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31st. January 1949.

My dear Keen,

It was most kind of you to write your note of congratulations on the Darwin Medal, which was, as you can imagine, a very great gratification to me.

On general principles I have been urging that the fairly numerous medals which the Society has to place annually should be given, if possible, to people under sixty, or at least in full work. It is a great pity to give them as a kind of memorial tablet.

Yours sincerely,