

260 Havan Rd
Drayton
Portsmouth
15 Sept 43

Dearest Leslie,
I went to see my bank manager last Wednesday. I told him your story, and his reply was that he strongly advises you to see your bank manager and put your cards on the table and get his advice. But the broad principles

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of the Bank on loans on
property are, you lay $\frac{1}{3}$ rd
down & the Bank lend
 $\frac{2}{3}$ rd. Your position in
private life would not be
acceptable as added security,
lots of things might happen
that would cause you to
lose your job. It is not
a good risk in their eyes.

I told him you did
not want to freeze all
your capital in the
house, but Mr. Hall said
your best policy would
be to borrow first

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for the house, repay weekly
off loan, then borrow
again for a car & a boat.
I told him you wanted
both these things after
the war, Mr. Hall said a
lot would depend on the
value of the property you
proposed buying, and also
what other security you
were prepared to lay
against the loan. If you
both have Government
bonds or saving certificates
or insurance endowments
any of these would do for

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added security. It would
make borrowing the money
easy. But the rules are
somewhat elastic, & generally
the bank manager is most
helpful. I told him I
gathered from you that
your bank manager
was somewhat unapproach-
able. He said no bank
manager is unapproachable.
you should be able to go
to him & as he says lay
your proposition before
him & ask his help.
If Blair feels that a
transfer of the account

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to a smaller branch
where she would feel
more at home with
the manager, I should
strongly advise this
move. Perhaps Lloyd's
Bank at Woolwich
would be better. The

Bank managers down
here have always been
jolly decent men to
do business with. So
I cannot imagine why
the London chappies
should be any different.
They ought not to be.

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once again I would
urge you both to save
as hard as you can
because you might
miss a good snip by
not having just that
extra that makes all
the difference. But in
any case I should have
2/3rds of what you
estimate the Cungalow
will cost you. Get away
to a Flying Start, and
all will be well. You
can borrow again & again.

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Providing you keep up
Steady weekly payments,
Mr. Hall said it wouldn't
be to your financial
advantage to go on
paying the full interest
all the time without
reducing the loan.

He said that would be
a heavy load to carry
& he thought an
unnecessary one. The
Bank's system of reducing
the interest as the loan
goes down is such a good
that it is a pity not to
take advantage of it.

(8)
well dear I hope I have
made myself clear.
It appears the first thing
you must do is to find
a decent bank manager.
That's important. They can
be such a help. Then
secondly lay all your
cards on the table and
keep your fingers crossed
and offer up a prayer.
The rest is on the lap
of the gods.

Give my love to
Claire, all my best to
yourself. Your devoted
Sister
Blanche

XXXXXXX

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