Cripps's Corner,
Forest Row,
Sussex.

Oct 21 [1924]

Dear Fisher,

Thanks for your second letter which I am sorry I put you to the trouble of writing. I corrected my chapter by striking out the phrase "increasing population" and inserting "over population at the present time." But perhaps I shall add a note some what as follows -

Statistical engineers it is true, indicate the
probability that our population will begin to decrease before long, and, if this be so, our area population might also cease at a later date. But with a decreasing population the need for meeting a decrease in the birth rate of this area may become even more urgent; for measures calculated to increase the birth rate are likely to be advocated in such circumstances, as is now the case in France, without any reference to the effect on
the grandly of the population.

It is generally implied that Natural Selection only acts when a population tends to increase; but it seems to me it must always act unless all combinations of genes are equally likely to survive and unless no harmful mutations occur.

Don't hurry to write on the last point as I doubt we shall meet before long.

I will write soon about the Newcastle, a matter which requires some consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature] Darwin