August 3, 1939

Dear People,

It is to be hoped that you are now quite satisfied as to my wellbeing, my dears. Happy and healthy, that is Philinda. Having a lovely time, too.

A few observations: they no longer have much fear of Communism in France, as they did three or four years ago. Since July, Frenchmen have been quite optimistic about peace. Almost everyone is assured of no war within a period of six months, anyway. Even hardshelled pessimists are included in the list of those who feel that things have calmed down a great deal since September and March. One hears very little talk here of the struggle between totalitarianism

Migues 1 3, 1939 Dear Reople It is to be hoped that you are now quite satisfied as to my wellbeing my dears. Mappy and healthy that is Philisda. Maing a buely time, too. a sew observations: They up buser have much Sear of Communican in Trance, as they did three or Sour years ago. Since Tuly, Frenchmen have been quite optimistic about poace. almost everyone is assured of no war within a periad of six months, any way then hard shalled persumists are included in the Sist of those who hell that things have calmed down a great deal since Septem ber and March. The hears very little Kalk here of the struggle boliseen totaliterianism

and democracy. In Europe, unfortunately, there is very little difference, since in an armed encampment is necessary to employ military discipline whether they be enforced by a parliament or a dictator. Right now everyone in Paris is joking or just talking about the new family code designed to encourage the birth rate. No one desires that the hoped-for children will be used as cannon fodder, but everyone is agreed that the birth rate must be raised if there are going to be any French left to fight for a France of 50 years hence. There is a saner attitude toward Hitler here than in the U.S., it seems to me. One would think that we had more to fear

and democracy. The Surage, un Sortunately there is very little distance, since in an is necessary to armed accompnent? employ military discipline whater Key porliament or a erexorced Kalar. Kight now everyone in Paris is ralking about ue here Joking y code, designed to encouragely In rate. No are denies the hased be used as common marbliddo is agreed that enonone be raised & Chercare henry All to Sigler french anno here July years hence tor a trance of les here Alitude Lowerd thave in the U.S., it seems to me. One would think that we had more to bear

from him than the French, from what one reads in the American papers, whereas in France they realize that it is just the same old Gallo-Germanic contest. In England, it is looked upon as a struggle to keep the balance of power at the status quote ante 1933, a repetition perhaps of 1800-1815. Be that as it may, I repeat that the outlook is generally hopeful. I have it from my spies in Germany that, contrary to what I had rather imagined, vegetables and milk products are extremely difficult to obtain even for good American dollars. I had hoped that it was just a myth, but some of the kids who have been there came back and

Srow him than the French, Srow what are reads in the dimerican papers. W they realize that Arance Gallo-germanic copiles. Red upon as 12 1000 balance of 10. 10 J.a Status and and perhaps or hereever may le hoper samera nu spies w magues 10 havel prod aus obtain ener conder. ano ans. I had haped some of the Just a myth, but LOOD Kids who have been there came back and

stuffed on butter, milk, peas, carrots, cheese, etc. in Paris. Fruit, I understand, are very rare indeed in all cities. However there are compensations for the casual visitor, because quite frequently he is followed around by a storm trooper, to see that no one tries to cheat him, and I suppose incidentally, to see that he doesn't do anything wrong himself. I've been told it makes you feel very important indeed to be followed on your nightly round of pleasure by an armed guard. I've also been told that the aforementioned pleasure is rather spoiled by the lack of dance music. Marches and slow waltzes, everything else is banned.

I've been having a lovely time, as I mentioned before. The nice dinners

peas, carrolls studied on buller, milk, c. u Varis. truit & Junder re dierie udeed in all Jare compensa LONG are COM 000000 Callero Usilos Decaulo 80% he is sollamed around Trequendly anle no oue soo N 00 1200per JUNE , Que 0000 daosus do any unpardon ween nea allin QA 24 10 Q Duc 400. Cost dance mu low wal everes Dannod D manen MARON 605000:1

with my bohemian friends, going out with Roger quite often, too. Last night we had a lovely party on the occasion of the departure for home of two English friends of ours (I mean of my Bohemian friends and mine.) Dinner in the English girl's room, down to a Montparnasse joint for champagne, on to one of the cafés for coffe au lait and songs. John Newell sings very well, we all joined in with him. A superb time was had by all, and we broke up at 2 AM, quite late for us, who ordinarily keep reasonable hours.

I have switched to the Alliance Française to see if I like it better. All of which reminds me I have to stop and go there soon, for the afternoon session.

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Yesterday I went to the American Express to collect the money pop sent me and get my passage on the <u>Cameronia</u>, sailing Sept. 8 from Glasgow. I got it, thank goodness. A nice slow Scotch boat.

I'd better go. Love to Jimmy, who is a dear, I've come to the conclusion of which, just sudden like. Love to all, also.

Me.

yesterday I went Xothe American Express to collect the money Pap sent meand to get my passage on sailing Sept. 8 Srow lamerenara, god it thank goodness. alasaan. nice slow Scotch bad 18 better ego. Love to Summey also a dear, Vue come to the conclusion of hich, just sudden like hove toall also is a dear,