



Looking Ahead—

Their hour of supreme happiness. With what hopes do they step out on life's highway . . . a home of their own . . . a home with happy, healthy children! A Life Policy with the Government Life Insurance Department will help to make the future secure, by providing protection and security at all times.

Government Life

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

To owners of PORTABLE RADIO SETS



No. 762
'B'
Battery



No. 770
'B' Battery

Although Eveready Portable Radio No. 762 'B' Batteries are not at present available (because the entire output is required by the Armed Forces) your set can still be operated with an Eveready Battery of larger size.

Ask for the Eveready Superdyne No. 770 'B' Battery. While not so convenient as the special Portable Battery, the Eveready 770 will give you longer life and the same high standard of reception.

Eveready Batteries for Portable and Home Radios and for Torches must sometimes take second place to the needs of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy. So please remember . . .

The Fighting Forces First!

EVEREADY

TRADE-MARK

A National Carbon Company Product

ER/44/B41



SHORT STORY

(continued from previous page)

if all these dirty dishes was on the table, could we Mum?"

All of a sudden Vera had lost her thin, tight look, and had some colour in her cheeks, and she was smiling.

"Course we couldn't. Come on. Let's get them washed up and then we'll be set."

"Just fancy! Bert speaking over the wireless! Wonder what he'll sound like."

"If Bert's Dad, how can Grandpa be dad, too?"

"Just listen to that kid! Just listen to her! Once she gets an idea into her head, nothing'll change it. Bert's your Dad, and Grandpa's Bert's Dad. Now do you see?"

"But if he's Dad's Dad, how can he be your's, too?"

"He's not."

"But you call him Dad, just the same."

"Oh stop asking questions. You'll drive me mad one of these days. Now listen here. When we put the wireless on in a minute you're not to say one word. Not one word, do you hear?"

"Aw, let the kid be, Vera. She's only a kid. Kids don't understand. You'll be quiet for Grandpa when the broadcast's on, won't you, Glad? You'll be quiet and listen and you'll hear Daddy speaking. Speaking from half-way across the world he'll be. That's pretty wonderful, isn't it? Your daddy speaking from half way across the world, and us sitting and listening to him."

"You'll spoil that kid, Dad, that's what you'll do."

"Aw, letter alone Vera. She's all right."

"It's all right for you to talk."

That was the worst of Vera. Never knew when to let well alone. Always kept nagging on at a thing.

Anyway, there was the dishes all done and everything tidy.

"Switch on the wireless now, Dad. Your watch might be wrong. Never do if we missed it."

"My watch isn't wrong. Never is. Checked it with Mr. Bell's at the works the other day and his was wrong. Ten minutes fast his was, but mine was right to the second."

"Never mind. Switch it on just the same."

* * *

MUM sat down on the easy chair and took up her knitting. She was knitting a pair of socks for Bert.

Vera sat down by the table and looked out of the window.

Made you feel restless just to look at her. If only she'd do something instead of mooning round like that she'd feel better. If only she'd knit. But that time she tried to make a sweater for Bert she was hopeless. Didn't seem to know the difference between purl and plain, and as for that cable stitch pattern! Hopeless. And when you tried to tell her she flung down the sweater and said, "You do it. You seem to know everything round here."

Dad took Glad on his knee and sat on the little stool beside the wireless. Seemed as though he felt that by being nearer the wireless he could be nearer Bert when he started to speak.

Bing Crosby sang "Silent Night," and then the announcer spoke.

"You will now hear a re-broadcast of the message from the Boys Overseas. The men you will hear this morning

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