

I must thank you very much for the blankets which have been such a help, particularly now when the winter is so cold. It will be Christmas in ten days time. This is really a wonderful time for the children, when Father Christmas comes and brings them presents. I remember how I used to look forward to it myself. I thank God that we are all healthy and are able to work. I hope that the New Year will bring us better times.

With best greetings for Christmas and the New Year from:

Elizabeth.

P.S. Did you get the photographs ?

We received your wonderful packages and letter, for which thank you very much. If only my brother could see all the wonderful things that you have done for us !!

I have been in hospital for six weeks, when I had to have my leg opened. I hope for a better New Year. Our Lord knows what He is going to do with us. I used to walk to work in sixteen minutes before, but, since my sickness, it now takes me forty-five minutes.

How are you getting along ? Dulcie tells us that you have purchased a house. May the Lord help you and grant you many years of life with your children.

There is a great deal of unemployment here, and a lot is being stolen. We have to be careful not to be robbed while on the streets. You tell us not to loose ~~xxxxx~~ courage, but, if you could see the plight of our people, it is possible to despair.

You put so much love and pleasure into your parcels. Would it be possible to send us some coffee and tea? It is so expensive here, that we cannot pay the high prices, also, pepper, mustard, and chocolate for the children. Also some sewing yarn, twisted, either white or black, as we knit stockings from this, because we cannot get any wool. If you have any old stockings, I would be delighted to receive them, however, I do not want you to send us anything that you cannot spare. I am happy only to get your letter. Buy me one or two very fine black hair

nets if possible. When I open one of your tins for dinner, our cares are reduced it is so wonderful to eat. If I could only shake your hand -- but, you are so far away. Tell me how you celebrated Christmas ? Do you have a Christmas tree ?

It is late, and I am tired, so I will say goodnight. Best greetings and kisses from myself and children. A happy Christmas and New Year to you all from:

Auguste.