

The Carrington and Rees Extracts  
from the diaries of  
Caroline Kipling

1918

1918

Jan.

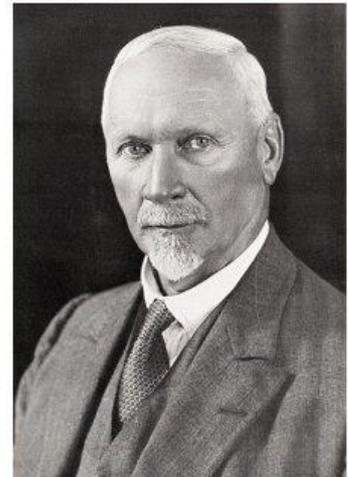
At Bateman's  
Rud reading Jane Austen aloud [to our great pleasure](#).

8 Jan.

To London. Abe Bailey at the Ritz with Gen. Smuts and Commander  
Locker-Lampson from Russia.

*For Abe Bailey, see Index.*

*General Smuts (Jan Christian Smuts, 1870-1950) had been a Boer commando leader in the South African war, but was now becoming an imperial statesman. At this time he was both a Privy Counsellor and one of the newly-instituted Companions of Honour as well as being Minister of Defence of the Union of South Africa. He went on to become a Field-Marshal and a member of the Order of Merit.*



*Jan Smuts*

*For Locker-Lampson, see Index.  
His career had been considerably enlarged since the Kiplings had first met him, six years earlier.*

*He had fought with the armoured cars of the Royal Naval Air Service in France, Belgium, Lapland, Russia, Turkey, Persia, Roumania, Caucasus, and Austria.*



*Oliver Locker-Lampson*

Heavy floods.

*The brook was at it again – see index under ‘Bateman’s’.*

23 Jan. Rud does Latin verses (the first I’ve noticed. CEC)

28 Jan. Finishes the Irish Guards song.  
(Young Guardsmen often come to stay.)

**Jan. 31** Rud works at his Folkestone speech which may or may not come off. Elsie returns after her London visit which included part of two nights spent in the cellar at Eaton Square because of air-raids.

*For Folkestone speech, see 15 Feb. and **Feb. 15** below*

**Feb. 3** Rud tells Col. Sir John Hall, now Col. in Command of the Regiment his verse about the Irish Guards and asks if he thinks they will answer and proposes giving them to the matinee to be recited and afterwards used as a regimental song.

*This was Colonel Sir John Richard Hall (1865-1928) who commanded the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion of the Irish Guards (which is not the same thing as Colonel in Command of the Regiment).*

*He had retired from the Coldstream Guards in 1899, and served as a training officer in the Irish Guards at Warley during the war.*



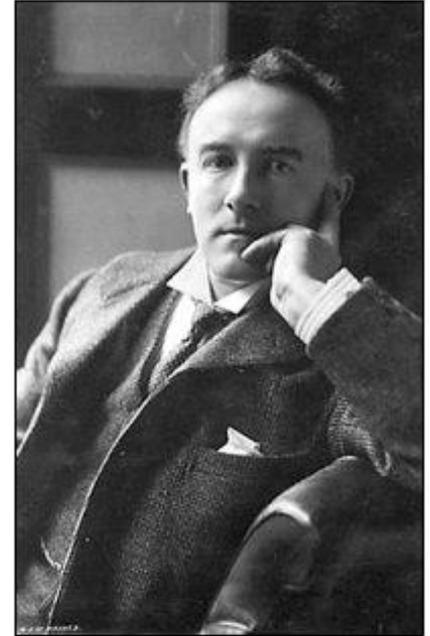
*Colonel Hall, as a Major  
at Warley in 1915*

4 Feb. Edward German calls, about setting the Irish Guards to music.

Feb. 4 Mr. German to see Rud about a musical setting for the Irish Guards song.

*Edward German (later Sir Edward (1862-1936)) was a well-known composer. He wrote much light music, operettas and songs, but also a Symphony and the Coronation March for King George V's coronation in 1911. He also wrote the Just So Song Book with Kipling.*

*German wrote such a setting (for the Irish Guards song) which was published later this year (see entry in Brian Mattinson's [Musical Settings of Kipling's Verse](#). in NRG.)*



*Sir Edward German*

5 Feb. Beaverbrook about his new post as propaganda chief.

*Lord Beaverbrook (see Index) was about to be appointed (10 February) as the Minister of Information: this, as Carrie rightly said, meant 'propaganda chief'.*

*Beaverbrook was responsible for information disseminated to Allied and neutral countries, while his fellow press-baron, Northcliffe, was responsible for enemy countries.*



*Lord Beaverbrook*

15 Feb. Rud makes a speech at Folkestone.

**Feb. 15** Rud to Folkestone. The speech a great success. (? ‘*The First Sailor to the East Coast Patrol*’)

*No, it wasn't – it was given at a meeting on War Aims. Originally uncollected, it has now been published in A Second Book of Words (see our NRG notes, under the heading ‘Uncollected Speeches’, by the book’s editor, Professor Pinney.) The Times reported the speech on 16 February and quoted short extracts; two pamphlets were published giving the full text, one by the newsagents, W H Smith, in London, and another by the American YMCA in Paris.*

18 Feb. To Bath. A false alarm of an air raid.

*The false alarm was while they were in London that night – Bath did not suffer air raids in World War I*

**Feb. 18** We go to London for the night, leaving home for my cure at Bath.

*Carrie’s cure was becoming an annual event.*

19 Feb. Rud declines a post in the propaganda service (but offers them lots of advice.)

**Feb. 19** Lord Beaverbrook offers Rud again the post for Home Propaganda which he declines but offers to help. He feels he would be a failure at office organisation. We leave for Bath at 4 p.m.

**1 Mar.** Major Helm plays the Edward German setting of the Irish Guards verses.

*‘Major Helm’ can be identified as Major (Ernest?) Helme – see PINNEY. **Letters**, Vol 4, pp 496-7, and note 1.*

2 Mar. Sir E. Poynter and Capt. E. Poynter call on them at Bath. Sir E. grown very old.



*Sir Edward Poynter*

*Captain E. Poynter (1892-1968) as Sir Edward’s second son, later the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baronet. At this time he was serving in the Army Service Corps, which was responsible for transport and supplies to the front-line soldiers. Sir Edward had another eighteen months to live...*

Speeches to munition workers at Bristol.

**Mar. 5** Send application for £8,000 4% War Loan to our Bank.

11 Mar. The poem 'Lyde'.

*This was 'A Recantation', collected in The Years Between, and most recently in PINNEY. Poems of Rudyard Kipling.*

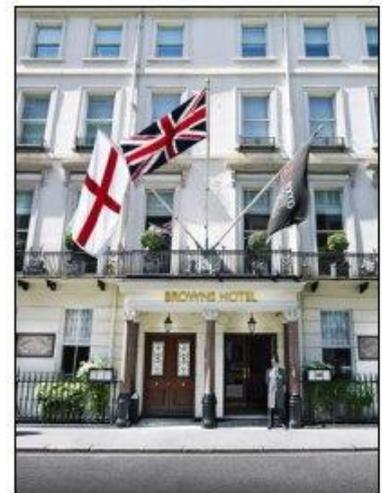
**Mar. 13** Rud to Bristol to the munitions works to make his speech – over a thousand workers and the speech a great success.

*This speech seems to have been neither reported nor recorded.*

**Mar. 15** Arrive (*in London*) to find pleasant rooms at Browns.

*Brown's Hotel, in Albemarle Street, Mayfair, in London (and still there today) was their regular London hotel.*

*The Kiplings had spent a honeymoon week there after their wedding in January 1892.*



*Brown's Hotel, in 2015*

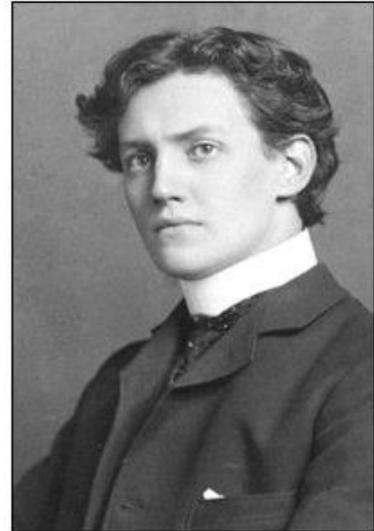
16 Mar. To London. The Doubledays.

*These were almost certainly the Doubleday children – see entry for 26 Mar. below. Their father, 'Effendi', the Kiplings' very old friend and American publisher (see Index) had very recently lost his wife Neltje - she had died on 21 February. He came to England later in the year – see entry for 17 Dec.*

18 Mar. Irish Guards matinee. The Kiplings in a box.

**Mar. 18** The day of the Irish Guards Matinee. Rud's verses to be recited.

*This event took place at The Empire Leicester Square. The Times for 16 March, carried a notice of St. Patrick's Day events, advertising the matinee as in aid of the Prisoners of War and other charitable funds of the Irish Guards, that Queen Alexandra would be present; and that Mr. Henry Ainley would recite "The Irish Guards" by Mr. Kipling. Henry Ainley (1870-1945) was a well-known Shakespearean actor.*



*Mr Henry Ainley*

19 Mar. Rud off on his own affairs. ((Free)Masonr

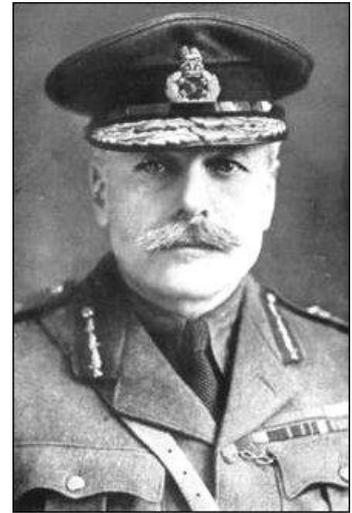
23-25 Mar. Very anxious about battle news.

*The Germans had started an all-or-nothing attack along the Allied front line in France on 21 March. The aim was to penetrate between the French and British armies, and to roll the British back to the Channel ports. The moment was propitious: the Germans were reinforced by 50 divisions released from the eastern front by the surrender of Russia, and they knew that they must seize the initiative before American forces could be deployed in full.*



*Field-Marshal Haig issued his famous Order of the Day on 11 April which concluded:*

**“There is no other course open to us but to fight it out. Every position must be held to the last man: there must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause each one of us must fight on to the end. The safety of our homes and the Freedom of mankind alike depend upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment.”**



26 Mar. Landon v. ill. Brought to Bateman's.

German PoWs working on the estate.  
The young Doubledays to stay. Felix and his charming wife.  
'Road to En-Dor'.

*Landon was evidently still living at 'Keylands' – see entry for **April 15** 1917 and for **August 24** below. He may have been suffering from the deadly 'Spanish 'flu' pandemic, which had been raging since January 1918. It was to kill over 250,000 in Britain, and over 50 million world-wide.*

*Kipling wrote to Lord Beaverbrook (PINNEY. **Letters**, Vol 4, pp 487) “My fields are full of German prisoners under unarmed guards, and I am trying to get the authorities to instruct the small tradespeople of the village not to sell things to prisoners. There's a mess ahead unless the whole prisoner-treatment is stiffened up, They'll rape some women before they're done.”*

*Felix Doubleday was the adopted son of 'Effendi' and Neltje (see entry for 16 Mar. above). His wife was Rhoda Doubleday.*

*'Road to En-Dor' first appeared under the title of 'En-Dor' in the “Autumn Collection” (see next entry) which was published in 1919 as The Years Between.*

*Kipling wrote to Frank Doubleday (PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, p 541, dated Mar. 18 1919) giving him notes on all the poems in The Years Between.*

**Mar. 28** Rud starts to consider the arranging of his poems for an Autumn volume, greatly urged to it by public and publisher. I have a desperate day with the Secretary who in our absence has become imbecile.

*Miss Chamberlain seems to have been unable to do anything right for Carrie.*

10 Apr. Carrie much ruffled by a visitor from the Min. of Agriculture who tells her how to farm her land.

*The 'visitor from the Ministry of Agriculture' was almost certainly a member of the county War Agricultural Executive Committee, a semi-government organisation set up in 1915 to advise farmers on how to maximise production from their land. Kipling too was somewhat ruffled – he wrote to Beaverbrook the next day (PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, p 487) saying “**Also I am being chased up by the Agriculture Dept.’s understrappers who, instead of doing their job, deliver political lectures to poor landowners**”*

‘Epitaphs of the War’

*These were collected in The Years Between and in subsequent editions of Kipling’s Verse. Professor Pinney, in Poems, Vol. II, p. 1519, gives a comprehensive note about the ‘Epitaphs’. See also NRG.*

**Apr. 19** 2/Lieut. White and wife arrive at Dudwell. He has had a long illness following wounds and comes, like the others, to recover.

23 Apr. To London for private view of ‘Naulakha’ film.

**Apr. 23** We all go to see a private view of the *Naulakha* as a film.

*LYCETT. p. 480, remarks that “They were not impressed as the book had been turned into a piece of exotic Orientalism . . . “*

(They remake their wills.)

- Apr. 24 Home.
- 8 May In London. Rud has been ill for some days. Sees Bland Sutton and is X-rayed.
- The clinical use of X-rays had been well-established for ten years.*
- May 11 Rud has breakfast in bed. The first time that I can remember.
- 18 May Completely negative result of result of test.
- May 18 Rud in bed until 1130. The result of Dr. Ironside Bruce's X-ray examination on Rud "No tangible evidence of disease but great irritability of the stomach." Great relief but also fresh anxiety to discover the cause of irritability.
- Dr. W Ironside Bruce (d. 1921) was the radiologist to the Charing Cross Hospital. He must have been at the top of his profession, because, in an obituary notice in the British Medical Journal of 2 April 1921, it was reported that the Treasurer of the hospital had received a message of sympathy from the King "on the loss of so brilliant a physician who had sacrificed his life in the cause of science and humanity." He died from the effects of the radium he was using.*
- May 19 Rud weighs 8 st. 12lb. (56.4 Kg)
- 22 May Better. Rud and Rider Haggard fish and [get our breakfast](#).
- 24 May Oliver Baldwin visits them on his embarkation leave. [He and Elsie and Rud are very happy together](#).
- 27 May 'The Old Volunteer' forgery in *The Times*.
- May 27 Rud's work interrupted by telegrams about the "Old Volunteers" some verse in *The Times* which are signed by him and which he did not write and are rather dreadfully poor. *The Times* telegraphs that they were sent from Brighton by post and the signature was forged. *Times* have put a Secret Service man on the job.

*The title of these verses (three stanzas of eight lines of an irregular metre) was The Old Volunteer, and it appeared on*

*page 9 of the issue of 27 May.*

*The Times published a notice on 28 May under the heading 'News in Brief' saying that Kipling disclaimed authorship, and that they apologised to him and their readers and were investigating the matter.*

29 May Smale, a private detective, calls about it.  
Oliver B. still there: [a lion heart](#).

**May 29** Mr. Smale, *The Times*' man to hunt out the person who did the "Old Volunteers" poem and signed Rud's name comes to talk over the matter.

*In their note of apology on 28 May, The Times said that the Kipling signature to the verses had been checked by someone who was familiar with his writing, and that it had seemed genuine. However, no culprit was ever found.*

*This editor confesses to being surprised that The Times' editor and sub-editor were taken in. As Carrie said, the verses really are "rather dreadfully poor".*

30 May He (*Oliver Baldwin*) goes to France.

**May 30** Oliver Baldwin leaves, off to France tomorrow. He goes with a lion's heart but won't return unless wounded. They never do in the Guards Regiment.

*It must have been a poignant event for Carrie, who had seen John leave, nearly three years earlier. The German offensive of late March had been halted, having run out of men and supplies and the Allies were preparing their counter-offensive which ended the war in Europe.*

*The casualty rate among young subalterns was, by this stage of the war, less than it had been, and Oliver returned on leave, a few days before the end of the war (see entry for 6 Nov. below).*



*Oliver Baldwin*

June Rud's weight down to 8st 11½lb (56.3Kg)

June 4 Our guests at Dudwell (Lt. White) are leaving tomorrow. He is much improved by his six weeks in the country.

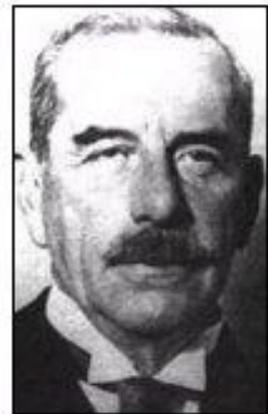
6 June They go to London to make their wills with George Macdonald.  
Rud visits the 'Goat'

*It seems most likely that their visit to London earlier (see entry for April 23) had been to discuss the provisions they wished to make with their solicitor, George Macdonald, and that this visit was to sign and have witnessed the wills when properly drawn up.*

*The 'Goat' was a public house frequented by the Admiralty staff, a room of which had become effectively a Naval club. It is now incorporated in the Naval and Military Club (the 'In and Out')*

8 June He goes to Scotland yard to see Sir K. Thomson [Head of the CID] about the *Old Volunteer*.

*Sir K. Thomson was almost certainly Sir Basil Home Thomson (1861-1939) who was the Assistant Commissioner (Crime) at Scotland Yard.*



*Sir Basil Thomson*

21 June ditto.  
(Much about a poem called Ed. Baker?)  
Several times to London and usually lunches at the 'Goat'.

*This poem, provisionally titled 'Ed. Baker' was never published. There are two references to it in PINNEY Letters, Vol 4, p 432 and p 567. The poem evidently reflected Kipling's view of America's attitude towards Europe.*

**June 22** I end a week of heavy work greatly hindered by Miss Chamberlain's utter stupidity and muddle.

**July 8** Sister Meadley, the first of our convalescent guests at Rye Green.

**July 10** The second sister comes to Rye Green.

*Rye Green was another farm house on the Bateman's estate, now un-tenanted, about half-a-mile upstream from Bateman's, which the Kipling's gave over as a rest home for female guests.*

**12 July** Rud dines (without C.) at Buckingham Palace. 24 guests. The royalties pleasant to him. [He is attracted by Princess Mary](#)

**July 12** Rud goes for his dinner at the Palace. 24 guests, most of them known to him. The royalties pleasant to him, of course. He is attracted by Princess Mary who is much better looking than her photographs.

*The Times reported the dinner in the Court Circular on 13 July. The guests included a senior representative from the governments of the major countries of the Empire, as well as an American Major-General, Admiral Jellicoe and many senior British politicians. The only ladies present were the Queen and Princess Mary and their ladies-in-waiting. Kipling mentioned the occasion in a letter to Oliver Baldwin (PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, pp 505-6), remarking that it was "**Rather fun. Nothing to drink but lemonade, gingerbeer, barley and Malvern waters.**" (The King had decreed that no alcohol ) would be served in the Royal palaces during the war.)*

*Princess Mary (1897-1965) then aged 21, was the only daughter of King George V and Queen Mary (she was created Princess Royal in 1932, on the death of her aunt, Princess Louise, King Edward VII's eldest daughter.)*

*She married (1922), Viscount Lascelles, and in due course became Countess of Harewood..*



*Princess Mary*

20 July To Winchester to welcome US troops. Speaks to 7000 men in the open air and inaugurates a YMCA hut.

July 20 Rud is asked to make a speech to the 7000 USA men in the open air as well as the Officers so he sets to and does a short speech. (RK has previously been asked to open a YMCA Hut for American Officers at Winchester.) We leave by motor for the USA Camp above Winchester. Rud has a splendid reception for both speeches.



*Kipling and American officers, July 20 1918  
(Library of Congress)*

*The camp was a rest facility for US troops in Britain and Europe and was on Winnall Down, to the north of the city.*

21 July (He talks to many American soldiers and goes to a service at the Cathedral. His speech in all the papers.)

*The Times reported on both speeches on 22 July, under the heading 'A Sin against the Light', 'Mr. Kipling on German War Lust'. The speech to the soldiers was short, and welcoming, but to the officers he spoke longer. Both are collected by Professor Pinney in A Second Book of Words and can also be found as "Uncollected Speeches" in NRG.*

July 26 Mr. and Mrs. Parkin and son arrive at Dudwell and Sister Watson at Rye Green.

*They are mentioned in Kipling's letter to Oliver Baldwin (PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, pp 505-6) particularly because Mrs. Parkin "had been a nurse in the Army, but oddly enough didn't seem quite to understand the workings of the vast earth-closet which you and I know."*

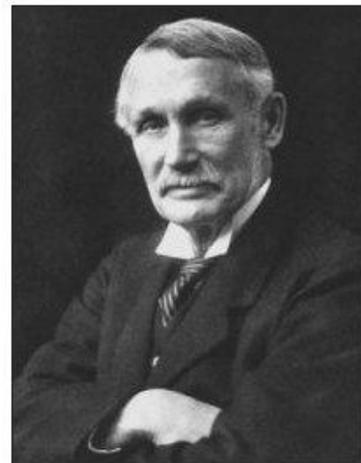
4 Aug. Rud cheered by war news. Taking of Soissons.

*The final German attack of their great 1918 offensive was an attack on the French in the vicinity of Rheims which started on 21 July, and ended, 6 August, in a German defeat and retreat. The Kiplings knew Soissons well – it was close to the Chateau d'Anel, the home of their friend Julia Catlin, now, since 1916, Julia Tauflieb.*

9 Aug. Mr. Parkin (Rhodes Scholar) to dine and stay.

*George Robert (later Sir George) Parkin (1846-1922) was a Canadian scholar and educationalist.*

*At this time he was the Secretary of the Rhodes Trust.*



*George Parkin*

Aug. 24 Mr. Landon comes to dinner and we arrange he will let 'Keylands' as he can not afford to live in it.

*See previous entries for April 15 1917 and 26 Mar. above.*

Aug. 27 I go to a long and dreary meeting of the Maple Leaf Committee. I must resign, as a Chairman seems, under existing conditions, unable to make the committee's wishes felt.

*This is the last mention of Carrie's work for the Maple leaf Clubs – we do not know if she carried out her intention to resign (see also entries for 28 Nov. 1915 and Nov. 7 1916).*

*Clearly she had to vent her feelings sometimes after a particularly frustrating meeting, but usually 'slept on it' and reconsidered matters in the morning. The Clubs closed in July 1919, after the last Canadian troops had returned home.*

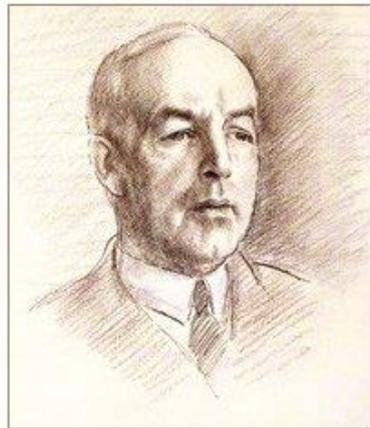
Sep. Rud hurts his leg.

Sep. 1 A new guest to arrive at Dudwell tomorrow, Mrs. Matthews and her two children.  
Greatly overstrained by bothers, chiefly resulting from utter incapacity of secretary.

*Mrs. Matthews was an officer's wife*

Sep. 5 Dudwell's guest is rather a bother. Clings at every turn and is pretty useless.

10 Sep They go down to Newquay, travelling with Dawson of *The Times*.



*Geoffrey Dawson*

*Geoffrey Dawson (1874-1944) had been Editor of The Times since 1912. He was an Old Etonian and a member of the Athenaeum and the Beefsteak Clubs, where he would mix with the most powerful men of the day, among whom he was an influential voice: altogether an 'Establishment' figure.*

Sep. 10 Leave for Newquay, Cornwall.

*The Kiplings spent just under two weeks at the Headland Hotel at Newquay and as Kipling wrote in a letter to Stanley Baldwin (PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, pp 510-12) "**there's no denying that all three of us have fallen in love with the place . . .**" A substantial portion of the rest of the letter contains an account of the hounding of a family with a German name (but the father had been naturalised 59 years previously) after bodies from a torpedoed ship had been brought ashore. It reads*

*unpleasantly a century later, and does not redound to Kipling's credit.*

**Sep. 23** Our journey to Brown's from Newquay, from door to door, lasts 11 hours.

*And restaurant cars had been withdrawn during war-time.*

24 Sep. Back to London in a railway strike.

**Sep. 24** We wake to find a railway strike on and realise with content that we might have been caught at Newquay.

*The strike started as unofficial action by South Wales railwaymen, mostly of the Great Western Railway, after their Union leaders had accepted a five shillings per week pay rise. The men demanded ten shillings to cover the inflated cost of living in war-time. The strike came suddenly, and Mr. J H Thomas (see our entry for 25 Nov. 1917) the railwaymen's leader was outspoken about the nature of the strike. But railwaymen, along with the miners and many others doing essential work, had seen the value of their wages eroded by war-time inflation, while workers in other industries (munitions, etc) were earning inflated amounts.*

**Sep. 28** We leave to go to see Gladys Beaverbrook at Cherkley.

**Sep. 30** Back to Brown's.

Oct. London. Rud writing his Greek Nat. Anthem for the Greek Minister.

*See (PINNEY. **Letters**, Vol 4, pp 514). Kipling had been asked, by the Greek Minister in London, Demetrios Caclamano, to translate into English, the Greek National Anthem. It was collected in the Inclusive Edition of Kipling's verse, published in 1919, under the title "The Greek National Anthem".*

2 Oct. I take on new cook aged 17 – two of my others are 17 and 20 so housekeeping is real work.

*It is, perhaps, worthwhile to remind readers that her 17-year old cook would probably have had at least three years' experience of working in a kitchen.*

Oct. 2 We leave for home.

Oct. 9 Rud finishes and sends off his rendering of the Greek National Anthem and proposes it be published in the *Daily Telegraph*. The money to go to the Greek Red Cross.

11 Oct. To Rottingdean to see Aunt Georgie, [old and weary](#).

*Lady Burne-Jones (see Index).*

13 Oct. Landon and others at Bateman's. [We discuss, with no conviction of its coming, the prospect of peace.](#)

Oct. 13 Mr. Landon is putting 'Keylands' in order for his tenant Mrs. Prentis who has taken the house for a year. We all discuss with no conviction of its coming the prospect of peace.

*The effect of war-weariness? And yet, the news was uniformly good. Bulgaria had concluded an armistice with the Allies and Germany and Austria had sent notes to the American President, Woodrow Wilson, seeking an Armistice. On the Western Front, the British had already broken through the 'Hindenburg Line', while the French and Americans were driving the Germans back in the Meuse-Argonne region.*

Oct. 16 A prolonged meeting of the (Burwash) Nursing Association keeps me most of the afternoon. I am resigning my post of Secretary which I have held just 10 years during which I have done almost the entire work of the Association.

*The cry of countless secretaries of voluntary and charitable associations from time immemorial!*

Oct. 18 Doctor and nurse come at 12.30 for my operation and I have a bad time of it and all afternoon and evening in pain.

*Presumably for minor surgery of some sort, almost certainly without any form of anaesthetic. There is no mention of what*

*the operation was in any biography, nor in Kipling's published correspondence. Despite Carrie's "pain", it is significant that Carrington did not record it in his extracts.*

22 Oct. Rud's poem 'Justice' to be syndicated in 200 newspapers (24 Oct).

*LYCETT, p 485-6, remarks that their mood had changed swiftly from the disillusion evinced eight days earlier, and that Kipling swiftly produced this poem, an indictment of Germany, its rulers and its people. The issue of The Times which contained it also made mention of 'peace terms' which were already being talked about.*

Oct. 22 Rud, Elsie and I to London by the early train.

Oct. 26 Doctor says, as we thought, Elsie has 'flu.

6 Nov. Oliver B (*aldwin*) on leave. Rud takes him to 'As You Like It'. Elsie ill.

*Presumably Elsie was still suffering from the 'flu, or had tried to do too much, too soon and had had a relapse.*

Nov. 8 We leave for home.

11 Nov. [A quite beautiful day; all waiting for news.](#)

Nov. 11 We are all waiting for news of the armistice.

*They knew that the Kaiser had abdicated on 9 November, and that it could only be a matter of days.*

12 Nov. They only got the news today by the ringing of church bells. Rud to the village to hear [our church bell](#).  
[A world to be remade without a son.](#)

Nov. 12 The great news comes. We know it first by hearing the church bells at Brightling and later from our church.

*It is of interest that the news took so long to penetrate to Sussex. The Kiplings had no telephone (they never did), but London had had the news at about 11 a.m. on 11 November (the armistice had been signed at 5.10 a.m., French time). In previous years, we know that Kipling had subscribed to a wire*

*service, which might have been expected to ensure that Bateman's knew of the armistice by about lunch time on the 11<sup>th</sup>.*

*Brightling is the next village, its church lying about two miles SSE of Bateman's (Burwash church lies about a mile NE of Bateman's).*

**Nov. 13** Rud and I feel as never before what it means now the war is over to face the world to be remade without a son.

15 Nov. Visit from Rider Haggard, in great form.

19 Nov. Graves Commission. The P. of Wales there. Rud proposes the [Text for all altars](#) which is accepted.

**Nov. 19** Rud to his Graves Commission. H.R.H. the P.o.W. there, very keen about it all. Rud proposes the Text for all altars in the cemeteries which is accepted.

*The words of the Text were "Their Name Liveth for Evermore".*

*The Prince of Wales (1894-1972) had served in France, but was rarely allowed near the front line, greatly to his chagrin and annoyance.*

*See PINNEY. **Letters**, Vol 4, p 521*

21 Nov. Captain Mundy, the first of the 'Kut' prisoners to return, comes to tell Rud his story.

*See our note for [July 1](#) 1917.*

(She runs the village nursing association and runs some kind of nurses' home at Rye Green.)

*See entries above for [Oct. 16](#), and [July 18](#). "Some kind of nurses' home" was for Nurses who needed somewhere to convalesce.*

They are still responsible for Dorothy Price.

*Cormell Price's daughter - see Index.*

17 Dec. FND and his [new wife](#).

*See Index. After the death of his wife Neltje on 21 February 1918 (see note for 16 Mar. above) Frank Dounleday married Florence van Wijk in November 1918. This was a business-cum-honeymoon trip.*

26 Dec. [Maitland \(Park?\) to London for RK to deliver a letter to Lord Milner written R by Mr. Roosevelt on the American situation in regard to Wilson – and being important at this moment of the start of the negotiations with President Wilson here.](#)

**Dec. 26** Maitland to London for RK to deliver a letter to Lord Milner written R by Mr. Roosevelt on the American situation in regard to Wilson – and being important at this moment of the start of the negotiations with President Wilson here.

*For Maitland Park – see Index.*

*PINNEY. Letters, Vol 4, pp 527 is Kipling's covering letter to Milner, which enclosed Roosevelt's letter to Kipling. President Wilson was a Democrat, and Roosevelt was the leader of the Republicans who had made substantial gains in the recent mid-term elections to Congress. Wilson had come to Europe to take part in the peace congress in Paris, which led to the Treaty of Versailles six months later. The starting point for much of the negotiation was Wilson's 'Fourteen Points' which he had set out on 8 January 1918 as a statement of the war aims of the USA.*

27 Dec. [Rud . . . to London at noon to dine at the Palace and meet the President of the USA by command of the King.](#)

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28 Dec. [Rud returns for lunch – reports a fine show and many interesting people at the Palace last night. Talks to all the royalties and the](#)

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Maitland Park for a long stay.

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*The occasion was a “banquet in honour of the President of the United States of America and Mrs. Wilson” (The Times, Court Circular, 28 December 1918).*

*It certainly must have been a fine show, the guest list ran through the British Order of precedence from the Archbishop of Canterbury to Mr. Rudyard Kipling and Mr. J A Spender (the Editor of the Westminster Gazette), the last two on the list of 71 guests who were there by “Special Invitations”. The “royalties” included three of the King’s children, Princess Mary, Prince Henry (later the Duke of Gloucester) then aged 18 and Prince George (later Duke of Kent) then aged 16.*

**Dec. 31** Miss Chamberlain who has been a growing trial because of incapacity and has been hopeless since her return from holiday declines to work to regulation hours and so will leave my service 5 weeks today. A case of great ingratitude for much forbearance and great tolerance.

*A sad entry for the last day of so momentous a year.*

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[C.K./C.C./D.R.//A.J.W./J.R.]

