

DEPARTMENT OF
ZOOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY,
UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, OXFORD.

February 22nd 1940.

My dear Fisher,

I had intended to send you the Gallon Lectures a fortnight ago. I have been kept back by two things (1) like everyone else, I have been ill. (2) I am waiting for some rather interesting data on Malacium from Williams.

However, the paper is otherwise ready, and I will send it along next week. Indeed I should have done so before, but-

noted you said that - as it was
not to appear in the next part,
there was no immediate hurry.

The point about
Williams is this. I have myself
had an industrial melanoma and,
in ordinary circumstances,
obtained total back-cross families
of 101 melanics: 91 typical (3
broods). However, 5 back-cross
broods (+ others which failed)
when subject to consistent
starvation gave:- 52 melanics:
31 typical. You will notice a
significant excess of melanics
in the latter, though melanism

has never established itself in the
species outside industrial areas.

My work on the same
lines for a species which has not
yet established itself in industrial
areas as a melanic is only in
progress. However, as I mentioned
in the Lecture, Williamson has
published ~~several~~^{F₂} families of
this kind which, added together,
give 182 melanics: 48 typical - which,
though, not significant, looks as if
it might become so with larger
numbers. I find he has sent
additional data, which he will
send me when he can get home.

and he hopes to do so this week-
end. As the point is of some
importance relative to my approach
to the problem, I should like to
hold back for a few days till
I get the figures and can adjust
the text. I hope the delay has
not caused you any inconvenience.

With my kind regards to
Mr. Fisher,

Yours sincerely,
E. B. Ford