

3rd December, 1958.

My dear Kenneth,

I see that Bodmer's paper is the third of a trilogy, and of course as such it ought to be published if the views he has developed are to be put fairly before our readers.

It also is, of course, a very able paper.

I think indeed that Parsons was barking up the wrong tree in thinking that it was worth while to try to save labour by making approximations at the expense of the efficiency of the estimates. However, many people want to save labour, and for most of them it matters very little how competent their statistical methods are.

In any case, I think it a thoroughly good thing that the author should at least have raised the question of competition within the litter (an extremely important and much neglected factor in mammalian genetics), though he does not insist on, what might be obvious, that for the study of competition within the litter a record of individual litters is necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Professor K. Mather, C.B.E., F.R.S.

*Paper returned here with*