

MS 335

A2045 Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph, née Franklin (1861-1938) mainly to her sister Beatrice, Mrs Herbert Samuel, later Lady Samuel, 1916-33

The letters from Henrietta Joseph reflect her extensive philanthropic and social activities, as well as containing family and personal news and comments upon the events of the time. They contain descriptions of her charitable work for the Jewish Infant Welfare Unit, the free dental care unit at Whitechapel and the Beatrice Club for girls, and her hectic social round of lunches, soirées, musical afternoons, visits to the countryside, theatre visits, lectures, etc. Her descriptions of visits to country villages in England and accompanied by pen and ink vignettes of local scenes.

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| 1/1-7 | Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph, mainly to her sister, Beatrice, and (2) one letter to Herbert Samuel concerning the funeral of "dear grandmursie", 29 Dec 1916

In (7) Henrietta Joseph comments that "I am interested in your account of the assured manner of the Belgian youth in high places. When I was working strenuously on Landau's committee ... distributing clothes to the poorest class of Belgian refugees, my very arduous task was 'sweetened' by the ways of the little children. They had remarkable intelligence and assured almost grown up manners.", 3 Aug 1919 | 21 May 1916 - 3 Aug 1919 |
| 2/1-27 | Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister, Beatrice: (5-7) from Goathland, North Yorkshire, (8) from Lincoln and (9) from Norfolk, containing small vignettes of places visited | Jul-Dec 1922 |
| 3/1-25 | Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister, Beatrice: (9) commenting on the annual general meeting of the Union of Jewish Women Henrietta Joseph noted "There was a meeting yesterday of the Union of Jewish Women - Ruth Eichholz - president, spoke well and looked charming. BUT. This was the annual meeting when I expected to hear the report of work done during the past year and the programme of work to be done this year. I hoped also to hear speeches on matters strictly connected with the Jewish women. What happened was this. A Mr Otto Schiff with a thick accent spoke of the Ukranian Jewish victims. He thanked the UJW for a collection of £950 and he hoped they would redouble their efforts and collect another £1000. The next speaker was Dr Garnet and he spoke (very well indeed I admit) on the subject of the League of Nations Union. (It is true I joined the Union with a full subscription and also that I refrained from asking unkind questions about the Ruhr and France and about Turkey and Greece) a subject not even remotely connected with Jewish women's | 1923 |

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interests.”, 26 Feb 1923;
 (12) contains a sketch and a description of a meeting
 about policewomen, at which the speakers were
 Inspectors Stark and Champneys, 20 Mar 1923

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| 4/1-22 | <p>Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister,
 Beatrice: (2) from Norfolk, (5-6) from Cumberland, and
 (22) from Wells, contain vignettes of places visited ;
 (3) contains letters concerning engaging Alice Eatwell as
 a maid for Beatrice, 11 Aug 1924;
 (16) contains her comments on Edwin Montagu’s death,
 19 Nov 1924;
 in (18) Henrietta Joseph describes a meeting with the
 author Louis Golding: “I went to tea with the Leon
 Simons at Little Cricklewood ... ever so many young men
 were present. One, who was rather awkward looking
 wore a brown jumper under his coat instead of a
 waistcoat. He looked like the kind of person that a well
 brought up fellow guest would take special pains to make
 conversation with so as to put him at his ease and not
 worry his hostess. I found the young man most rewarding
 - exceptionally delightful, brilliant and witty.”, 27 Nov
 1924</p> | 1924 |
| 5/1-33 | <p>Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister,
 Beatrice: (1) from Seaton, 5 Jan 1925 [written as 1924],
 (15) from Florence, 10 May 1925, (28) from Stroud, 19
 Aug 1925, (29-30) from Avebury, 23 Aug 1925, 31 Aug
 1925 (31) from Totnes, 9 Sep 1925, contain vignettes of
 places visited;
 (19) comments on the opening of the university in
 Palestine by Lord Balfour, 8 Jun 1925;
 (25/2) letter enclosed to Sir Herbert Samuel, 22 Jul 1925</p> | 1925 |
| 6/1-31 | <p>Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister,
 Beatrice: (8) from Verona, 7 Apr 1926, (9) from Lake
 Garda, Apr 1926, (10-11) from Lake Como, 14 Apr 1926,
 21 Apr 1926, (29-30) from Looe, 11 Aug 1926, 13 Aug
 1926, contain vignettes of places visited;
 (15) contains her comments on the General Strike: “The
 strike was the most extraordinary experience I have ever
 known. There was not the horror and the anxiety of the war;
 but there was greater strangeness. One woke into a foreign
 world, where things were not done for us, one had to do
 one’s own arranging and fixing. Everyone was a pioneer.
 Life became an adventure. There were no newspapers.
 Letters were few and came seldom. Centuries of civilisation
 were swept away. As in the war, we all fraternised with one
 another. As days followed strange day, the resources of</p> | 1926 |

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civilisation began to be foreshadowed rather than actually to appear as we got to know how things began. Gradually these young lords and varsity men became increasingly efficient at their jobs. The railways began to lose some of their amateurishness. One or two papers began to come out - almost life-like - in some cases there were 4 pages. The Times actually published a list of births, marriages and deaths. There was a side issue of an extra strike in Marylebone. The scavengers were out. No collecting of refuse. Then four varsity cricketers ran a dust cart of their own. On it was printed the legend 'England collects the ashes'. Edwin was a special constable guarding our electric power station. (Amateurs ran the power stations.) We were all getting 'into' it. The world was starting again and doing its business in quite another way but doing it quite well. A millennium of sociability and brotherly love had begun. The universe was one big family party. Class distinctions were wiped out and then all of a sudden last Wednesday the general strike was called off. Gradually the world shook itself and came out of its dream. Now we are almost normal, it's a matter of fact. We have passed through a great disaster, which politically and commercially we shall feel adversely for a long time, but it was a wonderful experience.", 18 May 1926;

(31) enclosed letter to Henrietta, 8 Aug 1926

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| 7/1-8 | Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister, Beatrice | 1927 |
| 8/1- | Correspondence from Henrietta Joseph to her sister, Beatrice: (4), (26-28/1), (30-1) from Sheringham, Norfolk, 25 Aug 1929, 31 Aug 1932, 13 Sep 1932, 15 Sep 1932, 15 and 18 Aug 1933, (5) 9 Sep 1929, and (32) from Painswick, Glos., 12 Aug, contain vignettes of places visited; (24/2) enclosed letter from Sally, 28 Aug 1932; (28/2) enclosed letter from Madge Waley Joseph to Lady Samuel, 15 Sep 1932 | 1928-33, n.d. |