My dear Ron,

It was indeed the greatest pleasure to see you yesterday. But how difficult to discover anyone again once lost! The crowd shifted and I lost sight of you. Then at 4.45 when I had undertaken to be at the car to allow Sinclair, who was driving me, time to reach Oxford for an official dinner, I could not see you near to say good-bye.

It is very difficult to explain things in crowds of people, so I may have given you too alarming an idea of my health. Though it is idle to suggest that having heart attacks at my age makes me what an insurance agent would call a particularly "good life", yet they say that, at present, there is nothing of a dangerous character. If I can get over the rather trying symptoms, which they are - with some success - attempting to cure, I should be pretty well all right. These involve three main
(1). Occasional periods of faintness.

(2). Periods of breathlessness when, for some reason, it is sometimes necessary to stand in order to breathe.

(3). A difficulty, connected with the breathlessness, is that there is no doubt some sensitized nerve-centres associated with respiration and with the heart condition. I am now liable to suffer violent attacks of asthma brought on by tobacco-smoke. Even a trace in the air may be sufficient; and it is a vicious circle, since the heart does not stand up well to the strain of the asthma.

You can hardly picture how much this spoils one's ordinary social life and happiness. It is most difficult when one goes, in meetings or in public gatherings of any kind, to keep free of tobacco. And some of my friends hardly attempt to conceal that they feel it a hardship to come and
talk to me for as much as an hour and to tell they must not smoke. And this makes me rather shy of asking them.

However, I am hopeful that all these difficulties will, in time, be overcome.

I shall write more fully shortly and tell you how the progress of things here. Sheppard too, I think, a good deal on hand to interest you. He would, I know, be immensely encouraged if he might send you one or two of his typescripts for proposed papers — if you can spare the time to look them over. Then you must have a great accumulation to attend to after America.

Yours,

[Signature]