CHARING CROSS HOTEL,
STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

8th November, 1933.

THE EDITOR,

THE FELLOWSHIP OF MEDICINE,
1, WIMPOLE STREET, W.1.

An Appreciation.

SIR,

The Englishman—or better still, I should say the Britisher—hates sentiment and does not wear his heart upon his sleeve. However, there are occasions when necessity compels one to do justice to the kindness and generosity of these much-misunderstood peoples. I think my experience is a case in point.

For purposes of health I made a voyage to England (London) from Wellington, New Zealand, where I am engaged in practice. At the same time I thought I would take the opportunity of “freshening-up” and doing some Post-Graduate work.

I have not been to London since the war, and it was with fear and trepidation I contemplated this issue: feeling that I would be out of touch with my contemporaries and would be like a “stranger in a strange land”. On the contrary, my experience has been the exact opposite, and I cannot speak too highly of the help, consideration and kindnesses which have been showered on me by those members of our profession with whom it has been my good fortune to come in contact.

Had I arrived with the highest letters of commendation and been lauded up to the skies I could not have had greater kindnesses or more consideration shewn to me.

My object in writing this letter is to say to those Colonials who are hesitating to come over to take a Post-Graduate course owing to fear of isolation and being out of touch—“Come!—you will never regret it.”

I sincerely trust I am not out of place in making especial reference to one of the Senior Surgeons of the Prince of Wales Hospital, and also to one of the L.C.C. Whitechapel Clinic Staff who have not only been kindness personified, but in the case of the former has been “My Guide, Philosopher and Friend”, though I knew them not till meeting them at their respective clinics.

I return home soon with heart-felt gratitude and visions of—who knows?—perhaps another equally pleasant prospective visit.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

HUGHES STEELE, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), etc.

166, WILLIS STREET,

WELLINGTON, N.Z.