My dear Ron,

Thank you so much for your letter, and for the abstract I read for you in your song at the meeting of the Zoological Society.

I am very sorry to hear that you are meeting with all these difficulties at Cambridge. They are the more distressing, with reasonable foresight on the part of the University Authorities, they might largely have been avoided.

How kind of you to ask me over to Cambridge. That would indeed be a pleasure. I shall love to have the chance of hearing more of what you are doing, and how things are going on. And, on my side, I have a lot I want to discuss with you and tell you of. It is most kind of you to ask me to dine with you in College. I wonder if the week-end of the 13th Nov. would be possible for you. I would arrive on the Saturday evening and leave early on Monday. This term is such an incredible rush. This would really fit in the best for me, if it is...
a possible date for you. Then I hear from you, I will
book a room at one of the hotels; for, if Cambridge is
at all like Oxford, it will be necessary to do this well
in advance.

Every spare moment (and I put very few
in the terrible rush of this term) is dedicated to preparing
forward my butterfly book, the M.S. of which they came
by March 15th. But the plates are an immense
job. They are to cost an average of 25/0 each
(including Photographer's fees), and there are 48 of them in
color. Then there are 24 black-and-white, maps, and
diagrams. The book is to be 80,000 words, and they
propose printing a first Edition of 20,000 copies. All of
it will cost just over £5,000 to produce. This
is the first of a series of about 40 (of which I shall
write later; I hope, for I have been asked to under-
take the others also). So the total outlay on
the series will approach a guinea and a million pounds,
it does seem a big undertaking for these days.

One small personal matter. Following a
conversation which we had together at Sparkford, and
your kind advice on that occasion, I put in for the D.Sc. degree at Oxford. I have heard that it has now gone through all right, so nothing now remains but the actual formalities of taking the degree on some Degree Day in the near future (and paying the fees!).

I look forward so much to seeing you.

Yours ever,

[Signature]