20 October 1930.

Maj. L. Darwin, Sc.D., Cripps's Corner, Forest Row, Sussex.

Dear Major Darwin,

I ought to have known that my letter would worry you, as indeed I might have foreseen. It was very ill-expressed. I suppose it is useless now to ask you to put the matter out of your mind, so may I suggest that when you do return to consider it, about which I hope you will on no account hurry, you might tell me, what I think would clear the matter up for me, whether you draw any distinction between using the Twitchin money for research, and using it to release other income for that purpose. You will understand that those of us who believe that at least occasional and exceptionally favourable opportunities of furthering research should be seized, might have regarded it as beyond our reach so long as propaganda work was not otherwise provided for, though thinking that when that condition was fulfilled, it was our clear duty.

Thanks for your kind comment on Punnett's review. I think you suggest that a rejoinder would in all probability be unwise. That was my own view before I looked at his statements in detail. I am now doubtful. I enclose a possible letter to "Nature",

which I am inclined not to send in if you so advise.

The distinction I have in mind is between tidying uptroublesome trifles now, and leaving serious scientific criticism to be dealt with later as further facts become known.

Yours sincerely,