

19th January 1934.

Professor Ruggles Gates,
King's College,
Strand.

Dear Ruggles Gates,

I am enclosing two documents in respect of the Family Allowance Committee. One is the re-draft I made in the Christmas Vacation of the first half of the pamphlet embodying the changes decided on at the meeting in July. That is principally to replace the opening discussion on Economics (which was exceedingly unconvincing) by a statement to the effect that the Society regarded the differential birth-rate as the gravest Eugenic danger, and that its Family Allowance policy was governed by the need to abolish, or reduce the differential birth-rate.

We did not consider this re-draft in any detail at the last meeting, but agreed to consider it in advance of the next meeting and to send in suggested amendments to me in writing. After reading McDougall's paper I think our first paragraph should be recast to recall his own proposal in 1906, since this, unlike the other early history of the subject, was definitely Eugenic in aim.

The other document I enclose is a draft of a leaflet suitable for distribution at Health Weeks, and such meetings. The Family Endowment Society's leaflet which is all we seem to have at present, is open to objection in that it gives the impression that Family Allowances can be payed for by further taxation of the rich, which puts it outside practical politics, as only a labour government would at present attempt to increase taxation, and they would certainly spend all they could get on other Social services, or on a definitely dysgenic scheme of allowances. It also proposes that the Allowances should be independent of employment which precludes a proportionate scheme, and very unfairly quotes the success of the French system in support of this very different plan. Possibly Mrs. Hubback will not see these objections, but I hope the other members of the Committee will. You might pass on this draft to Gunn, who I hope also may appreciate the point of having a leaflet for working women putting forward a genuinely Eugenic proposal.

Have you been sent the correspondence anent Blackers' resignation.

Yours sincerely,