February 9th, 1946.

My dear Ron,

I do so strongly agree with you. The Phenological Committee must be dull — and stupid as well — to say that the ground is already pretty adequately covered!

It is certainly true that there is a big scheme, run by a Captain Dannebender, R.N., for recording migratory butterflies, as well as Williams' studies on migration. But this is fed a lot more than ordinary observers could undertake; and one wants some alternatives, not everyone will find his chief interest in migration.

I am not quite clear what types of observation are covered by a Phenological Committee of the R. Entomological Society. However, settlers mention observations on social problems, so I suppose the range is fairly wide.

As an eighty day, there would be
good deal of interest in extending the hunting
observations now appearing in entomological journals
in times I suppose.

A few others strike me as strange (and I, of course, there are the more). No doubt
some of the following are not appropriate.

Entomological observations relating to moths
in which moths visit build 4 various kinds:
in particular, those other than light traps (of
is certainly known that a good night for
"light" is not necessarily a good one for "sugar",
etc.; but its qualifications are quite uncertain).

Observations on the occurrence and
spread of melanism in the moth, S.E.
England. Several species are becoming melanic
in this area (e.g., *Hemeropile abemptia*
near London; *Heganyphria oxyacantha*,
apparently widely). There are also these curious
moths which are normal except for one small
unusual area (say one foot) in the S.E. There
They are predominantly melanistic (but what is the real proportion? Does it change?)

We want more information on the proportions of the dimorphic 9's 2 Colonies croceus (through its range) and 2Argynnis thetis in Britain, a dimorphic only in the New Forest. (It would be fun to sell a colony GREY airstrikes with the cocoon - Valeria - from 2 9's and see what happens).

In this case one could wish to know absolute numbers. 2 books on the absolute numbers of some populations have not too much for such observers. There could be a big field here.

There are also dimorphic moths (e.g. Phycetera aeraria), and one would like to know proportions here also.

If relevant to this Committee, one would
like to have observations on the habits of butterflies and moths and on the attraction of the ♀ by the ♂.

Lots of other points would occur to the mind, I think. But those immediately strike me.

I have had influenza which nearly turned to pneumonia, but am much better now.

Yours ever,

[Signature]

Rev. 3. April I remarked paragraphs re W to Yadin, 12/2/46.