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LONDON, SW7 22nd May, 1958.

My dear Ron

May that I have nailed to the mast the colours of natural selection of random variations. If we have any more sniping, I hope that I may rely on the covering fire of support from your pen, for it is astonishing how much ignorance still prevails on this subject from persons who ought to know better. It is therefore very important to broaden the basis of defence. You will realise that I, as a Civil Servant, have to be "polite to the public".

Yours ever,

Gavin de Beer.

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Professor Sir Ronald Fisher, F.R.S., Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.