

In the frame

[? Early 1926]

Dear Fisher

If a man who died of typhus had not done so because he failed to meet that microbe, then I agree with all you say. But if he did not so die because that microbe had ceased to exist, then the death rate of such men for all other causes would be raised because that cause had ceased to exist. Don't answer, and let me have my Devonshire holiday with the belief that just this once I am right and you are wrong on such a point!!!

Yours sincerely

L Darwin

P. S. to my letter.

With animals fertility is such that an increase in the size of the family causes an equal increase in the juvenile death rate.

It is much the same with labourers.

When the labourer's son marries it causes little ^{or} ^{contra} ^{no} strain on him.

With castes with acquired wealth only, ~~the wealth will come to be distributed in~~ the wealth per head does come to be a fixed amount.

Then an increase in the size of the family causes a ^{nearly} equal decrease in the number married; few numbers affect the death rate little.

The parents have to make considerable sacrifices for each child married.

Will not this make the optimum family when all wealth is acquired much smaller than the optimum family when as is in wages?

Very likely this is all bosh — but I fear I shall go on bothering you till my — book is gone to the printers.

L. Darwin