

September 26, 1939

My dear Ford,

I am afraid I have not heard anything further about the butterfly paper. I will try to when I get in touch with A.V.Hill.

Yesterday we mobilized Julian and tested 12 chimps at Regent's Park. With one we had tested before, these score 5 non-tasters out of 13, which, together with the Edinburgh material, makes 7 out of 19. It certainly seems to be working out not far from the human ratio, i.e., not nearly so far as one would expect from purely random survival after a period of about one million generations. Next Sunday morning we have an appointment to test some more at Whipsnade. If you cared to come, we should love to put you up Saturday night at Harpenden. I expect we may be starting the test about 11.15. Julian agrees about a letter to Nature, and is all on fire to test all sorts of other monkeys, but unless one has a longish series of the same species, one may easily fail by chance to recognise the dimorphism, and I think the interpretations of reactions must always be very doubtful unless

one has experience of other animals of the same species. So the chimps, which are fairly numerous, seem to me by far the most important animals to test. However, we are supplying the Zoo with sets of solutions so that they can test as widely as they like.

My Lab. is practically in a state of siege, evacuation having been ordered without any provision for alternative accommodation, although such could easily be found if the College were not concentrating on breaking the department up. Actually my assistants are now threatened that, if they come to their work here it will be regarded as a breach of the College regulations.

Hoping to see you on Saturday or Sunday,

Yours sincerely,