

APPENDIX III

Catalogue of Herbert Allingham's Business Letters

1. from: *The New Boys' Paper* Thursday afternoon (not dated but must be 1886)
'Dear Herbert Many thanks for your splendid story [...] stick to it old boy and you will make a name [...]
I do not think I have sufficient copy for number 4.
yours faithfully, Uncle John'
2. from: G Herbert Thring at The Society of Authors 23.7.1895
'The price for second serial rights is so very small I should hardly think it worth your while to try. The provincial papers pay about £5 for these rights. The trouble and expense involved in placing them is scarcely covered by the returns [...]'
3. from: Stanhope Sprigg *Answers* Editorial department 10.2.1893
'I have entered you on our pay-sheets £4.4/- for the copyright of your story "The Crime and Capture of Widow Kelly". I have no doubt that Mr. Alfred Harmsworth would give you permission in the course of a year's time to re-publish the story in any book you may give to the public. If you care to send me the school story I will read it and see if it is suitable for any of our papers.'
4. from: T.E.Barlow Manager 'New Palace Steamers Ltd' 3.8.1900
to HJA at *London Journal*
'I greatly regret we cannot issue any passes at present but we shall be most happy to comply with your request after the 20th inst.'

1904

5. from: Frank Girlman (?) Fiction Dept at 2, Carmelite House 16.3.1904
to HJA at 5, Broughton Road, Ealing
'If you had kept your story, the first instalment of which I return herewith, to human interest, I fancy I could have made you an offer for it, but as it is, I am afraid it becomes altogether too wild and improbable for my requirements. I like the way in which you have written it, and I do not see why, if you will remember our talk the other day, you should not write us a really good story. I must impress on you that the interest be of humanity and not of wild and improbable schemes.'
6. from: Charles P Sisley Editor, *The Pictorial Magazine* 2, Carmelite House 2.6.1904
to HJA at 5, Broughton Road, Ealing
'In going through your serial 'For Sale – A Woman', I was surprised to see that the third instalment is very suggestive, following as it does the curtain to the second instalment.' No appeal – he returns all 4 instalments and suggests that HJA supply some complete dramatic stories of 5000 words each to take the place of the serial.

7. from: G Herbert Thring at The Society of Authors 12.9.1904
advising on a dispute with *The Bristol Mercury*
8. from: P. Delmar (a *nom-de-plume*) at 15 Fawcett Street 6.10.1904
Thanking for specimens of work. Unable to offer remuneration in advance. Only a 'fair share of the profits'.
9. from: P. Delmar at 15 Fawcett Street 8.10.1904
replying re: collaboration in a play. Wants to produce 'a serious Comedy of modern life' but is afraid that HJA 'forte would be melodrama'. Offering outlines for short stories with hopes of 'a modest share of the fees'.
Correspondence seems to have been initiated by an advert in The Author placed by P. Delmar in September (see above)
10. copy of reply from: HJA to P Delmar
Is quite keen to have a go at writing a play. Suggests a meeting at *London Journal* office or at The Playgoers Club. Mentions a 'rather dramatic' story by himself in *Penny Pictorial Magazine* 'this week' 'I am in town Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.'
11. from: W.N. Flower, at *The Pictorial Magazine*, Carmelite House 19.10.1904
In response to letter from HJA re number of words in story.
12. from: Editor, *Pearson's Weekly*, Henrietta Street 4.11.1904
'You shall hear on Tuesday morning about your serial 'For Sale – A Woman'.
13. from: Editor, *Pearson's Weekly*, Henrietta Street 9.11.1904
'If you have another part of 'For Sale – A Woman' in manuscript, I should be pleased to see it before giving you my decision in regard to this story.'
14. from: Editor, *Pearson's Weekly*, Henrietta Street 29.11.1904
'I have now given the subject of your serial very careful consideration, but I regret that I am unable to accept it and I therefore return it herewith.'
Apologises for the delay in arriving at decision and says would be pleased to see any short stories of not more than 3,000 words 'if you care to send them along'.
15. Copy of letter from HJA to Mr. Murray 5.11.1904
Is agreeing to do Xmas story - 14000 words £5 10/- and will provide copy by Nov 19th. Says it will be a bit of a rush as he has quite a lot of work on. Hopes Mr. Murray won't mind if the serial stands over for the present – 'I take it that does not matter to you as you have 7 numbers in hand. By the way how long do you want the serial to be? I thought about 12 or 13 numbers but perhaps when I have written say 10 numbers we might wait and see if it caught on and if it did of course it could go on as long as you like. I rather fancy this story myself and think it will go [...] I think your idea for plot of Xmas story is good and will work it along those lines.'

Mr. Murray was one of the two Editors (brothers) at The Aldine Press.

16. Copy of letter from: HJA 6.11.1904 recipient unidentified
'I see you used my short story "The Piccadilly Circus" in your last issue.
If you can let me have whatever is due to me on account thereof before the end of
the week it would be a convenience and the favour would be returned by
yours faithfully HJA'
17. from: the Editor, *The World and his Wife* 2 Carmelite House 14.11.1904
'Your story entitled "In Cupid's Aid" has been accepted for publication in this
magazine. I cannot as yet say whether it has won a prize [...] But in any case it
will be duly paid for.'
18. from: Leslie Wilson, Editor, George Newnes Ltd, Book Department 16.11.1904
to HJA at 5, Broughton Road, Ealing
Acknowledges receipt of a letter and thanks for suggestion contained in it.
19. from: Isabel Thorne *Yes or No* 11 Gough Square 9.12.1904
Wants short interview re: *The Czar's Chief Spy*.
20. from: the Editor, *The Weekly Scotsman* 16.12.1904
Has read story 'Olga Vance, Conspirator'. Will probably publish early next year.
Payment at end of quarter in which publication takes place.
21. from: The Editorial Dept *Puck*, 2 Carmelite House 15.12.1904
'I am very pleased with the story sent in today. If you have any more by you I
shall be pleased to see them.'

1905

22. Undated scrap of paper (must be 1905 or soon after?)
(Herbert Allingham MA Cantab)
Author of :
Serials
Yes & No, Liverpool Weekly Post, London Journal, Spare Moments, New Boys'
Paper
Short Stories
2 London Magazine, 1 World and his Wife, 7 Pearson's Weekly,
2 Tit-Bits, 8 Penny Post, 6 Penny Magazine, 1 London Opinion, 1 Weekly
Scotsman,
1 Freelance, 2 Puck, 5 Spare Moments, New London Journal, 1 Illustrated Bits,
Christian Globe
Also
Leading Articles, gossip paragraphs etc
23. Undated scrap of paper (post 1900??)

‘The Mad Marquis or The Mystery of Stark Hall’
Begins *L.J.* 584 N.S.

24. from: Arthur Allingham, The Retreat, Widford, nr Ware, Herts not dated.?1905
to ‘Herb’ wanting his help. A. plans to advertise for pupils in the *Herts and Essex Chronicle* and the *Hertfordshire Mercury*. Wants HJA to send the papers some sort of notice about himself ‘Something about Arthur Allingham, a London black and white man, having taken up his abode at Widford, Herts for the benefit of his work etc etc [...] I suppose there are no more *London Journal* drawings going are any style (?) head pieces any good at three bob a time [...] Give my love to Emmie and Margy [...] His pupils will miss him not his creditors [...] Flo says you will think this letter nothing but bunkum and dismiss it from your mind.’
25. from: the Editor, *The World and his Wife* 2 Carmelite House 4.2.1905
‘Although your story entitled “In Cupid’s Aid” did not win our £100 prize, I am happy to accept it for publication ... a cheque will be forwarded in due course.’
26. from: the Editor, *Puck* 24 Tudor Street EC postmarked Jan 3 (?) 1905
‘Am using your two stories about “Pomeroy Green” and the other about the young politician and the girl with the gun. Let me have a look at some more about 3500 words and plenty of incident.’
27. Copy of letter from HJA to Editor of *Puck* (replying to above)
‘Thanks for your pc of a day or two back - will send you something as soon as I can. At present I am full up with serial work but hope to get this off my hands in a few weeks time.
By the way may I make a suggestion?
Why doesn’t your firm pay more promptly? There are scores of men like myself knocking about Fleet Street - Here am I with quite a gift for popular fiction and yet I have to stick to journalism for my bread and butter simply because journalism means ready money –
Although I only do fiction 2 days a week I have at the present moment over £50 worth of stuff out – all accepted but not published and therefore not paid for-
One of your paper has had a story of mine 11 months, another has had one 5 months-
Is it surprising that we are driven to the cheaper houses where you deliver your copy in the morning and call for the money in the afternoon?’
28. from: the Editor, *Puck* 2 Carmelite House 17.1.1905
‘In reply to yours of the 10th I always consider and return, or use, short stories sent to *Puck* promptly. For obvious reasons you cannot bring your stuff into us “in the morning and get cash for it in the evening” as we go to press a month in advance.
As far as *Puck* is concerned your way seems pretty clear. We pay on publication, and if you keep up your present standard there is nor reason why you should not become one of our regular contributors of short stories. Send in some stuff

regularly every week and what I cannot use I will return promptly so you can try it elsewhere.

pp The Editor, H Havant Chief Sub

29. from: C.G Murray at the Aldine Publishing Company Ltd 19.1.1905
'I should be glad if you would let me have some more "Duffer" copy, or if this is impossible will you supply the names for the characters in the enclosed cut. Also a description of the incident. Our machines are standing and I want this so as to get to press with the cover which as you will understand must go to press some weeks before the inside.'
30. from: Agnes Carruthers *Yes or No* 11 Gough Square 27.1.1905
Reminding him that the fifth instalment of his serial is late and telling him to shift it to Russia
31. from: CGM at The Aldine Publishing Company postmarked Feb 6th 1905
'Can you let us have some more serial at once. We are leading rather a hand to mouth existence as far as it is concerned and would like to have a more comfortable margin.'
32. Copy of letter from: HJA to unnamed recipient (must be *Big Budget* Editor,)
'Are you open to consider a reprint school story?
Nearly 20 years ago (in 1886) I wrote a story which appeared in a journal called *The New Boys Paper* - (Long since dead)
I retained the copyright as I wanted Messrs Blackie of Edinburgh to publish the story in book form - This idea fell through and the story has never been re-published -
I am now writing a school story which is appearing in *True Blue* and which is making a hit in a small way -
This has made me think of the old story and I have turned up the numbers -
The story really reads remarkably well - The hero to my maturer judgment is a solemn prig but the fun is fast and furious and the invention is amazing -
The story is called *Barrington's Fag* but of course the title could be altered -
Shall I send it along?
You can have either the original numbers or a pruned and revised copy of the story which I prepared for Messrs Blackie -
33. from: Editor, *The Big Budget / The Boys' Leader* 28 Maiden Lane WC 6.2.1905
'Very glad indeed' to give best consideration to story.
34. from: Editor, *The Big Budget / The Boys' Leader* 14.2.1905
Regrets it is 'not exactly the style of thing [...] apt to be old-fashioned in incident and totally out of keeping with the notions of school tales in the minds of present day youngsters'

35. Copy of letter from HJA to Editor, *Big Budget* – as above
 ‘The story is perhaps a bit old-fashioned – I was only 17 when I wrote it and fresh from school –
 At the same time I doubt whether your policy of insisting that all school stories should be made to the one pattern is sound-
 Boys – the most fickle public in existence – are always craving for something different –
 Pardon me if I seem to be trying to teach you your own trade and believe me yours faithfully HJA’
36. from: Anna Wilke Königsberg Hinter-Tragheim 6 postmarked 5.3.1905
 Regretting that his stories are not for the German taste – ‘at least not for the magazines for which I write. They are – how shall I say? – so sensational, so little natural. I have only got two, “Dick’s Mascot” and “Tom Munro’s Murder”. You write interesting but, please don’t misunderstand me – not for the better public – more for the middle-class who like sensational stories *’ (she adds a note ‘at least here in Germany, in England it may be otherwise’).
 then she describes what she wants (interesting, humorous, real life sketches etc).
37. Copy of letter from HJA to Anna Wilke (as above)
 Thanks for pc ‘Owing to the rivalry of two or three popular publishers in this country the demand for sensational stories is so great that the temptation to supply it is almost overwhelming’ Is sending her two others but thinks they too not quite what she wants. Plans to return to short story writing later in year when will try to send her something to suit her better. Asks for a couple of German magazines so that he can see what she means.
38. Copy of note
 Dear Murray, Send me some money!! (repeated x3)
 ‘Right willingly will I clown and grin for the entertainment of thy juveniles but to do so on an empty belly I flatly refuse –
 Thine more in sorrow than in wrath’ HJA
39. from: Isabel Thorne *Smart Novels / Dainty Novels* Caxton House, Gough Square 31.3.1905
 Enthusiastic for ‘the Spy’. It’s to start in Easter number. She’s advertising it ‘as largely as possible’ and thinks it ought to ‘go’. Thanks him for slight alterations.
40. from: Isabel Thorne *Yes or No* 11 Gough Square 17.3.1905
 Returning 10th instalment. Wants scene with Czar ‘worked up’ has no doubt that ‘on second thoughts ... you will see it as I do’
41. Copy of letter from HJA to ‘Dear Sir’ re: above
 About to deliver instalment no.12 ‘12 numbers at £4 are £48’ only £20 paid so far ‘I am staying at home to get on with the story but my wife will be in town

- tomorrow, Friday, and will call on you. [...] If you can let her have a cheque for the £28 it will be a convenience...'
42. Copy of letter from HJA to 'Dear Madam' re: above
Glad she likes numbers – so difficult to judge own work – wife will bring in no 12 and he will finish before Easter 'By the way is there any objection to printing my name?'
 43. Copy of letter to Murray (Aldine) 8.4.1905
'My wife tells me you don't care for the "Fag" - Before deciding will you try it on one or two of the youngsters – office boys for choice?
I wrote the story when I was a boy myself and I think it has the boy's point of view – They take themselves very seriously and what seems pompous and priggish to us seems all right to them –
Charlie Brown – no bad judge of what the youngsters want offered me £25 for the story a year or so after it appeared'
As a PS he tells idea for new story 'more in the Duffer vein' (Max the Magnificent)
 44. from: A.C.Murray at The Aldine Publishing Company 11.4.1905
Has read abbreviated edition of BF and is still unhappy, weak points which 'principally concern the construction of sentences' Doesn't like dormitory fight and wants whole first instalment rewritten, the careful editing from 2nd to 6th. Then can do necessary touching up himself. If that agreed and done 'by the end of this week without fail' he'll announce story and pay immediately.
 45. from: A.C.Murray at The Aldine Publishing Company 17.4.1905
Because of Easter holiday needs another (rewritten) instalment by Wednesday next. Title now *The Captain's Fag*.
 46. from: Isabel Thorne *Yes or No* 11 Gough Square 15.5.1905
'Make the story either two or three instalments if necessary, but not more than three.'
 47. from: Ward Lock & Co 1.8.1905
Declining 'A Regular Duffer'
 48. from: C.G.Murray at The Aldine Publishing Company 19.9.1905
Will look into matter of payment for *Captain's Fag*. Is sorry HJA called twice without finding him. His terms for continuation of Duffer's Adventures 'are too far beyond us to warrant my discussing the matter further. No one regrets this more than I do, I can assure you.'
 49. from: Editor, *The Boys' World* La Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill EC 18.10.1905
Declining 'Two Chums at Oldfields'

50. from: W H Flower, sub ed *Pictorial Magazine* 10.10.1905
Has accepted story (no title) says he is in need of stories 2,500 in length. Will give speedy decision.
51. from: Frank Atkins Mount House, Chatham, nr Canterbury 16.10.1905
HJA has obviously passed on message above but Atkins says he does not care to write very short stories. Atkins has suggested to HJA that he try a Mr. Griffith, one of Mr. Edward's subs who is i/c *Marvel* and *Pluck* 'He is much taken up with Clark Hook, but he has room for a good deal outside that. The way to go to work would be to take him a good opening of some sort 3000 or 4000 words, with a synopsis of what is to follow. Then, if he likes it, he will tell you what length to extend it – whether 10,000, 17,000 or 21,000 at 10/- per thousand. I should go straight in to him with my card (enclosed) and have a shot. His room is on the second floor – same as Mr. Back. Go past Back's office, right to the end, turn to left and go to the end again and you will see the door of his room facing you. He's a very decent little fellow.'
Then Atkins reverts (obviously previous conversation) to talking about Aldine – do they pay cash on acceptance or on publication and how long do they take? He has seen them but price so low that he didn't want to write from them – however it would be different if it were for prompt cash down. He has a lot of stuff out at the moment unpaid – no difficulty getting it accepted 'but where's the use when you never know when on earth it's going to be paid for?'
'Since I wrote to you I have heard that Mr. Langton Townley is still in *Puck* office – i.e. over Mr. Sisley's. As I said you can mention my name if you go to see him.'

Note : both Atkins and Back (editor, above) are mentioned in Lofts and Adley. Edwards is Hamilton Edwards and Griffiths, Percy Griffiths – both A.P. editors.

52. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 16.10.1905
Re: Duffer ms. Has taken over Editorship of *True Blue* from brother and will pay £8 for 'Duffer' stories. Has some suggestions for strengthening opening of series.
53. Copy of fragment from: HJA probably in response to above
54. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 30.10.1905
making detailed suggestions about 'Duffer' detective story – seriousness (or otherwise) of incidents and 'keep up the comic stuff as much as possible'.
55. from: Hamilton Edwards, Editor-in-Chief *Boy's Friend*, *Boys' Herald*, *Boys' Realm*, *Girls' World*, *Woman's World*, *Jester*, *Union Jack*, *Pluck Library*, *Marvel Library* 23.10.1905
Turning down *Max the Magnificent* - not strong enough and has too much school material at the moment.

56. from: the Editor, *The World and His Wife* new address Racquet Court 115 Fleet Street 7.11.1905
No idea when 'In Cupid's Aid' will be published. Many stories accepted when magazine started. Will take months to work them off.
57. from: Hamilton Edwards (see above) 10.11.1905
Accepting 'Two Chums at Oldfields'
58. from: Editor, *Puck* 30.11.1905
'In reply to yours, all our stories whether short or serial are original. We do not care about secondhand stuff.
We are sorry you have given up short story writing. We should have thought there was more scope in that than serial work, but of course, you are the best judge of your own capabilities.'
(there is a PS saying that *A Devil of a Woman* is 'a little bit too Mephistophelean for our guileless readers'.)
59. from: Fiction Editor, 2 Carmelite House no date
Standard printed rejection slip 'always pleased to consider stories ranging from: 1,500 to 200,000 words'
Hand-written message 'Very good but unfortunately we have had (and have) too many stories dealing with European – Zenda-ish princes. Please let me hear from: you again with something after the style of our *London Magazine* and *Answers* short stories.'

1906

60. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 5.1.1906
Wants illustration for 'Duffer' story (comic) for cover. Text can follow later.
Open to take humorous completes for TB if he has any.
61. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* La Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill 27.2.1906
Requiring short stories 1500 – 3000 words. 'There is no opening for very sensational stories.'
62. from: Robert Barr, Editor, *The Idler* 11.3.1906
Rejecting idea of collaboration. Believes HJA quite capable of doing it by himself. (*Sounds as if HJA has sent him opening and synopsis like something Barr has done but that HJA doesn't feel capable writing a novel himself?*)
63. from: Robert Barr, Editor, *The Idler* 12.4.1906
Replying to HJA who is worried he may have plagiarized. Asks to be sent one of HJA's published stories, 'If you have one by you'
64. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 17.4.1906
Asks him to call – wants to give him a story.

65. from: P. Keary at C Arthur Pearson, Henrietta Street, WC 25.4.1906
Remembers him. Congratulations on *New London Journal*. Pleasant to renew acquaintance with Smith and *Minnigrey*.
66. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 22.5.1906
Apologises for no answer to HJA of 18th. Will put matter before manager but he's away.
67. from: G Herbert Thring at The Society of Authors 22.5.1906
Needs more details of contract with Aldine. (obviously a row)
68. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 23.5.1906
Reasonably conciliatory re: 'Duffer's Last Case' and 'Frolicsome Five' – points out that he was late with copy 'naturally we do not wish to purchase stories now for a magazine that has ceased to exist.' Offers to indemnify him for trouble taken.
69. from: C.G.Murray Aldine Publishing 25.5.1906
Encloses cheque for £6 for work done. Stories to remain at HJA disposal.
70. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 11.6.1906
Any more stories? Good wishes for *London Journal*.
71. from: Percy Griffith for R Hamilton Edwards 22.6.1906
Going through 'For the King' for second time. Too difficult to designate all that requires re-writing.' So can't use it.
72. from: George G. Magnus, managing director The Cambridge Literary Agency 26.6.1906
Selection of 'dramatic' stories (presumably for *London Journal*)
- Note: George Magnus later wrote How To Write Saleable Fiction (London 1924)*
73. from: *The Pictorial Magazine* (not Chas Sisley) 1.8.1906
Re: 'A Case of Blackmail' 'I am sorry that I do not care for this little yarn ... improbable that names would be so freely mentioned in a club room and in any case I think blackmailing incidents are best left alone.'
74. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 7.8.1906
Short story 'not quite the thing' but is giving it another reading. Does HJA have any 5000 word stories?
75. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 8.7.1906
Has read it again but no. Interested in the 5000 story 'you propose to write'.

76. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 16.8.1906
Chasing up story. Can use it immediately. Offering commission for 5 x 5000 stories.
77. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 20.8.1906
Space for children in magazine – so if story is ‘somewhat on the lines of an E Nesbit serial’ I shall be glad to see it.
78. from: Proprietors of *London Opinion* 8.9.1906
Payment for contribution ‘Letters of Algy’.
79. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 17.9.1906
Is using ‘The Black Knight’. Needs material for his Christmas number. Requests story of 4000 words for this number ‘with plenty of movement in it and scope for a couple of good illustrations’.
80. from: *Pictorial Magazine*, 12.9.1906.
Accepting ‘My Lady’s Portrait’ for *Penny Pictorial*.
81. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 19.9.1906
Returning first instalment and synopsis of school story.
82. from: J C Francis 14 Fetter Lane (*Christian Globe, Spare Moments, New London Journal, London Journal monthly part*. Advertisements inserted in all publications at lowest rates) 6.10.1906
Cheque £12 payment for work in 1907 almanac
83. from: Edward G Hawke, Literary Editor,, *The Tribune*, 23-29 Bouverie St, Fleet Street, London EC 10.6.1906
‘I shall have pleasure using Mrs. Allingham’s tales entitled ‘The Wild Convolvulus’ and ‘The Prince’s Wish’ at half a guinea each[...] Perhaps Mrs. Allingham will submit some other stories at her convenience.’
84. from: Ernest Lawes, business manager *London Opinion & ToDay* (conducted by A Moreton Mandeville) 36-38 Southampton St, Strand 11.10.1906
Wants receipt.
85. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 16.10.1906
Wants a replacement story - this not as good as ‘The Black Knight’.
86. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 25.10.1906
Thanks for replacement yarn. ‘I think you have got hold of some rumours. At all events I am probably bringing out a new monthly magazine for the firm in the spring and am at present buying stuff.’

Might use 3000-3500 word story from HJA for first number 'But I make no secret of the fact that it will have to be a grand yarn [...] I close for press in a fortnight.'

87. Copy of letter from: HJA to Newman Flower, in response to above.
'The only story I have by me is the one I enclose as I send them on their travels as soon as I get them back from the typist.
This one I am afraid may not suit you but I send it on the chance.
I will send you others more likely to suit after Christmas.
Many thanks for your kindly note'
88. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 3.11.1906 (dictated)
'The only fault I have to find is that they are inclined to be a little too sensational, but otherwise are admirable. This is what I meant about your "'Martha" story. This you can doubtless remedy however. I like mystery stories without too much "murder".'
89. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 12.11.1906 (dictated)
Can use both. Would like more.
90. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* Saturday (handwritten)
re: 'Carried by Storm' 'It is hardly strong enough and seems a little drawn out, but if you don't object to a little blue pencil in parts I can use it.
I can use your "Martha" yarn if you can tone it down considerably.
Glad to hear you are having a shot at the new magazine. Shall be glad to have MS at your earliest.'
91. from: A.E.Viles, Caxton House, Gough Square, EC 10.11.1906
Cheque for 'Follicsome Five' 'I suppose we shall hear from you again before long with further adventures of the Five?'
92. from: Alex Shand at D.C.Thomson, Dundee 18.11 1906
Pleasure in considering proofs of serial – where and when did it last appear?
93. from: Arthur Viles *The New Boys' Paper* (Proprietor and publisher E.J. Blogg)
8.11.1906
Pressed for space. Complete short stories must not exceed 7000 words.
'Frolicsome Five' is in type and in artist's hands for illustration.
94. from: J.A.Hammerton, Editor, *The London Magazine* 2 Carmelite House
16.11.1906
'I have read this story very carefully and rather like it' but too long. If HJA can reduce it from 6000 to 4000 without injury then he can use it.
HJA is using an RLS title – this needs changing.
95. from: J.A.Hammerton, Editor, *The London Magazine* 22.11.1906
Can use story and will pay £8.8.0. for the serial rights.

96. from: Mrs. G Ninnes, 59 & 60 Chancery Lane London WC 1.12.1906
Receipt for typing Oct – Dec (list of stories). Her rates seem to be about 1d per 100 words plus an additional couple of pence.
97. from: Peter Keary Beaulieu, Wimbledon Park, Surrey 21.12.1906
Is sending a copy of his book ‘Get On or Get Out’ hoping for notice in *The New London Journal*.
98. from: Alex Shand at D.C.Thomson, Dundee 21.12.1906
MS is to hand. Would like to keep it for a few weeks as have a good many MSS to deal with.
99. from: Alex Shand at D.C.Thomson, Dundee 11 12 1906
‘We are obliged for the offer of *The Czar’s Chief Spy* but regret that the fact of its being a story dealing with Russian Political matters prevents us from accepting it, as we like our stories to deal with characters and events occurring in ordinary life. If at any time you have to offer a story whose scenes are laid in Great Britain and dealing with love and sensation incidents we shall be glad to hear from you.’
100. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 19.12.1906 (dictated)
‘Brother of Lionel Karr’ not ‘quite up to the mark for my new magazine’
‘Do you care to have another shot?’ Will use in *Penny Mag* at usual rates.
101. from: Peter Keary Beaulieu, Wimbledon Park 29.12.1906
Thanking for picture – will reproduce it in *Pearson’s Mag*. ‘Send me some particular about Jerome and the story of the picture [...] Glad you are making the *New London Journal* go.’

1907

102. from: E J Blogg 108 Brixton Hill, SW 6.1.07
Dear Mr. Allingham ‘As you know the *New Boy’s Paper* is not going so well as I should like and in the course of a chat with Wick yesterday he made certain suggestions with regard to the future which I should like to chat over with you.’
(arranges meeting)
103. from: Charles Perry Brown Brookeleas, 3 Eden Road, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells 16.1.1907
Re: *New Boy’s Paper* Thanks HJA for letter and agrees. Will send Mr. Blogg a number of short illustrated tales and will bring up or send two volumes ‘to cut away at [...] I shall be out in my calculation if you do not make the paper pay.’
104. from: Charles Perry Brown 31.1.07
Sorry but – his stock exchange business takes up all available resources at the moment. (I think HJA has asked him to pay £300 for an ad in the *Daily Mail* – and

CPB isn't quite sure it'll be worth it) CPB thinks paper 'has a much better chance of success than before'. Compliments Herb on his story. 'You are in much closer touch with your readers. That is a great thing'

105. from: H Wentworth James (Herbert Wentworth) 27 Southdean Gardens, Wimbledon Park SW 2.2.07

Thanks for letter – compliments HJA on *Max the Magnificent*. Agrees with his views 'about boys liking "character".' Recalls a story of his own for BB with a character called 'Tosher'. Will be glad to submit a synopsis for *New Boy's Paper* and wishes it success.

Note - HWJ listed by Lofts and Adley. BB = Big Budget, then owned by Pearson's. WJ founded the Gleam.

106. from: Literary Editor, *The Tribune* to Mrs. Allingham 17.2.07

Is using a portion of one of her stories tonight. 'The only objection that I have to your charming fairy tales is that they tend to be a little too long for our restricted space. They need to be written in sections of 600 words- preferably not more than two portions or three at most to a tale. The present tale will make four sections.'

107. from: Charles Perry Brown 21.2.1907

Compliments re: *Max the Magnificent* 'A very excellent and powerful piece of work and should send the circulation of the *New Boy's Paper* up to 100,000.' Is looking out some more good illustrations. May still be able to suggest some 'inexpensive method of working up the sale'. More compliments re *Max* – especially the British Flag incident'.

108. from: J A Hammerton, Editor, London Magazine 13.2 1907

Re: money (has paid too many people in advance).

109. from: George Magnus, Cambridge Literary Agency 27.2.1907

Wants money for Mr. Parnell's story. Arrangement was payment on acceptance.

110. from: George Magnus Cambs Literary Agency 1.3.1907

Thanks for cheque. PS they would like to have some of HJA's work. 'Editors are frequently asking us for strong stories and they are so hard to get. Mr. Hamilton Edwards has just asked me for some. Can you supply? - £1-10-1 to £2-2-0 per th'

111. from: W.E.Ward of Tennant and Ward, publishers, NY 2.4.07

Offering to act as agent for HJA and friends – and to sell him American stuff if he likes. Recommended to HJA by Mr. Elder (sounds as if this is someone HJA knows – Smith Elder?)

112. from: D.C. Thomson Ltd. 12.4.1907

Rejecting 'The Mad Marquis' as 'hardly suitable for our present purposes'. Will consider the 80,000 word serial HJA has mentioned.

113. Editor, *Puck* 24.4.1907
No opening for 5000 stories due to redesign. Can use enclosed if cut to 3000.
114. from: W Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 29.4.1907
'I regret I do not care for the enclosed.' Please send some more asap. PS 'Please do not put real names into your stories. I will tell you about an affair over one of your stories when you are passing this way and can give me a call.'
115. from: Peter Keary C Arthur Pearson Ltd 2.3.07
Doesn't want to take over *New Boy's Paper* – and his directors wouldn't either.
116. from: Charles Perry Brown 24.5.1907
Responding to letter from HJA. Must leave – for a long chat – the whole business of publishing. Compliments on *Captain's Fag*, *Duffer* and *Max*. 'I want to see Mr. Blogg when next in Gough Square.' PS 'I am already in touch with American Publishers and a first large parcel reaches me next week.'
117. from: George Magnus, Cambridge Literary Agency 31.5.1907
Acknowledging receipt of two short stories – hopes to place 'a series of these tales – they ought to prove a success'.
118. from: W.F.Anderson pro D.C. Thomson 3.6.1907
'We have given very careful consideration to your story *A Devil of a Woman* and consider it somewhat too sensational to use in any of our weekly papers. We might run it however in our evening paper *The Evening Telegraph and Post* which circulates in the counties of Forfar, Fife and Perth, if you could give us the right to one serial use of the story for that district for £6?'
119. from: W.F.Anderson pro D.C. Thomson 7.6.07
'We have no difficulty getting very good reprint stories for our purpose at £5 to £7 10/-. We are willing however to increase our price for your story to £8 8/- We send cheque for that amount herewith.'
120. from: W.F.Anderson pro D.C. Thomson 14.6.1907
Thanks for acceptance – one serial use of *A Devil of a Woman*.
121. from: Editor, *The Gem* library 7.6.07
Unable to consider any boys stories for the time being.
122. from: E.J.Blogg NBP Caxton House, 11 Gough Square 11.6.1907
Is in touch with Mr. Brown. Will be up again on Monday.
123. Receipt for suit 4 Guineas
124. from: ?? Davison *The Idler* 14.6.1907

‘I am directed by Mr. Barr to return the enclosed story which you kindly sent him some time ago.’

125. from: G.H. Cattle (*Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly, Puck, The Jester*)
21.6.1907

‘I like enclosed story but object to the slang and the dialectic spelling. I think if you were to call up I should be able to put you on to a serial that would suit us at once.’

126. from: Harold J. Garrish (*Chips* etc) 26.6.1907

‘I am very glad you were able to grasp my idea so well. “The Three Friends Together” is exactly the thing I have been trying to impress upon authors for some time past, but which you alone have been able to grasp. The absence of slang and any suggestion of overdoing it makes the story read very naturally and very interesting. You should proceed along these lines and should clear up your mysteries etc as you go along so as to simply have the three friends on their travels and adventures.

One point that is excellent about your story is that there is no straining after effect. I should get them out of England as soon as you can and just dwell a little more on the characteristics of each. Work in funny replies and funny situations where you possibly can.’

Advice follows re: chapter headings and press day – Monday next for *The Jester* ... ‘I think if you go on as well as you have begun that your adventures abroad in forests, jungles and at sea should prove very good reading and make a very successful story’ (adds handwritten note) ‘though of course the proof of popularity lies not with me but with the readers.’

127. from: Isabel Thorne Shurey’s Publications 2 & 3 Hind Court, Fleet St,
24.6.1907

Thanks for sight of ‘For Sale – a Woman’. She’ll need to see the rest – terms 10/- per 1,000 words for British Serial Rights.

128. from: H.J. Garrish (*Chips* etc) 1.7.1907

(Handwritten letter) ‘Instalment of “Comrades True” (this is the name I have given your story) that you left with me today will do. Try and work in a little more fun in the dialogue in future. Whenever you see a chance branch out into comic business without of course overdoing it. The coolness of Will is well accentuated. But please don’t mention pubs or alcoholic liquors except wine occasionally. Our heroes always keep so fit they never drink. Also don’t use foreign terms of address etc such as ‘senor’. Keep everything plain English ‘Mr.’ or ‘Sir’ etc.

I think I would make Andy a very nice chap funny but always putting his foot in it. The drill incident might have been worked up more. You will notice that I am following your yarn very carefully as I think we shall score a success with it.’

129. from: H.J. Garrish at Carmelite House. Postmarked 10.7.1907

‘Instalment of “Comrades” very good. I made Will shoot through his pocket. This might be a characteristic of him. Work a good striking subject for a picture in every instalment.’

130. from: H.J.Garrish at Carmelite House. Postmarked 30.7.07
‘We should like some more ‘Comrades True’ tomorrow (Tuesday). It is required urgently obliged HJG.’

131. from: H.J.Garrish at Carmelite House 2.8.1907
More copy required.

132. from: H.J.Garrish, Editorial dept *Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly* 16.9.1907
‘I want you to close up ‘Comrades True’ in the next instalment as we have a new serial to produce that we cannot delay and we wish to try your three chums in *Puck* in a series of complete stories of three thousand words per week. The *Puck* stories should be refined and the reverse of slangy. Also no mention of strong drink or pubs; more like the old *Boy’s Own Paper* type of adventure yarns.’

133. from: H.J.Garrish, Editorial department *Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly, Puck, The Jester* 23.9.1907

‘Your yarn of Potts is quite excellent. I suppose it is a take off of our “Monk Mortimer, The Man with the Thousand Millions”. We had better call the series “Bank Baltimore, The Man with the Million Thousands” so as to bring it home to the readers.’ Some comment and advice follows. ‘If you ever fancy doing some Kenneth Muggs in the style you might turn us out some of about 2,500 words.’ Then some more info about which HJA stories will now run in which papers and a request for ‘Comic stories of a broad but natural style for the other ½d papers. They should be 2,200 words and either single stories or series.’

(Note – on back of this letter HJA has written a list: Ballooning, Alpine Climbing, Parachute, Big Game, Air Ship, Bull fighting, Steeplechase Jockey)

134. from: H.J.Garrish (*Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly*) 14.10.1907
Instalment quite good – some alterations needed ‘Leave out the references to beautiful women, also the valley of delight. It would savour too much of the fairy story. Valley of Gold or Diamonds would be better with a strange band of guardians of the treasure. Please keep the story within the bounds of possibility! That is to say no extraordinary races in extraordinary places, but just simply of the earth earthy. I see in the dying speech of the old sailor that he promises a sort of H.G.Wells arrangement. But the electric man himself is quite enough for the readers to swallow for one time. Just keep them going in striking adventures like you did with ‘Comrades True’. Insert a few more lines descriptive of the electric man when he appears so as to bring him more vividly before the mind of the reader. The chaps who work him seem to appear very vaguely from: somewhere or

other.' It's to start in next week's *Chips* so Garrish needs it by Wednesday morning for illustrating.

135. from: Editorial dept *London Magazine* Carmelite House 28.10.07

'I shall be using your story entitled "The Murder of Raymond Sylvester" in the February number of the *London Magazine* which is published on January 15th.'

136. from: T Fisher Unwin, 1 Adelphi Terrace, WC 7.1.1907

to HJA at *London Journal* address

Enclosing catalogue. 'When you next have a manuscript or one of your friends has a manuscript available for publication, it would give us extreme pleasure to be advised of the same and make a proposition regarding its publication and appearance in our lists.' Letter then mentions the wider than Great Britain range of their publishing business.

137. from: Mrs. G Ninnes, 59 & 60 Chancery Lane 31.12.1907

Receipt for typing Dec (list of stories).

1908

138. from: Hamilton Edwards 23.4.1908

Turning down story 'not at all on our lines. The drunkenness part is unpardonable in my papers [...] Gambling may be introduced occasionally, but it must be very nicely done and the habit condemned.' Recommends him to read Henry St John, John Finnemore, Chas Hamilton.

139. Copy HJA reply

'I was aware that my story "The Boy Who Won Out" was entirely different from: the school yarns you publish and I only sent it on the chance you might be disposed to make a new departure.

By the way with regard to your objection to the drunkenness episode I am tempted to remind you that the most popular school story ever written contains a chapter dealing with the same subject. I refer to the late Archdeacon Farrar's *Eric*. This story is very goody-goody but it has run through 36 editions and in chapter 8 the hero gets drunk with far less excuse than my hero has for his slip- My story was an attempt to describe real school life- However I can do the conventional stuff quite well. My *A Regular Duffer*, *The Captain's Fag* and *Max the Magnificent* are all in this line.

I will send you comedy of that sort very shortly. I know Mr. Henry St John's work. It is very conventional of course but the author has a real sense of fun and his stuff is nearly always readable.'

140. from: Newman Flower, Cassell and Co 24.3.1908

Accepting 'The Pigeon's Feathers' and 'The Highgate Jewel Robbery'.

141. from: Editor, *London Magazine*, 24.4.1908

Accepting 'By Another Hand' Will pay £8.8.0. for British Serial Rights.

142. from: H.J. Garrish 25.5.1908
Has used short stories and has *Lights of London Town* in hand. Apologises for delay
143. from: H.J.Garrish, Editorial department *Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly, Puck, The Jester* 26.5.1908
Re *Lights of London Town* 'In future instalments you need not insist on the juvenile spirit of the Story as readers of this paper are old as well as young.'
(referring to *The Butterfly*)
144. from: W.F.Anderson pro D.C. Thomson, *The Dundee Courier, The Weekly News, The Weekly Welcome, The Red Letter* 26.5.1908
Announcing first no of *A Devil of a Woman* and offering explanation for their author's use of the name Michael Power in *The Red Letter*. Not plagiarism – a logical deduction from Michael Dred.
145. from: Newman Flower, *The Penny Magazine* 10.6.1908
Is using 'The Pigeon's Feathers' 'There is not reason why you should not do some more work for me if you like, though I think these two episodes show the necessity of great caution in the matter of names.' Is wanting boys' stories for *Chums*.
146. from: H.J.Garrish, Editorial department *Chips, Comic Cuts, The Butterfly, Puck, The Jester* 12.7.1908
Needs more *Lights*. Comments on a school story – 'opening very good indeed, but unfortunately the drinking idea puts it quite out of court.' Needs more 'Man Behind the King' to enable him to judge - 'a complete instalment of five or six thousand words with a good curtain'.
147. from: H.J. Garrish 20.8.1908
Needs more *Lights*. 'As the story seems popular I am letting it rip.'
148. from: ??? Director and Manager 93 & 94 Long Acre 29.8.1908
'There is no possibility of the information in regard to your scheme respecting Earl's Court having leaked out from here as no one had any knowledge of the matter except Mr. Bottomley and the writer'
149. from: ? for the Editor, *Tit-Bits* 11.9.1908
Source of idea re: *Tit-Bits* free day (not taken from: *John Bull*). Other people have also thought of publishing prize *Tit-Bits* in book form.
150. from: Mrs.G. Ninnes Nov 1908
Invoice for typing done Sept and Oct.

1909

151. from: ?Lavell at George Newnes 25.2.1909
Has 'an opening for powerful, brightly-written short stories, either humorous or dramatic (preferably with happy endings), length 1,500 – 3,000 words.'
152. from: F.C. Cordwell at *Chips* (etc) 4.8.1909
Has read story – very good indeed – will have to place it before Mr. Cattle 'if you can have it typewritten and let me have it at once I shall be much obliged as I want to start the story as soon as possible'
There is a hand-written PS 'I think the title a bit too long. However we could discuss that later.'
153. from: Robert Scotland, Editor, *Ideas* Hulton, Manchester 7.8.1909
Hopes to use 'The Surprising Adventures of Andy Yule' at an early date but has large numbers of Mss on hand.
154. from: F.C. Cordwell at *Chips* (etc) 29.9.1909
'I think that *Plucky Polly Perkins* is going along splendidly but if you could manage to bring her away from the seaside I should be much obliged. It is rather late in the season to be at a summer resort.
Will you kindly let me have an instalment of 'Driven from: Home' by next Monday if possible.'
155. from: F.C. Cordwell (as above) 5.10.1909
Happy with third instalment of *Driven from Home*. Reminds him that 'The fifth instalment will be for the Christmas number so I shall be obliged if you will bear this in mind. I can give you an extra two columns for this instalment.'
156. from: F.C. Cordwell (as above) 7.10.1909
'Owing to the large amount of advertisements that will appear in *The Butterfly* for the next month, I shall have much difficulty in squeezing in all the features into the small amount of space.
Will you therefore make your *Polly Perkins* not more than 2,000 words in length and *Driven from Home* 3,000 words. I am very sorry indeed to have to ask you to cut your stories down, but you will easily understand that as I have only three pages left for copy it is difficult to have space sufficient to take two serials and two series. One whole page is devoted to advertisements.'
157. from: John A. The *Christian Globe* Newspaper Association 19.10.1909
Dear Herbert, 'Mr. Fox informs me that the story 'Love the Foe' will wind up next Thursday Nov 26th. This will suit us admirably, as we shall be able to commence a new story in our Xmas number (Nov 26th). I will send you Mrs. L.T. Mead's Xmas story when I return home. I have a capital subject for the front pages – a lively one which I think will suit.'

158. from: R.N.Chance (*Chips – etc*) 19.10.1909
‘I have read your instalment of *Ruby Wray* and think it is strengthened considerably by the alteration. I also think that you will be able to carry on the story in such a manner as to make it interesting to the reader. I don’t for a moment suggest that you should introduce any ‘sensational’ incidents into the story. At the same time as suggested by your subheading a little pathos in every instalment would hold the readers attention I think.’
159. from: Percy Bishop at The Aldine Publishing Co 17.12.1909
‘Much pleasure in consenting to the arrangement you propose, that is to say, that we abandon our claim to the right to republish your school story *The Captain’s Fag* in the ‘Boys’ Own Library’ for a payment of £25.’

1910-11

160. from: F.C.Cordwell at *The Butterfly* 5.1.1910
‘Thanks for *Driven from Home*. Will you please let me have the next instalment by Friday, typed if possible. It is easier to judge the length when it is typewritten and saves me a lot of trouble when making up the paper. I have just finished the last instalment and think it a very good curtain. Jack must, of course, escape somehow and take Reuben Price with him. We do not want him to fall into the hands of Reuben Price again if it can be avoided.’
161. from: R. Chance *The Jester* 17.2.1911
‘In reply to your letter I have found that *The Lights of Home* is extremely popular with my readers and only last week it attained a high place in a competition. Under the circumstances and considering that the paper is doing well I do not want to finish it up yet, so please continue with it until you hear from me to the contrary.
In regard to *The Little Mother* I have let one of my other authors have a shot at it because I know at present you could not tackle it on top of your other story – as you have said.
We will chat over other schemes when you are next in town.’
162. from: R Chance *The Jester* 20.2.1911
HJA has obviously answered wanting either to stop *Lights of Home* or raise his rate of payment. Editor not happy with this ‘I could not pay such a price as you suggest for the story which has been running such a length of time. You started the story at the rate of one guinea a thousand and it has always been usual for authors to complete yarns at the original rate.
As you have left the instalments until the last moment - to finish the story up in one instalment would inconvenience me considerably, as it would not give me the slightest chance to make a fresh arrangement. Therefore I should be glad if you could see your way of doing for me another ten or eleven thousand words of this story so that I can start another yarn after it. Otherwise I should be

compelled to have the end of the story written by another author, which besides being a difficult task would be a great pity.'

1916 – 8

163. from: F.C .Cordwell, The Amalgamated Press Ltd, Fleetway House 5.4.1916
Confirming verbal agreement 'That you supply me with not less than two serial stories weekly from: this date, at the same terms as the present – in return for which you may hold the copyright of *Driven from Home* which originally appeared in *The Butterfly*.
(This letter has a Los Angeles address on the back + some of HJA's complicated calculations.)
164. from: F.C Cordwell (as above) 18.5.1916
Cross letter with much underscoring in blue pencil complaining that he was without an instalment of *The Steel Clutch* when he came to pass *The Butterfly* this morning. '*Justice* is late also but *The Steel Clutch* is even worse.'
165. from: William Harvey, Story Editor, John Leng & Co, Bank Street, Dundee (*Dundee Advertiser, Evening Telegraph and Post, The Happy Home, People's Journal, People's Friend, My Weekly*) 20.12.1917
To HJA at Hurlingham House (which they consistently mistype).
1st instalment of *A Mother at Bay* is quite satisfactory 'as extended' – wants 2nd.
166. from: William Harvey (as above) 11.1.1918
Nagging for *A Mother at Bay*.
(back of letter covered with HJA calculations).
167. from: Flo Allingham 20, Mylett Crescent, Shepherd's Bush 16.3.1918
(re typing)
She sends list of the stories that she possesses.
168. from: William Harvey (as above) 2.4.1918
'We have no rule on the matter, but we would certainly prefer that no story were filmed until we first had used it and as you indicate that you can easily devote some other stories to this purpose I hope you will see your way to do so.'
Hopes to write re: *London* and will have *Fascinating Miss Forrest* considered.
'One point against it is that it has so recently appeared in a rival magazine, but we can go into that matter should the story be found suitable.'
No 6 of *A Mother At Bay* is approved. Notes new first number expected shortly.
169. from: William Harvey (as above) 3.4.1918

Re: *London* 'We like the serial, but, as is the case with all your work not specially done for us, it will need a good deal of alteration to bringing it in line with our requirements.' Goes on to make specific suggestions. These seem to amount to avoiding / leaving behind 'the strong convict atmosphere' and giving more prominence to the heroine. Plenty of word calculation – price offered 72 guineas – 'on delivery of the rewritten first instalment' for 'a fairly long lease'.

170. from: Wm Harvey (as above) 11.4.1918

Wants to know where and when *London* has previously appeared

171. from: William Harvey (as above) 21.4.1918

With regard to the suggestion for a story entitled *The Marriage Vow*, could you send me a brief indication of how the first instalment would run? The subject seems quite a likely one, and as you say, it could be treated without giving offence.'

172. from: William Harvey (as above) 8.5.1918

Re: *A Mother at Bay* and opening of *A Marriage Vow*

173. from: William Harvey (as above) 22.5.1918

Approving reconstructed first instalment of *London* – wants HJA to suggest new title.

174. Typewriting list May 30th 1917 – May 20th 1918

175. William Harvey (as above) 28.5.1918

'We are in need of a good holding story of the "East Lynne" type suitable for our weekly newspaper *The People's Journal*. The story would need to be thoroughly modern and as the woman would need to be a person who would make a strong appeal to the feminine reader, she would require a good excuse for leaving her husband and children.'

176. from: ? at Cotterill & Cromb (editors' and authors' agents) Lennox House, Norfolk Street Strand 30.5.1918

Encloses part cheque for *London* 'Delighted to hear about the new serial for the *People's Journal*. There's a lot of money to be made in that corner if you lay yourself out for it.'

(Back of letter absolutely covered in calculations.)

177. from: William Harvey 31.5.1918

Re: synopsis of proposed *People's Journal* story.

1 – Woman's reasons for deserting children 'not sufficiently compelling'

2 – 'With reference to your remark as to having a little more freedom in the *People's Journal*, we do not want to handicap you in anyway but [...] we place great value on stories having the ring of plausibility. Consequently we should like you to be as natural as possible in your incidents avoiding anything which

might be called super-fantastic or anything of the ultra sensational atmosphere such as was prominent in the early chapters of your story *The Steel Clutch*, and in an earlier reprint story which we bought from you and which you will recall dealt with the work of a Russian Secret Society in London'

3 – 'As the *Journal* is a domestic newspaper you must be careful to avoid sexual questions or anything suggesting immorality'

4 – Story rather sad 'We should like you to relieve it in some way' but not by 'any low comedy character' perhaps an aunt or grandmother? Or strength of character of the husband?

'These are suggestions only and not meant to bind you or cramp the development of the story in any way [...] We know we can safely leave the matter in your hands'

178. from: William Harvey (as above) 8.6.1918
Re: *The Marriage Vow* 'You will of course keep in view to avoid anything objectionable as the story is for a woman's paper, and that you will keep the domestic interests as prominent as possible.'
179. from: William Harvey (as above) 11.6.1918
Making appointment to meet in London (at 186 Fleet Street) to receive report on *People's Journal* serial and discuss any other ideas.
180. from: WH (above) 2.7.1918
Approving instalments of *A Mother at Bay*.
181. from: WH (above) to Mrs. Allingham 9.7.1918
Re: 'America Comes In'. 'We very much doubt whether there is enough in this to justify a serial story, but the whole thing might make a very readable long complete novel, and when I discussed matters with Mr. Allingham in London recently, I gathered from him that in the event of this or the other not suiting us as serials you would be willing to turn them to account as long completes. If you care to do this with the present one, I shall be glad to take it from you. It must not exceed 7,000 words for stories of this character we pay from fifteen shillings to a guinea per thousand and I would pay you the latter price.'
Likes her character of the 'young, spirited, unconventional American'
182. from: WH (above) 9.7.1918
Approving instalment of *She Sinned for her Children*.
183. from: WH (above) 2.8. 1918
Buying four-year lease on *The Green-Eyed* – wants idea for story to follow *She Sinned for her Children*.
184. from: Cotterill & Cromb 21 8 1918
to HJA at Glan-y-Mor, Seaview Avenue, West Mersea, Essex.
Statement + cheque £136 13.3.

185. (from: Flo Allingham) no date
Statement of account for typewriting from: May 28th 1918 to Sept 12th 1918.
(She seems to have charged about £9 for typing approximately 160,000 words)
186. from: WH (above) 20.9.1918
Improving instalments of SSFC and MV with handwritten PS ‘We shall soon need to get a story to follow *She Sinned for her Children*. We should like this to be by you. I hope you will be able to send me an opening soon.’ WH
187. from: WH (above) 16.10.1918
Chivvying for copy
188. from: Cotterill and Cromb (as above) 30.10.1918
Cheque for *For Love of her Bairns* and *The Marriage Vow*. ‘Mr. Harvey and Mr. Glass, the editor of the *People’s Journal*, are to be in London next week so we ought to hear something more about the reprints deal. In case Harvey does not mention it, you had better think of some way of bringing up the subject casually.’
189. from: Cotterill and Cromb (as above) 6 12 1918
(Think this must be the reprint deal with Leng’s – as above)
Sale of one serial use each for 13 stories on a twelve year’s lease – rights to revert to author on completion of publication at any time within that period – publishers to have power to alter and condense as they think necessary
Don’t Leave us Mummy, *Baby Jess*, *The Heart of a Mother*, *The Secret of Romney Hall (Marley Hall)*, *Human Nature*, *Driven from Home*, *Wronged – or Wedded Against Her Will*, *A Daughter of Destiny (London)*, *The Woman Who Waited (Justice)*, *Spare my Children*, (*Mother Love*), *Plucky Polly Perkins*, *Molly the Milliner (A Work Girl’s Love Story)*, *The Fascinating Miss Forrest*
190. from: William Harvey (Leng’s) 17.12.1918
Approving some instalments – eager to get ahead with *The Mystery Man*, in programme for 1919.
191. from: William Harvey (Leng’s) 21.12.1918
re: *The Woman Pays* likes opening but ‘We should very much like to know what is in your mind as to the future, especially the future of Madge. As you know we do not like anything objectionable in the slightest way, and we are especially anxious to avoid anything that would throw Madge into the power of a man and give rise to anything coarse or suggestive. I mention the matter because of your title but at the same time I know your desire is to give us exactly the kind of story we like.’

1919

192. from: Cotterill and Cromb (agents) 3.1.1919
Cheque for *For Love of her Bairns* instalments 11 – 20 (= 32,500 words) £68 5: 0:
less commission.
193. from: Cotterill and Cromb (agents) 9.1.1919 enclosing copy of letter
from: William Harvey (Leng's)
Discussing draft of an agreement re HJA future work for Leng's.
main points of agreement:
- HJA to supply 8,000 words per week, 40 weeks per year
 - 3 guineas per thousand for all approved matter
 - this buys 'entire' serial rights for three years – each story can be issued by them three times within that period
 - none to be published as books by HJA for less than 2/6d and none at all as books until first serial rights used by Leng's
 - HJA must write 'to the satisfaction of Messrs John Leng and Co'
 - Leng's can alter, cut, change, extend, edit as they please
 - If HJA writes more 'approved matter' in a week he will be paid at same rate
- C & C think this is acceptable – they understand Leng's wish 'to protect themselves against possible competition in the shape of cheap books'.
194. Copy of letter from: Wm Harvey sent to C & C 9.1.1919
agreeing to HJA suggestion that *The Marriage Vow* should be left out of the agreement but not agreeing to his suggestion that he should finish it 'at odd times' Think he should 'push ahead with this story independent of his 8,000 words per week so that we may have an opportunity of using it at an early date'.
195. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 20.1.1919
re: *The Mystery Man* – first chapter 'very leisurely' – will need to condense to speed it up. Wants an extra 1000 words for third chapter carrying down 'to a more dramatic curtain'. Please keep 'brisk and dramatic' but, of course, avoiding anything 'luridly sensational'.
196. from: F.C. Cordwell The Amalgamated Press, Fleetway House,
Farringdon Street, London EC4 18.2.1919
Short story (no title) 'quite good'. Hasn't read 'the three bottle of whisky yarn yet' and can't send him two bottles of whisky 'as there are not two bottles of whisky in the wide world'.
197. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 19.2.1919
Re: *The Woman Pays* Instalment 4 approved 'but we feel that in comparison with much of your work with which we are familiar, it is quiet and restrained.'
Wants greater strength if possible – perhaps when 'Dick' returns?

198. from: F.C. Cordwell (A.P.) 10.3.1919
Can let him have serial rights to *The Girl Without a Home* and if HJA comes to see him 'I will give you a copy of the volume from: which you may take a copy of the story. You must however guarantee to return these volumes to me.'
199. from: C & C (agents) 12.3.1919
Payments. Handwritten note from: HJA to say he has phoned C & C re their mistake
(Suggests that more of this business was now being done by telephone.)
200. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 15.3.1919
Making appointment to see HJA re successor stories to *The Woman Pays* and *The Mystery Man*.
201. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 28.3.1919
Reference to interview, would like to see *Girl without a Home* reprint asap.
202. from: F.C. Cordwell (A.P.) 28.3.1919
'Please do not fail to let me have the first instalment of *Judgement by Monday*.'
Is using story at once, will need instalment every Monday.
Wants 'eccentric Frenchman story' brought up to date. 'This can be done with a few strokes of the pen.'
203. from: F.C. Cordwell (A.P.) 31.3.1919
'The instalment I received from you this morning is very good indeed and is a wonderful improvement on the other which I return to you here Registered Post. I am afraid you will let me down though if you don't let me have another instalment delivered by Wednesday week.'
204. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 4.4.1919
Instructions for bringing *Mystery Man* to an end. Wants more information re: mother and child serial.
205. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 18.4.1919
Re: *Two Women (Mystery Man)* and wanting new openings.
206. from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) 23.4.1919
Is about to start *The Woman Pays*. Plans to run it for 20 weeks. 'I shall be glad if you will keep this length in view and give us a good strong story that will hold the interest of readers during the summer months.' Has synopsis for new story – will write
207. from: C & C (agents) 31.5.1919
Enclosing cheque for £90 from: Leng's 'in payment for second serial rights on a three years' lease of *The Girl Without a Home*'

1921 – 1923

208. Copy of letter from: Wm Harvey (Leng's) to C & C (agents) 15.8.1921
Re: *The Right to Live*. Won't pay £3:3:0 per 1000 but will take story 'if you care to meet us at Two and a Half Guineas per 1,000' Would start early in October so 'you would need to instruct the authors to proceed with it at once [...] We take it of course that there will be nothing suggestive in the story that will make it unsuitable for our domestic magazines. If there is any development of this kind please indicate what it is so that we may consider the matter before concluding the bargain.'
(*This story was written by EJA and HJA with film director A.E. Colby.*)
209. from: William Blackwood, Director, The Fleetway House 18.4.1922
Outraged response to HJA's 'most unfair and insulting letter' suggesting he had given one of HJA's plots to Mr. John Goodwin. Is only answering letter 'in view of your long association with this House.' Denies all charges 'In all my journalistic career I have never played a trick such as you suggest on any author submitting ideas to me for serials' And Goodwin wouldn't have accepted it.
210. handwritten copy of HJA reply to Wm Blackwood (as above) 19.4.1922
from: The Granville Studio, 61 Chancery Lane, WC
Describes the story that he had submitted to WB. Then incident re a character called Tricksey. WB had said that HJA has made too much of Tricksey but HJA had replied 'he is the man who knows [...] Instantly your eyes lit up. "Oh! I see, yes, then that's good – That's good!"' HJA then noticed a few weeks later in *Answers* that WB has included a character's picture with the caption 'The Man Who Knows' He offers this as illustration as 'how the Editorial mind works [...] It is nothing in itself but it bears out my point- Like Molière you "take your own wherever you find it".' HJA is not saying anything against Goodwin's story and thinks it 'much more suited to *Answers* than my story upon which it is based.'
(*Note: Tricksey is in HJA's 'Burnt Fingers' written for The Picture Show in this year.*)
211. from: Wm Blackwood, Editor, *Answers*, 20.4.1922
'I do not suppose that anything I can say will convince you that every word of Mr. Gowing's new story is his own, and that every idea in it comes from: his own brain.' Continues to refute HJA claims – for instance says that Sir George Sutton 'himself' had the idea for 'The Man Who Knows' poster. Is sending correspondence on to Gowing. 'I expect, however, that his letters will be as direct and pointed as yours have been to me.'
(*Note WB now uses author's real name – Sidney Gowing - instead of pen-name John Goodwin. Cf Lofts and Adley.*)
212. from: HJA to WB 21.4.1922
No point carrying on correspondence. 'I consider I have a grievance and nothing you have said is sufficient to convince me that I am wrong. But when there is no remedy the only thing to do with a grievance is to forget it [...] This will be

rendered easier by the fact that in the past your Firm has on several occasions treated me with great courtesy and consideration.'

213. from: R. Percy Hodder-Williams 13.8.1923
to HJA at 'Restawyle', Empress Avenue, West Mersea, Essex
Thanks for letter. 'We hope to publish *Blackerchief Dick* on August 23rd and we have made a note to send you 13 copies as soon as the books are available. We are also sending you 100 copies of the circular and if you can use any more to advantage, will you please let us know. Review copies shall certainly be sent to the Essex Papers and we are very much obliged to you for the suggestion.'
(Note this was Margery Allingham's first book, published in hard covers at 7/6 when she was aged 19)
214. Two pages of letter (not business!) from: HJA to Wm McFee – not dated.
Re: a bit of untrue scandal related by McFee to Teddy Wood (Maud's husband) who 'being Teddy Wood' spread it far and wide. 'To be quite frank, my dear Mac, tact and good manners are not your strong point. And a good job too. I like you as you are and there would be a real gap in my life if I ceased to receive from time to time your clever (and sometimes spiteful) letters.' Refers him to G. B. Shaw's *Pen Portraits and Reviews* 'if you want to learn how to conduct a personal controversy with tact and good humour and yet leave your opponent completely pulverized.'

1926

215. from: Charles Hanson Towne, The American Play Company, New York City, 1.11.1925
No luck with 'The Adventurous Miss Purdon' – has tried *The Cosmopolitan*, *The American*, *Munsey's* and several others.
216. from: HJA to C & C (agents) 15.10.1926
Confirming agreement 'that until such time as I am out of your debt I agree to pay you a commission of 10% on all my work, with the exception of my contributions to *The Picture Show* in which case the commission will be 5%. In the event of you making advances to me in respect of *The Picture Show*, the commission will be 10%.'
217. from: W.R. Titterton (?) at G K's Weekly, 20-21, Essex Street, Strand 7.10.1926
Thanks for giving his name to McFee – would like to do the work. 'Although we have never met I have heard lots about you and all, I assure you, to your credit.'

1929 - 1930

218. from: Graeme Thomson *Weekly News* D.C. Thomson and Co, Dundee
21.12.1929
Is 'not very taken' with convict story – characters don't ring true, can see what is coming in the curtain. Wants HJA to start something fresh – suggests plot where young girl marries cruel man who then murders someone who is threatening to expose him. Has read 'Good Companions' and enjoyed it (praises characterization). However wants next story for *The Weekly News* to be 'one of the strong type'.
219. from: HJA to Ted (who?) 16.11.1929
HJA is at Shelley, Hadleigh, Suffolk
'A man divorces his wife. Before the divorce is made absolute she has a child (his child) Has this child any legal claim on his estate? If he died intestate would the child inherit or benefit in anyway from the estate? If you can answer this without too much trouble it will help me in a story I am writing.'
(Note - lots of red ink scribble over this plus a lengthy and increasingly spluttering legal answer addressed to dear Herb.)
220. from: William Harvey (Leng's) to Cotterill and Cromb 29.12.1930
Lease on *Marlee Hall* about to expire. They would like to run it in January – would this be acceptable?
221. from: Cotterill and Cromb to HJA 19.3.1930
'We are enclosing a list of stories to which cheap book rights have been sold, also a list of stories of which we have cuttings.'
222. from: Cotterill and Cromb 21.3.1930
Cheque for instalment of *Milly*.

1931

223. from: Anne St J Cooper, (*Home Companion, Family Journal*) AP
11.5.1931
Gushing re: development of 'her new story' 'The only thing I would ask you not to do is elaborate John Brand's weakness (women). I think it would be quite enough if his affair with Julia was his only one and if it was Julia herself who brought it on. However, this is not a big point and in your own inimitable way you will gloss nicely over anything of this sort.'
224. from: Cotterill and Cromb 20.5.1931

Identifying *The Jealousy of John Deane* as *The Green-eyed*. Are looking through his old stories and will send Mrs. Cooper anything they think likely to suit.

225. from: Anne St John Cooper, (as above) 28.5.1931
Will take second serial rights to *Milly*.
226. from: Anne St J Cooper, (as above) 30.7.1931
Reminding re: *Family Journal* 'boom' story 'You seemed a bit uncertain whether you could do it or not. I shall be terribly disappointed if you don't, so do try and fit me in, will you please?' Anything for *Home Companion*?
227. from: H.R.Brown *The Weekly Welcome*, D.C.Thompsn and Co, Dundee 8.9.31
'I hope your engagements have eased off sufficiently by now to enable you to fit in a story for me.' Wants convict story 'with the convict's wife or sweetheart fighting tooth and nail for him.'
228. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A P) 17.9.31
Is using *Her Lost Little Ones* in *The Home Companion*. Wants another reprint story which can be used straightaway. Also wants first instalment of a story for *The Family Journal*.
229. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A P) 10.12.31
Chivvying for more. 'As one has to book you a long time in advance will it be possible for you to follow the present serial in *F J* with another one? I DO HOPE SO!'
230. from: Cotterill and Cromb 21.12 1931
Re: Leng's request to use again *The Girl He Thought He Married*. They want to know if it has appeared in any publications other than their own. It hasn't, they say. (First appeared *The Mascot* then cheap book rights *White Heather Novels*)
231. Reply from HJA to C & C 22.12.1931
Confirming details as above (but showing some uncertainty as to which story this is). He adds 'Get as much as you can for it (one serial use) there is a run on me just now. My Indian summer I suppose!'
232. from: William Harvey (*Courier and Advertiser, My Weekly, People's Journal, People's Friend*) Leng's 22.12.1931
'I wired you today' re: approval of an instalment and nagging for others.

(Note another change of communication method.)

1932

233. from: F.C. Cordwell (Amalgamated Press) 25.2.32
to HJA at Shelley Darry House, Hadleigh, Suffolk.
Will buy one right to *Convict 66* at one pound per thousand.
234. from Cotterill & Cromb to HJA at Viaduct Farm, Chappell 25.5.1932
(*This was Margery Allingham's home.*)
Mr Harvey offers 50 Guineas for the 3rd Serial use of *Kept from her Child* - this is his limit. Original title was 'A Mother's Love' published in *The Mascot* 1925.
The *Home Mirror* used the story under the title of 'Empty Arms'.
235. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 25.5.1932
'I have now read most of your story *Convict 98*.
Would you care to rewrite this for *Poppy's Paper*, one of my younger papers?
[...] I should require the bad girl, Jane to be not older than 24, while the good girl, Mary, should be 20 or 21. Also some of the legal business at Scotland Yard would have to come out as our girls are young and would not understand some of the talk.'
236. from: Anne St John Cooper, (AP) 27.5.1932
Thanks for prompt reply re: above. 'I do not think your suggestion about someone else rewriting it would do because it is your writing that I want in the story [...] there would not be so very much rewriting in it – not nearly so much as the one you are presently doing for *The Family Journal* because there, you are reducing over seventy instalments to twenty five, and there would be nothing like this in the *Convict 98* one, which could run to the length at which it at present stands.'
237. Copies of letters between William Harvey and C & C Dec 1931 and 31.5.1932
Shows C & C following HJA instructions to hold out for good price (interpreted as 12/6 per 1000) and Leng's delaying five months before acceptance
238. from: Cotterill & Cromb 1.6.1932
to HJA at Viaduct Farm
Re: 'Tricked into Marriage' deal
239. from: Cotterill & Cromb 7.6.1932
to HJA at Viaduct Farm
Enclosing cheque £62 8.9. for second serial rights (as above) less commission.
240. from: Cotterill and Cromb 20.6.1932
to HJA at Pope's Hall
(*This was Grace Allingham's house.*)
Have told Wm Harvey that HJA not willing to resell *The Mystery of Burnt House Farm* at present. Sorry to hear of illness of HJA and wife. Quite a report from American correspondent re: *Convict 98*. 'I like this story quite a lot and it

certainly stands a chance of selling. In normal times it would probably have sold long ago. But I am pushing it and will continue to push it, and shall hope to place it sooner or later. Please tell Mr. Allingham that his story is having special attention, and we have good hopes of it. If you have anything else of his please send it along. His stories would go better, I think, if they were much shorter.'

241. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 8.9.1932
Thanks him for sending copy of mislaid instalment. 'I thought the instalment received this week for the *FJ* serial now running was wonderful. I'd never in my wildest flights of imagination thought that the burgled house was going to be Phil Rodney's. You are astonishing in your surprises!' Asks for extra chapter for first instalment of serial for 'the new paper'.
242. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 22.9.1932
to HJA at Shelley
Encloses set of galley proofs for first instalment of *FJ* story. Asks for next, 'I am so looking forward to it and don't forget to let me have your new address when you move from the old one[...] I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed the story which is at present running in *The Family Journal* and I am going to be very, very sorry when it finishes.'
243. from: F.A. Wickhart 7, Highbury Quadrant, N5 26.9 1932
Two closely typed pages of belligerent advice supporting HJA in some dispute with Colonel Tabor – the landlord of the house in Shelley which HJA and Em are now vacating. (includes extra page of notes from *Who's Who* aiming to prove that the 'colonel' is an honorary title only!) Assures HJA that no 'compensation' needed for his trouble. 'We are all members of an "old School" when anything one could do for an old friend was not payable in filthy lucre.' He continues 'I can quite understand the wrench it must be, and the pathos of having to go through old letters and destroy them. But be careful not to burn those which may be wanted later. Two or three large boxes might hold the lot, and be put on the "wain" with your other goods. No doubt a cupboard at Thorpe Bay would store them until you get time to wade through them. It was the keeping of old letters that won me the Bradley action. There may be some among your papers that may preserve your rights in some direction so go through them carefully before you commit them to the flames. Possibly this will come too late to save many, but MSS I should certainly preserve. R.I.P. to those that have gone.'
244. from: F.A. Wickhart 3.10.1932
More fulminating re: 'the ungallant Colonel' and a suggestion 'perhaps you can work the incident into a Christmas story and send the "officer" a copy to file and dream over.' Sympathy for HJA re loss of furniture and more help re Building Society. Then, 'That note of 1922 was a reminder of something I had altogether forgotten. I remember you writing the story for Bradley without any payment. It was CWB all over. Only when you got him against the wall would he fork out. However the sale of the reprints has been some recompense.'

(C.W. Bradley, printer, owner of The London Journal etc.)

245. Typewriting account for September – Flo Allingham
246. Typewriting account for October – Flo Allingham
(Note HJA is paying some fares to Blackfriars – perhaps she delivers the copy for him? She buys copies of *FJ*.)
247. from: F.C. Cordwell (A P) 1.11.1932
to HJA at 28, Thorpe Hall Avenue, Thorpe Bay
Enclosing volume of *The Favorite Comic* as requested – anxious about address, wants it returned by registered post. Offers to cut out story from next volume.
248. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 4.11.1932
to HJA at 58, Thorpe Hall Avenue, Thorpe Bay, Essex
Likes *FJ* instalment but thinks curtain a little vague so has ‘taken the liberty of adding a bit to it, somewhat after the manner of the enclosed.’
Wants someone to recognize John Wayne as ex-convict in this instalment, hopes he will agree. ‘You will be interested to know that we have a tremendous success with the *Family Journal* Boom this week. We went out on a little cotton dust cap and this story.’
Attached sheet reads;
The eyes of Michael Power lost their sleepy gaze and his hands clutched the arms of his chair.
He knew this man.
What was he – an ex-convict – doing here in this house?
Again he looked into the eyes of John Wayne.
He smiled.
The clearing up of the mystery of Joe Bradfield’s death was going to be very easy VERY EASY INDEED!’
249. Typewriting account for November from Flo Allingham
Five instalments of *A Splendid Rogue* + copies of magazines.
250. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 16.12 1932
‘I was entranced with my instalment this week.
I loved the doctor !!!
BUT –
The last three instalments have finished on the note of someone about to give John Wayne up to the police. I know we decided to make him a hunted man but I just thought that perhaps I ought to point this out.’
251. from: Phyllis Morgan (Amalgamated Press) 23.12.1932
Writing on behalf of Mrs.Cooper. ‘She has been ordered away by her doctor for a few weeks’ complete rest to ward off a breakdown that would otherwise be imminent.’ Asks him to address manuscripts to F.W. Blackmore Esq. Room

126. 'Mrs. Cooper asks me to add that the instalments you write will be sent on to her to brighten her up and act as a tonic. So, to use her own words: "make them good!"' Morgan feels certain that rest will work wonders with Mrs. Cooper, 'and I shall let you have a bulletin as soon as I have one myself'.

252. Account for typewriting – Flo Allingham
(Am assuming this is for December 1932 not 1933 as refers to *The Splendid Rogue* and *The Silent Lady of Deadman's Lane*.)

1933

253. From: J Wix and Sons, cigarette manufacturers 10.1.1933
Politely declining some idea of HJA's and sending him a tin of *Kensitas* cigs.

254. from: Anne St J Cooper, (AP) 25.1.1933
Would like second serial rights of *The Wife he Wronged* 'which you wrote specially for me and which appeared in *The Family Journal* in the spring of 1931.'

255. Account for typewriting, January, from Flo Allingham.

256. Account for typewriting, February, from: Flo Allingham.

257. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 22.3.1933
Wants to use *The Girl who loved him Best* in *The Oracle* – previously appeared in *FJ*. (HJA has noted proposed new title 'The Girl Who Stood By Him'.)

258. Account for typewriting, March - from Flo Allingham.

259. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 8.4.1933
Detailed advice on development of a story with villainous girl called Hilda and heroine called Fanny who gets engaged to a doctor. 'We think you have a lot of excellent material in your first instalment, and we are wondering whether it would not be better to expand the material and make at least two instalments out of it [...] You will gather from the above that we are not asking you to sacrifice any of your material. It will all come in its proper place and we think will give us a good story.'

260. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 26.4.1933
Wants second serial rights to *The Spider and the Fly* and also permission to cut it. Wants to discuss new serial for *F.J.* Is about to go on holiday so won't want story until July 'but I do like to know that we have an idea and that you are going to do it. Immediately I come back I will be very busy preparing for the Autumn booms.'

261. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 11.5.1933

Re: some confusion over instalments 11 & 12 of *The Girl Outcast / Cora Royle*. She has done some minor re-arrangement of material. 'I have always liked this story, but now it is appealing to me more than ever with the advent of the child.' There is a handwritten note at the bottom, 'Young Doll is a perfect treat.'

262. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 13.6.1933
Asking for any other reprints – but does not think she can use *The Girl Without a Home* or *The Lights of Home*. Is now using *The Silent Lady of Deadman's Lane* but wants more of his stories to use 'straightaway'.
263. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 14.6.1933
Wants another use of *The Child She Dared Not Claim*, *Family Journal* 1931.
264. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 15.6.1933
'I am exceedingly sorry but the instalment of *Cora Royle* received today is much too strong for the *Home Companion*. I am returning from page 9 to you and hope that you will be able to develop it without so much shooting and without making Baron Sarke so dreadful in appearance.'
(Pages are attached with HJA emendations.)
265. from: Cotterill and Cromb 21.7.1933
Supplying publication history of *He thought she was his wife*. 'We note you have fixed up a second story with Mr. Davidson. They can't do without you up North!'
266. Type writing account for June – Flo Allingham
267. Type writing account for July – Flo Allingham
Shows her buying the *Oracle* as well as *HC, FJ & Poppy's*.
268. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 1.8.1933
Reminding him about new serial for *FJ* – 'to be centered round a character like Madge who appeared in another serial of yours.' *Cora Royle* is coming to an end. 'I am very interested in *Cora Royle* at the moment. The way you are working things out is very clever, very clever indeed.'
269. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 28.8.1933
Reminder re: instalment
(This may be for reprint of 'When Midnight Chimes' / 'Rodney Hall')
270. Typewriting account for August – Flo Allingham
271. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 5.10.1933
'The story *The Name on her Marriage Lines* does not seem to have taken the proper twist yet. Can you introduce another character as at the moment it is

simply a question of Phil and Ruby believing, somewhat foolishly, in Jacob Arche's promises only to be let down in every instalment. In most of your stories you introduce new characters, to some tune, in each instalment and that makes for tense interest. Will you see what you can do in the next instalment?
We have had so little trouble with stories and just the right turn now, in this serial, will put us right for the rest of the tale.'

272. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 12.10.1933
Would like to use *In the Grip of Fate (A Mother at Bay)*. Has MS. Also has issues of *The Happy Home* in which it first appeared.
273. Account for typewriting for September – Flo Allingham
274. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 1.11.1933
'I am in need of a new serial for my January booms. What about the idea we talked over? Possibly you have forgotten it by now but I do hope you are going to do it for me. If you have forgotten the idea can you spare a little time to talk it over again.'
275. from: William and Beatrix McFee – not business.
276. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 12.12.1933
Would like to use *She Loved a Rogue* – written for FJ – in *The Oracle*.
277. from: Claude Allingham, Rosemary, Old Fort Road, Shoreham Beach
28.12.33
To 'dear old Herb'
Seems to be living a slightly hand-to-mouth existence selling ?stationery goods to individual customers whilst helping care for various relatives. Refers to selling blotters 'on the knocker'. 'Without your help I could not have got through these last few weeks. Re: repayments – I cannot say anything definite but you may be sure that should we turn the corner we shan't forget you.'
Asks how the 'Silver King' story is going.

1934

278. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 2.1.1934
'I wired you today telling you that the curtain to the second instalment of *Wife of a Hunted Man* story is too slight.
Madge fainting in the vicar's arms is really not a curtain at all. Do try and let us have something not later than Friday morning to add to this instalment.
The instalment is quite good but there is too much talk and too little action.
This is not usually a fault of yours!!'

279. from: G.R.M.Hearn Hillside, Common Hill, Maidenhead, Berks
10.1.1934
Seems to refer to his own problems in placing serials. Also some family news.
280. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 11.1.1934
'I like your third instalment. I have altered the last three lines and made Nan say, when Jack asks her what she is going to do now that she has discovered who he is, 'Nuthin, let's go off together and be sweethearts.'
In the next instalment please bring in the young Lord Swayne; he ought now to meet Madge and be interested in her. This seems to set the story.'
281. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 18.1.1934
Anxious about character development in *Wedded to a Monster*. 'You appear to have transformed Charles Crewe and he has become an apparently very respectable character. I have no doubt that you have a perfectly good reason for this, but it is a bit puzzling, and I am wondering whether the reader should not be let into the secret of why he is reformed.
I may be all wrong, but I had an idea at the beginning that Crewe was really an imposter and that the old housekeeper was in league with him. If I am right in that, possibly his change of character and his efforts to keep Hilda from poisoning Gwen are inspired by the thought that if she were to be found out it would mean financial disaster for him.
I am returning the instalment to you so that you may look at it in the light of these remarks, and if you think the reader should be enlightened on the point, the necessary paragraph could be introduced
We should like you to carry the story to 17 instalments, the last one being the usual short one of 1,000 words only.'
282. Copy of HJA letter to Wm Harvey, replying to above
'I will of course do what you like with this story but I cannot help thinking that you are taking a lot of the interest out of it.
Surely one murderer in a story of this kind is enough. I cannot see that CC has had a changeover in character – I have known many writers only out for a good time (one or two in my own family) but not one of them would have committed murder or have failed to be shocked by it.
This is how I meant to go on' (outlines plot) 'But as I say I will think out an entirely new continuation if you want it.'
Includes a suggested passage for insertion
283. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 22.1.1934
Has noted what HJA says and considered paragraph 'but it does not alter our view that this man has made a wonderful changeover in character.
There is no doubt that in the earlier instalments he was depicted as an absolute rascal, just the last man any reader would imagine would boggle at murder or indeed at any crime. He had been a waster; he had disappeared from the family home; he had returned unexpectedly. He had made it clear that he was out for a

good time come what may, and generally he was really the bad man of the piece. It seems to us that he has made a wonderful somersault, and we have no doubt that our readers will be disappointed in this changing of character.'

Wants HJA to say CC an imposter and sanctimoniousness is pretence. And he reiterates the point that readers 'would be disappointed'.

284. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 25.1.1934
Has had another letter from HJA and has sent him another wire.
'It is not easy in correspondence to see the other's point of view, but I want to repeat that all of us here have been rather disappointed with this sudden change over of character on the point of Crewe and we feel that if we have been disappointed our readers would be sure to be disappointed also [...]
He need neither be a murderer or a monster, but we think he ought to be kept in some degree at least consistent as a bad character [...]
I know you will do your best to meet our view, and as some days have been lost over this correspondence I sincerely trust that you will be able to let me have the revised instalment by Monday.'
285. from: F. W. Blackmore (A.P.) 22.1.1934
Mrs. Cooper, would like next two instalments of *Wife of a Hunted Man* sent to her at Broadstairs.
286. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 25.1.1934
Re: additional payments for *The Wife of a Hunted Man*.
287. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 2.3.1934
Mrs. Cooper, has asked him to say that she likes instalment 10 of *Wife of a Wanted Man*. 'But she would like the instalment carried a little further. She feels the curtain leaves the reader just a bit up in the air [...] that they are likely to be dissatisfied at the story being cut off in the middle of a development.'
288. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 7.3.1934
Thanks HJA for letting them have instalment 11 early so they can sort out ending of instalment 10. Mrs. Cooper wants to use *The Man Who Came Back* from *The Butterfly* of Dec 1924
289. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 9.3.1934
Glad of confirmation re: *The Child She dared not Claim* for the *Home Companion* and *The Man Who Came Back* in *The Family Journal*.
Hasn't decided on title for *The MWCB* and copy not yet set up. Reminds HJA of story.
290. from: S James Brown, managing director A.P. 26.4.1934
Charity begging letter
291. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 4.5.1934

Thanks for bundle of reprints. Thinks she will use *The Way of the World*. Has already got *Rod of Oppressor* and will use it in *F J*. All stories seem intact except *When the Heart is Young*, *Film Fun* 1924. Wants first instalment of new story.

292. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 8.5.1934
'I love all the characters in your new first instalment but most of all I love TOBY TILES. What a creature!
The one criticism I have to make is the curtain. I am making this my autumn boom story in *Family Journal* and the curtain is not strong enough to carry a leaflet. As I do not know what is in your mind by way of developments I am at a loss to know how it may be strengthened up.'
293. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 17.5.1934
'I should like you to be at work on another story for us.' Wants something for *My Weekly*.
294. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 25.5.1934
Request for another use of *The Mystery of Burnt House Farm*.
295. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 12.6.1934
Making appointment for HJA to meet 'our Mr. Davidson' in London to discuss next serial.
296. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 21.6.1934
Again trying to make appointment between HJA and Mr. Davidson. Also grumbling about HJA not providing them with an opening instalment.
297. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 21.8.1934
Confirming some details re *The Stepmother* (an earlier story) and 'I am glad you have not forgotten the story which you discussed with Mr. Davidson'. Urging him to get on with it
298. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 25.8.1934
Concerned that HJA thinks *The Stepmother* has already been published. 'As we hold the first serial rights on *The Stepmother* we presume that it has not appeared elsewhere. I shall be glad to hear from you on this point.'
299. from: William Harvey (Leng's) 15.10.1934
Chasing for a first instalment.
300. from: W.H. Willcox, 40, Welbeck Street, Cavenish Square W1 18.10.1934
Announcing death of HJA's brother, Phil. 'You have been a most devoted brother to him for many years.'

301. from: HJA to Anne St J Cooper, 25.10.1934
 ‘Is this possible?
 I want £250 to help my married daughter buy a house. Would the A.P. advance me that amount in respect of future reprints you have from me?
 If so I would undertake to write for no other firm for the next three years (*if during that time you continued to want my stuff) (with the exception of one story for Dundee. I have to do this one story probably next year, because I have promised it.)
 You understand that I don’t want this £250 to interfere with my regular weekly cheque. But you sometimes pay me lump sums for reprints and it could be cleared off that way.
 If there is any difficulty or if you think it would be wise not to make such a request please say so and that will end the matter.
 I value your advice.
 I have read the opening of ‘Alone in London’. It is very old fashioned but the ‘guts’ are there and will I think make a good story.’
302. from: Anne St J Cooper, at Broadstairs, Sat (reply to the above)
 ‘You know how much I would like to meet you in the matter of the £250.’
 Explains that being at Broadstairs means some delay as ‘the Directors have to sanction anything of this sort’. Promises to ring the office on Monday ‘and see what I can do’. Agrees that ‘Alone in London’ is old fashioned. ‘When rewriting it you will make the man more like the one in *Deadman’s Lane* story. Our title for that story was *The Man who Fascinated Women*. Anyway I am sure you will make it an A1 tale.’
 Looking forward to more *Jane Carter*.
303. from: Anne St John Cooper, (A.P.) 2.11.1934
 ‘The Directors have sanctioned the advance to you of the sum of £250 on account of second or other rights of stories written by you which I may decide to purchase from time to time in the near future.
 It is understood that I have first option on your reprints and that when using the reprints I am allowed to cut to my requirements and credit the advance accordingly, as, for instance, *His Convict Bride*. Of this story I can only use 50,000 words.’
304. from: F.W. Blackmore (A.P.) 5.11.1934
 Enclosing the cheque for £250. ‘Mrs. Cooper has gone back to Broadstairs, and I am sending your 6th instalment of *Deserted* to her tonight.’
305. from: J.H. Cotterill, Cotterill & Cromb 9.11.1934
 Sorry to have missed him. ‘Davidson was in London last week and was asking about you. He feels your desertion of Dundee very much; doesn’t think they deserve it. I told them we would do our best to bring the straying sheep back to the fold. No, it is not going to be a case of leading a lamb to the slaughter. Now

get busy on that story you started for Harvey, like the good chap you are and let us have you writing regularly again for Leng's. Meanwhile, as requested we shall send you by parcel post all your reprints and hope to hear in due course that you have sold some of them to the Amalgamated Press.'

306. Undated draft of letter from HJA to Wm Harvey – probably several months later
'You will be surprised to hear from me after my long neglect of you.' Has come across the beginnings of the story he discussed with Mr. Davidson and has completed first instalment. Is sending it to them as 'the plot is yours which precludes me offering it elsewhere'. They can get someone else to write it up or he could do it for them slowly 'say an instalment every fortnight'.

There's also a page of anti-Dundee skit undated but coinciding with a new book by 'the Allingham bairn', Margery. Two Scottish B-Ds are overheard grumbling about Herb's laziness and debating whether to offer Marge 15 shillings for a first instalment hoping she'd get her father's ideas 'and then Johnnie MacDonald, Ronnie Duncan, Jessie Stuart and owd uncle Tammas McTavish could have a spier at them for their new stories....' It ends with them offering ten bob.

307. from: HJA to Anne St John Cooper, (letter typed here in full)
Dear Mrs. Cooper,,
'In reply to yours of Nov 22 –
Driven from Home

Butterfly Began Nov 1909

This was the first of my drama stories. It sent the *Butterfly* up over 100,000 and owing to this success Sir Harold Harmsworth (Lord R) permitted Mr. Cordwell to start 3 other papers – *The Favourite Comic*, *Merry & Bright* and *Fun & Fiction*.

Each of these papers started with a drama story by me and all ran a year or more. I wrote continuously for all these papers up until about 1916 or 1917 when the paper shortages somewhat disorganized our little fiction factory.

If you examine the files of these 4 papers for 1909 – 1917 you will find most of the drama stories I wrote for your firm.

Some of these you have used and some I have rewritten for you, notably – *The Girl Outcast*, *Justice* and (I think) *Rodney Hall*.

Have a look at *Human Nature* in *The Butterfly* (about 1914) The war came in the middle of it and I turned it into a war story but the first half (about 100,000 words) was good dramatic stuff with no war.

The Girl Without a Home, *Merry and Bright* (from no.1 to no. 61) 1910 – 1911 might want editing but it is a good yarn.'

The Lights of Home (*Jester* 1910)

I have an abbreviated version of this if you would care to see it. The opening has been strengthened.

Now I want to persuade you to try an innovation.
Your present policy is for strong drama and no doubt you are right. That is the way to gain new readers But to hold readers when you have got them I maintain another kind of story is very valuable.

I want you to try my story *Plucky Polly Perkins* (*Butterfly* 1908-1909)
If judiciously cut I am sure this story would hold readers today. It should run concurrently with a strong drama story.

Some of the characters – Joe Mullins, Rosie Budd and Polly herself – are delightful. The readers get to love them –

I put you on to the drama stories – now let me put you on to this.

Read *Polly Perkins* right through and if you come to certain chapters that seem childish don't stop reading. These weak chapters can always be cut out.

The story by the way ran later in *Puck* under the title *The Smart Girl of the Family.*'

308. from: Sydney Carroll, 18, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 3.12.1934
In reply to a letter from HJA (copy attached) suggesting that the entertainment tax should be abolished from all theatres where the gross takings are less than £250 per week. (HJA point 'Is it unreasonable to suggest that a company of actors should be allowed a living wage before being compelled to pay entertainment tax?')
S Carroll thinks this is absolutely right but 'I do not think that there is the faintest hope of persuading the Chancellor of the Exchequer to agree to such an idea.'

1935

309. Account for typewriting – April – Flo Allingham
Her Outcast Lover, The Woman in the Way, White Cloud's Chum.
310. Account for Typewriting – May – Flo Allingham
311. from: Anne St J Cooper, (A.P.) 14.11.1935
'I enclose herewith a cheque for £200. We are making this payment to you in consideration of your granting us the right to reprint once only material from such stories of yours which have already been published, as we select to the value of this amount, payment being calculated at the rate of one guinea per thousand words.
It is understood that we shall be entitled to make such alterations to the material as we think fit.
It is further understood that this payment shall include payment for the serial entitled: *He was a Scamp but He Loved Her* at present running in the *Family Journal*
With every good wish for your early recovery.'

HJA made last entry in his diary on Nov 13th 1935 ('Read Margery's story') and died January 10th 1936.