

15<sup>th</sup> Jan 1945

260 Daven Rd  
Drayton  
Pottersmouth

Dearest Leslie, I was so pleased to hear from you, but not so pleased that you are going out East. I wish it wasn't so far away, and I feel sorry for Claire's sake too. She must be feeling terrible about it. I hope I see you before you go. I would have come up home to say goodbye to you over the Christmas had it been possible. But the sight of the old man does something to me now

and I would undoubtedly have indulged  
him, which would not have been too  
pleasant for the rest of the family. And  
Christmas without Mother there would  
have been unbearable this year. But  
I do hope you get a few moments to  
say cheerio before you go. If there is  
a chance for you to come up don't  
hesitate to come up any time.

I did not get your Christmas  
card until yesterday the 1st which  
made me feel very sad, because it  
would have made me so happy at  
Christmas time. I naturally thought  
you hadn't sent me one, yet all the  
time it was at Smith & Sons farther up  
the road.

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you see dear you had addressed it to  
Smith & Son and there are two of us here.  
So the number 260 is a safer bet. I must  
have your address at welling, I've never  
known it, so have never been able to send  
there.

What a curious thing that you developed  
that throat trouble. I heard it was a  
complaint raging through the navy due to  
drinking out of hot too clean a cup. One of  
my customer's husband's had a similar  
complaint, and it was supposed to be  
due to a germ picked up from a <sup>dirty</sup> drinking  
vessel of some kind. She said it was  
prevalent throughout the service.

But I am more than pleased to hear  
you are better, although your recovery  
probably means your overseas draft  
came through quicker.

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Well dear Leslie, all the luck  
in the world to you for 1945. If I do  
not see you to say cheerio, here's hoping  
for the best of everything for you and  
here's hoping it won't be for three years  
anyway. God Bless, and all my love,  
Ernie sends his best wishes to,  
you devoted  
sister  
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x  
Blanche