

AN OLD SONG.

The almond blossom is overpast, the apple blossoms blow.
I never loved but one man, and I never told him so.

My flowers will never come to fruit, but I have kept my pride,
A little, cold, and lonely thing, and I have naught beside.

The spring wind caught my flowering dreams,
they lightly blew away —
I never had but one true love, and he died yesterday.

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR.

AN OLD SONG. (1924, November 15). The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article64051476>

AN IDLER.

There's many a sadder epitaph
Than "She was ready to thrill or laugh,
For she kept the windows of her soul
Open to every wind of mirth
And splendour that blows around the earth.
Little she did, but here and there
Of love she took and gave her share,
And she kept her friendships, in good repair.

* ** *** ****

"Was she not lucky, on he whole?

— Dorothea Mackellar, in The Australian Woman's Mirror.

AN IDLER. (1924, December 16). The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), p. 4. Retrieved March from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article64054396>

PEACEFUL VOICES.

I fortunate, I knew a refuge
When the strained spirit tires
Of town's metallic symphony
Of wheels and horns and wires:

Where through the golden empty stillness
Cool flowing voices speak,
The alto of the waterfall,
The treble of the creek.

From far, beyond the headland's shoulder,

South-easters bring to me
Reminder of earth's wandering,
The strong voice of the sea.

I happy, in a leafy fortress
Listen to hidden birds
And small waves of a hidden tide
Mingling their lovely words.
-DOROTHEA MACKELLAR.

PEACEFUL VOICES. (1926, February 6). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 11. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16265351>

A TASMANIAN ROAD.

Though curfew now has sounded for the butterflies and bees
All the fires of autumn are burning in the trees
Grey and cold as steel the sky, yet to left and right
Stand walls of polished hawthorn burning bright, burning blight

Sunset: balsam colours in a brittle crystal sky;
Through the dusk the owls hunt past, hooting as they fly,
Small and cold and lonely, like forgotten bells
Streaming down the wind comes all the tangled orchard smells,
Woodsmoke earth, and apple-sweet; now the stars burn white
Hurry home to blazing logs this frosty night!

-DOROTHEA MACKELLAR,

A TASMANIAN ROAD. (1926, March 20). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 13. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16264109>

AN APPEAL.

If all who know what suffering is--
Keen pain of body, wounded mind—
Gave even one small gift to this,
And all whom Malady's black wing
Has never brushed, gave thank-offering,
Money were not so hard to find.
DOROTHEA MACKELLAR

AN APPEAL. (1926, April 30). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16289340>

FOR THE CHILDREN.

BARGAIN.

What do you think the Kindly Folk, the
fairies, gave to me?
A bird-delighting fountain
And an almond-tree,
A trembling silver tinkle of creek, a little
house of stone,
And a clean and leafy woodland
Wherein to walk alone.

What was the price the Good Folk asked?
Never their gifts are sold.
I would not chaffer with them
For the fairy gold.
I freely gave a promise instead, that pleased
the fairies well,
But what It was, for Paradise,
Orchid-valleys, and trees of spice
I will not tell.

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR.

FOR THE CHILDREN. BARGAIN. (1926, May 15). The Sydney
Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 11. Retrieved from
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16292243>

LATE AFTERNOON.
FROM MACQUARIE STREET.

Earth turns her shoulder away from the sun
And its level rays so shine
That the stones of the city are soaked in light,
It colours them like wine.
Government House among gilded trees
Glow like a fairy thing,
One gold cloud lingers over it
And sleeps upon the wing.

—DOROTHEA MACKELLAR.

LATE AFTERNOON. (1927, February 5). The Sydney Morning
Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 13. Retrieved from
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16352487>

THIS AUSTRALIA OF OURS.

"An opal-hearted country
A wilful, lavish land
Ah ! you who have not loved her,
Will not understand."-
Dorothea- Mackellar.

THIS AUSTRALIA OF OURS. (1931, December 22). The Horsham
Times (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72655379>

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR.

Dorothea Mackellar is one of Australia's charming women singers, her verse being vivid and descriptive. Her poem, "My Country." is known, or ought to be known, by every Australian schoolboy, but that is but one of her many gems. Angus and Robertson Ltd. have just published another volume of selected verses entitled "Fancy Dress and Other Verse," containing about sixty of her more recent poems. All are not of the same high standard as some of her earlier verse, but there is not a poem in the book that any lover of poetry would say could have been omitted from a Dorothea Mackellar collection.

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR. (1927, January 29). The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939), p. 8. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article25293193>

WELCOME HOME PARTY.

Miss Dorothea Mackellar, who recently re-turned from a tour abroad, was the guest of honour at a tea given by Miss Janet Stephen at her studio, in the T. and G Building yesterday. Miss Mackellar gave a short talk on her travels in Norway. Miss Thea Proctor was another speaker. Her address which was the first of a series, was on "Interior Decoration."

Among the guests were Mrs. John Bavin, **Miss Ruth Bedford**, Mrs. Allworth, Miss E. M. Chisholm, Miss Beulah Bolton, Mrs. A. duBoise, Miss Patricia Baird, Mrs. Gordon Welsh. Miss Roslyn Welsh, Miss Margaret Gillespie, Lady Stephen, Misses Margot Read, M. Chisholm, Peggy Morgan, Joy Manning, Nancy White, Margaret Holt, and Peggy Dixon.

WELCOME HOME PARTY. (1930, March 4). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 4. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16630291>

SAND PLAIN FLOWERS.

A Spring Idyll of the Far West.

(BY "SPINDRIFT.")

"Spring has come to the Plains."

öprmt, im (Dorothea Mackellar.)

Spring has again come, to clothe with beauty many plains-but to none with more, if as much, as to the sand plains of Western Australia. Barren, grey, and desolate from mid-summer through the long autumn and winter-towards end of July "bright flowers are star-ring the ground," and the plains are transformed as if by a magic touch-one can truly say of them that the "desert blossoms like the rose."

Providence for

The flowers ni) hine nnrt uolricn
Stars that in earth s flrmiment do shine

Saturday 19th of September, 1931

TWO SWOON IN SYDNEY BEAUTY SALON SYDNEY, Thursday. In a city beauty salon today the proprietress and a client were found unconscious. At first it was thought that they were suffering from gas poisoning, but later it was concluded that their collapse had been caused by ill-health. The women were Mrs. Madeline Elliott, of Darlinghurst, proprietress of the salon, and Miss Dorothea Mackellar, poetess, of Darling Point. It is believed that while Mrs. Elliott was treating Miss Mackellar she swooned and fell unconscious on the floor, and that the shock of her sudden collapse affected Miss Mackellar so badly that she also swooned.

TWO SWOON IN SYDNEY BEAUTY SALON. (1939, July 14). *Examiner* (Launceston, Tas. : 1900 - 1954), p. 7 Edition: LATEST NEWS EDITION and DAILY. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52319070>

Also in every other newspaper; Dorothea falls over, whole of Australia gasps.

Pdf illustration:

POETESS IN HER SYDNEY GARDEN. (1936, August 13). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 17. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17260179>

Starry

STARRY WATERS. (1925, June 27). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 11. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16226841>

Letters:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR I - LAMBERT EXHIBITION.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

' Sir,-If the general public remembered that the Lambert exhibition, at present in the Education Department's gallery, will close on the 12th. of this month, those people who have realised it would not be strolling from one masterly work to another in such unjostled comfort. This loan exhibition is of absorbing interest, containing, as it does, so much of Lambert's recent and best work, which has never been assembled before, and, since a great deal of it is from private collections, will never be seen in this way again. It is interesting, too, to contrast it with the excellent exhibition lately held in Horderns' art gallery. Here the exhibits are almost entirely different, and the effect of them is concentrated. The whole gives a deep impression of power, versatility, and an energy that is never slip-

shod in its swiftness. It is no wonder that not one of these loan pictures is for sale.

i am, etc.,

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR. Pittwater, Dec. 6.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. (1930, December 10). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 8. Retrieved from

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16737363>

SECRET BALLOT

Sir,-I read with great interest Mr. J. P. Ormonde's article last Thursday, but his last three paragraphs, opposing the secret ballot, puzzle me, especially the statement that the secret ballot "robs the leadership of the power of initiative."

Unless leadership has become flabby, it necessarily retains the initiative. Possibly Mr. Ormonde, by a lapse of memory, has confused "initiative" with "absolute power." "Initiative," according to the Universal English Dictionary, ed. 1936, means: "1. Initial step, introductory measure, first move. Phr. to have the initiative, to have the power or right of making the first move; to take the initiative, take the lead. 2 (polit.). Right to introduce legislative measures. 3. Mental capacity for originating; ability to start some-thing new; to make new departures; enter-prise, originality."

The power or right of making the first move. Not' the power to compel everyman to follow, regardless of his own convictions. That is totalitarianism.

DOROTHEA MACKELLAR. Lovett Bay, via Church Point.

SECRET BALLOT. (1947, January 15). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 2. Retrieved from

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27904847>

Generosity and other items;

NEAR AND FAR.

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Thursday 20 March 1930 p 5 Article

Miss Dorothea Mackellar has joined the Arts and Letters Committee that was formed this ... 913 words

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS.

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Friday 29 August 1930p 4 Article

... Therapeutics" was read. Miss Dorothea Mackellar gave an Interesting address on "The Art of Reading." Miss ... letters committee gave addresses. Mrs. A. G. Thomas, the convener, read an account on the work done by ... 379 words

THE LITTLE BLUE DEVIL.

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 8 June 1912p 4 Article

... by Miss **Dorothea Mackellar and Miss Ruth Bedford**, both of Sydney, fully Justifies the expectations which their work in another

department of letters has led us to form. The plot, no doubt, Is not ... 787 words

[PRINTED WORD BOOKS and THEIR BUILDERS RECOLLECTIONS and REVIEWS](#)

Sunday Times (Perth, WA : 1902 - 1954) Sunday 1 September 1912

Section: Second Section p 1 Article

... angels in the skies. She has been reserved for me, my friend. "Miss Dorothea Mackellar, a young ... Remarkable- letters by George Meredith, the great writer, who died in 1909, are given in the August ... Devil.' is the daughter of Sir Charles Mackellar, a Senator of" the Commonwealth of Australia," says ... 1103 words

PUCK'S GIRDLE.

I'll put a girdle round about the Earth In forty minutes.-"Midsummer Night's Dream."

Lady Edeline Strickland has kindly consented to preside at the third annual meeting of the Bush Book Club, which will be held at State Government House on Thursday, April 10.

Her numerous friends in Sydney will be glad to know that Lady Poore has quite recovered from her recent illness, and is now busily engaged in philanthropic work in Chatham. In a letter received last week she says that she is well and happily active, but always keeps a mental eye on Sydney, and finds great pleasure in the society of Australians. When writing, two Sydney women, Mrs. Gordon Wesche and Miss Dorothea Mackellar, were staying at Admiralty House with Sir Richard and Lady Poore.

PUCK'S GIRDLE. (1913, April 2). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 7. Retrieved March from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15409490>

[THE BELGIANS. NATIONAL FUND.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 6 March 1915 p 15 Article ... Charles K. Mackellar, M.L.C. ... 100 0 0

Lady Mackellar ... 50 0 0 MissDorothea Mackellar ...

[MAKE FRANCE KNOWN. AN APPEAL TO AUSTRALIA.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Monday 6 December 1915 p 7 Article

... of the letter on a visit to France. We are indebted to Miss Dorothea Mackellar for the following ... friend,-Your touching letter made us cry. . . . How near I feel you to me, through the love you bear ... with such eagerness When they saw the letters. But I thought I, had better warn you, so that those of ... 1233 words

[NURSE CAVELL MEMORIAL. RED CROSS ASSISTANCE.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 22 April 1916p 15 Article

... ' Dorothea Mackellar, and Miss Eileen Tooe are acting as hon. secretaries. | It was also announced ... was decided that special letters of

thanks ho written to the Red Cross Society und tu I Mrs. ... amount. The amount received so far-before any general appeal has been made-Is close on £500. j A letter ... 852 words

[ANZAC MEMORIAL.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 22 April 1916p 16 Article

... Australasian writers, among them being Dorothea Mackellar, Louisa Lawson, Enid Derham, Dorothy Francis ... nour, complete to date, a collection of soldiers' letters and verses, the military despatches ... 235 words

[TESTS.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 12 June 1926 p 11 Article

... MACKELLAR. If when I'm dying. Karen, you wish know (Death being indifferent slow) how far away my spirit has withdrawn, , ' whisper to me of dawn I over the sandhills; say '**The surf Is good to-day;**' ... Indeed I
DOROTHEA MACKELLAR

[RED CROSS APPEAL. ISSUE OF PENNY STAMPS. Stickers on Letters.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Monday 29 July 1940 p 3 Article

... Glaciar lum 20/6/40) £1.10/2/7 John Vicars and Co Ptj Ltd (further) £100 Miss Dorothea Mackellar ... RED CROSS APPEAL. ISSUE OF PENNY STAMPS. Stickers on Letters. The Postmaster-General, Mr. Thorby, ... will have no postal value, but are intended to be used as stickers on letters. The cost of printing ... 807 words

This resource may have relevance to your query (score: 0.011)

[FOR WOMEN AUTHORS' BALL. Living Characters FROM AUSTRALIAN BOOKS.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Monday 15 April 1935p 4 Article

... blue, Mrs Z Aaronson, wearing black and a Spanish shawl Mrs Mary Gilmore, Misses Dorothea Mackellar, ... letters. Many writers, <hose names aie as familiar to oversea readers as they are here, weie present, and ... 641 words

[WOMEN WRITERS in Vanguard of Our LITERATURE These Names Rank High](#)

The Australian Women's Weekly (1933 - 1982) Saturday 13 April 1935 p 24 Article Illustrated

... KATHERINE S. PRITCHARD day, has certainly given the author a definite place in Australian letters. Mention ... verse: Mary Gilmore andDorothea Mac Kellar, whose names have become household words, and Zora Cross, ... 775 words

[Social and Personal](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Thursday 25 April 1935 Supplement: Women's Supplement p 13 Article Illustrated

... Ethel Turner, Dorothea MacKellar, Bertha Phelps, Mary Lang, Myrtle Rose White, Wa Lee, and Miss ... with her parents. Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Worrall!, at Butley Place, Elizabeth Bay. * * ». News of the New ... included ?HH| Mesdames S. Nymand (Hawkes Bay), R. Nicol (Wellington), W. Dignan (Auckland), Bruce ... 2116 words

Miss Dorothea Mackellar, the well-known Australian poetess, whose home is at Potts Point, is at present paying her first visit to Melbourne for home years. She was unfortunate enough to contract influenza on her arrival, but is now well again, and renewing many happy friendships. One of her friends, Miss Peggy Clarke, is a photographer, and she has taken .several portraits of Miss Mackellar.

SOCIAL and PERSONAL. (1938, July 12). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 16 Supplement: Women's Supplement. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17481219>

Mrs. Eire-Forster, who recently arrived from England, has been the guest of Miss Dorothea Mackellar, of Darling Point. At the week-end she will leave for Moss Vale, where she will stay with her sister, Mrs. Wilfred Fairfax.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL. (1939, February 2). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 21. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17547086>

["HERALD'S" FUND £17,304 Kempsey Flood Relief](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Wednesday 7

September 1949 p 2 Detailed lists, results, guides

... £25 0 0 Norton Bros Pty Liri, Greenbank Tannery, Mascot £25 0 0

Employees of Shell Oil Gore Bay ... and Mrs R M Goodrellow, Manly

Mrs S R Chapman, bexley, Ferns Bros Pty Limited East

Sydney, DorotheaMacKellar,

[U.N. Appeal For Children](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Monday 22 December 1952 p 5 Detailed lists, results, guides

... £40 Thjrll Bowman Lloyd New York £30 Anonymous Tatter sails

£25Dorothea MacKellar Darling Point £25

[Charles Dickens' son landed here 100 years ago](#)

The Australian Women's Weekly (1933 - 1982) Wednesday 24 July 1968p 13 Article Illustrated

... company. "I have like-minded friends, too. In late years, Dorothea Mackellar was my friend. So are ... Folios of old letters and albums of famous autographs were piled on tables. Mr. Williamson's whole ... David's cemetery in Hobart." Mr. Williamson remembers bundles of old letters in lofts on stations where ... 1302 words

Articles:

[The MONTESSORI SYSTEM. IN ROME.](#)

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 22 February 1913 p 4 Article

... the Montessori system. IN ROME. (BY rome.. (by DOROTHEAMACKELLAR,) I knew, know, more or less, what I was going to see. Dr. Montessori's book on her method had prepared me for tiny tables at which ... marked enough, but between, Bay, 3 and 1, It took all one's acuteness to distinguish I was ... 1563 words

TREES. AN OPPRESSED PEOPLE.

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Saturday 15 August 1925 p 11 Article

... TREES. AN OPPRESSED PEOPLE. (BY DOROTHEA MACKELLAR..They are not oppressed In all countries. In some they are loved, valued, and honoured, but few Australians care about them, although their lovers ... Moreton Bay fig for feathery plumes. Yet that, in effect, is happening constantly. Generally It is ... 1005 words

By Sister Kenny's standards, millionairess poet Dorothea Mackellar (born 1885. died 1968) had a cushy life. Daughter of a prominent and wealthy medical man, she shot to lasting fame on the basis of a poem written at 19, "My Country." It was published some-what later — in the English "Spectator" — and generations of Australian schoolchildren have since droned the virtues of "a land of sweeping plains, of rugged mountain ranges, of droughts and flooding rains . . ."

An intensely private woman, Dorothea Mackellar wrote several volumes of verse, a novel, "Outlaws' Luck," and two other novels in collaboration with Ruth Bedford.

In 1972, the "Poems of Dorothea Mackellar" (published by Rigby) incorporated four books of her verse.

Born into a wealthy Sydney establishment family, brought up by governesses and tutors, a world traveller, speaking German, French, Spanish, and Italian fluently, with a smattering of Russian, Dorothea emerges as a multi-faceted individual.

"My Country" originated after a trip to England.

Lounging around after a game of tennis with two teenage friends, all speaking of their trips to England, Dorothea brooded.

One friend especially lauded the English country-side ("So green, tidy, and civilised") to Australia's disadvantage.

"You shouldn't try to compare the two," retorted the budding poet, "They're so different. I do admire England, but don't feel at one with it."

Walking home mulling over the conversation, Dorothea began that famous poem with her friend's "love of field and coppice" — then gave her own feelings:

"I love a sunburnt country . . ."

Years later (when Rigby published her poems), a memoir in the new volume by Adrienne Matzenik who nursed Dorothea Mackellar

through the last of her 83 years, revealed much.

For one, the poet's love affair with a minor English poet (broken up because of war, letters gone astray and so on) that explained the atypical outburst in another poem:

"I forgive with all my heart

"Even those I hated lately:

"You whom I have loved so greatly —

"Never will I pardon you!"

Dorothea Mackellar herself claimed little for her poetry.

"I never professed to be a poet," she was candid enough to admit. "I have written — from the heart, from imagination, from experience — some amount of verse. "All I can say of 'MyCountry' is that I wrote it with sincerity."

IT'S A WOMAN'S COUNTRY, TOO. (1975, May 7). *The Australian Women's Weekly* (1933 - 1982), p. 54. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article44554304>

Advertising

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Tuesday 24 March 1914 p 13 Advertising

... The Hon. Sir Charles K. Mackellar,

CAMPERDOWN CEMETERY

The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954) Friday 12 May 1944 p 2 Article

... CAMPERDOWN CEMETERY Sir,-Relatives of mine are buried in Camperdown Cemetery; for many years my ... family who died about two generations before I was born would be nearly 90 now. If they were at all ... their graves, rather than that the ugliness that surrounds them at present should last. DOROTHEA MACKELLAR .

Family:

MACKELLAR -The funeral service of the late ERIC BUCKLAND MAC-KELLAR will be held at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium commencing at 11 a.m. on Friday 31st March 1950

MACKELLAR Eric Buckland-March 29 1930, at 155 Darling Point Road, Darling Point son of the late Sir Charles K.C.M.G. and Lady **Mackellar**, brother of Keith Kinnaird (decd.) and **Malcolm** (decd.) and of **Dorothea Mackellar**

Family Notices. (1950, March 31). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 18. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18154653>

ESTATE OF £257,202

Probate of the will of Eric Buckland Mackellar, 67, Rosemont, Ocean Street, Woollahra, widower, who died on March 29, was granted in the Supreme Court yesterday.

The estate was estimated at £257,202, and it was left to his brother,

Malcolm Mackellar, and his sister, Isobel Marion Dorothea Mackellar.

ESTATE OF £257,202. (1950, August 11). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article18178139>