

13 September 1939.

J.R.Copland Esq.,
22, Gilmore Place,
Edinburgh.

Dear Sir,

Dr.Riddell, the ophthalmologist of Glasgow, tells me that you are in charge of the blood transfusion empanelling centres for Edinburgh. I dare say you are already in touch with Dr.G.L.Taylor of this department, now at Cambridge at work chiefly on supplying the large quantities of testing fluids required.

What I am writing about in particular is to arrange with you in advance, if you will, to let us have the numbers recorded for the four groups, for men and women separately. For London we have so far obtained records for nearly 60,000, and such a body of data is obviously of great scientific importance. Its examination at the moment is, however, important in another respect in that comparison of the frequencies recorded from different laboratories working in the same town, provides a good first check on the accuracy of the grouping, and this, as is well known, may fail either through the inexperience of some of the workers, or through unsuspected lack of potency in the sera used.

This last point, however, though an administrative convenience, is not my personal concern, which is merely to make sure that valuable data are preserved and recorded. I am glad to offer the computing facilities here, if I can be of any service to you in this way.

Yours sincerely,

R.A.Fisher.
Galton Professor.