## DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY, BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),



CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON, S.W.7.

Telephone: Exmisseron 6023.

Telegrama: Nathienes, Bouthers, London. 7th. April 1942.

Dear Professor Fisher.

This is just a line to say how much I appreciated your visit to the Entomological Society last week. The subject has aroused some interest and as a result of this more data may be forthcoming.

The subject has interested me for some years now, but it is only this last year or so that I have been able to produce final figures on account of the difficulty of identifying species in the more complex groups.

I have now calculated the numbers of species present in the habitats under consideration for varying numbers of individuals. As far as "alaya is concerned, it looks as if 1200 species is a fair estimate both from the curve and from our knowledge of the butterflies of Burma and Sumatra.

The matter of estimating total species now turns on estimating the total number of individuals and the figures new obtained

suggest that the total population of individual butterflies at any time in a given habitat is much lower than is usually suspected. From this standpoint, one might guess the total butterflies in Malaya at the moment to be two or three million specimens.

Yours sincerely,

a. S. Corbet.

P.S. Ishould be gratiful for a separate of your regative brownial paper. when you receive them.