

Elmfield
Harrow.

1st. March, 1929.

Dear Mr Vassall,

I thought you had missed the point of my remarks when we last met at the Royal. The fact is that nearly all my statistical work is based on biological material, and much of it has been undertaken merely to clear up difficulties in experimental technique.

Naturally I have had most of the fun to myself, as there are very few mathematicians with any serious interest in biology, or contact with working biologists.

It would have worked out very much the same, I fancy, if I had taken your suggestion and taken biology for scholarship purposes at school. I still think the scholarships would have been more chancy; and I suppose, without being sure, that a mathematical technique with biological interests, is a rather firmer ground than a biological technique and mathematical interests, like D'Arcy Thompson.

What I want to know is, why can you not cut out all the Stocks and Shares and Quadratic Equations, from the compulsory mathematics of biologists and doctors and put in the elements, and the ideas, of statistics?

Yours sincerely,

There! I am so argumentative that I have forgotten to
Thank you, but the thanks are implicit in the argument.

To clinch the argument I am writing a book on Natural
Selection !