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The Office.  
Thursday 13.9.45.

Dearest.

It is the most heavenly day, and I really feel that we are in for a couple of weeks of Summers.

This has not been much of a year for sunshine on the whole - but lets hope we shall all make up for it in 1946 when the world should be getting right back to peace.

Today we have said goodbye to Mr. Bedford. He is retiring at the age of 65, having reached the rank of Under-Secretary and really he has had a most interesting & varied life in the Service - having been in Malba,

Egypt, North Russia & the Rhine  
& Holland.

There was a presentation of  
a set of the Encyclopaedia  
Britannica & various speeches and  
afterwards those people who wished  
to speak to him shook hands &  
wished him Godspeed. I take  
goodbyes, and I've always been  
specially fond of Mr. Bedford - he  
was most helpful to me when I  
first worked for Gordon, & his  
wink & sense of humour made  
the first few weeks much easier.  
He's a dear. But you know I  
find on these occasions that I  
feel so shy that, instead of me  
wishing the retiree man good  
luck & happiness, he questions

me about my future, where you  
are, when you'll be home, what I  
intend to do or not. It  
probably relieves him to talk about  
something other than himself - cos  
he was obviously moved at the  
display of affection. - but at the  
same time I feel as though I  
didn't do what I set out to do.

Friday

The forgery was scribbled  
yesterday & I had no chance  
of finishing it off at the office  
- & also forgot to take it home.

We are still very busy &  
I have had several trips to  
Shell Mex etc. I quite enjoy  
being out & about when other  
people are at work. Gives me a

a pleasant sense of irresponsibility.  
Incidentally, I often see notices around asking for people with technical knowledge to fill vacancies in production branches & I feel that it would be wise for you to try to get released from Contracts on your return. That is, if you feel you'd be happier doing a more technical job. With your natural aptitude for technical stuff, & your interest in that side of things, together with your ground-work in Contracts, you should snap up something useful. We could call an <sup>apt.</sup> Black on your demob. leave & see what chances are like.

There are crowds of people sight-seeing in London these days & I shall be joining the throng at Vega for lunch today. I'd like some costly vegetarian dishes.

In Trafalgar Squ. they are preparing for Thanksgiving Week which starts tomorrow. There are all sorts of German weapons on show, including V-bombs & I'd like to see how they looked when they roared over us last year. There

are going to be more speeches, parades and sing-songs than that, every lunch hour next week. And I do say I shall push along with the mob to catch a glimpse of some of the lads marching past.

Every now & again I realise

with a flood of thankfulness  
that it is all over.

Oh darling, wait it be  
heavenly to start life anew in  
our own flat. We'll have the  
most wonderful time ever, gay days,  
parties, holidays, interspersed with  
work at the same office, train  
rides that will go like the  
wind in your company.

It's a wonderful world and  
I feel right on top of it. Together  
we shall go far, I know, and  
every moment of my life will  
be happy.

because of you,

love you,

Clare

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Polmn. L.H. Madrasat.

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Miss. Baganya.

Basal Jores.

BOMBAY

INDIA

