

November 1, 1937

My dear Gates,

I am not now on the Executive Committee of the Eugenics Society, and so had received no notice of the meeting and subjects down for discussion.

As a Fellow of the Society I was in favour of the Society taking a share in scientific eugenic publications long before the opportunity of doing so arose. I feel it would be a serious reversal of the Society's former policy if it now reversed this decision. On the other hand, since my Department has the administration of the publications fund which finances the Annals, I can be represented as an interested party, and my personal views discounted. I imagine that Blacker and Lord Horder take this view, but that Bramwell may be expected loyally to support the present arrangement.

You know the scope and substance of publications in the Annals, and that it must continue to be an expensive journal. It has certainly secured, since I have had it, the most important work dealing with eugenic problems, both on the genetical and the statistical sides. It is essentially a research journal, and therefore to a considerable extent methodological. I hope others may agree that this distribution

of emphasis is not inappropriate in the present state of the subject.

The printers' bills come, as the Finance Committee have already been informed, to slightly more than £600 a year, so that the Society is bearing approximately half the cost of publication, as was its intention, as I understood it, though I could not, at the time the arrangement was made, produce printers' bills ^{for} ~~on~~ the previous volumes. Subscriptions have increased gradually, Vol. VI and VII had 130 and 132 respectively, and I hope I may continue this process until the Journal is more nearly self-supporting. At least, they now stand higher than ~~in~~ ^{for} any of the first five volumes.

It may be said that the Publications Committee of this Department, since it receives the subscriptions, is not bearing half the net loss on publication. Since, however, the whole of the work, both editorial and the composition of a great part of the papers, is done by this Department, I should not regard the Eugenios Society as contributing on an equal basis to publication if it merely proposed to bear a fraction of the net loss. I mention this merely in case the point is raised by members hostile to the publication, not that I doubt that you already see the force of the objection to any such arrangement.

Yours sincerely,