

6 October 1936.

Major L. Darwin, Sc.D.,
Cripps's Corner,
FOREST ROW,
Sussex.

Dear Major Darwin,

I though Mallet took an unexpectedly strong line with MacBride, but on the whole a wise one. The thing is to see that if the matter is rediscussed in Council, we should stick to the decision arrived at.

I agree with you most entirely as to the value of such a census as you suggest, and I wonder if workhouse admission records of 15 years ago would give what you want. I should prefer not to take a war year. Lidbetter might be consulted on this. We have spent a great deal on visitors collecting not very illuminating pedigrees, and they might hunt up a sample of 50 or 100 at least of such children. Nearly all would have been till recently in the workhouse school.

I do not see that you can take all the blame off Blacker. An opponent of eugenics only need quote an unfavourable opinion arrived at on purely scientific grounds, whether strong or weak, and give an impression that the scientific basis of eugenics is riddled with criticism. We have no excuse for

making a bad use of the scientific opinions which have been expressed; it comes from mixing up science with propaganda, but then hasty and timid minds do mix things up. At all events he has given me the feeling that he is the worst kind of ally to have at one's back in a set-to.

Do you not think too, it will be a little hard on Mrs Collyer?

Yours sincerely,