My dear Sister,

I was so sorry not to see you at the Genetical Society last week. I was asked to do a very urgent piece of work connected with the two for a few days; and it seemed that, in the present circumstances, this ought to take precedence. So I wrote to both the Secretaries to say how sorry I was to withdraw at the last.
minute.

The Callicoptera dominula

which my friend Brachten and
I have been breeding have started
to emerge. You may remember
something of the facts. The species
(the Scarlet Sphinx) is a gorgeous
large flying moth. There is an
extreme variety bimacula in
which all the hind of the cream-
colored spots on the fore-wings
are absent, and there is a great
extension of black on the hind.
fonds. It is very striking, and speedily rare. It has only been found once or twice in a locality near Oxford. There is another form, *medionigra*, somewhat with medial but much nearer *dominula* (which it may practically overlap) than *bimacula*. Both *medionigra* and *bimacula* are very variable. The normal *dominula* is not. I believed *medionigra* to be the heliozygote.

The *Tunig* has been bred by ichthyologists, but their data are
quite imperfect, and no definite conclusion could be reached. Last year we got a pairing between two medionigra. We lost a lot of larvae. Since the species hibernates in the slant state, it is not easy to breed. However, we have now got 67 out, and there are more to come:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dominula</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medionigra</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bimacula</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>67</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So the situation looks pretty clear!
Medionigra is the variety which I have told you of as spreading in nature in the Oxford locality. I think I mentioned the figures, but they are again.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1939</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>up to</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The figures up to 1928 comprise all in collections from the locality I can find. As collectors
hunted for varieties, the error will be in the direction of making medionigra too common. The numbers in 1939 are the work of myself and two friends, catching at random (and subsequently releasing) on one day. It is important to notice that we did this because of my personal suspicion that medionigra is becoming commoner.

So, with this year's breeding result, it is clear that we are dealing with the spread
(if this is well, as it seems to be) a
knife gone in nature. A
situation which so much interests me.

I don't doubt one could
decide medonique and to
determine and
respectively. I shall keep a sharp
watch to see if the speed continues,
and if there is any tendency for
medonique to approach
in nature.

I have let my house
for the lar and am moving.
into Wedham College - so 1915
(or the Zoology Department) will be
my address at present. I am
 storing my furniture, and it all
makes a dreadful nuisance and
for such a lot of work. However, there
are numerous considerations which
seem to make this wise financially
and otherwise.

Ever yours,

Henry Ford