

September 17th, 1935

Dear Harland,

About poultry, it is clear that the modifiers responsible for the difference in reaction between the fancy breeds and the wild population have been selected in the fancy breeds, e.g. the suppressers of hernia in the Japanese Silky.

Of course, I also suppose that the situation in the wild population is itself the result of the much slower selection of modifiers for an immense previous period, and to this I should ascribe the fact that hernia is completely recessive while crest is semi-dominant, although both are due to the same gene.

I am interested to hear of your plan to go to Russia. If you travel as far as Kashkend, which is one of the centres of cotton growing in Central Asia, you may find a certain V. Romanovsky, a mathematician in that University, inclined to be very helpful. I believe he has had something, though perhaps not a great deal, to do with the development of cotton growing in his region.

Yours sincerely,