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Sir Ronald Fisher, F.R.S.,
44 Storeys Way,
Cambridge.

My dear Ron,

There are two points I want to consult you about. Firstly, I am hoping to get Sheppard to the U.S.A. next year on a Rockefeller Fellowship and the arrangements are well advanced for doing so. He needs the names of three or four people of repute who could be approached as referees to say that his work is of the appropriate standard. Would you be so very kind as to allow your name to go forward as one of them? As a matter of fact, Pomerat of the Rockefeller Foundation has seen Sheppard and formed a high opinion of him, so this would involve not more than a fairly brief statement on your behalf if they wrote to you.

The second point is that Chatterley tells me that you mark mice in your laboratories by clipping the ears. We have never done this. I assume that officially this is vivisection. Perhaps I am wrong about that? If it is, do you do it under a licence or do you not trouble about ~~that~~? I should like to make sure about the point before starting it here.

Yours ever,

