

Abydos.
Dec 15th [1931]

Dear Mother & Father.

Happy Xmas to you both. also to M^r & M^{rs} Childs. Amice has sent you a lovely rat. she thought it would amuse Father as an example of local handicraft & we have contributed a selection of beetle-bugs, they are made of melon seeds with some of my plastic wood & bits of wire from the window netting, they looked so like strange beetles looking out of the melon that we couldn't^{sic} resist giving them legs. & they have been so popular that we are sending them to friends as novel Xmas cards. "little friends from Abydos to greet you". There is one each for M^r & M^{rs} Childs, & we thought Christopher might like a pair. would you post them on to him please with our <united> greetings. I cannot remember his address. I also send you my new stencil card. Amice sent her latest effort with the rat & beetles - strange mixture.

Will Father please thank Miss Collins for her letter & Xmas Card, specially for the latter

156⁴

Abydos.
Dec 15th

Dear Mother & Father.

Happy Xmas To you both. also to M^r & M^{rs} Childs. Amice has sent you a lovely rat. she thought it would amuse Father as an example of local handicraft & we have contributed a selection of beetle-bugs, they are made of melon seeds with some of my plastic wood & bits of wire from the window netting, they looked so like strange beetles looking out of the melon that we couldn't resist giving them legs. & they have been so popular that we are sending them to friends as novel Xmas cards. "little friends from Abydos to greet you". There is one each for M^r & M^{rs} Childs, & we thought Christopher might like a pair. would you post them on to him please with our ^{united} greetings. I cannot remember his address. I also send you my new stencil card. Amice sent her latest effort with the rat & beetles - strange mixture.

Will Father please thank Miss Collins for her letter & Xmas Card, specially for the latter

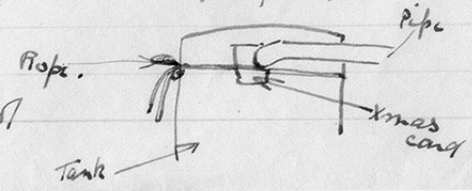
156

5

it arrived most opportunely & saved what might have proved a tiresome situation. We had just finished reading our letters after lunch in the temple & every one had admired the card when Sardie came to report a leak in the tank that cools the engine. He said it was only a tiny hole, so I got the end of an old paint brush intending to plug it with that & plastic wood. When I got up to the tank, I found a bit of tin about 2" x 3" had rusted right away beside the pipe that leads into the engine room, my paint brush handle was hopeless to cope with that. The only thing for it was the Xmas card. The men emptied the tank, I tied a rope round outside the tank used the card to cover the hole on the outside & then plastered up the inside with plastic wood which hardened quickly in the sun & made an excellent temporary repair.

thanks to Miss Collins

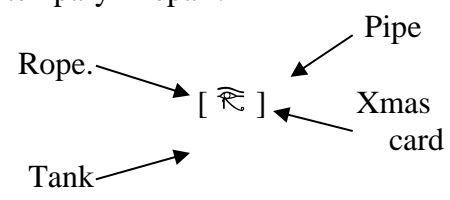
& Mr Woolworth.
you cant say we are not resourceful -



it arrived most opportunely & saved what might have proved a tiresome situation. We had just finished reading our letters after lunch in the temple & every one had admired the card when Sardie came to report a leak in the tank that cools the engine, he said it was only a tiny hole, so I got the end of an old paint brush intending to plug it with that & plastic wood. When I got up to the tank, I found a bit of tin about 2" x 3" had rusted right away beside the pipe that leads into the engine room, my paint brush handle was hopeless to cope with that. The only thing for it was the Xmas card. the men emptied the tank, I tied a rope round outside the tank used the card to cover the hole on the outside & then plastered up the inside with plastic wood which hardened quickly in the sun & made an excellent temporary repair.

thanks to Miss Collins & Mr Woolworth.

you cant say we are not resourceful -



156

later an amusing incident occurred. I went up about ~~at~~ an hour later to see how the plastic wood was hardening, & hearing a slight noise looked round, & there was the muzzle of a gun peeping round the side of the engine room. I waited, & a moment later a fierce black face followed, - it was our Soudani guard, he had heard someone about & had crept round hoping to catch a possible thief. He did look disappointed when he saw it was only me. it was a shame was'nt^{sic} it.

Nannie is making all sorts of plans for Xmas, she is preparing paper chains to decorate our dining room & has carefully saved the paper bell you sent the first year.

Arabic lessons are going strong, I am getting quite a stiff neck through trying to pronounce the gargling sounds, we do have some good laughs over it.

Thanks ever so much for arranging about my things for exhibition, I am glad Miss Collins

later an amusing incident occurred. I went up about of an hour later to see how the plastic wood was hardening, & hearing a slight noise looked round, & there was the muzzle of a gun peeping round the side of the engine room. I waited, & a moment later a fierce black face followed, - it was our Soudani guard, he had heard someone about & had crept round hoping to catch a possible thief. he did look disappointed when he saw it was only me. it was a shame was'nt^{sic} it.

Nannie is making all sorts of plans for Xmas, she is preparing paper chains to decorate our dining room & has carefully saved the paper bell you sent the first year.

Arabic lessons are going strong, I am getting quite a stiff neck through trying to pronounce the gargling sounds, we do have some good laughs over it.

Thanks ever so much for arranging about my things for exhibition. I am glad Miss Collins

7
156

did so well.

Amice sends her love to Pat & wishes
her a Happy Xmas. she forgot to put the message
in her letter.

With lots of love & a Happy Xmas
to all.

Your affectionate
daughter
Myrtle.

did so well.

Amice sends her love to Pat & wishes
her a Happy Xmas. she forgot to put the message
in her letter.

With lots of love & a Happy Xmas
to all.

Your affectionate
daughter
Myrtle.