

16th February, 1953.

My dear George,

Thanks for your letter of February 11th. I am, as you know, entirely in your hands in respect of the Presidency. I had not expected to serve a second year and so should be equally glad to meet your wishes either way. I should be, in any case, rather an inoperative sort of President, the more so as I believe a second Presidential Address would not be expected of me, in my view, rightly.

I should like to hear your ideas about the Council, since it seems most important to me that that body should gather representative opinion from the very diverse groups which have statistical pre-occupations.

The other day, speaking to the President of the Royal Society, I mentioned the great growth of the Royal Statistical and got the impression in reply that he thought we were composed of accountants! I wonder if we could do anything useful to disabuse such highly placed and influential individuals whose opinions were doubtless formed nearly fifty years ago and have not been seriously revised since.

Sincerely yours,