

STATION: LIPHOOK 2 MILES.  
TELEGRAMS: PASSFIELD.  
TELEPHONE No: PASSFIELD 6.

AL/3399

PASSFIELD CORNER,  
LIPHOOK,  
HANTS.

23rd November 1939.

My dear Ruth,

I was so glad to get your letter giving me your news.

Andreas Mayor, my gifted nephew, about whose fate you ask me, has enlisted in the infantry and will soon be in France. He is silent and apparently resigned - absolutely passive about the war - says he will do exactly what he is told to do, and leave it at that. In the last year at Cambridge he had carried all before him, and earned about £600. in scholarships and prizes, and was about to start on a foreign tour, and had decided to try for the Foreign Office, in which he certainly would have succeeded. His mother is perturbed about him because of the silence with which he accepts his fate, so contrary to all his thoughts and interests.

On the other hand, a nephew who had made a mess of his life and had enlisted in the Royal Corps of Signals eighteen months ago, as a private, finds himself suddenly made an officer and put in charge of important transit of men and materials to France. He came to see me as a completely vindicated and responsible man, liking his job, and believing that it is the beginning of a successful career.

But I am afraid that Andreas Mayor is more typical of the youth of today, and their outlook on the war, than Dick Russell. To most of the young people the whole business seems a ghastly muddle.

Won't you come down here for a night sometime this winter? Any weekday except Friday would suit us. There is a train 2.45 from Waterloo arriving 4.2 Liphook, and one 2.43 Liphook arriving Waterloo about 4. o'clock up the next day. Listowel is coming down to lunch next Sunday, and C. P. Trevelyan was here the other day.

Sidney is very well and happy and reads incessantly, but he regrets that he cannot write any more books,

Affectionately yours,

*Ruth Russell*

*We have not  
C Small  
had down yet*