

Tel. BATH 61272.

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England.

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18.3.

Dear Mr. Faust,

My letter must begin with an apology : I am afraid my German has got so rusty that I do not want to inflict it on you . I have not spoken it for over sixteen years, in fact ever since the death of my husband. Fortunately I seem to remember that you have a very good knowledge of English and I hope you will have no difficulty in reading this.

My son and I were very sorry to have missed you while we were in Barcelona, we only stayed for four days as we had come over from France from some friends whom we visited at the time. It would have been so pleasant to meet you again and to see that wonderful garden of yours in Blanes, but that must wait till we can make another excursion to Spain.

I was indeed delighted to hear that you had weathered the storm, so to speak, as we had often spoken of you during the years of trouble in Spain and hoped that you had not been molested. As a matter of fact I was half afraid of what they might tell me in Barcelona when I called to ask about you, as revolutions are no respecters of persons, and I was really relieved to hear that you were well and busy as ever. As it turns out, you have probably led a much more peaceful life than ourselves. You have evidently spent your time in accomplishing some admirable work which only the highly trained specialist can appreciate to the full and I feel sure that if the world ever settles down to a normal life again, you will get the recognition which you deserve for your biological work in Blanes. Unfortunately I have no connections with the scientific world and I do not know of anyone in Kew Gardens who could be useful to you, but I see no reason now why you should not get in touch with the directors of Kew Gardens, as scientific work of this kind is surely above international difficulties or politics. In any case all you tell me about your plans is very interesting and I do admire the energy and perseverance behind it all.

I think you would like to know what we have been doing during these difficult years, I should say tragic years. We had a very bad time in London during the bombing and my house suffered serious damage, so that we had to leave and find a place in the country. Eventually we came to Bath as I was seriously ill for nearly a year and I was recommended the cure at the thermal baths here, - they are wonderful, and I was cured in a short time. We have settled here, my daughter, son-in-law and my youngest son, in a lovely old house, and fortunately I have been able to save all my furniture, so that we are very comfortable. We try to forget the suffering of the war-years, but we are constantly reminded of them by the shortage of food !

My youngest son who was with me in Barcelona has taken his final University examinations last summer and was very successful, he is doing his military service now. You will probably only remember him as a

lively small boy and now he is a grown young man. I enclose a small photo of him, - he is very much like his father, only a shade taller and heavier in build. For the moment he is staying at home with us because he injured his knee during Army exercises and he must rest and have special treatment. He loves life in the Army more than he liked life at Oxford; - he studied at Oxford for three years and took his final examinations last year. It would give me great pleasure for you to meet him and I expect he will go to see you if he can get down to Spain this year. You will find him intelligent, a good linguist with an excellent knowledge of French and Spanish and a decided talent for writing, like his father. He loves Spain and has made many friends there.

I do not know if you had heard that my husband's mother died in Estoril, Lisbon, in October, 1939. We did not hear of it till 1941, when the bank notified me, as Louis is her heir and I was his guardian during his minority. I wonder if you ever hear from any of her relations or if you are in correspondence with them. She left one-sixth of her money to some of her brothers and sisters (or their children), and it would be interesting to know, - now that the war is over, - if they know of this or have received the legacy. *(I do not even know their address.)*

I would like to say how pleased we all were to hear from you and to know that you are well; - I do hope that you will write again now that you have our address. If we manage to visit Barcelona this year, we should very much like to come to Blanes to see you.

With kindest regards from us all and best wishes for success in your wonderful enterprise

*Yours very sincerely
Edith-Lily Rothfield*