18 November 1931.

Capt. D.W. Gunston, M.P.,
House of Commons,
London, S.W. I.

My dear Derrick:

It was great to hear of the enormous majority you secured and better still that the House of Commons is not inclined to be put off by bureaucratic procrastination. I should judge it would be no light task to get the officials to move quickly in matters in which they have little experience and few precedents.

I have been working and puzzling during the last twenty and thirty years over the causes which really determine the fate of nations and I think I have made some progress on the biological side towards finding out what practical steps would be really useful and effective. I have set out the main thesis in a scientific form in a more or less unreadable book called "The Genetical Theory of Natural Selection" and some of the reviewers' opinions I would give most weight to, suggest that I ought to supplement it by an edition more intelligible to politicians. I shall not attempt that, however, until I know more clearly
what difficulties people like yourself see ahead, who take the racial question seriously and will not shirk the frightfully tedious process of winning the practical support of people whose minds are, at present, a tangle of misapprehensions and prejudices.

Naturally I should like to talk the whole thing over with you at some length and should love to dine with you some time at the House. Unfortunately, I have recently been laid up after an operation and shall not be in town much before Christmas, so perhaps you could fix a night that suits you next session. Meanwhile, by way of clearing the ground, I will, if I may, send you one or two articles I have written, chiefly about Family Allowances; as this will, I imagine, be the most difficult point controversially.

I am sending with this an old offprint of 1928, inspired chiefly by the agricultural situation, which as it was written eighteen months before the world depression started in other industries, has turned out to be pretty good prophecy, but of course, the main point of the paper is to give a level-headed view, based on facts, on a subject which is pretty thick with misapprehensions.

Yours sincerely,