

STATION: LIPHOOK 2 MILES.
TELEGRAMS: PASSFIELD.
TELEPHONE No: PASSFIELD 6.

AL/3390

PASSFIELD CORNER,
LIPHOOK,
HANTS.

Nov. 6th 1931.

Dear Ruth,

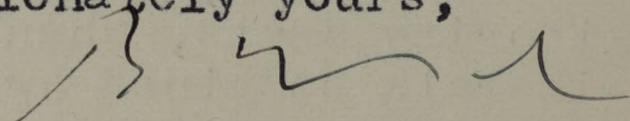
The results of the election are certainly startling; but I am in no way disconcerted. We were bound, in any case, to lose all our minority seats, when the Conservatives and Liberals combined against us and the bigness of the sweep is the result of a virulent campaign conducted by our late leaders against their old colleagues and the party which put them where they are. These circumstances will always be happening in a democratic state. As a matter of fact the Labour Party owes its premature birth as H.M.O and H.M.G. to the same sort of action on the part of Lloyd George who smashed the Liberal Party in 1918 and opened the way for the Labour Party. Perhaps it will be a good thing for the Labour Party to be in the wilderness for some years - I imagine about 10 years - in order to collect its thoughts and develop a broader policy and a sterner rule of conduct.

Tell your husband that I think his boggy will soon disappear: J.R.M. is much more of a prisoner within the Tory fortress than a Dictator. If there is to be a Dictatorship it will be the Dictatorship of Mr. Cavendish Bentinck's own party, which ought to console him.

I am very glad to have my husband back again and resume our old life of study and

writing. Perhaps we may meet some day
in London, but I am getting old and cling
to my own little home.

Affectionately yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Mrs. Sidney Webb', written in a cursive style.

Mrs. Sidney Webb.