

Please keep

Zoological Society of London.

Regent's Park.

London, N.W.8.

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JULIAN S. HUXLEY, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

4th March 1940.

OUR REF. JSH/GG.
YOUR REF.

Professor H. J. Muller,
Institute of Animal Genetics,
King's Buildings,
West-Mains Road,
Edinburgh, 9.

Professor Mac Bick
who has always offered
Mendelism & the chromosome
theory of heredity, was
Huxley's only ally in writing
instructions for Muller.

My dear Hermann,

1. The enclosed is rather funny! I also enclose a copy of my answer. Could you let me have a brief note on the culture of *Drosophila* for the old boy, or give me a reference to where it can be looked up, if this would save you trouble? I understand from James Gray that he has got very old in the last six months; but it would be amusing to see what he does!

Justifying
conflict of
science &
Dunn

2. With regard to your position, I spoke to a great many people in U.S.A., including the Rockefeller, Dunn, Conant, etc. etc. It looks as if it would be very difficult to secure a post, even temporary, in U.S.A., though one might possibly be available at Cold Spring Harbor if the Rockefeller would put up the money.

On the other hand (please treat this as confidential) both Dunn, and Weaver of the Rockefeller, made the point that they thought that it should be possible to remedy your difficulties much better by means of help given to you at Edinburgh, either in the way of additional salary, money for laboratory attendants, or the endowment of a young man or woman qualified in *Drosophila* work. Weaver said that they were already financing two Poles at Edinburgh and that he thought there should be no difficulty in their working with you as a team. Dunn added that he thought it would be in your own interest not to go to America if you could stay in Britain, as there had been moving about rather

*Please keep*Professor H. J. Muller.

in the last few years and that it would be better for your scientific reputation to stay in one place.

Can you let me know what you think about this and in what way financial or other assistance might enable you to carry on fairly reasonably in Edinburgh, because I think that till this is thoroughly looked into there is very little chance of getting money for supporting you in U.S.A.

Weaver, if he is well enough, or otherwise Tisdale or Miller, will be coming to Britain within the next six weeks to look into the whole question of what branches of science which are being interfered with by the war should receive special help, and I think there is no question that your work will be among them. I have spoken to the Secretaries of the Royal and to the B.A. people and we have decided on a plan of campaign. An unofficial Committee to make a list of the most suitable researches for recommending to Rockefeller is being prepared and I am acting on that Committee, so that if you send in the statement to me it will be all in order. Please treat this as confidential as, since the Committee is unofficial, we do not want it to get abroad too much.

If you know of any other outstanding work either in your own field or elsewhere in British science which you think ought to be helped along, please let me know.

3. I hear that the complimentary copy of "THE NEW SYSTEMATICS" and the 50 reprints will be going out in the near future to contributors. The book has had to be priced at £1. 1. 0. as it is nearly 600 instead of the expected 400 pages long.

Is there any chance of your being up in London in the near future? I should like to see you.

What has happened to Crew?

Ever yours,

Julian Huxley

*8th June 1941
Before the Rockefeller people
emerge? It might be
advisable to have
an official letter
from him as
well as one from
you*