

22 Charles Street,
Kew, Melbourne -

Oct. 21st. 1914

My dear Fritz,

Thanks for your explanatory letter. Of course I have always known Van Manen's attitude of general grumble, but I have not until now had reason to suspect him or Wadia or Schwartz of active disloyalty, and I am sorry to hear that they have fallen. Naturally Van Manen totally ignored his promise to the Van Hooks, and instantly told Mrs. Besant the whole of Hubert's story; for you must always remember that these people have no sense of honour, and that a pledge is nothing to them when they see a chance of doing harm. Mrs. Besant of course declined to believe him or to discuss the matter at all,

but wrote to me and warned me of what he was saying. Hubert evidently has been psychologised, and no reliance can be placed upon anything that comes from him. I have replied to our President that while I care nothing for disgusting and silly accusations, I am getting heartily sick of this constant reiteration of them, and that I really think (as I have often said to her before) that it would be better both for the Society and for myself if I did not live at Adyar, as my presence there arouses the hatred of the enemy, while my work could just as well be done elsewhere. At this moment, for example, Martyn urgently desires that I should stay in Australia for a year, to help them to fill the big new hall which they are building. I can clearly see what an opportunity there is for an important piece of Theosophical work here, and I should much like to try to do it, if she will permit me.

That would give time for the enemy to simmer down, and in twelve months anything may happen; at the end of that time there may be quite a new situation, with which we can deal as it arises. I do not know whether our President will agree, but I am awaiting her reply; for I really do not see why I should be compelled to live among people who hold such an attitude towards me. They are a thousand miles from understanding the true position, for they know nothing whatever of real occultism, and they instinctively hate and fear those who do know. Well, I must stop to catch the mail; but let me just say how thankful I am to find that you are standing by us. With very much love

I am ever yours most affectionately
Ch Leadbeater.