

Christ Church

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4. 11. 57

Dear Fisher

I wonder if you would be so very kind as to give me your advice on the following point.

I have had a letter from Haldane complaining that my account of Norton on p. 188 of my life of Keynes by no means does justice to his achievement. As he was a great friend of Keynes, I am only too ~~to~~ glad to put in the best version of his achievement. I had relied on the information of James Strachey, a great friend of

22 FEBRUARY 1950

P.S. I have had to compress the new version, so as to be able to make the substitution - write out altering the punctuation

Norton's, but not of course an expert in this subject. I ought to have consulted an expert, & indeed intended to do so, but the project got crowded out by my many multifarious labours on this work.

I enclose herewith a "new version" which I propose to substitute for the "old version", which I also enclose in case you are not able to consult the original.

I am anxious to do full justice to Norton but don't want to use language which critics might regard as an overstatement. It would be most kind if you could endorse the view that Norton's work merits what I have said. I hope this is not an intolerable intrusion on your time  
Yours truly R.F. Harrod

## New revision

A mathematician, he became a Fellow of Trinity (1910), and did notable pioneering work on the theory of genetics. He supplied rigorous proofs for many fundamental theorems. It is held that this work is likely to grow in importance as the application of mathematics to genetics advances. But ill-health prevented his achieving all that was hoped, and he died at the age of fifty.

<sup>1</sup> See Transactions of the London Mathematical Society, 1926

Old resumé

By profession he was a mathematician, and was elected to a Fellowship at Trinity in 1910 for a thesis on the application of <sup>integral equations</sup> (probability theorems) to certain problems in genetics. He pursued this work with a view to publication, but time passed and <sup>it was not till 1928</sup> (there seemed to be great delay). (Alas, the work never achieved its summation. <sup>but his work was published</sup> Nabon's mind became unable to grapple with these problems; he relapsed into a condition of inertia and sadness, and died at the age of fifty.)