

mess 18

Mrs. Horner.

Friday.

Dear One,

Your letter of the week
was most instructive on the
housing problem. It looks like
these ~~these~~ prefabs are for us, &
altho' I haven't seen 'em I can
imagine that they'll do 'until
the real thing comes along. I
wrote to the Cotford Town Clerk
during the week & stated our
claim for priority - I gave
88(a) as the address so you'll
be getting all the gear on the
matter and being a dutiful
little wifey, you'll no doubt.

pass it on to your ever-loving husband
as 'n. when.

As to the type we want - the
~~preference~~ ~~preference~~ biased in favour
of steel - that's my mechanical
side coming out - but I'm quite
prepared to believe, if told by
you - so that the non-ferrous types
are just as strong and warmer.
I expect to see quires of forms
sent for filling, and if they're
not particular as to ~~the~~ which
part of the partnership signs
on the line no doubt
my clever little darling will
do her stuff. If there's a
selection of sites your taste
is mine. All this is very
prevalent maybe, but then again
maybe it aint, so if the papers

are to be believed they will be
delivering very shortly.

Talk in the base here is
centered about foreign drafts.
The fact has to be faced, sweet,
that sooner or later the chances
of them catching up with me
are about 50 to 1 in favor of.
There are two rays of hope —
one the medical officer may
declare me unfit for foreign
service & two previous
experience has shown that
the drafting people are not
foreign-minded when they
regard me. As for my health
I shall know more tomorrow
When I see the doctor again.
He will then have the radiologist's
report & also results of various

blood-tests. As Doc said they
are inclined towards the
bronchial solution to my
troubles but whether it's serious
or not I don't know. A
prolonged period of treatment
might set me past the present
foreign panic - the trouble is
I feel so darned fit, no
cold or anything, that I
don't see how they can
treat me - maybe the trouble's
latent.

All in all, darling, I'm
not worrying, & I don't want
you to worry either. Even if
I did go foreign it wouldn't
be for long because I
understand from 'buzzes'
down here that certain

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Civil servants will be among
the "reconstruction" people due
for release - don't ask me where
the buzz comes from because
it's not going to ask such
things in the Royal Navy,
but it comes under the
'reliable' category & I think
there's a lot in it. However,
you must get adjusted to
the foreign idea, dearest, in case
I have to go - knowing you,
I'm not afraid that you'll get
panicky about the prospect -
let's take these things in their
stride the way we've always
done.

What if I'm not out of
the Service before our chance
for prefabs. comes along?

Does that modify your ideas
any sweetheart? It shouldn't.
+ I don't suppose for a minute
that it will. I'm just
turning over in my mind
the possibilities & prospects of
various situations & it seems
to me that you might
have your work cut out
to start up a home without
help. But then again, we've
plenty of friends & relations
willing to lend a hand so
there shouldn't be any difficulty
there. At the worst I hope
to be in England when the
chance of a house comes &
maybe a little help can be
wangled.

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I've been doing my damndest - to get another weekend for tomorrow but this time the Waterway planer has failed ingloriously. I'd rip up on the Sunday if it were not for the nightmare journey back - even then I'd do it but after a night of wandering round Portsmouth & crashing down in billiard rooms my body's a shivering lump of ice & my clothes are limp rags - even then I'd do it but, truth will out, I haven't got the fare. After buying a few stops the f2 you gave me looked very sick, & since then it's gone lower.

All this talk about houses,
foreign drafts, ripping up the line,
in all that makes me realise one
thing, if it weren't for you
& your love life would be
a very dull & purposeless
existence. What the hell would
I care about - postal houses
& weekends if I didn't
love you? What the hell
would I care about anything,
even myself - there wouldn't
be any point in trying to
preserve this man if no
Claire had come along. The
things are now I have
only one reason for helping
win this war, to come back
to my lovely.

Aint that the truth?

for



Wm. B. ...
 Ministry of Supply
 Card - R 241.
 Lt Westmorland
 Hemel Hempstead
 S.W.1.

