

So into the car we hopped and drove through some very pretty country and the Cranham Woods were beautiful in the sunshine. The woods are very thick and the ground covered with bluebells and how strange it is that so many people go into the woods and pick bluebells and then discard them. The lady of the cafe lived in South Africa for twelve years so she was full of talk about the country which she says she loved. She told us she had been nursing with great care an Amaryllis Lily. We then returned to town and had a drink at a lovely old Georgian Hotel-The Queens- said a fond farewell to Kay and Rex and then on to Roma in Prestbury for supper and to pick up Edith. Roma who is about 54 reminds me of the actress Billie Bourke-short fuzzy hair, pleasantly and comfortably covered with flesh, very chatty and so fond of the clothes that suit those personalities. We drove home in the dark arriving back about eleven and this morning set off again to have lunch with Ronnie's people in Woverhampton. Ronnie is a friend of ours in East London and he had asked us to call on his people. We found the house without much difficulty and chatted hard. Ronnie's mother, his sister Edith, and Gladys Burnham and her husband were there. They have a very nice little house and having enjoyed a very fine dinner we talked on till three when we had to leave as we had to have tea with the Bomfords. at 4-30 at their farm at Dunnington. We were able to tell Ronny all about his people and about their new house which was very nicely furnished. We spent a very pleasant with the Bomfords as they had invited some Maritzberg a most amusing couple- to tea as well.

16th May. Mr Newton the vicar, a friend of Mary and Edith joined us in a farewell tea. As soon as he left Lorna got on with the packing of the two trunks we were railing and I then took them into Evesham and we would next see them probably on board at Southampton.

As they only weighed 80 lbs. each the charge was only 30/- and Pickfords quoted us £10. No wonder there are so many cartage firms in South Africa today. One sees pentecostians from all parts of the country travelling here there and every where. Before the war when a person had to move their furniture to another town it had to be packed first before being loaded. Today it is just loaded onto the vehicle.

We paid our last visit to Stratford before leaving and it is wonderful the change in the countryside since our arrival here. The shoots were then just beginning to come out and now the trees are heavy with foliage and flowers and the fruit trees will soon lose their flowers for fruit. By the roadside grows cow parsley, very much like Queen Anne Lace and in the fields buttercups and daisies. The buttercups are such pretty little things and the daisies white with a slight touch of pink at the edges. Lorna says we walked in the fields behind the church this afternoon but the dog had to be kept on the leash as she loves chasing the sheep. All the ewes seem to have twins and although the lambs are getting big they still enjoy their feeding time. One old ewe was walking along quite soberly when her lambs frolicked along stopped her as much as to say "Oh no you don't -not till we've been satisfied". The cattle we were met were Hereford and although they looked fierce they were very friendly. It is sad to think we are leaving all this beauty so soon- the day after tomorrow- but we are indeed lucky to have had this holiday and lucky to have had Mary and Edith to stay with as we have enjoyed the home life. The only nice thing about going is that we will be picking up the children and I pray that our last week with the children will be warm and friendly.

Geoff I have a very big map of England and Scotland and have been busy this morning marking in all the routes we have travelled. It is surprising the amount of ground we have covered. I have at home a map showing our 1939 routes which I will be able to transfer to this map for future reference.

Lorna takes over again. Yesterday was a day of great packing and saying farewells. We like so much everyone we have met in Salford Priors/