

July 25-29

CRIPPS'S CORNER,

FOREST ROW,

SUSSEX.

My dear Fisher.

I am glad she went well yesterday. Of course it may need some compromise to get an agreement, but I hope that such will be obtained. It seemed to me that few if any of the Council had taken the trouble to remind themselves of what now appears in the Outline under the heading of "Family Limitation of the Less Fit", and "Superior Stocks". I did not wish to call too much attention to these lest someone should say that they also should be amended.

But you should have them clearly
in your own mind, though, I
take it, it is out of your province
to touch them.

Please consider whether the
heading Family Allowance could
with advantage be changed to
Family Insurance. I think that
describes best what you mean.
I should not mind the Government
doing it under conditions, which
would however never obtain.

A certain percentage of wages
deducted, above a minimum
wage, and payments in
proportion to receipts.

Are you joining the new
Family Endowment Society?

So far I am not.

On a different-point. I am probably seeing Dr. Lewis soon, and want to talk heredity with him, in the hope that he will be employed under a R. Commission. I think your point is that the difference between the correlation with parent and uncle gives a good test of heredity. I agree in all cases where contact does not count for much. If a father has become a criminal and the uncle has not, this may be to a considerable extent a question of chance; and I think there is no doubt that being brought up in a criminal home would make for criminality. Such an argument does not apply to mental defect. Hence I see far greater difficulty in estimating heredity in regard to pauperism or crime than in

The case of mental defect: Do you agree? One other point. Miss Comy, who sees a lot of case papers, is on the whole struck with the absence of the signs of heredity. Probably she sees a good many upper class cases. Take 2 possibilities. M.D. is the result of say 5 ^{particular} alloforms all coming together, all recessive; or, alternatively it is the result of 5 recessive alloforms out of a group of 10 factors coming together. I have an idea that with the second type ~~of~~ alternative, mental defect would appear more unexpectedly out of apparently good stock than with the first case. Is there any way of distinguishing the sudden appearance of a group of recessives from a damage due to bad environment? Don't answer unless you have some words of wisdom for me
Yours sincerely J. Darwin