

JOHN INNES HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTION

MOSTYN ROAD, MERTON PARK, LONDON, S.W.19

~~From the Director,~~ DR C. D. DARLINGTON. LIBerty 3645

11.III.1943

Dear Professor,

Your letter about the examinership puts me in somewhat of a quandry. I am loth to take on any extra work, especially in summer, as we are understaffed at the Institution; but I am also, as you know, anxious to do all I can to help spread the gospel among young and potential scientists.

There is, however, one point which occurs to me and which may settle the question in my mind. The juxtaposition of "Accountancy" and "Elementary Statistical Methods" suggests that the latter are concerned with, and mainly taken by, students of, commercial and industrial matters. If this is so, I should be a most unsuitable examiner as I have no experience of what is needed (though doubtless the principles are the same) or of how attempts at improvement should be directed. Furthermore, while I feel that my time can be devoted with profit to assisting the teaching of sound statistics to prospective scientists, I cannot think that I could justify any expenditure of it on other ^{kind of} students.

Perhaps we can discuss the matter in more detail on Tuesday next, when I hope also to have an opportunity to ask you a number of questions about your theorem of Natural Selection, which I am trying to get straight in my mind. If, however, you must reply before then, I think that, in view of the possibilities set out above, I must ask you not to recommend me for the position.

Yours sincerely

K. ree