

26th August, 1952.

My dear Professor Verechuer,

It is a great pleasure to hear from you again and particularly to have your kind congratulations on my entirely unexpected honour. As you say, it is very heartening for us whose line of research is out of the main stream either of biological or mathematical investigation.

The training of students in quantitative Genetics, either for human or animal or plant applications has, of course, given me a great deal of thought, and I feel sure that in the case of blood group work one needs three ingredients, the order of importance being different for different students. (i) I am beginning to feel sure that personal experience with the care of animals is of much greater importance than it has been thought to be, and that a post-graduate year or two on some comparatively simple research problem in pure (or classical, or formal) Genetics is of very great educative value. Secondly, for young men or women of any mathematical ability, there is a great deal to be said for giving at least a year to training in an applied field of Statistics. This applied field may, of course, be one of the aspects of Genetics, but the aim here should be not lectures in remotely abstract ^{mathematical} Statistics, but the study of the quantitative methods used in ~~some~~ ^{scientific} chosen branch of the literature, where the statistical methods of some sort, often quite inadequate, have been employed. Thirdly, of course in serological work in

Human Genetics, the student cannot spend too much time in the serological laboratory, or in visiting the families of subjects whose blood is required on a research project. Of course, this makes a very tough programme for any young man in a hurry, but I do not believe any of these three aspects can be shirked without limiting the value of future research work.

I expect you have noticed in respect of the departments at the Lister Institute how the group round Race is concerned with genetical and technical serological problems, while that round Mourant is reaching out for the ethnographical applications. In my opinion they are both doing good first class work, and it would be a very great pleasure to me to do anything that I could to forward similar work in Germany.

Sincerely yours,