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Miss Eunice Moss,
Hotel St Roch
Couvain (or Cousin)
Belgium

Handwritten:
11-10-91



12/9/23

The Vicarage

Bressing
N^o Braintree. Essex.

My dear Eunice

I expect you will be very much surprised in receiving a letter from me. but we promised your Mother that I would write to you.

I am afraid my news is very sad. This morning Olive took the children to Clacton on a days Excursion. Phyllis & Clive went into the water for a swim & got out of their depth. & poor Clive was drowned. a lady who was sitting near heard Phyllis scream & she went into the water as she was & rescued Phyllis - just in time, as she had gone down twice - but they were over an hour & in finding Clive they tried every means of restoration, but it was too late. Poor Clive was distracted. The lady who rescued Phyllis wired to me, & asked me to break the news to your Mother. She had gone to Braintree. I found her in the Motor just getting ready to come home. She started telling me that the children had gone to Clacton & what a lovely day they were having. It was terrible

to have to tell her. Poor Mrs Cross, she was wonderfully brave. Mr Bishop & I went with your Mother & Frank & saw poor Clive's body in the mortuary. He looked very peaceful as though asleep. It is difficult to believe it is true.

They are having the inquest on Friday afternoon I believe. There has not yet been time to think about the funeral. Most likely it will be Sunday or Monday. But probably you will hear before then. Perhaps they will feel better to-morrow & be able to write to you.

It is hard work being a boy when he has reached such an age. I do pray God will give your Mother strength to bear her great trial.

The lady who rescued Phyllis & brought them home said that everybody had been extremely kind in bringing blankets & hotwater bottles & brandy. She said she shall never forget how kind everybody had been.

I must now close.

With all our sincerest sympathy & prayers for you.

Believe me.

Yours sincerely
George H Bishop.