



## The University of Adelaide

Your Reference.....

Our Reference..... KG/EW

(In Reply, Please Quote)

Tel. C. 3355

*Adelaide*

January 25, 1949.

Dear Professor Krishnan,

I write this note to express in the first place, my regret that you are not included in the Scientific delegation which the Central Indian Government is shortly sending to Australia and which I hope to have the pleasure of seeing during their brief stay in Adelaide.

Secondly, to ask whether a small gift, to wit, the three volumes of Lorentz' "Lectures on Theoretical Physics" (translated by Silberstein and Trivelli) would be an acceptable addition either to your personal library or to that of the National Standards Laboratory. *Will you kindly let me know?*

I retired from the Chair of Physics in Adelaide University at the end of 1948 and now propose to dispose of the greater part of my small library of Scientific and Technical books by gift to friends or institutions. The bulk of them, consisting of books on elementary physics, I am sending through the High Commissioner for India in Australia to the Indian Government in Delhi for distribution to such schools and colleges as may be able to profitably house and use them; a few, such as those mentioned above, I am donating to personal friends to whom I hope, may be of value. *They*

Thirdly, a problem on the scattering of light.

When returning to Australia by plane and over the sea, I was struck by the wide variation in area of the patch of sea-surface from which sunlight is irregularly reflected to the observer in the plane *by* reason of the disturbed character of the surface. I do not remember having seen this problem treated in any text-book on optics. It may, of course, have been done in some paper. It seems obviously the two-dimensional case of the three-dimensional problem treated by you in your paper in the Proceedings and the Royal Society. Possibly it is not without practical interest in regard to the amount of diffuse reflection from mat surfaces of any kind.

Perhaps I may yet hope to see you in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

*Kerr Grant.*

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

North Terrace,

Adelaide.

January 27, 1949.

P.S.

Since writing this I have been looking <sup>at</sup> ~~against~~ my book-shelves and on them I note among others (1) a series of Bulletins and other publications of the C.S.I.R. (Aust.) (some 250 in all). (2) a series of the bound volumes of the Proceedings of the Royal Society of South Australia (1911-1948). I shall probably wish to dispose of these also, <sup>though</sup> either by sale <sup>^</sup> I am doubtful whether either (1) or (2) has any commercial value <sup>)</sup> or by gift to some Institution which would value their possession. Without wishing at this stage to make any commitment I should be glad to know whether the Indian National Physical Laboratory would be interested in obtaining either one or both series either (a) by purchase (b) by gift.

R.H.  
27/1/49