

DEPARTMENT OF

ZOOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, OXFORD.

September 24th 1936.

My dear Fisher,

Thank you ever so much for your letter, and for letting me know of these most exciting results. Of course I am very thrilled indeed to hear of them. I think you have done awfully well to get the test made: I should love to be there when you try with the Regent's Park or the Whipnade material.

What exciting possibilities arise! I do hope it will be possible to obtain enough material to make a fair estimate of the proportions of tasters and non-tasters in chimps. If it is really not far from the ratio in man, as your numbers indeed suggest, it will be a most wonderful thing. Then we must try to get information on the orang &c. Also, we must now seek other effects of this gene (especially on the physiological side) though this may be very difficult. Fancy a ~~xxx~~ stable ratio of this kind for the period of time now suggested - it is immensely exciting.

It is really very kind of you to ask me to join if you and Julian write to Nature about this. Of course I should love to, and so much appreciate your suggesting it.

How are you getting on in these difficult times? I don't find it too easy to work, somehow. I signed the form, sent round both by the University and the Royal Society, to say that I would put such qualifications as I have at the service of the country if

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wanted, but have heard nothing yet. However, at present we are likely to have so many candidates for the medical **prelim**, owing to men from the University of London coming here, that at any rate for this term my work seems cut out. For I run the Prelim, and they are most anxious that medical work should go on. Normally I should be giving a course of advanced Genetics to the Botanists this term also; I don't yet know if that will be required.

Do let me know any further results.

Yours sincerely,

L. B. Ford

I wonder, by the way, if you have heard anything of the fate of The Sillby paper from the Royal Society.