

September 30th: [1931]

P.S.

^{THE} CRIPPS'S CORNER,

FOREST ROW,

SUSSEX.

One line in reply is
all I want - about Mr Dowall's book

Dear Fester,

Shall I send you

Mac Dowall's book to review?

You must arrange with
more if necessary, but
two shall not be put on the
job. It is a school book,
but an original work, and
therefore does not, I suppose,
merit a long review. That
such a school book should
have been written is I
think a cheering circum-

= stance. He makes some mistakes at which you will not be surprised. At page 165 for example the industrial revolution was not caused by a rise in the birth rate but rather by a fall in the death rate. I hold that the ~~de~~crease in the birth rate has had little to do with taxation & a great deal to do with social ambition, which is a factor independent of the standard of living.

But there are many good things in the book.

You have understood what I meant about the sea: rice plants. But you must not trust to me for facts.

I was much interested and amused at Fred's account of the British Ass meeting. You need mind it no more than my father need have minded the Bishop's attack at the celebrated meeting at Oxford.

By the bye I want

someone to write a little
book like Ford's on Lomaxian
— not a long wrangle about
facts, but a serious discussion
on to how revolution could
thus have been brought about.
I have written out some notes,
but shall myself publish
nothing. Would it be worth
while for me to try to incite
Ford to write such a book?
Or is there any other more
capable man? I would rather
not incite any of our hygiene
crew to write such a book,
though I hope Mac Bride's name

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^{would}
~~had~~ be mentioned as little
as possible, it might cause
another row with him. Do
you think I could move
usefully, anyhow in this
direction?

You are right in
thinking that I want to
keep out of the more business
as much as I can. I feel
that now I am very much
of an outsider, it is both
wise & right to interfere

as little as possible in the
internal politics of the
Society. I saw what I believe
is the circular you mention
& I write to Mallet about it.
Whether I was wise to do so
I am not sure for I feel
much puzzled. The high opinion
of him held by you and Cutter,
^{influences me greatly.}
though my own ⁱⁿcluded estimate
of him is different in some
respects. Any how we must
treat him fairly, and as long as
he is with us he should have
a fairly good salary.

Our estimated income in the
future keeps going down & down
and this fact must be held in view
yours L. D. (Jan 8. 48)