

Dear (Beile),

We are having terrific heat here. I do not know how much-- our papers do not tell us and I see no thermometers ! I am having headaches daily, acute ones which pass away only at 11 p.m. when it gets dark and cool.

Such heat I only seem to remember in Zululand and Graaf Reinet.

I was paid out to-day a huge sum of money, 560 roubles in addition to my half monthly salary, nominally 200 roubles, actually 162 roubles ! I was the envy of many people. This sum was paid to me as expenses while changing my abode from Lugansk to Gorod Gorki, as I explained earlier.

It is 10.40 in the day, the Sun is setting. I sit absolutely naked and perspiration is covering me. I am protecting my letter from my damp hands.

Each day brings his construction worries. I must tell the truth, these worries are all technical and administrative. I keep clear of payments, of food supply and of stores, purchase etc. These were very curses at "Selo Novosvetlovka".

And the conditions are awful, though the shortage of materials, food and skilled labour is appalling, and though between ~~my~~ you, me and the lamp post, we shall not carry out the plan of finishing the job by October the 1st, still we are moving along, so that if you miss even one day you can hardly recognise the job.

And here is partly the ~~magnetism~~ magnetism that draws me here.

I speak Russian, write it as perfectly almost as 10 years ago; nay, there is fear of my forgetting my English before long !!!....

I am impatient. I am often quarreling with people. I have to hit them for telling lies, scandals are often and hard.----

Everyone knows me and my manners, and I get what I want.

I must say within a few days whether I stay on or go, and my dear, it is hard, very hard for me to make up my mind ! Do not forget, much, very much depends on what I do and if I leave now my future life will take a new turn. To the good or the bad ??..

I shall let you know by telegram what happens. But before sending one I shall spend many sleepless nights. Such decision mortals do not make daily !!!-----

Beile, the experience I got here is great. For the first time in my life do I build arch bridges, arches 150 feet high long and 100 feet above the Volga. I am the first to do it. The workmen are mostly illiterate technically. I explain to others that which I have not done myself. I make errors, to rectify them immediately and gain experience on them. And looking at it materially, we do not do it too badly. We are having the work mechanised, pumps, motors, lathes, electric winches, lighting power, electric drilling, electric planning and other machines working day and night. True not as good as in America but not worse than in South Africa.

Beile, there is no Anti-Semitism in Russia. Absolutely none. I know it, for they take me as an Englishman and I hear how they refer to Jews. Do you know that even if a Jew is weak at his work they will not "throw" him out for fear of insulting "him"---- the man that suffered so much from the Czar !---..... And the same about the Gruzins, Armenians etc. I am speaking from personal experience !... ..

Russia, the mysterious !..

Love to you all.

I have tons of money and for leaving Russia when I will be short I shall cable.

JERRY.

7M
EPPHY
M.A.A