

MRS. NYE FORMERLY MISS H. THURSTON DESCRIBES AIR RAIDS OVERSEAS

The following are excerpts from a recent letter received by Mrs. Chas. Thurston, Bobcaygeon Road, from her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Nye (Herberta) who is living in England.

Bernard Beatty whom she mentions was for several years in the Bobcaygeon Post Office and Lorne Stinson is a boy from her own school section.

Jan. 20, 1943.

Dear Mother—

I'm still wondering how you are and what you have been doing this last month, no doubt I'll get a flock of letters some day.

The sirens have just gone. Well, there are some guns now so guess Jerry is over. It is raining and I didn't think he'd come. Ah! closer gun fire, shells bursting overhead!

We had quite a raid on Sunday night—two in fact. One from 8 till 10 p.m.; another 5-6 a.m. Both were very noisy, plenty of fireworks but no near bombs.

Bernard Beatty was here for the afternoon and had to leave at 8.30. Maybe it was as well he was out of London as the raiders were gone by the time he'd get there, but there were a lot of shells bursting over here and he hadn't brought his tin hat. Guess he will next time he comes. He is coming again when Lorne Stinson gets leave. Lorne was on leave in London awhile ago and met Bernard.

There were eleven planes shot down over S.E. England this morning. We had the alert but not much gunfire near here. Tommy is not yet frightened by the guns though he sat close to me Sunday night, till I put him in bed and with covers over his ears he felt better. This morning when the guns fired he said, "My guns. Soldiers playing with them." Which is a very convenient belief. He has a toy gun.

There is the "all clear". Guess just a lone Jerry tried his luck but he was brought down. I'm afraid I've no love for my enemies. How can you feel toward them when you read of their beastliness? It is going to be some task to civilize them again. There is Big Ben striking 9 o'clock. So he still stands. They say we really hear him each night—not a recording.

The news has just said that in the raid this morning, a school was hit killing 30 small children.

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There go the sirens again. Well, we had a 15-minute lull. It must be much better weather over Germany. No targets could be seen here tonight so bombs if dropped, will drop any where.

Just heard the name of the baby Princess, born in Ottawa. I wonder how many Canadian babies will have the same name.

There is the "all clear" half hour alert but no planes over here this time.

Tom has asked me for any games I know for them to play at the socials put on by the league where he is. I've told him some. If you think of any other games that 30 can play, tell me.

Lots of love,