

May 14th 1934^{sic} {1935}.
Nazareth -

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Dear Mother -

I am sitting in the bus waiting for it to start for Jerusalem. Yesterday I shared a car with two other people, we left Jerusalem at 9 o'clock, had lunch here at 12:30, visited the church of the annunciation, saw the cave where they say the Angel appeared to the Virgin Mary. then we continued to the Sea of Galilee. we passed through the most glorious scenery, & saw lots of Biblical places. including the great plain where Saul was defeated by the Phillistines, & the hill where he met the witch of Endor. The Sea of Galilee is very beautiful. 682 ft below sea level. The snow capped height of Mount Hermon is visible as one goes down to the lake. we stayed in a hostel kept by Father Tepper. we were very comfortable & the food was plain & good. after tea we hired a boat and visited the ruins of Capernium. my Arabic

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came in very useful when dealing with the boat-men. it was glorious out on the lake. All the ruins we were shown round by another old monk. This morning we left after breakfast + I came with the others in the car as far as here they are continuing on to Haifa.

May 15th The bus showed signs of activity just as I concluded the previous sentence, I had lots to amuse me while waiting there were all sorts of eatables + drinkables being sold to passengers, eggs, bread, cake, sweets, fruit, syrup drinks etc. I purchased 3 Jaffa oranges + made a very adequate lunch off them.

We arrived in Jerusalem about 4 o'clock. I was rather stiff + tired so was glad of a rest + a nap before changing for dinner.

I was up early this morning to visit

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the Temple Area. in which stands
 the Dome of the Rock & the Mosque of
 Omar. They are so beautiful that
 I do not know how to attempt to
 describe them. They are built of
 Marble & Persian tiles & the dome of
 a dark metal, inside is the Rock.
 It is the Top of Mount Moriah where
 Abraham offered up Isaac, & where
 Mahommed ascended to heaven on his
 horse. There are still traces of the
 Crusaders work to be seen, they turned
 it into a Christian Church when
 they occupied Jerusalem, but most
 of their additions were pulled down
 when Saladin reconquered it & raised
 the crescent again in place of the cross.
 I am glad I was not disappointed
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to see & I had formed my idea of it
 from paintings which are often apt
 to idealize, but no painting I have
 seen has been able to capture the
 effect of the Turquoise & lapis lazuli
 of Persian tiles seen against the blue
 of the sky & set off by warm tinted
 marble, & by way of contrast the
 dark green of cyprus trees. it is a
 thing of beauty I can never forget.

This afternoon Miss Murray & I went
 for a ramble through the old town
 & took photographs. it is rather difficult
 to ^{do} so, as small boys will gather round
 as soon as they see the cameras
 & in the effort of dodging them one
 is apt to forget to focus properly
 however I hope some will be successful.
 I found the expected letter from
 Cooks awaiting me. they say that the

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Jap boat is full. ^{they} but can get me a single cabin on the P&O sailing a day earlier. I have accepted this, it arrives in London May 31st. This rather upsets my plan for having the car to meet me, as it is hardly worth paying a whole months licence to use it for only one day. The Jap boat was due June 1 which would have fitted in beautifully. but never mind, I will be home one day earlier & will come from the dock by train as usual.

I am going to Jericho tomorrow & from there to the Dead Sea. & the next day I fly back to Cairo, have one full day there & embark from Port Said on the 19th. I have been buzzing about the world lately. I enclose a card giving George instructions

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about the car will you hand it in
 at the Vale Garage when you are passing
 Love to you both.
 your affectionate daughter
 Myrtle.

I expect my next letter will be from
 Marseilles as there will not be another
 mail leaving before my boat sails.

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