

Advance in ~~Sydney~~ Canberra -

~~₹~~ 350 = ₹ 560

7 days @ ~~₹~~ 20 loss of income ₹ 140.00

7 days @ ~~₹~~ 10 meals for 2 ₹ 70.00

7 days @ ~~₹~~ 5 incidentals ₹ 35.00

₹ 245.00

~~₹~~ 350 received in Canberra.

~~₹~~ 245 7 days allowances.

~~₹~~ 105 credit

~~₹~~ 200 received in London

~~₹~~ 305 credit

~~₹~~ 245 allowance per week

∴ credit of ~~₹~~ 60 at 12.3.76.

Extra expenses incurred
overleaf.

P.T.O.

Extra expenses incurred:

Battery shower	\$ 26.99
Suitcase	\$ 32.95
Sport's Coat	\$ 75.95
Mail	3.00
Passport Photos	\$ 10.00
Stationery	\$ 10.00
	<hr/>
	\$158.89
2 Hotels	20.50
	<hr/>

M^s Inq 930-7363 Ex 87

930-1124

M^s Seed Ex 81

Total owed \$495 + above exes.

Marriott Hotel	12.94
French Fr 2nn	7.56
	<hr/>
	20.50
	<hr/>
	158.89
	\$179.39

To 2nd April debit 195
Credit advance 245
Debit. 250

12th Credit Advance 200
Debit^f 50

(Ref Jany
Cambessa)

Canb. dep.	29.2.76	
London arr.	7.3.76	1 week
" dep.	18.3.76	6 weeks
Maur dep.	25.4.76	1 week

77 Arthur Circle, Forrest,
A.C.T. 2603, Australia,
23rd May, 1976.

Mr N.D. Ing,
The Treasury Solicitor,
Matthew Parker Street,
LONDON SW1H 9NN,
England.

Dear Mr Ing,

Ocean Island Phosphates: Royalty Action

Your letter of the 11th has just arrived and caused me to realize, with shame, that I had never written to thank you for your very kind official letter of the 9th April.

I should like to do so now, the better perhaps for having once again settled down into a more placid routine and thus being able to view our sojourn in London with some degree of objectivity.

We were both very pleased, and I may say relieved, to learn that my efforts in the witness box were considered by Mr Vinelott, yourself and others concerned to have justified to some extent the expense involved in bringing us from Australia, and housing us in the Royal Commonwealth Society, a home from home which we grew to love for its warmth, comfort and friendly atmosphere.

As you are aware, my wife and I had many misgivings at the prospect of having to journey round the world and stay in London for several weeks, with the added dread of appearing as a witness in the Chancery Court. The easy stages by which we were able to travel, coupled with the heart-warming kindness and consideration shown to us by all members of the Treasury Solicitor's office with whom we came into contact, whether solicitors or counsel, turned the ordeal which we had feared into a most enjoyable experience, and one which we shall remember with pleasure for the rest of our lives.

Mauritius proved to be exactly right for a finale to our venture: a beautiful island with a salubrious climate, where inflation has scarcely penetrated. We rented a car and were able to roam all over the countryside before moving on to stay in Perth, now grown into a sensationally new and clean city, and Adelaide, where we picked up our youngest grandchild for a ten day visit to Canberra.

Here all seems to be as before, sunny and peaceful, with the noise of contention in the Law Courts sounding ever fainter as the days go by. The autumn tints are quite lovely, with every colour in the spectrum visible from my library window. For the first time we are trying out a garden vacuum cleaner to keep abreast of the autumn leaf-fall and have filled our bins with leaves, mostly oak, to rot down for the flower beds. Fortunately we are never without flowers the year round, just now the camellias and yellow gorse being the most conspicuous.

It seems almost incredible to think that the Royalty Action still goes on, with I suppose the unexpectedly gentle Mr Mowbray now in full cry. Please give our sincere thanks and kindest regards to Mr Vinelott, Mr Price, Mr Seed and all whose kindness and consideration made our stay in London such a happy remembrance. And with special thanks to your goodself, on whose shoulders lay the main care for our reception and daily guidance around the many legal and other pitfalls which bestre~~n~~our path.

Yours very sincerely,

John M.



THE TREASURY SOLICITOR
Matthew Parker Street London SW1H 9NN

Telex 917564 Telegrams Proctorex London SW1
Telephones 01-930 7363/1124 ext 87

BY AIR MAIL

Professor and Mrs H E Maude
77 Arthur Circle
Forrest, A.C.T.2603
AUSTRALIA

Please quote
T&M 71/948/NDI
Your reference

Date
11th May 1976

Dear Professor and Mrs Maude

OCEAN ISLAND PHOSPHATES - ROYALTY ACTION

From what I recollect of your itinerary, I believe that you will now, or shortly, be back home once more - and probably, in spite of all you have achieved (and, if I may say so, the golden opinions which you have left behind) probably feeling "East, West - home's best".

I was very pleased to have the card from Mauritius and to learn that you were having so pleasant and refreshing a time after your exertions. I hope that the final stage of the journey was comfortable and would welcome a line to confirm your safe return.

I have received the enclosed AEROGRAMME from the RCS. If any further correspondence arrives for your there, I will of course send it on to you.

Mr Vinelott is coming towards the end of his closing speech - to be followed, of course, by Mr Mowbray. I am told, informally, that Mr Mowbray intends to make only a brief closing address - however, this has to be interpreted in the context of the action, i.e. it is unlikely to be less than three weeks. Bearing in mind the Whit Vacation, the hearing does not seem likely to conclude before mid-June.

Yours sincerely

N. D. Ing
(N D ING)



THE TREASURY SOLICITOR
Matthew Parker Street London SW1H 9NN

Telex 917564 Telegrams Proctorex London SW1
Telephones 01-930 7363/1124 ext 87

Professor H E Maude
Royal Commonwealth Society
Northumberland Avenue
LONDON
WC2N 5BJ

Please quote
T&M 71/948/NDI

Your reference

Date
9th April 1976

Dear Professor Maude

OCEAN ISLAND PHOSPHATES - ROYALTY ACTION

I have already conveyed to you my personal congratulations on how well you presented your evidence and how effective this was - and would like now to offer more official thanks for the help which you have given to the Crown in this case. All concerned realised that it was no light matter for you and Mrs Maude to come over, especially at this time of year, for the purpose and we are most grateful to you for having been prepared to do this and for all the trouble which was necessarily involved.

Your evidence has indeed been of great assistance and I have heard nothing but praise for it on all sides. It did seem to me too that (as Mr Vinelott foresaw) a certain intellectual sympathy developed between the Vice-Chancellor and yourself, both being acknowledged experts in your own legal or quasi-legal fields.

I am pleased to say that, at last, attention has been drawn to the misrepresentation of your names and the Vice-Chancellor has asked for it to be noted that you should appear in the transcripts of evidence as "Henry Evans Maude" (not "Edward").

I hope that the remainder of your and Mrs Maude's stay in this country will prove agreeable.

Yours sincerely

N. D. Ing
(N D ING)

(As from) Treasury Solicitor's Department,
Matthew Parker Street,
London SW1H 9NN

12th April, 1976

Dear Professor Maude,

I was delighted to have your letter this morning and to learn that you are now well once more; I trust that the drug adjustment will restore matters entirely and ensure your comfort for the journey and break in Mauritius.

I am pleased that my book may be of interest - and that, at first sight, the structure and arrangement seem reasonable to you. I am, however, most gratified that you (and Mrs. Maude) feel that I have helped to make your

stay at the Society congenial and your appearance in court tolerable. I have always realised that, in anticipation, it could not appear other than an ordeal and it is pleasing that you now feel that it has been at least bearable. Of its value to the Crown, there can be no question.

I shall certainly look back with pleasure to our preparatory sessions, with their interesting general conversations too during the lunch and other breaks - and the good jokes we have had (and our Bond as the only members ever to be expelled from the buttery).

I should certainly like to see you and Mrs. Maude again for a drink and/or lunch before you leave. However, I look like being

"tied up" with court on Tuesday and Wednesday -
and I start my Easter holiday early Thursday
afternoon. What I suggest is that (unless we
are in touch before) I ring you on Thursday
morning (barring any emergency), in the hope we
may manage a lunch-time drink then, if you
are free. However, I fully realise this is the
last "working day" before the 18th and you may
not be free - so it is "without prejudice"
(as you court veterans would say). Anyway,
it is still my hope to be in Australia for a
^{few} weeks in the (northern) autumn and, if in
Canberra, I would certainly be in touch.

All best wishes to Mrs. Maude and yourself
(and for the journey, if I do not see you again before

then).

Yours sincerely,

Noel Ing

$$\begin{aligned} \$1.18 &= \cancel{\$}1 \\ 1 &= \frac{1 \times 1000}{1.18} \\ 1,000 & \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.8 \overline{) 1000} \quad (555 \\ \underline{90} \\ 100 \\ \underline{90} \\ 100 \end{array}$$

10th April, 1976.

Dear Mr. King,

I am sorry not to have written before to thank you for your kind letter and for your book with its flattering inscription which I still treasure as proof that it was in fact worthwhile on coming all this way. I am looking forward to reading

'By an Vacation' on one Manhattan beach in a week or so: actually I enjoy reading legal works because they require one thought and are stimulating without being beyond the comprehension of a layman. ^①

Unfortunately I got ill two days after my discharge by the Vice-Chancellor, and having now seen a specialist I have been told that it was due to my suddenly breaking off the main drug they gave me in Calera to enable me to get here and often in Court. Apparently it is, like cortisone, something that one has to step down gradually over a period of months and cannot just cease to take without serious side effects.

So I have started on a diminished dose again but, being cumulative, the effect will not be apparent for another week. ~~Remember I was never supposed to be required to eat normal food and unable to digest food. If of the Calera doctor had warned me it would not have occurred.~~

I am glad that Vuellett spoke kindly to Paddy after his evidence. He seemed a bit depressed for a day or two but

was back in his usual top-of-the-world form before he left for
the country the day before yesterday.

Sir Alexander Graham says so up soon after you saw
him and we are to see him on Wednesday ^{afternoon} - though not for long
I expect for, as you say, he is frail and feeling the weight of
his years. He maintains that he knew nothing of Bantam affairs
but left them to Paddy and me. This is within limits true enough
as the minutes would have shown but I recall only copied them: he
did copy a few in the nature of memoranda but not enough to show the
sequence of advice which led to a final decision by the R.C. or H.C.
and the consequent correspondence.

He and I are most grateful to you for all your kindness
in meeting our way to England and making our stay here such a
pleasant one. We have found the R.C.S. a very helpful home indeed
and everyone so helpful - I cannot imagine what we ^w should have
done had you not forced everything up for us so that we
did not have to forage for ourselves in a strange country.

Both Paddy and I greatly appreciated our almost daily sessions
with you and the care with which you prepared the proofs. These
made the actual giving of evidence a much simpler exercise than I
had contemplated. In fact we feel indebted to you for the success
of the whole episode, among which we had initially no very favourable
prognosis.

We leave for Montreux on Sunday en route to our
home once again, and hope that you may be able to spare the time
to drop in for lunch, or at least a farewell drink. In any case
~~how long you always are, with two more in the field, so~~
~~in case we do not meet one again~~ my thanks indeed for all
your help and encouragement which turned what could have been an
orded into a pleasant interlude in the evening of our lives.

Yours very sincerely,

①

The construction too is similar to my own studies, being ~~fully~~
~~based~~ ~~and~~ ~~fully~~ based on logical generalizations inferred from
simple instances (in you case mostly concrete) arranged on an
historical framework.



THE TREASURY SOLICITOR
Matthew Parker Street London SW1H 9NN

Telex 917564 Telegrams Proctorex London SW1

Telephones 01-930 7363/1124 ext 87

Please quote

Your reference

Date 5th April 1976

Dear Professor Maude,

I was sorry to learn from Mrs. Maude this morning that you are not so well and hope this will prove only a passing inconvenience and nothing troublesome. Nigel Seed will be looking in tomorrow, so please let him know if we can be of any help.

Macdonald has completed his evidence satisfactorily and I am pleased to say that John Vinelott made a point of having a friendly talk with him after today's adjournment.

I am (for reasons which you will appreciate) not mentioning this to Macdonald just at present, but I saw Sir Alexander Grantham this morning. There is no question of his assisting with the case - he is very frail and shortly to undergo an operation - but he was most interested to learn that you and Mrs. Maude (he remembers you ^{both} well) and Macdonald are

in London and hoped that you might contact him for a little talk about 'the old days' (my paraphrase). In case you wish to do this, his telephone number is 499-2412 (his address is Flat 4, 90 Piccadilly, W.1).

I hope of course to see you again before your departure but, in any event, thought (vanity though this may display) I would enclose a copy of my book, as a memento of your visit. I have taken the liberty of inscribing a short message.

Best wishes to Mrs. Maude and yourself.

Yours sincerely,

Noel Ing

PS I also enclose your Civil list (borrowed some time ago by Mr. Vinelott).

37 Anthony Close,
Colchester CO4 4LD

3rd April 1976

Dear Professor Maude,

One of the people whom I need to see has (sensible fellow) refused to make himself available until Monday morning - so, well equipped with "bundles", I have been able to come here after all. (Thank you very much for your help in loading up the papers yesterday; fortunately, the taxi-driver proved to be of the cheery, traditional type and voluntarily carried most of them into my office.)

I shall of course be writing to you officially in due course to thank you for

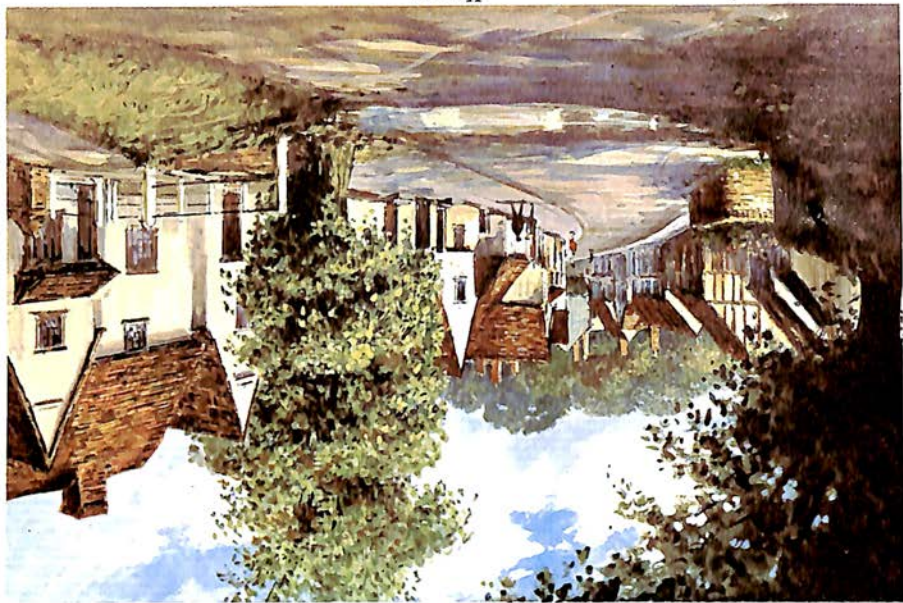
giving evidence but, meanwhile, would like to repeat my personal congratulations on how well it went - and to say how kind it was of you to reassure me over the matter of Bundle 39. This was a great ^{personal} ~~external~~ help at a slightly painful time - as you will have realised.

I wish there had been more that I could have said to you which might have reassured Macdonald but I could (and can) think of nothing* (bearing in mind the rules I am subject to). I have, however, left him a note at RCS saying that (as he requested) I am trying to have a transcript available in the conference ^{if he can be there} room about 11 a.m. on Monday - and adding a hope of a further

* and I spoke very informally on Friday evening to J.V. + Broor could he

social meeting or meetings after he is
'released' (which last will, I hope,
remove any fear that I might have been so
foolish as to take umbrage over the 'Burdle
39' misunderstanding).

The hearing for Monday, as you will
have gathered, is, owing to the Judge's earlier
commitment, "set before 12.0". You may (PTO)



wish to come down. I shall be all morning
 out of the office, going probably straight from that
 appointment to court - I hope by 12.0 - but
 I will leave word for Seed to contact you.

Best wishes to Mrs Maude and yourself
 (and Macdonald, if you see him on Monday
 morning).



JUDGES LTD. HASTINGS ENGLAND

Yours sincerely,

Neil Dyer

Professor Rande -

Here are some letters. Could
you let me know when you
would like them forwarded to
when you leave left the PCS?
I hope you are well again?



With the compliments of

PACIFIC DEPENDENT TERRITORIES DEPARTMENT

John Josselyn.

6/4/76.

Phone 01-233-3866.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
LONDON, SW1A 2AH

Prof Maude

I happened to be talking in
passage a few minutes ago
to one of the shorthand writers who
used to work ~~in~~ ^{on} this court but
has been on other duties this
month. He said (unprompted)
that he was sorry not to have
been on duty ^{here} this week as his
colleagues had told him he was
missing a very good witness ("Professor
Maude from Canberra") + interesting
evidence. N.D.G.

77 Arthur Circle,
Forrest, A.C.T. 2603,
23rd ~~January~~, 1976.
June

Mr N.D. Ing,
The Treasury Solicitor,
Matthew Parker Street,
LONDON SW1H 9NN,
England.

Dear Mr Ing,

Ocean Island Phosphates: Royalty Action

Thank you for your cordial letter of the 7th, which arrived just after Paddy Macdonald passed through on his way to Fiji. He seemed to have quite recovered his spirits and was full of the latest gossip on the Royalty Action. Apparently he intends to keep himself up-to-date on the march of events and will epitomize them for me, as I am engaged in finishing another book: hopefully by December. I'm really very fond of the old curmudgeon and delighted to find him in such good form again.

We think that there has been some misunderstanding about the hotel bill in Mauritius, for we paid it ourselves in full. True enough the High Commission offered to pay it themselves (bless them for their kindness) but as they also told us that it had already been paid into our bank account in London we said no.

We are always so scared of getting ill in a strange country that we travel with a suitcase full of Travellers Cheques, so we were not short of funds and the only reason we went to the High Commission in the first place was to enquire if the money for the Hotel bill had been sent to them.

Anyway I enclose the hotel's receipt for the bill in proof that we left Mauritius in good standing and owing them nothing. If the High Commission also paid it they must have done so after we left, for we made sure that no one had done so before then when paying in full ourselves. In that event no doubt they can get a refund without difficulty; though I should be very surprised if the hotel would have taken a second payment, for their accounts staff were excellent.

Major Holland's copy of my memorandum and also Sir Albert's 1900 Diary were personally delivered by Nigel Sand on Friday, so I think both our consciences are now clear and neither of us owes anything to the other.

If you do decide to visit Australia in the Spring - and to be sure Spring and Autumn are the only two periods when the country is habitable - be sure to let us know when you are due in Canberra so that we can show you the sights and bring you home for a meal or two (alas not up to the standard of the RCS). Our phone number is Canberra 731793, which also serves as an internal telegraphic address.

I should be most grateful if you could send me a copy of Megarry's judgement, if he lives long enough to produce one; and in the meantime I sign off with our very best wishes and will get back to the salt mines, or more exactly to writing a research paper on 'The Peruvian Polynesian Labour Trade, 1860-1863'.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Maude.



THE TREASURY SOLICITOR
Matthew Parker Street London SW1H 9NN

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Telephones 01-930 7363/1124 ext 87

BY AIR MAIL

Professor H E Maude
77 Arthur Circle
Forrest, A.C.T.2603
AUSTRALIA

Please quote
T&M 71/948/NDI

Your reference

Date
7th June 1976

Dear Professor Maude,

OCEAN ISLAND PHOSPHATES - ROYALTY ACTION

I am most grateful for your charming and appreciative letter of 23rd May.

It is a great pleasure to my colleagues and myself to know that we were able, to some extent, to make your and Mrs Maude's visit an agreeable one, in spite of the evidentiary background - and for me to feel that you find the Royal Commonwealth Society (an organisation over the concerns of which I have, over the years, spent a considerable amount of time and which has therefore become rather close to my heart) proved so congenial. Our "proof-taking" sessions there have added a further (and, to me, pleasing) dimension to the associations of the place for me (and not forgetting our record of, so far as I know, being the only members ever to have been expelled from the Buttery for taking evidence out of hours).

I am pleased also to learn that you have returned safely to Canberra. The picture which you give of your home in the autumn is an idyllic one. As I may have mentioned while you were over here, it is my hope to visit Australia on holiday in (your) spring and to include Canberra in my route - in which case, I shall certainly contact you in the hope that we might be able to meet for an hour or two and reminisce about your visit (although perhaps you would not consider it obligatory for me to take a further proof on that occasion).

As you say, the royalty action - now about to recommence after the short Whit Vacation - goes inexorably on. It is almost certain to reach its century and might even just overtake the 106 day record of the replanting action. Mr Mowbray is now well launched into his final address but, although you describe him as "unexpectedly gentle", he has recently taken it upon himself, as Shakespeare once expressed it, "to imitate the action of the tiger". In one dramatic afternoon, he made quite scathing attacks on your fellow witnesses, Messrs Collins and Silcock, and contended that the Crown had insulted the Court by failing to produce "The Missing Witness" - by which he had in mind an unspecified "operating man" from BPC (regardless of the fact that, on the question concerned, their auditor, who in fact gave evidence, was by far the more appropriate person). It did not appear that the Vice-Chancellor was particularly impressed with these heroics. However this may, Mr Mowbray has throughout treated your name and evidence with nothing but respect. Just as some judges are said to be "appeal-proof", you may therefore now regard yourself as "Mowbray-proof".

I will of course pass on your kind specific messages to Mr Vinelott, Mr Price and Mr Seed and I know that they would wish me to thank you.

While it is a pity that this has to intrude on a discursive letter of thanks such as the present, there is unfortunately one small matter of business which I have to mention. Just before you left this country (in fact, on 14th April), there was, by arrangement, paid into your London bank account the sum of £831.90, representing loss of remuneration for a period before your arrival in this country (£400), 10 days' allowance for your return journey (£350) and a sum of £81.90 to cover your hotel account in Mauritius. Unfortunately, we failed here to make it clear that this last-mentioned item had been paid to you in this country, with the result that the hotel account was ultimately met by the High Commission in Mauritius. In arranging for this last to be done, we duly asked that our apologies should be passed on to you and I hope that this happened - and that the mishap did not mar the pleasure of your holiday.

However, in view of the action taken by the High Commission, there is now a little rectification to be done in my Department's favour and - subject to any further thoughts which you may have on the point - I understand that this could most conveniently be achieved by your sending me an ordinary cheque (in favour of the Treasury Solicitor) for £81.90 on your London account.

It occurs to me also that I still have your copy, signed by Major Holland, of your own Memorandum and I think that the best way of returning this to you would be via the "bag" and Richard Sands at the Canberra High Commission.

Best wishes to Mrs Maude and yourself.

Yours sincerely

(N D ING)

Noel D. Ing

77 Arthur Circle, Forrest,
A.C.T. 2603, Australia,
16th August, 1976.

Dear Mr Ing,

Honor has declared a three-day moratorium for me to answer the accumulated letters. When I am bedded down to research and writing she snaffles the mail, since experience has shown us that otherwise I never begin. Actually, to be truthful, she evidently forgot that there was a query in yours or would have answered it herself long before.

We have had a talk about hotels over breakfast but actually we have never been in one for years so know little about them; they are really for businessmen and visitors from abroad on expense accounts. Australians, except for the international set who don't have to pay their own bills, stay in motels.

Our advice would be to do as Rome does and stay in a motel when in Sydney. Probably somewhere in the centre of the city area would be best if you have only a few days and do not want to spend time travelling in and out on a bus. Taxis are fewer and more expensive than in London.

The Wynyard Travelodge is the most central (and most expensive) but the Four Seas Hotel (its really a motel) in Elizabeth Street, the Hyde Park Plaza Motor Inn, the Zebra Hyde Park Motel or the Koala Park Regis would all be good.

Prices at these were in 1973 (in the above order) \$21.50, \$10.50, \$16-20, \$16, and \$14-16; at the Hyde Park and Zebra Hyde Park you get a continental breakfast thrown in. I suppose one should add on say 50% today to allow for inflation.

Naturally we don't stay at any of these places ourselves, but rather at some small motel out in one of the suburbs, with a railway connexion to the city. Its cheaper farther out and, as we only go to work in the Mitchell Library every day we really need a place with a kitchenette attached (all motels have showers and lavatories in each unit, but only a few terminal motels have kitchenettes as in New Zealand). But for a few nights the cost is not the main criterion.

Canberra is a problem for it is so scattered, has no real heart and the bus service is lousy. Many visitors rent a car from Avis, Hertz or the other rental firms when they arrive. Probably the Wellington (\$13.50) or the Forrest Lodge Motor Inn (about \$11) would be best, as one can walk across parks to the Houses of Parliament, National Library and Lake. Most of our friends stay at the Forrest Lodge, where the food is better but the rooms smaller.

In Melbourne we stay at Parkville, where one can get a tram into the city taking about 15 minutes, and yet its out of the noise and bustle. We found the Caraville de Ville good at \$12, but probably the Travelodge at \$13.25 or the Zebra at \$15-24 are better. They are all pretty well next door to each other. Remember to add at least 50% to all prices for inflation. There is no tipping in motels (Australian don't tip).

Personally I should merely book in at Sydney, if that is where you go first, and do the rest when you reach Australia. They are all more or less half empty, owing to the depression, and we find that we never have to book ahead. And the trouble about booking through an agent in London is that they naturally pick the most expensive, as the 5-star international hotels pay them whacking commissions for doing so (and recover it by overcharging their guests).

MADE IN AUSTRALIA

Mr N.D. Ing,
The Treasury Solicitor,
Matthew Parker Street,
LONDON SW1H 9NN,
England.

H.E. Maude,
77 Arthur Circle,
Forrest, A.C.T. 2603,
Australia.

W.A.M.

Anyway, wherever you stay, I'm sure you'll enjoy it, and we shall look forward to your visit, for which I shall once again emerge from the mid-19th century.

Yours,

J.E.M.

MADE IN AUSTRALIA

all more or less half empty, owing to the depression, and we find that we never have to look ahead. And the trouble about looking through an agent in London is that they naturally pick the most expensive, as the 3-star international hotels pay them booking commissions for being so (and recover it by overcharging their etc.)



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BY AIR MAIL

Professor H E Maude
77 Arthur Circle
Forrest, A.C.T.2603
AUSTRALIA

Please quote
T&M 71/948/NDI
Your reference

Date
2nd July 1976

Dear Professor Maude,

OCEAN ISLAND PHOSPHATES - ROYALTY ACTION

Thank you for your letter dated 23rd June and the enclosed receipt, which I return.

First, I am extremely sorry that the misunderstanding about the hotel bill arose at all and very pleased that it has now been cleared up. The only satisfactory point is that, as I now see that there was no question of your being short of funds in Mauritius, my fear that your holiday might consequently have been a little marred has happily proved unfounded.

It is pleasing to learn that you had a visit from Paddy Macdonald - invigorated, no doubt, by his experiences in Concorde - and that he was in good form. It seems that, very rightly, he has entirely recovered from concern which he felt at the time about the course which his evidence took; I well recall your very friendly anxiety about him at the time.

John Vinelott too is in excellent heart and not sorry to be relieved, for the time being, from his overriding Ocean Island responsibilities. He has just been appearing before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council - and has also (you will sympathise with this) been much engaged in preparing a paper on Administrative Law for a learned body (following one or two venturesome suggestions of my own on the subject, he has threatened to send the paper to me in draft for detailed comment, but I think that he will relent). I am pleased that you have another book "on the stocks" - good luck with it, as also with the Peruvian paper. I regret to say that my reading on Peru terminated with Prescott - compulsive reading, but probably now regarded as in part at least unhistorical.

As you probably know from Nigel Seed, the royalty action concluded on its hundredth day, on 18th June. Your old adversary, Mowbray, attempted to introduce, in the last few minutes, an emotive appeal for "Justice" (and in a Court of Equity too) for the Banabans. He was halted by the Vice-Chancellor in short order, with the comment that he was perorating and that the Vice-Chancellor was not a jury. So this was a not unsatisfactory conclusion. Judgment (in both actions) is likely to be given early in October and certainly you shall have a copy of the judgment, when duly transcribed; I shall be disappointed if it does not contain complimentary references to your evidence.

I regret to note, however, that you have referred to the dire possibility of the Vice-Chancellor not living to produce a judgment. Absit omen. However, should this deplorable contingency arise, it will be mitigated for the Crown by the pleasure we shall have, in the no doubt inevitable re-trial, of once more hearing you give evidence.

(This, I suspect, also explains the original slip in your letter in dating this "January"; fundamentally, you cannot accept the disappointment that, apart from the contingency to which I have just referred, your evidence is behind you.)

Finally, thank you very much for your hospitable offer of entertaining me in your home and showing me around if I am able to visit Canberra in September. I certainly hope to do so, preferably making an overnight stay - or perhaps more than one night. At present, I am afraid that the whole pattern of my visit to Australia is unsettled but I shall be trying within the next few weeks to gather the threads together into some coherent pattern. (Incidentally - and please do not take trouble over this, as I have one or two irons in the fire - if you can recommend any comfortable hotels, not only in Canberra, but in Sydney and Melbourne too, I should be most grateful.)

Best wishes to Mrs Maude and yourself.

Yours sincerely

Neil D. Ing

(N D ING)

P.S. Since the above was dictated, I happened to meet Mowbray (and his wife) at the Lincoln's Inn Garden Party. We reminisced lightly about the case and I think that you will be interested to know that he paid tribute to your pleasant personality. I think that, in a previous letter, I quoted Macauley's celebrated dictum about the inference to be drawn from cheering in the ranks of Tuscany - and it could appositely be repeated now.