

C/O. O.D. Bristol,
P.O. Box 253,
Sydney.

Thursday June 7th 1923

Dearest Mother,

I received a letter from you & one from Edna by a mail which arrived on Wednesday & one from Edna & one from Audrey on Thursday. I had waited nearly a fortnight to get a letter from home - I think you must have just missed a mail - but it was very nice getting several letters close together like that.

I am glad to hear everybody is quite fit. I am not surprised that Peter has been getting bilious attacks since I left. He hasn't got me to restrain his propensities for overwork, what?

By the time you get this Carnival Week will have passed - & Ascot Week too. Edna makes me very glibly talking of them. I wish I could be home then. I expect it'll be great fun. I hope it's very successful as regards the finances of the hospital.

Last Saturday I had some very nice tennis at Mrs Forsters - whom I met at the Macphersons. The two Macpherson girls were there & the Dutch Consul's wife - They also were at the Macphersons the Saturday before. They're all very nice people indeed & quite the best sort of people to know I think. I hope I'm asked to go again.

On Sunday I went to the Zoo in the afternoon with Mrs Clarke & her little son John aged 6. We saw some very interesting animals. I was mostly interested in the Kangaroo & Opossums as being connected with my work.

The Clarkes are very nice people & make up for all the others here at the boarding house. There is a new

boarding-house a few yards up the hill just being started. It's a very nice place just finished - new furniture & bedding & everything. The lady who will be in charge of it seems very nice too. They are only going to admit "nice" people they say.

The Clarkes & I are going there on Saturday. I shall stay there until I can get over to the Benhams' place at Norman's Bay.

Mr. Clarke sends you his love & says I'm to tell you she's looking after me & keeping me out of mischief. It's nice of her to want to, isn't it?

Mr. G. Brown who has been in the country is back again in the office. I've just about caught up level with my work now & actually caught the 5.20 boat home this evening. I expect I shall soon be in up to the neck again.

I don't seem to have any more news somehow. I've more or less settled down now, & though things happen which may interest you I expect they don't strike me as of sufficient moment to write about.

I haven't written any diary for some time now. I suppose I had better do so for next mail. I expect it's handy for choring people.

Anyhow it's late now & I can't start on it now.

I've been intending to get my photographs sorted out & send you the ones you've not got; but it's cold upstairs in the evenings & the fire in the drawing room has too strong an attraction. Some day you'll get them.

The weather is quite respectable now. Bright

days with quite a 'nip' in the air. Sometimes a Westly
wind blows & makes things dry & dusty, but on the whole it's
very pleasant. The drought has broken at last for
which everyone is very thankful. Inland they have
had very little rain for months & months & one heard
very harrowing stories of the condition of the stock
there. They were dying by the thousand of starvation!

I was sorry to hear you were not feeling too
grand again. I do hope you will control your desire
for hard work & take it easy a bit more. But it's
no good my talking is it?

Audrey sent me the enlargements. They're
quite decent aren't they? Only the one in the
pouch is enlarged around the wrong way which
makes Patsie's nose look more crooked than it is!
Shame!

I must go to bed now.

Goodnight.

Best love to all.

Bertie.