

23 (a)

PDV2 B2-1.6

January 15th

TEL:
WESTERN 8395.

17. PALACE GATE,
W. 8.

My dear Albert,

This is to enclose a copy of Lady Cynthia Asquith's letter agreeing to your writing an opera on "The Boy David" in case the original, which I send by air mail a week ago should get lost. Will you send me a post card if you receive one of them, as I should not like to think that you were abusing me for inaction. It is so cold here that life is hardly agreeable, I was going to say banal, but in view of what other countries are suffering I must not say that. I expect you are feeling very proud of Russia, your old

home - I am a sort of godmother to your opera The Boy David I wish I could hear it - as it proposes but I hope some day to be present - at a performance. Are you doing any conducting in

California? I once heard you on
the wireless when I was in
Canada conducting a concert in
"The Bowl" that was the first
time I heard you apart from
gramophone records.

There is nothing to write
about from here. Bad weather,
bad health, depressing war
news. But I hope before this
reaches you that all that
may have changed.

Love & fond wishes

from
Esther M Blackburn

1 enclosure.

Lady C. A. was Bame's sec-
retary & she left her all rights on
his plays. Peter Davies to whom she re-
fers in her letter is her Co literary trustee
& I have a letter from him also in
which, as such, he agrees to the proposal.

E. M. B.