

4th. November 1950.

My dear Ruggles Gates,

I think it is certainly true that Haldane suffers sporadically and moodily from a sort of moroseness in which he is exceedingly touchy and conscious that others do not agree with him in the matter of Communism. I think also that in gaining control of the Journal of Genetics he thought he had cornered the genetical publication facilities in England, for the Annals of Eugenics fell effectively under his control when, most unwisely, the Galton Laboratory was united with the Department of Biometry.

As a matter of fact, the Genetical Society had some reason to hope that when Punnett wished to relinquish active control of the Journal of Genetics he would sell the concern to them. Unfortunately Haldane was charged by the Society with the business of making this proposal, and the next thing the Society learned about it, perhaps a year later, was that the journal had passed into the possession of Mrs. Haldane. I do not think he can imagine that on this occasion he acted in good faith.

Yours sincerely,