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. 28th November, 1955.

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

My dear Ron,

How nice of you to consult me in regard to the notes for possible inclusion in a reprint of the Genetical Theory of Natural Selection. I need hardly say how delighted I am that one of the most outstanding text books of biology is to be reprinted. It has been an amazement to me that the original edition did not sell out long before the War but, after all, a book is to be judged not by its sale but by its effect upon science, and no book of the century has had a greater effect upon biology than has this one;— the ideas spreading out from it through, apparently, a limited number of readers of the original, but that kind of thing is what both you and I are accustomed to *find (people like to begin little seminars)*.

I think that these notes are quite all right, and that the remarks about hybridization and so forth can be relied upon. There is, however, a statement half way down the first page, which I have marked lightly in pencil in the margin, which I am not at all happy about. It may be that there really exists published data on the genetics of the conspicuous white band in Limnitis arthemis. If so, neither I, nor any of the likely people I have been consulting here, know anything of it; and I suspect if it were published in at all a well-known place we should do. Either (a) this is a personal communication of unpublished work to Poulton, in which case it certainly ought not to be taken for granted, being genetic. (b), Alternatively, data demonstrating this may have appeared in some remote American entomological or biological journal (perhaps even a Collectors' Society) of such a kind that one is almost certain to miss. Now I have a friend in the States who has made close search of this sort of literature, and if he does not know of published evidence in this matter, I think one ought to take it as not established. The name is Lincoln Brewer, Osborn Zoological Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. He is an extremely nice and helpful person and, if you were to drop ~~him~~ a line, I am sure he would give you a good opinion.

Looking forward so much to seeing you on Wednesday.

Ever yours,

