

You are quite an expert
with the Typewriter /

Hewton Nursery
by Elgin

10.2.148.

Dear Alec,

Yours of the 5th received for which many thanks - glad to hear you are all fine at Kaineyhill which is a relief as not having heard from 'Bankfit' for some time I wasn't sure if you were a' snawed up, frozen stiff, or just hauf-drowned with the flooding - however its good to hear you've come up for your second wind.

As regards needing a loon for filling the Boardies its more a case o' me going looney if somebody doesn't tak' some planties from me - are you no needing some plants for lining out? Just send on your demand note by return - I'll return the seedlings.

Sorry to hear you haven't yet got your 'corporal's stripe'. afraid the C/o must have left it under the piano, anyhow theres aye a lag that applies to advancements, prisons.

F.O. is quite a fine Co. as you say, she won't put up with any bluff that's a cert - I think they have all been having a few words from the Director-General (nuisance) re. expenditure - I understand he did some slashing with some of the Foresters' estimates.

You will "jist hae tae hing on tae the first rung" until someone comes along & gives you a heave up, its a richt so long as the ladder disnae grow roots - its the man on the ladder who wants to become established

use the ladder.

I see you have developed into a humorous scribe - shall have to see about getting you on the staff of "Comic Cuts" or the "Dandy" - use it as a sideline & you might be able to shump up "three pence" for twenty shuy your matches off the Commission's wages!!!

I was amused reading about your experiences when in uniform. think we would be better in the Horse Marines, or in the "Back Green Swifts", anyhow it says a lot for the uniform does it not? why don't the powers that be issue a hat of some description even if it is only a "back to front" one with a couple of 'snoots' then the hard-working? employees wouldn't know if you were coming or going.

Yes, Sir, quite an epidemic of weddings in the hamlet. Alice was married on Saturday. I didn't know May was up for the ^{couple} wedding until I read your letter. The Head-~~ts~~ were falling over each other & made a guard of honour at the Kirk door!! but only one managed to slip in - I was offered a packet of 20 to take his place! However there were round about 50 folks there it was quite a nice 'do' & no doubt May would give you all the news.

Afraid I cannot help you out with a good potential (that's worth a bob each way, isn't it) ganger as there is no one suitable here meantime. build a hoose & I'll send you Jack Farquhar he's safe enough anyhow. I had better stop using long-nebbed words

3 otherwise I'll be thinking I'm "J.D." number 2.
To be quite serious though I'm due both
Mrs. Rose & yourself an apology.

When you called in to the office here
on your last visit, if you remember
we had other visitors in McCallum from
the Aberdeen office: Willie Mackay from the
Bin I never realised Mrs. Rose was in the
Newton Holdings. Certainly I saw Sandy
Spence speaking to a young lady near
his gate it was only when I came
out of my office I saw you both walking
up the road towards the Tall.

In fact it was J. Gubb who informed
me it was Mrs. Rose - believe me! I was
horrified when I realised it was your
'better half'. Mrs. H. just arrived back
from her holidays at 5 o'clock, the same day,
so it was quite an eventful day.

Will you please convey my sincere
apologies to Mrs. Rose for what must
have appeared to be sheer ignorance on
my part. As a matter of fact I was
expecting & hoping you would pay us
another call before you went home again,
but alas it didn't turn out that way.

Next time you call don't forget to
let me know Mrs. Rose is with you, in other
words don't come barging into my office
shave a pow-wow without saying your
wife is with you.

Anyhow to prevent me mistaking any
one on the road since then I went in
had my eyes tested & got new spectacles

for which I was rushed £4.18/-, but better
pay that than feel humiliated in not
recognising anyone - so believe me when I
say how very sorry I was when I
discovered who the young lady was!
Am I forgiven? I hope so.

It was a shock when I heard about Tom
Hillan meeting his death so suddenly - I
heard it was a Pole who was driving the
truck but what actually happened I don't know.
Well, don't think there is much else to write
about excepting the weather which has been
just b.a., worse. We were stuck from the
6th Jan'y until 2nd Feb'y with frost. Then we
had a "ruddy blurb" to get plants away most
of which were for the Trade.

We are getting our lining-out done in jerks
between gales & rain - a pickle snow or sleet by
way of a change, - getting on for 4 millions
already lined out. nae bad for a novice is it?
My kindest Remembrances to Mrs. Rose, May,
the young 'uns, & yourself - I hope all of you
are keeping well & free from colds, coughs,
chilblains, the whooper, measles, & all winter
ills. Pleased to say all fine here now. Margaret
had a couple of days in bed last week - touch
of flu I think. Kenneth finishes up in M.B.L. &
about 26th of this month & should be demobbed in
another month from then. I had to have Infr.
& massage treatments at Gray's Hospital for
two months before Christmas. Ok. again.

Cheerio for the present, & I'm wishing you all the
Best.
Yours sincerely, I gave I.G. your
J. H. Lamb. Best wishes.
G.G. Hope plants arrived Ok.