

4 Derwent Road, } until
Eastbourne } 5 Apr

The Hermitage } until
Luton Hoo } 15 June

A-3380

28/2/11

41, GROSVENOR ROAD,

WESTMINSTER EMBANKMENT.

then 37 Norfolk Street
Strand W.C.

Dear Mr Strachey

Your enquiry reminds me of the request from the French Government that came one day officially to the F.O., for a copy of the rules under which the Govt allowed the formation of Girls' Clubs! The answer was, of course, that there were no such rules. Each Club did as it chose, with the fewer rules the better.

I don't think there can be any Model Standing Orders for a Committee. The best maxim is to have none, until some difficulty arises; & then to have as few as possible. The only one that seems necessary (and then not until

the question is raised) is how few should be a quorum. All else had been left open to settle at the moment - Chairman, Place of meeting, Date of meeting, Hour of meeting, What officers to appoint, how to appoint them, how long they should serve, what their duties should be, what contribution members should pay, how long they may speak — all may advantageously be left to be settled by resolutions there & then as difficulties arise.

So little does one bother about Standing Orders for Committees that I positively cannot put my hands on a copy. In the very large organization (30,000 members) called the National Committee for

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The Reverend of Despatch
we have just adopted what
are nominally called
Standing Orders, but are really
little more than rules, by the
Executive, for the management
of its business. These rules
(alterable by the Executive
itself) are not truly ~~Standing~~
Orders in the real sense; as
these are supposed to be (like
a written Constitution)
alterable only with difficulty
by the highest authority.
These rules are absurdly
elaborate - deliberately made

so for special reasons that I
need not go into. You can
pick out the very few points
you need. Indeed, I would
have no standing order!

—————
We are actually starting in
June for Canada, Japan, China,
Burmah & India (North & Central).
We reach Calcutta at Christmas
& start home from Bombay end of
March. I wish we could have
the advantage of some talks
with you as to what snakes to
avoid & which idols to worship.
But we have let this house from
tomorrow for a year or more; &
we shall dwell about until we
sail middle of June. We go
now to Eastbourne unpic

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Easter. I need hardly say that if there is anyone between Calcutta Lahore + Bombay to whom you cared to introduce two naive innocents, + who would perhaps tell them what it all meant, we should be most grateful. We shall not write a book: we are really going to relax our minds, + try to take in new inspiration

for our "last lap" in the
race, as we fondly hope
to come back to do one
more inventive job (we
know not what).

With kindest regards
from Beatrice, who is
terribly busy (leaving
home re) Yours truly,
Sconey Webb

WAt AL/3380



Lady Strachey

Bagley Wood

Oxford