

16 MUSEUM ROAD,
OXFORD.

February 18th 1930.

My dear Fisher,

A little while ago I wrote to you about an idea that struck me concerning your theory of dominance, which has interested me so much. The point being that completely recessive genes sometimes have secondary effects not open to direct selection, and that these are intermediate in the heterozygote.

If you considered it of sufficient interest I had thought you might possibly include the point next time you wrote on the subject. But you sent me a most kind letter in which

you urged me to publish the idea. I have accordingly written a note as for the Am. Nat.

Also I have seen Sewall Wright's last reply, in which he falls back upon the idea of genic loss (or inactivation) as the basis of the recessive condition. So much nonsense (in my opinion) has been written about that, that I thought it worth while adding a short review of the subject, pointing out that the mere assumption of genic loss could not of itself provide an explanation of the recessive state.

Would you therefore be so kind
as to read through the enclosed note and
let me know if you think it worth
publishing, and if you agree with it?
I really want your opinion and shall
not be offended what ever you say! So
do not hesitate to tell me (a) if
you disagree, or (b) if you think the
points raised are not worth discussion.
I am anxious to obtain your honest
opinion.

I would have written sooner
but have had so much work
connected with the University, and it
takes up a lot of time; also my summer

~~was~~ being living material had
attention first. Also I have had a
bad attack of influenza; and later
my father who came to stay for a
week and was taken ill, and I had
him ill in the house for some time -
and you know what a bother that
sort of thing is.

Yours sincerely,
E. B. Ford