

May 4. 35

CRIPPS'S CORNER,  
FOREST ROW,  
SUSSEX.

My dear Fisker.

I have not troubled you with a letter for a long time, though I feel there is a subject on which I should have suppressed my feelings long ago. I know that it was you that originated the idea that certain research studentships should be called after me, a fact from which I have derived much pleasure. I did write to the Council to express my gratitude, twice I think, but I felt I was doing it very clumsily. And I think the difficulty of putting my thoughts adequately into words has been the underlying reason why I have not written to you. I think you know that I

have always urged that propaganda should be the main aim of our Society, because research is both more entertaining and profitable, and might drive its rival out of the field. Moreover research is better done by a University than by a Society. But, though these are still my views, I think they need not militate against what has been done; both because it does not go too far, and because of the precautions taken in connection with these scholarships. I think I may, therefore, enjoy my scholarships and stick to my views.

I see signs that you are as busy as ever. You are going to speak at the Annual Meeting, I think, and I wish I could be there to hear you. You kindly sent me some of your recent 'productans'; but

I must confess they were a little above my head!

I have been amusing myself by looking over some of my old deliverances, and in doing so I came across the Enclosed. I think it was a Memo. I sent to the Medical Research Council when urging them to take up Stocktaking, which they refused to do. If you get time to glance through it, I should rather like to know whether you still agree with it in the main. I think you would be more inclined to trust to the ordinary medical inspections than I am. They seem to me, from what I can learn, to be carried on in a most perfectly and irregular manner, and the standards might vary greatly from decade to decade, as well as from place to place. Hence

I am inclined to place very little  
reliance in them. I do not  
know when I wrote this, which  
I do not want retained. It  
being, don't trouble your head about  
it.

I hope all goes well with  
your family. Here things go on  
much as usual, a little  
conspicuous about odd jobs is  
all I do.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel Dawson

I have been reading Dynamics of  
Population, Loveman & Osborn - rather  
a tough job, not yet finished. It seems  
to me to confirm the views that I believe  
you & I hold in common. I think the  
greater ease with which individuals  
can now rise in the social scale is one  
of the causes of the fall in the birth  
rate which I do not think he mentions.