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## [ 危] (ANCHOR LINE ...) S.S. CALIFORNIA

Dear Mother \& Father.
I am starting to tell you my adventures in good time \& hope to have quite a long letter written by the time we reach Gib.

The journey in the train could hardly be called an enjoyable one. that baby was a little fiend incarnate, he yelled \& howled \& roared steadily for two hours, then his vocal chords ${ }^{\text {sic }}$ gave out \& he went to sleep for about an hour, it was a blessed relief for all of us. his poor mother looked frantic. we hoped he had got it over. but no such luck. he started all over again \& was still going strong when we parted company at Liverpool. since then thank goodness I hav'nt ${ }^{\text {sic }}$ set eyes on him again. nor come within hearing distance, so conclude he is right at the other end of the ship.

Our passports were examined on the train \& we were given embarkation cards. a porter took charge of my hat box \& hold all when we arrived at the docks

and all I had to do was just walk up the gang-way show my embarkation ticket \& go on board. (certainly the ways of this world are made very smooth for First class passengers)

This is a gorgeous boat, even nicer than the one I came home on. I am in a big four berth cabin with a $\mathrm{M}^{\text {rs }}$ Cain she is very nice \& friendly she is returning to India to join her husband after settling her small gir of six in a school in Stanmore; A third passenger will join us at Marseilles, a Lady Constance Perry - we are wondering what she will be like.

There is only one other passenger for Port Said, so there will not be a crowd in the Customs from this boat any way.

There is a splendid gym on board. I tried the electric horse this morning. it is great fun, it is an ordinary saddle mounted on an iron frame which is connected by a pully ${ }^{\text {sic }}$ to a little electric engine. you switch on the current, then mount onto the saddle \& pull a lever
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\& the saddle bounces up \& down like a fast trotting horse. but of course it does'nt \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) get any where. it is very good exercise, I got quite hot after a few minutes.

There are two by \(/<\mathrm{i}>\) cycles that you can peddle \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) madly on, while an indicator shows the distance you would have covered if the bike had' nt \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) been anchored. there is also a running board that you can run on as fast as you can. \& stay in the same place all the time, also a boat that you can row -\& a punch ball \& various pullys \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) etc, I shall amuse myself in there quite a lot, I find it much more fun than deck sports.

There is a very good selection of books that one can change twice a day.

Meals are first rate. \& an orchestra plays during lunch \(\&\) dinner \(\&\) in the lounge in the evening.

I cant \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) say I saw very much of Liverpool, we started about 6 o' clock it was getting dark \& I watched the shore lights as we came out of the Mersey. This morning there has'nt \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) been anything to see - except sea. there was glorious sunshine up to lunch time, since then
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\section*{[ © (ANHCOR LINE ...) S.S. CALIFORNIA}

I have been absurdly sleepy all the time I have been on board. sea air \& the motion always seem to have this effect on me, I went fast asleep over my book in the lounge this afternoon \& only woke up when the steward brought the tea round.

It has turned very warm, I have discarded my tweed skirt \& jumper \& am wearing my kasha costume, I have worn my black satin coat in the evening, but have been glad to take it off in the dining saloon. meals here are wonderful \& elaborate but they dont \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) taste as good as our home goose \& turkey did, I think the cold storage takes all the flavour out \& makes everything taste very much alike I am having Horlicks for breakfast now as I dont \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) like the ships \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) coffee, it is bitter \& tastes as if it had vinegar with it, I tried it twice \& then cut it out the Horlicks made with evaporated milk
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is very good.
We are due at Gibraltar \(7 \mathrm{~A} \cdot \mathrm{M}\) to-morrow, I hear we stay only a short time so dont \({ }^{\text {sic }}\) suppose I shall be able to go ashore. I am sorry as I did so enjoy my walk there last time (on P\&O)

This seems to have exhausted all I have got to say at present.

Give my love to Pat when you see her please. also \(\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{rs}}\) Child.

All my love to you both Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.```

