

WOLMER WOOD,

MARLOW COMMON,

MARLOW, BUCKS.

Jan. 22nd 1935.

My dear Philip

I was very glad to get your two letters but I am extremely sorry to hear that you have had such trouble with your teeth as I know how painful that sort of thing can be — I do not know that you can call it a sign of age but it might quite possibly be a sign that you are a bit gouty. At any rate, I hope that you have got rid of the pain now and that you feel better.

Thanks much for the proof of your lecture; it is quite all right and, as you will see, I have only two small corrections — the first one I have made because "exonerate you of" is not right; it might be "exonerate you from" or "acquit you of" and of the two I think "acquit you of" is the better phrase. The lecture covers the ground sufficiently well and I hope you

but I have written to him saying that really the only way to get his work into exhibitions is to keep on sending it to them in the hope that it will be accepted and shown.

I am sorry on my own account but glad on yours to hear that you are going away for a bit as I am sure that it will be good for you to have a holiday and take things quietly for a few weeks. Don't try to do too much and don't rush about more than you can help - rest as much as you can and live a reasonably careful life by way of a change. I am sure the bustle and excitement of the wedding exhibition, with all the work it involved, took more out of you than you realised at the time and I think you feel the effects for some while after. This tooth trouble now must have upset you again so by now you really do want a quiet spell to pull yourself round properly. I am very much afraid that I shall not

will deliver it somewhere else before long.

Tooth's hire-purchase scheme for pictures is really funny and I do not imagine that it will be a success, but it shows in what a state the market for modern masterpieces must be today. Harold Speed once put forward a scheme for a circulating library of pictures where people could pay an annual subscription and borrow pictures to hang up for a few weeks or months but the idea never came to anything. In the Jan Gordon article there is a touch of sanity, as he does seem to appreciate the value of sound craftsmanship.

What do you think of the enclosed letter? There is something rather pathetic in the innocence of the writer who seems to think that by knowing critics he can get his work into London exhibitions. Such letters are very difficult to answer

be able to get to you before you go as I
must not risk moving about now
that the weather has turned so much
colder. I have avoided colds so far this
winter by staying at home and
keeping quiet and I am anxious
not to spoil things now. I get very
short-winded when the air is cold
and damp so it is wiser to be careful
— much as I dislike it — but
I suppose that having to be careful
is one of the inevitable consequences
of old age.

You did not say where you are
going for your trip — is it to Rome?
I hope you will have reasonably
good weather.

Our love to you all — I hope Lucy
is well.

always yours

A.L.B.