

PRG 1335/8 Two volumes of correspondence written by Ernest Primrose ('Prim') Whyte, Manager of Yadlamalka Station in the dry north, near Port Augusta, addressed to the station owners, Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd. The name Primrose is associated with Kinross in Scotland, where Prim's father, William Whyte, lived before emigrating initially to the Victorian goldfields in 1852 before moving west to Adelaide.

The collection concludes with two letters written by W. H. (Bill) Grantham addressed to E. P. Whyte after Prim's retirement. The letters date from February 1942 to January 1945 when Australian military forces entered the theatre of the Second World War and Japanese bomber planes attacked Darwin, and when South Australia continued in the shadow of the severe and prolonged drought conditions prevailing over the eastern states of Australia.

Volume 1 transcribed by Peter Anson, Volunteer at the State Library of South Australia, 2007. Volume 2 transcribed by Katherine Hurley, Volunteer at the State Library of South Australia, 2016.

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Volume 1.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 6. 2. 42

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Yadlamalka

4. 2 - 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir

Re Goede

If the Directors approve of Gloede's price for the new building will you please ring or wire him to Hawker so that there will be no further delay in ordering the material. It will be very inconvenient for me to get in touch with him from here as Wilkatana phone is out of order.

Lake Salmon West Bore

I have had the air

[pencilled annotation in left margin] Wired Gloede – see Jul

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compressor working on this bore and it acts O.K. Blew a lot of sand & silt out from the bottom of the bore but don't know yet if we increased the supply. If anything the quality of the water has improved I think.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

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Yadlamalka Stn

7. 2. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Feb. 5 to hand.

Am glad to hear G\oede's price is accepted. It seems a lot of money, but if the material can be procured it will be a very good job. We have completed all we can do to the building untill the roof goes on.

On Monday I'm sending the mason over to Nancy Well to cement the tanks over there. These tanks already have concrete bottoms in them and if we have the sides cemented they should be

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almost an everlasting job.

Thanks for Registration Certificate.

Expect to get a start crutching about the end of the month.

There are light showers of rain about this afternoon, but up to date we have had about one point.

The barometer is down to 29.50 and is steady.

Having a cattle muster on Monday to see if I can get some money in from the Port Augusta butchers.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Opening page/s of the following letter are missing, but dates referred to would place it immediately before Friday, 20 February 1942.]

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with Fullerton (butcher at Port Augusta) to take the old cows and aged stuff, and I intend sending the young and better quality cattle on to Adelaide fat market.

On making enquiries I find I cannot get the cattle through to Port Pirie on Friday next, 20th, but I can get two bogies for Tuesday the 24th. This means the cattle will have to be kept at Dry Creek until sold on Monday Mar. 2nd. I don't like the arrangement as the cattle will lose a lot of their bloom, but it is the best we can do for them. The track into Port Augusta is in a very dry state and unless the cattle are well nursed the trip in won't do them any good. I intend going into Port Augusta on Monday morning next and will try and make better arrangements for

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for them.

The crutchers will be along any time now so will be able to report on the sheep when we muster for this operation.

It will be a problem to get the sheep up to the shed but I will work it out some how with the staff I have.

The glass has been low enough for rain ever since my last report but with the exception of three points on Monday last the brew has been a dud, but we have had plenty dust & strong gales from all points of the compass.

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 3. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn

28. 2. 42.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co.Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

The following is the information you want re petrol position.

No I. Chev utility, Fuel Licence No 9/1726. Reg No ^{S/A} 179.996\8/. Gallons allowed 17. Used for general supervision of station of an area of about 207,104 acres. Milage per month 800 This Fuel Licence is at present returned to Board for a reduction of 75%. owing to use of Gass Producer.

No II Chev Utility Fuel Licence No 8/1453 Reg. No ^{S/A} 141-728. Gallons allowed

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8. Available for issue in March Used for maintainance of 60 miles of pipe line, also 3 Bores and Two Wells together with Windmills & engines. This buck board is equipped for carrying pipes Milage per month 600.

No. III. Leister Stationary Engine Licence No. 22. 1546 gallons allowed 13 available in APRIL. Horse power 3½. This engine is used for drawing water for 3,000 sheep and 250 head of big stock mostly cattle. When there is no wind for the Wind mill the engine has to lift about 8,000 gallons per day Gallons required per month 30

No 4. Ford Stationary engine No licence issued. Used to drive air compressor on New Bore 215 feet deep About 20 horse power. This Bore is full of very fine drift sand

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and at present it is impossible to erect a pump on it, but by constantly using the air compressor for a few weeks, I hope to clean the sand up, and hope eventually to do away with the air compressor. The supply is unlimited and when I get the petrol to work engine I hope to put 2,000 sheep on it.

General Remarks

The conditions are very hard and dry up here. It is over 12 months since we had a good rain, consequently the country is drifting badly and roads couldn't be in a much worse state. I don't want anything better than gass producers on good roads and long runs but in heavy sand and having to stop often to do jobs on pipeline & clean (often dig) troughs out they are of little value from an economic point of view.

About 50% of the roads here

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one has to switch on to petrol to avoid getting bogged in drift sand.

The present petrol allowance is quite inadequate ~~here at present~~ and the true position at present is I have only 2 gallons of petrol on the Station and 7 gallons of petrol tickets, so you see the position is desperate especially so when I state we are having a very calm spell and experiencing a severe heat wave. It is imperative I get more petrol otherwise there is every prospect of a major ~~skew~~ smash amongst the stock. I draw your attention to the cancelled Licence up till April of the Lister Engine. This is the very Licence I urgently wanted, and I have had to use up all of my reserves to get the stock watered

Yrs faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 3. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn

28. 2. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir.

Yours of Feb. 26th inst. To hand.

Cattle for Sale. I was disappointed in the draft when I saw them at Stirling last Monday. They had had a very hard dry trip into the trucking yards and I could see many of them had already lost much of their bloom. I hope they sell well on Monday.

The young stuff were O.K. when they left here but many of them were bad colours.

Fullerton took all the rough stuff & very old duggy cows.

I wanted more money for

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the steers but I realized I was getting an excellent price for old cows, so comprised \compromised/ on the former line. My object was to get £500. in for the whole line but I see cattle were down in the market last Saturday – or rather Monday.

We are in the middle of crutching and have put through about 3,000 sheep up to date. Sheep are turning up well and are looking bright & fresh. Very hot & as I'm crutching in Woolshed it is a job getting the sheep up there.

Have written you about petrol. The position is serious.

Granthams No is 151-919 – Cu

Weather is very hot & calm & want a wind for Mills especially Nancy

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 10. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn

7. 3. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 5 inst. to hand together with petrol enclosures.

I very much appreciate Mr. Pattinson's and your efforts with The Fuel Control Board and wish to congratulate you on the result.

Nancy Well. No one can tell how much petrol we will require for Nancy Well but I do know that March & April are the months when we often have long calm spells and the stock I have there will drink about 6,000 gallons of water per day and it is absolutely essential we should have petrol to meet any emergency. If I don't want

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the tickets for the job they will be returned to The Fuel Control Board.

I have had a very anxious and worrying week. The weather has been very hot and it has been some job getting the sheep up to the shed for crutching. One of the crutchers had to go into the Doctor only leaving two on the job. In addition have had a lot of pipeline trouble & cars out of action as well as petrol worries but I got over the latter by borrowing two gallons off the crutching contractor. I had to pump water per engine for the stock at Nancy Well.

I have never seen the roads worse, as the sand is drifting badly and there are miles of drift sand that would tear the internal parts out of any car & one has

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to travel over the heavy sand so constantly.

The sheep have turned up very well and all sheep with age on them are in really good condition but last years lambs are just good stores and the crutching operations & extreme heat cut them up to a certain extent.

I was afraid the state of the track and delay in marketing the cattle would knock the bloom of the cattle but the Adelaide prices makes the sale at Port Augusta a good one. I didnt want to get landed with a lot of cattle here, and think I did right in marketing them, as I don't like the dry conditions and the way the season is breaking up this way

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Ford Stationary Engine.

I intend running this engine about 5 hours daily to try and clean up the drift sand and when the sand is clear about Two hours per day on average to water 2000 sheep. Twenty gallons per month should do the job, but when sand is clear it should be possible to erect a mill on the bore, and in that case will try & cut the petrol out.

I only know one No. of Granthams car. The one he bought his son was at Kallioota but I haven't seen the Reg. Number.

Yes fix old buck-

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board up with Registration.

The weather is now cool with hard Southerly blowing and sand drifting

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 17. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn.

14. 3. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 12 inst. to hand.

I note what you say re petrol tickets. From past experience I know the view the Fuel Control Board take and they don't give anyone any credit for trying to do their utmost to help the war effort. I know of cases in the North where people are still getting twice as much petrol, as they can possible use and in every instance they are the class that did little in the last war and are still all out for themselves in this one.

Why "The Fuel Control Board" don't send Inspectors round to check up on the Licences beats me. If

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they did they would save thousands of gallons of motor fuel a year.

Crutching

We cut out on Wednesday last after crutching 9,563 sheep, and got a return of 14 bales of wool. These numbers are less Rams Double. The sheep had a rough time during the heat wave as we crutched in the woolshed and apart from the very dry conditions the mustering and driving in the intense heat was very severe on them.

The sheep turned up well as I know there are stragglers that were missed.

I note your request re Station Cheque Lists.

Will be glad to get the new Licence.

The weather is still hot and dusty up here.

New building.

Gloede is now putting the roof ect. *[etc.]* on this building

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The shaft the Apex Motor Coy sent you is off the 1940 Chev. buck board. They have done their best to get the new part but the military won't release them.

I hope Elders will be able to do something in the matter, as the buck board has been out of action for about 2 months now.

Please send :-

4 Mats Sugar

50 lbs Tea

28 lbs dried Fruit (Apricots if possible)

20 lbs Rice
24 Tins Custard powder.
Yrs faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 24. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn
21. 3. 42.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Mar 19. inst. to hand.

I was very pleased to get Fuel Licence No. 22/29794. Was sorry to hear you had so much trouble, but congratulate you on the result.

Motor part. Thank you for ringing M^r Bartholomaeus about the matter. This week the old buck board developed a broken crank shaft, so the two of the station buck boards are out of action, with major break-downs and heaven knows when we can get the parts to repair them. Will you please give Elders another ring and tell them that

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it is now very urgent I get the 1940 Chev. going again. I can and have been using my private car for pipeline work but it has no mixing box for gass on it consequently have been using petrol. It is now well over three months since I ordered a mixing box for my private car with the object of using gass if I had to use it on Station work, but The Apex Motor Coy. say they can not secure one. I have sold the heavy duty Nasco Gass producer for £40-. This only includes the charcoal & fire box & scrubbers and not the trailer mixing box and hose & connections. This gass producer has never given us good results and is too heavy to tow about these heavy roads.

“The Brigg” has always given

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us very good service and I think they are the best on the market.

In place of the Naso I would like to get another Brigg fitted on to the new buck board, and do away with the trailer.

Will you please enquire the price of a Brigg less the mixing box or carburetta, as I have the Nasco mixing box on the new buck board already fitted.

If the Board approve it should be bought at once, so that it can be fitted on to the buck-board while it is laid up at Apex Motor Coy. Nasco's are giving the bush people a lot of trouble up this way and I think I was lucky to get £40- for the one we had without the mixing box fittings etc.

I sold it to Hill the mailman and he has promised to give me a cheque next month. If he doesn't we can cut it out of

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on his accounts.

I have had a lot of water trouble this week. Have been putting the ewes into the lambing paddocks and am using all available waters, and they will need a lot of attention over the lambing period, as things are now very dry and roads could hardly be in worse condition. Foxes are very plentiful. Indeed I don't think I have seen them worse and they are starving. Please send me 6 bottles of strychnine first chance, as I want to put plenty of baits about before lambing

The weather is hot & barometer falling

Yrs faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 31. 3. 42

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Yadlamalka

28. 3. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours two letters of 26 inst to hand.

I trust Elders can get the motor part released promptly, as I don't know when I will get the old buck board back. I don't mind using my own car for necessary station work but I do object to using the precious petrol, when so much could be done on gass. I use the truck as much as possible, but it is no good in the sand on gass.

I think it would be best to get the Brigg fitted on to

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the new buck board in Adelaide as they make a better job than one can get done in Port Augusta and the Apex Motor Coy. are getting too hot in their prices.

Their best men have been called up and the jobs they turn out are not satisfactory.

I saw a job M^r. Sawers had done at "The Bridge Service Station Walkerville Road St. Peters" phone F4047 and it was a splendid job. M^r. Sawers says they are very reasonable in their charges and are not always conjested with work like the big firms in the City. The buck board will want about three extra leaves in the back springs to carry the extra weight, and probably other little jobs done. It would be as well to give them a ring and enquire about prices etc. If the job is done in Adelaide it will be useless

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sending the permit up to me.

I'm going to enquire when in Port Augusta next what it costs to send a car round by "The Moonta" to Port Adelaide.

I may be able to send the buck board down by boat and then go down and get it when ready.

Thanks for the strychnine. We will get a lot of foxes with it this year, as already we know we have poisoned thirty one foxes.

The motor registration arrived O.K.

We are still having water trouble. The spring at the Weir has never ~~has never~~ been so low and a lot of our trouble is caused by air being sucked into the line there not being enough water to keep the pipes covered. The bore is a great boon but even

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with this extra water we have a job to keep a reserve supply in the sheep tanks.

Wool Packs. The wool packs we use are 54 inch loose Top packs. I note you are ordering them. The barometer is very low (29.30) but there is no sting in the brew and I think we will only get a cool change and the usual dust storms.

The roof is on the new building and it is approaching completion. I will send a photo of it to M^{rs}. Doman when it is finished .

Yours faithfully

E.P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7. 4. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn
Sunday 5th April 42.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir.

I didn't receive any letter from you this mail. I suppose "Good Friday" the cause of it.

I didn't write by mail yesterday as we were all busy on the pipe line. The water position was rotten but on doing the rounds of all sheep tanks today found everything was O.K. and reserves gradually being built up again. We have had a sequence of breakages in the pipe line due I think to cold weather setting in but think we have now got over the trouble

[annotation in top left corner in red] 90

Foxes. Our tally is now about 70 fox scalps but as the ewes are starting to lamb don't expect to get them in such mobs in future, however we have steadied them off and the slaughter will make a big difference.

A friend of mine is waiting this note so you should get it at usual time.

The weather is fine & cold. Will try & write a fuller report by next mail.

Yrs faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] Will post accounts as soon as possible

EPW.

Regds

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 14. 4. 42

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Yadlamalka.

11. 4. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of April 2. and 9. inst. to hand.

The reason I didn't get yours of April 2. was on account of Good Friday's mail not being sorted. I didn't receive any letters last week and very few papers. They will observe these holidays in spite of the serious war conditions.

Gass Producer. I note your remarks and the semi-mounted rear swivel extended cradle is what I want and also there is an extra door for cleaning the clinker out of the fire box of Brigg that is well worth while and costs £2-10-0 extra

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It saves a lot of trouble in the bush, and is a saving on charcoal as one can clean the clinker out without also throwing away good charcoal.

It will cost £4-15-0 to send the 1940 Chev. to Town by boat from Port Augusta and in addition there is the cost of getting the car from Port Adelaide to the City, so it looks as if the expense is too great, and perhaps it would be best to send the Brigg & fittings to Apex Motor Coy Port Augusta and let them do the job. We will also require three extra leaves in the rear springs to carry the extra weight at the back.

Foxes. We have now poisoned about 100 foxes but there are still fox tracks about. The ewes are lambing fast and the young lambs are strong, but conditions are very dry and rain is wanted

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badly. From the fi[r]st of August 1941 to the end of March 1942. That is eight months we have only registered seventy two points of rain. The biggest fall being 29 points and the lowest three points. Our rainwater tanks have reached a record low level for the sixteen years I have been here there being from 3/4000 gallons on hand. Surely it is up to us to get a rain.

Water The water position is still critical owing to a sequence of breaks in the main line and no wind for the mills.

I was out early this morning seeing all the sheep had water, and adjusted everything to my satisfaction only to get home about 2.30 this afternoon to find Grantham and all hands had to leave for a spot about two miles down from The Weir where 4" pipes are, to mend a complete break in the main line. Only yesterday

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we had to mend a break in about the same spot. I want to get this letter finished to get out back to the sheep tanks and expect to be out half the night, as the ewes & lambs must not go short of water but our reserves are very low. The old buck board is back from Port Augusta & going O.K. During the time she has been away I have driven my private car 1600 miles attending to the waters etc.

To day has been hot with not a breath of wind. The mill pumping into the pipe line has hardly turned round for a week.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Hope Jean¹ meets Khama. I would like them to be friends

Kind regards

E. P. W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 21. 4. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn

18. 4. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 16 inst. to hand.

Glad to hear the Brigg is going forward to Port Augusta.

Water. I'm pleased to be able to report the position has improved since I last wrote. I had to send all hands up to the 4" section of the pipe line with instructions to stay there night and day until the water was flowing normally into all sheep tanks again. They put in two days on the job and since then we have had no further trouble.

The cause of the trouble is that the old 4" pipes are so thin that they won't stand threading when they

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pull out of the collars. The cold nights make the pipe line contract and of course it breaks at the weakest spot. I have known for years that this trouble was coming, and that is one of the reasons why I advised selling the place. For fourteen days straight we only had one day that the water ran into the sheep tanks in a good stream. However I hope the trouble is OK. now.

Private Car. I will not make any claim but will leave things for The Board to deal with.

Sheep – The ewes are lambing well, but unless it rains in a week or two the prospects of a good lambing are not bright.

The weather is cool and fine

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

¹ Jean Primrose Whyte, daughter of Prim Whyte [and his late wife, Kathleen \('Kitty'\)](#), graduated from St Peter's Collegiate Girls' Boarding School in 1941, but had returned to Adelaide to pursue a tertiary education in 1942.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 29. 4. 42

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Yadlamalka Stn

26. 4. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 23 inst. to hand.

I wish to thank you for noting my private car running.

The 1940 buck board which has been at Port Augusta for months is now repaired and Apex Motor Coy sent word out that it is ready for the road but no word about the gass producer. I'm going into Port Augusta tomorrow and if the gass producer isn't there will bring the buck board back here, until the gass producer is ready to be fitted on.

On April 15. we had two points of rain and had another 20 points this afternoon. The

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barometer is low and conditions for rain are favourable. During the week isolated thunderstorms have been flying about but there was no rain anywhere on the run to do any good.

The ewes are mothering their lambs well up to date but we are losing a few round the waters and foxes and hawks are taking their toll.

The new house is now finished with the exception of cementing the verandahs and it is a good neat strong job.

I will ring you from Port Augusta if we get more rain.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8. 5. 42

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Adelaide

Yadlamalka Stn

May 6th 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Owing to recent rain making the track in a bad state, the mail, which I should have got there/ on Saturday last, has only just arrived from Port Augusta.

The following is the rain fall for the week ending Sunday May 3rd.

	<u>April 28</u>	<u>May 2nd</u>	<u>May 3rd</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Yadlamalka</u>	<u>64</u> points	<u>43</u> points	<u>3</u> pts	<u>110</u>
<u>Marachowie</u>	<u>56</u> points	<u>75</u> points	<u>3</u> pts	<u>134</u>
<u>Kallioota</u>	<u>100</u> points	<u>75</u> points	<u>25</u> pts	<u>200</u>

The rain has been very patchy, although there was a light general fall over the whole of the Run, there were also some heavy storms

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flying about. The green feed is already about three inches high in the sandy country, and the whole brew was just the thing for the young lambs.

We have destroyed 124 foxes and we seldom see a fox track now, but there is a killer left in West One Gum Pdk. There are also a few eagle hawks about that are living on young lambs.

The Willochra Creek just ran down far enough in the swamps to fill the water holes.

I will let you know next week when I will be down unless something crops up to upset my plans.

The weather is calm and mild.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 19. 5. 42

[annotation at top of page in green ink] Can draw Jun on May 25

Yadlamalka Stn

16. 8\5/. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of May 14 inst. to hand.

I was pleased to hear Mrs. Doman is doing so well, and wish to thank you for so thoughtfully ringing up so that you could send me the latest regarding her progress.

Will you please send me the following:-

3	Letter books.
6	Writing blocks.
500	Envelopes
20	lbs Tea
20	Tins Coffee
20	Tins Cocoa
1	Cheque Book.
2	Cases Canned Fruit

[page number, circled] 2

20 lbs dried fruit	8 gallon Blo-fli-die
15 lbs Rice	3 "Lux" lamb marking knives.
15 " Sago.	

Tea. I have 3lbs. Tea on hand. R. Gloede & mate (E. Mathews) have finished up, so please scratch them off the tea ration list and add J. Wood who has returned from hospital.

I would very much like to see a follow on rain, as we have a grand germination of green stuff, but a lot of it is showing signs of drooping. The young lambs have improved and are looking very well since they have been able to eat the young tender shoots.

I would like to lamb mark as soon as I can, but there is still an odd ewe lambing. Flies are very busy since the rain and this coming week I'm going to muster all sheep but the wet ewes and lambs and am going through them for fly strike.

The new building is now

[page number, circled] 3

finished and it is a very good job.

I have also had two 20,000 gallon stock watering Tanks concreted and cemented. The mason is now repairing the stone out buildings at Marachowie and the shearers kitchen at Woolshed, and when those jobs are finished he will start on the house parapets and verandah.

Petrol

All my special licences blew out at the end of April. I would like another 20 gallons for the Ford Engine to work the air compressor at Lake Salmon West bore. We have cleaned the drift sand up a lot and I want to have another go at it, so as I will know wether to order a plant for the new bore when I go to Town.

I don't think there is much chance of getting the new Brigg fitted to my buck board at Port Augusta, so will you try and get me an extra Licence for 15 gallons of petrol, so that I can take

[annotation in margin in green ink]

a No. two Buckboards.

179 996\8/

141-728

which one. Always quote Regn No when writing.

[page number, circled] 4

the buckboard to Adelaide to get the job done.

The weather is dull and threatening and barometer low

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 26. 5. 42

Yadlamalka Stn.

23. 5. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 21th inst to hand.

Expect the stores will be up by next boat.

Thanks for Petrol Licence No. 22/32778. I can get along now until the end of June O.K.

The No. of the 1940 Buckboard is 179-998 and this is the one I intend having the new Brigg fitted on to. I'm sorry if some of my letters haven't been quite clear but the mail has been running so late recently, one is generally in a devil of a hurry to get the mail answered in time for

[page number, circled] 2

the return journey to Port Augusta.

The mail was three hours late today.

I mustered all the dry sheep this week and crutched all sheep that needed attention. Flies are working amongst them, and we got about 5% struck by flies — some badly. The weather has been very hot for this time of the year, and conditions were ideal for flies to do their foul work.

It is now much colder and I intend to start lamb-marking on Tuesday next. When this job is finished I will go straight to Town.

All stock are doing very well. The cattle especially have freshened up a lot since the rain. I trust M^{rs}. Doman is still progressing after her very bad fall. Am taking my children into Port Augusta tomorrow on their

[page number, circled] 3

way back to Adelaide, so will take the opportunity to ring up and find out how she is.

Yrs. Sincerely

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2 / 6 / 42

Yadlamalka

30. 5. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

It is now 40.30 p.m. and it looks as if no mail is coming today. However I have a chance of posting this note by a private car that is going through to Port Augusta.

Have just returned from lambmarking South Paradise Pdk. and the following are the results to date.

Morgans Pdk.	<u>Ewes 674</u>	<u>Lambs 617.</u>	<u>91%</u>
East One Gum	“ <u>955</u>	“ <u>764.</u>	<u>80%</u>
West One Gum	“ <u>696</u>	“ <u>670</u>	<u>96%</u>
South Paradise	“ <u>492</u>	“ <u>595</u>	<u>120%</u>
	<u>2,817</u>	<u>2646</u>	<u>93%</u>

[page] 2.

I have three paddocks to do yet and another 2000 ewes to muster.

Today's tally of 120% is the best lambing result I have ever had and they are a fine lot of lambs.

The following is the rain fall for the week :-

Yadlamalka 49 points

Kallioota 70 “

Marachowie 40 “

The country is looking very well.

Hope to leave for Adelaide on Wednesday or Thursday.

Barometer very low and looks like rain.

Hope M^{rs}. Doman is progressing in the right way.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 23. 6. 42

Yadlamalka Stn

20. 6. 42.

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We arrived back home today after a good run through with the gass producer from Adelaide.

Unfortunately I blew a tyre out on the track & ruined the tube otherwise had a really good trip.

Grantham tells me everything is all right, but during my absence he had to go through the sheep again for flies and I'm pleased to know he had done this. He tells me the weather has been quite warm hence the fly trouble.

Have had just an inch of general rain since I left and the whole country is in wonderful heart, and the same conditions apply right through from Adelaide. The herbage is a picture and one would hardly realize things could improve so much

[written at right angles overleaf on reverse]

during the time I ~~was~~ \have been/ away.

Will write a full report on the condition of the run next week, by which time I will have had a good look round.

Yrs. faithfully

E P. Whyte

[Post script] Thanks for all you did for me in Town. Regds to both you & Khama

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 30. 6. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 3

Yadlamalka

27. 6. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

The mail has not arrived yet and it is already too late for him to come now, so don't expect him to turn up until Monday if then. He has given us a rotten service lately and it would almost be better to have it cut out than put up with the unreliable service we are getting at present

[preprinted page number at top] 4

I have finished marking the Salt Well lambs and the following are the results :-

Ewes 806. Lambs 591. 73%

The total ewes mustered are 4932. Lambs marked 4362.

Since shearing we have Tailed 732 Summer lambs in Salt Well Paddock & 591 Winter Lambs. making a total of 1323 lambs from 806 ewes.

The total lambs tailed since shearing is now 5094 from 4932 ewes 103%.

The lambs are a very fine lot and well grown.

[preprinted page number at top] 5

The whole of the Run is in splendid heart and the herbage is so full of sap that all stock are doing without water.

I hope to be able to close down on repair work in a week or two and put the peg in tight and try and make the overdraft look small after the wool clip is sold. The work I have done here has absolutely been necessary and has added to the value of Yadlamalka to the extent of some thousands of pounds.

Sunday 4.30 p.m. Yours of June 25 inst just to hand, the mail having just arrived

[preprinted page number at top] 6

I want to pump Lake Salmon West bore out with the air compressor more before ordering the new mill. If the sand can be cleared up in the bore, it is just possible it will flow enough to water stock without the assistance of a mill, But I haven't much hope of this coming about.

Glass has been low but is gradually rising – weather very cold and looks like rain away South.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7. 7. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 7

Yadlamalka

July 4th 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T .A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 2. inst to hand.

The following are the numbers of stock on The Run on June 30th. I have sent these numbers on to Elders :-

30 / 6 / 42

Sheep 13601

Cattle 210

Horses 14

Calves Branded 42.

[preprinted page number at top] 8

I have to send into Port Augusta on Monday and will then send you the value of stores etc. together with all accounts. These should reach you on Wednesday.

Have been busy dressing sheep for flies and have only just got home from doing the rams heads.

The job kept me longer than I thought and now I'm only just in time to catch the mail; otherwise I would have had everything squared up in time for this mail.

I'm sorry the accounts will be late.

On Tuesday last the barometer fell to 29 dead

[preprinted page number at top] 9

the lowest winter glass I have ever seen and it looked like raining inches, but we finished up by registering the following falls :-

Yadlamalka 20 points
Marachowie 40 “
Kallioota nil
Lake Hut 15 “

The weather is now fine with south winds blowing
Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[The following page has been written on two separate fragments of notepaper.]

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16. 7. 42
[preprinted page number at top] 12

Yadlamalka
July 10th 42.
The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Please send the following Shearing Requisites
6 mattress covers (same ticking as last year) for shearers & station hands
Yrs. faithfully
E P Whyte

[annotations below in red]

Rang Jno Sullivan & ordered these.

[initials?]

16. 7. 42

10a

Pages 13/15 } to Elders
Pts 12 & 16 } 16. 7. 42.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16. 7. 42
[preprinted page number at top] 18

Yadlamalka
14. 7. 42

[annotation at top in red]

Jones say :-

No sauce – frozen. 1 ^c/_s Jam only so canc^d the order & order all thro' Elders.

[initials?] 16. 7. 42

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of July 9 inst just to hand, the mail being two days late owing to rain on Friday last.
The motor accounts are the after-math of the major breakdowns we had at the end of the summer
and I hope it will be the last of the big accounts for a while.

On Friday July 10th we had

[preprinted page number at top] 19

the following rain :-

Yadlamalka	58 points
Marachowie	52 "
Kallioota	40 "
Lake Hut	60 "

I now have a rain gauge at the lat[t]er place (Lake Hut) so all the gaugings are now correct.

Today I have returned from a good look round at Kallioota and I also inspected the sheep (2000 wethers 6^T; 4^T, & 2T. They look very well & the feed is wonderful over there; but the 6^T wethers are not ready for the fat market yet..

The recent

[preprinted page number at top] 20

rain was not nearly so heavy north of Willochra Creek as it was on Yadlamalka proper.

We are now busy getting ready for shearing, there is the usual white ant damage to be repaired both in the Woolshed & mens quarters;

The weather is now fine and mild

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 21. 7. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 21

Yadlamalka

July 18th 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 16 inst. to hand.

The two motor tyres & tubes came to hand O.K. 700 x 16 four ply. Elders sent these on from Adelaide.

We have had some lovely sunny days here this week which is making the feed mature quickly and in places there is

[preprinted page number at top] 22

a great show of wild flowers.

The verandah isn't finished off yet. There was a lot to be done to it and I think in about a weeks time it should be all O.K.

Everything going on all right up here at present.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] Tea was O.K. I think. Haven't heard of any complaints

Regds

Yrs

E. P. W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 28. 7. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 23

Yadlamalka

25. 7. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Grantham was in Port Augusta yesterday and he brought what mail there was at Port Augusta for us.

I received a letter from the Stockowners Shearing stating a Team will be along on or about Aug 7th.

I will want a petrol Ration for shearing. The following are the particulars.

Approx number of sheep to

[preprinted page number at top] 24

thirteen thousand. (13000)

Horse power of Engine 6.

At present there are only six shearers in the Team, so it looks as if we will be shearing for some time.

Petrol required three 44's (132 gallons).

If Elders haven't sent the stores on please shake them up.

We have been very busy dressing sheep for fly trouble this week and I will be glad to get the wool off the sheep, although they will only have about eleven months wool.

On Thursday we had

[preprinted page number at top] 25

thirteen points of rain, but Grantham tells me it has been much heavier down Port Augusta way.

My wife has been in Hospital at Port Augusta for a week and I'm going in this afternoon to get her home again. It is already 4 p.m. & no sign of mail, so it looks as if I will have to go without receiving the mail. Grubs are about and playing havoc with the herbage in places.

Will you please have 1 dozen pumpkins and veg. marrows sent up by next boat.

Yrs faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 4. 8. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 26

Yadlamalka

1. 8. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 23 & 30 inst. to hand.

I note your remarks about tea towels & coupons etc.

Thank you very much for petrol Licence for shearing Engine which you fixed up in your usual prompt manner.

Shearing stores arrived late this afternoon and I haven't checked

[preprinted page number at top] 27

them up yet but noticed there are no brooms.

Six straw brooms are absolutely necessary in a shed and I must procure them as early as possible, as the shearers may arrive at Woolshed on Wednesday or Thursday next. However I will have to go Port Augusta during the week and if there are no brooms there will 'phone you if they are unprocurable at Port Augusta.

Thank you for enquiring about Eileen². I have her home but it may be some time

[preprinted page number at top] 28

before she is quite well again.

Thank you for doing what you can about pumpkins. I will expect them on next boat at Port Augusta.

Yes, the heavy motor accounts have worried me, but all stations are complaining of the same thing. It still makes me shudder when I think of the serious water position here last summer and broken down cars just when things were at their worst, and I trust such a position will never arise here again during

[preprinted page number at top] 29

my time ~~here~~. Grantham and I are the only two here that drive motor Cars ~~here~~ and the former is really a much more careful driver than I am and I try to get the best I can out of anything I drive. Most of the serious breakdowns occurred while I was driving and the worst one was when we were thirty miles out and had an eighteen mile walk during about the hottest day of the summer. It nearly killed me and the strange thing was that all the gears should be smashed

[preprinted page number at top] 30

up while the car was stationary and the engine just idling.

Gloede's account was quite O.K. His contract price for the new building was £251 or thereabouts, but as mentioned in my previous letter I asked him to render his account as wages as high as possible and material so much, so as to help Taxation.

The other account for £84 – 13 – 5 was for tanks fittings & pipes and a few sundries that I bought while there was a chance, as they couldn't

[preprinted page number at top] 31

be procured elsewhere, and the fittings for the pipe line especially will prove invaluable.

I will ring you during the week when I have checked up shearing stores, if it is necessary. The shearers might be along on Wednesday next Aug. 6th.

Flies are bad and I will be glad to get the wool off the sheep.

We are all busy repairing white ant damage to woolshed etc. & getting things in general shipshape.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

² Eileen Whyte, Prim's second wife (the older sister of Kathleen 'Kitty') whom he married sometime after Kitty's premature death. Jean and "Billie" called her 'Auntie'.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 11. 8. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 32

Yadlamalka Stn

8. 8. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Aug 6 inst to hand.

Thanks for the carbon paper. Another sheet would be appreciated. Wilkes & wife arrived by the mail but I haven't seen them yet as I have only just got home and it is just about time the mail arrived on its return journey to

[preprinted page number at top] 33

Port Augusta.

Yesterday we had the following fall of rain

Yadlamalka 38 points

Marachowie 57 "

I don't know yet what there has been at Kallioota and Lake Hut, as we have all been busy with the sheep.

The 3100 sheep I have had over at Kallioota (Scrub pdk, Nancy pdk and Lake Wells pdk.) have turned up very well, as we are only fifty short (including rations that have been killed out of them) since last November. If the others turn up as well I will be

[preprinted page number at top] 34

very pleased, but I'm anxious about the lambs, as foxes are still numerous and flies are bad.

However they will have to take their chance now until they are shorn.

We are ready for the shearers and I thought they would be here before this but expect the rain will delay them.

More stores came along today by the mail but I haven't checked them yet.

The Veranda is finished and the mason has gone away for a holiday until after shearing.

I want to cement

[preprinted page number at top] 35

two more tanks before he leaves here for good.

It has been a beautiful day today and the rain yesterday should bring the spear grass on.

Herbage is all running up to seed and was wilting badly until the recent rain.

Yours faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] How is Khama doing? Give her our kind regards

Prim

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 18. 8. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 36

Yadlamalka

15. 8. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 13 inst. to hand. Thanks for the carbon paper.

On Tuesday we had another nice little rain and we registered the following falls.

Yadlamalka	33 points
Marachowie	50 "
Lake Hut	40 "

I haven't been over

[preprinted page number at top] 37

to Kallioota, but think the rain was general. We haven't got a start shearing yet, but seven of the team arrived at the shed last night and expect the rest tonight. We hope to get a start on Monday morning.

I will report during the week how we are getting on. The Lee Transport Coy are doing the wool carting

and they are putting a small lorry on the job to cart a load of wool every day, so I should

[preprinted page number at top] 38

be able to report if the weather holds good. Thanks for enquiring about Eileen. I'm glad to say she is much better

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 25. 8. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 39

Yadlamalka St

22. 8. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd..

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

The mail has arrived but there was no letter from you.

We got a start shearing on Monday last and have put through:-

3389 sheep and have 100 bales of wool out sixty of which have gone forward to Port Augusta. We only have/ five & half

[preprinted page number at top] 40

shearers as one of the six is only a learner. The rest of the team are on the slow side. Don't think much of the Rep and we may have trouble before we finish. They want every thing under the sun

and the war apparently does not concern them. All out for themselves and a pity that the whole lot can't be put in the fighting forces.

Sheep are turning up well up to date but flies are very bad and I'm anxious about the lambs.

Sheep are all in excellent condition

[preprinted page number at top] 41

and I hope to have seven to eight hundred fat six and four tooth wethers to sell in the fat market.

We are putting as much wool as we can in the bales, so this year the clip cannot be judged by the number of bales but by weight.

Motor Spirit Licence No. 22/11334

I'm returning this licence (No 22/11334) for renewal.

All stock will be watering shortly, as green feed is wilting very fast; and it is imperative that the pipe line should have every attention. There still

[preprinted page number at top] 42

is a lot of repair work to be done to the stock watering tanks and much of the material has to be carted about thirty miles making sixty miles in all over bad sand and rough roads. I'm right up against it for petrol.

The weather has been fine & warm

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2. 9. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 43

Yadlamalka

29. 8. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd..

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 27 inst to hand.

Thanks for the petrol Licence No. 22/11599

I will check up on the Hay & Chaff from Elders on 16/7/42. If it is correct it must be some account that has been over looked.

Shell accounts enclosed are O.K.

[preprinted page number at top] 44

Eileen and I will be glad to welcome M^r. & M^{rs}. Pattinson.

Personally I'm pleased they are making the trip, as it is quite time some of the owners & directors came up to have a look round. I don't care how conscientious a manager is it doesn't do him any ~~good~~ good to be left alone too long.

I don't know how long shearing will take, but will have some idea next week. M^r. & M^{rs}. Pattinson had better bring their own saddles and bridles as we will be busy mustering sale

[preprinted page number at top] 45

sheep about the time they will be here, if we have finished shearing.

On Thursday last we had the following rain :-

Yadlamalka 42 points

Marachowie 41 "

And I think the rain was general over the Run.

This fall will do a lot of good.

We knocked off shearing about 4 p.m. Friday and expect to resume on Monday morning but of course it rests with the shearers as they can vote the sheep wet for as long as they like.

The barometer is

[preprinted page number at top] 46

very low (29.20) and it looks like more rain

To date we have shorn 6,600 sheep and have 180 bales of wool out.

The clip is excellent for this type of country.

M^r. Bartholomaeus arrived on Tuesday night and left on Wednesday afternoon. As usual it did me good to have a yarn with him.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Agree with your remarks re M^{rs}. Doman. It is a great pity such a fine character has to grow old

EPW

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8. 9. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 48

Yadlamalka Stn

5. 9. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 3rd inst. to hand

The shearing is going on slowly. We have approx 10,000 sheep out for 250 bales of wool but the bales are extra heavy.

Sheep are turning up well so far.

Rain – We had an average of 70 points over

[preprinted page number at top] 49

the Run last week end.

We knocked off shearing at about 4 p.m. on the Friday and didn't resume until Tuesday morning.

I expect to cut out on next Thursday night or Friday morning.

The recent rain was very valuable, as it was just what we wanted to bring the spear grass on and the whole country couldn't be in much better heart.

I'm glad M^r. & M^{rs}. Pattinson will see the country dressed in its best.

I have arranged for two of the best horses to be

[preprinted page number at top] 50

kept in reserve for their visit, but our saddles here are a poor lot, and I can't get them put in order as all the saddlers in the district have gone out of business. We haven't any spare saddles either.

As I write we are having light showers from the South but there hasn't been enough to register so far.

We have had some very wild weather this week and the wind has reached hurricane force at times

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Undated]

[preprinted page number at top] 51

Yadlamalka Stn

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Sept 10th to hand.

We cut out shearing last night and the following are the figures :-

<u>Sheep Shorn</u>	13589
<u>Rams double</u>	<u>187</u>
<u>Tally Board Total</u>	<u>13,776</u>

Bales Wool	352.
Crutchings & [Stig. ?]	<u>14</u>
sold.	
Total Clip	<u>366 Bales</u>

[preprinted page number at top] 52

Rain. We had the following rain on Sept 11

Yadlamalka 48 points
Marachowie 30 “

The other gauges on Run I haven't had an opportunity to visit yet, but think the rain was general. This rain will just top the spear grass off and is of great value to the whole of the Run.

I turned 20 sheep back without being shorn last night.

The shearers wouldn't cut them out, so I declared a cut out to avoid paying the whole team another days wages

[preprinted page number at top] 53

I haven't had time to make the sheep returns up, as I have just returned from the Woolshed where I have been squaring up, but will post details on to you first chance. I can say the sheep have turned up fairly well considering the very dry time we had off the shearers last year right up until April last.

I will meet M^r. & M^{rs}. Paden Pattinson next Friday at Port Augusta and will be very glad to see them.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 22. 9. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 57

Yadlamalka

Sept 19th 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 17 inst. to hand.

M^r. & M^{rs}. Pattinson arrived O.K. and we were able to reach here for 6 O'clock dinner on Friday night.

I posted particulars of Wool & Sheep in Port Augusta last Friday.

Am enclosing ar-

[preprinted page number at top] 58

rangements made for sale of surplus sheep at Wilmington on Oct 8th.

Also cattle trucks ordered for Adelaide market.

This week we will be busy mustering the sale sheep, as the whole of the sheep on the Run have to be drafted to get the sale mob together.

We have had some wild and stormy weather during the past week but today is a perfect day.

I will report on the Vermin fence during the week.

I very much

[preprinted page number at top] 59

regret to hear M^{rs}. Doman has not been so well and I trust she will soon be her old self again

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Correct Rainfall on Sept 11th.

Yadlamalka 48 points

Marachowie 38 "

Lake Hut 50 "

Kallioota 31 "

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 6-10-42

[preprinted page number at top] 62

Yadlamalka Stn

Oct. 3rd. 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct 1st inst. to hand.

I'm sorry the message about the separator was messed up. I really wanted a small one about 12 or 15 gallon but if it isn't ordered don't worry about it.

I trust a large one has not been bought as that is just what

[preprinted page number at top] 63

I didn't want.

No sooner had M^r. & M^{rs}. Pattinson left here when we ran into Motor Car trouble. The 1940 Chev buck board broke down and is at present in Port Augusta. The transmission has gone, so there must be something broken in side somewhere. Then the next day the hopper burnt out on the gass producer on the old buck board and I'm sending it into Port Augusta by the mail. The trouble is I will be right up against it for petrol

[preprinted page number at top] 64

with both gass producers off the Run.

The Summer has come in with a bang and the pipe line will want a lot of attention.

I sent 2653 sale sheep to Wilmington and I hope they sell well on Thursday next.

The barometer is very low (29 dead) but there is no sign of rain.

I will post all accounts etc on Tuesday next.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 13. 10. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 68

Yadlamalka Stn

Oct. 10th 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct. 8th.inst. to hand

Separator. A separator would soon pay for itself here, for if we dont get one we will have to buy butter. However I will leave the decission with The Directors.

Why is "the Vega" so much cheaper than the others?

All users I have spoken

[preprinted page number at top] 69

tell me "Diabolo" is the best.

I did not hear from the Fuel Control Board by this mail.

Wilmington Sale. I consider we had an excellent sale. Wethers are definitely down in price and I thought the 4Ts would bring more money but on reading the Adelaide Stock market report I now think they brought their value. Unfortunately the sheep developed "Pink eye" on the track to Wilmington other wise the ewes would have brought more money. We have had some very warm days, and as

[preprinted page number at top] 70

I expected, the green feed has gone off with a bang.

The grass is not only dry but looks quite bleached.

The buck board was not so badly broken down as I thought it was. The clutch was burnt out and the gears were out of adjustment. I wish I could get the shock absorbers fixed up as it is only a matter of time, for the undue strain on the front axles, to cause a break down.

All hands are busy mustering Cattle and I

[preprinted page number at top] 71

hope I will get enough fats to fill eight trucks, but feel doubtful about it as some of the heifers I relied on sending either now have calves or are heavy in calf.

I would like to go to Town for a week about the end of the month and would like you to ring City Motors and see if it is possible for them to get new shock absorbers for the 1940 Chev. The priority number is 4. Fuel Licence 9/5341 and No of Registration 179-998.

All stock are doing

[annotation in left margin in red]

66 Gren[fell?] St

I Rang C/M

10.15

13. 10. 42.

[preprinted page number at top] 72

well and the flies are not quite so bad as they were.

All sheep are now watering.

Yours faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 20. 10. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 73

Yadlamalka

Oct 17th 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 15 inst. to hand.

The Fuel Control Board sent me a Licence for Ten gallons of Petrol. I wish to thank you for the trouble you went to to obtain this petrol issue.

Am glad to hear City Motors are trying to

[preprinted page number at top] 74

get the shock absorbers.

We will be lucky if we get two shock absorbers but if they say they can only get one, secure it at once.

I will be going to Town on Tuesday the 27th. There is a meeting of the Stockowners Council on Wednesday 28th which I want to attend.

As far as I know at present my wife is staying here.

The Cattle had a very hot trip into Port Augusta, but I hope they sell well. Some of

[preprinted page number at top] 75

the young stuff cut up on the track but the older cattle should be O.K. I sent 100 head away from here.

The weather is very hot and as I had to send my own staff in with the cattle I have been very busy with the pipe line & sheep troughs.

The flies are still very bad

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 10. 11. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 76

Yadlamalka

7. 11. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We had a good trip back from Adelaide, the spell in the City doing both my wife & myself a lot of good.

I'm now busy joining the rams, as it looks as if we will have to shear in June next year, as it is almost a

[preprinted page number at top] 77

certainty the zoning system will be introduced next year. All the stock tanks are full but The Weir is fourteen inches from full. There were two breaks in the 4" pipes while I was away.

I think I will be able to get about thirty more fat cattle but will be too busy with the sheep to send them to market in the immediate future, as all the sheep have to be drafted before joining the rams.

The rain was very disappointing and the following were the falls

Yadlamalka 26 points

[preprinted page number at top] 78

Marachowie 30 points

Kallioota 50 "

These are the whole of the falls while I was in Adelaide.

The weather has been quite cold, but is warming up again today.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 17. 11. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 79

Yadlamalka

14. 11. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Nov 12 inst to hand.

I posted men's accounts to you during the week. We had a very hot week for mating the ewes, but now have the job finished.

The number of Ewes mated with rams is 4957.

The Weir is about sixteen inches from full and just

[preprinted page number at top] 80

about held its own during the heat wave. We are now getting every drop of water the springs are making, into the big Weir, and as the Summer is advancing the springs are gradually going back in their supply.

Petrol Licences

I'm returning to you Motor Spirit Consumer's Licence No. 22/32778. Priority 4.

I want to pump \blow/ the sand out of Lake Salmon West Bore with the air compressor, before erecting a mill. I still have the Ford Stationary engine of 20 horse power on the job. Will you please get

[preprinted page number at top] 81

[annotation in top margin in red pencil] New Lic no 22/41348

this Licence renewed for 20 gallons of Motor Spirit.

I'm also returning Motor Spirit Consumer's Licence No. 22/11599. for renewal.

This Farm Truck is very essential for maintaining the pipe line in good order, and it is also doing general station work. It is not registered

[Annotation inserted in red pencil] \New Lic 22/11848 Dec Jan & Feb 14G/

Today a Southerly buster is blowing with dust & sand drifting badly

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Sorry to have to give you this petrol job.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 24. 11. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 82

Yadlamalka Stn.

Nov. 22nd. 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Nov. 19 inst to hand.

Thanks for the petrol licences which duly came to hand.

I don't know how we are going to get on with the 1940 Chev. Apparently all parts are frozen for the duration of the war. It is only a question of time, when the

[preprinted page number at top] 83

buck board will be useless and I think the best thing to do is to try and trade it in for another buck board

while it is still in running order.

The little windmill I had rigged on the new well at Nancy Walker has been wrecked in a gale.

Will you please order a new ten feet (10') Southern Cross Mill from Elder's together with ~~either~~ either a 25ft or 30ft Tower.

I have a pump Column pipes & rods on hand, so will not require them.

I also require

[preprinted page number at top] 84

two new riding saddles. I have been looking out for second hand saddles for some time but it is almost impossible to buy them. The best way to get two new saddles is through Elders, but they must be good strong stock saddles.

One Friday last we had the following rain:-

Yadlamalka	14 points
Lake Hut	30 "

There was nothing in other gauges on the Run

[preprinted page number at top] 85

The weather has been very wild & stormy during the week but today is cool with southerly winds.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] These small letter books are awful things to write in.

Regds

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 1. 12. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 86

Yadlamalka
28 / 11 / 42.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Nov 26 inst to hand.

Note your remarks re trucks and buck boards.

What is the lightest type of truck on the market?

I have had to send the old buckboard into Port Augusta for a general overhaul, including valves ground & new piston rings.

I don't like parting with the 1940 Chev and I

[preprinted page number at top] 87

suppose if the truth was known, there are plenty of spare parts locked up for this type of buck board, if one could pull the right string, but I'm very anxious to do the right thing for the efficient working of the station.

I'm glad Mr. Bartholomaeus has secured saddles for us. They will be well looked after.

The water position is O.K. here so far and all stock are doing well, with the exception of some of the weiner lambs. The spear grass seeds are play up

[preprinted page number at top] 88

with this type of sheep, and some of them are losing their bloom and condition.

Please send the following.

2 Dozen 2 inch water pipe
clamps
1 Dozen 2½ inch clamps
1 " 3 " "

These clamps are wanted for repairing the line.

The weather has been quite cold this week
Yrs. faithfully
E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8 / 12 / 42
[preprinted page number at top] 89

Yadlamalka Stn
Dec 5th 42.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Dec 3rd. inst to hand.

Note your remarks re trucks etc.

Two saddles came to hand, & also 1 14ft. Southern Cross Mill for Lake Salmon West Bore and a 10 ft mill for Nancy Walker Well.

This week we have had trouble with the pipe line, and lost a few thousand gallons of

[preprinted page number at top] 90

the valuable reserve supply out of the big Weir, which is now two feet down from the Full mark.

I had a calf muster during the week and we branded thirteen calves.

I can get thirty to thirty five fat cattle out of the Nancy Well mob, and have arranged to sell them at Quorn market on Tuesday Dec. 15th. Would have liked to have held on to these cattle for a while, but I noticed signs of them losing their bloom so decided to market them as early as possible.

We have had a

[preprinted page number at top] 91

mixture of all sorts of weather this week including thunderstorms but only Registered 1 point of rain.

At present there is a hard southerly blowing with dust & sand flying about.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Glad to hear news of Khama

Sincerely trust you will yet hear good news of Ron.

Mens accounts posted.

Regds.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 15-12-42

[preprinted page number at top] 92

Yadlamalka Stn

Dec. 12th 42

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 10th inst. to hand.

I have just started 33 head of fat cattle to Quorn market on Tuesday next.

They are a nice draft and I hope they don't waste too much on the track.

All feed is now very dry but I have sent Grantham with them so that they will

[preprinted page number at top] 93

will get every chance on the track.

Yesterday we had a Thunderstorm over Marachowie East & West One Gum, and down through Mudliappa pdks. We had 50 points at Marachowie, but rain was much heavier in One Gum paddocks where over an inch must have fallen in about twenty minutes. I was in the middle of it, & got bogged and received a good ducking as well. I have had no reports from Kallioota as the phone is out of order but don't think there was much rain over there. Elsewhere on the

[preprinted page number at top] 94

there was no rain. Indeed for the past week we have had just about one continual dust storm, and as I write the dust & sand is drifting badly as there is a hard gale blowing from the South. The barometer is low and falling.

If there has been more rain elsewhere (over Kallioota & scrubby way) I will advise you when I go to Quorn on Tuesday next.

It is still very warm

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Hail stones were like marbles

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 22. 12. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 95

Yadlamalka

Dec 19th 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir

Yours of Dec. 17 inst to hand.

The cattle at Quorn sold very well considering the class of beast we sold.

33 head averaged £7-4-3

The cows that were sold were very old ones that we would have lost in a dry time. In case you didn't receive Account Sales I will

[preprinted page number at top] 97

enclose mine in this letter.

If you get a duplicate copy please post the enclosed back to me.

I have been cross branding all bought cattle DOO on the near loin but the stock inspector at Quorn tells me the station brand is no registered in that position, so will you please have it registered as a cross brand in the above mentioned position vis:- DOO near loin.

It will cost about £1- and one can still use it in any other position. I told the stock Inspector we would get the registration fixed up at once.

[preprinted page number at top] 98

We had 52 points of rain at Kallioota on Dec. 11, but the storm was only about 2 miles wide, and owing to the hot burning winds and severe heat one can hardly see where it fell.

This coming week I'm taking the rams out of the ewes.

Have had two breaks in the main pipe line this week, but owing to getting on to them quickly and working through the night we didn't lose much water out of the Weir.

I trust the 1943 Xmas will be a brighter & happier one for all of us

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 29. 12. 42

[preprinted page number at top] 99

Yadlamalka

26 / 12 / 42.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 24 inst. to hand.

Thanks for fixing the cattle brand so promptly.

Regret M^{rs}. Doman feeling the heat and trust you have had a cool change by this time.

I received 2 cases of heavy clamps that are used for hanging column pipes down a well or bore, and

[preprinted page number at top] 100

have returned them to Port Augusta Elder Smith & Co Ltd.

The clamps I ordered were for mending leaks in the water pipes. Will you please ring Elders and ask them

to send them along as soon as possible as I want them badly. The order was as follows:-

2 Doz. 2" Water pipe clamps

1 " 2½" " " "

1 " 3" " " "

for mending leaks in pipes.

The weather has been very hot and I think there has been heavy rain West & North West but we were just out of the brew .

Water is in a satisfactory position all tanks having a good reserve

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 5. 1. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 1

Yadlamalka

2. 1. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd
Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Dec 31 to hand.

I herewith enclose my half yearly report to Elders, also a copy of the Stock numbers I sent them. These are on the conser\va/tive side as I don't like misleading Bankers – , or rather, running the risk of doing so.

I reciprocate your New Year greetings and I trust when

[preprinted page number at top] 2

we welcome 1944 we will also ring in “the the thousand years of peace”

There is a hard southerly blowing today with dust and sand drifting badly

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation further below] conservative

[preprinted page number at top] 3

[Heading] Yadlamalka Station Dec 31st 1942

[Subheading] Half Yearly stock Return

Sheep on hand last return 13589

Deduct

Sales. Ewes 1224

Wethers 907

Lambs 511

Rations 186

Dead & missing 300 3128

Total on Station 31/12/42 10,461

Particulars

Ewes 4 years and under 4329

Ewes 5 years and over 1000

Wethers 1329

Lambs 3632

Rams 171

Total on Station as above 10,461

Cattle on hand 100

[Annotation in top left corner] Copy

Yadlamalka Stn
31. 12. 42.

A. R. Bartholomaeus Esq.
Elder House
Currie St
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit the following Report on the condition of Yadlamalka Stn. generally at the end of the year 1942.

Country

The country generally is in a very dry state, but there is sufficient dry feed to carry us on until the end of the Summer. Much of the exposed sand hill country is now drifting, consequently many of the roads are in a bad state, in places being rough and heavy.

Stock

Sheep All sheep are in good condition, the older sheep being still fat, and many prime. Some of the lambs have lost their bloom but generally speaking they could be described

[page number] 2

as in good strong order.

Cattle I have one hundred head of cattle on the Run at present, mostly Cows, calves and yearlings, all of them being in good store order. The young Nalpa bull is doing very well, and has grown into a class bull, with a rich red fine coat, and a very massive appearance

Water

The supply of water from the weir is satisfactory so far, and with the help of the mill at Salt Well Bore we are keeping the water up to the sheep. The water level in the weir is about nine inches down from the top of the back wall. This position is O.K. as a certain amount of water leaks away if the water level rises any higher in the reservoir

Rainfall

We have had 5.64 inches of rain for the year 1942. The heaviest twenty four hours fall being Seventy two points in August, and altogether there have been eighteen wet days, and the average falls have been thirty one points at each brew.

[page number] 3

I have joined 4987 ewes with the rams and these ewes are due to lamb about the middle of April and should finish about the end of May.

The weather has been hot and dusty with severe gales at times, and these conditions have blown the dry feed about in the exposed places

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 19. 1. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 4

Yadlamalka

Jan. 16th 42\3/

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Jan 7th & 13th inst. to hand.

New Motor. I arranged with Elders at Port Augusta to pay for this buck board and debit to Yadlamalka account. Price £280. —

Apex Motor Coy are sending you all necessary papers to Register & Insure the new Buck board.

[preprinted page number at top] 5

I intend to use this car over the heavy, sandy roads, where gass producers are almost useless, such as the road out to Lake Salmon West bore (sixty miles there & back) and the most of the track heavy sandhills. I have given gass producers a good try out on these tracks and find they are a failure. Only this morning I was stuck for over two hours in the heavy sand and used up about two gallons of petrol getting out, and I'm only allowed five gallons per month.

[preprinted page number at top] 6

Owing to the strong gales we have had lately, the roads couldn't be in a much worse state.

I wish you would try and get me 25 gallons per month *[heavily underlined in red pencil]* for this new buck board.

Buck board Reg No.179-998.

The registration of this car expires on Jan 31st. 1943. I'm enclosing old Registration paper for renewal. I suppose the insurance blows out on the same date as well. Have you the Insurance papers? I haven't them up here.

[preprinted page number at top] 7

I returned from Adelaide on Wednesday night, and found the water position had deteriorated in my absence. There now is only about 12,000 gallons of water per day going into the big Weir from the Spring and the water level in the Reservoir is about nineteen inches down from the back wall of the Weir.

I have brought the sheep in from the far Lake Tank and Table land country and have broken the pipe line at Soakage Tank in an endeavour to conserve as much water as possible

[preprinted page number at top] 8

In conversation with M^r. Trader at Warrikimbo he told me his springs also have dried back the past week or two, and he says he has never seen them so low.

When in Town recently I consulted D^r. E. Britten Jones and he didn't give me a very good report and wanted to put me in Hospital for ten days or so.

I promised to return and let him treat me as soon as I can, so I hope we get a good rain this month.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Annotation on the reverse in red pencil]

× Clatworthy ~~S. B.~~ Stanley Bear of Whyalla
(prev Rg^d in latters name).

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 26. 1. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 9

Yadlamalka

23. 1. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Jan 21st. inst. to hand.

The disc for utility Reg. No. 145-339 came to hand O.K. I will require the Registration papers & Insurance

receipts before I can draw petrol tickets for this bus.

[annotation in red pencil] \Petrol lic first/

I would also like the papers for utility No. 179-998 as soon as possible, as I

[preprinted page number at top] 10

cannot draw petrol for this car until the new Reg. papers come to hand.

Will forward you the Fuel Licence & registration papers for buck board No. 141-728 as soon as it is sold.

This week we have been busy erecting the new 10 ft mill at Nancy Walker and we now have it pumping water into the sheep tank. It is running perfectly, and is a splendid little job.

I have also been busy with Scrubby Bore and have the drift sand pumped out and the mill

[preprinted page number at top] 11

put in order. I have to get the Tank tarred and a new out let valve into the sheep troughs and then it should be O.K. to put sheep in Scrubby pdk.

I want to put a small Southern Cross pumping plant on Scrubby Bore to make the water position secure for sheep and will consult Mr Bartholomaeus about the most suitable plant to buy.

We have just about held our own with the water from The Weir this week I am conserving every gallon for the sheep

[preprinted page number at top] 12

as February is always the worst month to keep the water up to the sheep on the pipe line.

This week we have had severe gales with troughs covered right over with drift sand & the roads are now in a very bad state, the drift sand being very heavy and roads rough.

One could hardly find worse roads for motor vehicles in South Australia, than the tracks we have to motor over here at present.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2. 2. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 13

Yadlamalka

Jan 30th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 28 inst to hand.

Disc for Motor 179-998; also Registration certificate and petrol tickets for 19 gallons came to hand O.K.

I congratulate M^r. Pattinson & you on the result of your interview with The Fuel Control Board. A Fleet Licence is

[preprinted page number at top] 14

what I have wanted for a long time. I will post you licence No. 141-728 & 179-998 on Tuesday next when I have to go to Port Augusta to take my daughter who has to return to Adelaide on that date.

Buck board 141-728 is still in Port Augusta at Apex Motor Coy. I don't think they have started to repair it yet. I asked Apex people for an estimate of the cost of repairs some weeks ago.

M^r. Barber said he would try and put the car in good order without going

[preprinted page number at top] 15

to the expense of buying a new crank shaft, but could not give me a definite answer until the engine was pulled down. The Car isn't worth much and I think the best policy is to keep it in the Apex Motor Coy work shops & draw the petrol in our Fleet Licence.

Some one might Come along and want to buy it, but we will probably have to wait a good while.

Any how it won't deteriate in value.

Mysticmits. My wife got these at Whyalla

[preprinted page number at top] 16

from Harris Scarfe but surely the price is wrong @ 2/11 each.

I will enquire about the price.

F. J. Hannagan

£6.— debited to account from Elders. Port Augusta

This is for carting four tons of stuff out from Port Augusta – including 2 tons of chaff etc. For some time now the mailman has used a sedan car to bring mail from Port Augusta so I had to make a load up for Hannagan when I wanted the Mill & pipes & rods brought

[preprinted page number at top] 17

out.

I will have all accounts sent to you monthly.

I received Reg. for Motor 145.339.

We have had a very severe heat wave for the whole of this week, and almost a flat calm as well.

Have had a very anxious time keeping the water up to the sheep, and I can assure you the extra petrol tickets are badly needed and will save me a lot of worry.

I rang M^r. Bartholomaeus from Port Augusta

[preprinted page number at top] 18

during the week asking him if he could secure a farm pump engine for pumping water and I'm glad to say I had a letter from him saying that one would probably be on the next boat at Port Augusta, if it is I will be able to bring it out on Tuesday next.

As I write the thermometer is just touching the century in the sitting room.

No clouds all the week – just a simmering clear heat all the time and still no sign of

[preprinted page number at top] 19

a change.

I had word by this mail from the crutchers to say that they wont be along until the end of Feb.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 4. 2. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 20

Yadlamalka

Feb. 1st 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Herewith please find enclosed Special Fuel Licence 5/78443.

Also Fuel Licence 22/11848 for Farm Truck which blew out in Feb.

The same conditions still exist with regard to this truck, as Licence 22/11848 was granted. I still have a lot of heavy work for

[preprinted page number at top] 21

this truck to do.

I am also enclosing Fuel Licences 8/9555 & 9/5341 as requested by you in your last letter with a view of getting a fleet Licence. I presume the Licences for watering stock will not be included in a Fleet Licence. =

I regret I haven't had time to get all accounts ready for you by today's post but will see they all go first chance.

In the middle of an old man heat wave and a calm spell combined which has kept

[preprinted page number at top] 22

my self and the whole staff busy seeing the water is kept up to the stock and material procured for the mason, who is building a new brick oven at the woolshed.

Yours. faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] A cool one at "Prince Alfred" with you all would be a Godsend at present

Prim

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 10. 2. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 23

Yadlamalka

7. 2. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 4 inst. to hand.

Am posting all mens accounts etc by this mail

It is a clean up.

Thanks for petrol Licence No. 22/12201 which I received O.K.

The cool change reached us alright with a wild and woolley buster.

[preprinted page number at top] 24

The wind ripped and blew the country about with a wild fuery and a lot of the spear grass & other feed was blown clean out of the ground, and in other places it was covered over with drift sand.

We have been delving for water this week, up above the Weir and have improved the supply a little. The Weir is now 21 inches down to the water at the back wall.

An improvement of three inches on this time last week.

The weather is very hot as I write

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16 - 2 - 43

Yadlamalka

13. 2. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Feb. 11 inst. to hand. I have nothing much to report this week.

We had a break in the 3 inch pipes last Thursday and lost some of our reserve supply of water in the Weir; the water level now being 24 inches down on the back wall.

The young sheep are beginning to look hard and dry and they want green feed to freshen them up.

The weather is very hot but barometer is low — No sign of rain.

Yrs. Faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[The first page of the following letter is written at right angles]

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 23. 2. 43

Yadlamalka
21 / 2 / 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 18.inst. to hand together with Fleet Licence.

Last Wednesday we had the following Rain :-

Yadlamalka 225 points. Marachowie 306 points. Kallioota 256 points. Lake Hut 336 points.

I regret to have to report a lot of damage to Weir & pipeline. The Weir is filled up with gravel and pipe line smashed up and washed away.

Many of the old gum trees that must be hundreds of years old are swept clean away. It is easily the biggest smash we have had. There must have been a cloud burst over the water shed and inches of rain must have flopped down. This rain fell about midnight on Tuesday and up

[continued on reverse]

[page number] 2.

till then we didn't have any rain any good elsewhere on the Run, and it looked as if there was the chance of a big smash, as the back tanks on the pipe line were all low. On Wednesday morning about 9 a.m. a general rain set in and by midday we had registered the above amounts.

About 500 ewes were caught in the flood waters in North Range pdk. but we started to get them out on Wednesday afternoon and by Thursday night had them on safe ground. We might lose one ewe but she has a chance of getting right. All these ewes were in lamb but so we won't know for about a week what damage was done to them.

Willochra Creek came down a sharp quick flood, and has put about 5 ft. in Soakage Swamp and I think would go out to Lake Salmon. (The phone at Kallioota is out of order)

[the following page is written at right angles]

[page number] 3.

As far as we know all stock are O.K. now, and our losses will not be heavy.

The pipes will have to be repaired at once and this time it is a very big job and many of the 3 & 4 inch pipes will be gone altogether & buried under tons of silt.

I would like Mr. Bartholomaeus and one of the Directors to come up at once and see what can be done and see the damage. I would like to put the pipe line right out of the bed of the creek, but how is one to get the men and material also plant to do the job? It will take a week to make a road (perhaps longer) from Marachowie up to the Weir for a start. The job has to be done as quick as possible and water put into the sheep tanks before the ewes start lambing.

I expect the crutchers here at any time now as well. We will want a gang of five or six men to handle & repair the pipe line & the job will take weeks.

It was a great rain otherwise.

Yrs. faithfully
E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2. 3. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 31

Yadlamalka

27 / 2 / 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd

Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 24 inst. to hand.

Re your remarks "twenty years since there was such a flood".

I don't think there has been a bigger flood down Marachowie Creek in the history of white men in this country. The water

[preprinted page number at top] 32

has been thirty to forty feet high in parts of the main creek, and as I reported in my last letter it has taken many of the old man gum trees that must be hundreds of years old clean away.

The spring water will never run down out of Kidmans country in our time again as the gravel and silt is ten & twelve feet high in places.

The savage flood came down out of Kidman's country and there must have been a cloud burst of 6 or 7 inches somewhere

[preprinted page number at top] 33

up in Kidmans country.

We have many weeks work repairing the fences apart from flood damage to the pipe line.

The pipes will have to be relaid right from the source of the spring, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile through the boundary fence. I will have to take pipes from the end of the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch line and put 2 inch pipes in there place.

It has been a clock calm almost ever since the rain & the mill in Salt Well

[preprinted page number at top] 34

has hardly turned round for over a week.

I feel confident we lost very few sheep, if any, but of course one cannot be sure until the sheep are mustered, as if any were in the middle of the floods they would be swept clean away.

The rain swept the dry feed clean away and country looks very bare & hungry.

The other side of the picture :-

There is a great burst of seed germinating and we should be

[preprinted page number at top] 35

right for lambing as far as feed goes.

Two or three hundred poddy cattle should be a profitable investment at the right price, now Lake Salmon is full. I have four good men released by the man power Authorities at Port Augusta and they should be out on Wednesday next.

Expect to start crutching any day, so will you please send by next boat the following :- 1 Bag mixed vegetables. Vegetables

[preprinted page number at top] 36

are very dear at Port Augusta. I will have a lot of extra men and I want to feed them well, as they will have to work long hours.

The barometer is low & weather very hot.

Will consider registering old buck board.

I think the Graham Truck should be registered.

At present the clutch has gone in her and I will have to have

[preprinted page number at top] 37

it towed into Port Augusta. If it was registered we could cart our supplies out from Port Augusta with it.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 9. 3. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 38

Yadlamalka

March *[annotation in red]* \6th./

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 4 ult. to hand.

Pipe line. I have had some knocks this week in connection with this work.

I'm enclosing a letter I received from The Committee of the Watersiders Employment and Stevedoring Commission which speaks for itself. I got these

[preprinted page number at top] 39

men definitely released by The Chairman of this Committee about a fortnight ago, but as you see they met during M^r. Beerworth's absence in Adelaide and scrubbed his arrangements off.

However on Wednesday last the crutchers arrived, and I put it to M^r. Fuller (the contractor) to give us a hand on the pipe line for a week with the whole of his team and they all consented to do so – a wonderful spirit for shearers to show.

Now I have M^r. Fuller's big lorry carting

[preprinted page number at top] 40

about ½ a mile of 2½ inch pipes from The Soakage pdk up to the Spring, and he will complete this job tomorrow.

We already have about four hundred yards of these pipes screwed up.

I reckon we will have to put about 120 of these pipes in the line leading down from the Weir to take the place of the smashed pipes and then after the 2½ pipes are put in the line we have about a dozen very bad breaks to repair before getting the water

[preprinted page number at top] 41

down to the sheep tanks.

My second knock is the bad news that I had to take Bill Grantham into Hospital yesterday and he is a very sick man.

When I went up to Marachowie yesterday morning I found him in bed and running a very high temp of 103. Directly I saw him I decided it was a case of rushing him to Hospital at once, as I thought he had pleurisy and probably pneumonia in the right lung, which

[preprinted page number at top] 42

diagnosis proved to be correct on arrival at Doctor's surgery. I'm afraid Bill is not a fighter where illness is concerned, and think this issue will make it very hard for him.

It came on him quite suddenly during the early hours of Friday morning. The Doctor says he will be in Hospital from three to six weeks at least and was very concerned & sympath that I should lose his services at a time like this but I will get over

[preprinted page number at top] 43

all these troubles somehow and I really enjoy having a difficult hurdle to jump now and again. The "low" only resulted in four points being Registered. We bady want a follow on rain now as a lot of the green \feed/ is starting to wilt and the surface of the ground is very hard and dry, and sandhills are drifting.

The Special Fuel Licence you sent me is a God send.

I regret the money this pipe line smash is going to cost, and of

[preprinted page number at top] 44

course, the man power people refusing me men after promising to release them, is going to add to the expense. Hope to start crutching about the end of the week, as I cannot leave it any longer owing to ewes being heavy in lamb.

I regret the Feb. accounts are not ready but will try and get them done somehow by next mail.

Please return the enclosed letter next mail

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

over

[Post script written on reverse] This letter book is an awful thing to write in.

Regds

EPW

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 1 6. 3. 43

Yadlamalka

Mar. 13th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St..

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 11 inst.to hand.

Crutching. We have put through approx. 3000 sheep to date. The men are all working all day today and also Tomorrow Sunday. Have two men from manpower on the pipe line and three of the staff. Have no water through yet

Severe heat wave all the week and still very hot.

Have been watering the sheep at Warrikimbo Stn.

M^r. Trader doing what he can for us – a wonderful neighbour

[continues on reverse, written at a perpendicular angle on the page]

We are battling along O.K.

Excuse short note but must get out to sheep.

Grantham on the improve glad to report.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation underneath in red] R 23. 3. 43
[preprinted page number at top] 45

[annotation in top left corner] 16 bales Wool

Yadlamalka
20. 3. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co Ltd
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 18 inst. to hand.

We got the water through the pipes on Wednesday night, but there is a lot of work to be done yet.
Just finished crutching. The numbers

[preprinted page number at top] 46

are. Sheep Crutched:-
10532 Sheep.

Less Rams 168
Double 10,364 Sheep crutched

A good turn up.

Grantham is not so well and still a very sick man.

Mail man is waiting.

Weather very hot

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[post script] finished crutching. 6 p.m

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 30. 3. 43
[preprinted page number at top] 47

Yadlamalka Stn
27. 3. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs. T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I didn't receive a letter from you by this mail. They do miss sometimes at the Port Augusta end.
I wish to apologise for writing such a short note last week but things were very rushed squaring
the crutching business.

[preprinted page number at top] 48

Spring and Pipe line

I have had more time to assess the good and the damage done to the pipe line during the recent
floods.

The flood has improved the Spring at its source and there is now twice as much water flowing down the creek as there was before the rain and I'm in hopes of getting all the water we want without putting the pipe line so far up the creek.

Sheep

All the sheep looked

[preprinted page number at top] 49

very well going through the shed and the numbers turned up well proving that we lost very few sheep in the recent floods.

Country

The weather has been very hot for weeks and has burnt the green feed off almost everywhere but on the flooded country and the very sheltered places.

Grubs have made their appearance, but are not in plague numbers yet.

[preprinted page number at top] 50

Fencing

I have got the most of the flood damage repaired in the sheep paddocks, and have the most of the ewes settled down in their maternity paddocks.

Have only one lot to draft and hope to have them settled into their paddocks on Tuesday next.

The sheep got badly boxed up after the recent floods.

[preprinted page number at top] 51

Grantham is still a very sick man. I saw him during the week and there is no doubt his lungs are still badly congested.

It is over a hundred in the shade today and for weeks we have had very little wind, and a heat haze over the country. All stock are watering.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 6. 4. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 52

Yadlamalka

April 3rd 43.

The Secretary

T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 25 inst. to hand It reached me per M^r Mortimer (Pastoral Inspector of Bennett and Fisher) during the week.

Note your remarks re netting.

Yes Register Motor No 141-728 also Trailer 2126. The following are the licences I hold

[preprinted page number at top] 53

up here apart from Fleet Licence No 737 :-

Licence No. 22/12201

Priority:- 3

Grantham Truck 14 gallons per month

Licence No. 22/1546.

Priority. 4.

Lister Engine 13 gallons per month

Yours of April 1. inst to hand.

I have the pipes laid from just through the netting in Kidmans Country for about 400 yards down the creek. These pipes are 4" and 3" and there is

[preprinted page number at top] 54

about 17,000 gallons per day flowing through them.

The water from these pipes flows into another little Weir where it is picked up by the two and half inch pipes and carried down to the sheep tanks. This is only a Temporary arrangement until I get time to connect the pipes up properly.

This week I'm sending 3000 hoggetts over to Kallioota into Scrubby and Nancy Walker pdks. Hope to send more later (dry sheep) into Pinery and Lake Wells

[preprinted page number at top] 55

paddocks, as I'm anxious to spell the pipe line country on Yadlamalka proper, as much as possible.

I received a letter from M^{rs}. Doman in which she asks how the Weir is. The Creek at the Weir is almost flat with gravel and silt and the only way one can tell there has been a Weir there is by the back wall of the Weir which is visable in parts.

The green sheep fly is bad amongst the Rams

Some of their heads

[preprinted page number at top] 56

are getting struck and they take a lot of attention.

It must have been about the hottest March on record up here, and the heat wave continues.

Today there is a heat haze with no wind and it must be over the hundred in shade outside.

I'm enclosing stock returns for Stockowners Assoc.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in left margin]

Stirling St

Tusmore

F4581.

[Post script] Eileen is in Town somewhere. Jean not well. Appendix will have to come out. Will ask her to call on you

over

[preprinted page number at top] 57

One of my off days today.

Guts giving me hell Hope to be right in day or two by taking things easy.

Trust Khama is OK. and all at home

Kind regards

E. P. W.

Regret hear M^{rs}. Dorman not well

E. P. W.

Grantham still a sick man — Will be in Hospital for sometime yet.

Volume 2.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 13. 4. 43
[preprinted page number at top] 89

Yadlamalka Stn
10. 4. 43

The Secretary
T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of April 8 inst to hand.

Motor Registrations for buckboard 141-728 and trailer 2126 came to hand O.K.

The cool change arrived alright and we went straight from summer conditions into winter weather in the course of a few hours, but no rain was recorded although there was a brew of heavy clouds. Hardly any of the sheep are now watering and lambing conditions are now excellent provided foxes leave the young lambs alone. The

[preprinted page number at top] 90

ewes are now lambing and the young lambs are fine strong little fellows !

It was a race against time to get the crutching over, sheep drafted, and lambing ewes into their maternity paddocks, but we won, and everything now is O.K. for a good lambing.

I'm now getting more water than we want down the pipe line.

During the week I got over as far as Lake Salmon and found plenty of water and feed over there. The feed in the Swamps is excellent, and we should make an effort to convert it into money as quickly as possible. We are assured of feed and water in abundance at Lake Salmon for at least light months and a line of two to three hundred young cattle should return a good dividend by that time. Of course I refer to quiet cockie cattle in spite of the sarcastic remarks Maurice Collins and Charlie Butler make about them in their stock reports. The thing is to buy right. Two places suggest themselves to me – West Coast and the Adelaide Calf Market. No doubt Messrs Elder Smith & Co Ltd. Will be able to advise us on this matter.

I regret the mens accounts etc are not being posted by this mail. I went out this morning for (as I thought) an hour and a half, but was away eight hours and now I have only time to write this report.

Please post me by return mail a new ledger or rather Mens account book. I'm paying a man off and find I'm on the last page of Mens account book.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] Grantham still a sick man.

Eileen is returning on Thursday next will ask her to call & bring Mens account book

[continued vertically in left margin]

with her. Am O.K. again. Thanks for your advice Yrs Prim

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 20. 4. 43
[preprinted page number at top] 92

Yadlamalka Stn
April 17th 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of April 15 inst to hand.

I have some strychnine on hand but if you could send half a dozen pure strychnine, do so. All I have (four bottles) is soluble strychnine and it is not so good as the pure stuff.

I have been conducting a war on foxes for a week or two now. Have put two sheep out in baits and everything found dead is poisoned. Foxes are not very numerous but one never knows when a wave of them will appear.

Please order 350 Wool bales for shearing – 54 inch loose top packs.

Note your remarks re Cattle. I had a letter from Mr. Bartholomaeus

[preprinted page number at top] 93

stating Elders are making enquiries.

Thanks for mens Account books and other writing material.

Ewes are not lambing in mobs and there appear to be a big percentage of twins about.

I rang Dr. Thompson up during the week and he tells me Grantham will not be able to do any work for two or three months at the least. He is now improving, but of course still in hospital.

There have been several brews this week, but we didn't get any rain. Now there is a cold South West wind blowing.

Yrs. Faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] All accounts will be along this week.

Thanks for looking after Eileen.

Hope you have happy Easter.

Kind regards

Prim

[The opening page of the following letter, which may have been written on a contiguous preprinted page numbered 94, is missing.]

[preprinted page number at top] 95

[...] by July 25.

[The following two paragraphs are numbered with a circle in the margin]

- 2 By shearing in August we will be able to shear the lambs and thus clean the whole flock up. If we shear in June I will not be able to shear the lambs which will mean another lamb shearing later on in the year, which will mean extra man power.
- 3 Many of the young lambs will ~~get~~ lose their mothers if we shear in June and will be too young to do for themselves, and will consequently die.

In conclusion I think we will tail over 100% of lambs in most paddocks and naturally I wish to give them every chance to live.

I think the best way is to ring Mr Lloyd of Stockowners Shearing Coy and find out if others have exemptions & what chance we have of getting one.

Things are going on O.K. up here.

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 11. 5. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 97

Yadlamalka Stn

May 8th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of May 8th inst to hand.

I note your remarks re your interview with Mr Lloyd re Zoning, and trust your efforts will meet with success.

I will try and let you have all accounts by this mail.

Lambing is going on allright, but we have a wave of foxes coming in and if they take to the lambs they can easily spoil the lambing results. This week they have taken hundreds of baits – Two whole sheep cut up into baits and they have eaten the lot and yet we have only found odd ones dead, but there cannot be dozens that have died that we haven't found.

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About the middle of May the foxes generally alter their habits and as a rule won't take baits until about August when one can poison them again, so we are keeping at the poison while foxes are in the mood to eat baits.

It looks as if we won't be able to buy store cattle this year according to reports from Elders branch managers.

The weather has been cold & dry with some frost.

Yrs. Faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 18. 5. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 99

Yadlamalka Stn

May 15th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of May 13th inst to hand.

Shearing I am very pleased to hear we have an extention and we will now be able to take full advantage of the good lambing results which we have every chance of getting up to date. It now means we will be able to shear the lambs and get some wool off them and thus clear the whole of the sheep up in the one operation.

I am putting off my trip to Adelaide until a later date as I want to make sure the blitz on the foxes is kept in full blast while they are in the mood to take poison. Already we have evidence

[preprinted page number at top] 100

the foxes are altering their habits.

You will note on Y.oG. Accounts an item "Rabbit traps Cash". These are second hand traps Y.oG. are selling on behalf of the Red Cross and I was just able to get in on the last of them.

They have already paid a dividend as we have caught seven foxes with them up to date.

Cattle I'm enclosing a letter from Mr. Bartholomaeus. I would like to know if the Directors would approve of M^r. Sunman buying for us on a Commission or some such arrangements. He M^r. Sunman is the best judge I know of and I'm sure he would do this and buy right.

The weather is cold and dry.

Yrs faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] The foxes are staring to mate, that is why they go off the baits.

Regards

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 25. 5. 43

[preprinted page number at top] 1

Yadlamalka Stn

May 22nd 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of May 20 inst to hand.

Cattle I arranged with M^r. Sunman to buy store cattle at a commission of 2/6d per head, and he has already secured 29 mixed cockey cattle. He has agreed to look after the cattle on arrival at Port August[a] and will send them out here, when sufficient arrive at Stirling to make a mob of about fifty. I have a nigger engaged to drove the cattle out to station.

Shearing Extention. I'm very pleased to have an extention until August as I will now be able to give the Ewes and lambs every chance. It will also give me a chance to get a lot of necessary jobs done before shearing. We are still repairing

[preprinted page number at top] 2

flood damage when time permits but I'm not allowing these jobs to interfere with the care of the sheep.

The weather is keeping very cold an dry, and the feed that grew from the Summer rains has either dried off or been pinched up by the frosts, with the exception of the flooded country. Untill recently the paddy melons have been keeping the sheep off the troughs, but they now have most of the melons cleaned up and nearly all sheep are watering.

I will post the manpower letter re shearing back to you next week.

Yrs faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 1 – 6 – 43

[preprinted page number at top] 3

Yadlamalka Stn

29. 5. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 27 inst to hand.

I received the shearing rates etc O.K.

It is also keeping very dry up here and nearly all the sheep are now on the troughs and are drinking a lot of water. The days have been almost as hot as summer time, with no wind and a notable absence of dew. The whole season seems to be all wrong and we are due for a big bust up of some sort soon. The barometer is at last falling but at present there is no indication of a change brewing.

Cattle I'm enclosing a letter from M^r. Sunman which speaks for its self. After noting please post the letter back to me. M^r. Sunman evidently has been battling

[preprinted page number at top] 4

ha[r]d for us and has not lost his punch as a live wire. If convenient show the letter to M^r. Bartholomaeus before returning, then he will know exactly what is doing.

I think we have a good drop of lambs but a good general rain is wanted to keep them on their feet. Bill Grantham is still in Hospital and in bed. He has had two xrays of his lungs but I don't know the result. I would like to know if it is still in order to keep him on the pay role. I would recommend it as he has had long service here and few holidays.

I'm going into Port Augusta tomorrow to see cattle and sell the bull & fat cow, M^r. Sunman mentioned in his letter, to Fullerton. I'm right out of petrol and will draw new supplies on Monday. I still have to go to Port Augusta for all supplies as mailman is still running mail in Sedan Car.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8 . 6 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 11

Yadlamalka
June 5th 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of June 3 inst. to hand.

Cattle. I have eighty three head of cattle out here, and another seventy nine coming out on Thursday next. I have seen all these cattle and am very pleased with them and consider the whole buy a cheaper proposition than anything we could have got down the West Coast. They are a better class of cattle than the West Coasters and a lot of them are in forward condition. I have told M^r Sunman to definitely stop buying any more.

Hope to get a start lambmarking this week some time. I have a lot to do

[preprinted page number at top] 12

to the sheep yards this year before we start lambmarking.

Still keeping very dry with cold nights and very warm days with little wind. I think when the weather does change we will get a good rain, as to my idea this kind of weather does not portend a drought. We want a rain badly as the lambs will not do any good watering at the troughs. The sheep in most paddocks are drinking as much water as they do in the hot weather. I will give those Ewes and lambs that want a shift fresh paddocks after the lambmarking operations.

Please send a new Cheque Book. I am short of Cheques.

Will post all accounts to you p to the end of May during the week.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 15 – 6 – 43

[preprinted page number at top] 13

Yadlamalka
12 . 6 . 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Haven't received your letter yet. In Port Augusta to meet my daughter Jean, who is coming up on holidays.³

Lambmarking to date :-

Morgans Pdk :-	<u>Ewes</u> <u>732</u>	<u>Lambs</u> <u>622</u>	85%
East One Gum :-	<u>Ewes</u> <u>774</u>	<u>Lambs</u> <u>914</u>	118%

³ During this visit from Adelaide, Jean Whyte would have celebrated her twentieth birthday on 27 June.

Note 118% in East One Gum, and 2% long tails got away yarding up.
A fine lot of lambs. Hope to give you final figures next mail.
Please send me a new Cheque Register by next mail.
161 Cattle have arrived – a good line.
Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 22 – 6 – 43
[preprinted page number at top] 14

Yadlamalka
19 . 6 . 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of 10 and 17 inst. to hand.
Congratulations on the result of your interview with Fuel Control Board.

Lambing Results to date.

<u>Morgans Pdk</u>	E 732	L. 622	85%.
East One Gum	E 774	L. 914	118%.
West One Gum	E 803	L. 981	122%.
Soakage	E <u>1672</u>	L. <u>1519</u>	90%.
	<u>3981</u>	<u>4036</u>	

I have about 500 Ewes to muster yet. Will send you complete returns next mail.
Ewes and lambs are looking very well, but we want rain badly.
Barometer is very low 29.40

[preprinted page number at top] 15
With strong Nor' West gale blowing.
Looks very stormy and wild but no heavy clouds about yet.
Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte
[Post script] Will look into Pearce cheque.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 6 . 7 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 19

Yadlamalka

[Annotated correction to date in red] 3 . 6 \7/ . 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I arrived back from Adelaide after a good run through, and found things O.K. as far as I know at present.

In fact I'm very pleased with the work that has been done. "Bluey", whom I left in charge of the pipe line, has done 100% job and Sandy M^cDonalds work amongst the sheep cannot be anything else but well done. The niggers, with their independent plant, have done good work over at Kallioota, mustering sheep and looking to the cattle at Lake Salmon.

Wilfred Grantham is going through today with the last of his furniture from Kallioota, and I'm very pleased to see the last of him.

The barometer is low and there is a change brewing

[preprinted page number at top] 20

and I hope the long expected rain is not far off.

I wish to express my appreciation of the splendid bonus the Directors gave me while I was in Adelaide, and it will be my one endeavour to prove worthy of their confidence in me.

Yours faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 13 . 7 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 22

Yadlamalka

11 . 7 . 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 8th to hand.

Material & Stores on hand June 30 :- I think we should show a slight increase, as I have a 14' Southern X Mill together with pipes & rods on hand & also the Southern X Engine, both not equipped on Wells yet. I think about £403 – pounds who be a fair estimate.

Had word in the mail that shearers probably be along about 22nd of this month – about a week earlier than I expected. There is a lot to do up at Woolshed and we are all busy in an endeavor to get the work done in time.

Had another "low" depression this week, but the brew only resolved into cold South winds.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 20 . 7 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 27

Yadlamalka

July 17th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 15th inst. to hand.

Under separate cover I'm posting you all accounts.

I have the pipe line linked up in the Soakage Pdk. and the water is now running out to the back tank in Cement Tank paddock and also into Mudliappa Tank. Am busy mustering the sheep on to the pipe line in preparation for shearing operations.

Expect the shearers some time this week.

The worm of the bench vice at the Woolshed is worn out and I have tried all over Port Augusta to get a vice of some sort but they are unprocurable.

The Barometer is falling

[preprinted page number at top] 28

again and it is already low enough for rain. The brew we had last week resulted in wild and stormy weather for three days and dust and sand were blowing round in all their old fury.

Showers (very light) developed along the ranges and eight points were registered here and twelve at Marachowie.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Will rectify mistakes this month. Did things in big hurry – Thanks for notifying me so promptly.

E.P.W.

[annotation with date stamp in top left corner in red] R 27.JUL.1943

[preprinted page number at top] 29

Yadlamalka

July 25th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 22 inst. to hand.

Vice No vice has come yet, nor has a new rope for the Wool Press come to hand.

We have had eight points of rain during the week.

Expect to get a start shearing on Monday next. All the team are at the shed except the wool classer, who went to Adelaide I believe. Hear he expects me to go Port Augusta for him, but I haven't the time nor petrol to spare to go.

The sheep we have mustered are looking very well.

There are light showers about today but no indications of heavy rain.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 3 . 8 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 31

Yadlamalka Stn

31. – 7 – 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of July 29 inst. to hand.

We got a start shearing on Monday morning and everything is going O.K. Sheep are cutting well, and the clip is nice & bright and handles well. All sheep are in good strong order. The following are the returns to date :- Sheep shorn 3992. Wool Bales pressed. 149.

A really good team of shearers and the wool is being classed in an excellent manner.

M^r. Bartholomaeus was here last year and saw the untidy state of wool floor and the poor way the whole organisation was run; well this year is just the opposite and the wool room is the neatest I have seen, and the

[preprinted page number at top] 32

whole "get up" of the clip is excellent.

Rain :-	July 28 :-	Yadlamalka	14 pnt
		Marachowie	20 "
		Kallioota	<u>14</u> "
	July 31.	Yadlamalka	13 "
		Marachowie	8 "

We lost half a days shearing through wet sheep.

We have had all sorts of weather this week. Severe gales with heavy dust and sand storms then rain, and more heavy gales and rain but today is fine with still a very low barometer.

The rain will do little good but wash the bush and feed.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 10 . 8 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 33

Yadlamalka

Aug. 7th 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 5 ult. to hand.

The Vice & Ropes have gone forward up to Woolshed.

Shearing is going on O.K. The sheep are turning up well and all are coming into the shed in good strong order.

Up to date we have shorn 8196 sheep and have 275 bales of wool out. 3536 Hoggets cut 13 lbs 8 ozs of wool. 927 4 T wethers cut 15 lb. 7 ozs. – A good return for Eleven month growth of wool. We might cut out by next Saturday with good weather, but it will most likely be Monday week.

The weather is very cold and bleak.

Yours faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 17 . 8 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 34

Yadlamalka

Aug. 14th 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Aug. 12 inst. to hand.

Shearing. We have put through 14000 sheep and have 410 bales of wool out.

There are about 900 sheep to shear, mostly lambs, and expect to cut out on Monday evening. All the sheep are looking very well and we will shearing about 100% of lambs.

Would like to see a good rain as country is deteriorating quickly.

Will be able to give you figures in detail during the week.

The barometer is low tonight, and there is another "brew" developing. Already, we have had a few drops of rain but there are no indications of heavy downpour yet.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 24 . 8 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 36

Yadlamalka Stn

21 . 8 . 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I'm in Port Augusta voting, and missed the mail coming in, so am unable to answer your letter this week, at present.

We have had the following rain :-

Aug. 15.	Yadlamalka	12 points	
	Marachowie	15	"
	Kallioota	17	"
	Lake Hut	27	"
Aug. 18.	Yadlamalka	74	"
	Marachowie	54	"
	Kallioota	34	"
	Lake Hut	50	"

The rain was about the same average over the most of the Run with the exception of Mudliappa pdk, and the tableland country West of Lake Hut where the falls were very light.

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Shearing. We cut-out on Monday evening. The following are the particulars :-

Shearing 1943

Sheep on Run shearing 1942.	13589
<u>Add :- Lambs shorn</u>	<u>4734</u>
	18,323

<u>Deduct :- Sales</u>	E. 1224.	} 2642
" "	W. 907.	
" "	Lambs 51.	

	Rations 400.	Dead Missing \436/	<u>3478</u>
Losses <u>436.</u>	<u>Total Sheep shorn.</u>		14,845
	Add. R. Double		<u>160</u>
	<u>Tally board total</u>		<u>15,005</u>

Losses ~~2.9~~ \3.3/ %

Particulars of sheep.

E. Hog. 1½ yrs.	1945.	} 100%
E Maiden 2 yrs.	463.	
E 3 yrs. & older with lambs.	4731	
Lambs.	4734	
Weth. Hog.	1885.	
6T & 4T Wethers	927.	
Rams.	<u>160</u>	
<u>Total sheep on Run.</u>	<u>14845.</u>	

Lambing 100% shorn

All sheep in good strong order.
Yrs faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 31 - 8 - 43
[preprinted page number at top] 38

Yadlamalka
28 . 8 . 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of Aug. 26 inst to hand.
I arrived back here on Friday night and as far as I know at present everything is allright.
No rain any good while I was away.
Will write a full report next week.
Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8 . 9 . 43
[preprinted page number at top] 40

Yadlamalka Stn
4 . 9 . 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of Sept 2. inst. to hand.
This week I have had a good look round the whole of the Run.
Kallioota. Lake Wells, Pinery, Nancy Walker and Scrubby paddocks have only "goose picking" in them as far as green feed is concerned. A rain now would give us green feed over there but the September north winds have set in, and unless rain falls within a week or two the green picking will die right off.
I have about 800 six and four tooth wethers fit for the butchers, and I propose ~~cutting~~ \mustering/ at once, all the ewes and lambs and drafting all cast for age ewes that
[preprinted page number at top] 41
~~that~~ are fat and also a few lambs (if they are good enough) off, and place them in Salt Well pdk. I think a year like this, the best way to sell the fat sheep, is to offer them on the place. I'm not sure how many I will have but will try and get round about 1500 or more Ewes, Wethers, & lambs. When I have an idea of the numbers and condition of sheep I will ring M^r. Bartholomaeus from Port Augusta and consult him as to the best means of selling the draft. The track to Port Augusta is very dry, and the draft I propose taking off should look fresh and attractive to any buyer that wants

good sheep. There will be no conners in the draft. I can have this draft ready for buyers by Thursday Sept. 16th.

The balance of the sale sheep I will try and hold until October when there should be a better demand for five year old ewes for fat lamb breeding.

Cattle. I will try and get

[preprinted page number at top] 42

a draft of fats away as soon as I can, and they should be a good line of their class.

Staff :- I have paid four men off since shearing, and intend trying to manage on what staff I have left.

The weather is dry & warm

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] All accounts will be along during the week.

Regds.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 14 . 9 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 45

Yadlamalka Stn

Sept. 11th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Sept. 9th inst to hand.

Yes, the Summer has come in with a bang but we only got a cool change out of the brew. On Thursday the wind blew from the North with clouds of dust, and it was quite hot, and in the evening a Southerly buster arrived and blew the dust and sand back again.

I couldn't get in touch with M^r. Bartholomaeus during the week re disposal of fat sheep, so I have made arrangements with M^r. Lyon to consult M^r. Bartholomaeus during next week and I will get in touch with him (M^r. Lyon) about Wednesday next. The transport to Adelaide seems very uncertain

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judging from the little information I can gather and buyers may not be keen to come out. I'm very anxious to reduce the stock numbers owing to seasonal conditions.

This week am having a cattle muster and by next mail I hope to advise you of the number of fats I'll have on hand for the Adelaide market. I intend trucking at Stirling on Saturday 25 inst. if trucks are available.

I have had some of the sheep mustered and they are fit for the butchers at present, but cannot hold their condition long as the feed is going off fast. A lot of the ewes are over fat and very prime, which of course isn't a good thing.

Expect Jack Smith over from Hawker to start on the Weir any day now.

Very pleased with appraisment prices for the wool clip and the average price should work out about a record return during the 17½ years I have been here, and I trust the sale of surplus

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stock will show the same result, but at present, owing to the visit of Professor Copeland and uncertain condition of the coal position, it will be hard to sell to the best advantage.

Great news about the Italian Fleet arriving at Malta. It must have been a great thrill for Admiral Cunningham, who so richly deserves his success.

The weather is calm and mild with the barometer falling.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Am getting a Cheque Register printed and bound at Port Augusta.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 22 . 9 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 48

Yadlamalka

Sept. 19th 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 16 inst. to hand.

Cattle I have approx. seventy head of fat cattle which I am trucking at Stirling on Saturday next for the Adelaide market. These cattle are light weights and the most of them good quality. There are a few old cows which I'm sending on account of age.

This week the country has been ripped and torn about by the equinoctial gales. The barometer fell to 29.10 and the gales have blown from all directions with a wild fuery, and still the glass is very low (29.20) with no sign of rain. Indeed there hasn't been a cloud in the sky – or rather very little cloud – for the whole week. Troughs have been sanded

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up, and sheep waiting about for a drink.

Kangaroos are now a pest, and all paddocks, that are spelling have hundreds of roos in them eating the best of the feed off.

I expect to truck approx. 1000 wethers and ewes for the Adelaide fat market at Stirling on Saturday Oct. 2nd, if trucks can be procured.

I heard over the wireless that the price of beef is to be fixed at 43/9 per central on hooks. The mud being that is going on in regard to the next position is enough to break one's heart, but we have no alternative but to sell, owing to the dry state of the country generally.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Will fix accounts up – sorry for bloomers.

My daughter "Billy"⁴ has received her call up for the Royal Aust. Air Force – or rather W.A.A.A.F. She is to go down on Monday

E.P.W.

⁴ [Phyllis Primrose \("Billie"\) Whyte](#) (18 years of age at this time) was the younger sister of Jean Primrose Whyte.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 28 . 9 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 50

Yadlamalka
Sept. 25th 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of 23 inst. to hand.

Meat & Cattle Market :- I see cattle were down in price last Monday at Adelaide fat market, but the price of beef was a very fair one. We got the cattle trucked O.K. at Stirling this morning and Grantham (whom I sent in to see everything right) reports that the draft looked nice and fresh on arrival at trucking yards and were a credit to M^c Donald who took them in. Over 90% of this draft is composed of cattle we have bred ourselves, and as they are in fresh condition and the most of them well finished, they should sell well.

Sheep. I see the sheep market improved a little last Wednesday, in

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Adelaide. The wethers I'm sending in will be O.K. I think, but the weather we have had for the past week has been so very stormy & dusty and has knocked the country generally about so badly, that I'm wondering if they have held their condition, but I will know tomorrow, when I'm drafting the fat mob for Adelaide market.

The ewes will be mostly over fat, although they still have their lambs running with them. I will try and send an average draft of this line to test the market and if they sell well will send more in on the following week.

The drought conditions are beginning to affect the spring, and the supple has dropped by about 3000 gallons per day since my last report on our water supply.

I have ordered five bogie Vans for sheep to load at Stirling on Saturday next and expect to load about 1100 sheep.

We loaded 72 head of fat cattle this morning.

During the week the bar-

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ometer fell to a record low level – 28.90 – but all we got out of the brew was wild and woolly dust storms with the exception of 6 points at head station here.

I trust the fat stock sell well

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 5 . 10 . 43
[preprinted page number at top] 53

Yadlamalka
Oct 2nd. 1943.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of 30 inst. to hand.

Yes, I'm pleased with the sale of the Cattle. The most of them were very light weights, and nearly all the cows were old & duggy. When we get time I must try and dig up another truck load of fats. We trucked the following sheep at Stirling this morning for Wednesday's market at Adelaide :-

Fat Wethers	792
" Ewes.	130
" Lambs.	<u>158</u>
	1080.

The details of these sheep may not be strictly correct.

The draft didn't do atal well on the road in to Port Augusta and I think some the lambs

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will waste badly before they are sold, but a certain amount of loss of condition is only to be expected. The wethers are ideal shop mutton, but of course their skins won't be of much value. Some of the ewes are over fat for butchers. I trust they all sell well.

This week we will be busy mustering and drafting sale sheep, and I expect to have round about a thousand 5½ year old fat ewes ready for the Adelaide market on Oct. 27th – or rather in the fat market on that date.

We have had a good deal of trouble with the pipeline this week, and there is no doubt the spring is going back, which is only to be expected considering we have experienced almost a record dry winter.

The weather is mild and calm

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 5 . 10 . 43
[preprinted page number at top] 55

Yadlamalka
Oct 3rd. 1943.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

On Sept 26. I took delivery of thirty Selected Partacoona Rams.

They are a nice even line and well grown.

I have just come home from running the pipeline, and seeing to tanks and troughs.

Will be glad to see the sale sheep all off the place and thus conserve more water.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 12. 10 . 43

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Yadlamalka Stn

Oct 9th. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 7 inst. to hand.

Sheep :- I was very pleased with the sale of sheep in Adelaide fat market. Have received five letters about them including two from people I have never heard of before and they all say what a splendid lot of sheep they were. I very much appreciate the letters from M^{rs}. Doman & M^r. Bartholomaeus. I know the latter is a very busy man and it helps a lot when one is up to the neck in work up here. I know how easy it is not to write those letters one ~~one~~ wishes to when work presses from all directions.

We have been busy

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mustering all the week and have only just got home after drafting 4000 sheep at Salt Well yards.

The mail is waiting and the time is eight p.m. I have ~~Eleven~~ \Twelve/ hundred and ~~ninety~~ five fat ewes (1205) and Two hundred and three (203) lambs ready for the track on Monday. I'm pleased with the draft as I didn't get so many over fat ewes as I expected. They are about the same grade as the last lot, with the exception of the lambs which are lighter weights. I expect to get tomorrow about 100 fat Wethers making the draft up to over 1500 all told. The wethers will be smaller but their condition will be ideal.

Water. The spring has gone back to 8000 gallons per day but we can improve the supply by chasing the water further up the creek, so I intend laying about half a mile of pipes up into M^r. Redmans country. When I was

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in Port Augusta during the week I arranged to have two men released from the wharf to help to do this work and expect them out tomorrow. On two other occasions I have made the same arrangements, but they haven't turned up, but it was not the fault of the men. I trust they will be released this time.

Bill Grantham isn't a 100% yet. His hands are still almost useless, and he even has to take a boy with him in the car to undo the latches on the gates. He can ride O.K. and draft sheep, but is no good for heavy work although he would be the last to admit it. He tells me he is gradually improving. The new man I have at Kallioota is an excellent all round station hand and is a very hard worker.

The balance of the sale sheep I have will be only stores & will consist

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of about 1500 Ewes and lambs.

I intend sending this draft to Jamestown on Nov. 4th and hope to have the correct number of Ewes and lambs drafted off during the week.

The weather has been very changeable and stormy and I think there has been a good rain down country – all we have had here are gales & dust storms.

Today the dust and sand was very bad at Salt Well Yards.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Will send accounts etc during the week. Water trouble and mustering sale sheep has kept me going all the time. Sorry – and you treat me so well too.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2 - 11 - 43

[preprinted page number at top] 61

Yadlamalka Stn

30. 10. 43.

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We had a good sale at Wilmington considering the conditions.

Some of the old ewes cut up very badly on the truck and we had to draft these off, to make the top line a good sound mob to travel on down the track as the buyers could only get their sheep away by droving them South. I sent you the prices of all lines but the culls and we had to accept 3/- for these although their ages were the same as 9/1 ewes. All that was wrong with them was tender feet but buyers would not chance them on the road.

On my arrival home I found everything O.K. and plenty of water on the pipeline. I

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have the sheep balanced up into their Summer pdks., and now have sheep in fifteen paddocks where I think they should do well for a few months.

Grantham has to go into Hospital again, not serious this time but the D^r wants to try & get his hands right and xray his chest again.

I'm sending this note in by him as the mail has not arrived yet !!! A rotten mail service we have now.

Looks like rain and glass is low. The ants have a war on fighting to see which mob will dig their holes on the high ground. – A good sign of a break.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 9 - 11 - 43

[preprinted page number at top] 63

Yadlamalka
Nov. 6th. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of Nov. 4 inst. to hand.

I think we should consider ourselves lucky to get the prices for surplus sheep we have, as judging by the recent sales in the Adelaide fat market, and sales held in the country, many people are doing little better than giving their sheep away.

Rain – The recent brew was rather disappointing as far as we were concerned. The thunder clouds certainly brewed up all round us and it looked like inches falling anywhere on the run, but there was little in it but plenty of thunder & lightning and dust storms. The following were the falls :- Yadlamalka 27 points

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Marachowie 17 points
Kallioota 17 “
Lake Hut 31 “

Inches again fell just to the South of us in the same path as the previous rain. Amongst the heavy falls was Wilkatana 150 points in twenty minutes. Fortunately this cyclonic storm just missed our Weir watershed and although we had a savage little flood down the Marachowie Creek it only took us a day to repair the damage, but the pipeline got empty and full of air and I haven't got the \water/ flowing going evenly down the line yet.

There was another medium flood down the Willochara Creek and this will assure us fat cattle for the Xmas market.

This flood went just about exactly the same distance over the swamps as the previous one. The weather is now fine, with barometer falling again.

Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[The following is a fragment only.]

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 9 - 11 - 43

Thanks for news re Jean. She is doing well at University. Wilkatana Str. been for sale for some time, but it is in all agents hands now, and am told M^r. Sawers very anxious to sell. What a wonderful addition it would make to this place. I think finance could be arranged. Yadlamalka would be a very fine Station indeed – second to none. E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16 - 11 - 43

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Yadlamalka

14. 11. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Nov. 11 inst. to hand.

Cattle. I have sent the invoice for 34 head of Cattle X Dalgety's Orroroo on to M^r. Lyon Elders Port Augusta, for him to investigate, as I arranged for him to settle all cattle a/cs. bought by M^r. Sunman. I received 162 head of cattle bought by M^r. Sunman.

Probably two cows had calves after he bought them. It certainly looks as if this a/c. has never been paid.

Grantham has returned from Hospital. D^r. Thompson says he can't do anything more for him and is sending him down to a Specialist in Adelaide. His hands are still little use to him.

He goes to Adelaide on Monday

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next.

Plenty water on the pipeline up to date, but we haven't had a heat wave yet.

Barometer is low with plenty wind and dust, but no sign of rain

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 23 . 11 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 67

Yadlamalka

20 / 11 / 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 18 ulto. to hand.

I saw M^r. Lyon during the week at Port Augusta and he informed me he had sent the outstanding Cattle account on to you. There seems to be no doubt this account had not been paid.

Grantham – I told him to call and see you but I have received no work from him by today's mail as to his movements. His wife is away with him, and the kids ~~are~~ up at Marachowie are left to look after themselves, his daughter being in a job at Port Augusta.

M^{rs}. Grantham was to be back today but she didn't turn up by the mail.

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The water position is still O.K. but we have had one complete break in the main line and also a break down with Nancy Walker windmill this week, but got on to both promptly and there was no harm done.

I learn by today's mail that Zoning in this district is likely to be extended until August 20th next. I had arranged a programme to lamb after shearing this year knowing full well that the arrangement would not be in the best interest for the ~~best results~~ best results for the Coy. As you remember the letter from the manpower authorities, granting an extension last year, definitely stated that no extension would be granted this year. However in view of the information I received by the mail today I have decided to join the rams next week and lamb before shearing. Will you please ring Mr Lloyd and ask him if I'm quite

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safe in making these arrangements. In adopting this policy I do not wish to start shearing until about the last week in July.

I was going to try and get a draft of fat cattle into the market as soon as possible but will now have to put the muster off until the sheep are fixed up.

We have 17 paddocks to muster and get the rains into.

The weather has been very cool and today there is a strong Southerly buster blowing, with sand & dust shifting in dense clouds.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 30 - 11 - 43

[preprinted page number at top] 70

Yadlamalka

27. 11. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 25 inst. to hand.

Mr^s. Grantham arrived from Adelaide by the mail today, and reports Grantham in Adelaide Hospital and he expects to be out of Hospital next week. You will probably see him as I told him to call on you and have a yarn, when he was leaving here.

Thanks for the news re extension of Zoning. I also got a letter from a pal of mine and he says it is all fixed but for some reason or the other they are not supposed to make it public — a funny way of doing things! However I completed joining the Rams on Wednesday last, 24th.

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Conditions are very dry and we cannot expect anything like the lambing results we obtained last year.

Yes, L. Sunman's account is O.K. He attended a sale for us and bought a lot of useful stuff.

We have had the first heatwave for the Summer, and as I write a Southerly buster, with the usual dust & sand had arrived. Have had some trouble with the pipeline during the extreme heat, and the springs dried up about 25% but with the help of the bore & mill we got over the hurdle O.K.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7 - 12 - 43

[preprinted page number at top] 72

Yadlamalka Stn

Dec. 4th. 43.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Dec. 2. inst. to hand.

Haven't heard anything of Grantham by this mail.

Have had a lot of trouble with the pipeline this week and all hands are just about played out working on it night & day.

Tomorrow I have to shift about a thousand sheep off the back tank as we cannot keep the water going out that far.

I don't think I will be possible to keep the number of sheep we have on the pipeline at present, all through the Summer, unless we get a rain to relieve things. We are now getting 11,500 gallons per day from the source of the spring, and

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this supply is bound to decrease during January & February judging by experience of other years. As you say the pipes are old and cannot now be trusted and it is a constant worry and anxiety for when a break occurs it upsets the whole line and takes a week to clear the line of air etc. and by that time we generally get more trouble, and have to do the whole job over again.

I'm the only one who can drive a car on the place and I'm kept going night and day. The latest we have got home is 2.30am this week. In addition to pipeline trouble we were unfortunate in losing about 7000 gallons of water at one tank and about 4000 out of another owing to not being able to give them the necessary attention. I now have an old chap camped up at the spring keeping the drains clear and looking after things in general up there and I hope this arrangement will improve things.

[preprinted page number at top] 74

I hear Price is boring in Hawker district and I strongly recommend trying to get him to put another bore down in bottom Marachowie and thus obviate the possibility of a smash by having the pipes wasted away up in the ranges and no rain over the Run elsewhere. We only just missed this position by a mile or two when they had the severe cyclonic storm at Wilkaton a few weeks ago. There was so much damage done to the Depot Creek pipeline that the Commonwealth Railway are talking of abandoning the whole scheme.

Yes, please renew the enclosed Licence & insurance.

The weather is stormy and severe dust blowing, but no sign of rain.

I have that good man Jack Smith here now, cleaning out the drains of South Range Dam and then he is to do the Weir. Have had to take him off the job this week and

[preprinted page number at top] 75

he was a Godsend helping us with the pipes, but unfortunately he wants to get back to his own place as soon as he can, but I know he will stay as long as possible if I want him.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 14 - 12 - 43

[preprinted page number at top] 76

Yadlamalka
Dec. 11th. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of Dec. 4th. inst. to hand.

Grantham arrived back on Thursday last and the condition of his arms seems to have improved although they are not 100%.

I have had a better spin with the pipeline this week and the water level in nearly all tanks has improved. I sent another 800 sheep over to Nancy Well, making approx. 2000 sheep at Nancy Well at present.

There is plenty of water there for them, but the feed position isn't so good.

I have approx. seventy five herd of fat cattle ready to start for Stirling trucking yards on Monday next, to be trucked early

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on Saturday morning next for the Xmas market on Dec. 20. They are nearly all light weights and not quite such fresh quality as I expected to muster, but on the average should be good Xmas beef.

The feed is very rough on the stock route for the last twenty miles into Stirling and the draft is bound to waste on the trip to Adelaide.

The old chap I have up at the head of the pipeline is doing a good job, and there is no doubt he is a great help to the water position generally.

There is a rather promising looking "brew" on at present and the weather conditions seem favourable for rain. The glass is down to 29.4 and the atmosphere is very humid

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] I will write M^r. Bartholomaeus re bore when I get approx. cost from M^r. Price.

Regds.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 21 . 12 . 43

[preprinted page number at top] 79

Yadlamalka
Dec. 18th. 43.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,
Yours of 16th. inst. to hand.

We have had a good spin with the pipeline this week, and the water supply has been kept up to the sheep O.K.

Yesterday a break occurred in the 4 inch pipes just this side of the Weir but we got on to it quickly and fixed it without losing much water.

Received the disc and registration for Chev buckboard No. 145-339.

Cattle. I cancelled one bogie cattle truck and only loaded sixty head (60) (two bogies). The draft is composed of nearly all light weights and if one could have landed them in the market straight off Kallioota Swamp they would have been ideal Xmas beef. The cattle

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had a hot dry trip into Stirling but I hope they didn't lose their bloom on trip down. Had a splendid man in Jack Smith to take them to trucking yards and am confident he nurses them well.

We may get another draft of fats in about six weeks time, but the cattle are not doing as well as one would expect owing to sand flies and mosquitoes ~~also flies~~ \by night/ and flies in day time, in the swamps.

I turned back some nice light weight steers just not quite ready and lacking in bloom.

One Wednesday night last we had isolated thunder storms an registered 4 points of rain at head station, but there was no rain any good elsewhere.

Today a strong South gale is blowing, making conditions cool and dusty.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] M^r Bartholomaeus writes for stock returns and a report on conditions of country at end of year – Will make it as comprehensive as possible & send you a copy. Posted all a/cs. ect – Thanks for not wou[illegible]

[preprinted page number at top] 82

Yadlamalka Stn

Jan. 1st 1944.

A. R. Bartholomaeus Esq.

Elder House

Currie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit the following report on the condition of Yadlamalka Station generally at the end of the year 1943.

Stock

Sheep. All sheep with the exception of lambs are in fair store condition with odd 3 & 4 year old ewes still fat.

Some of the lambs (at a rough estimate about 25%) are in store condition and are looking very dry and harsh and unless rain falls within the next month or two we must expect a few losses amongst them.

I joined four thousand nine hundred and fifty ewes with the rams on Nov. 25th. The rams were very fit when put with the ewes, but the ewes didn't encourage the rams until about 2 weeks after mating. Even now there

[preprinted page number at top] 84

is not much evidence of the maiden ewes (aprox. 1700) doing their duty, although they are in good strong order.

I don't think the lambing results for 1944 are very bright as conditions are very dry and what feed there is, is rough and hard and covered with dust.

Cattle

There are about 250 head (including calves) of cattle on the Run at present, and they are mostly in forward store order. The Nalpa bull has developed into a very massive animal and now is a very good doer, showing no weakness in constitution whatsoever, and his is very docile.

Water position

Pipeline This line is now getting old and is giving us a lot of worry and trouble. It needs constant watching and when a break or bad leaks occur they sometimes take a lot of locating, which means a big drain on petrol.

Water Supply We are still getting about 11,500 gallons per day down the pipeline from the source of the springs, and about an average of three to four thousand gallons from Salt Well Bore when the wind blows.

I have been informed by those

[preprinted page number at top] 86

in authority that the Commonwealth Railways are – or rather have abandoned Depot Creek Bore and pipeline and they intend to take the whole of the pipeline up and shift it elsewhere. This means we have a chance of getting our old unlimited water supply back, but it may be some time before it will improve our springs. We certainly seem to be getting more water now than at this time last year, in spite of the adverse seasonal conditions. I now have an ideal man for the job camped up at the source of the springs and he spends his time digging and delving for water and keeping the drains clean.

Nancy Well – There is plenty of water at this Well. I have 2000 sheep watering there and will have all the cattle on it in a week or two's time owing to all surface waters going dry.

Scrubby Bore. We have had a good deal of trouble with the pump on this bore and it is at present out of action. I hope to get it going again as soon as I can.

Lake Salmon West Bore. I expect Gloede over from Hawker next week to equip this bore, and then I will be in a position

[preprinted page number at top] 88

to try sheep on it. I regret the delay with this job but we have had no time to do the job, and Gloede has been coming for months, but he says it is O.K. this time.

Rainfall

We have had 4.62 inches for the year ending 1943. The heaviest fall was on Feb. 17 when the guage registered 225 points.

We didn't register any more rain until June 14th when 26 points fell. Apart from the heavy fall in Feb. we have only had eleven falls averaging 21.5 points per fall.

Country

The whole of the Run is in a very dry condition, with the exception of about two square miles in the heart of Kallioota Swamp where there was a nice variety of Summer green feed owing to two small floods down Willochra Creek, but besides all the cattle there are hundreds of Kangaroos, picking the eyes out of the best of the feed.

The whole country in the exposed places and on the sandhills is now drifting badly and the roads are very rough and heavy.

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Rabbits

Rabbits are not very numerous and those that did breed up after the Feb. rain mostly shifted on South.

Weather

The weather has been very windy with the prevailing winds from the South.

Last week we had a severe storm which uprooted trees, and it was accompanied by clouds of dust and sand which did a lot of damage to the feed over the whole of the Run.

In conclusion I would like to draw your attention to the fine lot of young sheep we have on the Station. There are only a few ewes older than four and a half years, and these are exceptional ewes which I kept, as they are worth breeding to death.

As I write the barometer is low – 29.40 and although there is a South wind blowing, it is quite humid and hot.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

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[Heading] Yadlamalka Station

31. 12. 43

[Subheading] Half Yearly Sheep Return

Sheep shorn Shearing 1943 August. 14,845

Add :- Rams bought 30

Total 14,875

Deduct :- Sales

Ewes.	2081	
Wethers	953	
Lambs.	400	
Rations.	200	
Dead & Missing	<u>200</u>	<u>3839</u>
<u>Total on Run 31/12/43.</u>		<u>11 036</u>

Particulars

<u>Ewes 4 yrs old and under</u>	4683	
<u>Ewes 5 yrs old and over</u>	300	
<u>Wethers</u>	1804	
<u>Lambs</u>	4079	
<u>Rams</u>	<u>170</u>	
<u>Total as above</u>		<u>11,036</u>

[annotation in top left corner in red] R ~~5-12-44~~ \5 - 1 . 44/
[preprinted page number at top] 93

Yadlamalka
1. 1. 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Herewith please find enclosed Pool Petroleum Cheque for £2.—.

All hands stuck to their jobs over the holidays and carried on the same as usual, which is as it should be until this war is cleaned up.

I have sent you a copy of my report to M^r. Bartholomaeus under separate cover, and am enclosing a copy of the Half Yearly Sheep return which I have posted on M^r. Bartholomaeus

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 11 - 1 - 44
[preprinted page number at top] 94

Yadlamalka
Jan. 8th. 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 6 inst. to hand.

Glad you had a break over holidays. You don't very often take time off and the little holiday should do you good.

Kangaroos. I have never seen so many in one spot. There now must be thousands on the green stuff in Kallioota Swamp and they are nearly all big old bucks.

Yes reregister Chev. Buckboard 179-998. This buckboard is out of action, the clutch plates being worn out. I will have to apply for more petrol. I finished up 24 gallon in debt January issue, as the gass producer buckboard 179-998 was out of action and I have done away

[preprinted page number at top] 9*[illegible]*

with a trailer gass producer as one cannot drag it round the drift sand, I have never seen the sand drifting like it is or the roads so rough & heavy.

This week I'm having a calf muster and branding up, hope to also have the rams all out from the ewes by the end of the week.

Water position. All stock tanks are just holding their own, but as I write a strong Southerly buster is blowing with sand drifting badly. Barometer is still falling so we haven't seen the worst of the gale yet.

I would like to run to Town next week if everything is O.K. here. I badly need a short break and have a job or two for D Upton.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Will post all Dec. a/cs etc during week if I get a chance. Been record hot day today.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 18 - 1 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 97

Yadlamalka Stn

15. 1. 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 13 inst. to hand.

It was very hot here too during the week and Barometer was very low, but a Southerly buster arrived last night and dust & sand is blowing with a wild fury. There is no doubt these severe gales are knocking the heart out of this country.

I'm putting off going to Town for a few days, as I have received word that Gloede and his men will be over on Monday next to equip Lake Salmon Bore and I want to be on the spot when this is done.

We are just holding our own with the pipeline supply of water and it looks as if it will see

[preprinted page number at top] 98

the Summer out O.K. so long as we don't have a sequence of breakages.

I have all the rams out of ewes but four. There are two dead that I know of and I hope the other two will turn up O.K.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 22/2/44

[preprinted page number at top] 1

Yadlamalka

19. 2. 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We arrived back here on Thursday evening after a good trip back from Adelaide.

I haven't been all over the Run yet, but what I have seen, I was surprised to note the amount of green feed that has come on since the rain. Given a follow on rain within a week or two we would

have good feed everywhere with the exception of the wind swept places. On the bare places, such as about Marachowie, the country looks worse than it did before the rain.

If anything the sheep generally have improved in condition during my absence, especially the young sheep.

The rain was very steady

[preprinted page number at top] 2

and no water ran atal in any of the water courses.

Grantham has looked after the Station very well during ~~during~~ my absence.

Expect to start crutching on Tuesday next. This arrangement works in very well as the sheep should do better on the green stuff after being wiggged and cleaned up.

The weather is fine and cool

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 29 . 2 . 44.

[preprinted page number at top] 3

Yadlamalka

26. 2. 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Feb. 24 inst. to hand.

We have had no sign of a follow on rain until today which looks favourable for steady rain. The barometer is down to 29.40 and the day is hot and humid with the wind in the North and there is a brew of good sort of cloud in the N' West & West, and glass is still falling.

An inch of rain now would ensure good feed for months ahead, and would be worth a lot of money.

Yesterday I sold Thirty one head of cattle, delivery on Station for £5 – 17 – 6 a head.

These cattle were a very mixed lot mostly old cows with good calves and I'm very satisfied with the sale. Fullerton butcher

[preprinted page number at top] 4

at Port Augusta bought them.

We haven't got a start crutching yet. I received word during the week that they cannot get here until next Tuesday Feb. 29.

Marachowie and the Range paddocks are very bare & windswept, owing to the continual severe gully winds and I have shifted the sheep from this area, elsewhere on the Run there is a good germination of green feed but much of it now looks very sick but a rain now would save the situation.

The stock generally are looking in fair condition and we are still killing fat ration sheep.

The holiday in Adelaide did both my wife and myself a lot of good and there is no doubt everyone should have a break out of this country every year. I find myself now doing all sorts of jobs that I was too stale to do before I left for Adelaide.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7 - 3 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 5

Yadlamalka

4. 3. 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Mar. 2 inst. to hand.

I wish to make a correction re number of cattle sold. I advised in my last letter that I had sold 31 head whereas only 30 head were delivered to Fullerton. One beast got back to its mates at Kallioota and saved its life for the time being.

I haven't got a start crutching yet. The latest advice I have had from them is that they will be at the Woolshed tonight.

There now is plenty of water all over the pipeline and I have not had to pump water into the main line at Salt Well Bore since returning from Adelaide.

The "brew" last week

[preprinted page number at top] 6

was a failure and although it has been very hot during this week it has never looked like rain.

The green stuff that germinated from the Feb. rain has mostly all disappeared.

I will get all accounts down to you during the week.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7 - 3 - 44

Yad.

4 / 3 / 44

Dear Mr Siggins,

Since finishing my letter to you, I'm glad to report that the crutchers have arrived and are staying here tonight and I'll shake them down at the woolshed tomorrow. Hope to get them to work first thing Monday morning.

They are good men I think. I know some of them and amongst them is a Tabrook (you know what I mean) rat⁵ and he used to be a good man.

With kind regards

Yrs.

E.P.W.

[Post script] 8 p.m. Saturday

⁵ In 1941 during the Western Desert Campaign of WW2, the Nazi propagandist, William Joyce, had given the nickname 'rats' to the allied soldiers who held the Libyan port of Tobruk in North Africa, because of their tenaciousness. The Australian soldiers embraced the term as an ironic compliment, thus it became a badge of honour. (Prim Whyte was, himself, a WW1 veteran.)

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 14 - 3 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 7

Yadlamalka

12. 3. 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 9 inst. to hand.

Crutching Is going on O.K. Up to the weekend we have put through a few over six thousand sheep. The sheep are all in strong order, but the sand and fine dust is right down on their skin which is making them very hard to shear and the crutchers just have to snag the wool off. I expect to finish the job before next Saturday.

I have had to use our own plant this year, and it is just as well, as the portable ~~light~~ plants would not have stood up to the hard conditions.

Will you please apply for a Special Fuel Licence of 88 gallons of Petrol for crutching ~~for crutching~~ 11,000 sheep with our own plant of eight stands and 6½ horse power engine (Lister Stationary).

[preprinted page number at top] 8

I have four crutchers on the board, but the engine has to turn the shafting for eight stands. I have not applied for years for extra petrol for crutching on account of the contractor using his own plant and finding the petrol to do the job, but this year we have to use our own plant.

Registrations and discs for Chev 141 – 728 & trailer 2126 came to hand O.K.

This week we have had a lot of dust and the country looks worse than it did before the rain in most paddocks. On the tableland country these conditions do not apply, for on this type of country the rain did the bush a lot of good and some of the old bindi-eye has come green again.

Yours. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 21 - 3 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 13

Yadlamalka

18. 3. 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of March 16 to hand.

Thanks for Fuel Licence No. 22/69670.

We finished crutching on Thursday evening last.

We crutched 11077 sheep including about 300 Summer lambs and shore 112 double fleeced sheep. The wool weights I will enclose with this letter.

All the sheep are in strong condition but to look at the state of the country one wonders what the stock are living on.

There is plenty of water on the pipeline and all sheep tanks are full.
There is no doubt the fresh spring water helps the sheep

[preprinted page number at top] 14

a lot during these hard dry times.

Almost every night we are getting strong gully winds with clouds of dust, which causes the country to drift badly.

I trust we get a rain shortly

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 28 - 3 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 16

Yadlamalka

25 / 3 / 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 23 inst. to hand.

Lee & petrol. Mr. McKenzie (his manager at Port Augusta) got the 24 gallons of Petrol tickets from the Post Office although they were long overdue, so everything is O.K. there.

I noted your request for ages of men here over 60 yrs. of age.

I couldn't send them to you last week, as I didn't know their ages, but here they are :-

Domestic Mr^s. Salina Victoria Pearce 60 yrs

Cook Arthur James Pearce 64 yrs

Stationhand John Cusack 67 yrs

Stationhand Patrick Evans 62 yrs

Stn Manager Ernest Primrose Whyte 62 yrs

The sheep are still looking well. I drafted them during crutching

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and the lambing ewes are now settled down in their maternity paddocks.

The hoggets too look a nice even line now they are drafted off their mothers. I have all the two year old wethers running out about Nancy Well. The country there looks very windswept but big wethers can reach the top feed and are doing alright so far on the scrub.

This week I'm having an offensive against the foxes. I have prepared the way by laying unpoisoned baits, but this week they will be charged with strychnine and S.A.P. rabbit poison.

The weather has been hot during day with cool nights, and barometer is up sky high.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 4 - 4 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 18

Yadlamalka

1 . 4 . 44.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Mar. 30 inst. to hand.

This week we have had something in the nature of a record heat wave for this time of the year. It has been hot night and day since I last wrote which has caused our springs to recede to an alarming extent.

We have gone back about 40,000 gallons this week in our reserve supply. I don't think the mill has pumped fifty gallons into the main line this week.

As I write a Southerly buster is on the track up here judging by the wall of red dust to the South, so my water anxiety should be over.

The Barometer is low.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 11 - 4 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 20

Yadlamalka Stn

8 . 4 . 44.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We had the following rain yesterday afternoon & last night.

Yadlamalka 30 points

Marachowie 20 "

Kallioota 26 "

This rain was steady and very disappointing as the brew looked a really good one, but as usual just as the rain set in from the Nor' West, the wind swept round to the South and spoilt our prospects of a good fall.

It will give us only temporary relief and wash the bush and feed.

The barometer is still low so there is a prospect of more rain about.

The water position will be relieved for a while and

[preprinted page number at top] 21

we will now have a chance of increasing our reserve supply.

No young lambs about yet. I have been busy out on the Run and mail is waiting.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 18 APR 1944

[preprinted page number at top] 22

Yadlamalka Stn

16. 4. 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 13 inst. to hand.

Rain :- The Wire I sent you during the week was the total rainfall for three days, April 8, 9, 10.

The following are the total falls for the three days rain :-

Yadlamalka 77 points

Marachowie 67 "

Kallioota 68 "

Lake Hut 46 "

This rain was very steady and went into the ground like it would into blotting paper. No water ran anywhere.

Rams I inspected the rams at Partacoona on Easter Monday and arranged to take thirty five (35) this year. These rams are showing the effects of the dry season but are better grown than I expected, considering

[preprinted page number at top] 23

the hard dry time they have had.

I also bought a good 6 yr. old bay mare at Port Augusta for £15— payment to be made through Elders at Port Augusta, and I also have a thoroughbred young mare here on trail price £15—.

Both these mares are very good hacks and are excellent value at the money. Nearly all our hacks are very old and are almost useless, as many of them were old horses when I came here eighteen years ago. I can buy another quiet young horse for £9 – 10 – 0 but have not seen him yet.

The ewes have started to lamb at last but I don't think the drop can be anything else but poor owing to the seasonal conditions.

Unless we get a follow on rain in a day or two their poor drop might turn out a blessing in disguise. Most of the cattle are just about holding their own in condition but cows with young calves are poor.

A fine lot of seed has

[preprinted page number at top] 24

responded to the rain and germinated but already a lot of it is showing signs of wilting and we want more rain badly.

I am meeting Gloede from Hawker at the woolshed on Thursday next to show him what repairs and work I want done before shearing. I think a wash house measuring 18' X 10' should be big enough for the shearers. The end has almost fallen out of the shearers quarters owing to the white ants eating the timber away and this will have to be repaired as soon as possible. If it isn't done we run the risk of losing the whole building in a gale. I will get a price from Gloede for building the wash house and submit it to the Directors. All Stations round the district are improving mens quarters and trying to build wash houses – or rather want to get the work done if labour & material are available.

The barometer is very low – down to 29.20 and there has

[preprinted page number at top] 25

\been/ a hard gale blowing from the Nor' West all day with clouds of dust and sand drifting. An hour or two ago there were good sorts of thunder clouds poking up through the dust but now they seem to have cleared off and I'm afraid there is a big chance of the wind coming in from the Sou' West which will be fatal for our chance of a good rain. Already the wind has veered round to the West but it is still quite warm.

In the event of a good fall I will try and get a wire through somehow.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Water position is O.K.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 26 - 4 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 29

Yadlamalka

23 . 4 . 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 20th inst. to hand.

We didn't get a drop of rain from last week's brew. Only dust storms from a hard Southerly buster. I met Gloede at the woolshed last Thursday and arranged for him to build a wash house 18' X 10' and lay water on with two showers at the end of house.

He is going to give me a price for the job and seems to think he will have difficulty to get the material.

Shearers quarters are in a bad state with white ants, and he is going to do this job by day work and hopes to have time to come out next week and fix this job up. I will only have done what I necessary to make the building do for a year or two

[preprinted page number at top] 30

as the Shearers Accommodation Act comes into force after the war.

I will see all timber is treated to prevent white ants eating it away.

Water Supply There is now plenty of water coming down the pipeline and we are getting all we want.

Ewes are lambing, but I think the chance of a big drop is poor. What lambs are coming are strong & healthy.

Very few foxes and hawks about.

I trust we get more rain shortly.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Bad flu' cold going about and have three of staff down with it and the others look as if they should be in bed. Have bad dose myself. No doubt it is a germ of some sort. Kind regards

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 2 - 5 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 31

Yadlamalka

29 . 4 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 27 inst. to hand.

We have had no rain. On Thursday we had another brew with a very low barometer but although the clouds were very heavy, the only result ~~being~~ was/ a Southerly buster. Tonight the glass is falling again indicating another disturbance in the weather and I sincerely trust something good comes of the change. The seed that germinated from the rain early in the month can now be written off. All sheep have been chasing the little green stuff that grew, with consequent loss of condition and now they will be forced on to the hard rough stuff again. These conditions are making it very hard on the ewes

[preprinted page number at top] 32

with young lambs.

This week we have had a visit from two dogs in the Kallioota country. By their actions I don't think they are dingoes but I should say they are two domestic dogs gone wild. We have found some good places to set traps and have poison laid so I hope we have luck enough to catch them. They may be travelling anywhere, as we haven't ~~seen~~ had evidence of them for the last day or two and I trust they have cleared out. No sign of any sheep being disturbed so far.

I have arranged for the same team to do our shearing this year that did such a good job last shearing. They are due here about the end of July.

The 'flu wave is losing its punch and the staff are starting to get back to normal again.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 9 - 5 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 33

Yadlamalka

6 . 5 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 4th May inst. to hand.

Rain As a result of the disturbance I mentioned that was brewing in my last letter, we had the following falls.

May 1st Yadlamalka 18 points
 Marachowie 16 “
 Kallioota 13 “
 Lake Hut 27 “

Dogs. We haven't seen anything further of the dogs I reported in my last letter and it looks as if they have cleared out. As a result of further investigation I'm quite sure they were not dingoes.

Flue. I have Grantham in bed but he hasn't a bad dose but I insisted on him going home

[preprinted page number at top] 34

to bed as he can't afford to take any risks after the doing he had last year. (Result :- the April mens accounts are not completed, as I have had to put in my time on the pipeline as we have had a stiff trot with leaks etc this week.)

Sheep :- The drop of lambs is very poor up to date and I'm afraid the results at tailing time will also be poor.

Cattle :- I have the Nalpa Bull over here now feeding him on chaff. All stock are gradually losing condition, and I don't want this valuable bull to get too low in condition.

Water :- Plenty water everywhere.

Weather :- The barometer is low again tonight 29.50 and falling. Very little cloud about but I trust there is a good brew in the offing.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Glad to hear you are coming up. "Yummie" as the kids would say. Bring dominoes

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 12 - 5 - 44

Yadlamalka

May 11th 43.4/

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We had a hard and wild cyclonic storm on Monday and on the exposed parts of the Run it has swept almost everything away. During the height of the storm one would have thought it had swept the sun away, and it was almost quite dark inside the house.

We had a sprinkle of rain :-

Yadlamalka 3 points

Marachowie 3 “

Kallioota 2 “

Lake Hut 7 “

Yesterday we had another dose of dust & sand and it seems as if some fiend is at work trying to tear the heart out of the country and it is doing it too. This time there was no rain – only the smell of it

[centred page number] 2

when the wind came in from the South with a wild ~~fury~~ /fury/ and ripped and tore things about. I think there must have been a lot of rain South.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16 - 5 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 35

Yadlamalka

13 . 5 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 11 inst. to hand.

Please send me new Cheque Book by next mail.

We have had another depression since I wrote on Thursday last, but no results, only South winds.

The lambs are coming faster now and there are plenty of foxes & eagle hawks about.

Country looks and is very drought st[r]icken.

I trust we get a rain shortly.

Yrs. faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] "Billie" has been over from Melbourne on leave & gone back again.

EPW

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 24 - 5 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 39

Yadlamalka

20 . 5 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 18. inst. to hand.

One large Cheque book came to hand O.K.

Hawks and foxes are now numerous but they are taking poison and we are dealing with them to the best of our ability. I have heard old sheep men with a lot of experience state that hawks will not take live lambs. On occasions I have seen eagle hawks in the act of killing lambs, and on Tuesday last I drove over a sand hill and saw a hawk in the act of killing a lamb. On seeing me the eagle hawk made off and the lamb tried to run away. On catching the lamb I found the hawk had driven its talons into the flanks of the lamb so

[preprinted page number at top] 40

severely that I had to knock the lamb on the head and kill it. Needless to say I poisoned the carcass.

On looking through the sheep I noticed another strong lamb that looked sick and on catching it I found it had been wounded in the same way as the first one and the only thing to do was to treat it in the same ~~manner~~ manner/ as the first lamb.

My experience has been when hawks are plentiful they kill more lambs than foxes.

The weather this week has been very disappointing again.

On Thursday last we had a hard (almost hot) warm North wind with severe dust and sand storms but have not had the usual Southerly buster yet although the weather is now quite cold, but the barometer is still low enough for anything to happen. No sign of rain here, but to the Sou' West it looks as if it is raining.

The country from Wilkatana south to Port Augusta is now in good heart and is green and fresh.

[preprinted page number at top] 41

The line of demarcation is only a few miles South of here and is very evident. Every rain during the Summer and Winter has been heavier up to about the same spot, and then the further North the lighter the rainfall.

We are still getting plenty of water down from the springs.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Will meet Friday's train 26th & be glad to see you.

P.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 6 - 6 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 43

Yadlamalka

3 . 6 . 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

I saw M^r. Siggins off at Port Augusta by the early morning train ~~at Port Augusta~~ this morning.

On arrival back here the man I have camped at Lake Hut reported that dogs were howling round his Camp last night.

He can't say how many but there were two or more, and he reckons they were dingoes, and as he has had a lifetime's experience in this country I'm prepared to take his word as an experienced bushman can soon distinguish a tame dogs howl from that of a dingo. This is bad news as I have a lot of valuable sheep on that part of the Run

[preprinted page number at top] 44

of course I'm off out first thing in the morning and will report in my next letter what damage has been done (if any) and the type of dog we have to deal with. I trust we can deal with them promptly.

Will you please order for shearing the following :-

20 Shearers mattresses with loose covers

20 Pillows with loose covers

I saw the organizer for the A.W.U. in Port Augusta today and he tells me nearly all Stations are doing - or rather getting this equipment this year.

M^r. Fenn of Stockowners' Assoc. will give you all information about mattresses etc. if you want it.

The glass is falling and looks like a change brewing

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Hope you got down O.K.

Regards. P.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 13 - 6 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 45

Yadlamalka

June 10th. 1944

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of June 8th to hand.

Dogs We have located the beat of one dingo and have traps set but he hasn't been back since we put the traps out. I think the chances are that we have hunted him to fresh fields – as judging by his habits – he is a cunning old dog that moves on when disturbed. The other dogs that were round the Lake Hut, I think must have been tame dogs. Anyhow we can't find any evidence of dogs in the sheep and I feel satisfied that the sheep have not been disturbed.

Thanks for getting on to Parsons Robertson. I hope they send the right type.

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On Monday June 5th we had the following rain :-

Yadlamalka 10 points

Marachowie 5 “

Kallioota 10 “

Lake Hut 14 “

This rain will help the green stuff a little, but we really want a good soaking downpour of an inch to two inches.

Will try and mark a few lambs this week.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 7 - 7 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 47

Yadlamalka

30 . 6 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 29 inst to hand.

Herewith I enclose the necessary form for the sheets towels slips and 6 tea towels.

Fuel licence 22/76511 came to hand O.K.

I returned home last Tuesday, and on the track out I got a shock to note how the green herbage had been pinched off by the extreme cold and frosty weather, coupled with the very dry June we have experienced.

On Tuesday last we got a start lambmarking, and here are the results to date

June 27 Lambmarking

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East One Gum Pdk.

Ewes aged. 605 Lambs. 356. 59.9%

West One Gum

Ewes aged. 613. Lambs. 363. 59.9%

Salt Well

Ewes maiden 521 Lambs. 210. 40%

Morgans

Ewes maiden 609. Lambs. 229. 37.5%

South Range

Ewes maiden (a few aged) 710 Lambs. 327. 46%

South Paradise

Ewes 2 & 3 yrs 633. Lambs. 235 37%

3691

1720

Average 46.6%

[preprinted page number at top] 50

Soakage Paddock

Ewes. 723 Lambs. 253 35%

Mudliappa Paddock

Ewes. 149 Lambs. 70 41%

Brought Fwd. Ewes 3691 Lambs. 1720

Add :- Summer Lambs 450

Ewes Total. 4,463 Total Lambs 2,493 55%

Since I wrote the above it is now/ Thursday July 6? And still no mail has arrived and I haven't had an opportunity of posting the mail. Your letter I received last Friday by a passing private car that was going North so officially we haven't had a mail out here since last Saturday week.

Rain. On Monday last it looked as if we were in for inches of rain. The barometer fell to 29.45.; the wind was blowing hard from the North for over 24 hours, and the clouds brewed up heavy and low. Result :- Yadlamulka 10 points. Marachowie 10 points. Kallioota 10 points. Lake Hut 15 points. The barometer is still low, but no sign of rain

[preprinted page number at top] 51

about.

The lambs we tailed looked very well and are in much better condition than their mothers. A lot of the wet ewes will have to be well nursed to get them through the shearing operations without loss.

Gloede's men are working up at the Mens Quarters and are erecting a wash house. M^r. Gloede is not there himself, so I couldn't get a price from him for the building. I suppose under the circumstances we are lucky to get any work done atal at any price.

I'm afraid the mens quarters are going to cost more than I anticipated, as the white ants have done a lot of damage that one couldn't see until the end was pulled out of the building.

The seed that germinated from the rain on May 23^d has now been either nearly all eaten off or pinched off by the severe frosts and extreme cold weather.

I trust a good rain falls shortly.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 11 . 7 . 44

[preprinted page number at top] 54

Yadlamalka

July 8th 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

No letter from you this week. Mails have been all upset.

Please send me another Ledger by return post.

Looks like rain tonight and hope we get a fall.

I sent Grantham into Port Augusta with \lambing returns/. Lambmarking figures.

We mustered :- Ewes 4463

Lambs 2493

55%

I'm feeling a lot better, but haven't my punch back yet.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 18 . 7 . 44

[preprinted page number at top] 56

[Post script annotation in top margin] Remember me to Khama. Regds to your good self P.

Yadlamalka

15 . 7 . 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 13 inst to hand.

I want a book of Mens Accounts. I left two accounts over until July :- Rex Grantham and Jack Cusick.

Old Jack Cusick is doing a good job up at the Woolshed and there is no doubt he is a good trustworthy old chap – a pity he isn't twenty years younger.

The mail arrived about 7 p.m. today and as he wants to get back to Port Augusta tonight it doesn't give one much time to answer letters. I have received dozens of letters since I have been in Hospital, but I don't feel up to much letter writing yet

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The Doctor reckons I have either got Angina pectoris (which he treated me for in Hospital) or rheumatics of the heart. He is to let me know when I see him next in Port Augusta. I haven't driven a car since I came home.

The country looks in a very bad state all over the Run and there is hardly a bright spot anywhere.

The extremely cold and dry weather has pinched almost everything off.

There is plenty of water coming down the pipeline.

I'm engaging plenty of musterers this year, as the sheep will take a lot of cleaning up, and it is imperative they be shifted away off shears as quickly as possible.

I expect to start shearing on July 24th.

Elders say they are sending E. W. Mugs or Enamel Mugs.

What chance have we got of getting towels etc.

Weather cold & fine.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 25 - 7 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 60

[Post script annotation in top margin] Will try & get all accounts to you by this mail

Yadlamalka

22 . 7 . 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 20 inst. to hand.

The books of Mens A/cs came to hand O.K.

I enclose a letter from the Deputy Director of Rationing.

You will note they only ~~requ only~~ provide for three persons in the Shearing Team which I was already aware of. – Hence the order for 6 Tea Towls 6. Sheets and 3 bath towels.

The station stocks for all these requirements are Nil as all sheets tea towels bath towels ect, are not station property but belong to my wife, and the only reason for me ordering them is

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because she is very short of all these things and we can't spare them for the men that are suppose to get them at the woolshed. The only station stuff I send to Woolshed are beds mattresses pillows & blankets.

I can't understand how Mr Bowden thought I was applying for all shearers. There will be an average of about 25 men at the woolshed and six tea towels I consider is a small order to keep all their eating utensils in a clean state.

No sign of shearers yet.
I have written to M^{rs}. Doman this week.
Yrs. faithfully
E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Kind regards — Not so good tonight, so please excuse this letter. P.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 1 - 8 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 62

Yadlamalka

29 . 7 . 44

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We got a start shearing on Monday morning, and everything seemed to be going well until the shearers struck a mob of about seven hundred Hoggetts which were a bit sandy.

I have seen sheep much worse here, but the fine silt was right down on their backs.

The shearers had a swarm at the end of the board, and then the Rep came out to me and said they wanted Twenty Combs and sixty Cutters given them for the whole shearing. I rejected the demand (Twenty combs and sixty cutters per man), but offered to pay for any combs & cutters they used while shearing at Yadlamalka

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After swarming at the top of the Shearing Board the Rep came and informed me they would not budge from their first demand and The Overseer (M^r. Saunders) ~~came and~~ informed me that the whole team were ready to walk out of the woolshed, and leave their jobs. M^r. Saunders informed me that a comb and three cutters would only shear about two hundred \sheep/ and this is what they based their demands on, all of which I did not agree with. However I was compelled to accede to their demands, as the condition of the sheep and the deplorable state of the country make it imperative that shearing must go on as quickly as possible.

The whole thing is all wrong and most unjust especially as they had all signed on, and if I had had the feed to keep the sheep alive I would have let the whole team go, but then if the feed was on the

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Run the trouble would not have cropped up. I may add I agreed to pay for these tools under protest and told the Rep. in the presence of M^r. Saunders that if there was any way to prosecute them I would do so, but the fact of M^r. Saunders telling me a ~~cutter~~ \comb/ would only shear two hundred sheep shows what his evidence would be worth to us.

Up to this weekend we have shorn 4,243 sheep and have 150 bales of wool out, fifty of which have been sent to Port Augusta.

We shore 1300 4T Wethers (2 yrs. old) and they returned 15¾ lbs wool per head and they were not sandy having been running in Scrubby pdk the most of the year.

Since writing the above I have received your letter of 27 inst. and note your remarks re rationing

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Don't worry about this just now. Between my wife and M^{rs}. Grantham things are right up at the woolshed over shearing.

We are still shearing the dry sheep and they are coming off the shears better than I expected. The sheep are being well nursed and are not kept round the woolshed one minute longer than necessary. The ewes with lambs are going to be the problem but I have good men mustering them, so I know they will get every chance, and I think we will get over the hurdle O.K. It has been good shearing weather and we haven't had any dust storms so far.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Still got to go very slow, and my old ticker is still playing up

Regards P.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 8 - 8 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 66

Yadlamalka

Aug. 5th 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Aug. 3rd inst to hand.

The shearers demands were pure blackmail and they should be prosecuted on that charge if it be possible. You know the state the country round the shed was in when you were up here. It is much worse now – like a ploughed paddock and these men took advantage of the situation to blackmail the Coy. I know they will not use one third of the combs and cutters they demanded.

Cattle – will make the balance if possible by this mail.

Mail was very late today.

I think a fair figure

[preprinted page number at top] 67

would be about £183. – 10. – 0 for stores and materials on the Run.

Two beds Elders £31 – 15 – 0. Must be all wrong. I will enquire ~~into~~ into the account when I go to Port Augusta. There was a good chap “Jack M^cMahon” by name that bought some furniture for us for the new married couples quarters about two years ago and wouldn't put his bill in for the stuff he bought, but there were no beds on the list.

Thanks for your free advice. Mr Bartholomaeus also wrote me a sound and beautiful letter on the same subject, and I'm obeying both your suggestions.

I would like to go to town and see a specialist directly after shearing is over.

Shearing

Sheep Shorn 9,667.

Bales Wool 320.

I think we will shear

[preprinted page number at top] 68

round about 13,000 sheep and get 400 bales of wool without including the 22 bales of crutching sect. sent away about the middle of March. I expect to cut-out on Thursday morning.

Some of the wet ewes are very weak. I have had the sheep culled heavily, as we will have to sell a lot of sheet – unless rain falls shortly – and I'm determined to keep the best of the flock. Very dry with hard gully winds at night – a pretty sure sign of drought conditions continuing.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Annotation inserted] No horses. 16
30 . 6 . 44

[Post script] I haven't received any pay as you earn Taxation Certificates yet. The expert at shed has mobs of coloured ones and has to make them out in batches of four copies. E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 16 - 8 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 72

Yadlamalka

Aug. 12th 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Before I answer yours of Aug. 10 inst I wish to apologise for not sending down the Mens' Accounts & cattle figures you asked me for in your previous letter. It worried me to think that the figures hadn't been completed.

M^r Bartholomaeus tells me the same trouble has been happening all over the North this year with the shearing teams.

There was one redeeming feature as far as the shearers were concerned.

On Aug 8th we had 21 points of rain at the woolshed and the shearers kept on shearing. They could have held the shearing up for two or three days, which would have cost us more than the extra

[preprinted page number at top] 73

combs & cutters they demanded.

Note what you say re Group Certificates. I will put "paid off" on any of the accounts of the men that are leaving, and you can post the Certificates back to me.

<u>Rain Aug 8th</u>	Yadlamalka	33 points
	Marachowie	21 "
	Kallioota	24 "
	Lake Hut	26 "

This fall washed the bush and made the country look fresher.

<u>Shearing.</u>	<u>Sheep shorn Tally Board total.</u>	13,545
	Less Rams double	<u>132</u>
		<u>13,413</u> <u>Sheep on Run Aug. 10th</u>
Bales of Wool	428	
Add :- Crutchings sold	<u>22</u>	
<u>Total Clip 1944.</u>	<u>450</u>	

A very good all round result considering the year. I have not made up the losses but they must be light.

I was very pleased to see M^r. Bartholomaeus & M^r. Lyon and am sorry they couldn't have

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made a longer stay.

I'm trying to get any sale sheep over to Lake Wells pdk at Kallioota this week. Or I should say those sale sheep that are likely to improve in condition.

Barometer is very low and all the niggers are tipping "plenty rain" and I trust they are right.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Private Have been off colour and unable to write much.

Kind regards

P.

[Undated and unsourced newspaper clipping, with a reference to Doman & Co highlighted with asterisks.]

SHEEP AND LAMBS

At the Abattoirs market yesterday, 14,000 sheep were offered, a total 2,000 greater than that of last week. The lamb catalogue was an extremely heavy one, for 31,000 lambs were penned. This number was 8,000 more than last week.

The yarding was the best submitted to the trade for a considerable time. Although old sheep predominated, and a big proportion of the offering was comprised of ewes, the majority were in good to prime and fat condition. Young sheep in very good trade condition were also available. Ewes and wethers of canner quality were yarded freely, while the tail of the market consisted of stores suitable for boning.

Several pastoral consignments were submitted, and in addition to sheep from the agricultural areas, the South-East and southern districts were also represented.

NOTABLE CONSIGNMENTS

A magnificent line of eight vans of 4-tooth Merino wethers were submitted on account of Doman & Co., Yadlamalka, Stirling. They were beautifully bred, very well grown with great length, July shorn, and of heavy weights, and the tops realized 22/10 a head. Messrs. McPherson Bros., Cotabena, sold 229 well-bred Merino ewes in very good condition, the same consignments also including

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 4 - 10 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 79

Yadlamalka

Sept. 30th 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

We arrived back here on Tuesday Sept. 26th after a good trip up from Adelaide.

The whole country has been scorched and blown about since I left here and the wonder is the stock are doing so well.

There has been continual dust from various quarters ever since we arrived, but today there is a hot North wind – or rather gale – blowing and ripping and tearing at the country which reminds one of one of the vivid scenes in “Paradise Lost” or that of Dante in the “Inferno”. There are now clouds brewing and it looks promising for a general rain, but these conditions so often occur during

[preprinted page number at top] 80

periods of Drought in this country, that it is long odds that a Southerly buster will soon settle chances of rain.

We have 547 fat Ewes wethers & hoggets mixed ready to send into the Adelaide fat market on Wednesday Oct. 11th. I thought we might get a good line of Hoggets fit for the butchers but they are just not good enough to send to Adelaide. All sheep from now on will go back in condition. I hope to make a line of about 500 1½ yr. old Cull ewes and about the same number of Cull wethers to be sold either at Peterborough or Burra in October.

The spring at the head of pipeline looks a bit sick and we are already getting pinched for water at the back tanks on the pipeline, so I will be glad to see more sheep off the Run. It is now about 6 p.m. Saturday and there is no sign of the mail yet

[preprinted page number at top] 81

so I will leave this letter open until the mail arrives.

Monday Oct 2nd. 3.30 p.m.

The mail has just arrived and I have received yours of 28 inst. and note your remarks.

Bill Grantham was right when he said there is plenty of dust about, but on Saturday night we had a cold Southerly buster and registered the following rain.

Yadlamalka 8 points

Kallioota 2 “

Marachowie 3 “

Lake Hut 3. “

As usual the mailman reports a fair little rain just South of us. Wilkatana 30 points and so on.

Albert Blinman is leaving here on Oct. 14th. He hasn't given me any reasons for going and I will be sorry to lose him as he is so reliable and straight.

It looks as if I can't keep

[preprinted page number at top] 82

a good man here for any length of time. Last time I was away for any length of time I lost that excellent man Sandy M^cDonald.

Bill Grantham is very worried about Blinman leaving but I don't think it is his fault that good men leave here and perhaps it would be good policy if he received a letter from you from the Directors

expressing appreciation of the job he did while I was away. As far as I can see things have been looked after well ~~while I was away~~ \during my absence/.

I have just had word from Mr. Lyon stating that he has ordered 8 "M." narrow guage vans to load at Stirling on Wednesday 25 Oct. by 5 a.m. for Peterborough to be sold on Oct. 26th.

We won't be able to load more than 500 1½ yr. Ewes and about 400 1½ yr. old wethers — 900 all told.

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The draft of fats we are sending in (I have gone through them this afternoon) are bound to look a bit "dry" in the Adelaide market but they should kill out well provided they don't waste too much on the track. Bill Grantham had to muster nearly all the sheep to get them.

Yours faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Your mulga was consigned to you at Mile End.

Perhaps it would be policy if you had a letter sent to Albert Blinman Kallioota, to show his work has been appreciated by the Directors and especially mention the fine draft of fat wethers which came off the country he was looking after — Also Mr^s. Blinman has looked after the house well.

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 10 - 10 - 44

[preprinted page number at top] 85

Yadlamalka

7. - 10 - 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct. 5 inst. to hand.

Blinman is going to Warrikumbo Stn. via Port Augusta.

Five hundred and forty four (544) mixed fat Ewes. 4T wethers & 1½ yr. old wethers left Port Augusta for the Adelaide fat market at 8 a.m. this morning. I hope they sell well. We had to muster them under rotten conditions, but fortunately they had good weather on the road into Port Augusta.

Have arranged to send approx. 500 Cull 1½ yr. old Ewes and 400 Cull 1½ yr. old wethers to Peterborough on Oct. 26th.

I wish to express my appreciation of the bonus

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Mr^s. Doman gave me when I was in Adelaide recently, and I trust my health will allow me to reciprocate to the full in giving of my best to Yadlamalka Stn.

I must close now as mail is waiting but will try & post during the week and send all accounts.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] My health is up & down but think I'm improving. My wife is wonderful to me.

Regds.

E.P.W.

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Yadlamalka

9 . 10 . 44

[Post script in top margin] I would consult M^r. Pattinson before worrying M^{rs}. Doman with this letter.
E.P.W.

Dear M^r. Siggins,

I thought to have all my accounts to send your by a Kangarooer that is going to Port Augusta this morning, but I regret I have been crook with my old trouble and I find it a job to write. I want to let you know that Grantham was up at the spring yesterday and says it is very sick – only a quarter of a pipe of water coming down.

The Kallioota country is eaten right out and I'm sending Grantham over there this morning to see how sheep are doing. It looks like selling all our 1½ year old wethers together with Cull young ewes approx. about 3000 sheep. When I get Grantham's report I will know definitely what to do. (Kallioota report). Will order trucks as soon as possible.

Regards

Yrs.

E. P. Whyte

[Undated and unsourced newspaper obituary clipping for Paddy Evans, who is referred to in the next letter.]

EVANS.—On October 2, at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Patrick Evans, late of Yadlamulka Station via Port Augusta, aged 62 years. Requiescat in pace.

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Yadlamalka

14 . 10 . 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 12 inst. to hand.

Regret the fats missed the market. I don't know what the conditions were that entitled fat sheep to be sold in the last market, but I do think that sheep that had been in hand for over three weeks in this drought stricken country, and the fact of trucks being ordered well ahead should have entitled them to a No. one priority, especially as they were not "canners". I do hope the 1½ year old wethers were sold privately as they are the class of sheep that will waste the most. The 4T. wethers and old ewes would not be so liable to go off, but the bloom must have gone off the whole draft by this time.

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I have approx.. 2000 1½ year old sheep ready for the road for Peterborough Market on Oct 26th. These sheep consist of approx. 500 1½ yr. cull Ewes 400 cull 1½ yr. wethers and the balance well grown forward 1½ yr. old wethers. All these sheep will be one earmark, and can be recommended to any genuine buyer.

The water supply at the spring is very sick, but rather than sell more sheep just now I will make a mob of about 1500 sheep up and put them over in Kallioota Swamp and have them tailed up in daytime and yarded at night. These sheep will water at Nancy Walker Well.

Paddy Evans (that used to camp at Lake Hut) died in the Adelaide Hospital on Oct. 2nd. I sent him into the Doctor, with a note that in my opinion he was not fit to camp on his own, and suggested he should send him down to his sister at Georgetown. This

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the Doctor did. His sister's name & address is

"M^{rs} E. Carmody

Box 7

Georgetown.

I suppose you will have to send his Taxation Certificate there.

He was fully paid up in every way before he left here.

I will send his things down to M^{rs}. Carmody.

The weather has been hot and dusty all the week with a light blown out Southerly buster arriving about the middle of the week, but this was not strong enough to make the barometer rise, which has been low all the week, but it has never looked like rain.

I feel a lot better this weekend and I do trust I will get some of my punch back

Hope you receive all a/cs. etc by same post as this letter. I wish to apologise for being so late.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Undated and unsourced newspaper clipping, with a reference to Doman & Co.]

NOTABLE DRAFTS

On account of Doman & Co., Yadlamalka, Stirling, a line of five vans of magnificent quality 6-tooth and full mouth wethers were offered. The sheep were well bred, carrying good pelts, very even, and of ideal weights and quality for trade requirements. A consignment of four vans of good to prime quality wethers were also submitted by Mr. C. W. Fuller, Melrose. Although somewhat on the old side, they were meaty and in fresh condition.

Station drafts from the Broken Hill district were represented by 900 wethers of mixed ages, but many of them young, sold on behalf of Messrs. A. S. & H. S. Barlow, the Veldt, Bancannia, and by 211 useful to prime quality young woolly Merino wethers of handyweights forwarded by Mr. E. Fitzgerald, Acacia Downs. Included in this consignment were 532 lambs. The sheep from The Veldt were mostly in very good order, but including also a proportion of stores, and were of handy to medium weights and carrying fair pelts.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 24 - 10 - 44

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Yadlamalka

22 - 10. - 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct. 19 inst. to hand.

Thanks for prices of sheep. It was certainly a big crash in values, but it was just the luck of the game and we have to recognize the fact that the buyers – or rather butchers & canners – are having their day as well as the big unions and the members of these organisations. There are a lot of very brainy men in Adelaide trying to cope with the position and if it wasn't for their efforts things could be much worse. I'm enclosing "The Chronicle" report on the market which shows there couldn't have been much wrong with sheep from this end, nor when they were sold. The report is not strictly correct, as the Hoggets were 1½ yr.

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old; the ewes aged; & wethers 4 tooths (2½ yr. olds).

We had the following rain on Sunday last, 15 Oct.

Yadlamalka 16 points

Marachowie 5 "

Kallioota 5 "

Lake Hut Nil.

Before this rain fell there was a cyclonic storm from the South and the wind blew with a wild fury and the dust and sand ~~blew~~ could not have been much worse. It has been blowing dust all the week and yesterday was nearly as bad as last Sunday as far as the country drifting was concerned. It was so bad that the mailman could not go on to Marachowie and stayed here the night. We got back from Port Augusta last night after playing a game of blind man's buff with the track on account of a blinding dust storm. My wife who has now no help, is carrying on a private war with dust and sand in the house, but

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judging by the gale blowing now she is going to lose the battle.

Cheque 2521 will be shown as a debit to J. Cusick in Oct. accounts. Thanks for spotting this but I had made a note of it during the week.

I saw the 2000 sheep on the road into Port Augusta yesterday. They were having a rough time both for water and feed as the mob is too big for the watering arrangements on the track, but they should be doing better today thanks to M^r. Mat. Fitzgerald, who has allowed us to water all the sheep sent on this track, this year, at his private watering troughs in his country.

We are just holding ~~own~~ our/ own on the pipeline, and the sheep are getting sufficient water, but there is none to spare. The country looks in an awful state and roads are badly drifted up & blown ~~out~~ out/ in other places.

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I saw D^r. Thompson yesterday (reason for late trip home) and he gave me a good & thorough examination. His report was that my general condition is about the same as when I went into Port Augusta Hospital some months ago and he still recommends rest & [s]trict diet, but I think I have improved a bit.

I certainly can get round better without feeling as if my breath would be cut off at any minute.

I would like to be at Peterborough for sale, as there are a lot of good sheep for sale on 26 inst. but I think I will be doing a wise thing by staying away. M^r Batholomaeus will sure to be there and will do the usual good work on our behalf. There are always wheels within wheels at these big sales and I know from past experience Elders staff know how to work them, and often get little credit for the

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good work they do.

I might send Bill Grantham down for a trip if I can manage it as it will be a bit of a break for him and he has done some hard battling with the sheep lately.

A small pipeline out from Nancy Well would help a lot in this drought and I think pipes can be obtained now. It would be a great asset to the place.

Anyhow I will get some levels taken if possible, to see if we could use the existing tanks at Nancy Well for the job.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 31 - 10 - 44

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Yadlamalka

Oct. 28th 44

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

20 Eagle Chambers

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct. 26th to hand.

It has been cold and squally here all the week with showers of dust.

I sent Grantham down to Peterborough with the sale sheep. They sold very well considering the conditions & generally dry state of South Australia. I expect you have had the prices before this, but anyhow here they are as handed on to me by Bill Grantham :-

560	Cull 1½ yr. old ewes	15/-
1148	1½ yr. old wethers	10/1 ^d .
300	“ “ “ Cull wethers	9/-
<u>20</u>	Fat 2½ yr. old wethers	18/6

Total 2,028

We have been just holding our own with water to the sheep

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this week. There is no doubt a heat wave will force me to put more sheep on Nancy Walker Well. The sheep are looking much better than would think it possible when one considers the condition of the country, but some of them must start to pack up unless it rains very soon.

The barometer is high at present and it looks as if we are in for a calm spell.

Yours faithfully

E P Whyte

[Post script] My health is still about the same, and I can't get about much. The personal supervision of the sheep is lacking and it should count for a lot during this dry time.

I sincerely trust I improve before long.

Kind regards

E.P.W.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 14 - 11 - 44

Yadlamalka

11 . 11 . 44.

The Secretary

Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.

Pirie St.

Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 9 inst to hand.

The enclosed note speaks for its self. It is with very deep regret that I have to resign my position up here owing to ill health. The Doctor left no doubt in my mind that I will never regain my normal health. I have written to M^{rs}. Doman explaining the position more fully.

We have experienced another week of continual dust and the most of the staff have been busy scooping sand away from the sheep troughs.

The spring has just kept the water up to the stock and that is all.

I ordered 2 miles of 1¼ inch pipes and ¼ mile

[page number] 2.

of 2" pipes for that job of putting the water from Nancy Well out into Pinery pdk.

The price Elders Port Augusta quoted me 1¼ inch pipe £127. per mile, but of course it might be up to 10% more. The 2" pipe is £212 per mile. This line will enable us to hold the sheep longer, and make more use of Nancy Well. I did this before I received the sentence from the Doctor, and perhaps it would be wise to hold the order, if possible, pending the appointment of someone to take my place. I also ordered 6. 1¼ inch T's & six plugs.

The barometer is very low tonight – 29.20. but there isn't much cloud about, so it looks like a cyclonic storm, or heavy gales.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

[Post script] Have been very off, and felt really ill for past week, and find it a job to write. The accounts will come along I hope this week.

Kind regards

P.

[annotation in top left corner in red] R 21 - 11 - 44

[Post script in top margin] Bill Grantham is putting in for job here. Have written to M^{rs}. Doman.
A pity he is not *[fragment of page missing]*.

E.P.W.

Yadlamalka

19 . 11 . 44.

The Secretary
Messrs T. A. Doman & Co. Ltd.
20 Eagle Chambers
Pirie St.
Adelaide

Dear Sir,

Yours of 16 inst to hand.

I thank you for your remarks re my resignation and I can assure you it was with great regret that I sent it in. In ordinary circumstances my health would not have come first but I would have stuck out this dry time under any conditions irrespective of health or anything else.

It was not what the Doctor put on the Certificate that caused me to resign, but what he told me privately and he did not mince his words. It appears that Angina & diabetes don't mix well together. Either one on its own is not so bad, but with both one should never be far away from a Doctor. I have some other complications as well ~~which~~ which does not improve

[page number] 2.

my prospects of getting right. All I know that I feel very ill at times quite apart from the queer feelings round the heart and I do know that I'm not fit to carry on my job as quite apart from feeling ill, I cannot think clearly, so I think D^r. Thompson is right.

I know it is usual to give three months notice but again the Doctor was definite in stating that I'm not fit to carry on. I hate writing in this strain, so let's pass on to the rest of your letter.

You mention it would be a bad day last Wednesday. It has been a bad fortnight and today capped the lot. — sufficient to say the dust sand & gales couldn't have been worse. You have read of the blizzards in the Libian Desert. Well I lived amongst them for a while in the last war, but I never saw dense dust and sand like we had today.

I have written to M^{rs}. Doman telling her how stock etc are doing.

Yrs. faithfully

E. P. Whyte

Yadlamalka
23 – 12 – 44

Dear M^r. Whyte

I received your letter today and was pleased to hear from you. But sorry you are not doing so well you should have been here when we had the rain it would have helped to Buck you up well M^r. Whyte it was a wonderfull rain the best we have had for a long time no doubt you have heard all about the gauging by now as I let them know as soon as I could. I am quite soon in parts there has been a good inch & half especialy through W. Paradise, two one gums, Muddalpa, Stoney gate, Morgans, no doubt it fell heavier there. South Range also had a good fall according to the water that came down the flats. I am writing all this to you as I know you will be pleased to know I wrote and told M^r. Siggins it was heavier in some places but never said whereas they don't understand I had Kallioota sheep turned into pinery as it happened they would have been alright. But I wasn't taking the risk the weather has been much better since the rain as it was getting unbareable *[fragment of page missing]* in before it there was only a small *[fragment of page missing]* down the creek between 4 to five feet

[overleaf]

it only covered a small portion of the swamp but it will be very handy for a few fat cattle later on especialy if we could get a follow on rain. But it don't look like I will be sending them away. I think my cake is dough as I have not heard a word of what they are likely to do. you would be surprised to know Gordon Heaslip is one of the Applicants. old Mooney is still at Kallioota but the other rooster has cleared out. the sheep are still doing alright apart from the weaners. they were starting to fell the pinch but will be alright now. South Range will save them. I think it is most wonderful how the sheep have stood up to it the flogging they had with the sand. all tanks full water to burn now. I have got the hoses running on the lawn. Kind regards to M^{rs} Whyte and girls and only to pleased to hear from you as anytime you feel like writing so wishing you all a Merry Xmas & happy new year.

Yours Sincerely
W. H. Grantham

[post script]

Station 118
Lake 120
Marachowie 92
Kallioota 85

Yadlamalka Stn
12 – 1 – 45.

Dear M^r Whyte

Just a line in answer to your letter was pleased to hear from you again glad you are getting along alright you said in your letter we must be having rotten weather well yes we are no end of it, it blew a hot north wind Sunday & Monday and then swung to the South and nearly buried us and been blowing every day, the day Rex got lost was a fool to some of the storms we have had Salt Well and Morgans was looking ice and green thousand of Buck Bush & melons were coming up everywhere but now it looks worse than it did before the rain there is a bit of goose picking hanging on in the sheltered places but that won't last long unless we get another splash the same old thing you and I have witnessed plenty of times can't get a follow on rain the tableland country responded real well I have got just on 3,000 \sheep/ out there the Kangaroo's are going to eat if the sheep don't all the stock have responded \well/ Since the rain it is certainly a good temperally releife & put them all on their feet again

[overleaf]

I draughed of the weakest weaners and have them in Sth Range, Kalioota Swamp where the flood water went is looking alright it realy wants another shower of rain on it we did have 19 points here Tuesday night but had a howling dust storm Wednesday to follow we also had 23 points at the Lake so that will do a bit of good out there, there was nothing anywhere else the table L. sheep are not watering and the back tank running over half a mile down the creek we have got a new mailman he has just taking over for the time from Hill as far as I know If you should see Harry Lee they are calling tenders next month for the contract Rex was very pleased with your letter you wrote him the old Black cat is alright he follows me everywhere give my kind regards to M^{rs} Whyte and girls received your wire and thank you very much it came a terrible shock to us all.

Yours Sincerely

Bill.