

13th. May 1946.

My dear Diver,

I have been here a year or two now, wrestling with the University authorities, and I do not think it would be wise for me to undertake any breeding work with snails unless and until I have someone permanently attached to the department who could mother this particular line of work. My own time is dreadfully broken up and, of course, it is reasonable that I should expect myself to give first priority always to helping people faced with some difficulty which I know how to deal with. Advanced students stay too short a time in the department to undertake any serious work, except perhaps with mice, which breed quickly and for which I can maintain adequate auxiliary stocks.

I ought later to have someone principally concerned with botanical and cytological material, and if interested I should be

glad if he or she found time for the snails. But at the moment I do not think my department is the place for the kind of work you suggest.

Yours sincerely,