

21st August, 1935

Dear Dr O'Brien,

I had a long talk with Mr Tómassen, and from what he said of the completeness and extent of the Icelandic pedigrees I formed the opinion that the available material would be unique for a variety of problems connected with genealogical statistics. For strictly genetical points, however, I doubt if his material has any real advantage over what could be obtained in any other part of the world. It is, perhaps, in the genealogical aspect of sociology that the greatest potential value lies of the research he is planning.

I understood from Dr Tómasson that, in consultation with you and others, he was drawing up plans which he would like to discuss with me later. I have not, however, yet received any further detail than could be elicited in an interview, but I should be glad to give him all possible help in getting the utmost value out of the body of genealogical material which seems to be available.

Yours sincerely,