

21st December, 1953.

My dear Darmais,

Thank you for your letter and for letting me know of Dugue's appointment in Paris. This, as you will have guessed, gives me the liveliest satisfaction.

It was also, as you know, a source of great pleasure to have been last summer in a position to nominate you as President of the International Institute. I had, during the previous year confirmed my belief that this appointment would be very widely applauded but I felt myself unexpectedly fortunate in being on the nominating committee.

I hope you thought we made a good choice on the more difficult question of an Italian member of the Bureau. I had a high opinion of Boldrini's demographical researches in the inter-war period, but I did not know him personally. Moreover, the opinions Italians form of each other seem to be somewhat capricious. When I met Boldrini I was glad we had made this choice.

You will have noticed that as we left the situation, there was no member of the Bureau from the United States, or from Asia.

Of course, statisticians in Asia are not yet very numerous though the subject is studied in India and Japan, and we have had an Indian, Mahalanobis as a member of the Bureau. At a later stage there should be a suitable Japanese available.

Perhaps, also, it would be worth thinking ^{whether} the Bureau should not be enlarged so as to give the many participating nations a more frequent representation.

With best wishes for Christmas. to you and to Rodolfo Damico.

Sincerely yours,