

Baldin

17th April 1935.

Forgive me, dear Fred, for sending you a type-written letter, but my correspondence has so much increased again that I try to save my hand from writing. I was so pleased to hear from you, I thought you had already forgotten me. It seems to me that you only write to me when you have the opportunity of giving me a hint or a lesson on how to work "stunts", but I am afraid I have not got the talent for such kind of stunts, and you will never succeed in developing in me the finesse of this country's greatest artist, Sickert. I am looking forward to seeing his latest masterpieces in the Academy, and I can well picture what it will be like. He no doubt will have spared Lord Beaverbrook, like others, from sitting for his portrait, and will have taken a photograph of him, after which he will have painted it.

I hope this time that we shall go together and enjoy the Academy, and I am now making a suggestion. Would you come up on the 4th of May and stay here for a few days? Alas, Lucy will be away for a week. She is going up to Scotland to stay with her sister, and it would be nice to have you as a companion here. I will take you out for various sprints. Do try to arrange to be here at least four days with me. Meanwhile I hope to have an interested private sitter for myself for some studies. I should also like to show you a few of my latest canvasses before I send them away.

Since I saw you we have both been laid up with very bad influenza, and we spent last week-end in Brighton,

which helped us a great deal. Now we are all right again, and look forward to sunny days. Our garden has put on its Spring garment in which I rejoice.

I am sending you by the same post the Illustrated London News in which my portrait of Mr. Inge is very well reproduced.

I hope, dear Fred, that you and your wife are well. With our heartiest Easter greetings to you both,