

TELEPHONE
WESTERN 7195.

60, BEDFORD GARDENS,
CAMPDEN HILL, W.

7 LGA/2/1/2

Not dated

Dearest

I am afraid I have not written often enough since I left you on Monday, but the amount of organisation required by our small hospital unit is extraordinary & D. Murray & I have done it practically by ourselves.

We have been working at it continuously for 10 days since the French Red Cross accepted our offer of help. & it is lucky we did otherwise it would have been impossible to start on Tuesday.

The packing cases are to be loaded tomorrow & they will go ahead of us to Newhaven

on Monday.

Our preparations have been hampered
by the extraordinary inefficiency
& muddle of St Johns Ambulance
Association. We went to them
as we were told — incorrectly — that
no hospital unit could leave
England unless it went away
under the St Johns Association.

We have spent weary hours
with one incompetent official

failed too. Committees of
untrained women, bossed by
old men who act as figure heads
make me almost despair of
women - whereas ~~that~~ their inefficiency
really comes from the bad training
the women have had. No methods
no consideration for time petty
jealousies red tape attention to
details of no importance etc etc etc

We are very pleased to have our
plans settled. & for many reasons

after another such contra dicting
what the last said + all of them
losing papers or letters which
they assured us had to pass thro'
their hands.

We think now that we have done
with them forever. As finally they
failed to do any of the things they
said they or no one else could do;
even the getting of the passports
which is ~~rather~~ no difficulty, they

7LGA/21/2

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I am glad we are going to Paris. There
will be no danger at all there.

& the journey will be quite easy
whereas there might have been
a good deal of trouble in getting
across France to Belfort.

Then the ease of communication
with Paris will be a very great
comfort. I expect that there
will not be the least difficulty in

writing or even in coming home for
a few days if necessary.

We are starting at 10 Am. from
Victoria on Tuesday Newbourn to
Düppe route. We had thoughts

of having a service in St Mary
Abbott, or some other central
Church but there is no time to

arrange for that & instead we
want our friends to come &
see us off — and give us
a sense of blessing & good
will that few services could do.

If you would & would come it
would be our sweet —

My address in Paris will

be

Staridge's Hotel
Champs Elysee

Very much love & regards

Yr always J. H.

I am so very glad that Gladys
is coming to you & Miss Ely

too.