

(A)

Melbourne,

July 28. 04

My dear Ellen,

I hope things go well with you. Yesterday I had a note forwarded to me by Fian in reply to one from him to your Chief Justice evidently asking him to use his influence on your behalf as I had written before. The C.J. replied that he was informed that your actual salary was not reduced but that certain allowances were being taken away in accordance with a common policy to be pursued all through the States.

I suppose you have not heard anything more. Mr. Ballhol promised me to look into the matter & consult the Commissioner but what does the latter care about such matters as Equity! However you may I feel sure & that is that your claims to a better appointment

will be recognized when one becomes available.

Meanwhile this is but cold comfort but I do not see what more can be done just at present.

Our friend Roth is evidently going through to the West. Many have been lent to the U.S. for to investigate charges of bad treatment of the natives. He will be here on Aug. 15 but only for a few hours.

We have been having a very heavy snow - I shall be glad when it is over - next week. Three or four days a week I have been at it

from 9-5:30 teaching without a break & one evening a week a lecture from 8-10 p.m. Except on days however I have been in first rate form.

Also I am very busy with Senate as we have an important matter dealing with a new scheme of Examination of which

I have had no President of the Board to take charge.

Yesterday we had a Senate meeting from 4:30 - 11:15 p.m.

The Senate contains some expatriating people whose only idea is to obstruct & obstruct. For work away from university holding conference along with schoolmaster & commercial people & their experts & their then gentlemen who know nothing about the matter set to work to pull the whole thing to bits.

However with one important exception which can still be remedied we got the scheme through after much pecking & into my changes in small details. I had to explain clause by clause & meet my objection brought up. It was pretty hard work more especially as Snyder some of my colleagues went against us & allied themselves much to my surprise in the case of Snyder with a group of inconceivable who always oppose anything tending towards higher standards of education.

However we had all the serious & good men on

our side + at 11.15 postponed to  
next Tuesday when we shall have  
a final fight. I have just written  
a letter to the papers on the subject of  
a Primary Exam. + will send you a  
copy.

To turn to other matters. I am  
afraid that Stirling is rather annoyed  
at not getting the K.C.M.S. this year. I  
thought that he was quite sure of it  
but Mr Deakin told me that the Home  
authorities were now very much more  
particular in the matter of granting  
'Honours' + were going to be more so +  
that only a few would be given each  
year. There is evidently a fight  
going on in regard to this between the  
Commonwealth + the State authorities.

The state authorities cannot  
recommend directly that apparently has  
to be done by the Commonwealth but  
the 'official' intimation comes through the  
'State' people. Mr. Deakin told  
me that the Federal Cabinet had  
recommended me or rather that he as  
Prime Minister had but the actual  
intimation of the 'honour' came from  
the Premier of Victoria! I feel sure  
that next year you will get the I.S.O.