are frozen so please excuse the writing.

They've asked me to go with them on New Year's Eve to the Skelke - I shall be 8 of them & they've got a box. It will be quite fun. And then invited

to lunch on New Year's Day. They've just had 2 bottles of Graves. So it remains to be seen whether I'll be regretting their generosity in the morning.

Wednesday doesn't come till Sunday night & it's a bit lonely. There was quite a lot of work at the office but I didn't stay too much.

I hope you do something for New Year's Eve. I hope you find some new dips.

Thank you for being so sweet to me, darling.

All my love & kisses,
Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/252)

'Darling, you were naughty to leave my Xmas present in an envelope like that without telling me anything about it.'

29 Dec 1927



253

London.
Friday, 9.45pm

Darling, I'm a bit disappointed there isn't a letter tonight because I so wanted to know how you are & if Mrs. Leech is back & if you're any more comfortable. There's probably been some thought in the morning & then I'll be glad I haven't had it tonight.

The affair I've got a rather bad cold & sore throat - have just had a hot bath & will soon be in bed. I don't know how whether I'll be going to the Heale tomorrow night as Mrs. Dodd (who lives with Mrs. Hodgkinson) has just returned unexpectedly & I shall feel bound to offer her my place - so as Winifred won't be back until Sunday night it looks a

253
LONDON N.W.1
12:15 AM
31 DEC
1927
H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, St. Andrew Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

2
I'll be by myself. I wish you could come. I'd probably visit on my joining them all the same but I don't care to be the odd one or at least to make the party into an odd number - I don't care much about not having a partner. It hasn't been very busy at the office to-day & I was glad to see that Mr. Wood had been there & I'd been busy to have felt better for it. I shall be very glad when he's back for some time so I shall be so glad. I took 1/2 hr. over my lunch to-day!
There was a Lucas Car waiting for me at the office when I came back from Hans Vetter. How did he know my office address, I wonder.

I told you I had Mr. Hilsen's message to write & gave him your disappointed note & I was very taken very much to-day to get the shop succeeded because my letter is quite so well the morning as a special favour & I'm wondering how much it will be.
Did I tell you about the scarf I've bought with Grandma's present? I don't so want some in I had it away & I love your scarf. I was awfully exhausted & spent nearly 2 1/2 over a bath of steam, but it looks it & make it last so long. I've also bought a very cheap scarf spray in steam & so much water when it

sprayed on, don't you think?
I don't yet know what to buy for myself with your present, darling. I don't sometimes care to split it up & I don't know what "by" thing I want. I would have so much rather you bought me something yourself - may I save it till you come to town & then you buy a present for me with it, or shall I give you it back again towards Maudie's present? I wouldn't like to hurt your feelings as you are a dear to be so generous - you will buy me the present yourself, won't you, darling? I would so much rather.
Do write soon. I want to hear from you & know how you are.
All my love, darling,
& lots of kisses,
The Christie.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/253)

'Darling. I'm a bit disappointed there isn't a letter tonight because I wanted to know how you are & if Mrs Leech is back & if you're any more comfortable.'

31 Dec 1927

(254)

London.
New Year's Day.
3.30 p.m.

Thank you, darling, for your letter & diary collection - it was nice of you to remember I should be needing one for the New Year. I have always carried about with me the one you gave me last year.
I wonder how you have spent New Year's Eve & what you are doing to-day. I'm glad you were invited out to Cottingham & I hope you had a good time. I wonder what the New Year will bring for you - all good luck & much better business, I hope.
You had a most wonderful time & have really quite a lot to sell you. First, however, I'll tell you how I've spent your New Year present. I mean to keep it until you come

2.

& could buy me the present yourself. But yesterday it was so very cold & my hands were frozen in my thin gloves so I suddenly made up my mind that I'd get a pair of beautiful fur-lined gloves. - Oh, they are lovely & so warm & cosy. But I've spent an awful lot of money over them. Have never spent so much before on one pair of gloves. They are quite plain brown suede lined all the way through with beautiful soft white fur. You are a darling to make it possible for me to have them. But I wish you had bought them for me yourself. - They were 25/- - Is that terribly extravagant? - Well the rest of the money I have bought 3 pairs of stockings - 2 good pairs of lovely silk and one everyday pair. Altogether it's a

most beautiful present & you are good to give me so generous a gift. I have now got the things I need most. How I'll tell you how I spent New Year's Eve - I've never before had so good a time because we never bother much about the New Year at home. A big party of us - I in all including 2 children - went to the Theatre & Sea "Oh Kay" - quite the best show in town - we had the Royal Box & it was really quite exciting. We seemed to cause a lot of interest & half way through the band conductor came & told us we were sitting in the same seat the Royal Family had occupied in the afternoon. I was sitting where Princess Victoria had been 2 or 3 hours previously. The show was

(254)

LONDON N.W.1
25 JAN
1926

H. Arregger Esq.
3, Hewerton Place,
Sheff.
Yorks.

tipping & of course lots of chocolates etc. How we all came in to the flat & Mrs. Rodger had prepared a very nice little supper - Oh, at the Theatre everyone sang "Oh Kay" & the people on the stage joining up with our box. We saw the New Year in, drank lots of bottles of Champagne (which has no effect on me at all except to make me sleepy) & played games etc. until we went to bed about 3a.m. I only got down which was great fun - we had a beautiful turkey & staying party to write to you & how I'm going back. I hope you're enjoying yourself too.
All best wishes for the New Year, darling? I do hope you'll be able to visit a successor of it & have everybody to you want. All my love & kisses, etc.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/254)

'Thank you, darling, for your letter & diary - it was nice of you to remember I should be needing one for the New Year.'

2 Jan 1928



255

London.

Tues. 4p.m.

No letter this morning, darling! Were you too shocked by my extravagance? I'm not at the office to-day. I've got a very bad cold and yesterday there was no work at all & I wasn't in the mood to find jobs so I came home in the afternoon. To-day I only went for a few minutes to see if there was much post & have now come in again. I've not been sleeping well for quite a few nights & am rather tired. I think, as well.

Did you ever see such a day as yesterday! It was shocking here. Although I didn't feel well I was in an awfully queer mood. I was quite convinced something was going to happen - it didn't, of course. In the



2.
 afternoon after leaving the office I walked a long way in the rain & then suddenly decided I must go out as night, so I went along to the Turkish & booked 3 seats for 4th London of Allah. I bought myself & our little boy friends I've told you of - the one I didn't appear to notice. He's only 19 and is a most delightful child in some ways whereas in others he's older even than I am. He thinks I'm all the time & says you could never see in his but he really is most interesting & thoroughly like him.

3.
 How was also a letter from Betty & they tell me more about the picnic. You've got 2 soft notes & am writing tonight. Mollie wrote me a very amusing letter & she tells me your promise to take her to the Little Theatre. That's awfully nice of you & I hope you enjoy it. She's quite definite that we shall have to leave this flat & I'm so sorry about it. Really is comfortable, don't you think, & it's so free & easy & friendly a life. But Mollie just can't afford it - she hasn't even got enough to pay the rent's rent, so I don't know what will be the result. Mrs. Hodgkinson is such a dear & was just beginning to know them more. - And we're almost got over the worst part of the winter

when one uses so much gas & slapping is so difficult, etc. The hole up is a debt after this. I wonder if you've yet found anything suitable. I do hope you do, because I also am sure that no change for the better would last very long in Leeds. Leeds' establishment.

You will probably have heard also from your mother as she says she is writing to you next. Did I tell you I had P.C.'s from Lord Henry & Nancy Vetter for Ruas? -

I'll probably be back at the office tomorrow tho' I don't believe my cold has got to its worst stage yet. - it is still very tight & my limbs ache.

Dearest love, darling & all
 my love & kisses
 A.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/255)

'No letter this morning, darling! Were you too shocked by my extravagance? I'm not at the office to-day.'

3 Jan 1928

256

London.
Thursday 1.10.28

Thank you for your letter, darling. I'm
sorry you have a bad cold & have
been feeling rotten. I don't
know what the matter will be
at all. - I'm all up & down -
to day I'm very much down.
This problem of leaving Mrs.
Hoykewicz is worrying me so
well. It's most difficult to know
what to do for the best. I had
a talk with Winifred the other
night & altho' I told her I
wouldn't leave her & wouldn't come
wherever she went, she didn't
seem very keen on the idea.
She said there was no point in
my being a "Christian martyr".

2.

and I got the impression that she
wanted to be on her own so that
she could save more money -
perhaps she feels that if she's with
me still be forced to spend
more than she'd allow by herself.
She says she's going to the cheapest
place she can find - probably
a bedroom in some hotel or
club - & will spend the spare
time studying. I don't want
to do that in the least because
I'll now have enough money
& live fairly comfortably &
I'm also quite well off for
clothes until the summer
comes, & I can now easily
save money even at my
present rate of living. I can't

of course afford to stay here on my
own but I don't know what to do
for the best. Winifred at first
told Mrs. H. she would be
leaving almost at once, then Mrs.
H. told me privately she'd already
counted on our cheque & Winifred
& I of course agreed it wasn't
fair to leave without due notice
altho' I know Mrs. H. wouldn't
have stopped us. So we're managing
to scrape together the money for
the £10 cheque & shall stay
down the month. What would
you do if you were me? You of
course always maintain it's
perfectly easy to get very
reasonable & comfortable digs.

3

but I'm not so clever as you &
haven't seen the time to look
for them. - & I hate dips.
I agree with you that Mrs.
Leach's new attentiveness will
probably soon fade away. I hope
you find something. - I'm not
having any more advertising!
You don't mention anything
about whether you approve of the
present I bought for myself.
Is that because you don't
approve? I wish you'd say 'er
& don't like to imagine you don't
think I've spent the money
wisely. My boy friend took me
out a topping walk the other
evening - I did enjoy it.

5.

The car is a very clever 2 seater.
It belongs to his guardian but
he nearly always uses it.
He's a very good driver.
I'm not now suffering from
an inferiority complex - I'm
getting older & wiser & not
caring so much about things.
I'm no longer being miserable
because I can't leave you in
dorm & such things - at present
I'm so tired I don't care about
anything. Last night I
suddenly felt very broken
& wanted to rouse & fight -
the boy was in & we had a
"rough house." In the end
I fell on my little table &

2

swanked it. I'm sorry about it
but it's no use worrying. One thing
less to take away with us. We
shall have to leave our bookcase &
books & lots of other things. It's
awful. I told you I took Winifred &
the boy to see the "Fountain of Allah"
didn't I? It is a good film but
I haven't much patience with
the theme. Did you see the play?
Thanks for the message from
Mrs. H. By the way do you
want me to price those second
hand coats (or jackets) things for
your Swiss girl? Tell me at
some place if you want me to,
because I'll have no time
after the middle of next week.
Hope you're feeling better.
Love from
John & Mary

Thank you for the message from Mrs. H. I'm not now suffering from an inferiority complex - I'm getting older & wiser & not caring so much about things. I'm no longer being miserable because I can't leave you in dorm & such things - at present I'm so tired I don't care about anything. Last night I suddenly felt very broken & wanted to rouse & fight - the boy was in & we had a "rough house." In the end I fell on my little table & swanked it.

256

LONDON
JAN 2
7 12 PM
1928 E



H. Arreger, Esq.
3, Number Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arreger (Reference L DIAJ/256)

'Thank you for your letter, darling. I'm sorry you have a bad cold & have been feeling rotten.'

5 Jan 1928



(257)

London.

Tuesday 2.30 p.m.

It seems a long time since I had a letter from you, darling. I am wondering if you are still feeling rotten or if you are changing your digs. I am glad that I feel rather brighter though this wretched cold is at a standstill & doesn't improve. I have also now resigned myself to leaving here & Winifred & I are sticking together, so that I'm not now so worried about that.

On Friday I got my new salary of £5. It was topping. - And when we've moved to somewhere cheaper I should be quite well off for money.

Helen wrote me a very cheerful letter yesterday. She seems to be enjoying her new job & is doing rather



well at it. She sent me a copy of the laws in which her article to the children appeared & it is really very good & original. If she goes on in that strain she should produce something quite good. Henry still has to stick to light subjects.

It is a wonderful spring day to-day even in suits & overcoats. He a little while I'm going a motor ride to Oxford with my little friend. He can look up to his guardian & this morning he had a plane call & got him to bring the car back. It's been in Oxford a rather long. (He's a great friend & admirer of Oliver Baldwin, the Socialist himself) We had a lovely run yesterday through London

& went past Whitechapel where the Postman & Liberator's rings were being played. There were hundreds of cars there & an army of chauffeurs & policemen. Mr. Wood was in back on Tuesday. It'll be good for him to stop the late work until now he's back again, & I do so late working late. Last night Winifred & I went to see the show that the two girls are in who are in the film. The show's rotten but they looked very sweet. They had a great deal to do. Helen & Teddy are going to portland soon might they say & somewhere they've been a while - of course, people who can entertain are always in demand. They've some more professional engagements & are going their first

public exhibition of thought reading this weekend. They're rather nervous. They say they are very possibly getting a week's enjoyment at the Spa, Paris, at £10 each. That would be a great step up, wouldn't it?

I do hope your feeling better. When are you going to have your hands seen to? It will be nice to see you in town if Evelyn invites you to accompany her in the car & if you can manage to get off.

How is Brian? I see from the Shell Henry knew that fruit is very cheap. That's probably good for you, isn't it?

Write soon.

Dearest Love
From Amy.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/257)

'It seems a long time since I had a letter from you, darling. I am wondering if you are still feeling rotten or if you are changing your digs.'

9 Jan 1928

(258)
 London.
 Wednesday
 9.30 p.m.

I'm doing awfully badly for letters lately, darling, from everyone. I've not heard from home for about a week which is most unusual. I meant to write to you last night but didn't manage it as I went out to dinner & was back too late to write a letter. Thank you for yours tho' it was rather a funny one. I wonder why you do so enjoy teasing me, especially when I don't get so unreasonably jealous. I am of course curious as to your new acquaintance - which will probably be a day or

2.
 something of the sort, I expect - tho' I'm afraid I'm not a wee bit concerned about it. You forget I've changed & am much more sensible now. All the same it will be interesting to hear more on the subject, as I don't at all understand the abrupt way in which you introduced your new "acquaintance" - you didn't even warn me there was one.

I'm glad Mrs. Leach is improving & I hope the change will last until the "something" happens that you're half expecting. There is certainly no need for you to move whilst things are better here than as you say there's not much fun in it. Winifred & I are moving on Saturday tho'

3.
 when to have an idea. So don't write here after Sat. will you? I'll tell you the new address as soon as I know it.

We've been busy since Mr. Wood came back & I'm very glad we're at work again. He rang me up tonight tho' I hadn't got in & they didn't give me the message. He rang again a few minutes ago & he'd wanted me to go to see his flat, but of course it's too late now. They are stupid people here. Some of them are nice but others are not & they change so.

Last night I went out to dinner with my friend at a topping German restaurant off

(258)
 LONDON N. W. 11
 12 JAN 1928
 H. Arregger, Esq.
 3, Chamber Place,
 Shell.
 Yorks.

Tottenham Court Road - a quite reasonable place. Maybe we can go sometime when you're here. I ought to have gone to my classes tonight as they have now started again but Winifred had a friend to dinner whom she particularly wanted me to meet so I came in - they have gone to a show & I've just finished washing up.

There doesn't seem to be much to tell you - Hope I'll be a letter from you in the morning. Are you going to be able to see your brother in Paris? I hope you manage it.

Much love,
 Yours,
 A.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/258)

'I'm doing awfully badly for letters lately, darling from everyone.'

12 Jan 1928



259

London.
Saturday 7.30 p.m.

Thank you for your letter yesterday, darling. I'm sorry now I said don't write here after Sat. because now there won't be a letter on Monday & we're here till Wednesday. We're moving into a hotel in Oxford Circus - are having 2 cubicles at 9/- each. Goodbye to our little home. It will mean spending all our time out because there's nowhere to be in, except in bed. First of all I'm going to save up for a week's holiday which I need, and then I'll save up for furniture for a flat of my own. In a year's time I should have enough to start with & then I shall take an



unfurnished flat. I must have a room of some sort to aim for, so have decided that's the best thing to do. I shall be able to save quite £2 per week. As soon as the weather's fine enough I'll join a tennis club & then the problem of what to do with myself out of office hours won't trouble me.
However, this is enough of my affairs, which by the way don't seem to interest you much. - Except to tell you why we're moving now. I thought Winifred had the money to pay the rent for the second, but she just found out she had only paid a fortnight's rent & had to move at the end of the fortnight, which is to-day. We can't however, move into our new place till Wed. - I shall have to finance "Winifred till the end of the month!" I hope your new dog will turn out well. - if you decide to move into them. I think I should risk it if I were in your place, tho' the moving is such a bother, isn't it? - & then I think you will miss your own sitting-room.
Mollie told me you were taking her to the Little Theatre tonight. I hope you're enjoying it. - Mollie will be any way, as she hasn't yet reached the critical state. & enjoys anything she takes to. just because she hasn't taken out. It's nice of you to take her.
No word went to Manchester last night & is there till Tuesday. I am

glad to be having a quiet weekend as I don't feel very well.

About the bookcase, Winifred & I thank you for your offer to buy it but desire to inform you it is not for sale. If it weren't so inconvenient to send it such a long way, we'd be pleased for you to look after it until we have our own home again, but it isn't of course practicable. If you need one, I'm sure you'd be able to pick one up cheaply somewhere in Shell. We're not selling any of our belongings as we shall want them again - or hope to. We're leaving the bookcase here for the time being. Thank for Fidy's message.

Dearest love,
Amy.

Our new address is -
44, Workman St.
W.1.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/259)

'Thank you for your letter yesterday, darling. I'm sorry now I said don't write here after Sat. because now there won't be a letter on Monday & we're here till Wednesday.'

16 Jan 1928

(260)

Queen's House,
44 Montague Street,
W.1.

Thursday, 6.30

Thank you for your letter yesterday, darling. I understood that you would have written if you'd known my address, altho' I've been having most of my letters lately at the office as my movements were so uncertain. This morning I had a pleasant surprise from Mollie. She's made me 3 bunches of awfully nice wool flowers for wearing on my coat collar. She does them beautifully but I never expected her to make me so many as 3 different kinds - wearing 4 will

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/260)

'Thank you for your letter yesterday, darling. I understood that you would have written if you'd known my address, altho' I've been having most of my letters lately at the office as my movements were so uncertain.'

19 Jan 1928



2.
He can't give me for Laura. She tells me about her night out with you & says she enjoyed it even so much & hopes you did. & that you bought her lovely shoes & a programme - "as the person in front had it on." It is nice of you to take her out. Mollie mentions it so well and seems quite pleased.

We moved last night in pouring rain. The loss I say about our new domicile the better. For what it supposed to be, it is quite good. & the fact regarding it as a joke. I won't be reasonable & I won't worry. I'll just take things as they come & save money. Can already looking forward to my holiday &

3
(260)
to my own new home in the far distance.
I'm sorry to hear about your business trouble - I wonder if you are now in Kiel or if your had to postpone it until next week. I will be nice to see you in town if you can manage to come back this way. When will you know? I'm glad your not discouraged will you business worries and I do hope something good will come along which will give you an opportunity to make some capital out of your talents. As soon as your definitely decided I'll ask Mr. Wood if he'll keep his eye open for a suitable opening, if that

260
LONDON
AP 15
815PM
1928.G
BRITISH INVENTION
FAIR, FEB 24
FOR TRADE MARK
H. Arregger, Esq.
7, Amber Place,
Keele,
Yorks.

like me to. I wish you all good luck.
I'm writing this at the office when I shall have spent most of my time. My bedroom is just like a dressing ball break. We have to be in by 10.30 - lights out 10.45! Oh late night per week till 11. What joy! I was rather scared last night - my room looks dead down on excavation going on & men were hammering all through the night. Suddenly I woke up with a start & heard a terrific bang - the window was shaking in the wind & the rain was beating in. I suddenly thought of building subsidizing & checked over to check any windows I found this morning it was a horror in one of the pilot's room which has slumped to show by the wind & something.

261

Amy Johnson,
44 Grosvenor Street, W.1.

Sunday, 11.30
a.m.

Thanks ever so much for your letter, darling. I was glad to see it waiting there on the table for me. Mummy would cross yours so you would have one as well. I do hope when you go to that you'll come back by London 'cos it would be nice to see you again. I hope you'll manage to get to Lucerne for a few days to see your brother before he leaves. I can quite understand how much you'd want to see him before he goes for such a long time. When would you be going if you managed it? It's not much good telling



2. you about this place. It's awful but better in some ways than I expected & worse in others. Our rooms are wooden partitioned cubicles - but altho' they are as small as bricks in the surrounding hotels, & very similar, yet they are better than curtained partitions. Have to be in every night at 10.30 & lights out at 10.45. I was in last night on the show of 10.30 & the door was locked. - They were too early 'cos lots of others were locked out too. It's the problem of evening & week-ends that's the worst by far. It's too late to set up in ones cubicle for long, & the drawing room is an awful place. It's usually crowded out, but at present I'm lucky enough to

3. have a seat by the fire - what, however, is almost out & slow in coal. I probably would be able to save more money if one could stay in, one would go out & to go out means spending money - in town. One evening I had to eat a big supper. - Friday & the price & yesterday afternoon I walked, sea, walk, price, supper. Today I don't know what on earth I'm doing. It's pouring with rain. - There's one of the girls beginning to play tennis. The walls of the drawing room are covered with birds.

I can see I'll be drawn to church on Sundays at this rate. Here awfully busy at the office. I shall spend most of my time there now. I have a big job to do tomorrow, which will keep me going the whole day. Mrs. Wood is a great sport. The other day I took her to the Annual Returns & Linnets' Book etc. of one of his companions to sign & he said "I can see what will happen in a few years when I'm an old man - you'll buy me everything & all I'll do is sign." - He was in a very funny mood & said all sorts of ridiculous things. It was after his little that, though. This tennis-playing job will send me crazy soon. - oh dear, & everyone's beginning it!! What a life. All my love, darling A.

Lucerne players are long for Sunday! I must go now & see out at 10 o'clock.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/261)

'Thanks ever so much for your letter, darling. I was glad to see it waiting there on the table for me.'

23 Jan 1928

(262)
 Ames House,
 44 Mark Lane St. W.I.
 Thursday.

I'm sending this to Switzerland, darling, hoping it will catch you sometime during your visit home. I think you were very sensible to hurry off to see your Mother & Fred & I hope you are having a very happy reunion. I answered your first letter the night before last in bed but didn't post it when I got your note to say I'm were leaving at once for Switzerland.

Please give my love to your Mother with my sincerest wishes for a very happy Birthday.

2.

If you will let me know when the Birthday is - if it isn't already too late - I'd like to write her a special letter for it. Will you? Please also give my love to Fredy & tell her I wish her every success. I don't expect she'll like the American people but it will be a change for her. Would it? I hope she will be happy too. And please give my love to everyone else - to Mary & Gladys & Emily - I'm hoping to get as far as Geneva during my summer holiday & if I do would like to call & see Mary too. Could I?.

3.

I hope you have a way with you all together & manage to come back through London. It will be awfully nice to see you again as it seems a long long time since I saw you last. I know a nice German restaurant to go to, but it's a pity I'll have to be in so early - 10.30!! Mother's party to get to Bournemouth will be held on Monday - they're going by car & I'm sure they will be there as well. I'll probably see Mother soon on the way back if she goes - she's having lots of trouble with words at present.

(262) 27 Jan
 Bern H. Arregger,
 Hochbühlstr.,
 Luzern Switzerland

It will be the weekend after next probably if I do see her. I've been to the Park Hotel Bath tonight & thoroughly enjoyed it. Shall go again this Sunday. I'm visiting Vernon & Vera Norbeck. Let me know as soon as you know yourself about coming back by London would you? Love to Mrs. Agli & kind regards to Hans Vetter. Will you please show him my best regards & remember me.

Dearest love,
 Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/262)

'I'm sending this to Switzerland, darling, hoping it will catch you sometime during your visit home.'

27 Jan 1928



263

PHONE CITY 9288

NUMBER TWENTY ONE,
BUCKLESHURY, E. C. 4.

Thursday.

Thank you, darling, for your letter. I do not know whether this will catch you as your movements seem uncertain, but am risking it. I'm glad you're having such a good time & that all of you are together once more. I can imagine you'll be having some splendid times. Thanks for delivering my messages & for telling me the bits of news. Perhaps you have gone to Genoa with Henry, per? - What made you suddenly think of that? Had you a job offered or did you just want to extend your holiday? Has your mother finished her holiday in the Rigi? I hope it has done her good & that she is now very well.

I am glad Hans Vetter is engaged. I hope he will be very happy. Please give him my sincere congratulations if you see him, will you? He's not taken long to

Make up his mind!

There is very little news to tell you from this end except that Mother hopes to be in town next Thursday & Friday. I wish you were going to be here this week-end. I don't know what made you think I was having people here, or something. I have nothing to do at all - I do so loathe weekends now. To be out costs money & to stay in is worse than you can have any idea of. I see very little of Winifred 'cos she sits in the lounge & smokes, which I hate doing. So I go out, & she doesn't seem very much pleased in continuing like this. Except that she determinedly saved up for my week's holiday due from last year, & she'll save up for my summer holiday.

Hope to see you soon.

Love to everyone & to yourself.

Yours, Amy.

Will you please thank
Henry for the postcard

263

LONDON E.C.
FEB -
RECEIVED
1928 E



Herrn H. Arregger,
Hochbühlstr. 7,
Luzern.

Postfach

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/263)

'Thank you, darling, for your letter. I do not know whether this will catch you as your movements seem uncertain, but I'm risking it.'

2 Feb 1928



Amy Johnson postcard to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/264)

'I am here for the weekend. We only decided to come late yesterday afternoon & we're going back tonight.'

5 Feb 1928



265

London. 1.30 p.m.

I've just a few minutes in my lunch hour to write you, darling. I don't care to write letters in the hotel - it is so crowded & noisy & the cubicles too cold. Are you busy now your returned? I wonder. I hope there was some business waiting for you & that you'll soon get clear with the bank & feel more relieved of your worries. You'll tell me if you hear anything from her. Pleasants, would you?

I had a little wa taste of the Quinella last night just to remind myself of the flavour. It really is delightful. I still have in my hand the rest of the other bottle. do you remember I somehow never came to drink it

265

LONDON
FEB 7
8 15 PM
1928.H

BRITISH INFAIR FEB 20 FOR TRADE

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, Newber Place,
Yorks.

2.
When you were not here to enjoy it will see. - Just besides, a liquor with good coffee with it & I haven't been able to have that.

I've been this morning to get seats for the theatre when he'll come. He's going to eat for an awful lot of money. He's afraid. Winifred & brother, I'm going our evening - then - to see "Hart" - a very amusing comedy - on Friday night & I are going to see "The Girl Friend" - a very good musical comedy. At the Little to the Audacious Players in Mrs. Worrain's Profession" - as it can take up to the Sat. I expect Winifred & I will go. He'll not see on 3 weeks with in succession. It's strange how everything comes at once.

Last week it was "Huan & Superman" & on the Sat. there was an entirely performance starting at 5 o'clock. We awfully wanted to go but couldn't as we had to be in at 10.30 - that was one reason why we were so fed up at the weekend. At the end of Feb. there's a Metropolitan Concert & I absolutely don't want to miss it & I will mean staying the night on Thurs. & Fri. I'm staying with brother at the Regent Palace Hotel. Winifred will stay at her sister's but she can't put 2 of us up.

We're very busy at the office. Winifred's fed up with the factory & wouldn't be writing. I have had a good 10 hours sleep but am still very tired. However, I don't show

it as I expect yours that I'm doing - I think it was broken & lack of any definite aim in life which was to make me look so amazingly tired & listless always. It irritates me to see Winifred hanging her head down, etc. when she's had even so much more sleep than I have.

Now I must work hard to make up for this little interlude. It seems a long time since I used to write you every day, don't you think? It's not the "best thing" that we see each other so little. - I've never found that "absence makes the heart grow fonder"; have you?

Best of luck & lots of love.
Darling
Yours.
A.

I mean to open the letter to see if it's all right & if you've got the letter from you so I can't say when you'll see it. I'll be in the office on the 10th.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/265)

I've just a few minutes in my lunch hour to write you, darling. I don't care to write letters in the hostel - it is so crowded & noisy & the cubicles too cold.'

7 Feb 1928

(266)

London.
Thurs. 1.15 p.m.

I'm answering your letter right away, darling, whilst I have a few moments to spare, as I'll have no time in the evenings till Sunday. I didn't think of you writing to the office & was disappointed because I thought you hadn't written.

I would have come to see you on Monday at 5.35 but I really couldn't leave the office so soon, although I wasn't very busy, as you said. I only arrived here about 12 in the morning, left at 12.50 & wasn't back till about 3.30, so I couldn't very well leave again at 5. I had also to make up for lost time &

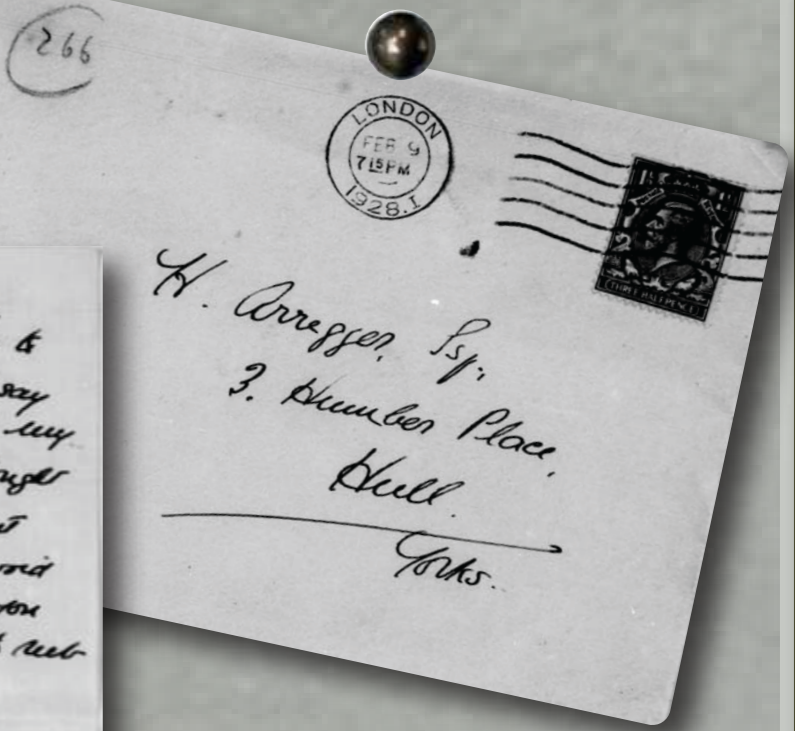
2.
was there till 6.30. Had to wash my hair, at which I was rather fed up 'cos I was longing to get into comfortable bed. - I had a cake which I got in instead, but it wasn't so nice.

I'm glad Mrs. Lead has had your room cleaned, that it's more comfortable, but I can quite imagine you're so much kinder to please after the spanking you've been having. If you look out for other quarters I wish you the best of luck.

It would be nice to see the Consul in town, it's very good of him to think of taking me out to dinner. But it's strange how everything comes at once! After this week there isn't anything

3.
at all, until I go on my holiday. That of any note is something to look forward to. Why do you say I only "casually" mentioned my holiday plans to you? I thought I'd told you a good deal about them. - but I wanted to avoid saying too much in case you should think I was trying to rub it in indirectly about my missing my holiday too far through you. I don't mind now, 'cos I'll get it all the same, though it won't be so nice as Switzerland.

I don't quite understand part of your letter, darling. I believe I am happier since I came to London, but I'm not sure as to the reasons. There is only one



thing I know & that is that the thought of you no longer makes me miserable, & for that I can't be thankful enough. You had the power to make me intensely happy or acutely miserable, but for some reason I don't know you no longer affect me like that - He thinks you so little. Are you happier also now? And do you still feel like that father you told me long talks to you again, but we seem to choose the most foolish subject even when we do meet, as for example on Wednesday.
Yours Luck with your business
All my love,
Amy



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/266)

'I'm answering your letter right away, darling, whilst I have a few moments to spare, as I'll have no time in the evenings till Sunday.'

9 Feb 1928

I hope your sore throat is better.

(267)

London.
Tuesday, 2.15.28.

We're very slack so far to-day, darling, for a wonder. We always make up later tho' for this leisure!

Thank you for your letter tho' it was an awfully short one & not particularly nice. Why did I only receive it this morning when you wrote it Sunday afternoon. Did you forget to post it? I thought you hadn't written at all during the weekend.

I had a splendid time whilst Mother was here. On Thursday we went at the Regent Palace after the office, where we stayed. We dined at the Chantrelle & Mother let me choose what wine I wanted. Then we met Winifred & went to see "Thank." It's a very humorous play & to a long time since Winifred & I have laughed so heartily. On Friday Mrs. Wood gave me the afternoon off. We had lunch at the German

My darling Hans, I'm just waiting about like a milkmaid. I don't see you so much for tonight. I'm so tired I can't sleep. I don't know what I shall do. I don't know what I shall do. I don't know what I shall do.

Restaurant & then filled in the afternoon with shopping, etc. It began to pour with rain & hailstones so we rushed into a picture theatre. But it was a rotten film & we came out soon. We had dinner at the Regent's Palace, - cocktails, etc. - & then saw "The Girl Friend" which is a very good musical comedy. Mother left at 1.30 on Saturday & I had a letter from her to-day to say it's a good thing she's gone home as the maid is hopeless, Fiddlers all & Betty very much wanting her. I shall see her this morning & we're going out together tomorrow night.

I'm sorry you haven't much work to do. There's nothing worse don't you think. I wish I'd a bit more now. I hope your lady pupils are a success. I'll be a fool if she pays 10/6 that!

The chocolates are delicious. There are quite a lot of the special ones I like, though they're mixed. I am

267



H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Gower Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/267)

'We're very slack so far to-day, darling, for a wonder. We always make up later tho' for this leisure!'

14 Feb 1928

Uncle Willie is coming to town tomorrow, so I expect I'll go out to suggest again to see him & Lemon, Kara.

London.
Thursday
9.30 p.m.
(268)

Thank you for your interesting letter, darling. I can hardly believe you're really giving up your business, though I'm glad that you have made the decision to do something. You have been very quick getting clear with the Bank, haven't you? Only a little while ago I thought you said it would take 2 years of very good business to enable you to pay your overdraft. Anyway, I am awfully pleased you are relieved of that worry & I hope things will run smoothly until you find the new job which will be suitable to you. As you say, there's no hurry, & it's worth waiting for "just the right thing" to turn up. I hope indeed that

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/268)

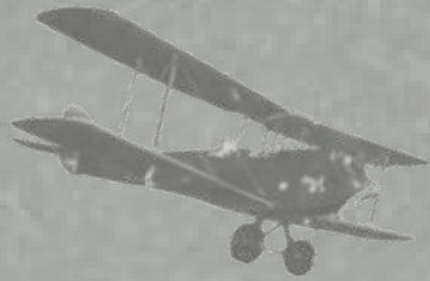
'Thank you for your interesting letter, darling. I can hardly believe that you are really giving up your business, though I'm glad that you have made the decision to do something.'

17 Feb 1928

(268)
LONDON W.1
FEB 17
12.25 AM
1928
BRITISH INDUSTRY
FAIR, FEB 20-MARCH 1
FOR TRADE BOND
H. Arregger, Esq.
3, St. Andrew Place,
Hull.
Yorks.

job you offered & why you decide to do, won't you? I awfully want you to get something good, not leave any more financial worries. All my love, Darling, A.

you'll soon be lucky & get what you want. I wonder what you'll do will yourself when you're no longer any worries & financial difficulties. You'll have to take up teaching again then for something to do. I wonder where a new job will take you. Shall you just follow a good job, or will you only go to certain places? I don't think it will be best for me to speak to Mr. Wood. It would be much better if you either wrote or came to see him. His private address is 15, Oxford Mansions, W.1. Oxford Circus. I don't have many opportunities of speaking to him apart from business, & I wouldn't like to spoil your opportunity. Will you write to him. I'll mention it first if you prefer. I had a topping time with Evelyn last night. We went to see "The Yellow Mask" the new play at the Carlton. She returns to Hull on Saturday, but not with the car. I hope your throat will soon be better. Write & tell me all the news



(269)

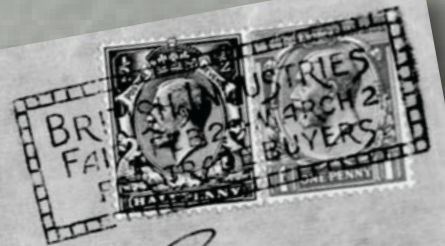
London. Tues. 9p.m.

You don't waste much of your time over me nowadays, do you, darling? It is nearly a week since you wrote & you are not overburdened with work, are you?

I am writing now to tell you of our change of address as we are leaving here on Saturday, & my time till then is very full up. Tomorrow night I am going to see a friend in South Kensington, Thursday I'm going to a concert at the Queen's Hall to which Chuck Willie has headed me - he's been here this weekend & I saw him on Sunday when I spent the day at Sybil's with Vernon & Nora. On Friday Winifred & I are going to hear Philip Guedella speak - as you'll

(269)

LONDON W.1
FEB 22
12:45 AM
1928



H. Arregger Esq,
3, Stumber Place,
Hull.

Yorks.

know he is a very witty writer of poetry, etc. & an M.P. It should be very entertaining.
We are extremely busy at the office & every night I only leave about 7.30. Saturday it was 3 p.m. before I got away & even then it took me all Monday to clean up oddments & still left me with important jobs unfinished. I'm afraid I'm getting a wee bit run down (at the least bit of) effort tires me, altho' I'm not a bit sleepy & listless, as you so hate me to be. I don't think I'm ever like that now. Our new address is 24 Castlemore Road, W.9. It is only a single room but very well furnished & cozy & overlooks gardens & tennis courts. It should be topping in the summer. I wonder if you've had any good jobs offered. Why not slip over to Manchester some Monday to see her boat.

He is also every Monday. But of course very busy & goes up with appointments. You need to see people personally & I'll try to see you at your "presence" which job for you! Best of luck. Lots of love.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/269)

'You don't waste much of your time over me nowadays, do you, darling?'

22 Feb 1928

(270)

21 Ducklesbury. S.C.H.

23/2/28

Thank you for your letter, darling. This is only a hurried note 'cos I'm awfully busy & hardly know how to get through my work. It was 8 again - last night & even then I didn't nearly finish! Mr. Wood will be in the office on Saturday morning, but I would suggest the best time to see him would be just after 1 o'clock 'cos he's always so busy on Sat. morning. He catches the 11.15 train at 7.30, I think it is. If you come on Friday night let me know in good time 'cos then I wouldn't go out with Winifred, but would meet you in the free on Sat. except for morning, which won't take long as our trunks etc. are being collected beforehand.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/269)

'Thank you for your letter darling. This is only a hurried note 'cos I'm awfully busy & hardly know how to get through my work.'

23 Feb 1928

(270)

LONDON
FEB 25
7 15 PM
1928



H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Stumber Place,
Sheff
Yorks

Sunday, however. He afraid I've booked for the afternoon at any rate. You remember Jack & Ken at Sheffield? - Winifred has renewed a guarantee with them. They're working at the London Hospital - & were going to tea on Sunday. I cancelled it last week 'cos Uncle Willie was here. I don't mind for myself, but it means stopping Winifred as well & she's taking off the days to seeing Jack again. (The by us means taking off the days to seeing Ken!). I do hope I'll see you & that you'll be successful in landing this or any other good job. Maybe Mr. Wood'll advance the money! He lends money to heaps of people.

Love
Yours. A!



271

PHONE CITY 9286

NUMBER TWENTY ONE,
BUCKLESBURY, E. C. 4.

2nd March 1928

1.30 p.m.

My dear Hans,

I have not been waiting for you to write - as perhaps is the reason for your silence - but have been absolutely unable to find the time. I have been working at top pressure ever since you left and have never been in yet before 9 o'clock - after which time I've been striving to get my unpacking done, stockings, collars & cuffs etc. washed. I am making time to write this now just to tell you I'm leaving tonight for Lewsey, Cornwall. I haven't overmuch which I could not do to things. If it. I have not fixed any place to stay so can't give you any address & I'll probably go to 2 or 3 different places. However, I'll write you from there.

I told you last week would open a file for you & he has done so - look out for the lengthy bit in due course!

I wanted to write the very night you left because I didn't think the time we spent together here was very satisfactory, as it all seemed

to be for meals & you spending money. Perhaps it is because for so long I've been used to being the only one with any ready cash & doing most of the paying myself. Anyway it did worry me rather that most of the time we were together seemed to be for meals, for which you paid. Maybe I'm getting more independent than I used to be. I don't know.

Thank you very much for the flowers. It was nice of you to think of them. They are still quite fresh.

I gathered the present position of your case from the letter to me. Wasn't this morning - oh, how nice! I must go. You get up well soon lately & the kindest & awfully sorry. Am looking for this holiday.

Much love

Amy

271

LONDON
MAR 2
8:55 PM
1928



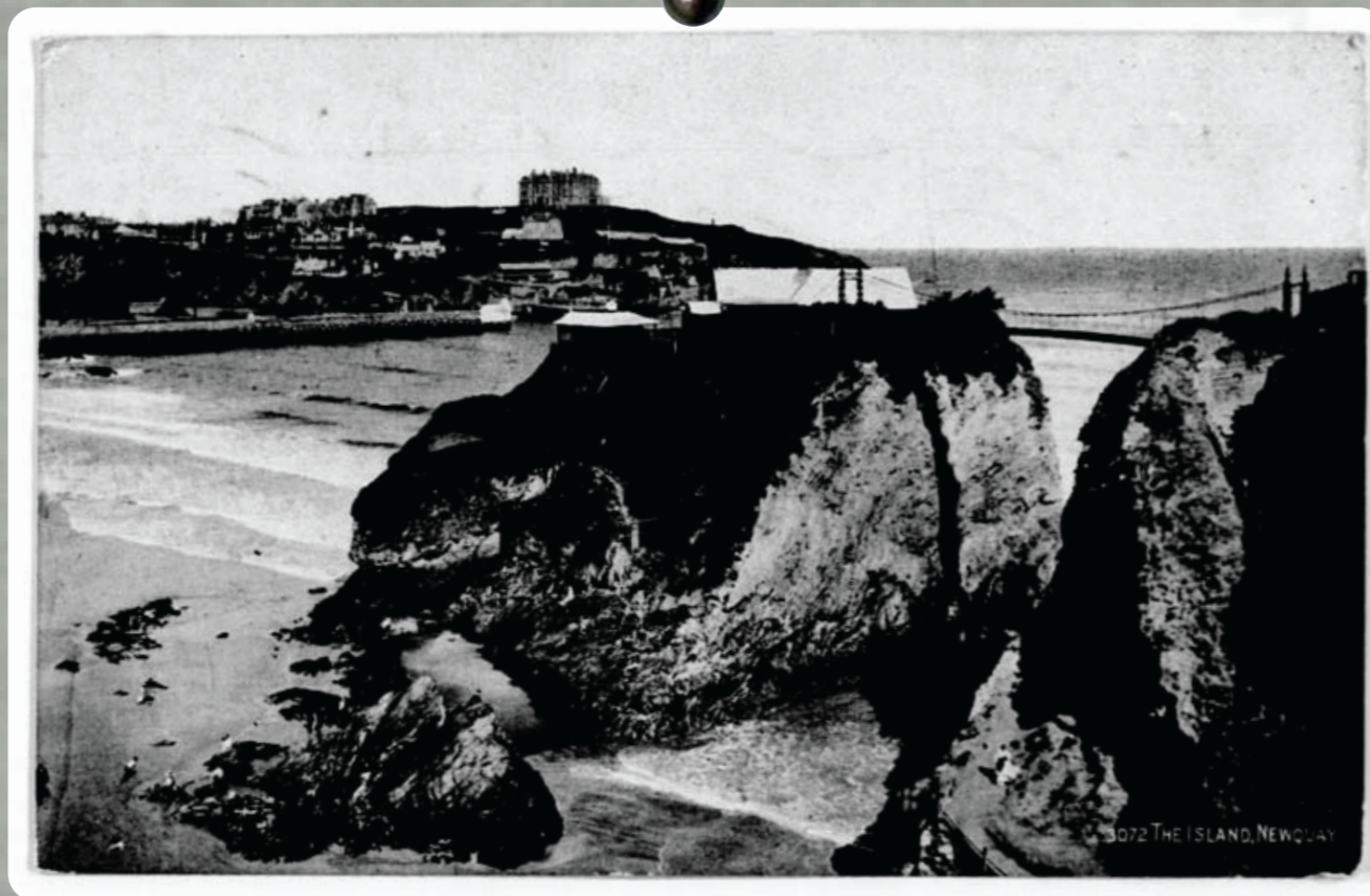
H. Arregger, Esq.
7, Humber Place,
Dull.

Trks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/271)

'I have not been waiting for you to write - as perhaps is the reason for your silence - but have been absolutely unable to find the time.'

2 Mar 1928



Amy Johnson postcard to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/271A)

Postcard from Newquay

4 Mar 1928



272

"Tucuru",
Island Crescent,
Newquay.
Monday 10a.m.

I'll write you a few lines before I go out darling, because it's not fine enough to write out of doors & I expect the post will go early. It's not raining but weather is the new skinning. I wish you were here 'co although I enjoy being on my own, yet you & Wilfred are two people who usually help me to enjoy sleep more. You would, I think, like this private hotel when I'm staying. I was recommended by a young fellow who brings eggs to the office from a farm in Paulty who have a large poultry farm. Mrs. Lander, the proprietress, is his cousin. She is real Communist. & the husband is a retired Army Captain who has been many years in India. He is very amusing & quite interesting. I don't think the two of them get on awfully well together. He

is always teasing her & altho' the situation is often funny for a third party, yet it is at her expense & I don't think she likes it. They are both awfully nice to me. I told them I'd come here because I was feeling run down - which, according to them, was obvious. - altho' I'm getting a bit more colour already. They give me awfully good food - excellently cooked - I've had chicken 3 times - & lots & lots of Communist cream.

I wasn't able to sleep at all on the train on Friday night. - it was rather crowded & I couldn't sleep sitting up, altho' I was awfully tired after a very busy day at the office & a rush to catch the train. - even at 9.50! - I didn't get in till 8.30 & had them to pack. I was a bit worried about a lot of work I'd sent an awful woman to get our luggage moved & she came down a few nights ago & swore she'd never received my letter. Of course she's got it but there's nothing to

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NEWQUAY CRES.
2. 30 PM
5 MAR 28
NEWQUAY CRES. 2. 30 PM 5 MAR 28
5 M

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, St. James Place,
Oxford.

Yrts.

2.
prove it. Wilfred was in when she came & she had to give her f- to get rid of her & then she waited in the street for me & I had to give her another f.

I had to change at a little place called Pen at 8.45 in the morning. I was the only one to get out of the train there & they told me the train for Newquay left at 6.45 so I went a long walk right up to the top of a very steep hill overlooking the sea - there was nearly a full moon & lots of stars, & it was wonderful to watch them all fade & the sky get lighter. At the top of the hill I'd a splendid view & there was a beautiful sunrise although the sun wasn't right up when I had to turn back. I got in the train which was waiting when I got back & which went out at 6.45. It went to Lostwithell & then turned round & went back, which I thought

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/272)

'I'll write you a few lines before I go out darling, because it's not fine enough to write out of doors & I expect the post will go early.'

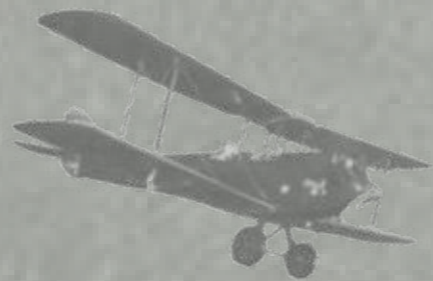
5 Mar 1928

Rather than go & then went on to a place called Towey on the South coast, where everyone had to get out. I told the guard I wanted to be at Kewenau & he said the Kewenau train had left Par at 6.15. I don't know how the mistake came about because there is similarity between Kewenau & Towey (pronounced "Toy") or between 6.15 & a quarter to seven, as they told me. However I wasn't sorry. I had an hour to wait in Towey & was glad to be able to explore. It is very pretty river scenery - soft & warm with plenty of flowers, but not too hot & wild like the North coast. The river village is awfully quaint - lots of smuggling used to be carried on, & is quite a cosmopolitan little place. At the tiny quay there are about 6 different consulates & places for "Hermen" & "Damen." I got the

3.

train all right this time because the guard & all the porters seemed to make it their special business to look after me. I had to change again at Lesterville, which is a tiny mining village - lots of poles grow on the platform - & again at Par, where a porter enquired if I had had breakfast. I said "No" & he directed me to a house where I could have it. The people were extremely nice. It was then only about 8.45, yet there was plenty of hot water in the bathhouse & they quickly had a good breakfast ready. I was in Kewenau about 10.30 when I left my case at the station & explored. As this place looked nice & had a good sea view I fetched my case & came here just in time for lunch. Right out on the headland is a glorious hotel where the Prince of Wales sometimes comes to stay, as he's very fond of Kewenau. He's been twice

the last, within the last 5 weeks & Prince Henry came here to convalesce after his influenza. The town itself is ugly, but personally I prefer this haphazard sea-front to the orthodox promenade, & pier, etc. Yesterday morning I had breakfast in bed & to my great disgust slept to 12.30. It was a glorious day. However I enjoyed the afternoon - went on a long walk after I'd packed the portmanteau. In the evening I went another long walk by moonlight. Had quite an adventurous time climbing down steep steps in the black cliffs & exploring dark caves & climbing rocks to top & get back by the beach. I wasn't able to & had to return up the steps. This afternoon Mr. Rauden & I had planned to play tennis, but the wind is thick with mist & doesn't look promising. The west will pass much too quickly. Do write & tell me the latest news in your job-hunting. You have been reflecting me. With love C.



273
 Cornwall
 Sunday 11.3.28

My last day, darling! How sorry I am because I've grown to love Cornwall so much & have had such a delightful time. I've really managed to see a great deal in so short a holiday & have done a lot of walking. The other day I walked 15 miles yesterday 10, & the day I set off for Land's End I must have walked more than 15 miles. - & every day I've walked somewhere. I wonder how many miles I've walked altogether. - I'll try & calculate tomorrow when I'm in the house.

I wonder if you're in town to-day. Even if you are & stay all tomorrow I don't suppose I shall see you because I don't arrive till the evening. I write to ask Mrs. Wood if I could have back on Monday & he replied with such a long letter to say certainly & then gave me full details of some jobs he wants me to do when I get back. He is funny. Even if I left here by the first train it would hardly be too late to go to the office, so I shall only leave by the later one.

You can't imagine how much I've enjoyed myself. - It was only enjoyed by

one thing. I arranged just to fit it in before my 'bad week' started & then it came a whole week too soon & from last Tues. till to-day my walking has been accomplished under difficulties. I've felt more tired than I should have done ordinarily.

Yesterday I went another day's walking. Hip - Low I have enjoyed them whole-day haunts all by myself, hardly ever meeting a single person. - In spite of your contempt for my "pomp of derivation" - or lack of one - I've gained just a reputation in this area for my ability to find my way - which isn't easy in Cornwall. There are scarcely any sign-posts & the roads are haphazard & perfectly good roads will suddenly degenerate into a muddy cart-track & then into a pond & finally into a mere fall & sometimes back off altogether. The only way to go certainly here would be to motor to one of the large places, park the car there & then walk.

My walk yesterday was to Penrynford. - or rather I went by train - about 10 miles.

At Penrynford I got out & walked along the sands till I found a shady sheltered spot for my lunch. It's really interesting to have a great day because I've walked about 15 miles the day before to Boscawen Steps & nearly all the way back (a famous spot with large green sloped rocks supposed to be the point Boscawen's stepping stone through the sea). However after my lunch & a quiet rest I felt so little tired that I decided to try & find St. Piran's lost church in the sand-dunes. I walked a long way along the sands - first & last & felt in utter despair except for seagulls - until I came to the sand dunes & then I turned inland & found the church with very little difficulty. It is 4th century & the stone in the country with the front walls still standing. The remains are enclosed in an outer building & I could only peep through the door. The sand-dunes were inhabited by hundreds of rabbits & it was almost possible to jump oneself in the door when down in the hollow of the dunes. The sky was intensely blue but it was bitterly cold, also all

NEWCASTLE GHE.
 3. 30 PM
 11 MAR 28

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H. Arregger Esq.
 3, December Place,
 Skell. Yorks.

The time I have been out walking without hat or coat. - just carrying my umbrella in case of need. I crossed the dunes & went absolutely nothing to find me. I found my way across sands & through fields straight as a die for a bit or days when I had been & then to Penrynford. I crossed the sand - the total time - I arrived here about 6 o'clock. It was a glorious day.

To-day is lovely & I've been spent the entire day out again. Only I've done all the places I wanted to & so the house are to go on Sunday & go further out. I'll spend a quiet day walking near Newquay. Am just going out now to the Blackland before lunch to collect some shells for Betty. There are hundreds of really beautiful ones. I hope you'll soon get your own job & that you'll find your own dip comfortable.

Darling love
 Guy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/273)

'My last day darling! How sorry I am because I've grown to love Cornwall so much & have had such a delightful time.'

11 Mar 1928

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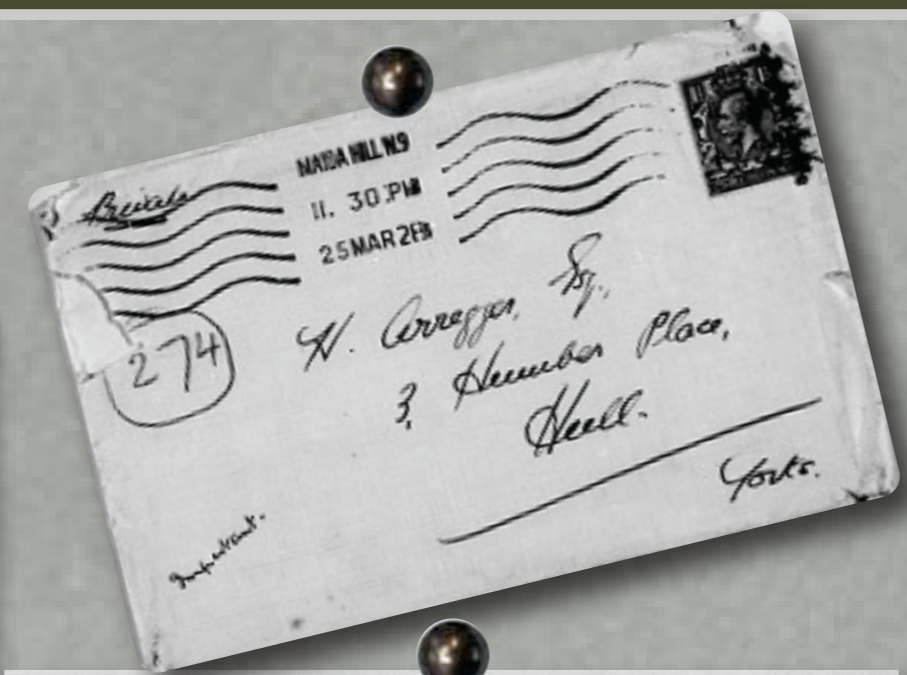
24 Castellani Road, W. 9.
Saturday, 6.30 p.m.

Dear Hans,

Now that at last I have a quiet hour in which to write you this letter I've been wanting to write for some time, I don't quite know how to tell you what I want to.

Thank you for your letter and for all the news - I am glad you like your new digs & that you are getting decent food. Your clerk must be doing well now to be able to afford to live in the same place as his former employer. He seems a nice boy though & will probably be coming for you. I hope you are not destined to be disappointed here as you have been so many times before.

I note that you have decided not to take the job with Stevens & Collins. You say you have not written to Hans since



I presume, however, you informed Hans you had decided not to accept their offer. - That is, I should imagine, common courtesy. Also, I notice from our file of papers at the office that you have not let Mr. Wood know of your decision, nor have you even written to Hans for the trouble he took to find out particulars of the company. I draft you a letter to send to Hans, etc. Mr. Wood asked me some little time ago whether you had come to any decision, but I had to inform him I was as ignorant of the matter as was he. He has not mentioned it since & neither have I.

Now I must try & explain as clearly as I can the basis on which I have been thinking for some time, the decision I have come to. This is rather difficult & I hope you will hold in check any irritation you may have for things I say until you reach the end of the letter. I've been wondering whether it was better to send you a short note or explain my feelings fully, but I think the latter

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course is farer. I'll tell you first of all the decision I've come to & then try to tell you why.

My life up to now has occupied two volumes - (1) my childhood & schooldays & (2) you. The first one finished when I went to Sheffield and it is now time to close the second one. How the age of 18 went now, when I am nearly 25 - practically 7 years (please correct me if I'm wrong) - you've been the predominant factor in my life. - I don't blame you for that - it was I who was the fool - and now that I'm so much older & more experienced I can look back on those years & see how utterly stupid I have been. I think I am now strong enough to cut it all out & that's what I intend to do. No more looking for letters that come less & less often; no more wondering when you'll come to London again to see me, or rather, when you'll be coming on business; no more puzzling over the question of how much you really do care for me & what



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/274)

'Now that at last I have a quiet hour in which to write you this letter I've been wanting to write for some time, I don't quite know how to tell'

25 Mar 1928

are the thoughts about us that must
sometimes be going on in your mind -
if we had never been anything else but
friends, any drastic step such as the
taking would be ridiculous. But I think
you will understand and appreciate that
an involved relationship such as ours has
been. Can't go on the same for always.
I do not think there is any need for us
to continue writing to each other - it is
obviously becoming more & more of an
effort on your part & the attempts you
make to fill up a sheet of notepaper
are not worth the time & trouble involved.

You never talk to me on anything
but practical everyday matters & I have
therefore only one way of gauging your
deeper thoughts & feelings - from your
letters & from your actions on the few
occasions I see you in London. The
decision I have come to is the result of
a lot of hard thinking on my part, in
which I have considered all the earlier
years in the light of my present views

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3.
experiences, & the future years as they seem
to be represented by your present conduct.
The past is over & can't be altered, but I
have some power to guide the drift of
future years, & that's what I'm doing -
whether the right way, of course I can't know
until too late to alter things. I have
determined to risk that.

Let's go back to the beginning. I'll
be honest & look at things plainly.
You made the first mistake by hearing
me in the way about which you once
said "if a chap had heated one of my
sisters like this I'd have killed him."
- Oracular, isn't it? - You had no
brothers to help give me a sound
Heath's idea of the relationship between
the two sexes or to protect me in the
good old-fashioned way. I wonder what
made you say such words out loud -
they've excused you for a lot in my eyes
even altho' you resolutely forget them
as soon as uttered.

I made the next mistake in

allowing you to hear me in such a way.
But whereas you had no excuse at all
for your actions, I consider I had a
good deal. First, you were practically
a god in my eyes, & anything that you
did was right just because you did it.
Secondly, I knew practically nothing about
men & the way they differed from women
& I was ashamed of my ignorance & tried
to cover it up by pretending to know
everything. The few ideas I had were
totally wrong & absurdly ridiculous. I
can't help but smile now when I
remember some of them. In a vague
sort of way I felt that in yielding to
you I was losing your respect for me,
& yet my mind was full of unsolved
problems & wonders & perplexities, &
I awfully wanted to find out things
I have actual experiences, & it being you
who was there & ready & wanting to
give me them just clicked the matter,
& the more I got to know the more I
wanted to know. - See where I am
now. - The matter no longer interests me.

274 4.
I feel I know all there is to know - that's
all men want with girls, you can see it
all round you - in the painted faces
of nearly all the girls you meet & in
the staring, desiring eyes of the men
who pass you in the street. That I could
them all & how I despise myself for
being just the same as they. That
please, don't mistake - I owe all my
knowledge to you & I am grateful to you
for your teaching & for the worldly
knowledge you have given me. If I
could, I wouldn't wait again to be the
stupid little misceant I was when
you first knew me. - I used to think
it was hurting you & I was so sorry for
you & felt so kinder towards you
because I thought you were hurting
yourself for the sake of giving me
enjoyment. - Oh, isn't it too funny
Even & even so many times I
wanted to try & undo the harm but
I wasn't strong enough & I used to
think about it for hours & try to
justify my conduct. That I thought

just to love you so much was sufficient
excuse, & then I thought out all the
various ethics of marriage & sided
with the view that it was merely
legal licentiousness & I formed my
own little code of right & wrong. -
That, because we live in a wide & broad
age, the mere form of marriage makes
no difference to whether it is right or wrong
to be a man's mistress. I decided that
there was no wrong being done at all
if the lover & his mistress really &
fully cared for each other sufficiently
to be satisfied with each other & never
go to anyone else for their pleasures -
& that the form of marriage made no
difference at all except to give legal
recognition to the children if there were
any. This, I remember, lasted me for
a long time, & then I began to find
holes in it. It was one day after
you'd really said something fairly
definite for you that you thought
some day we might actually get

274 5.
married. I then dropped all my
former line of reasoning & merely
based justification for my conduct
on the ground that we should really
be husband & wife some day & there
was therefore no sense in keeping
waiting until that day & we might as
well carry on as we were doing.
The last phase, & the one I hold
at present, is that there is no
justification at all, except that every-
one is more or less weak & that the
less weak should help the more weak.
This is of course seldom carried out &
everyone is despoiledly weak when it
really comes to those moments of
intense physical feeling which I
suppose, the good benevolent Lord
endowed us with for good ends. Pity
he didn't see the bad ends as well
before he pronounced his work good.
You are perhaps wondering
what all this has to do with the present
state of affairs & my new decision.



- just this. All the time that you have known me you have found so many things to remember as a first fault with - as I see it was, the only thing which has kept us together for so long has been your letters, dear, & my reciprocating letters, for sexual intimacy (loathsome words). (Apart from this one thing, the whole of our relationship seem to be against a narrow life) - this has been all right for you so long as I was content to let things drift on & on as they were, & I've been for the greater part of 7 years content to let them drift because I thought there was something at the end of it. Always I've had before my eyes the picture of a house where there'd be no outside interference causing friction, & where I'd be surrounded by things which would all belong to us, for which we'd work hard & paid for & chosen, & where there'd be children of my very own whom I'd have up so carefully, remembering all the little things that

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reminded about & remembered in my own memory, trying to give them the advantage of my experiences. It's so silly, but this is what I've always wanted so much, & you being the only man in my life, was naturally the one to whom I should look to give me these things - apart altogether from the usual dear, I've always had for you yourself. Now however, I can no longer persuade myself into believing this is a possibility - it is too obvious that in every way you are getting to care less for me. Doubtless shows it. You don't even want the sexual love now. - your letters come less & less often, get shorter & shorter & less & less affectionate. They are now merely scrappy news bulletins prefaced with "hello" - the signs cooling the fire. - & less simply & fanciful it sounds now when you so obviously don't mean it. I

have told myself over & over it was never unlike you to write it if you decided to mean it, until I realised that you couldn't address me as anything else because to do so would be in some manner bringing you face to face with your change of feelings, & the various sexual things your tendency to let things drift as long as possible would then stop & face them.

It is always I who stop the drift & often I know some so foolishly. I can see it now. I want to God I'd never mentioned the subject of marriage to you. I was a fool & then, I can see, I spoiled my own ends, but it seems that it was inevitable. I was impatient to know what was going to happen to my life & you irritated me so tremendously. You have often reminded me of the doubt I once took Betty for a nice one at Middleton. It was so slowly & I was so eager to get back to my former etc. & then the reason I urged & colored the

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7. Slower it went until finally it stopped, planted its legs firmly on the ground & refused to budge. I pushed it & pulled it & almost got to kicking it the other side, but to no use. Finally I lifted Betty off & we turned round & walked back. He doubtless followed a minute later.

There is a difference however in this letter from the others when I've written to you on what was to me the most important thing in my life. It's better just it out in case you don't realise it for yourself. Always before, I've made many & varied protestations of my deep love for you & told you frankly how much I wanted you (not sexually, as you probably thought) & how sure I was we could be happy together, & begging you to be quick to come to London etc. etc. Now I no longer love you. I no longer want you, sexually or any other way. I don't believe we could for a single moment be happy together, & if

you came to live in London I should probably leave. - not because I couldn't bear to be in the same city with you - I don't hate you, I'm just totally indifferent, as you've been so long - but because it'd be always afraid of meeting you & that would get on my nerves. You know just what the story of Winifred's disillusion - why she is so intensely bitter isn't so much because she left her as because her father has for so long about the goodness of God & will help how much things do happen & better himself, etc., & after all this talk he threw her over & at once married someone else. I have always sympathized with Winifred & could almost share her pain by putting you & I in her place. But she never knew that I saw her & her wife. They came into the little German restaurant I took you to. There were very few people in & they sat down right opposite to me. Mind course

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was sure to recognize me - I had my hat off - but I didn't know him. It upset me much more than I could have believed possible.
At any rate I could never upbraid you with having gone back on your word. You have said now to go back on which is more disappointingly & disillusioning, I wonder.

I feel I have now written enough to give you some indication of my thoughts, but I just want to say a few more things. - I don't want this to affect my friendship with your people. I love them all very much & even tho' they probably only care for me for my sake I still feel I want their friendship so much. I had some tapping letters from Mary, Fidy & Lucia the other day & they sent me some photographs. To-day I am writing your mother a birthday letter.

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The second is that I still owe you £3 which I cannot send you at the moment, I'm afraid. I'll send it along as soon as I can & also the handkerchiefs, pyjamas & pair of socks I still have & I'll send you something in opportunity of returning your rap to you. I am very grateful for the loan & for the way you've always helped me in money difficulties.

As a last thing I want to tell you something which I can't put plainly (there's no need to tell you as only you could read between lines). But you're not good at that as I've found before. I'll tell you in allegory.

In a certain room of a certain house a beautiful fire had been kindled by a girl who loved there. It was her duty & her pleasure to keep it always burning brightly & this she loved to do. But gradually as the somewhat kind of always putting picking out the best pieces of coal &

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wood & she grew careless & threw on anything handy until by & by the fire grew duller & duller & got choked up by ashes. Then there came a day when it was practically out & only then did the boy grow alarmed. As he was considering what to do a voice whispered - "just leave it, that's the easiest way. It will go out & if you want you can light another. But if you want this one to brighten up again you must do something at once & look after it continually. Accordingly it will go out more quickly."

It is stupid I know to make up such a silly story. It will save a fool always a fool. I suppose I hope you will some succeed in getting a good job & I wish you every success & lots of good luck.

Lucy

277
Sunday morning
I have just read this letter through & am afraid I don't explain my feelings very clearly. There are also lots of things I've left out, but I can't remember everything at once tho' I want to tell you.

There is just one thing tho' I'd like to say - why I tell you. I really don't know. Knowing pretty well your ways of reasoning it strikes me you'd at once jump to the conclusion that I've written this because I've got another lover. But this is not so. I have no other even friends at all. Since we left the flat I have quite got over my touch with that young boy & the fact of rarely see him. There is only Len besides & it is not likely I'll see him any more as he's probably in retirement & I suppose he's best to go. - I never could like him in any way tho' a friend. I do not want men & have no intention of ever getting married.

It isn't of course possible that you totally misjudged me? -



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Tues. evening

Dear Hans,

Since receiving your letter on Saturday night I have thought a lot about you, - more, I think, about you than about myself, which was the case when I sent you my first letter. If only I had given more thought to your side of the case, I should have realised, as I do now, that you really are in rather a bad way & at the bottom of a pit & that that is bound to influence your conduct in a definite way. My vision was clouded by my inability to find any thing to be said for you, & I could see nothing but your growing indifference which seemed to me to be crowned by the rubbing in, as I thought, of your friendships with your two broadcasting friends & the dances & pleasures you took part in, of which you gave me only sufficient particulars to inform me of the

MAIDA HILL W9
11. 30 PM
3 APR 28
275
H. Arregger, Esq.
3, Chamber Place,
Oval.
Yorks.

fact that you were taking her out & leaving the rest for me to imagine.

I can see now, however, that altho' you've not been confiding in me, you must have been feeling low-spirited for some time & as this sympathetic friend was on the spot you would naturally turn to her for compensation for the rotten time you were having with business. This would, I can see, leave less & less for you to tell me in your letters - which was the cause of my ^{unreasonably} ~~excessively~~ strongly marked indifference. I know quite well that my letters have been as indifferent, probably more, than so yours. So there is hence no need for you to send them to me & repeat my summary.

I do not either like to think we are going out of each other's life for good, & especially if this is only on account of a misunderstanding which our pride won't allow us to clear up. Do you not think, Hans, that if we each of us made up our

2.
mind firmly to see the other's point of view & try to understand the attitude of mind which has led up to our present thoughts regarding each other, that we might be able to come to a better understanding if we met & discussed things? So far, our talks - serious ones - have not been successful because you are concentrated on picking me up over details, whilst I concentrate on trying to make you see my point of view. Both attitudes are of course totally wrong - it is unfair of you to upset me over grammar points etc. when I am trying to make you see something, & it is also unfair of me to press my views on you without seeking to understand yours.

I am coming to Bridlington for Easter. When are you going? Will it be possible to see you in Paris? I am travelling by the 4 o'clock train from Leeds & on Thursday & shall get the next train out to Paris. - I don't know yet whether there'll

be any of my people left in Paris to hand up with or whether I'll meet them at Paris. Am coming back on Tues. as late as possible as I have Tues. holiday. I don't know the address in Paris. - I think its 41, 51, 63, Honsford Ave. (near Louvre) when I stayed the last time - or rather the time you kept your suite). Is there any address where I can find you?

If you would rather leave things as they are after the somewhat unfair letter I sent you, that fall in with your decision, but I was then thinking wholly of myself & am now thinking almost entirely of you, which is why I believe, if you'd try to adopt the same attitude, a talk might help us not to make any unfortunate & irrevocable mistakes.

Will you please write back at once, so I shall receive any letters here after the first post Thurs. morning.

Yours. Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/275)

'Since receiving your letter on Saturday night I have thought a lot about you, - more I think about you than about myself.'

5 Mar 1928

43 Horsforth Avenue,
Leeds

Dear Hans,

The London train leaves Hull at 4.18 - its an excursion & I'll have to be there early for a seat - so if we want time for a talk the only feasible train seems to be the 10.35 arriving Hull 11.35. I'll look for you at the station but if you're not there will come straight to your office where we can talk better. Don't trouble to come down to Paragon if you have work to get on with because we'll go back to your office anyway.

I hope you have enjoyed your Easter trip - the weather at any rate has been all in your favor.

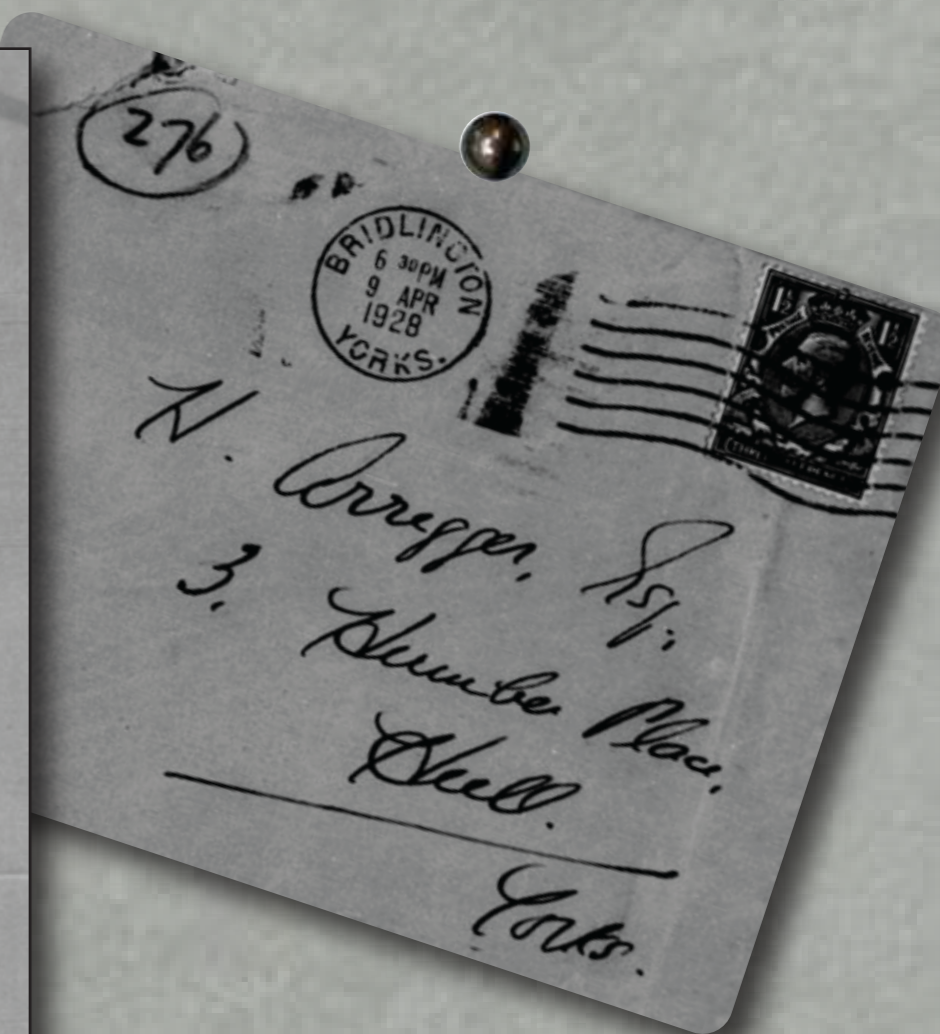
A. Johnson

Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/276)

'The London train leaves Hull at 4.18. Its an excursion & I'll have to be there early for a seat.'

9 Apr 1928



(277)

London.

Thursday 10.45 p.m.

Dear Hans,

Your letter arrived a little while ago & I'm sorry there's no time now to reply to it as I feel in the mood for writing. However, I've had to write home to let them know I've arrived safely etc. & the post goes in 15 mins. now.

This is only a note to tell you about the key - I couldn't find the nail so put it on a narrow ledge high up - just where where the nail ought to be. There was a pair of steps near - I don't suppose in mistake I put it on a ledge on the steps, did I? It was dark & I had to feel. I hope you find it & am sorry if I've caused

you inconvenience.

I've been swimming tonight & have enjoyed it ever so much. It's so refreshing. I feel ever so much better & happier since I am back & hope the feeling lasts.

I don't want to reply hurriedly to your letter, darling, so will write you a proper reply tomorrow night which you'll have for the weekend. I'm so glad that the Henderson has cleared the air & that I'm not in a nasty bitter mood as I was before I saw you. I don't agree with all your letter but will stick it out tomorrow & try & tell you what I think. I feel somehow as tho' a wall has been knocked down & that I can talk to you more clearly than I've ever been able to before. I'm sure we'll be happier now.

Thanks for writing so soon. I looked for a letter. Yours. Amy




Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/277)

'Your letter arrived a little while ago & I'm sorry there's no time now to reply to it as I feel in the mood for writing.'

12 Apr 1928

(278)

H. Arregger Esq.
 3. Skumber Place
 Hill Yorks.




(278)

London.
 Friday. 10. 30 p.m.

Dear Hans,

Lillian came unexpectedly tonight just as I arrived home & has only this minute gone, so my opportunity to write seems to have gone. However, I'll see what I can do in the 20 mins. there are left.

I had a splendid journey back - if it were never any worse than that travelling I wouldn't mind coming to Hill every weekend (if I'd the money!). I had the carriage to myself to Doncaster & had only 20 mins. to wait. - There was a decent fire in the waiting room & I dried my hat & coat. The London train seemed crowded with soldiers & I had given up hope of getting a compartment when I could lie down, when I jumped up anywhere as I saw the guard ready to blow his whistle, & my luck really was in as I found myself opposite an

empty compartment in darkness. I'd hired a rug, & was soon most comfortably situated. I didn't exactly sleep, but dozed & was very comfortable & of course, resting. The journey seemed over in no time & I felt quite sorry when I arrived near London & had to get up. I stayed at the Station Hotel at King's X & had a very good room & most comfortable bed for 7/6. I didn't however, know breakfast was an extra so I've never before stayed at an hotel when one can book a room only, & I found I had to pay 4/- for breakfast. I'd know better another time!

Wed. night I went to bed early & I now feel very bright & quite rested. Everyone says how much better I look - I don't mind how I look but am so glad I feel brighter - all due to matters being put right on Tuesday.

I certainly have thought a good deal of our talk & our new understanding, & I was very glad that you remembered it & made things quite clear in your letter. I wanted you to & I was afraid you might leave them as they were

(278)

2.

When we finished our talk, which to me wasn't absolutely definite.

Now I disagree with you, darling, is that I don't think we have both realised gradually & about at the same time that we could not live reasonably happily together for any length of time. (As we are some friends & have a good & a few understandings. I feel I can talk about these things more freely & less personally now). I think that even since you have known me you have felt that, although we are attracted to each other physically & in other ways, we could not be happy living together because of the numerous quarrels over trivial matters we always seemed to be having. Whereas I have always firmly believed, & still do, that our quarrels were not the outcome of vital differences between our habits & interests but the outcome of the false & somewhat unpleasant & uncomfortable position in which we were placed. (The

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/278)

'Lillian came unexpectedly tonight just as I arrived home & has only this minute gone.'

15 Apr 1928

not wanting to lie yourself down to me
for a variety of reasons - which I can
better appreciate now - & I resenting
that you did not appear to want ~~you~~ me.)
I don't think you have only gradually
realised, but have always felt, that
we could not be happy together, & I think
that it has only, as it were, come to the
surface because you have sensed a
difference in my attitude. I still
think, & I believe I always shall, that
the only way we could be happy together
is to live together - we have an identity
of interests & an identity of habits & our
temperaments are far too much alike to
be incompatible. These facts, coupled
with the undoubted fact of the powerful
physical attraction there seems to be
between us, would, if I had been the
man, have influenced me long ago to
have taken the risk. "Nothing ventured,
nothing gained." - Very true, but awfully
true still. No two people can be so
beforehand that they're taking the risk &

3.
best course, but how many millions have
ruined it!

Please don't think, darling, that
because I'm writing these things I am
giving back on our new agreement. The
only solution of our difficulty at
present is, to try to be real friends to
each other. Neither of us has yet realised
exactly what this involves, but we'll
gradually be able to fit it by
experience. My views on marriage
have entirely changed - but deep or how
permanent the change is, I don't know,
but I don't think it will last long
because it seems to be against my
nature. More than anything else, I
know I want children, but I also know
that at present I definitely prefer life
as I am & don't want to get married.

I think somehow as we understand
each other now, we'll find we can talk
& discuss things more freely & quarrel
far less. But I don't know how we'll
like it if either of us were to become
engaged or marry someone else, & I
don't think it would be right for each

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of us to remain single all our lives because
we never dare ~~try~~ test ourselves. -
Although that, I can see quite clearly, is
what is likely to happen.

But we'll try & be good friends all
the same, darling, & see what progress
we make. I'll try & tell you something
about myself & you do the same.

I've missed the post this afternoon
but will try & find a later one.

Am spending Sunday with Barbara
& Noel. We've had very busy 6-day
run. Wood won't send you a bill, I'm
quite sure, so don't worry.

Write soon, darling, & tell me what
you think about what I've written, will
you? I would like to know all you
think now at last the barrier is down.
Do you feel that way? I hope I'll
see you again soon. Thanks for being
so nice to me on Tuesday. Remember
if you know how nice you were.

Yours
D.

(279)

24 Cavellain Road, S. 9.
Sunday 17th

Dear Hans,

I haven't replied to your letter before because I haven't felt in the right mood - it was as if writing a forced letter. I haven't written to anyone this week except Nellie & that was awfully sorry. The beginning of the week I was terribly bored & "low" but since Thursday I've recovered. - This came & gave me a tiffing vein.

That week was absolutely desperate - while Winifred & I had enough money to last us - we've never been so absolutely on the rocks before. Winifred spent nearly all the money on her Easter holiday at the Tourist & when we came back we had less for 2 weeks to use. I don't think we would have a

hard week & a week last Friday? brought an evening frock - very cheap - but still it was a start. I went into Soko & found a sweet little job given me with light rain, light rain & full start. I have done a lot of dancing since I came back. I love the present style of dancing & am having some quite good times.

Eric came on Wednesday when we were to have you out but I left the office at 6.15 & he only came at 6.30. So we went out Thursday instead as he wasn't leaving till Friday evening. We went to the "Wooden" for dinner then to the Music of Water & Sea "Dunkelwau" paper "Blauer" - it is awfully funny & very entertaining. We got in late on Monday but just good fun. Then we wait back to the "Pic. for the Carbone". I thoroughly enjoyed that evening. It is funny that although I have had very little sleep lately I don't feel in the least

2
tired. I had a tiffing letter from you. Another yesterday will six excellent scraps, some of them including you & they are all very good indeed. She says she'll give you the love when I write. Friday will soon be leaving for America. She goes in May. She's your sister's first night to hear you over together as she leaves about the same time, or do they not know each other? I hope you enjoy the company when she comes to Hull to see you. But of course you are sure to enjoy seeing her again. Please tell me ^{about her} ~~how she is~~ as you see you write. Is your broadcast still writing you often? I am going out on Tuesday with a new friend from the Board of Trade. He's getting a car like Ford's. I'll drive it. I expect. That will be nice. I am going out this afternoon with a German boy. -

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MAIDA HILL W9
11. 30 PM
22 APR 28
H. Arregger, Esq.
3. Thumber Place.
Hull.
Yorks.

So quite interesting but I don't think it's pleasant the friendship. On Friday night I was dancing & was introduced to the most interesting boy I think I've yet met. He is only just back from Berlin & has a keen hobby, after having been out there 5 years. He is all about them & never speaks in terms English all that time. He is not much of a dancer but I like to talk to him. I like him & wish I could know him better. After being introduced to that easy dance with him, so I think he must like me a little bit, don't you?

It is a glorious day but I haven't yet been out, as I only got up late & then washed my hair. Had a ball, washed stockings, etc. Sunday is always quite a busy day but I do enjoy the morning part. London last night was terrible - Cup final night. There seem to be a lot of dance & then to the

3.
pictures to see "Berlin" - you should see it if you have an opportunity. It really is wonderful. It is just a day in Berlin from 5 o'clock in the morning till last thing at night. - no story & no characters. It is, however, very little different from what a day in London would be like on the film.

I awfully want to see this picture called "Wings" but it is very difficult to get any seats & they are so expensive. I'd like to pay at least 5/9 & I've still had up to Winifred doesn't get anything like the end of the month. The money got saved up for Dennis but I haven't yet been successful in getting a Dennis club. Are you going to play this season? - But you don't decide things in advance, do you?

Tippy came yesterday very unexpectedly & stay till Thursday

It is very inconvenient, but it can't be helped. Some people are awfully selfish & I don't care for this taking for granted that one is always obligated to put havelen up. I am not, as you have perhaps seen either obligated or obliged. I have often thought it strange that you have seemed to worry about such faults as these, what's wearing so much fuss of them.

I hope you trouble at that with soon be over & that they won't be so bad as you're expecting. I'd like to see how all that happens, would you? I'm sorry you're a bit busy now & haven't any interesting things to do. I wish just the right job would turn up for you & give you interest again. Please don't wait for so long as I have before you write, darling, unless of course you are not in the mood or don't want to write.
Yours A.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/279)

'I haven't replied to your letter before because I haven't felt in the right mood & it was no use writing a forced letter.'

22 Apr 1928



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London.
Sunday 4. p.m.

Hans, dear,
Thanks awfully for your letter. It was a far nicer one than I deserve & I was so pleased to have it. I have been feeling so fed up the latter half of this week that if I could have spared the money I'd have come home for the weekend. I'm quite happy now again though, & will tell you why in a minute.
It would have been nice if this came up to-day - I do wish you could have managed it. But I hope you have a good sat tomorrow & that your busy time will bring you in some profit. I can quite well imagine it won't come easy to you & have to do all the little odd jobs in the office yourself. When does the

cray season finish? - I wish I saw how, I expect. What will you do through the summer? I've not been so optimistic as you are that you'll get a good job by waiting for it - especially in a time of depression when you're an experience. I expect your time to wait a job up, about you? You may be lucky, of course. But then anything to be had with 'white'? Mrs. Beck knows Colonel White (is it?) well, & we do quite a few jobs for them. Have you heard how things are in Kiel?
I thought they wasn't learning the niceties of duty - I want to write to her before she left & write her list. But it will be too late now. For we had heard from Lucy since she went to Paris. Have been wondering often how she is getting on & I'd like to know her address in case I go over anytime. I would like to see her again - as would any of your people.
Your cross-country friend must

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MAIDA HILL W9
11. 30 PM
29 APR 28
Flynn Lamm
H. Arregger Esq.,
3. Chamber Place,
Kens.
Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/279)

'I haven't replied to your letter before because I haven't felt in the right mood & it was no use writing a forced letter.'

22 Apr 1928

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2. I wish to really be in town with you & know you on a football excursion to see you. You must have had her as you have done all your other adventures - you do really deserve to have an experience the same as you have given them - but you appear to be ungrateful. (You must be cross to feel you off - that phrase is allowed that privilege.)
It is nice to know that Mrs. & Mrs. Callahan & Mrs. Archer are going after Mrs. - will you please remember me to them & to Dr. & Mrs. & when you see Mrs. again. I expect to visit the hospital in Paris working hard - it is Mrs. T. then to
It was I who sent you your papers back - it is my job to look after such things. Mrs. Wood only signs the letters I send in. However, I expect a note to get sent to the Cooks' dept. It was a nice letter you sent to him.
How I'd tell you my own or two bits of news. One thing that was so nice & nice last week was that

when Mrs. Wood saw the holiday list he laughed loudly & said it was impossible for me to go on August 14th. I just couldn't believe it. I don't see yet. You told me just a bit, haven't you about this holiday we've been planning for so long? Winifred & I have talked about it & planned for months past - we've had maps out & talked over the route - decided to start on the 1st. Spend the weekend in Paris & visit the Louvre, etc. - have to be home by night rest then a couple of days & then set off walking to Paris. It was only taking a road to last & I was going to buy some bread & a pair of chamois boots. Winifred, I've been (a top-top job, Winifred's friend) & I was going. The great problem has been to arrange a fortnight's convenience & all of it last Aug. 14th was found to be the only time all 4 could start together. Mrs. Wood didn't see it, & I somehow never thought for a moment to write actually decide on the 2 weeks out of 52 that I wanted. Winifred

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3. I would have of my being left out - so say. It is not a good number to go to the top. I suggest that I go the last 2 weeks in Aug. with you. Whilst she goes the other 2 weeks home - but it is a shame to spend for the other & I have, has been long for this holiday with Winifred. Mrs. Wood & I know I couldn't go, we've been talking it over & that can hardly believe it really is true. Mrs. Wood never been known before to take this holiday in August.
How for the good news - I'm going to learn flying! I'm joining the London Aeroplane Club & then I can get tuition & always use their airplanes. It is, of course, awfully expensive but not prohibitive, as the flying school was what I wrote to before. So you would believe I was really serious. Yesterday it was a wonderful day - I was so lucky & miserable. Had had a rotten experience as a dancer I went to on the 1st. night. & I was sad because I was in the top of even coming across the house

I've fallen in love with it. I was ^{sent up} because I was starting to enjoy it. I can't find a convenient time to go to play. (Winnifred & I have decided that either someone is responsible for some of our own accidents - however, as I know of no one else to blame, I finally decided to go for a ride on the top of a bus to Heaven & see if I could see some aeroplanes. I went a long way round by John's Drive & Heaven & then to St. John's Aerodrome which I finally discovered is near Heaven. There were lots of aeroplanes & I was working so hard I could afford to leave. There was no one to stop me going in, so I went through the gate, down the path, past the sheds where aeroplanes were in various stages of construction, & finally came to the open space where the machines were taking off. There were lots of sheds, & a pavilion with a clock tower in front. There were lots of people about but in our positions

4. my right to be there so finally I sat down & watched. Finally I picked up courage to speak to one of the pilots - he of course took me for a member of the Club or otherwise I'd no right to be there - but he was awfully nice & took me to my intense surprise, that I could join the Club at an exchange fee of £7.3.0 - sub. of £7.3.0. & then learn to fly at the rate of 20/- per hour. After about 7 or 8 hours tuition, one can enter for a pilot's certificate (having previously passed tests for nerves) - & then one can always use the club's machines at the rate of £1 per hour, & enter for races, competitions, displays, stunts, etc. It is too good to be true & I can hardly credit such good fortune. I'm going up one evening next week to sign the papers & I'll probably have my first lesson next weekend. I'll play tennis as often as I can now, as I'll have to be as careful as possible with

money to save it for flying lessons. I'll still pay for my tennis shoes, though because I'm very keen on that. They start a week on Wednesday. Lloyd's tennis season starts for swimming on Tuesday, so the prospect for the immediate future is very rosy. The only two flies in the ointment are about my holiday & that the hope of ever seeing that nice man again & equal that of finding a needle in a haystack. I told you about Tom - didn't I? - the one from Paris. I don't even know his name, worse luck, as we weren't introduced. I'm already fast asleep all the while I go to sleep. - I turned up so late last Sunday that the German boy had gone & I was flat. - Went out by myself & enjoyed it much more. On Tuesday I was taken visiting to Richmond by the Dons & had a wonderful time. I enjoyed the ride & not his company at all. He awfully boring. He appears to like me. Last Thursday I went to see "Wings"

5. It is just wonderful & most unaccountably produced. I had to pay 5/- for not a very good seat. - I could see it again. I wonder if it will ever come to that, but it's doubtful because it would be too difficult to present as an ordinary sexis screen. To the aeroplane scenes the screen was subjected to the subtle work of the stop & the lighting & camera effects are splendid. There are several good pictures on at present - I want to see "Lionel" - & "Charlie Chaplin in 'The Circus'" - & "Hester Lynch" in "Speedy" - & "Hester" one I want to see "Berlin" - I saw last week. - I told you, I believe. I've not been to any ordinary pictures for ever so long. Next Friday Winnifred & I are going to the first dance of the Sloughers in the City O.S.A. Grand in London at the Astoria, & on Saturday we are going to a hockey dance.

25/4/28.

V.S.W. TO MR. GREGORY & MISS STEVENS.
 V.19138. re H. ARRAGER.

Please put this file away. I am making no charge. Give me a note of the disbursements and I will pay them.

V.S.W.

We've bought a gramophone on the instalment system - H.M.V. portable £7.14.0. (52 weekly instalments of 3/- each) - how we want some records. At present I'm reading "Lawrence's The Arabs" & enjoying it immensely. Mrs. Wood has lent it to me. It's pronounced to be a "first" in the "Review" & I'm looking forward to that. Haven't you read "The Jews"? How do you like it? I awfully want to get hold of it but don't know who to borrow it. Winnifred says it's unaccountable. Sunday is a blessing - we didn't get up till 1 o'clock & then only because we had to go to lunch - now we're enjoying a thoroughly long quiet & relaxing Sunday was more as long. Write soon, darling, a long nice letter. I also look forward to your letter & want to hear everything you have to tell me. See glad you've been comfortable in your trip. Much love, A.



(281)

London.
Tuesday 10.30 p.m.

Hans, dear,

Thank you for your nice long letter. I hope you are not feeling any bad effects from your accident - I am never surprised, however, when I hear of your having had an accident. It isn't that you're not careful - you're almost too careful.

You would enjoy your trip west. I hope I expect with your new sweetheart. The weather was so glorious - ideal for a run. - I you would be naturally pleased to see each other. I am glad you have someone to interest you & that she writes you often - more often than your "de-sacred" does? -

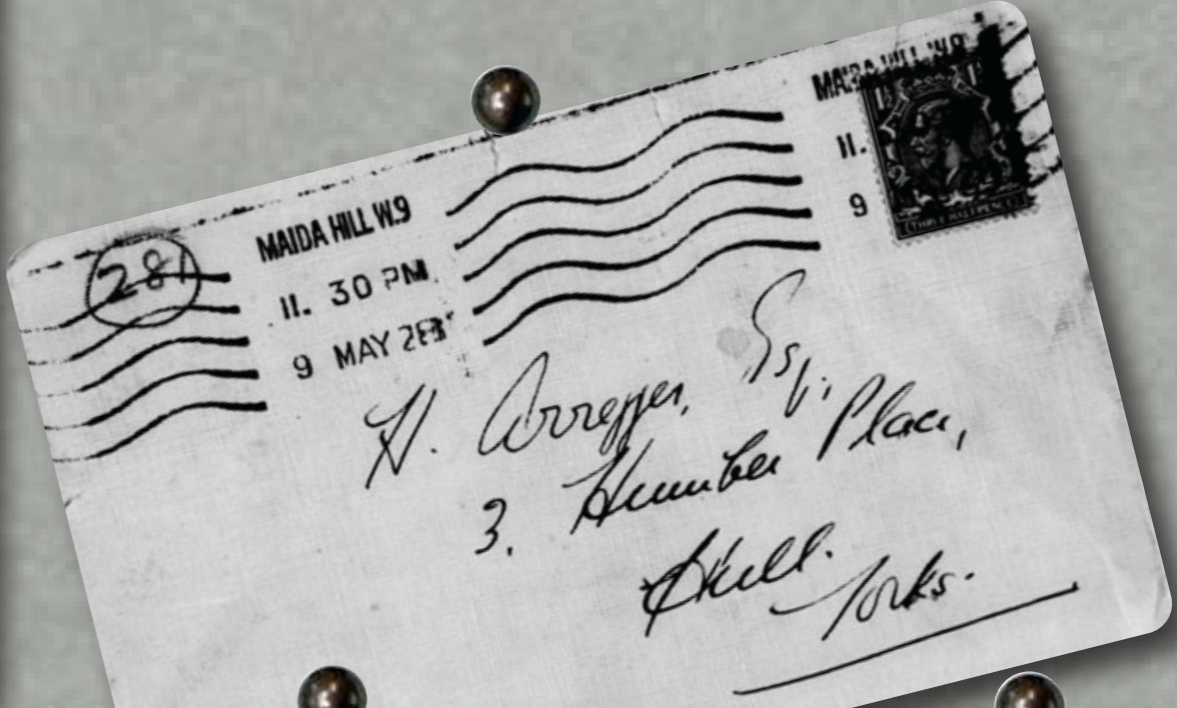
I find I am too busy after all to write you tonight - I am too busy with the beer full of energy & have been doing

lots of things - late every night - & now the reaction has set in. Last night I just dropped into bed about 9 o'clock but to day I'm more tired than ever. I don't write you now because I'm tired & setting up reading but it's no use. - Perhaps I'll not be so tired tomorrow. Tonight.

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Have just finished my tea & will try & write this before Whiffen comes in - it is difficult to concentrate on anything when she's in because she likes to talk so do I, but I try not to interrupt her when she doesn't seem to notice. I've been awfully tired again all day but have had an easy time & hope to go to bed early again tonight.

Are you likely to be coming to town before what? I hope you will let me know because I seem to have so many nights & weekends booked up nowadays. I am absolutely broken



Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/281)

'Thank you for your nice long letter. I hope you are not feeling any bad effects from your accident.'
'Did I tell you I have to wait a while for flying lessons? There are no vacancies until June at the earliest so I've joined as an Associate Member and can go down to the grounds etc...'

9 May 1928

up now till next Wednesday, which was why I was so anxious to get ready. The job you tell me about in the City - or rather you tell me nothing but the amount of the salary - doesn't sound too good. What is your main aim in looking for a new job? - Salary first, or type of work or geographical position or prospects & permanency? I do not think you will find it easy, but I know you are in no hurry. I don't think you would be happy back in London. London is a wonderful place to live in & I think it's only by living there that one can find out & appreciate the smaller part of its wisdom. - I know I often get fed up & long for peace & quiet, but peace & quiet are only attractive because of the comparison. I do not think I could ever be happy anywhere else but London. - not for long anyway. The Royal Academy is open now & I am waiting so much to go but the weekend is the first one to open &

I've promised to go to Wembley to watch a cricket match. Last Saturday night I was with Whiffen to a rough & tumble social of Ken Roddy club - it was very primitive but great fun. I was introduced, amongst many others, to a young boy in cricket flannels & green blazer - very tall, good looking, young & innocent, & we left stumbling on a most unwell-known number of coincidences. For example, he often comes in our office - he's articles to a newspaper, & his face was just familiar - I'm sure you saw him lots of times before. Anyway he seems to have grown very fond of me - in a swift evening - & so I told you before I'm going to watch him play cricket on Saturday. Whiffen said cynically that a girl like me would appeal to a boy like him, but anyway he may do me good. At any rate I'll give him a little black & have finally decided I would be the one to initiate him into the ways

of the world. I prefer to put my experience against the experience of other than to feel the young & innocent. I'll tell you how the affair progresses. I'm clucking with him tomorrow.
Thank you for giving me Tidy's address in Paris but there was not sufficient time to write to her - your letter only arrived last night on Thursday night & a letter posted on Friday wouldn't have reached her before she left on Saturday. I hope I'll get the address in America.
Did I tell you I have to wait a while for flying lessons? There are no vacancies until June at the earliest so I've joined as an Associate Member & can go down to the grounds etc. & must wait in patience for a vacancy. I'm surprised you approve of my wanting to learn. I wrote & told them at home but no one has mentioned it. I shall mention it again now they

know what are you doing at what?
I am coming home. Will you be off to
see your friends (or sweethearts - which
is she? - just a friend like me, or
something more intimate? - don't
mind telling me - I wouldn't be
jealous.) I don't suppose you'll want
to stay in Hull over a holiday. I've
been thinking Winifred but she's too hard
up & can't afford the train fare. I
may find myself in the same state -
I've awfully hard up - last Sat. night
I broke a tooth & shall shortly be fixed
with a £6 6 s. or thereabouts dentist
bill. Don't get up about it. I've not
been able to join for my kitchen because
I haven't any money - had to buy a
pair of shoes & gloves - but I've found
them in the parlour & I've some money.
I went swimming last night. It was
lovely. Would the weekend please! Sat.
afternoon I went to the Clubroom &
then to Winifred's factory & wrote her
play & then to the Hockey Society.

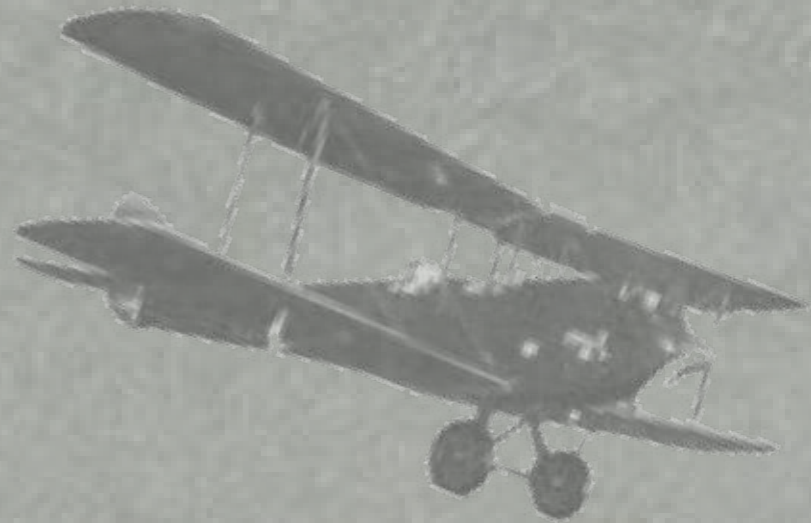
Last Wednesday night at this time
I was having a wonderful time - was
taken out by a young gentleman "just
home from Africa" & it must have cost
him an awful lot of money. We had
cocktails at the Clubroom; then went to the
Cafe Magnifique for dinner & then to
Rouman's for cabaret till 2 a.m. -
finished up on whisky & soda & felt
dreadful - Winifred said it was
enough to make her ill & thank God
she I felt perfectly all right. My
friends admire me because I think
I'm a "good girl" & seem greatly
impressed thereby - I think I've
managed to keep up the impression.
This in Cornwall is present on leaving
investigation but I'll see him again
on his return.

You must tell me off if you're
not agreeing with my conduct, etc. -
just like Winifred does. She leaves
me alone more or less but her advice
is often quite valuable. I can do with

Sunday Barbara has come down for the
day as Winifred went to Brighton & we
played tennis. It is tapping & celebrating
the tennis courts - the people look
nice but I suppose they're very clumsy -
they have parties after the tennis. You
must spend a weekend here sometime.
Mrs. Heath can probably put you up -
I'll have my grandparents now & it's
tapping but we badly need some
rest. We already have 57 or
only two!
Last Friday Winifred I went to
the Astoria & dance with the Sheffield
Old Students but they were awfully
boring. It's a tapping place. Some of them
fetter us to the dancing sphere -
they couldn't dance at all. I can
see now that you belong to this
sphere - The sound too frightens you.
You'd be scandalised at half
my doing - my private life doesn't
need investigation.

Yours as well, my dear friend.
But it looks now, - I'm afraid the
weather is breaking; but a good summer
is possible.
I can go for my holidays after all
as August 1st. Mrs. Heath is changing
the plans - she must have thought it
likely was too thick after the tennis
disappointment I had. So was open
before forward very much to do
holiday. What will you do? - I'll
I expect. But you can hardly make
plans when you're so uncertain of the
future.
I didn't say you had "ill health"
your sweetheart - & why do you
mention the plural? - You know quite
well you've had lots. I said, or meant,
that you had not heard them well
which is exactly different from "ill health".
- And why I mean that you haven't heard
them well is that you have never been
sure of your own mind. So long as
an uncertain attitude affects only
oneself it doesn't matter but when it

influences another's life & actions it becomes
wrong & unfair. The odds are you have
told me of your attitude of mind & I
your friends will have been enough to show
me how uncertain your mind has been
towards her. & I can quite guess that the
odds have been quite a perceptible
difference influence on her actions, as
happened in my case, & as may
happen in the case of your own friends.
Whether it proves to be right or wrong I think
you ought quite early to make your
decision - not to let the "days" be
managed - not knowing whether you want
a certain person for yourself & yet not
wanting anyone else to have her.
This is a long letter. You afraid, & I
don't still to write longer & to waste some
sheets, stink, paper, my hair, the stockings,
etc. - I want to get to bed.
Please don't be cross with my letters.
I don't yet feel able to tell you all my thoughts
& so forth but am telling you a good lot.
When shall I see you?
Write soon, darling.
Ann. O.



(282)

London.
Thursday.

Dear Hans,

Many happy returns of your birthday, darling. I am writing tonight because I know I won't have time tomorrow as I have a friend coming down tomorrow evening & it is very seldom I have any leisure during the day. I wonder how you will celebrate your birthday. I don't suppose you welcome this event now do you? - I'm certainly not looking forward to birthdays - have no desire to get any older. I have been wondering what I can give you for a souvenir, but have decided to get a book although I don't know what yet - will go out tomorrow & see what I can find. I'd like you to have "Lawrence & the Crab" but I've already bought a copy for one friend - or rather ex-friend - & I so badly

2. Want one myself that I don't think I'd be noble enough to send it to you.

Thank you very much for your letter - it was most amusing & I enjoyed reading it. Am glad you enjoyed your weekend with your friend - is she one of the "steady" friends you recommend to me? - You see, I've had one experience of a "steady friend" & I can't say I'm thrilled at having myself vice. Anyway, I've found a new friend who promises to be true & steady. I believe I told you I met him at the Hockey Party Winifred dragged me to. He's an Artistic pupil in an Assessor's office with whom we do some business & it's quite near our office, & we have lunch together nearly every day. He's taking his trials in hand & finishes articles this year so should soon be eligible for a good position. He's nice looking - fairly - very tall, 6'2" - a good cricketer & football player. Seated him in Ireland. Do you approve I leave

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/282)

'Many happy returns of your birthday darling.'

17 May 1928

Probably 17 May 1928

(282)

H. Arregger, Esq.,
3, Hunter Place,
Hull.

Yorks.

3. him for a steady friend? (After such a minute description, don't tell me some time later that I've told you nothing about him!) He looks to come down here - he thinks our life's like a picnic! How we have the gramophone we can entertain better. But we haven't yet many records - I bring in two fresh ones each Friday & will have to collect them gradually. It is always an expensive job to begin, but we're glad to have the gramophone. You must come & see us when you eventually come on your long postponed visit to London.

It is very surprising of you to go to France to look for business - I hope you succeed in finding some, or at any rate that you'll manage to cover expenses. I am not sure yet whether I'll be able to get off on the Friday night, but even if I do it will be 10 o'clock when I arrive in Hull. If you leave on the Saturday I can come to see you off. If I don't see you before you go, I at any rate wish you the best of luck & hope you'll pay a visit to London some time when you come back.

4. You will I suppose want to be back in time for the great concert in Liverpool. - I wonder what the important function is. You must write & tell me all about it - I cannot think what important function there could be at Liverpool University - or why an ex-President of the Guild of Undergraduates should want a partner. However, I am most impressed & very curious for "further & better particulars" (By the way, Winifred says one of the biggest works she ever knew held that same post - & you know that Liverpool University is not one of the recognised ones, do it you? - Even Sheffield has the pull over Liverpool!) So don't be too impressed with the honour! I should like a photograph of your friend, please, because Winifred thinks she may know her. I couldn't remember her name - do you mind telling me?

I have a lot of work to do now - dishes to wash, stacking, etc. & have also had to write to Father for his birthday. Best wishes from your friend, Amy.

283

London.
Monday 11 p.m.

Dear Hans,
 I have been waiting for a postcard or letter with your address, but you do not seem to have thought of it. Perhaps if I send this to Hell-Fritzer may be calling & will forward it on to you. I could not let you know when I was coming at Whiti. Because I did not know myself until the last minute - I only went to Whiti in the afternoon (Friday) & it was no use writing to you as we no longer want to see each other so easily as we used to - or I used to. There was some hope of my coming by car & in that case I probably wouldn't have come home before midnight & when that fell through I thought I was going to have to turn up Sat. morning. However, I got that on condition I came back Monday night so I travelled back to town by the 10.50. on Whiti. Monday night.

PLEASE FORWARD.
Please.

LONDON
JUN 5
7 13 PM
1928 B.B.



283

H. Arregger, Esq.
3. Scumbe Place,
Well.
Yorks.

I wonder how you are getting on in France or wherever you are - it seems strange I should not even know where you are or what you are doing - & it also seemed strange to be in Hull & not to see you. I rang you up two or three times on the Sat. morning before deciding you really would have decamped as you threatened when you knew I was coming.

You would hardly know me now, I have changed such a lot - I am enjoying life very well & on the whole getting a lot out of it. - it is glorious to be alive when the sun is shining, but even when it's not I am still ~~very~~ happy. - in spite of very hard work & late hours recently at the office. We're looking forward to our holidays.

I'll be glad to hear from you if you have time to write & if you care to let me know if & when you're in town, Winifred & I will be pleased to invite you down to see us.

Best of luck.
Amy.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/283)

'I have been waiting for a postcard or letter with your address, but you do not seem to have thought of it.'

5 Jun 1928



284

London.

Sunday

Dear Hans,

Thank you very much for your letter. I'm sorry to hear of your accident & hope you're not feeling any ill effects from it. It is bad luck about the bike & especially when your hand up - are you not injured though? You should, of course, be able to claim for repairs.

If you decide to come on Sunday I shall be pleased to see you - Whiffers is out for the ~~weekend~~ day & I shall be playing tennis in the garden, so if you like you hadn't decide until the last minute & only come if you feel like it. I shall be in all day. I don't know the tennis of your club but if you take the tube to Warwick Avenue it is easy to find your way

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H. Arregger Esq.
3. Dundee Place.
Sheff.

Yorks.

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger
(Reference L DIAJ/284)

Thank you very much for your letter. I'm sorry to hear of your accident and hope you're not feeling any ill effects from it'

5 Jun 1928

2.

down Castellani Road - the one running by the right of the church - the 24 is on the right hand side. I'll get some strawberries for tea as well not go out if your hand up. I prefer staying at home anyhow & rarely go out nowadays. - Am a tennis friend at present. - Have got into the Ladies' Doubles & mixed doubles fixtures which are being held tomorrow. I am disappointed they clash with the London Air Force Display to which I've been looking forward for months & I have a ticket for the 1st enclosure, which I can't sell.

I haven't heard from you people lately because it is my turn to write. I'll let you know when I hear from them. I'll write to Mary. - Thank you for her address.

If you come on Sunday will you bring my things with you - though not the clock which Betty wants. Would you mind very much leaving that

3.

at 86, somewhere for her. She will be delighted.

It is nice of you to think of giving me a birthday souvenir, but I am quite content with your good wishes. I know what it's like to be on the rocks.

I'll not write any more now in case you really decide to come on Sunday when we'll take it in turns to talk about ourselves.

Yours,

Amy.

285
London.
Monday, 10.30p.m.

Dear Hans,

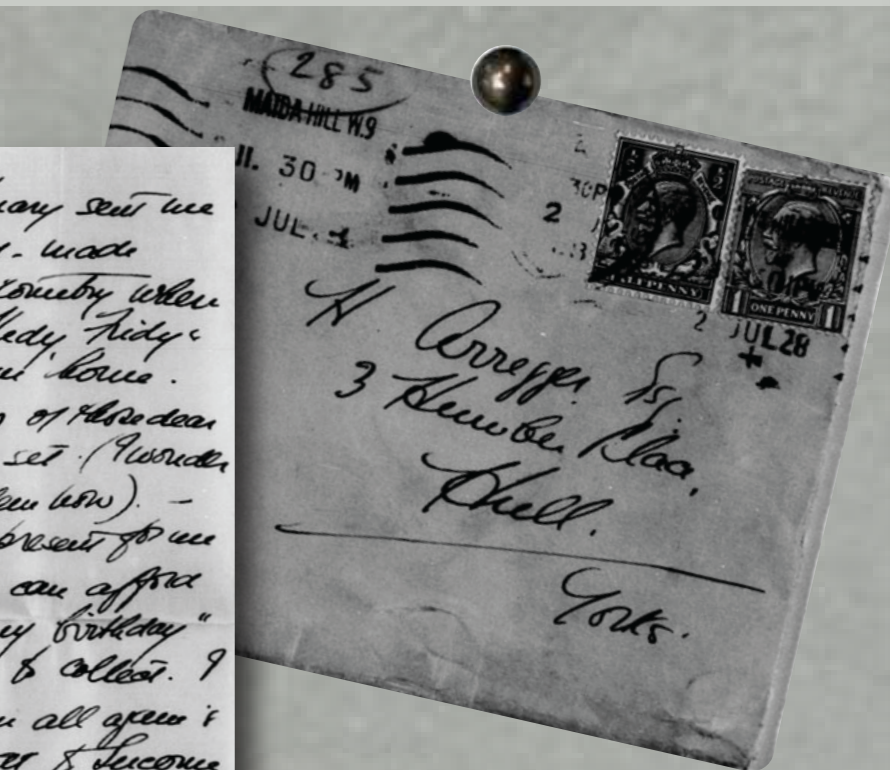
Thank you for your letter & for your birthday wishes. - I was not really surprised when you changed your mind about coming over for the day. - frankly I didn't think it was worth it for you but if you had really come to come I should have been pleased to see you. I'm glad you let me know, because even as it was there wasn't much time to make other arrangements. However, in the end I had a very good time. I had a party. On Sunday morning I got on the telephone & invited about 8 people down (all boys but 2 because I don't know any girls) - & then I went out

285 2.

& bought lots of sandwiches & cream cakes & biscuits etc. We had a lovely tea & I think everyone enjoyed it. In between we had lots of splendid tennis - I really do get some good games here - & in the evening when tennis was finished they all came in again for dancing. Mr. Tibbels rang me up on Saturday - he is wondering what you are doing about your holidays because he has decided to go swimming in Switzerland & he's wondering whether you can join him. He'd like you to go too & ask you to write. I hear from all your people for my birthday. It's awfully nice of them to remember it & to send me so nice letters & presents. For Mother sent me a porcelain from

285 3.

where she is staying - Mary sent me a letter & a sweet hand-made handkerchief from the country where she is at present, & Judy & Judy & Annie wrote me from home. Judy sent me another of those dear little cards for my set (I wonder if I'll stop sending them now). - & Judy says she got a present for me "really more than she can afford" so it is for "Kinas & my birthday" which is waiting for me to collect. I would love to see them all again & shall do my best to get to London at the close of my holiday. They are all wondering what has happened to you that you do not write. Mary says she wrote you twice for my address & in the end got it from Judy. They are all asking me for



285 4.

news of you which of course I can't give as I know so little nowadays myself. I am glad you are going to explain the true state of affairs to them. It is a pity you don't know your own mind right from the beginning. I hope they are not liking me only for your sake because their friendship means a lot to me & I definitely do not want to lose it. Why I am writing you specially tonight is because I want to ask you advice on a problem. It's difficult to word it in a letter but I'll do my best. Whipped & you both interested in the matter. She always has asked the opinion of a woman - was I was whose opinion she values. I want your to know there is a girl Whipped & I know who is 22 - she is pretty &

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/285)

'Thank you for your letter and for your birthday wishes. I was not really surprised when you changed your mind about coming over for the day.'

2 Jul 1928



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5.

attractive & very well versed in the "facts of life" & the ways of the world. She is very fond indeed of a boy who is only 18 & who knows not the first thing about sexual matters or even how girls differ from men & the why & wherefore of it, but he is a fool & is full of character. He's a really nice boy, refined & respectful, eager to be knowing things. They are mutually attracted to each other & the boy wants the girl to help him to understand things. The girl knows she can & would like to but she is afraid if she does she would perhaps make a road for her own back & that in return he may only come to dislike her. Now she is wondering whether it is fair to the boy because of the discrepancy in age & because it is improbable she'd have him for

285

6

"keeps" as he's too young. What is your opinion? He will, of course, learn something because he's full of life & enthusiasm & eagerness. The girl knows she can show him things in a nice way & she may pick it up from other girls. Do you think she should show her knowledge with him, or do you think she should just be nice to him but keep him at a distance & not let any opportunities arise? They are very fond of each other apart altogether from sexual attraction.

Do be a sport & write back right away, will you? - Winifred & I are very keen on problems of this kind. I usually take her opinions on things as she's wiser than I am, but she admits she's really stumped on this question. I'll tell you later what the parents' view is.

285

7.

We're both fond of the girl who is genuinely worried about the matter & Winifred & I want to advise her how to say goodbye & I'm awfully tired - dash it, I've missed the post, what a bother. Never has just stuck.

Love from
 Jimmy

(286) 1928

Before Aug 4 holiday

H. Arregger Esq
3, Dumble Place,
Chel.

London.

Thursday.

Dear Hans.

I am sorry I have been so long letting you have these things - I started on the handkerchiefs immediately & received your letter & finished them a day or two ago but have been too busy to pack them up. I have left the pyjamas, as they are so I remembered you didn't like the idea of your monogram on the pocket. I hope they won't get lost too quickly at the laundry.

You had the pair of socks such a long time & had almost forgotten about them. The £3 enclosed (will be tomorrow) is the last instalment of my debt. Thank God it's off my mind at last. - unless you claim interest, & it's too late to do that.

2.

(286)

I'm sorry you've been hearing bad news from Kiel. Hope things improve soon for you.

What about the rest of your things I have? It's rather a job to send things China by post but if you're needing them I'll do my best to pack them up. There are 2 rupees & the coffee cups & spoons. Have I anything else of yours? What about the other things of mine? Betty has asked me several times if she might have the little Swiss clock - I'd forgotten she had ever seen it but she remembered it first & I said I'd ask you to let her have it. - Also there's the Delft China vase I particularly want. You know how I love that, the only piece of China I possess, - & it has such wonderful associations for me. I think it would be best to leave them all at St. Simeon's - the books as well, a

3.

Special Grammar I believe you have also - unless you do "make the complete treat" & ultimately decide to come to town.

My affairs are still flourishing & life is quite interesting at the moment. Lack of money is about the only flying the omelette.

We go on our solo on Aug. 11th for a fortnight. If possible I should like to get to Liverpool & see your people, but if not I may have to buy a sea jacket. He is quite constant in his affection, it seems.

Best of luck in whatever you decide to do with the rest of your life - I hope you have lots more happiness & success to come in the future. Let me know if you're here in town.

Yours,
Amy

Letters from Amy Johnson to Hans Arregger (Reference L DIAJ/286)

'I am sorry I have been so long letting you have these things.'

[Aug?] 1928

