

August 16, 1933.

Dr. H.M. Tory,  
President, League of Nations Society in Canada,  
O t t a w a.

My dear Dr. Tory,

Since receiving your letter of August 1st, followed by another dated August 8th, I have given a great deal of thought to the matter therein discussed. In the first place, I regret very much to have to say to you that it will be impossible for me to consent to take your place as president of that very important society. It is absolutely impossible for me to take upon my shoulders any further responsibility than now rests there.

You know what an anxious time it is for all university administrators and as far as I can see there is little rift in the clouds as yet. It is true that I am enjoying at the present time a greater measure of good health than I have for years, but that is because I am following as faithfully as I can the advice of my physicians not to add any burdens of responsibility to those that are mine already. It would not be fair to the Society, neither would it be fair to myself for me to attempt to do what you have done and what a president should do. I fully realize that attendance at some meetings would be necessary and I know that there would be many calls from branches to speak, calls which I could not very well refuse were I president.

Will you therefore say to your Executive that, while I deeply appreciate the suggestion, it is impossible for me to give a favourable answer.

I am afraid, too, that I cannot attend the meeting in Ottawa on September 8th. I have not yet had any vacation this year and I am hoping to get away in September for at least a fortnight.

With all kind wishes,

I am

Ever yours faithfully,