

Aschoffenbach^{sic} {Aschaffenburg}. Bavaria
Near Frankfurt.
June 28th [1937]

Dear Mother

We have had all sorts of adventures since my last letter & the latest is likely to detain us here for a few days. Joey had developed an alarming squeak in his back wheel & we had to stop in a little village in Austria to have it repaired, they had to take the whole of the wheel drum off & put in new ball bearings, we had some missgivings^{sic} as to their ability, but we had to leave Joey with them as he certainly could not go on as he was, we found lots of things to interest us while the repairs were being done. & everything seemed all right when we were able to proceed. Two days later just as we were about to enter this little town the back axle snapped in two & the back wheel ran away into a field of course the car came to a standstill almost immediately. fortunately a mechanic who was trying out a new car with a customer saw what had happened, & he went back to the garage & sent a car to tow Joey in. fortunately the axle & break^{sic} drum are the only parts that are damaged, so we have wired to the A.A. to have the parts sent out air mail as soon as possible, we are now waiting for a reply to know when to expect the parts. they may have had to send to Bradford for them.

We had a lovely time in Budapest^{sic}, we stayed with some friends of Amices^{sic} for two nights, & saw some of the principal sights. it is a lovely old town with hills all round. Then we continued to Vienna where we stayed one day. I had lunch with Erica (who was in Egypt with us one year) & tea with Linda Holi^{sic} {Holey}'s parents, Linda is married & in Japan now. Amice's Austrian friend who is coming to help her with the house work & cooking joined us there, she is a very nice girl, she is of a good family but her parents have become so poor since the war that they have had to give up their home & often have not had enough to eat. poor Fifi is delighted at the idea of coming to

Aschoffenbach. Bavaria 415.
Near Frankfurt.
June 28th

Dear Mother

We have had all sorts of adventures since my last letter, the latest is likely to detain us here for a few days. Joey had developed an alarming squeak in his back wheel, we had to stop in a little village in Austria to have it repaired, they had to take the whole of the wheel drum off & put in new ball bearings, we had some missgivings as to their ability, but we had to leave Joey with them as he certainly could not go on as he was, we found lots of things to interest us while the repairs were being done. & everything seemed all right when we were able to proceed. Two days later just as we were about to enter this little town the back axle snapped in two & the back wheel ran away into a field of course the car came to a standstill almost immediately. fortunately a mechanic who was trying out a new car with a customer saw what had happened, & he went back to the garage & sent a car to tow Joey in. fortunately the axle & break drum are the only parts that are damaged, so we have wired to the A.A. to have the parts sent out air mail as soon as possible, we are now waiting for a reply to know when to expect the parts. they may have had to send to Bradford for them.

We had a lovely time in Budapest. we stayed with some friends of Amices for two nights, & saw some of the principal sights. it is a lovely old town with hills all round. Then we continued to Vienna where we stayed one day. I had lunch with Erica (who was in Egypt with us one year) & tea with Linda Holi's parents, Linda is married & in Japan now. Amice's Austrian friend who is coming to help her with the house work & cooking joined us there, she is a very nice girl, she is of a good family but her parents have become so poor since the war that they have had to give up their home & often have not had enough to eat. poor Fifi is delighted at the idea of coming to

415 2

England & being able to earn a little money. she speaks English quite well. I did not see Otto he was in the country with his family but I hear he is very well. There was not time to see much of Vienna, I went up the tower of one of the churches that has a splendid outlook over all the town. I saw a lot from there. From the general impression I got of it I did not think it nearly as beautiful as Budapest.

By the way - I wrote to the Income Tax people & told them I should be home by the 30th should they make further inquiries would you tell them I am unavoidably delayed owing to a break down, if we cannot get the parts for Joey within a day or two, I shall come on by train & bring Fifi with me & Amice will follow later, but we do not want to split up if it can be helped. & train fares would add considerably to the expense. Living here is very cheap. it does not cost more than 5/- a day inclusive, I suppose we are not staying in a swell hotel, but it is clean & comfortable.

Later The reply wire has come from the A.A. they say the parts are being sent by air, but as they also enquire if one of the parts we mentioned in the telegram is required we wonder if there has been some mistake, we have been to the office & seen the copy of the telegram sent & find it all correct, so have sent another wire in reply. Amice will go to Frankfurt tomorrow to meet the plane & if all the parts arrive we can leave here the following day. The mechanic here says that the man who did the previous repair to the wheel had heated the axle & spoilt the temper of the steel & it is a wonder it had not snapped before - the people at this garage are very kind & seem most efficient & have a splendidly equipped workshop & we have much more confidence in them than we had in the other place.

There was a fair in the town today & we spent a long time there & had lots of fun, we also visited the museum. Tomorrow we go to the gardens to feed the ducks & cranes -

I will send you another P.C when we are once more on our way.

Love from us both. Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.

England & being able to earn a little money. she speaks English quite well. I did not see Otto he was in the country with his family but I hear he is very well. There was not time to see much of Vienna, I went up the tower of one of the churches that has a splendid outlook over all the town. I saw a lot from there. From the general impression I got of it I did not think it nearly as beautiful as Budapest^{sic}.

By the way, I wrote to the Income Tax people & told them I should be home by the 30th should they make further inquiries would you tell them I am unavoidably delayed owing to a break down, if we cannot get the parts for Joey within a day or two, I shall come on by train & bring Fifi with me & Amice will follow later, but we do not want to split up if it can be helped. & train fares would add considerably to the expense. living here is very cheap. it does not cost more than 5/- a day inclusive, of course we are not staying in a swell hotel, but it is clean & comfortable.

Later

The reply wire has come from the A.A. they say the parts are being sent by air, but as they also enquire if one of the parts we mentioned in the telegram is required we wonder if there has been some mistake, we have been to the office & seen the copy of the telegram sent & find it all correct, so have sent another wire in reply. Amice will go to Frankfurt tomorrow to meet the plane & if all the parts arrive we can leave here the following day. The mechanic here says that the man who did the previous repair to the wheel had heated the axle & spoilt the temper of the steel & it is a wonder it had not snapped before - the people at this garage are very kind & seem most efficient & have a splendidly equipped workshop & we have much more confidence in them than we had in the other place.

There was a fair in the town today & we spent a long time there & had lots of fun, we also visited the museum. Tomorrow we go to the gardens to feed the ducks & cranes.

I will send you another P.C when we are once more on our way.

Love from us both. Your affectionate daughter Myrtle.