

30.6.1941. Dear Mrs. Allan - I ought to have written to you long ago, as only indirectly I let you know that I received your kind letter of 7/5 and the biography of Penn. I never know how to manage my ration of 2 letters weekly, so that I can justly correspond to the replies asked for. I therefore beg to ask you to share this letter with Miss Pierce and Miss Brann. I was so very sorry that I could not see the former during her visit and that we could not arrange a meeting together with the three visitors. We received, however, the message from your meeting addressed to Otto Marx, and Miss Pierce's letter of 16/6 addressed to me, for which I thank her very much. As Dr. Scharf was able to tell her, he and Hans Lindau should like to join the Australian Queker Fellowship. Dr. Scharf is a very dear friend to us, so is Hans Lindau, Old-Woodbrooker of 1932 and member of the Tac H, at present head of our camp-school; Dr. Scharf head of the language department as my successor. - Saturday last, I had my lecture on William Penn, and I feel I met with a good echo. Several hearers came afterwards to ask me for the biography, and to my surprise, two fellows who never had joined our meetings for worship before, turned up the next day and helped by their presence to a very fine gathering with 4 good messages. The whole meeting was inspired by the spirit of Penn, although the night before I had anxiously avoided advertising Quakerism. The unique personality and his fight for human rights and justice are found to find their ways into the souls of internees, and from this up-to-date angle they hearers are easily led to the moral and religious basis of his work. So I daresay that your kind gift coming to you from your grandfather, did more than giving a joy to me personally; it has given comfort and courage to quite a number of our fellow-internees. Both in their name and in my own I wish to express you our warmest thanks. - Of late, I had a letter from Margaret Woodrell, librarian of Woodbrooke, and Elizabeth Fox Howard; maybe one or the other is known to one of your members. They are carrying on very courageously, over there, and I often wish I could be with them. From my wife I had no news for 2 1/2 months (in reply to Miss Pierce's question) and therefore am somewhat nervous, although not worried. - With the best wishes for you and for all Friends in Australia, Yours sincerely, Richard K. Whelan

3 Opened

Under: P. Richard K. Williams, F40428
Hull H, No 2 Internment Camp, Victoria

For Mr. Pierce
please pass on to
Miss Swan

SERVICES OF
PRISONERS
OF WAR

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Mrs. J. M. Allan

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Auburn St

Victoria

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