

also want my opinions!!!! He  
Henry is very interested  
in aboriginal matters too.  
Sent me an outstandingly  
beautiful card + a short  
letter (+ their usual £3 cheque  
to use for aboriginals) + from himself (+ Bid - his wife)  
Home Hut  
Native Flora Reserve  
Alice Springs  
23.1.67  
Dear Idiot, Yabulla,

+ ALSO Harry Wardlaw! whose father was  
Prof of Physiology at Sydney Uni. Henry  
is or was a Shire Engineer. But  
probably is something else now! ) both  
expect me to write a letter about  
aboriginal problems - AT THIS TIME  
OF YEAR!!!! Not before May. I

assure you! / I only just manage to survive,  
- with century after century + HUMIDITY.

- (1) The miracles of the <sup>AM</sup> flora - both indigenous + "garden". - I never get used to their <sup>wonderfulness</sup>.
- (2) The air conditioner in my Iceberg room. literally I could not survive at this time of year (+ more particularly the last 2 months) without it - to "recover" in.
- (3) AND Agatha Christie's "Po-dunits".

(I loathe any other writers of them)  
Here are Better than any Anti-biotic MESSES  
you continue to give me your  
views (damn this nit!!) which I am very  
all change it



2 interested in - & THEN come down here -  
\* for several weeks \* about Easter - when -

(like a depleted water-hole refilling) my brain <sup>will</sup> come alive  
If any? Ekuni once told me I had very  
few { But that was after I offered to  
correct some of his Aranda data!!!)

Before that he said (at a Science Congress  
I had made a valuable contribution to Social  
Anthrop (or some such "tripe")

I think I shall probably entirely <sup>?</sup>  
disagree with you about the relative  
progress in social development of  
the N. & S. tribes in N. & Cen. Australia.

So come down when the worst  
of the heat is over & "have it out" <sup>no holds  
barred</sup>

with <sup>NO</sup> ~~no~~ affiliations, I am a "clean-skin" =  
SOCIALIST.

So "rising" to be shop-keeper (&  
therefore exploiting their fellows) does  
not impress ME. as an advance.  
Nor does "prospecting" - in American  
interests!

There has been an interruption!  
I had my "hospital" bath at 4.20 AM; -  
breakfast about 5.30; & started this  
letter. Soon after six went out to  
run the water on "The Gulpa Walk" -  
& en route found a mass (about 100) caterpillars  
fallen down from the big Eucalypt = so



3. had to "finish them off".

And the tiny black ants are "the very devil" this summer. Millions + Trillion of them + coming into that too + <sup>invade</sup> food + drink. Usually I like them. They tackle loads too heavy for them!

But they have "brittle tempers" too at present + bite me - which usually they don't! Must like my "Acid"!!!

N.B. I like being called "Acid Drop" (by you)!!! I'll give you an even better one! (as follows.)

In the days "when I was young" (which sometimes seems "yesterday" - (at other times about "1066") the "lower" + "upper" middle class, in Hobart went shopping on Friday (or was it Sat?) nights with their children.

We used to go (my parents + brother + I) to a little shop called Wraith's (from memory the spelling) + buy ACID DROPS, Raspberry drops, Bull's Eyes etc.

"ACID AND TWIST" (white + acid)

You could buy (by weight) a yard of it - if rich enough!

So there is "a turning of the other cheek" - ~~now~~





4 / How to service things (before he comes)  
Re your enquiry about mental state. (at 1/4 to 8)  
Johnny is most of the time - back to  
normal. Like the Johnny who was recom-  
mended to me by his nephew the  
"Black" Truckee, Larry. AS "worrying  
"along" work. (He was cleaning the latrine  
- (for) (at Amoy and then at  
no doubt a minim wipe!)

\* He has bought a Transister + that.  
Seems to keep his mind occupied -  
- When he has not wife + child worries.

Jeanie is <sup>in the limit</sup> women! I don't like (most) full blood  
(No "woman to woman" in my case)  
Perhaps because I am an "old maid"  
& they very "animal" (in my view)  
And materialistic too:  
clothes, gambling, food (AND SEX.)

But Johnny (anyway on Reserve) is

works "like a tiger" - & is interested in  
growing things. And lately, has been  
an invaluable help shipping (& banking)  
for me. I have not felt I could face  
the Todd walk (in the great heat) &  
then shop (& a taxi wants 10/- to take  
me over!) So I "shant" Johnny to a "2/-  
ice cream. He does it for me (& some  
of his own too. And gets my mail & news-  
papers



5<sup>th</sup> Why were YOU not at the  
A. + NZ Ass. AS (in Melbourne) recently?  
Conference  
I have asked Nancy Turner to  
try to get me the Programme —  
chiefly to see <sup>names of</sup> those who read papers  
in Anthro + "medicine".

Did your (horrid) old boss represent  
the Territory + Giese AND Lockwood.  
(I always forget his name!) (in their sections)

Nancy is Ely Turner's  
Sister + does Diet Research in  
Cancer Institute. (Had a breast  
removed (herself) with Cancer — AND  
returned to same job! Ints.)

But Elizabeth is in disgrace.

I am very sentimental about presents.  
It is entirely the thought behind them  
that gives them value.

I liked my box of mignonette seed  
(from a garden - not bought) more than  
a quite lovely (Wedgewood) vase I  
received this year.

But Elizabeth sent me what  
was so obviously a "passed on" present  
from a patient - a cake of "Elizabeth"  
Arden soap (with something removed (lipstick  
(Dore Johnstone's "Baby" Soap). I call that an  
-unscented-



6 insult. ~~no~~ affection for me - <sup>now</sup> ~~not~~.  
Also she seems to do  
nothing but go to Conferences.

Why not find out why full-blood  
babies (in N.E.T.) between 1 + 3 years  
so often die!!!! She is a Pediatrician  
& should come out & do <sup>unpaid</sup> research  
- instead of "joy-rides" (to N. 3 this  
time) & junk letters.

I Tété-monté, I fear!  
I think there are far too many

"Conferences" (on all matters).  
What was it I may so wisely said:  
about it? (no time to quote it but will  
in reply to your "Acid Twist" letter.

A loxone, Yabulla.

How I wish we could have telephone  
talks on matters. (Mrs. Grace Barrett  
ex School of the Air said in a letter it is  
very cold in London but she enjoys it &  
I wonder has your mother <sup>has</sup> met her? (She  
is doing "a 3 day a week teaching job at  
present" - "Very well paid"!)  
"adding" I am not a Jew!

I must stop & do my washing  
at once. So pleased you liked it:  
- it is risky choosing such things.  
Write again soon - to your old Yabulla.

Acid - Grandmother



P.S. → When you do come down  
I want you to do a medical  
job for me. — (but <sup>ONLY</sup> on condition  
that I don't "have to" do  
anything. as result of your test)

Could you borrow (4 dis-  
-infect! — to think they are <sup>dirty</sup> pips  
at A.S. hospital) a "torch"  
with which you can examine  
inside my right nostril?

I won't go to the Hospital  
(or any doctor!) You don't count.

I had it examined once &  
was told just to syringe it with  
<sup>warm</sup> Salt & water. I bought a syringe  
— but did nothing with it. Too busy

Why do you want me to go  
to (delectable) Darwin???. For  
dental treatment? ???

The ants (this size) are eating me alive

also write:



I have some in bloom  
NOW!

I don't know, at all, if  
flowers interest you.

→ Did you see Himalayan  
Crociuses & Rhododendrons  
when in Nepal?  
Do tell me when you  
come down.

The weather here  
is sheer "Hell"  
Anyway to me.  
So make excuse  
for "wandering" letter