

14 September 1939

Sir Allen Mawer, Litt.D.
Provost of University College, London,
c/o University of Wales,
Aberystwyth.

Dear Provost,

I think, perhaps, you ought to know of an interview I had with Mr Taylor, Superintendent of Buildings, when he came to the Galton Laboratory this morning.

Perhaps you will be good enough to give instructions to obviate the embarrassing situation in which Mr Taylor finds himself, and to minimise inconvenience to the work of the department, pending a more careful consideration of the whole position.

Yours sincerely,

Interview with Mr A.W.Taylor, Superintendent of Buildings, at the Galton Laboratory, September 14th 1939.

Mr Taylor stated that it is his intention to turn out the Eugenics Department. I asked him what authority he had for doing this, and although I asked him repeatedly, he has no authority to offer.

He produced a letter to him from Mr Tanner asserting that everyone was to take orders from him(Mr Taylor). As I have myself received no such instructions, and would have reason to disregard such an extraordinary demand from any source, I presume the instruction to refer to Mr Taylor's staff, and any Beadles and College Servants whose Departments may not be in residence.

Finally, Mr Taylor said he thought he would lock and bar the Department up. I could only advise him strongly to do nothing of the kind.

R.A.F.