

Boy - stick in mouth

16
15

Burundi
July 21 1916

Sir Baldwin Spencer K. C. M. G.
National Museum
Melbourne

Dear Sir Baldwin

Mr Cahill joins me in congratulating you on your Knighthood, and may you live long to enjoy it, is our earnest wish.

Mr Cahill and I were so pleased, when we heard of your Knighthood as if bestowed on myself. I did not see old Solomon; but heard about his great suit of clothes and how proud he was in them; telling everyone about you & how you had said that he must have a good fellow cloth because you were now close up King.

Poor Mr Bradshaw was brought in from his Station, two days ago & had to get his foot amputated at the ankle. Gangrene had set in, & the old gentleman was very low, & down hearted, and at times on the lyger, was delicious. Mr Cahill, Tom and I left Darwin on yesterday's train & arrived here (Burundi) all well. We are packing up and hope to start at about 10 AM & go along slowly, hoping to be home in about seven days.

I will have to cut a road for about twenty miles, for the trap, but will get through all right. I will be very busy at Campelli shortly, for I have the biggest portion of material, to build a small cool room. The freezing plant, is the one that was on the S. S. Stuart, and I shortly hope to be able to send to Darwin, a good supply of butter.

We had a telegram in our local paper, stating that the charges against the maladministration of the M. T. had not been substantiated. Very strange thing to hear; but last night, I heard two men talking on the subject, one of the men who was talking, had been caretaker of the government offices & was a great friend of Dr Jensen's, and the charges according to Mr Satyre were worked up by quite a crowd of crewlers. The names that was mentioned was Nelson, see, & AWU, Kilgour, Beckett, Winters, & others. Mr Satyre said that he spoke to Jensen on the subject & told him that he was being used as a tool, and to be sure of the tales he was being told before he made a fool of himself. I am just letting you know this, for it is well to know one's enemies. I had a good deal of slight sickness among the natives, just prior to starting in to meet Mr Cahill. The day before I left I injected cocaine into the leg of a small boy, (who had fallen off a tree and got badly staked about two months before) I probed & found that a piece of stick had nearly gone through the thigh. I opened the thigh

and took out a piece of stick 2 inches long + half
an inch thick. The stick was jammed right on to the thigh
bone + the wonder was, that mortification had not set in.
One native walked over from Naparigo to Campelli, to have
a tooth drawn. They come from all directions for
cough cure + eye lotion. Some days, it takes me until
nearly lunch time to treat all the patients that come along.
As soon as I get back to Campelli, I will get Mr
Bahill to find my note book, and send you along the key
to the Medicines that I sent you. Mr Bahill
and Tom send you their kindest regards + hope
that you and your good lady are both well + accept
same wishes from

yours faithfully

Paddy Bahill.