October 4, 1939

Dear O'Brien,

You may have seen a letter of mine on the Galton Laboratory in the Times of Tuesday, October 3rd. Incredible as it must seem, the facts are as there stated, and, though I think the College are weakening in their more unreasonable restrictions and will ultimately accept something like the move to Rothamsted, I am at the moment writing this from the London School of Hygiene, since my secretary is not permitted to enter the Galton Laboratory with me.

So far, I have obtained a kind of acknowledgement that the College has no right to prohibit my Department working with me at Rothamsted or elsewhere, although they can, and do, prohibit them from doing so at the Galton Laboratory. On this basis I can, I think, keep the remaining nucleus of the department together, though I think it is the College policy to try and suppress the continuance of the work by holding up current funds. I do not pretend to be able to fathom their motives, and it may be that an enquiry will be later necessary to see that the Galton bequest has not been dealt with illegally.
In the meantime, I am writing you this on the chance that, if you are over in England soon, you may care to see me and lend a hand, as I know you would like to, in the work of salvage.

Yours sincerely,