My dear Fraser Roberts,

Thank you so much for your kind letter. Yes, I feel about Taylor very much as you do. Fortunately, I believe his widow and daughter are well provided for.

As to the Serum Unit, this has really been in grave danger and is still so in some measure. The whole body, built up as a going concern for serological genetics, was, you will remember, taken over by the M.R.C. for the blood transfusion service as war work. Obviously the war work is drawing to its close, and I understand the M.R.C. have not fully maintained the Unit in respect of personnel as people left for various reasons. It looks quite as though they had no feeling of responsibility for keeping it in being and would be prepared to dissolve it as soon as the transfusion work allowed, taking over its personnel piecemeal for various post-war M.R.C. jobs not primarily concerned with human genetics. I have seen Landsborough Thomson who is, I think, willing to see reason, and the Professor of Pathology
Here has been heard from Mellanby to much the same effect. However, things are not so secure that it would not be a good deed if you wrote to Landsborough Thomson, or Mellonby if you know him better, urging the importance of maintaining a unit to carry on the immensely fruitful work they have been doing. After all, you are a member of the Human Genetics Committee and the matter does concern everyone interested in such work in this country. I have a move on to get Race appointed Assistant Director of Research in this subject in my Department here, but of course the M.R.C. can make things awkward for the University if they choose to cut off financial support in order to force the acceptance of their own plans. The said plans of course are not their own really, but emanate from the Lister, which badly needs people as technically competent as those of the Galton Unit.

Sincerely yours,