

Postmark was Rohtak, Haryana.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Jamnagar House, Mansingh Road,
NEW DELHI. 14 January, 1953.

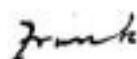
Dear Ron,

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I am enclosing a suggested foot note for the last report of the U.N. Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling. The matter has arisen because the U.K. General Registrar's Office objected to our remarks about the use of the sampling numbers 25 and 76 only. Campion is bringing the matter up before the Statistical Commission.

I will be glad to know of whether you approve of the proposed wording, which as far as I can see meets of the objections of the General Registrar's Office.

Yours sincerely,



(F. YATES)

Professor Sir Ronald Fisher,
Department of Genetics,
Whittingehame Lodge,
Storey's Way,
Cambridge.

Footnote to paragraph 101 of the Report (ECN.3/140) on the Fifth
Session of the Sub-Commission on Statistical
Sampling

Since this Report of the Sub-Commission was issued, a full report on the One Per Cent Sample Tables of the 1951 Census of Great Britain has been published (Census 1951; Great Britain; One Per Cent Sample Tables; Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1952). The details contained in this report were not, of course, available to the Sub-Commission when it met in Calcutta. The Introduction to Part I of the British Report shows that the dangers of the kind mentioned by the Sub-Commission in paragraph 101 are not likely to have affected the British sample in any material respect. In other circumstances, however, appreciable biases might be introduced by the procedure then followed, even if (as is essential and was in fact the case in the British Census) alteration in the order of visitation can be excluded. Such biases may be avoided if a random sequence of the numbers 00-99 is taken, the numbers of this sequence being allocated in turn to the districts listed in any predetermined order. A district allocated the number 42, for example, would then select households numbered 42, 142, 242, etc. A refinement which approximately halves the sampling variance is to take for each pair of districts a random pair of complementary numbers adding up to 101, as in the British Census, but embracing all 50 pairs. Each of the two districts then takes one of the complementary pair allocated at random.