

10.7.15

I am very sorry  
that this note was  
put on my side & escaped  
my notice till today. We are  
having a vigorous recruiting week in  
Victoria where about 6000 men enlisted  
during the week. There will be more to  
follow than those who cannot do other work.  
WBS.

18

The University of Melbourne.

10.6.15.

My dear Balfour,

After many months  
of waiting I have at last been able  
to get hold of Kenyon who as I told  
you before has been away from  
Melbourne. He is making for you  
a good representation series of stone  
implements in our Museum which will  
be sent to you & will be of use to  
you in your Museum. Meanwhile  
I am sending to England your  
material because though Kenyon is  
now free for a short time I do not  
really know when he will be able to  
complete his work in the Museum - it  
may be some time ahead as he is  
liable to go up-country at any moment.

When it comes the collection will  
be a fairly representative one so far  
as Australia is concerned & Kenyon is  
selecting a good series for you.

appear to train them.

By the time this reaches you it will be just about a year ago since you left England for Australia. It has been the worst year that I ever remember but it looks as if even worse times were ahead of us.

In April ordinary work almost  
be more or less at a standstill - we of  
course are too far away to be affected to  
this extent but already we have nearly  
500 of our University men at the front  
& more are going. Work however goes  
on much as usual but it feels somewhat  
forced for us to be doing our usual work  
while this tremendous thing is going on in  
Europe. As you can understand it  
must be very difficult for the average  
Australian who has never been out of the  
country to have the slightest idea of what it  
really means.

We cannot realize what  
subsidy will mean after having lived all  
his life without any need of depending himself.  
No one dignified the Federal Government in  
going on with its Labour policy or in  
about to throw the country into a state of

of course as you can understand the  
war has upset every thing out here  
& with you at home in England it  
must be far worse.

Our men in Gallipoli seem to have  
been having a very bad time & so day  
after day the casualty lists are called out  
the real meaning of war is being brought  
home to the Australians who have never  
had such an experience before. It is

quite a different thing for the S. African  
war in which a more hand-to-hand war killed.

The worst thing is that a part of the water you  
in England, the best of our younger men are  
going while thousands of men whom we  
could better spare are not offering to  
go to the front. However the Government  
here seem at last to be waking up to the

fact that some more organized plan of work  
is needed. Recruiting is going on fairly well  
but the trouble is to get the necessary material  
for the men and not only this but the



terminal so as to secure some legislation that  
it wants. Our engineers have just gone out  
on strike which means closing up all work-  
shops where munitions could be made. It  
would be a very good thing for our Australian  
workmen if they could just have the Germans  
here for six months. In England things  
seem to be now in a better state but it  
strikes me as lamentable that the government is  
only now awaking to the fact that the  
scientific men should be called in to help.

It is more a case of 'muddling through'  
not perhaps quite so bad as in the past but  
still quite bad enough.

Let me have a line from you when you  
have time. I trust that you & Mr. Ralston  
are well & that the latter has quite recovered.  
We are just as we were when you were  
here. It was a real pleasure to us  
to see you but I only wish you could  
have stayed longer & not had quite such  
a 'rush'.

Kindest regards to Mr. Ralston & yourself.  
I often think of the two days at your  
delightful home & am wondering whether  
the Germans will succeed in dropping a few  
bombs on the Red Colleges. May we  
meet again soon. All good wishes from

for W. Baldwin Spencer.