

35, Westholm,  
London, N.W. II,  
October 8 1945.

ROSE LAWN,  
KINGSCOTE-ON-SEA,  
KENT.

Dear Mr. Gander,

Many thanks for your air letter, and for the S.P.C.  
that reached me a few days ago.

Yes, I do think that you a little over-estimated the  
number of dud Magnets. On the other hand, that matter was so  
disstasteful to me, that I hardly ever looked at the things, and put  
them out of my mind as much as possible, so it is not unlikely that  
my vague recollection is in error.

It is very interesting to hear that you have now the  
first four Rookwood numbers, in the B.F. I should think they must  
be rather rare at this time of day.

Merrett's will soon be putting out more "Sparshott"  
numbers, and also "Headland House," a schoogirl series which I am  
writing under my old pen-name of "Hilda Richards" Paper troubles are  
the obstacles. In these weird days, a publisher prints all he can  
with his limited supply, and then has to take a rest till he can get  
some more paper. I hear that paper troubles in Canada ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~U.S.A.~~  
and the U.S.A. are almost over, if not quite. O for a spot of Western  
pep in this country!

But this poor old island was, of course, very severely knocked about in the war, and we cannot expect to recover at the same rate. Things are moving, at least.

You may like to know that Frank Richards has been asked to broadcast--about his unworthy self and works---on the Pacific Service addressed to the Dominions and the Forces in the Far East. It has occurred to me that the Pacific Service of the BBC, may perhaps be picked up in Canada. If so, you might like to listen in when the broadcast comes off---date at present not fixed, but no doubt in the near future. It will be just a 10 minutes chat about Frank Richards, the Magnet and the Gem, Billy Bunter, and so on. Of course at my present age, and with my deplorable eyesight, there are difficulties in the way of these things; but I shall do my best to play up, for it would be a real pleasure to talk to old readers over the air---and--if I am not flattering myself too much---some of them may like to hear me.

P.S. Perhaps I may tell you also that Merrett's will be publishing romances by "Winston Cardew", and Detective thrillers by "Michael Blake"---both new pen-names of Frank Richards.

Yours sincerely,



"Frank Richards".