

28th November 1913

**Civil Service Supply Association Limited
Secretary's Department**

**136 Queen Victoria Street
London E. C.**

Lady M Gilbert
Englefield Green

My Lady

With reference to your letter of the 20th ulto., I beg to state that our Agents have since had an opportunity of opening a number of the cases of Books and inform me they are quite satisfied that all the books are in good condition, and quite dry. They are all in boxes and they can be sent intact to any address required, and the cases returned.

I should like, however, to send one of Messrs Hibbard's men to unpack if agreeable to you.

I am, My Lady

Your Obedient Servant

John E Bignall

Secretary

12th December 1913

Civil Service Supply Association Limited

**Secretary's Department
136 Queen Victoria Street
London E.C.**

E.J Russell Esq.,
Lawes Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., I beg to inform you that we find the Books and Pamphlets are mixed throughout the Cases, and owing to the large quantity, it would involve considerable work to open and unpack all the boxes, but it could be arranged if necessary.

It would cost about 50/- (assuming that about four days work would be involved) to get out the boxes, unpack and repack after inspection had been made.

The Books are at Stoke Newington and we now await the favour of your reply.

I am: Sir

Your obedient servant

John E Bignall

Secretary

28th January 1914

The Secretary
Civil Service Association Ltd
138 Queen Victoria Street
LONDON, E. C.

Dear Sir

I return herewith your form duly completed respecting the removal of lady Gilbert's books here, and also cheque value £5 – 10 – 0 to cover the cost of the same.

Yours faithfully

E.J.R.

Director

16th February 1914

**Estimated cost of proposed new Laboratories at
Rothamsted Experimental Station**

Building Complete		9500
Heating apparatus	300	
Lighting & Water	200	
Electrical Fittings, fans, vacuum & blast etc	<u>500</u>	<u>1000</u>
Benches, shelves, etc, Fume cupboards, gas & water & other fixtures		500
		500
Special Apparatus		300
Library – shelves etc.	100	
Binding & completing sets of Journals	<u>100</u>	200
Architects & other fees, contingencies etc		<u>500</u>
	£	<u>12,000 – 0 – 0</u>

T & F (Tyler & Freeman) Ap 29/15

Wiring section	£145 – 0 – 0
Vacuum & Blast	38 – 0 – 0
Telephones	34 – 0 – 0
Power Wiring	<u>16 – 0 – 0</u>
	<u>£233 – 0 – 0</u>
Fittings & lamps	<u>36 – 0 – 0</u>
	<u>£269 – 0 – 0</u>

13th April 1914

Letter from M Gilbert to Russell

Englefield Green
Surrey

Dear Dr Russell

As it is more convenient to me to send off the Bookcase now & as you kindly give me the choice of time I have arranged with the Railway people to call for it tomorrow, and it might possibly be delivered at the Laboratory on Wednesday. The Sections have been unscrewed so that it is in seven pieces = the Cornice & Bookboard tied together and nearly 12 feet long, the 3 skeleton book-cases the Cupboard & two sets of drawers. The shelves (12) are in the cupboard & I now send the three keys. The varnish on the bookboard has peeled in various places & one knob has been broken off but can be glued on. It is tied to another knob. Otherwise I hope that the Case is sound & in good condition and that you will like it when the books are put in it.

I have not finished sorting over the Beer Materials Parcel, but will send it before long by post.

Believe me very truly yours

M. Gilbert

14th April 1914

Letter from Russell to Lady Gilbert

Dear Lady Gilbert

Very many thanks for despatching the bookcase which I shall be glad to have now as we are getting out the details of the library shelves. We believe the new library will look exceedingly well. The treatment suggested by the architect being especially good.

Yours faithfully

E J R

16th April 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Lady Gilbert

Lady Gilbert
Park View
Englefield Green
Surrey

Dear Madam

On behalf of Dr Russell, who is just now away from the Laboratory I beg to acknowledge the safe arrival of the bookcase in seven packages by Midland railway to day.

Yours faithfully

G.T.D.

Lawes & Gilbert Centenary Fund

March 31st 1914

List of subscriptions received or promised

£5098

Amount still wanted £902

February 12th 1914

£4714 – 15 – 0

April 22nd 1914

£5308

Amount still wanted £692

19th June 1914 **Letter from Russell to Sir John Thorold (Chairman of the LATC)**

Dear Sir John

Here with please find plan suggested by the architect: instead of running up bricks he proposes to put up tiled walls carried on wood, with a second wooden wall covered with plaster. Mrs Russell does not like the scheme particularly because it makes the rooms small, and also there are spaces left between the walls in which mice etc. can harbour, and already we have a certain amount of trouble from the number of cavities in the present house.

Yours very truly

7th July 1914

Letter from Thorold to Russell

Old Hall
Syston
Grantham

Dear Dr Russell

I return the heating engineers letters, it would be well to consult the architect upon it as it may influence his plans

Yours truly

J H Thorold

8th July 1914

Letter from Russell to Thorold

Dear Sir John

Many thanks for returning the letters, I will forward them to the architect as you suggest

Yours very truly

Sir John Thorold Bart.

11th July 1914

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries
4 Whitehall Place
London S.W.

No. A. 18343/1914

Sir

I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to refer to their letter of the 6th inst., and to request you to be good enough to furnish the Board in due

course with a duplicate set of the plans of the new laboratory to be erected at your station in order that they may be available for reference purposes

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

A W Anstruther

(assistant secretary)

17th July 1914

No. A. 18343/1914

Sir, Under another cover I am sending copy of the plans* of the laboratory as requested, and I have instructed the architect to forward to you a second copy.

Yours obediently

The Secretary
Board of Agriculture

*(in pencil)** The plans referred to were No. 1c (preliminary) general plan of New lab ground floor & basement & No 2c (prelim) Genl plan 1st floor (these were our copies and we have no others) the Architects have also been asked to send direct to the Bd. another copy of each of these two plans

G.T.D.

18th July 1914

Letter from Russell to Thorold

Enclosure

Dear Sir John

Herewith I enclose list of estimates for the building (*Russell bulding – central and south parts*): as the builders are all of equal merit there seems no reason why Messrs Thompson should not be accepted. If you agree to this will you kindly send the enclosed telegram to the architects so that the matter can be put in hand forthwith.

What is your view as to the Clerk of the Works? Mr Hodgson tells me he thinks that we should certainly save his salary and it might in the long run prove a sound investment. If you agree to this I will write to the architect asking them to appoint a man.

It is satisfactory to find that the estimate are within the amount that we allowed. The sum that we put down was £9,350 including the heating engineers estimate and the sum of £200 for electrical work. We have therefore £515 in hand for the clerk of the work's salary and contingencies. It is always probable we have underestimated some of the other items but it is satisfactory to know that we are on the right side for this big one.

Yours very truly

Sir John Thorold Bart.

20th July 1914

Letter from Russell to Thorold

Dear Sir John

Many thanks for your letter, the contents of which I have communicated to the architect.

Yours very truly

Sir John Thorold Bart.

Old Hall

Syston

Grantham

25th July 1914

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

21 Marine Parade

Lyme Regis

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for the letters & for forwarding the guide books.

Would you let me know what amount of the library bookshelves can be got into the office & the landing? We shall then have to arrange for certain sections of the books to be stored so that we can house the remainder & also those now in the office.

I have received the enclosed from the Rector. Please hand it to Miss Brenchley & if there is room for Gladys Rees & you think she is alright we might take her on. Of course if the list is full we could not do it. You might report direct to the Rector.

Further in regard to Mr Middleton & the Saxmundham visit: would you please write to W M Oldershaw, County Hall, Ipswich (Miss Bates has the address) asking when the harvest will come on? I can then arrange my visit accordingly.

On hearing from you as to space for the library shelves I shall ask Dr Miller to sort out certain continental & colonial journals to be stored so as to leave room for the Journals from the office. You might detach Cyril or Bowden to help him, whichever is at liberty.

The library shelves can be moved out at any time now so as to leave that room clear.

We are having very nice weather here & all of us are enjoying the change very much

Yours truly
E J Russell

Will you please thank Miss Bates for her letter & tell her I will attend to it.

Letter from J Clayton to Dr Russell

28th July 1914

Rothesay
St John's Villas
Upper Holloway, N

Dear Dr Russell

I was called over to Preston, Lancashire, on Monday to an interview about the post of Senior Assistant Lecturer in Agriculture at the Harris Institute. This post has now been offered to me, but after very serious consideration I don't feel inclined to accept it.

In the first place the question of my degree at Göttingen arises. Acting on advice all round, I really think I ought to sacrifice something in order to take the degree especially as I have already spent a considerable amount of time and money on it. It will still take me another fortnight or perhaps three weeks to get my Arbeit written up and sent on to Professor Koch. Then for the examination itself I should have to put in a month's hard reading. At Preston, however, they wanted me to start on the 14th of September, and although they were quite willing that I should go over to Göttingen in October for 3 or 4 days to take the examination, they were not disposed to lengthen this time. Professor Koch, on the other hand, told me definitely that it would take me at least two or three weeks in October before I could take the examination, not so much on account of any regulations, but on account of the fact that he would require me to talk over the whole Arbeit with him and get it into a form satisfactory to himself before he passed it. In the second place I now find that the amount of lecturing required for this post is more than my voice can be reasonably expected to stand --- 8 – 10 full hour lectures every week during the winter months with considerable travelling about to lectures in different parts of the County. Not only would another voice breakdown, such as I had three years ago, be very bad for

me but it would also completely upset the work at Preston, and of course this as well as my own trouble has to be considered.

Of course I told all this to the Agricultural Committee, and they were very good about it and allowed me a few days in which to decide whether I would take the post after receiving advice. Although I am not in a position to be able to refuse a post lightly, and naturally do not do so, I think I shall be right in not accepting it. Can you advise me?

Yours sincerely

James Clayton

29th July 1914

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

21 Marine Parade

Lyme Regis

Dear Dunkley

Harrods have of an oversight sent two or three rather large packages (a bed etc.). Would you please take them in & hold them somewhere where they wont hurt until we return?

I am glad you have got the office duly fitted up & I hope you will be able to work comfortably there. If the library shelves wont go into the office the sample house will be the best place for them: you can proceed to transfer them as they stand so as to empty the present library. (your letter has just come; the arrangements you have adopted will be satisfactory).

Will you please reply to Prof Kossowitz(?) & say that I will be pleased to send a paper on the subject he mentions viz.

“The influence of biological & chemical factors on the fertility of the soil”

Would you also communicate the contents of Mr Oldershaws letter to Prof Middleton & if the harvest is earlier than Aug 14th say “Dr R will therefore not be back in time to go before harvest”.

In writing to Mr Hodgson about the house I forgot two points: would you please communicate them to him:

- 1) The tiles he suggests (large red) will do very well for the hearths
- 2) There is an old well or sump in front of the house which may do for the bath.waste. You could show it him: it is on the little foot path W of the front door & running N.

Will you post this to Mr Holmyard: I have not got his address.

We are all having a good time

Yours truly

E J Russell

Letter from J Clayton to Dr Russell

30th July 1914

Rothesay
St John's Villas
Upper Holloway, N

Dear Dr Russell

I have just been to see the throat specialist --- Dr A.A. Francis, 9 Henrietta St, W --- who used to treat me last year, but he is unfortunately away for a week. I have therefore been to my local doctor here, who knows the whole history of the case, and after examining me he says he would be surprised if my voice, at it's present state, were capable of standing more than 2 or 3 months of the lecturing required for the Preston post. He advises me not to think, at present, of taking up such a heavy amount of lecturing. This is also what I myself honestly feel to be the case, for although my voice has been steadily improving for the last 2 years, and I am now only troubled with catarrh, I feel certain it would break down again under a heavy strain.

I have also seen Prof. Middleton and he thinks I should not take up this post but go on steadily with my degree work. Apart altogether from my voice trouble, which naturally is the most serious question, I should have serious difficulty in getting the work for my degree done, if I had to take up other work as early as September. Professor Koch is not in any mood to be hurried over the work, and he will certainly make me get my Arbeit into a form suitable to himself before he will pass it.

I feel now that it was a mistake on my part in the first instance to put in an application for this particular post, but at that time I had no knowledge of when they would require me to start work or of the amount of lecturing involved, and as they only left me one day in which to leave Göttingen, I had no opportunity of getting particulars. I trust you will believe that I am not putting this offer aside lightly. It really has caused me the greatest anxiety.

I am postponing replying to the Lancs. County Council till tomorrow

Yours sincerely

James Clayton

31st July 1914

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

21 Marine Parade
Lyme Regis

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for sending on the cheques & their enclosures which I have duly dealt with. Would you look into the possibility of transferring more of the L &

G C Fund to deposit a/c? The rates of interest are, I understand, rising & we ought to get as much as we can.

Please get Dr Miller's room arranged & accept Coburns estimate. In regard to the bacteriological lab: if Claridge undertakes the same work as the others of course he is entitled to ½ the contract. Before placing it, however, we must know definitely whether or not the war will interfere with Messrs Thompson. I believe they can get out of the contract now that war is declared, or at least that we cannot enforce a time limit. If they don't mean to begin work for some months we need not get the bacteriological lab. altered & in any case we may need all our money.

Please tell Mr B... that I shall be very pleased for the trials to take place: send Mr Eames message re the distribution, & ask if the trial can be after I return so that I may see it?

We must do all we can to facilitate Mr Daish's & Lawrence's movements. You can tell Lawrence his post will be held for him & he can have it directly he comes back.

Please see that Mr Cowie is supplied with all the material promised to him

Yours truly
E J Russell

Please ask Messrs Buddin & Prescott not to arrange to go to Germany: I am communicating with the Board about them.

4th August 1914

Letter from J A Prescott to Russell

Berridale
Willows lane
Accrington

Dear Dr Russell

I am again in England – a little earlier than I had intended and very much shaken up by the adventures of the last week. I said Goodbye to Dr Ostwald and his wife last Friday in Leipzig and within an hour of leaving him I had decided to leave Leipzig that evening. I reached home early on Monday morning but I don't feel fit for anything except a very long rest.

Dr Ostwald will now be on duty in his capacity as lieutenant – although last Friday he himself was quite confident that the whole business was bluff – it was just after I left him that the “Kriegzustand” was declared. Owing to the kindness of an American friend I was able to come home with sufficient money.

Of course my plans for the Future are all upset – practically all my personal possessions and all my German books are in some unknown place – I am hoping that they get at least to Harwich.

I shall write again in a week or two when I have had time to settle down a little and to think things over. I hope you are getting things forward again at Rothamsted and that all the work is turning out well,

I remain,

Sincerely yours

James A Prescott

4th August 1914

Telegram from Hodgson Harpenden to Thorold

Builders say timber and other merchants refuse contract materials also lockout decision 18th inst. Will you agree postpone commencing laboratory work fortnight please reply

Victor Hodgson

Hodgson Harpenden Freeman

5th August 1914

Letter from Thorold to Russell

Old Hall
Syston
Grantham

Dear Dr Russell

I had the enclosed from Mr Hodgson and wired my agreement to postponement. Doubtless you are in communication with him

Yours truly

J H Thorold

6th August 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Thorold

Sir John Thorold Bart., LL.D
Old hall
Syston
Grantham

Dear Sir John

On behalf of Dr Russell, who is just now on holiday, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your note of yesterday containing Mr Hodgson's telegram respecting the postponement of the commencement of the work on the new laboratory.

The builder came here yesterday and said he was confident there would be no general lock-out of the men in the building trade, and that as a matter of fact several large firms in London had recommenced work that morning. He therefore decided to commence operations here at once and left his foreman to make the necessary arrangements. I have communicated his decision both to Dr Russell and the architects

Yours respectfully
G.T.D.

Secretary

6th August 1914

Letter from H B Hutchinson to Dr Russell

L A T paper

My dear Russell

As a result of the change of conditions within the last few days, the question has arisen amongst some of the laboratory staff as to the attitude of the Trust Committee would adopt towards staff members who volunteered for service.

I feel sure an expression of opinion, either from you or the Committee would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

H. B. Hutchinson

Letter from Miss Bates to Dr Russell

6th August 1914

St Michael's
Harpenden

My dear Dr Russell

I hope you will forgive me when I tell you I have joined the Voluntary Aid Detachment at St Albans, & must hold myself in readiness to go at twelve hours notice. I am also hoping to spend the remaining three weeks of my holidays at St Thomas's Hospital, I have been offered but shall not know until tomorrow or Saturday whether they will have me. At the end of the three weeks I will come back if you wish, & work with you until I am sent for, but if I am gone before you come back will you in the kindness of your heart keep my place open for me? I used to think that nothing would ever persuade me to give up my work with you, I have always loved it so, but a greater thing than all has come now & I cant stay at home. My brother & Mr Daish went on Monday. Perhaps if the hospital will take me & if I can stand the work, neither of which of course is certain, you might prefer me to stay on their until St Albans wants me, sooner than run the risk of having your

work suddenly interrupted, & of course the more training I can get in the better. But perhaps it would be better to leave that question until we see how things go. I got out of France by the last boat which was guaranteed to run, last Monday night, but I am very glad to have had the experience

With kind regards

Yrs sincerely

Gertrude Bates

7th August 1914

Letter from Russell to Dunkley

Lyme Regis

Dear Dunkley

Apparently your letter has crossed mine. Please accept Claridge's estimate & tell him to go ahead at once. I returned all estimates two days ago.

There should also be photos of the new farm buildings for the Dutch barn. You might ask Dr Hutchinson if he sent these.

Would you also ask Roberts what interest is now being allowed on deposit accounts.

Would you also ascertain what pay & allowances are given to Territorials in camp? We shall have to do something in regard to Lawrences wages.

Weather keeps good here.

Yours truly

E J Russell

7th August 1914

letter from W Weir(*Carnegie Research Scholar*) to Dunkley

151 Clifton Road

Aberdeen

Dear Mr Dunkley

I was thinking of taking the road south again. What like are things in Harpenden? Are any of the men about the place at present?

Would you be good enough to write me by return if possible because if the outlook is so unsettled with you as it is here the best plan it seems to me is simply to extend the holiday.

Anyway you might let me know what is doing about the Lab.

Best wishes to you

Yours

William Weir

8th August 1914

Letter from Daish to Dr Russell

c/o Colonel Fisher
Waltham Abbey

Dear Dr Russell

I have been going to write to you for some days but things have moved so rapidly with us that I have been unable to find time before this. I expect you will know that we have been mobilized. We received our notices on Tuesday night last & left early next day for Hertford. Yesterday we received orders to proceed to this place to guard the powder factory here & it seems that we shall be here a long time. We have about 180 men & 4 officers here, the rest of the battalion having gone to Romford.

It is, of course, impossible to say how long we shall be out, but it is certain to be until the war is over. This address will find me at anytime, but if we move I will let you know where I am to be found

Yours sincerely

A J Daish

8th August 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I have your letter of yesterday & have attended to most of the matters thereon mentioned.

Claridge's estimate has been accepted & he is asked to commence the work at once.

Dr Hutchinson says he sent photos both of the New Farm Buildings & the Dutch Barn with the others, & gave descriptions of them. Probably that is why the Bd of Ag has not sent proofs.

I have asked Robarts Lubbock & Co the rate of interest now allowed on Deposit a/cs & will send their answer to you as soon as I get it.

I can say nothing at present about what pay Lawrence is receiving. I am however writing to Mr Daish tonight & will ask him to let me know what George is receiving per week including any allowance for his wife.

We were all exceedingly pleased at the tone of your letter to Dr Hutchinson, & Miss Brenchley asks me to say how pleased she is that the ladies are included in the scheme. Some of the older members can perhaps do very little but all I am sure would be willing to do something in such a national strain as that of the present moment.

Miss Bates asks me to say that since she wrote to you she has been appointed to a hospital at Cambridge & takes up her work there on Monday week.

Mr Keen has I believe offered his services to the Essex Territorials & Mr Horton tells me he has received a letter from Mr Appleyard today stating that he has been offered a commission in his old corps.

I am, yours faithfully
G. T. Dunkley

8th August 1914

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dr Russell

St Michael's

My dear Dr Russell

Thank you very much, I knew you would help me if you could. All yesterday I went round to different hospitals in London asking them to take me in, but so far it has been without success, they are all now too full of nurses who are waiting to be called to the front & others who have come to take up their places. Later on they say they may be glad of me but not now. I have now applied to the Worcester hospital & Cambridge & am expecting their answers today or tomorrow, if they are no good I shall only go on trying. Harpenden is starting a convalescent home & Mr Hodgson has given up his empty house (*28 Milton Road, once Plant pathology Laboratory, Abbeyfield home and now Southwood Court*) in Milton Road for the purpose. I am quite alone at home with the exception of an old caretaker, as all the rest of the family are at Aldeburgh, but I am hoping to go off any day. To pile on the agony there is a scout funeral this afternoon of a little chap who got killed through the overturning of a motor car. He was Chirnley's son & the car was Mr Eames' old one. All our Scouts go off on Monday to help the Territorials, Herts is mustering 4,000

With very many thanks

Yrs sincerely

Gertrude Bates

8th August 1914

Letter from Miss Brenchley to Russell

L.A.T.C. Headed paper

Dear Dr Russell

Dr Hutchinson has shown me your letter with its suggestions. If you have a reply from the Board re the question of food supply, will you rely on my active co-operation, provided that I can serve in a capacity in which my limitation of deafness would not make me more hindrance than help. I shall not be volunteering for nursing or any such work on account of that limiting factor, but should be only too glad to give any assistance within my capabilities

Yours sincerely

Winifred E. Brenchley

10th August 1914

Letter from Weir to Dunkley
151 Clifton Road
Aberdeen

Dear Mr Dunkley

Thanks very much for your letter which I had by return of post to-day.

I have just sent away a wire to you to enter my name should the B. of Ag. Want any men for such schemes as they formulate. I saw that the thing was mooted by the local papers & I had previously thought of entering.

I am afraid life at the Lab promises to be rather dull for a month or two.

If you can find time you might write me again in a day or two to say if there is any indication of anything doing or if time is short wire to the above address if services are required.

Again thanking you for your letter

I am

Yrs

William Weir

11th August 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley
Waltham Abbey
Essex

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for your note. We have been stationed here – 150 men & four officers – since Friday last. I have the task of looking after the gunpowder factory. It's quite exciting work & we are having a good time all things considered. I think Lawrence will only get 7/- per week in all; at any rate it will not do to reckon it any higher.

Remember me to all who are left in the lab.

Yours sincerely

A.J.Daish

12th August 1914

Letter from Russell to Dunkley
22 Marine Parade
Lyme Regis

Dear Dunkley

We have decided to stay another week & shall return on the 20th. Please note change of address Would you also inform Mr Salisbury & ask him to get matters advanced in the kitchen as quickly as possible so that we can use it when we return. Will you please also notify the Post Office to continue forwarding letters.

Will you ascertain if Mr Mende has been registered? I enclose cheque for £4 – 1 – 3 would you please send it in to Eyles? I don't know his initials: will you fill them in? (I find I have no cheques left, so will forward in a day or so).

Please place another £500 on deposit a/c as suggested in your letter, & ask whether there is any advantage in having it on longer notice than 7 days.

You might remind Mr Eames that the potash people were promised sheaves as well as ricks. They want to make a model of Broadbalk. We must keep our promise in the matter: of course if they fail to collect the material that is their lookout. But unless the Exhibition is postponed they will no doubt find some way round, even if they don't they will want the material as soon as peace is arranged.

Will you ask Grey if he will be good enough to continue looking after the fowls?

Yours truly

E J Russell

14th August 1914

Draft letter from Dunkley to Lawrence

When you get an opportunity you might let me know what pay you are getting per week, & also what allowance your wife receives either from the army or any local relief fund. I don't want you to jump to the conclusion that your wages will be made up to the usual amount, but if Dr R can do anything to assist you I am sure he will do so.

14th August 1914

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I have been approached to render my aid at the present crisis by assisting in the organisation of the women's work in Harpenden in connection with the Queen's Appeal and the National Relief Fund. I am fully prepared to do this, acting as c-Secretary to the Committee concerned and in the light of your letter to Dr Hutchinson last week I feel that your approval will be with me. It is impossible to say yet what time will be needed for the work or exactly how things will be arranged. In any case the grass sorting will go ahead all right. The children are remarkably efficient and quick and Grace (*Bassill*) has already shown the capability of handling them during my temporary absences indoors. For the remainder of the time the girls are here Grace, with the "moral support" of Miss Adams & Mr Dunkley, will be quite able to cope with things during the times I may be away. Will you please wire answer, as my call to service is immediate?

All remains quiet here at present. I hear from friends that troops are quartered in the houses at St Albans from today and rumours are about that Harpenden is the next place for billeting

Yours sincerely
Winifred E. Brenchley

At the top of the letter is written:-

Interviewing Bd Agric 1(2?)4th will you wait till then?

14th August 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I received your letter of the 12th this morning & note you have decided to stay on at Lyme Regis till the 20th. I have notified the postmaster & have also sent a note to Salisbury asking them to hurry on with the kitchen as much as possible.

The police tell me Mr Mendes is not obliged to register. They say it is only in the case of aliens with whom we are at war, viz. Germans, & Austro-Hungarians, that it is necessary.

I have asked Robarts Lubbock & Co. to transfer £500 to Deposit a/c, & whether there is any advantage in having it on longer notice than 7 days.

As to the ricks etc. promised to the Potash Syndicate I have to say that Mr Eames has, as agreed, cut two separate 1 – sq yds of Bk Wheat from each of the plots 3, 11 & 13, & they are hanging in the sample House to dry.

When the Park hay was carted Grey set aside samples of which ricks are to be made, viz. of plots 3, 8, 7, 10 & 9. Then according to Mr Cowie's letter of July 6th he would like wheat straw of plots 3, 11 & 13 for ricks I presume, but to be certain on the point I have written to him today. Mr Eames knows what is wanted but of course the produce will not be available till threshing takes place. They are I believe carting the Broadbalk plots today.

Mr Clayton called in to see you today. I told him you were not returning till the 20th so he will try to run down again later. He is however trying to join the Cambridge O.T.C. for military service.

The pulling down of the Laboratory is progressing. Yesterday the skylights in the front Lab. were taken off & today a good many of the slates are being stripped off.

Coburn has now practically finished in Dr Miller's new room & Claridge is well on with the gas & water for Dr Hutchinson's rooms etc., though it will be 2 or 3 days yet before they have completed the work.

We had Dr & Mrs Smith of Lynn, Massachusetts here yesterday & today Mr & Mrs Newton of Frederickton, N. B. Canada, today.

Mr Daish writes that Lawrence will get a total allowance of 7/- only per week. It is pretty certain however that his wife will get some allowance beyond this, either from the army or from some local relief fund, at least that is my opinion. I had a letter from Lawrence this morning. He is at present at Romford in Essex, & is acting as valet to the officers he tells me.

There are no troops stationed at Harpenden but it is reported that some are coming shortly. At St Albans there is said to be a pretty large number, & they are billeted in the town, & not under canvas, so if any come here they will I suppose adopt the same plan. Extra wooden platforms have been made at the Mid stn here for dealing with troops, guns stores etc., but so far all is quiet.

I am, yours faithfully

G. T. Dunkley

P.S. I enclose an appeal on behalf of the Harpenden War Relief Fund which came in today

14th August 1914

Letter from G Lawrence to Dunkley

Pte G Lawrence
G Coy. 1st Herts
Mauneys Rd School
Romford

Dear Sir

Mr Dunkley am writing to ask you about things as this is a longer job than one thinks. Well sir I am stationed at present at Romford so should be pleased to have a line from me (*you?*) to cheer me up about the old place. Please would you tell the girls the address and tell them I hope they have not forgotten me as I have wrote several times and have not heard yet I sent a letter to you the beginning of August please send and tell me if Dr Russell is home so I can write him. Well I must finish as I have got to wait dinner as I am valeting the Officers soon in service. Must now conclude with kind regards to all at lab and accept the same yours with kind regards from

George

14th August 1914

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

Station House

Dear Dunkley

I don't know if you are away, so I'm sending this to the lab on spec. If Dr Russell asks about my intentions will you tell him that I have applied for a Territorial Commission, & my application is now at the War Office. I don't expect to hear for some time as they are concentrating there on getting people for the 100000 army & I

hope to get in the Territorials afterwards, as there will be vacancies left by those who transfer to the Regulars.

I will write definitely as soon as I hear anything. I think I ought to stand a good chance as I was in the college O.T.C. & trained men are scarce.

Will you let me know if H.B. has joined the Sanitary Corps & also if the food supply scheme is on any official basis yet?

Yours sincerely

B.A.Keen

14th August 1914

Telegram from Bates to Dunkley

Please send name and address Brenchleys typewriter

From G Bates, High Street, Aldeburgh

Answer? L C Smith Bros, 19 Queen Victoria Street, E. C.

15th August 1914

Letter from Appleyard to Russell

The Ouse Hotel
Brandon
Norfolk

Dear Dr Russell

I came to the Hill farm at Thetford last Tuesday. On Wednesday I was out with the binder & the following day was helping make stacks. You will be surprised to hear that on Friday I cleared out. Mortimer the man with whom I was staying unfortunately isn't a gentleman. He was excessively rude to me for no reason whatsoever, and so I came away immediately to Brandon which is about 7 miles from Thetford. I am writing to ask if you would be so good as to get me to go over Lord Iveagh's farm which is quite near Thetford. There are several farms I intend to visit before leaving the district. I saw your letter to

15th August 1914

Letter from Brenchley to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

The Public meeting for women is to be held on Monday, and work is to proceed at once, so your suggested delay is not practicable. I have decided that the best course of action will be for me to give what assistance is possible pending your interview with the Board of Agriculture. The greater part of the initial organising ought to be completed within the next ten days, and probably my assistance will

prove of greater value at the first. When once the schemes are organised, matters ought to run on wheels, without proving too great a tax on the helpers. As there is a Co-Secretary on this Committee, we shall be able to divide the work to suit our mutual convenience.

Yours sincerely

Winifred E Brenchley

16th August 1914

Draft letter from Dunkley

Dear Sir

Owing to structural alterations going on at his house Dr Russell has been obliged to postpone his return from the 15th to the 20th inst, & although I do not know what engagements he may have on the 21st or 22nd I should say you would be fairly sure of finding him here on one or both of those days. I am however sending on your letter to him & trust you will hear either direct from Dr R, or through me which of the two days will be the more convenient for your visit

Yours faithfully

G. T. D.

Surrounding this is a note to Russell in Dunkley's hand

Dear Dr R

I enclose herewith a letter from a Mr Hopkins who wants to pay a visit here on one of the last 3 days of the present week. I have replied as on the back of his letter.

Robarts Lubbock & Co. say they have transferred £500 to deposit a/c. They say that they cannot give us more favourable terms than those mentioned even though we make the point

17th August 1914

Letter from A Appleyard to Dunkley

The Ouse Hotel
Brandon, Norfolk

Dear Dunkley

Would you kindly keep any letters that may come for me at the Laby, for I am leaving here tomorrow for home. I shall be back at the laboratory some time next week. The harvest is over in this district, and I finished my round this morning with a visit to the Methwold Reclamation Scheme farm. It is most interesting and I thoroughly enjoyed the outing. I hope you are enjoying your rest.

Yours sincerely

A. Appleyard

Lofthouse gate, Wakefield, Yorks

18th August 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

Pte G Lawrence
G. Coy. 1st Herts

Dear Sir Mr Dunkley

I have just a minute to write a line in answer to your letter I received quite safe. We left Romford Monday and walked to Chelmsford that is as 17 miles and we sleep in a park for the night the walked to Braintree and halted tonight and the moving on tomorrow we are to walk to Bury St Edmunds. We hope to get there Thursday. Dear sir I shall be able to stand anything after this, please will you remember me to Mr Grey and Weston and all my mates and tell them when I get settled again I will right to them. I hope also you have got your troops there there is no such luck as I shall come I should be to much at home but I as happy as a sand boy. Well you also asked about the wife by what I can gather she told me they has send her a monthly separation allowance of £1 – 1 – 9 so if there is any chance of anthing she will be pleased as I cant send her much an my shilling a day so I shall rest as you will do what you can and if you would like her address its

Mrs G Lawrence

c/oMrs Brown

The Barracks

Codicote

Welwyn

I shall sent my when I get through so I can get a line from you as I should like to know how my garden is fairing I must clase as I have got to prepare table for dinner on grass and covering is the so good. With kind regards from your poor old gardener.

George

21st August 1914

Letter from Russell to Prescott

J A Prescott
Berridale
Willows Lane
Accrington

Dear Prescott

I am very pleased to hear that you got home safely and I hope that by this time your personal belongings have turned up. I regard to next year how would you like to work at Cambridge under W B Hardy he is by much the best man in the country

Yours faithfully

24th August 1914

Letter from Prescott to Russell

Berridale
Willows lane
Accrington

Dear Dr Russell

I was pleased to receive your letter. I may say that my possessions arrived a week after I had reached home so that everything now is satisfactory. I have practically got over my German experience and after a week's holiday in the Yorkshire limestone hills I am feeling quite all right.

As regards my future work, I had hardly given consideration to any other possibility except a return to Rothamsted – but of course I recognised that accommodation would be somewhat limited.

I cannot say that I feel at all keen about going to Cambridge, particularly in the last year of my Scholarship for it means another break into my work and one can hardly go to a new place for less than twelve months.

From y association with Dr Ostwald, I think I picked up most of the theoretical work embodied in his full course of lectures. Unfortunately our Lab. was badly equipped and the new winter was the first one in which Dr Ostwald had been able to get a grant of money for practical
..... chance of picking up some of the practical methods – of course we had the ultramicroscope, but from what I gathered from Dr Ostwald, simple methods of dialysis for separations and viscometric measurements to determine changes of state are the ones most used.

From my reading in Leipzig and from my discussions on the subject with Dr Ostwald I think I have sufficient material for work during the next year or so on adsorption especially in connection with clay.

My studies in Mineralogy were of course only half complete and what I got in the Summer Semester included practically the whole of the Petrology of the subject – I have found it exceedingly useful as it has enabled me to look at soil from the point of view of the Petrologist, that is of course as a “weathered” product.

The purely Mineralogical side of the subject is reserved for the Winter Semester of course – I have missed that and much of the practical work.

If you have no room at Rothamsted, possibly I might be able to get a laboratory either somewhere in the London Colleges or in Manchester University so that I could finish out the phosphate work, but if you think that I shall be able to do better by going to Cambridge with Hardy I shall reconsider the matter. I know that Hardy is quite a good man from what Dr Ostwald has told me – but perhaps his work is one sided – of course that I do not know. I expect I shall be ready to begin work in about a fortnight’s or three week’s time –

Kind regards
Yours sincerely
Jas. A. Prescott

25th August 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley

Royal Gunpowder Factory
Waltham Abbey
Essex

Dear Dunkley

Just a line to ask you if by any chance you have heard what money I am likely to get from the laboratory during my absence. Dr Russell told me in his letter to me that it would depend on to what extent the funds were affected by the present state of affairs, but I have heard nothing more from him up to the present.

So far we officers haven’t seen a farthing since we started to camp more than a month ago, but I suppose they will give us something at some time or other. As it is we are extraordinarily hard up & it would be a relief to me to know how much I am likely to get from the lab:

I have heard from Keen. He has failed to get a commission so far & has written to ask if I can do anything to help him. I have asked him to come down here & I believe he comes on Thursday, but I don’t know if I can do anything for him. I’m going to try to get him into the Reserves

Yours sincerely

A. J. Daish

25th August 1914

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

Would you like to be an angel & send me my pocket knife? I have left it in the middle drawer of my writing table. Thank you so much if you do feel of an angelic disposition. You may be amused to hear that I have given up all ideas of nursing, it is impossible to learn it in such a short time, & there are plenty of properly trained nurses already mobilized & waiting to take on the job, so I am sticking to the only thing I can do, -- helping the Matron in her secretarial work & as you can imagine she has plenty of it as she is principal Matron of the Territorial Force Nursing Service. There are now about 90 nurses waiting in Downing College ready to go off at a moment's notice. I must say I do envy them. When Matron has no further need of me I will come back to Dr Russell, that is to say if he wants me, for I don't think it is fair on him for me to be away longer than I need. What is happening to the lab? Is it full up of soldiers? We have about 40,000 troops here in Cambridge, the place is swarming with them, & they have turned the cloisters of Trinity College into a hospital. The public are no longer allowed in the grounds but the Matron has promised to take me. She says everything is beautiful, & they have even fitted up an operating theatre in the cloisters. As this hospital has no longer room for the sick soldiers a big boys school has been taken up for the purpose. They have about 500 beds & between 50-60 soldiers already in, with different illnesses. Are any of the Lab men up here? If so where are they? Awfully sorry to worry you with the knife. Please let me hear all the news, & what the Lab is doing

Yrs sincerely

Gertrude Bates

25th August 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

G. Coy. 1st Herts
Long Melford
Suffolk

Dear Sir

Mr Dunkley. Just a line or two hoping alls well at the Lab also my mates I wish to be remember to and tell them I am having a fine time I am my Phto card so you can see I am doing myself well round the old camp fire such as the officers mess were I did my little bit for work. Well sir I have written to Dr Russell so I shall be pleased to hear how I stand about my work and I have told the girls about my clothes I don't know if they are the same ones or not as I have written several times and nott had a line you so I am beginning to think they must be so if they are would you ask about them as there are clothes behind the door and as to boots if I ever do return I will try

and see you catch up. I shall not take up my position again if I get the chance. Well so we are having splendid weather aren't we I suppose you are getting on with the Lab. I don't know if you have heard about Mr Daish as I have not I suppose he his at Waltham Cross I don't know. Well sir I must close with my best and kindest regards to you and family

From G Lawrence

Goodbye

26th August 1914

Draft letter from Russell to Prescott

J A Prescott

My Dear Prescott

I will make room for you to work in the Laboratory here & you can start whenever you like. It would not however be necessary to put in a year under H B Hardy. I think perhaps 3 or 4 months would suffice. In view of what you have already done you certainly ought not to be long away from here.

Yours faithfully

27th August 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Daish

Lawes Agric^l Trust

Rothamsted Exp^t Station

Harpenden

Dear Mr Daish

I have your letter of the 25th & would have answered it yesterday, but I am just now on holiday & was kicking up my heels in London. I am enclosing your cheque for the present month as of course this is considered as your holiday & is therefore due. I have been talking the matter over with Dr R this morning & he hopes to do something during the time you are on military duty but he cannot say definitely until the L A T C meets in October. In the meantime I hope you will get something from the army in the shape of pay. It would perhaps be well as soon as you know what that allowance will be if you drop Dr Russell or me a line stating the amount including or excluding rations, as Dr Russell's idea is if possible to make up the sum to your present salary, although as I say he cannot definitely promise anything until after the Committee meets.

We had Gen^l Ian Hamilton reviewing the troops on the common yesterday.

Miss Brenchley is very busy assisting the local committee (of which she is secretary) to make garments for the soldiers, their wives & children. The B^d of Ag scheme does not seem to have touched us at present although Dr R has offered the help of the staff. I don't know what Lewin is doing. Appleyard & Sawyer are still

supposed to be on holiday. MacLennan also has not yet returned. Clayton has started work here again.

With kindest regards

I am yours faithfully

G J Dunkley

P.S. I have stamped the Insurance card as usual this month & have charged 2/4 to you

Mr A J Daish
Royal Gunpowder Factory
Waltham Abbey
Essex

27th August 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Lawrence

Dear George

Thanks for your letter and also for the post card which show you to be as happy as a sand boy. You will be pleased to hear that Dr Russell is arranging to give Mrs Lawrence an allowance of 5/- per week while you are on military duty. It will be sent to her at the end of each 4 weeks. The first payment to her may be a few days late as I am going away for a holiday but I will see that she gets it as soon as I return. He also hopes to take you on at work as usual as soon as you return. Of course in the meantime he will have to make some temporary arrangement. He says the servants have written to you & Mrs Russell will look after the clothes you mention.

Mr Daish is still at the Powder factory at Waltham Abbey. He paid a visit to Harpenden on Sunday last, and was looking quite well

With kind regards

I am yours faithfully

G. T. Dunkley

Private G Lawrence
G Company
1st Herts Regiment
Long Melford
Suffolk

28th August 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley

1st Herts Regiment
Waltham Cross
Essex

Dear Dunkley

My thanks for sending along my cheque it will help to relieve the present financial crisis as we have heard nothing about our pay yet. I expect we shall get it someday – at least we are living in hope.

Keen came over yesterday & is probably trying for a commission in the Special Reserve. He has failed to get into the Territorials as they are absolutely full up & most Regiments have long waiting lists of officers.

We are all keeping very fit here & doing a fair amount of hard work so as to get ourselves into really good trim. There seems to be some talk of moving us from here but we have no definite news, we certainly hope that it isn't true as we are very happy & comfortable here.

Please remember me to all

Yours sincerely

A J Daish

28th August 1914

Letter from Prescott to Russell

Berridale
Willows lane
Accrington

Dear Dr Russell

Many thanks for your letter and arrangements. I expect I shall be coming down to Rothamsted sometime during the next fortnight, when we can talk things over and I hope to get to work again.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

James A. Prescott

29th August 1914

Letter from Gertrude bates to Mr Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

Thank you very much for the knife & cheque for which "I beg to acknowledge receipt!" I am very glad Dr Russell does not want me yet, for the Matron begs I will stay on longer, it is really a tremendous help to her having someone to write her letters for her. The Territorial Hospital - or as it is called here – the 1st Eastern General Hospital is being moved bodily to the cloisters at Trinity

College which have been fitted up as a hospital. They were only told of it last night, & have to be out by tomorrow. I am going to help in numbering the beds – each bed is to have its own number. The other day two spies were caught right in the middle of our biggest camp here wearing our uniform. The cheek of them! I hope you will enjoy your holidays and have a real good rest, I am sure you deserve it.

With many thanks again for your letter & enclosed

Yrs very sincerely

Getrude Bates

29th August 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

Pte G. Lawrence

G Coy. 1st Herts

Bury St Edmunds

Dear Sir

Mr Dunkley a line in answer to kind and welcome letter and I must thank you very much for doing what you can for me I have forwarded the letter to Mrs Lawrence so she can see for herself what you say and I am sure she will be thankfull for what you have done for her and myself. Well sir you will see by the address that we have moved again. I suppose we shall continue to do so till we get to the front which I hope to do someday and I hope I shall return safe after we have won the victory which I don't see any fail. I got a kind and welcome letter from Mr Grey and he told me about the soldiers. I think they are lucky to get such nice chaps as you to take them in. I have not seen a bed since the night I came to your house but have been quite happy up till now and not taken much hurt. Well sir I think they will find the things for the garden alright unless the builders have moved them which I cannot be answerable for but I hope I shall soon be with you again and all be peaceable. Well sir I hope you have a splendid holiday and fine weather and prosperous business and hope when you return you will find me there but I suppose I am asking too much if you see Doris before you go tell her from me she is to not have written as I have not heard yet I will write and thank Dr and Mrs Russell but you can mention it to and tell them I am greatly obliged for all they are doing. Well sir its very hot here I suppose it is there to only bit cold at night I have fixed up a biffy in the open my mates are sleeping in a malting on a concrete floor but I grass only the rats run about by hundreds so you can guess how happy I am.

Well I must close with my kindest regards to you and your family

From your poor old gardener

George

Letter date unknown but probably August 1914 Dunkley to Daish

Dear Mr Daish

I enclose herewith a copy of Dr Russell's letter received to day by D^r Hutchinson which we thought you wd like to have, We all think it is splendid.

Can you tell me what pay George Lawrence is receiving including any allowance that may be made to his wife. Dr Russell wants to supplement the pay he receives from the army so as to bring it up to his usual weekly pay here. Mr Keen has offered his services to the Essex territorials & Mr Appleyard has been offered a commission in his old College corps I believe. If Dr Hutchinson goes, as is likely, & Miss Bates, the Lab will be very well represented.

Trusting you are having a good time

I am yours sincerely

G.J.D.

3rd September 1914

Letter from Prescott to Dunkley

Berridale

Willows lane

Accrington

Dear Mr Dunkley

As you know I am coming back to Harpenden and I hope to arrive in a little over a week's time.

I understand that Mr Rigg is also going to Rothamsted for a year and should very much have liked to have got rooms at the same place if possible. Unfortunately just now he is making a cycling tour and I am out of touch with him for the present. Perhaps you could let me know when he is due in Harpenden and whether he has made any arrangements for digs.

In any case I do not want to go back to my old landlady for she did not keep up her first standards with me by a long way, but of course to find new digs is a puzzle. If I knew that Mr Rigg was already fixed up, I think I know where to look for rooms among some of the Wesleyan people in Harpenden.

I am feeling first rate condition just now, for we are getting splendid weather and I am out most of the day.

Hoping to see you soon,

I am,

Yours sincerely

J. A. Prescott

4th September 1914 Letter from Gertrude Bates to Mr Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Thank you so much for your nice budget(?) of news & the cheque. I think it is jolly good to get even half my screw, for I certainly wasn't expecting it. Anyhow it is very welcome for I am not getting anything for my work here for which I am very glad. It makes a different footing altogether if you are not being paid. Since I last heard from you we have had two more batches of wounded, the last lot coming in on Thursday & the others about a week before. Some of those a week ago were very bad poor chaps, much the worse lot we have had & a few of them are making a desperate fight for life. There is one awfully sad case of a poor chap who is awfully wounded, there is very little chance of him recovering & they have sent for his sweetheart who has come all the way from Birmingham & she sits all day long by his bedside holding his hand. She is such a sweet little thing not very young, they neither of them are, which I think in a way makes it almost worse. She told me yesterday she is afraid she will have to go home but I am going down to see them this morning on my way to Church & see if I can get her to stay a bit longer, it is probably because of the money & a cousin of mine when I told him about her yesterday has offered to help her to stay. One of the men is the proud possessor of a German coat, taken off a German he killed. The man shot him first so our man turned round & stabbed him in the back with his bayonet. When the man died he took his coat off him. It is a horrid looking thing, has been soaked in gore, & with a slit in the back where the bayonet went in. Most of the men have rosaries given them by the French nuns but their dearest possessions are their bullets which have been dug out of them! Mr Lewin came to say goodbye to me the day before he went & on Friday I went to tea with the P.....

Kind regards

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

4th September 1914

The Union Society
Cambridge

Dear Dr Russell

It has at last become possible for me to let you know something definite about my movements in the future.

I have applied to the War Office for a commission & pending an answer, have been enrolled in a special C.U.O.T.C. division which has its present headquarters in Pembroke College.

I receive, of course, no pay, & have to pay for my keep

If I get a commission --- & I am told by the O.T.C. authorities that every available man is likely to be wanted --- I shall naturally let you know at the earliest opportunity.

I trust that the outbreak of war did not curtail or cast a gloom over your & Mrs Russell's holiday

Yours sincerely

K. R. Lewin

9th September 1914

Letter from Viscountess Hampden to Rothamsted

The Hoo
Welwyn
Herts

Viscountess Hampden presents her compliments to the Manager of the Rothamsted Laboratory & is writing to ask him about the payment of 5/- a week to Mrs Lawrence, Codicote, Welwyn – during her Husband's absence with the Hertfordshire Territorials, as her Husband told Lady Hampden that the Rothamsted Laboratory were paying his wife 5/- a week during his absence, & so far the woman has received no money, & Lawrence has been away since Aug 5th. Lady Hampden wondered if the money had gone to a wrong address as the Lawrences were living at Church Lane, Kimpton, Welwyn – and now at Mrs Lawrence is living with her Parents at Codicote, Welwyn – Lady Hampden writes as she is Vice President for the Soldiers & Sailor's Families Association, & if no payment was coming from the Laboratory she would have to see that Mrs Lawrence got some from this Society.

11th September 1914

Letter from W Wilson to Lady Hampden

LAT

Rothamsted

Dear Madam

In answer to yours of Sept 9th. I beg to say that Dr Russell is away from home until Saturday evening, but I will place your letter before him on his return home.

Yours obediently

W Wilson

12th September 1914

Letter from Russell to Lady Hampden

LAT

RES

Dear Lady Hampden

I sent word to Mrs Lawrence to let us have an address to which her money could be sent, or to arrange to call here for it, but so far I have been unable to learn anything except that she is with her mother. Would it be asking too much if you could kindly see that enclosed amount reaches her? If she would let me know her address I must not trouble you in future.

Lawrence was paid his full wages up to August 8th. The 25/- is therefore for the five weeks ending Sept 12th.

Yours etc

E J Russell

15th September 1914

letter from Lady Hampden to Russell

The Hoo

Welwyn

Herts

Dear Dr Russell

I received the £1. 5 . 0 & return you the receipt signed by Mrs Lawrence – If in future you would send the cheque to Mrs Everard Martin Smith, Codicote Lodge, Welwyn, she would acknowledge & sign receipt, & give the 5/- per week to Mrs Lawrence as Mrs martin Smith is looking after the Soldiers Wives etc. for Codicote.

Yours faithfully

Katharine Hampden

17th September 1914

Letter from Russell to Lady Hampden

Laws Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Exptl Station
Harpenden

Dear Lady Hampden

Many thanks for your letter which puts everything straight. We are now getting into communication with Mrs Martin Smith & will pay through her as you suggest. I am very much obliged to you for your kind interest in the matter

Yours very truly

E J Russell

17th September 1914

Letter from Russell to Mrs Martin Smith

LAT/RES

Mrs Everard Martin-Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn, HERTS

Dear Madam

I hear from Lady Hampden that the payment of an allowance of 5/- per week by us to Mrs G Lawrence should in future be made through you. I propose therefore to send you a cheque for £1 at intervals of four weeks, but should this plan not be convenient to you I shall be pleased to adopt any other method you may propose.

Yours faithfully

E.J.R.

Director

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dr Russell

18th September 1914

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Dr Russell

Thank you very much for your letter. I promise to come back as soon as I can be easily spared. Matron was very grateful when she heard the contents of your letter. My duties have been somewhat varied today, tho. They are generally pretty much the same. All morning, after attending to matron's letters I have been spending in the Guard Room at Trinity, not under a very strong guard, marking 200 sheets, 200 blankets, & there is another stack of things not yet been touched. Needless to say I have made a very small impression so far on either the sheets or blankets. This afternoon I returned to Addenbrooke's & have been vigelating over a

nurses' exam: poor wretches how I have been pitying them. I suppose Trinity term will begin soon & then all the sick & wounded will have to be carted out & placed somewhere else. It seems a pity they cant stay where they are tho. I expect those cloisters would get frightfully chilly later on

Thank you again very much for your letter & I only hope I am not causing you much inconvenience

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

19th September 1914

Letter from Mrs Martin-Smith to Russell

Codicote Lodge

Welwyn/Herts

Dear Sir

I have received your letter o& it will be quite convenient to me if you send the cheque of £1 for Mrs Lawrence every 4 weeks & I will pay her. She was so pleased with her money

Yours truly

Violet Martin Smith

25th September 1914 Letter from H Salisbury (Builder, Harpenden) to Russell

Dr Russel

Dear Sir

We estimate to fix 1 Robbins Grate & time & material taking & fixing 1 wood mantle shelf 1 ¼ " thick on 2 wooden brackets, stained complete will cost

£3 .12 . 6

& 6" plain tile surround 12/6

The extra cost of nickel plated fittings to Bath over Brass will be 4/6
Do. To Lavatory Basin 3/6

Hoping to be favoured with your further esteemed orders,

Yours faithfully

H Salisbury & Son

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

28th September 1914

c/o Dr Moss
154 Chesterton Road

The Union Society
Cambridge

Dear Dr Russell

I have learnt this morning that I have got a commission in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (7th battalion). Either to-day, or very shortly, I shall join it at Aldershot. I will let you know further details as regards pay etc. as soon as I know them

Yours sincerely

K. R. Lewin

1st October 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley

1st Herts Regiment
Rougham Hall
Bury St Edmunds

Dear Dunkley

Many thanks for sending along the cheque . It doesn't seem very much but still I suppose one must be satisfied & consider ones self lucky to get anything at all . I shall just about cover expenses these days & that is all, & it seems rather hard that one should be hit in that way while one is away on duty of this sort. Still it's a funny world there is a lot we don't understand.

I am glad to hear that Lewin has got a commission, & to know that someone else has at last got something to do. Am glad to hear Stanley (*Dunkley's son?*) is safe.

I enclose receipt

Please remember me to all.

Yours sincerely

A.J.Daish

1st October 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

Corp G Lawrence Co. G 1st Herts
S E A D Headquarter Staff
Suffolk Hotel
Bury St Edmunds

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to you after this long time. I am sorry I have not written before but after coming home every one wants a letter so it takes a long time to get round. Well sir I have recovered my second operation on the arm and am doing well again. There is another rumour that we are moving back again towards Romford but you cannot believe anything in war time so we must be like Asquith wait and see. Well I suppose it's the same old thing there as it is here all was there is not much difference in the war as I can see. I should like to be rembered to all my mates and tell them to keep on smiling then we shall get through. Well I realy must stop but its only short and sweet like a donkeys gallop. My kindest regards to you and family

And believe me to remain

Yours truly G Lawrence

5th October 1914

Postcard from Hutchinson to Dunkley

The Elms
Little Eaton
Derby

Dear Dunkley

Would you mind sending on the 3rd Volume of Lafar's(?) "Technische Mykologie(?)" which, I think, is in my book case in the sample house. I urgently require it & should be glad of an early receipt

Yours sincerely

H. B. Hutchinson

Letter from J. Clayton to Dr Russell

5th October 1914

38 St John's Villas
Upper Holloway
London. N

Dear Dr Russell

I have been offered a commission in the 2nd London Sanitary Company R.A.M.C. and have decided to accept it, so have left Harpenden and come to live for the present at home. I have to go up every day to the Chelsea headquarters for the present. Really, medical men were required as officers, but I hope I shall be able to do the work successfully.

I hope also to get my notes on Nitrification written up sometime and sent to you

I remain

Yours sincerely

James Clayton

6th October 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley
The Hertfordshire Regiment
Rougham Hall
Bury St Edmunds

Dear Dunkley

I am sending along a small bill which wants paying which I suppose the lab. will pay. It is for a small silica spoon which we had some months ago & Davis will be able to give you more details if you want any.

We are still sticking on here & there seems no prospect of a move yet.

Remember me to all

Yours sincerely

A J Daish

New Main Laboratories

1914

Messrs Thompson & Son (of Louth, Lincs, the Contractors) commenced operations by taking off the slates from the S W corner of the Lab (mixing shed) this morning Aug 9th

Oct 6 1914

Commenced to lay bricks for the foundations on top of the concrete which had been put in the trenches during the past fortnight

Letter from Dr Russell to J. Clayton

7th October 1914

Lawes Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden

My dear Clayton

I am very pleased to hear you have got a commission, and I wish you all success in your work. Don't hurry about the nitrification paper, it will keep till you are back again

Yours very truly

9th October 1914

**Letter from Russell to Mrs Martin Smith
LAT/RES**

Mrs Everard Martin Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn, HERTS

Dear Madam

I enclose herewith cheque as arranged for £1 and shall be obliged if you will pay that amount to Mrs Lawrence and obtain her receipt for the same.

Yours faithfully

E.J.R.

19th October 1914

Letter from H Salisbury to Russell

Dr Russel,

Dear Sir

Herewith we enclose drawing ?? suggested treatment to Study chimney piece.

The cost, as shewn in English Oak fumed & Wax polished will cost Three Pounds (£3. 0 . 0.)

Hearth in hand made tiles as shewn will cost Twenty five shillings. 25/-

Hoping to be favoured with your esteemed instructions

Yours faithfully

H Salisbury & Son

20th October 1914

letter from J Buddin to Russell/Dunkley

87 Reighton Road
Up Clapton, N.E.

Dear Sir

Received following cable from Walter this morning "All arrived safely, Pres^t Creelman in Australia, comfortably settled"

Yours truly

J Buddin

20th October 1914

Letter from Russell to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son
Leyton Road
Harpenden

Sirs

I am in receipt of your estimate for Study Mantelpiece on which however I cannot decide until I have seen the amended bill for extras on the new bedrooms

Yours truly

21st October 1914

General letter from G T Dunkley

Dear Mr Lewin/Mr Keen/Mr Clayton

Mr Daish and Miss C Bates are arranging to be married very shortly – Nov 12th I believe – and it is the wish of the members of the Laboratory Staff to make a present to them before the happy event takes place. I have undertaken to act as collector and I write to ask if you would like to contribute to the fund and if so what the amount would be.

The idea is to give them a cheque and not a present in kind. We should like to hand it over not later than say Nov 2nd or 3rd.

Trusting you are well and happy in your new sphere of work.

Yours faithfully

G T D

P.S. I would add that I am writing to the other members who are away on military service.

Wrote to all the above on 24th saying wedding was on 5th not on 12th & ask for replies by Wednesday or Thursday next.

Also wrote to Mr Campbell on 24th

Same letter and amendment to Miss Adam

21st October 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Gertrude Bates

Dear Miss Bates

In consequence of the announcement in last week's paper of the forthcoming marriage of your sister and Mr Daish the members of the staff here are

contemplating making a present to them before the happy event takes place. The idea is to give them a cheque for whatever sum is collected. Of course as yet I have no idea what that amount will be but I should be glad to know if you think the plan suggested will be pleasing to them, and don't you think it will be better to come as a surprise? Several of the members of the staff are as you know away but they are being communicated with on the subject.

Dr Russell had a letter from Mr Buddin's father this morning saying that his son had landed in America. He is going on to Guelph in Canada. We are just jogging along as usual here in the office. So far we have had no extra help. I have done the correspondence and Miss Brenchley has been pressed into service on one or two occasions when rather longer documents have had to be typed, and Wilson has copied M.S.S. of papers in ink.

The walls of the new Laboratory are about 18 inches high in front and one can see exactly where the new clerical offices will be. At present the two heating boilers are being fixed up in what is intended as your room, but this of course is only a temporary measure while the new heating chamber is being prepared.

Mr Keen left us last Friday to take up a commission in the 5th Suffolks, and Mr MacLennan is hoping to be called up for the 4th Seaforth Highlanders, failing this he told me a day or two ago he should try to get into the R.A.M.C. in the same capacity as Mr Clayton.

With kindest regards and all good wishes

I am yours faithfully

G T Dunkley

21st October 1914

Letter from Dunkley to J Buddin

J Buddin Esq.
87 Reighton Road
Upper Clapton, N.E.

Dear Sir.

Dr Russell has asked me to thank you for your letter telling him of your son's safe arrival in Canada. I may add that personally I am very glad that he got across safely. You must I am sure have been very anxious about him while on the water owing to the war. President Creelman's absence in Australia explains the fact of the letters sent to his Canadian address remaining unanswered.

Yours faithfully

21st October 1914

Letter from Russell to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son
Leyton Road
Harpenden

Sirs

In regard to the study mantelpiece would you let me know the cost of one in fumed oak similar to that put up in the new bedroom.

Yours truly

22nd October 1914

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

Many thanks for your letter which I have just received. I think if the Lab Staff is going to be so kind & give Mr Daish a present, a cheque is a most excellent idea. I also think it would be very nice to come as a surprise, & I promise I will tell them nothing about it. You see so long as the war is on their plans will be very unsettled, so that I think the idea of a cheque is splendid. I have been spending all day in the Town today, my first holiday since I have been here, but if people will go & get married their luckless relations have to think about getting clothes! We have been tremendously busy lately. 100 wounded Belgians came in last Thursday which brings our numbers up to over 500, & now the authorities has sent down word that we are to increase our beds to 1000 as quickly as possible, so the builders are at it night & day. This of course all means mobilizing more nurses & the amount of red-tapeism over each nurse is simply terrific. It means endless correspondence & filling up of forms to say nothing about all their different allowances & salaries. All the nursing staff of the Military Hospital are now quartered at Kings, & they are in clover – some of the rooms are really beautiful. They have taken up the whole of one wing all the men having gone with the exception of two Fellows, who as soon as they found the place swamped with nurses skiddaddled & fled, & I don't blame them. I was so glad to get your letter & all its news, I like to hear what everyone is doing.

With kind regards all round

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

24th October 1914

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

Fingringhoe Hall

Near Colchester

Saturday

Dear Dunkley

Please note address for letter etc. I am short for cash alas! Do you think I could have my cheque somewhat earlier this month? If so send it on to me here. We are quartered at this place which is at present very comfortable. There is a rumour that we may move to Sudbury which will not be so.

Good luck

B A Keen

P.S. With regard to Daish's gift I can't send anything till I get the cheque or some money from home

24th October 1914

letter from Russell to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son

Leyton Road

Harpenden

Dear Sirs

In regard to your quotation of 19th Oct for Study Mantelpiece the plan of which I have here and can show you for purposes of identification, will you please let me know whether this includes the cost of making good and leaving the whole in finished state? Also whether it includes any cost of tiles.

Yours truly

24th October 1914

Letter from The Applied Arts Society to Russell

The Applied Arts Society

Leyton Road

Harpenden

(This is the same address as H Salisbury so I presume is really part of the same organisation)

Dear Sir

Re Laboratory House

The prices quoted only include ??? mantles & fixing.

Regret that I shall be unable to let you have account today as I have been hindered & had also overlooked that it was Saturday which is a very busy day always. You however shall have it at the beginning of the week.

Yours truly
Eustace Salisbury

Dr Russell

26th October 1914 **Letter from J.Clayton to Dunkley**

38 St John's Villas
Upper Holloway
London, N

Dear Dunkley

Very many thanks for letting me know of the proposed subscription list at the lab. for a cheque for Daish. Of course I should like to subscribe to it, but I am afraid it will have to be a very small amount as I haven't been gazetted yet and won't get paid at the end of this month. It means waiting a couple of months to get back my outfit allowance of £30 plus 2 months' pay.

Do you think the enclose 5/- will be of any use for your fund?

Might I ask if you would now be good enough to collect the details of that Lark's Hill soil from Sawyer, Prescott, Arthur & Willie, if they are available

Yours sincerely

James Clayton

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

26th October 1914

7th D.C.L.I.
Inkerman Barracks
Woking

Dear Dr Russell

I have delayed some time in writing to you because I have found it curiously difficult to find out what our pay really is. As far as I can ascertain, what one gets from the Government is this

5/3 per day pay

2/6 per day field allowance for being under canvas

Which works out, I believe, at £133.6.3 per annum. We are supposed to draw rations, but as a matter of fact we are getting neither the rations nor any allowance in lieu thereof. In the near future we shall either be billeted or moved into huts, when it is possible that the field allowance will cease

I trust things are progressing satisfactorily at Harpenden

Some time when I can get leave I hope to run up for the weekend

Yours sincerely

K. R. Lewin

Letter from Russell to K.R.Lewin

27th October 1914

K.R. Lewin Esq.
7th D.C.L.I.
Inkerman Barracks
WOKING

Dear Lewin

I was very pleased to get your letter and hope that you are settling down comfortably to your new work. I have arranged with the Committee that you shall receive £100 per annum while away on service. The arrangement has still to be confirmed by the Board of Agriculture but I anticipate no difficulty in the matter

Yours very truly

28th October 1914

Letter from Lewin to Dunkley

7th Bn. D.C.L.I.
Inkerman Barracks
Woking

Dear Dunkley

Of course I shall be very pleased to contribute to the wedding present (*Daish & Bates, Getrude Bates's sister*). I enclose a cheque for 15/-, which is all I can at present afford. Also wish the happy couple luck, please, in my name.

I suppose Daish will be ordered off almost immediately after the ceremony.

How is the building getting on? With any luck I shall be able to get away to Harpenden soon for an abbreviated week-end.

Convey my kind regards to the tea-club, & ask them if they've heard the story of "Here's up with the Kaiser!"

Yours sincerely

K.R.L.

31st October 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Daish

Lawes Agricultural Trust
Rothamsted Experimental Station
Harpenden

A J Daish Esq. B.Sc.
Abbey Ruins
Bury St Edmunds

Dear Mr Daish

Herewith I have pleasure in enclosing cheque value £6 – 13 – 0 subscribed by the members of the Laboratory staff as a present to you on the occasion of your wedding. A list of the donors is enclosed, and shows that several members, who like yourself are now serving in His Majesty's Forces are represented in addition to those who are still here.

With all good wishes and trusting we shall at no very distant date have you again as a co-worker in the Laboratory.

I am yours sincerely

G.J.D.

31st October 1914

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

5th (Res) Suffolks
Fingringhoe Hall
Near Colchester

Dear Dunkley

Enclose is a cheque for Daish. I'm sorry I can not send more but cash is low – very low. Will you please address all letters to 2nd Lieut B A Keen above address till you hear further. We may move to Sudbury soon. Anyhow wherever we are always put 5th (Res) Suffolks. Let me hear how the lab & its occupants are getting on. I'll write when I have time to some of them

Yrs sincerely

B A Keen

October 1914

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Clapton
Saturday

I have booked by the Megantic which sails Sat 10th from L'pool. £13 . 0 . 5 through to Guelph + extras. There is a boat sailing for Canada on Wednesday but it is a maiden voyage, smaller but it may take longer to travel. In any case I have not got all my luggage from Harpenden yet so if I had booked by it I should have been landed. My bags ought to have got through in 2 full days. Love to all.

W.B.

1st November 1914

Letter from Keen to Russell

5th (Res) Suffolks
Fingringhoe Hall
nr Colchester
Sunday

Dear Dr Russell

Many thanks indeed for the welcome news in your letter received today. I have looked through the enclosed summary & made one or two small corrections mainly as a result of my talk with Porter last Wednesday week. I notice Wilson is hazy about the cube root sign. Would you mind noticing whether he has put it correctly in the body of the paper? He reads it as $3\sqrt{\quad}$ - a very different thing.

I am having quite a good time here. We are about 5 miles from Colchester by road. Our quarters are awfully nice. We have a large proportion of recruits, which is rather boring, as they are still very raw. Otherwise things are excellent.

We may be moved to Sudbury soon & I will give Dunkley any change of address.

With kind regards to Mrs Russell

I am

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

1st November 1914

Letter from W Buddin to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I landed at New York on Saturday morning (17th ult) and went straight through to Buffalo. As I was hung up at Niagara over Sunday I took the opportunity to visit the Falls in the morning but it rained almost continuously from 11.0 o'clock and I was forced to spend the rest of the day in a dark & gloomy hotel permanently

lighted by electricity – a ready demonstration of the cheapness of power in the district.

When I arrived at the OAC (*Ontario Agricultural College*) I found that Dr Creelman had been away since Aug 5th and will not be home until the middle of December, having gone to Australia and New Zealand primarily for the B.A. Meetings. Prof. Zavitz is Acting-President.

Prof Harcourt gave me an excellent welcome and has been very good to me.

All the lectures to first and second year men are given in duplicate here on account of the size of the classes and most of the time the staff are free from teaching they are busy with routine work. There is very little research going on. The Chemical department is chiefly interested in the chemical analysis of soils as they propose to start a soil survey of the Province in the summer and have one or two preliminary fertiliser plots running.

Prof Edwards of the Bacteriological Dept is resigning at Christmas and the dept is naturally becoming unsettled in consequence. Any work going on there is chiefly in connection with bacterial diseases of plants. At one time I thought I might fill in some of my time taking the bacterial part of the work of the special 4th year option but on further enquiry found that this year was the first that no one has been taking the course.

I shall confine most of my attention to the Chemical Dept. & shall take the opportunity of getting into closer touch with the American methods of soil analysis.

It will not be possible to do very much outside the lab during the winter but I can prepare myself for seeing more of Canadian & American Agriculture in the summer and shall attempt to get into touch with some of the district representatives so that I can learn their methods although being unable to see much of their districts.

I have taken a few sample lectures but this is useless as regards learning much of Can. agriculture and has been profitable only in giving some idea of the scope and methods of teaching adopted.

I am thinking over the advisability of going to Cornell after Christmas. Hall is very enthusiastic about it and especially the post graduate work there. I have been called upon to pay \$25 in fees at Guelph and the increased cost of living here included with the passage money out & home and the high expenses of railway travelling here will prohibit much wandering if I am to make ends meet in my three years scholarship.

At present it seems to me that the summer will be by far the most profitable part of my time spent on this continent so that I shall probably not return until September. Most posts open in October are filled long before that time & while it occurs to me I should like to ask you if my name could be entered by proxy for any

position which you think I might be eligible and suitable for. I can assure you that I should not refuse any reasonable position and the distance would probably otherwise prevent my application being received in time. For many reasons I should not want to settle out here if I could get any post at home, and hope that you will not look on me as an undesirable that has been easily and conveniently drafted from British agricultural science.

I should be very glad if you would let me have any advice and suggestions that may occur to you as to the most profitable spending of my time here.

Best wishes and kindest regards to Mrs Russell and the children

Yours very sincerely

Walter Buddin

2nd November 1914

Letter from Daish to Dunkley

The Hertfordshire Regiment

Abbey Ruins

Bury St Edmunds

My Dear Dunkley

I hope you will excuse a very hurried note from me. I should like to write & thank you all at the lab: individually for the present you have sent me & also for your good wishes for the future, but I have not got the time. Last night we received orders to prepare immediately for service abroad & so we are up to our eyes in work now. I think we are to be off in a very few days now & I have a lot to do, as you can imagine.

Will you please thank all of the subscribers for me and tell them please how much I appreciate their kindness to me.

I don't know when I shall see you again but I hope it won't be long

Yours very sincerely

A. J. Daish

Letter from K R Lewin to Dr Russell

2nd November 1914

Inkerman Barracks
Woking

Dear Dr Russell

I take this opportunity of replying to your letter of the 27th, I feel I have to thank you for your good wishes & for the generosity with which the Committee have treated me

I trust that Mrs Russell and the children are in good health, & that you yourself are quite well

Yours sincerely

K. R. Lewin

3rd November 1914

Letter form Gertrude Bates to Mr Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Thank you very much for the cheque the receipt for which I enclose. I really think it is awfully good of the Committee to give me half & you can tell them so with my love if you like. I think the wedding present from the Lab is splendid & I am sure it has been a lot of trouble to collect with everyone so scattered now. I go up to town tomorrow for the festivities & am staying the two nights in town & if it were not such a momentous occasion (*I think the occasion was probably the marriage of her sister to Daish*) I should not think of leaving here for so long, for just now the work is terrific. I simply cannot get it all in, we have had to mobilize more nurses & the matron in Chief has also advertised for more with the result that every post has brought in packets of answers. And when you know that each nurse has 6d spent on her postage and sometimes more in writing for references, filling up forms etc. you can imagine there is a good deal of work to be done, & at the end of all that she may not be passed by the Army Council! We have had a lot more wounded in. Within the last 3 days we have had nearly 400. The last lot were 111 Belgians & most of them pretty bad. Their language is such a difficulty for practically none can speak English, only a certain number French, & nobody knows Flemish which is their usual language. They are a very nice lot & so friendly & jolly. I had a large box of cigarettes sent me the other day, several hundred of them. I took them round on a tray & let each man take about 3. It was just fun finding out which were the English & which the Belgians, very often it was quite impossible to tell. Now I have just had some money given to me to spend on newspapers for the Belgians as I found out they had no idea how things were going. I am going to supply them with 3 Flemish newspapers a day for 10 weeks. Cant you imagine how their three papers will get

before the end of the day! Now I must go & start on some work again. With kind regards to Dr Russell & everybody at the Lab & many thanks for your letter & enclosure

Yrs very sincerely
Gertrude Bates

3rd November 1914

Letter from Russell to Keen

Lieut B A Keen
5th (Res) Suffolks
Fingringhoe Hall
Nr Colchester

Dear Keen

Very many thanks for sending the corrected summary. I will see that it goes in in this form. I am glad you are having a good time and trust you will continue to do so.

Yours very truly

6th November 1914

**Letter from Rothamsted to Mrs Hill Smith
LAT/RES**

Mrs Everard Martin Smith
Codicote Lodge
Welwyn
HERTS

Dear Madam.

I enclose herewith cheques value £1 – 0 – 0 as the allowance to Mrs George Lawrence for the four weeks ending tomorrow, and shall be glad if you will hand the money to Mrs Lawrence as before

Yours faithfully

6th November 1914

Draft by Dunkley

Sent letters to the following
B A Keen
A V Campbell
J Clayton
K R Lewin

Telling each that £6 – 13 – 0 had been raised for Mr Daish's wedding present.

8th November 1914

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley

Ontario Agricultural College
Guelph, Ont. Canada

My Dear Dunkley

I had rather dull passage & was sick at first 1 days. Landed on Saturday Oct 17th had a fine view of Niagara Falls on Sunday. I am getting settled down fairly well at the College but I should not be surprised if I went to Cornell after Xmas. I expect the summer will be by far the most profitable part of my time out here.

Gibson - a man in the Chem Dept here – is a brother of a man who demonstrated to me in the Lab. at Cambridge. Prof. Harcourt has been very good to me. Gibson has just been out arrang8ing for some field plots & I have been with him to see something of the country & have thus got introduced to some of the District Representatives. If you look at a train out here they charge \$1. I am absolutely broke. I shall have to find some money somewhere before the end of the year. The College wanted \$25 in fees.

It is impossible to get board & room at the same house out here. There is not enough to be made out of board. I am paying more than at home but the grub is not so good & the comfort is certainly far inferior.

I get room (very small & draughty with only a camp bed & a small table) breakfast ¼ hour from the College & have other needs at the College. Feel a bit lonely sometimes but shall get over that provided I can avoid starvation.

I forgot to mention it to Dr Russell last week but they have a grinding machine for soils here & if you care to send me a Rothamsted I will see what advantages it has for you. The machine costs \$53 with belting & power extra. They use 20 h.p. motor & it grinds two main samples & a small one. Soil must be smashed to go through ¼ “ sieve before you put it in but has been known to be a nuisance with clays but a slower speed of revolution might improve it. Ask Dr R. I shall be glad to try it & send more particulars.

For many reasons I do not want to settle out here & hope I shall not miss all jobs by staying all the summer but if I do not stay I might almost as well have stopped at home.

There is practically no research going on at the College. The classes are very large, they repeat all lectures to two sittings of 1st & 2nd years and everyone is too busy teaching for anything else.

How is everyone at Rothamsted? Give them my love.

Up to the present I have found the air out here makes me very sleepy & when I should be writing letters in the evening I fall off to sleep. Three meals a day at 8.0, 12.15 & 6.0. Work at 8.45 a.m. No tea but a rotten cup of tea with every

meal. They say they have no time for tea but so far I have seen no accidents through working too hard.

Best wishes

Yours

Walter Buddin

10th November 1914

Letter from Dr Russell to Hutchinson

My dear Hutchinson

Would you let me have particulars at an early date of the bacteriological flora of the two subsoil heaps recently put up. We want to file the data for future reference.

Yours very truly

E.J.R.

10th November 1914(arrived noted by GTD)

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

5th Suffolks

Mile End

Colchester

Dear Dunkley

This is the most rapid change on record. On Sunday after church parade I was bemoaning my fate at being stuck with such a rotten Home Service Battn in the wilds of Essex. Then came a telegram & shortly afterwards a motor. In a few minutes I had packed my baggage into two sections, one needed at Colchester, the other superfluous stuff to be sent home & here I am with the Imperial Service Battn under orders to leave at any moment. I have an excellent chance of going away with them to France. At least that is almost certain as we are being rearmed with the short rifle which is only issued to troops going to France. I'll write you as soon as I hear further. In the meantime could you enquire of Dr Russell (to whom I will write as soon as I can) if arrangements could be made to pay my monthly cheque into the Harpenden bank without sending it out to me to sign & so on. I think it could be done. I'm simply bunged up with work getting things together & trying to arrange affairs

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

11th November 1915

Letter from Appleyard to Dunkley
Ward No 2, General Infirmary
Leeds

Dear Dunkley

Just a line to say I am still in the land of the living. I went thro' the hoop on Monday afternoon. I don't mind having ether but by Jove its rotten when you first become conscious. Still I am told I did excellently, as I didn't have post ether pneumonia or sickness. The wound is sore, but apart from that of course I am top hole. I am very fortunate here. I knew the brother of the house surgeon here at college some years ago, & as I saw him before I came in I was well treated from the beginning. I have got a nice little private ward with a fire and plenty to smoke. Unfortunately I can only smoke when my Dr pals come up and I have a whiff. As it happens I know three Drs here – all students in my day – they have been awfully good to me & I have had every attention.

Hanley came in to see me yesterday. The nurses are ripping & very jolly. I tell you I shall be able to call this a holiday when it is over. I get a cup of tea at 6.30 a.m. and my light is usually burning an hour after it is ought to be out. What I don't like is the moaning & screaming of patients in the adjoining ward during the night. The next ward is the casualty ward and there are some shocking cases in. There have been three deaths since I arrived. Dicky Lockwood the famous International is lying dying next door. The nurses are awfully keen to pull him thro'. Well cheer to Dunkley I find it difficult writing on my back. Tell Horton I will write to him next please.

Kind regards to you all

Yours sincerely

A.A.

12th November 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Keen

2nd Lieut. B.A. Keen
5th Suffolks
Mile End
Colchester

Dear Mr Keen

I was pleased to get your note yesterday and I congratulate you on your good luck in being transferred to an Imperial Service Battalion. I have told the men in the Laboratory.

I have seen Barnes (at Barclay's) about the monthly cheques and he suggested that they should in future be made payable to "Barclay and Co A/c of B A Keen". The bank will endorse them and unless the auditors' raise any objection the

cheques so endorsed will serve as vouchers. This will be quite a simple way out of a difficulty and Dr Russell thinks it will do quite well. Of course it goes without saying that we shall be glad to hear of your doings and your whereabouts as you get opportunities of writing.

Our latest recruit for the army is Bowden. He has decided to go to Hertford to enlist on Monday next. I think he is acting quite deliberately and is anxious to do his "little bit".

With all good wishes

I am yours sincerely

G.T.D.

12th November 1914

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

Mile End

Colchester

Thursday

Dear Dunkley

I'm not sure if I wrote you about the question of my cheque. It will be impossible or risky I think for me to receive it when we are away because we may be in France, India, St Helena or ----- . So I would like to know if any arrangements could be made in the following way. Could Dr Russell for instance make the cheque out to himself or you, & pay it into my account at Harpenden? I could of course draw on it then anywhere.

What's the news down your way? Have they completed my physics lab yet? Has my friend Mac. for instance got into a kiltie.

I was inoculated yesterday with T.B.T. which the two doses in one. Have felt very little ill effects as yet although the arm is very stiff & I have all the feelings of a bad cold in the head.

Things are rather dull here & only relieved by inspections. We have had 3 in some days. One was by George R.I.

Yours truly for ever

B A Keen

Letter from Dunkley to K.R. Lewin

12th November 1914

2nd Lieut. K R Lewin
7th D.C.L.I.
Inkerman Barracks,
Woking

Dear Mr Lewin

Mr Keen has raised the question of paying the monthly salary cheques into the bank instead of sending them direct to him. I have since seen Mr Barnes(at Barclay's) and he suggests that they should be payable to "Barclay & Co a/c of B A Keen". The bank will then endorse them, and unless our auditors raise any objections we would accept them as vouchers. Dr Russell thinks this is a simple way out of a difficulty if you were sent abroad, and if you have no objection I will make your cheque out in future in the same way, viz.

"Barclay & Co a/c of K R Lewin"

Keen was on Sunday last transferred at a moment's notice to an Imperial Services Battalion and he says he may go abroad at any time.

Bowden is thinking of going to Hertford on Monday next to offer himself as a recruit in the 1st Herts Btn. Mr MacLennan is still with us.

I am yours sincerely

G.J.D.

13th November 1914

letter from Dunkley to Keen

Lieut B A Keen
5th Suffolks
Mile End
Colchester

Dear Mr Keen

Your letter of Thursday is just to hand. Mine of last night should have reached you by this time and will show you how it is proposed to deal with the monthly cheques while you are away.

MacLennan is still with us. Your Physics Laboratory is not built yet. They have brought the cellar walls to day up to the level of the ground. They are erecting steel stanchions all over the building and they put one in mind of a battleship on the stocks before the steel plating is put on. I hope you will recover from the inoculation in the course of a day or two. Several companies of recruits for the Notts & Derbys have arrived in Harpenden this week and they too are undergoing inoculation. Dr

Russell has eight soldiers billeted in his Study. He is now working in the sample House, and the grass picking girls have been sent to Miss Brenchley's laboratory.

Yours sincerely

G.T.D.

Letter from K R Lewin to Dunkley

13th November 1914

Inkerman Barracks

Woking

Dear Dunkley

I think the suggestion in your letter is an excellent one, & if the auditors will agree, I should like to have my salary paid straight into my account

Yours in haste

K. R. Lewin

15th November 1914

Letter from Dunkley to Daish

Dear Mr Daish

I suppose by this time you will have landed in France where I expect you will be having a busy time sooner or later. My best wishes are with you.

Keen was on Sunday last transferred at a moment's notice to the Imperial Service Battalion of the 5th Suffolks and thinks he may go abroad at any time. He has raised the question of paying the monthly cheques into the bank instead of sending them on to him, so To day I have seen Barnes (at Barclay's) and he has suggested that they should be made payable to "Barclay & Co A/c of B A Keen". The bank will then endorse them and unless our auditors raise any objection Dr Russell says we will take them as our vouchers. This seems a simple way of dealing with them, and unless I hear from you to the contrary I will hand yours over to the bank in the same way, that is payable to "Barclay & Co A/c of A J Daish"

Bowden is thinking of enlisting, and I believe intends going over to Hertford to offer himself to the 1st Herts on Monday next. I think it is quite a deliberate act on his part, as he really wants to do his "little bit".

I saw Mrs Daish in church on Sunday morning last, but hadn't an opportunity of speaking to her.

Needless to say we shall be pleased to hear of your doings or your whereabouts whenever an opportunity occurs.

G.J.D.

15th November 1914

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dr Russell

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

My dear Dr Russell

I have been meaning to write to you for ages but somehow the days are all so full & slip past so quickly that my good intentions have slipped along too. I want to thank you awfully for putting me on to "half fare". I do think it is good of you but on the other hand I do hope it is not stopping you from getting someone temporarily in my place. If it is doing so please drop my position for I should hate to think I am inconveniencing you in any way. I could manage to scramble along really without it for though I am not getting any pay here I also have very little expense, & I would rather do that than think I am putting extra work on to you & other people. Up to lately Matron has always said she would not allow me stay here too long as it was not fair on you, but two days ago she suddenly begged me to stay till the end of the war!!

Apart from her correspondence which is simply tremendous, (you know what it is like dealing with people like the War Office Authorities who issue fresh rules every few minutes & forget to tell you they have revoked the former ones) she is losing so many of her hospital sisters & nurses who are going off to nurse at the front & base hospitals, that she is absolutely tied all day unless she can leave some one in charge who knows the ropes to receive telegrams etc. As it is she never gets any "off time" until about 9pm as all the time she is away from this hospital she is down at the Military one. I like being here immensely but I shall always look forward to the time when I shall come back to the Lab, but while I am here I don't want to make things harder for you or anybody else. Therefore if by docking my screw you can get some one else in my place (temporarily please!) please do so & I shall perfectly understand. I was in Harpenden last week & was awfully disappointed I had not time to come down & see you. I had so counted on doing so, but I only got here at 11.30 pm & left next morning 11.15am & the interval was filled up with a rush of packing. I hope I shall have better luck next time but I don't know when that will be.

With kind regards

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

16th November 1914

Letter from Russell to W Buddin

W. Buddin Esq. B.A.
Ontario Agricultural College
Guelph, Ont.
CANADA

Dear Buddin.

I was very pleased to receive your letter and to hear that you are settled down comfortably at Guelph. By all means move on to Cornell when you think it will be advantageous to do so. I forget whether I gave you letters of introduction but if not I will do so. I will also do as you request and keep an eye on possible berths against the time when you come back. Would you read the enclosed proofs and mark any corrections and return them to me as early as possible.

You ought to pick up as much as you can about advisory work generally. All the Guelph staff are noted for their powers of getting hold of the farmers of the provinces, and we want to be able to do the same thing here. When you come back you ought to bring with you some of the secrets of the success of Professors Creelman, Harcourt and Zavitz.

Yours very truly

19th November 1914

Letter from Keen to Russell

Dear Dr Russell

I am correcting the proof under difficulties. It arrived at Mile End on Wed. morning & the Coy. To which I am attached received orders to move out to Keelers Farm, Elmstead, near Colchester at 9am Wed. morning. The air is full of 'raids' & we are now feverishly digging trenches for the rest of our battⁿ, still snugly ensconced at Mile End. Either the staff have the jumps bad or else something of the sort is in the air. Apparently the idea is that in the next two or three days the Germans will attempt to push across a few thousand men in an attempt to make us keep troops in England, which are urgently needed around Ypres. We were digging trenches in thick clay soil this morning in a shower of rain & snow which quickly wetted us through. 'What a life', as we say here. We are here for at least a week, in extreme discomfort.

About the proof. I have corrected it except in two places which I have left open, owing to my ignorance of the correct signs:-

(A) On page 61, 6 lines from bottom:

..... the rest of the letter concerns the proof corrections

Have just come in from a heavy days trench digging I feel somewhat tired

Yours sincerely

B A Keen

22nd November 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

Sergent G Lawrence

A Company

Drill Hall

Hertford

Dear Sir

Mr Dunkley just a few more lines to you I must say I am sorry to have not written before but I have been so busy traveling about you will be surprised to hear I am back at Hertford but I had to come an help as there were no N.C.O. there as you will see I have been made Sergant under Capt Bates so I having a fairly good time now as I have rough it fairly. But I am none the worse as soon as I can I will come and see you again as I am so close. Well sir I hope everthing is well at home and also family. I should like to be rembered to all my mates and tell them I am doing my best in the ranks as you will see by my promotions its some hard work but I will try and do it. Sir I should like a line again when you have time to remind me of the old firm and the doings I suppose they are getting on with the building now its fairly good weather. I suppose you no about our reg the first at France and now the Reserve have gone to near Bury so I don't know if I shall get home again before I go back I will try. Rember me to Dr Russell and family and tell them I am doing well at present. Well sir I don't know off much fresh news only News which yo no so I will close my few lines with my kindest regards to all. Believe me to remain your obedient servant

G Lawrence

24th November 1914

Letter from Russell to H Salisbury

Messrs H Salisbury & Son

Leyton Road

Harpenden

Dear Sirs

Laboratory House Alterations

One of the new drains is not working satisfactorily, and I should be glad if this could be seen to as soon as possible.

Yours truly

25th November 1914

Letter from A J Daish to Dunkley

1st Herts Regiment

British Expeditionary Force

France

My Dear Dunkley

Just a line to thank you for your letter which reached me a few days ago, & also to let you know that I am still getting on well. You will probably have heard all about my doings from my wife, & I know she will always be very pleased to let you know what I am doing.

I can't tell you where I have been because we are not allowed to name any places in our letters, but it may interest you to hear that I have had ten days in the firing line in about the hottest place we could have fallen into. We have now been relieved & have been given a few days rest, which we are spending in a small French village in quite comfortable billets. It is a great treat to get back to civilization again after living on biscuits & "bully" in trenches & "dug-outs". I have no idea what our next move will be, nor shall we know until about half an hour before we have to move off. Whatever it may be we shall still try to do our best, & one can't say more than that.

I am glad to say I am keeping very fit in spite of bad weather, shells & bullets, & I am in hopes of bringing a whole skin back to England before very long.

We've had about the most strenuous time I can remember since we came out here. The trouble is that one hardly gets any sleep at all, & that is far worse than any bullets or shells. The feeding is quite good, except that one can very seldom get anything really hot to eat or drink at the front. Also there is no chance of washing or shaving, & of course you can't get your clothes off at all. However, we are now in awfully comfortable quarters, & you can guess that we are going to make the most of the time we are here. I shall be very glad if you will pay my money into my account, & I think it is quite the best arrangement you could have made.

I am glad to hear that Bowden is going to join the Territorials. I hope you will tell him so from me if you see him at any time. Also I hope it will be an example to some of the others.

I shall be very pleased to hear from you at any time as letters are very welcome out here.

Please remember me to all at the lab:

Yours sincerely

A.J. Daish

30th November 1914

(arrived 5th December)

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

I have just got your letter, many thanks for the cheque enclosed. I cant tell you how sorry I am to hear of the death of your nephew. I know he was very precious to you. Will this ghastly war ever come to an end! Please tell Mrs Dunkley how very very sorry I am for the trouble that has come to you both. I have been meaning to write to you for some days for I wanted to ask you if you could give me the addresses of all the absentees from the Lab. I want to send them a card at Christmas, & I don't know the address of one of them. Those not included in the list I shall conclude are still with you. What a different Christmas to last year, it is a good thing that then we did not know what was in store for us or we should not have enjoyed our Christmas tree so much. It is now 10pm & I have only just stopped work, we are pretty busy these days our number of wounded now at the hospital is just under the 1,000.

Goodbye, and thank you again so much for your letters I always so enjoy getting them. I wish you good luck with your new typewriter. You will soon get into it.

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

Letter from Dunkley to Lt Daish

30th November 1914

Dear Lt Daish

I was very pleased to get your letter of the 23rd and to find that after the dangerous & strenuous time you had put in you were still unscathed & I trust the rest you speak of & which you must so sorely need will put you alright again. Hertfordshire is proud of the 1st Batt. There was a very complimentary para in the Daily Telegraph a few days ago on the doings of the Btn & the Wkly Despatch of yesterday also spoke in terms of praise. Some of the Notts & Derby's who were in Harpenden were somewhat taken aback when they heard of the 1st Herts going out to the front & they thought they ought to have gone too. They left us a fortnight ago so we are pretty quiet again.

Lieut Keen has been transferred from the 5th Suffolk (Reserves) to the 5th Suffolk Active Btn. Lewin is so far as I know at Woking still. MacLennan is still here. Bowden goes to Hertford to commence training tomorrow. Sergt Lawrence is spending the week end at home & was over here yesterday. He was trying his luck at recruiting & says he netted two, viz. Phillips at the paint shop in Sun lane & the

hairdresser at Townsend's in Sun Lane. He hoped also to get others before he left Harpenden last night.

The front wall of the new lab is now about 5ft high & some of the window frames are just being put in position. The whole structure is being very substantially put up & steel stanchions are being built into the walls everywhere

Buddin is at Guelph(Ontario) & is pretty hard up. It was a costly journey over there & the authorities filched him of \$6 for lecture fees. He says he may transfer to Cornell after Xmas

Miss Adam has turned up after an absence of about 4 months

I have today handed the first cheque to Barclay & Co so it should be alright

With all good wishes & trusting to hear from you again soon

I am Yours sincerely

G. J. Dunkley

4th December 1914

Letter from Keen to Dunkley

5th Suffolks

Mile End

Colchester

Friday

Dear Dunkley

Have you paid my cheque into Barclay's to my account? I ask because I have not had it here, or at Elmstead where we have been with our Coy for the last 15 days, digging trenches.

I have also made arrangements to have my pay sent through Cox & Co, to be transferred by them to my Harpenden account monthly

I suppose I had better write the manager myself & tell him.

Kind regards to all

Yrs sincerely

B A Keen

6th December 1914

Letter from W Buddin to Dunkley
Ontario Agricultural College
Guelph, Ont. Canada

Dear Dunkley

I was very sorry to hear of your nephew's death and know how much you must feel it.

I returned the proofs on Wednesday as soon as I had worked through them and expect you will have received them some days before this. The printer seems to have been quite successful in reading my writing. As you typed Dr Russell's letter I take it that Miss Bates is still at Cambridge and that you have taken on no substitute. I had heard of Daish's wedding. Apart from satisfying what has been her most desperate desire for about the last quarter century I think it was rather foolish to get married immediately before sailing for the front but still it was his 'funeral' not mine.

Glad they are getting on with the new building. If you could find a comfortable corner in it with a fat salary for me I should be happy. The day before they wanted all in for the Xmas number of the OAC review they asked me to write a short article on Rothamsted for it. I managed to cull a sufficient amount of matter from ADH's & EJR's pamphlets to fill up the reqd 2 or 3 pages in time but do not expect Rothamsted would feel complimented by the conglomerate when it appears so it is as well none of you will see it.

I hope to get to Cornell on the 16th my address will be Cosmopolitan Club, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. By the way thanks very much for the large envelope legibly addressed that you sent with the proofs.

I rather think that it would have been better for me to have come here next term instead of this. Dr Creelman will then be back and thus Short Will be in full swing, but as it is I think it will be more profitable to go to Cornell now. I certainly should not go if I did not think so as my expenses will be even greater there. Without my extravagances I could quite comfortably do with another £50 -100 this year. By means of a little coming from home I expect I shall manage to get through but it means more to pay off when I do get a job & the salary may not enable me to do it on present prospects. Tell Dr Russell I will write to him when I get settled at Cornell. Wish him a very happy Christmas for me as probably my letter will not reach him in time. Give my love to the Soil Lab. I expect Archie is still swearing in the recess while Has Hanley got a post yet? I must write to Randall soon I expect W. B(?) is still writing to you weekly or are next season's probable prices worrying him too much?

Very best wishes for Xmas and the New Year

Remember me to all and let me hear all the news. Also Annual Report & copies of anything else of interest

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

16th December 1914

Letter from Lawrence to Dunkley

Sergant G Lawrence
1st Herts Reg G. Coy
Halestoft Hall
Thurston
Bury St Edmunds

Dear Sir
Mr Dunkley

Just a line to you to say I am keeping well and hope you are the same. You will be surprised to hear that I am going away again as it most inconvenient before Xmas but its my time so must excuse it I hope you will have a good Xmas within the circumstances I will try and make myself as well and happy as I can but I really thought I should get chance to spend Xmas at home but duty calls me away. Well sir I hope all your people are well at hope and give them my kindest regards and and happy Xmas. I don't know of much news there is not much change. You must excuse my short note as I am bust getting the men equipped to go away I hope to hear from you again soon

Believe me to remain
Your Obedient Servant
G. Lawrence

16th December 1914

Letter from Russell to Thompson & Sons

Messrs F M Thompson & Sons Ltd
Louth
Lincolnshire

Dear Sirs

Laboratory Buildings at Rothamsted

We have from the board of Agriculture and Fisheries a letter asking us to give formal assurance that effect is being given to the following conditions, viz. that in arranging for the construction of the buildings and similar operations the Society secure the observance, *mutatis mutandis*, of the conditions specified in the printed paper (27474r – D.C.) relative to fair wages etc.

I shall be glad to receive this assurance for transmission to the Board.

Yours faithfully
Director

17th December 1914

Field Service Postcard from Daish to Dunkley

These are pre-printed postcards on which various options are printed and the sender deletes the inappropriate ones.

The Post card reads

I am quite well

I have received your letter dated **4th December**

Letter following at first opportunity

A. J. Daish

Date **17/12/14**

Very best wishes to all at the lab: for xmas

Daish's additions in **bold**

17th December 1914

Letter from Dunkley to W Buddin

W Buddin Esq. B.A.
Ontario Agricultural College
Guelph, Ont..
CANADA

Dear Mr Buddin

Dr Russell has asked me to let you know that your proofs came to hand yesterday. He says he cannot find the New Zealand Journal of Agriculture Vol. 8, No. 4, to which you give a reference in the paper. Do you happen to have it in your possession, or do you know where it is?

Your letter of Nov 8th and mine to you with the proofs must have crossed on the briny. I am sorry to hear you are finding it so very expensive out there, and hope by good management and strict economy you will still be able to make both ends meet. I have no doubt that as you say the summer will be by far the the most important time out there, and hope you will still be able to pick up a good of knowledge. You would probably find the social conditions at Cornell more to your liking, but perhaps you would not as much agriculture there as at Guelph.

I told Dr Russell about the soil smasher, and that you were willing to try one of our samples in it if he would send one over. He seemed at the idea, but whether he will send a sample I cannot say.

Daish was here about a fortnight ago. He says they had been in the trenches at the front for about 8 days and were then relieved for a time by other troops. He left for France again on Tuesday week. He looked pretty fit, but appeared older in that short time and one could see that he had passed through a strain. Mrs Daish came over to the Laboratory with him.

Lawrence did not go out with the battalion, but has for the past month or so been stationed at Hertford. He is a full-blown sergeant now and has been helping to train recruits that are coming in to form a 2nd reserve Btn. He has now however been transferred to Bury St Edmunds again.

Bowden enlisted three weeks ago and is I believe stationed at Hertford. He has been home twice since, and on one occasion had a look in at the Laboratory in his uniform.

MacLennan joined the Sanitary Co. of the R.A.M.C. last week and he and Clayton are supposed to have gone out to France on Tuesday last. Appleyard has offered to join the same Corps, but whether he will finally be accepted I do not know.

Keen and Lewin so far as I know are still training with their respective regiments in England. Miss Bates is still at Cambridge. The walls of the new Laboratory are rising and are in places nearly as high as the ceiling of the ground floor.

We have a Belgian refugee, a Dr Limbosch of Gembloux assisting Mr Davis.

Hanley, Weir and Prescott are all here still. With all good wishes for the new year and trusting to hear from you again soon.

I am, yours sincerely
G.T.D.

P.S. Please excuse mistakes, have got a new Hammond Typewriting machine & have not yet got accustomed to it.

18th December 1914

Letter from C Buddin to Rothamsted

87 Reighton Road
Up Clapton, N.E.

Dear Sir

Just received following cable from Walter

Ithaca NY 18th

Small train accident near Niagara arrived safely settled send Harpenden

Yours truly

J Buddin

19th December 1914

Letter from A H Bowden to Dunkley

Y.M.C.A.

With H.M. Forces

On Active Service

Pte A.H. Bowden

22nd Res Batt. Herts Regt. B Coy

c/o Mrs Muffatt

6 George Street

Port Vale

Hertford

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. I must ask you to excuse pencil & this scrawl but I've just had an introduction by letter from Mr S. Salisbury Secretary of our C.E.M.S. (*Church of England men's Society*) to the Secretary here, & he has just invited me up to tea at 5pm. I thought the Choir Festival went off very well considering the rain we had just before the service. I've got the opportunity to join the Choir here if I wish to. We have plenty of amusement here for the soldiers YMCA Clubs etc. I'm going to a concert tonight & Thursday I went to a concert at Christ's Hospital. The R.F.A, Yeomanry & 22nd County of London as well as us, are stationed here. We are going for a night attack next week probably Tuesday. I'm trying hard for my Christmas leave but I think it will be a struggle so many want to go. What do you think of the recent raid on our shores? Captain Bates & Sergeant Lawrence have both gone to Bury St Edmunds. We have lectures to attend when it's wet. My word we have had some wretched weather here lately. I'm in a very comfortable billet with 3 more comrades. They pay 15/9 weekly for each soldier, to the landlady so you can guess anyone with 4, ought to do well didn't they? I shall be pleased to hear from you, if you care to write or anyone at the lab. I suppose the builders are pushing forward now. Once more please excuse scrawl, my pencil wants sharpening & there is no knife handy. You can guess I'm

happy when I get here at the YMCA – they’ve got a lovely little organ, with stops etc. It does seem funny on Sunday’s no Sunday School to go to & have to sit in the congregation instead of the choir. I go to jump up when the choir do. The money I get paid 7/- weekly that is , of course, 1/- daily. Sometimes we are paid Saturdays & sometimes on Monday. We have a fine Band here & have been for several long marches lately. I believe the exercises & drills are doing me a lot of good. Of course (got a pen at last!) there are all sorts & conditions of men here, but it is very sad to observe so many on the downward path. Only the other Sunday, on Church parade, the soldier (if you can call him one) was actually swearing next to me in Church?

Kind remembrance to all, Arthur, Bertie & Grey etc.

I remain Yours sincerely

Athel

19th December 1914

Letter from Dunkley to J Buddin

Dear Sir

Dr Russell asks me to thank you for your letter informing him of your son’s escape in the Railway accident near Niagara. He wishes me to add that he will be pleased at any time to receive news of your son that you may care to send on.

I wrote a long letter to your son 2 or 3 days ago & addressed it to Guelph, but if he has gone on to Cornell, as it appears, I have no doubt it will be forwarded. We also received from him early in the present week proofs of two papers of his that will appear shortly in the Journal of Agricul. Science (Cambridge).

Yours faithfully

G. T. Dunkley

J. Buddin Esq.

Letter from A (Athelstan) Bowden

YMCA

19th December 1914

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a few lines to let you know how things are progressing here. I must ask you to excuse pencil & this scrawl but I’ve just had an introduction by letter from Mr S. Salisbury Secretary of our C.E.M.S. (*Church of England Men’s Society*) to the Secretary here, & he has just invited me up to tea at 5 p.m. I thought the Choir Festival went off very well considering the rain we had just before the service. I’ve got the opportunity to join the Choir here, if I wish to. We have plenty of amusements here for the soldiers, YMCA, Clubs etc. I’m going to a concert tonight & Thursday I went to a concert at Christ’s Hospital. The R. F. A.(?) Yeomanry & 22nd County of London, as well as us, are stationed here. We are going for a night attack next week probably Tuesday. I’m trying hard for my Christmas leave, but I

think it will be a struggle so many want to go. What do you think of the recent raid(?) on our shores? Captain Bates & Sergeant Lawrence have both gone to Bury St Edmunds. We have lectures to attend, when it's wet. My word we have had some wretched weather here lately. I'm in a very comfortable billet with 3 more comrades. They pay 15/9 weekly for each soldier, to the landlady, so you can guess anyone with 4 ought to do well didn't they? I shall be pleased to hear from you, if you care to write or anyone at Lab. I suppose the builders are pushing forward now. Once more please excuse scrawl, my pencil wants sharpening & there is no knife handy. You can guess I'm happy when I get here at the YMCA – they've got a lovely little organ, with stops etc. It does seem funny on Sundays, no Sunday School to go to & have to sit in the congregation instead of the Choir. I go to jump up when the choir do. The money I get paid 7/- weekly that is, of course 1/- daily. Sometimes we are paid Saturday & sometimes on Monday. We have a fine Band here & have been for several long marches lately. I believe the exercises & drills are doing me a lot of good. Of course (got a pen at last) there are all sorts and conditions of men here, but it is very sad to observe so many on the downward path. Only the other Sunday, at Church parade, the Soldier (if you can call him one) was actually swearing next to me in church?

Kind remembrances to all, Freeman, Arthur, Bertie, etc

Yours sincerely

Athel

22nd December 1914
(arrived 25th December)

Letter from Gertrude Bates to Dunkley

Addenbrooke's Hospital
Cambridge

Dear Mr Dunkley

I am sending a little Christmas card for each of the Labs including the office, which I mean for you. They are not beautiful, but I made them all myself so I am sure they will be appreciated !!!!! I am not sending any ordinary cards to any one this year I simply haven't had the time to go in for them, but I wanted the Lab. to have some sort of Christmas greeting so having a vivid recollection of a general demand for calendars, to say nothing of the way they tried to sneak my big one, I thought I would make one for each of the rooms i.e. the office, soil lab, organic lab., Botany lab., & Dr Hutchinson's, I didn't think either Dr Russell or Dr Miller would care for one & though I tried everywhere to get bigger figures these are the largest I could get. I am sending you the parcel because you are the only one I feel sure will be at the Lab. Let them fight for the pretty pictures, but I really meant the Pembroke one for you because of your son being there. This week promises to be a bit of a week. Yesterday I bicycled 10 miles through lots of slush for a rehearsal for

our show on Boxing Day. As soon as I got back I had to tramp about for an hour trying to find a patient. I have been twice to the base hospital today & am going again first thing tomorrow morning. More wounded came in last night, this time they were rather worse than usual, as some of the wounds had only be done a few days. Now I must really stop it is 11.30pm & I have been trying to write this since about 10. with constant interruptions. If I don't go to bed at once I shall hear of it in the morning. I hope you will have a very nice Christmas & a very Happy New Year

With best wishes to everybody

Yrs very sincerely

Gertrude Bates

23rd December 1914

YMCA postcard Bowden to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Just a Post Card to thank you very very much for your kindness in forwarding me such a welcome Christmas present. Please convey my thanks to all. I have got a half-day off today, on account of a night march, starting at 6pm. Best wishes to all for a merry Christmas X. Thanking you once again

I remain

Yours sincerely

A H B

26th December 1914

Letter from Keen to Russell

5th Suffolks

Mile End

Colchester

Dear Dr Russell

Please accept my best greetings for yourself & Mrs Russell. We all spent Christmas here, as leave for everybody was stopped at the last moment, owing to fears of fresh raids.

Quite a different Christmas from what I anticipated 12 months ago!

I'm glad the paper reached you in time to be included in the next issue of the J.A.S. I should like about 1 dozen copies for private distribution, if possible.

I suppose you have not heard from Porter yet? He has a habit of keeping papers a long time before sending them in! I expect .. outlons resignation is giving him extra work. I hope he gets the post.

When we were digging at Elmstead last month, I had charge of the making of some gun pits which had to be in places 5' 6" deep. The field was permanent pasture & I was at the variation in the subsoil. In a length of 40 yards we came upon

sand gravel sticky clay & to cap it all a beastly iron pan about 2 feet down which took all day to break up.

Enclosed is a copy of the 'Brigade Review' with which we amused ourselves 'Evolution' is my effort & I put it down solely to Lewin's bad influence! But I feel much better now.

Yours very sincerely

B A Keen

29th December 1914

Letter from W Buddin to Russell

Cornell Cosmopolitan Club

Ithaca, NY, USA

Dear Dr Russell

I suppose that now that I have seen the Falls twice and been in a railroad accident I can fairly claim to have "done" the States, although that is hardly the way in which I wish to "do" it. The accident was fortunately quite a small affair. When we were about three miles from Niagara – on a very windy and snowy night – our train ran into an engine which was pushing a freight train on the same track and in the same direction. The engineer and the fireman as well as the conductor of the freight train were badly injured and burnt and one of them was on the point of dying, but fortunately none of the passengers were very seriously injured. I got off with a very slight shaking. We were waiting two hours before another train came up with a doctor and we were shunted on to the other track and taken on to Niagara. The engine fires were difficult to put out and a freight car of coal was set on fire burning out almost completely in under an hour. Our baggage car remained uninjured. It was quite an experience and we were very fortunate that things were no worse. I have not felt so thankful for a long time.

As far as I can judge I shall be able to spend my time here more profitably here than at Guelph for the rest of the winter. I thought it would be desirable to get properly settled here before Christmas and so economise a little time. The Club dining hall is shut over the holiday so that I spent my first Christmas away from home eating in Cafeterias – rather a sharp contrast. There are four South Africans here – including Hall – and we tried to cheer ourselves a little by lighting a log fire in the Hall in the evening.

Prof. Creelman is only just back from Australia – if even now. I did all I could to get in touch with the advisory work but am I afraid I have not succeeded in picking up much that is of value at home. I spent one week visiting some of the District Representatives and getting an insight into their work. A large part of it appears to be similar to what would be done by the new Farm Institutes at home.

I think it would be very advantageous to get on to a farm in the summer if I can persuade a farmer to take one so "queer". In that case where would you advise

my going? - Staying on the Cornell farm, if possible, going out in the States in the more settled parts of Canada e.g. Ontario or out West in Canada?

I hope to be able to spend some time going out in the direction of the West just before I return to England but I am afraid lack of funds will prevent my staying too long or going very far. I should be very glad to have your opinion as to the most profitable parts for me to visit and should be glad if you would give me any letters of introduction. "Any word from Dr Russell is very acceptable". I hope to get to Illinois before I come back and should be glad of a letter of introduction to Dr Hopkins. As we are some weeks apart it might be as well if you sent it on to me soon after receiving this.

Perhaps it would be as well to mention now that if you want a moral or general character reference for me at any time I am sure W G Rushbrooke Esq. Head of St Olave's Gram. Sch., Tower Bridge, S.E, would be glad to give it.

In some respects it is very useful that the Board of Agriculture pay the instalments of the Scholarship at the end of the quarter but I am afraid that by the end of the year when I have paid up what I owe to my Father for advances during the year there will not be a very great turn left to tide over a period of unemployment.

Cunningham's work published in the Sept No of On Protozoa seems to be very promising and to bear out Rothamsted work.

I was glad to hear that they are getting on well with the new building

Yours sincerely

Walter Buddin

30th December 1914

Letter from Brenchley to Dunkley

Dear Mr Dunkley

Thank you for your letter re B. Titmuss. I am sorry she is leaving, and hope she is getting into a permanent post. Milly Fleet told me she would like to come to us some time ago, so I have written to offer her the vacancy and have told her to come up to see you. You can tell her about wages. I will also write to Doris Batchelor. Mind she does not come back too soon – we don't want flue running all round the Lab, especially with all the other girls there. She had better bring permission from the Doctor.

If a parcel of plants has come or should arrive from Dr Steward, Western Australia, please send them on as I am busy working them out at the British Museum – am just off there again now.

All good wishes for the New Year

Yours sincerely

Winifred E. Brenchley

P.S. Thank you for your calendar