

22nd May, 1938

Professor R. Ruggles Gates,
King's College,
Strand,
W.C.2

My dear Ruggles Gates.

When Mrs. Hodson raised with me the possibility of housing a central clearing house for human heredity at the Galton Laboratory, I was under a slight, though I hope not serious misapprehension as to the space available. I had been appointed Curator of the Galton collections, and had supposed that the large museum on our ground floor was therefore entirely at the disposal of my Department. I had also proposed to the College Authorities that this space could probably be used later, with advantage, in other ways, and had received provisional permission to make this use of it.

In giving this permission I find that a paragraph of a resolution had been overlooked which spoke of the space on the ground floor as being unallocated as between the Departments of Statistics and Eugenics; hence the Department of Statistics has some claim to be considered in allocating this space to other purposes. On my present plan, the serological research will occupy just one quarter of the museum in addition to a small anthropometric laboratory adjoining. So far as I

know, the authorities would be agreeable to my clearing a further portion for the accommodation of the proposed central clearing house, and I should be prepared to recommend this course. I cannot, however, promise this on my own authority, in view of the ruling made before I came into occupation.

I am trying to arrange that many of the large exhibits shall be either withdrawn by their owners or lent by the laboratory to other Departments where they can be more appropriately exhibited; but, as you are doubtless aware, changes which involve more than one Department of a College require the action of a rather cumbersome machinery before they can be brought about.

I should be very glad if you could find time to come and lunch with me during the term, both to see the premises and to discuss the "Annals of Eugenics" and other topics in which we are both interested.

Yours sincerely,