

DARLEY,  
ARMADALE.

Aug 30. 14.

My dear Balfour,

I have just finished labelling the prints that you & Haddon left behind. Those in the right hand drawer belong to you, I think, & those in the left to Haddon. However I am wrapping them up separately & sending lots to you so you can select which you want & send the others to Haddon.

The half plate prints of New Guinea had been taken away from one set (the left hand) so I presume that Haddon has them with him.

Your other things are being packed up and will I hope reach you in due course.

Things feel very 'flat' at present

was that you are all gone & we  
are left to begin the usual round of  
lectures.

We are realising what it would have  
meant if only you could have spent  
a month in your centre & really seen  
things & we could have had the theme  
of every year.

I was very much  
disappointed to see so little of you & to  
be able to do so little for you. But really  
my time was so occupied with work  
that I was glad to be in Dec. for  
little that I scarcely saw anything or  
anybody except for a few seconds at a  
time.

The most amusing part was  
having to settle down to work. I Sydney  
where things were not organized as they  
should have been. I had hoped it  
had been a 'pre lance' there with the  
Apprentice & attending Section. As it  
was during the whole meeting I only

attended one technical meeting & that a  
very interesting one at the Museum in Sydney.

In a day or two some of the Moscow  
party will begin to return to Melbourne & in  
their way home some may see them for  
an hour or two but they will all be anxious  
to get back again.

The war news is not altogether reassuring  
& before you reach England the Germans  
may be in Paris - let us hope the Russians  
will be in Berlin.

I have sent a wire up to Darwin  
& Fibrette the Administrator saying  
that you will be passing through.

I hope you will have an  
interesting time on the way home -  
if you can get up to Java you  
certainly will. By the time you

reach England the war will have  
taken a decided turn one way or another.

Of course no one is thinking about  
anything else & it seems a perfect farce  
to be going on with ordinary University  
work just as if nothing were happening  
in Europe. If only the war had

not come on what a meeting we  
could have had in Australia.

However it might have been worse  
& under the circumstances I think that  
things passed off fairly well & hope that  
those who came out will not regret  
having attended the Australian meeting.

If only Australia were as near to  
England as Canada is it would be a  
more pleasant place to live in because  
then one could get home more easily &  
with less expenditure which is a serious  
item.

I can imagine how much you will  
enjoy your garden when you get back  
again. I very often think of the lovely  
view that I had from my bedroom window  
in your house. It will be many long

years in Australia before we can have  
anything like the old associations of  
English scenery & you can hardly realize  
how much we miss that kind of thing out  
here.

In the course of a year or  
two I hope to be home again.

kindest regards to Mr. Balfour. I trust that  
you will find all well on your return.

Yours very sincerely

W. Baldwin Spencer.