Dear Rothschild,

I have looked through the report you sent me, though I rather feel there is not much to be got out of it. On the whole it would seem that discussion of general principles has been smothered in a mass of detail. The section on statistics, in spite of its appearing in the summary to have some importance, is only a couple of short paragraphs on page 41, and is disappointing in being too slight to give any information. One would like to know what opinion the statistician had formed as to the feasibility and actual adoption of competent design and as to the evidence that the data provide as to the successful execution of the plans made. All one learns is that for a time she was hampered by lack of calculating machines and that a good deal of impersonation seems to go on in the labour force.

The outline of the 1948-1949 programme seems, of course, entirely reasonable, but it would be more intelligible if it had been brought into relation with an account of such views and experiments as have been made available to the scheme by agricultural officers permanently stationed in the territory, and also if it had been brought explicitly into connection with the experiences gained in the first year. As it stands it might almost have been written in Whitehall.

[* Overseas Food Corporation, East African Groundnut Scheme, Report of the Scientific Department, 1947-1948.]*
These are my first impressions, but perhaps there are particular points which you would like me to examine more in detail.

I will return the report when I hear from you again.

Yours sincerely,