

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

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Telegrams:

NATHIMUS, SOUTHERNS, LONDON



CROMWELL ROAD

LONDON, SW7

21st January, 1956.

My dear Ronald,

As you know, I have been exercised over the question of an appropriate book to print for ~~the~~ presentation to Members of the Congress of Zoology which is meeting in London in 1958. The meeting-place is a compliment to Great Britain as it is the centenary of the publication of Darwin's and Wallace's first papers. I have decided that we shall reprint Darwin's Sketch of 1842 and his Essay of 1844, with Francis Darwin's footnotes, and Darwin's and Wallace's papers read before the Linnean Society in 1958. I have further decided that the Cambridge University Press should print this volume.

In order to present these early papers in the setting of modern knowledge, I have prepared a foreword, and I should be most grateful for your comments on it. I should also very much like to ask you whether you consider that I am right in omitting all references to Lysenko and company. Finally, is there any one whose name I have omitted whom you think that I should include?

of printing
As the price appears to rise every month I propose to have this book printed without delay and keep it on ice until 1958. I hope, therefore, that

Sir Ronald Fisher, F.R.S.,
Whittingeham Lodge,
44 Storey's Way,
Cambridge.

you will not think me an awful nuisance for
troubling you with this.

With kindest regards,

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Gavin de Beer'. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a short horizontal line.

Gavin de Beer.