

22 April 1932.

J. Gray, Esq., M.C., F.R.S.,  
King's Field,  
West Road,  
Cambridge.

Dear Gray:

I saw Calman at the Royal, but forgot all about procedure as we were all very excited about melanic moths. The discussion was one of the best I have ever heard at the Royal. MacBride produced a letter from Harrison, implying that McKenny Hughes had "failed through inexperience", and giving a damning tale of Hughes' reporting lethals in cultures he was making under Harrison, when really his stocks were diseased. He developed the defence that melanics were especially susceptible to disease, without perceiving how damaging this, if true, was to the evidential value of his own results.

Hall spoke deploring personalities, and was careful not to imply that Hughes' work disproved Harrison's; Haldane supplemented Hughes' very short remarks by a few figures. Marshall objected to the assumption of great susceptibility of melanics to disease without adequate evidence, Poulton <sup>asserted</sup> ~~denied~~ that whatever the result of the <sup>mutational</sup> ~~nutritional~~ experi-

ments, the abundance of melanics in industrial districts was certainly due to selection on a dark background. Boycott asked for more details. Self also ran.

I should <sup>welcome</sup> ~~mention~~ it if you wrote to Calman, saying that you had discussed the question with me, and that we both think it important to have a preliminary meeting on next year's candidates. I would gladly go up to see him at the Museum if he wished to go further into my views.

Yours sincerely,