

The length of this
is due to the safety
of your new postal
address!!!

Home Hut
Native Flora Reserve
Alice Springs N.T.
9.5.68

Dear Tabula

Thank you for the nice (useful)
hdk - for St. Patrick's Day. (I get
numbers of dainty ones as presents at Xmas
& on my ^(beautiful) birthday. But I asked you
for man eyed ones. - ^{useful} when working on
Reserve. It is nice to get the kind of
presents you want. Some are the reverse.

I wish I knew what you ~~wish~~ do like.
I don't get cold feet. I am very hot
- blooded (if there is such a thing,
physically, I mean?)

Would you like warm socks? And
what colour, & size?

Or just ordinary socks? I would like
to give you some.
Do let me know? And also your
birthday date? I don't think I have
ever known it!

For your age! I think "about"
32" - anyway not 84!

By your "remembering" St. Patrick's
Day in April I think I "smell" (in the
witches' sense) either Mr. Plant, or
"Shylock" having mentioned it? (I hear
the latter is back from his extensive
town. I hope to hear about it, later
from him.)

2 - I fear, dear Yabbula, you must have had
some vodka before wishing me "many"
happy returns of the Day?

I hope I have as many as I
need for this job. But at 84, one
can't expect too many more.

It is raining + cold + the Todd is
(reported to be) "coming down" again.
So I am feeling about 24 years "less
old". It feels almost like Tasmanian
weather! On + off, for the last week or
so, I have been wearing a "wind-cheater"
(over numerous other layers) + a balaclava
on my head. (5 at times)

That after almost killing humid
centuries since November, until May

Those ^{months} nearly "did for" me, quite
truly, Yabbula.

So it is delightful to be "cold +
alive" (in consequence) again. I do
hope it continues.

Do you, by the way, know Bob
Southern? The meteorologist chief, in
Darwin? (He would have been the nephew
of my greatest friend - killed 9 days after
the landing - at Gallipoli - had Harold
Southern still been alive.)

I have only met Bob once - but I
liked him + was able to hand over to
him a sketch by Harold when we both

3 lived in Hobart (+ studied Art: under
his (maternal) Uncle. But that is
enough about the 1909^s (or thereabout).
He was in Govt Analysts Dept in
both Hobart + Perth + I taught Art
in both cities (for short periods).

I am so very glad to have your own
P.O. Box Address.

"I was never sure the "Health
Dept" might not open my letters to
you - (as being medical enquiries) that
was why I put "entirely non-professional".
I wanted, often to write very candidly
about - Piese, the Daniels (especially Dexter)
+ also nicely, but anxiously also, for
fear he is spoiled by publicity (+ "white"
patronage) of Phillip Roberts?

(He I think works for you - in
locating, evading, lepers?) He seems
an outstandingly good type - from news
- paper reports only, a good example of
When you DO come to "The Alice"
do let's have long talks on these
matters. not just one visit to Home Hut.
Did you live at ~~E~~ East Arm
Leprosarium - on Bathurst St Mission -
+ have changed your residence? Or why
the P.O. Box no.?
Anyway I can write with no fear
of letter being opened, now.

No I have not met Mr Moore
Flying doctor.

unrestrained
instead of assimilation

be a great dislike for meeting people at
social functions (I am a wash-out socially
anyway. (The Admin^{str} & "Dan" Conway D.O.
both dislike me ^{deant} & so does Giese.)
(etc) finally, at 84, (+ looking it!), +
having no lower dentures + only four teeth
at bottom. I am someone you would not
like to own as a friend of yours, up
there! So don't be so silly. Yabblala!

You will get a shock when you do see me!
(here). I am over "hard on the eyes" now.
+ I hate the look of old age - (You
taught me that expression!)
So all I am at is being of good
hon. Curator, + avoiding publicity.

But I had a most welcome visitor brought
over here by the Acting D.O. (Mr Feegan)
recently. A Mr Wm Schoobridge - the
Director of Parks + Gardens Canberra.
(+ a Tasmanian!)

- He has since (a) given me his private
address + written a personal letter
(b) sent me seeds for Reserve +
(c) + says he will send more
(of the kind I want) later.

I always hope you will "fall in love with
a very feminine (+ small) painter of wild flowers
So that she can go with you on your medical
trips, + so not "talk shop" (as a nurse would)
but I hear things occasionally from female "M.I.V.'s")
but I don't put much trust in them. The male ones
are better! Here ends the Second Lesson (as Canon
Schoobridge used to say. He was the Director's uncle.

You can reply to see this at your leisure!
From Yabblala (Giese)

over
Director

It "I worry far too much about my M.D.
"grandson" (!) when I have not heard for
so long - (Xmas I think?) I thought
you must have had to go to your
mother because she may have had
another "small stroke"

So I am glad that is not so, seemingly.
One thing we have in common, is great
love for our respective mothers. Life
has never been the same for me, since
Muir died (of cancer) in 1927.
That is why I came up here, &
shall always remain here.

The other reason you had not written
was (I thought) you might have married.
(Do tell me when you do Yabbula). I
shall be both glad (^{really} ~~happy~~!!!) when you
do - because one seldom likes both
spouses. (for the very reason that one liked
one of them for their character etc, (as a
friend) & they choose their partner, as the
opposite of themselves!)

But don't let "Int's John" —
stop you writing to Yabbula! — Even so
seldom!! And do find some medical
excuse to come down before you go to
your mother "in Sept"

(I don't think I'd last out a second
hor. to my like the last)

When you write to her (or are tape-recording)
please give her my very kindest wishes &

5, tell her I did not forget her at Xmas but was not well enough to send an any Xmas greeting ^{at all}. I suffered from mental & physical exhaustion from Alice Springs appallingly thund heat.

In regard to Christmas cards! That was a beautiful one of the Porcupines. I made one dip up an old number of my favorite magazine "Blackwood's" in which there is a most interesting description of them in the November 1965 issue, page 442, by David Pockley, an Australian naturalist.

Have you read it? They are most extraordinary ^{creatures}. We had one on the Reserve once but I think boys (or aborigines) must have caught it.

When you go on that "very hurried" visit "to your mother" (I think it is a check-up, in Switzerland - for fear of leprosy danger!!) Do "look up" "Apatha" (I forget her married name) & ask her for more of her "ladylike crime" books" (as I call them)

(I don't like anyone else's) "crime" books
Why did you so dislike going to Pine Creek? Was it a white case? and worse still a maternity difficulty??

And why do you think I ought to go to Darwin for a visit? (You have said it before) I (a) haven't the money to do it (b) I have

P.S. I think both the Daniels are
a menace to the integration of
the full-blooded N.T. I don't want
assimilation as a policy for them

Let them choose ^{individually}
I resent mixed bloods being
called "Aboriginals" + the aboriginals
too + the same policies for both.

I should think Wentworth M.P.
is a kind-hearted ^{Sentimental} D.U.D. +
therefore a danger to N.T. full bloods

I think Perkins (Dr. Charles)
should be put in a mental asylum
His "Black Power" idea (a
propaganda) is horribly dangerous.
(+ will be supported by every loafer
& weak character. (in
N.S.W. + Vic especially)

It is playing with dynamite
to boost his ego! (if true?)

I am glad he is "afraid"! (Or so the
paper said) because he got a threat
of being murdered (from N.S.W.) "because
he visited King in America". (Rubbish)

Does he expect a Police Armoured
Car to take him about (while stirring
up colour hate)? *He was born in
cent. ans.

mother
white father
an octaroon
I am told

This is my yearly letter —
So be sure to reply to my questions
(as well as giving me your news.)

Our Banytail Byster ("May Day")
was very long - But much of it
disliked. Too much "drinks"!

& Too much legs!

Do men really admire legs so much ???

I should think they were
sick of seeing them (both in newspapers
films + processions.)

(I wonder "top fashion" people don't
revert to Victorian style - for a change!
Feet + heads only!

Dick Ward seems very angry about
Darwin's "May Day" fiasco.

(People are getting tired of
propaganda!)

with which they
often disagree —
silently

I: a recently published Book
by a N.T. nurse any good?
I must ask at library for it.

Have you got a snapshot
of yourself at work. An up-to-date
one. The only one I have seen is
in "We the Aborigines"
What do you think of Lockwood being read
in Russia ???

Air Mail

Dr. J. Hargrave
P.O. Box 820
Darwin
Northern Territory
Australia



5794

Posted
10.5.68
Alice Springs (5750)
NT

I forgot to ask! —
have you heard from
Hugh B. (West Aus)