

15 March 1943

Dear Taylor,

of 50 Rh.

Thanks for sending me your note on your table of families for the B.M.J. I have noted a couple of points which struck me as difficult as I read it through.

On page 3, you say "this will always be so where the foetus is of group AB save in the 3 per cent. of pregnancies where its mother will also be of group AB." I do not know what this 3 per cent. is. It does not seem to make sense if I take it to be either (1) the proportion of all pregnancies in which the foetus is AB irrespective of the mother's group, or (2) the proportion of all pregnancies where the mother is AB irrespective of the group of the foetus. I suppose the proportion of all pregnancies in which both mother and foetus are AB can be obtained from $\frac{.03}{2} \left(\frac{4}{15} + \frac{1}{15} \right)$, where the .03 outside the bracket stands for the proportion of AB mothers, and $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{4}{15} + \frac{1}{15} \right)$ IS THE SUM OF THE chances of an A egg encountering a B sperm and of a B egg encountering an A sperm, respectively. If this is right, would it not be relevant to say "save in about one case out of six, where the mother will also be AB" ?

The other point is one I have marked on page 4. This short

peragraph seems to me very obscure, and not to get clearer on re-reading. Probably I am just being stupid.

Yours sincerely,