

3 Dec 1930

47, VICTORIA STREET,

S.W.1.

My dear President,

You have, on several occasions, been so kind as to suggest coming to see me, and it occurs to me that I may have appeared a little ungracious in the matter.

Believe me that such an intention was very far from my thoughts.

You have been so very nice and thoughtful to me about every thing, that I feel I should take you into my confidence and explain myself, knowing full well I can rely on you to respect my confidence.

To put it briefly, I hesitate to ask anyone to call on me. I live in a small flat, having now had to abandon my studio owing to the present condition of things, and I have practically no work to show there, tho' I do a bit of painting I can there.

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TELEPHONE 1 VICTORIA 8460.

You see, my dear President,
I have met with considerable
reverses of fortune. The war
took me what private income
I had, and at the present
time I am fighting hard
to save a company in which
I am concerned from collapse.
In short, with several people
depending on me, I have to
sustain the greatest economy
and live in a very quiet way.
For example, no member of
the R.A.S. has ever entered my
door, except Roberts, (an old
friend) and Jamieson. No
one there knows anything of
me. I came to the conclusion
years ago, even when there
was no question of "position",
that I saw quite enough of
my fellow artists at the
various clubs and galleries,
and that there was no need
to introduce them into my
private life. But you, my

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Dear Laszlo are entirely different
and quite on another footing.
You would understand where
others would not.

It may be pride, perhaps
stupid pride on my part,
but there it is!

My career is not devoid of
interest, even if wanting in
success, and if we meet
opportunistly, you might like
to hear some of it.

I write this now in the
hope it may explain in
a measure certain things
that may have struck you.

I am most anxious to
render to you all the help
I can in your policy for
the good of our Society, and
most earnestly to co-operate
with you.

I am
Yrs most cordially
Alex Maclean

