

TELEPHONE:- HAMPSTEAD 1090.

67, BELSIZE PARK GARDENS,

HAMPSTEAD, N. W.

Feb. 21^S 1918

4343

My dear Roger

What I fear is that your consultant will never have a chance of forming even the dimmest idea of the state of pressure you are living at. You don't know yourself how much higher your pressure is than other peoples & I do wish some one could hurry in & tell your doctor the facts. You'll have to try & tell them him yourself & so I am going to jolt them down

here for you to read & commit
to memory before you see him.

In the first place your
ordinary foundation of work is
enough for three people — your
painting, the Omega business,
& the Burlington Magazine with
all the lectures & arranging of
exhibitions & things Horon in.

On the top of this are constant
successions of special jobs which
you take up & rapidly polish off —
designing scenery, restoring pictures,
making dramatic services & jobs & pans
on a fitter's wheel, turning a
Greek play into English, designing
& carrying out largely with your own

hands the complete decoration &
furniture of a flat & countless
other such things generally ~~cannot~~
required to be carried out in an
impossibly short time — In this
category also come the schemes
you think of & work out such as
the circulating picture collection.

Besides these, which are
after all your own affairs, there
are also the affairs of your friends
to be attended to. Not only do
innumerable people rely on you for
advice & consolation in their
difficulties & misfortunes, but as
a practical person in the midst
of a circle of peculiarly impractical
ones you are, in the kindness of
your heart, always positively doing

their worrying jobs for them.

All of this is carried on by a person whose activities of mind infinitely surpass any other activities he could possibly crowd into his existence. Your mind is never resting for a moment - you rush on for ever to fresh fields of interest constantly absorbed in new discoveries - no one is in the least surprised to find you in the midst of everything else setting to work to teach yourself Russian.

To ~~say~~ the whole of this has to be added on your social existence - very crowded because of course people cluster to be fed with your vitality.

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And finally there is your habit of living in London in what would be to anyone else complete lack of creature comfort - cooking your own (+ other people's) meals + worst of all lighting your own fire in the morning.

Here is a faint, under-exposed image of your dangerous existence. I see I've left out several whole categories of things which add to the wear + tear.

Still as far as it goes every one
would agree that it is perfectly
accurate + on second thoughts
I think it would be a very
good plan to give it to the
doctor to read as a very
inadequate presentment of
your friends' view of the
case.

Yrs

P. Strachey