

October 1, 1937

Dear Ruggles Gates,

I have been having some correspondence with Blacker on the interpretation of the minute of the Eugenics Society Council of June 3rd, 1936, of which I enclose a copy. It appears that Blacker is inclined to interpret this minute in a way which does not seem a natural reading, and I should like your opinion as to the probable intentions of the Council when it was passed. Blacker thinks, if I understand him rightly, that the phrase "second studentship" means, not only the studentship awarded in 1936, but a succession of studentships to be awarded in alternate years from that year. This, unfortunately, carries with it the resolution that all such studentships should be applied to the subject of race crossing. This, I think, would lead to an extravagant duplication of work by the successive students and, for my part, I doubt if it was ever the intention of the Council; but you will know better about this. I suggest that the natural interpretation is that the phrase meant only the studentship awarded in 1936. Will you let me know what you think about this and about the general studentship policy of the Society.

Trevor, in this Department, is wanting to give the rest of his time to getting a knowledge of genetics, and I am wondering whether you give a general course of a type suitable for him. I can give him here a fair amount of practical experience in animal genetics under Faberge, formerly of Merton, but I do not want to ask Faberge to give a course of lectures, at least this term, as he will be busy enough acquainting himself with the living material. It would, of course, be particularly appropriate if in your lectures you deal with genetics in man.

Yours sincerely,