

c/o. O.D. Bisset,

11, Philip Street,

P.O. Box 283 Sydney.

Wednesday May 2nd 1923.

Dearest Mother,

I am sending you a bit more 'budget' with this letter. It seems to take an enormous amount of time to write & I seem not to have much time to do it in.

The truth is, I keep my evenings prettyfully occupied w. present until I've really got used to the place & people; then I don't have time to mope or get-fed-up. I shall have to fix definite nights per week or something for writing.

I am beginning to get accustomed to the place now & think I shall be fairly comfortable & happy in time. W. Bisset has told me he wants me to specialise in Kangaroos so I've been spending most of my time so far in getting from the invoices the number of Kangaroos which we have for the year from all sources. I'm getting quite interested in the job.

How's everyone? I suppose you are all quite well unless I hear to the contrary. I shall be interested to hear all the local news - if father had to fight his election & who got in and all. Perhaps you are sending me the 'News & Mail'. I think it must have been Hilka that sent me the 'Sketch' last week. The writing of the address is very much like hers.

I received a post-card from Auntie too

the other day. She has been awfully nice writing each week. But if you send p.c.s please put $1\frac{1}{2}$ ^d stamp on or I have to pay 1^d excess postage.

This is a blighted country for postal service, telephones & most other government services. The only good government stunt I've struck is the Government Tourist Bureau, tours to the D. Sea Mountains. They run these for about 25/- per day including travelling & 1st class Hotels. If you try to do it privately & hire cars to visit the same places of interest it would cost 50 to 100% more. I shall have to try at or 3 day stunt some week-end.

I went to dinner with Miss Nicholl & Miss Brown last night & then to Miss Nicholl's lecture on Palestine. She certainly lectures well & she has some jolly good slides. There weren't many people there owing to the unbusiness like-men (some word!) of the people who were trying to annoy the lecture, but it was well worth seeing.

I do miss the runs in the car very much. & the cardine tin. I often think of little bits of roads I know well & imagine myself driving along them, although really there is little or no interest in the particular bits. For instance the Mayford road & York Road, Woking & bits like that. I think I shall have to provide some means of locomotion in a year or so if they improve the roads a bit. - They need it.

I find I have no photograph of Michael. —
not even the one which I took the Sunday before
I left home. Will you please send me a copy
of that one — with Mabel sitting on the steps holding
Michael Robert Howell in her arms.

I am writing this at the office. The English
mail goes this afternoon by the "Osterley" I think
so I must let this be all this time.

Keep on writing.

There'll be another mail out in little
over a week. There's not one in until the "Ormsby"
arrives on the 9th. Isn't it a nuisance that mails are
so long coming! I shall get news then which
was fresh long before I arrived in Australia. But
it has nothing in interest of course!

Goodbye for this time.

Best love to everyone.

Bertie.

P.S. Give my kind regards to the river at Sand & the Hockey
club people & all, not forgetting Newlands Corner!

The weather here is delightful now thank
goodness! Things are much more cheery.

Bertie.

I am sending you 6 photographs

which I don't think you have. I
have a few more by the letter
will get very heavy & they
charge 2' per half-ounce!
Be right in coming!

Will you let me have a list
of all the things I have sent
you may can't see if I have
sent any of them sent
twice

Best
love