

21st March, 1955.

My dear Chester,

Thanks for your letter about the syllabus for biometricians. I wonder if it is worth while my making one or two points in which the immense efficiency of the publicity apparatus developed in your country seems sometimes to ride roughshod over the interests of non-Americans. The sixth entry in your list is, "The t, F and χ^2 distributions"; of these certainly χ^2 should be put first, both in order of time of discovery, and as being logically precedent to the other two. ^{In} ~~As~~ regards to the use of symbol F, may I call your attention to the short note which appears in Statistical Methods 12th edition, pages 226 and 227, which I was led to put in as several French writers had been so misguided as to contrast the "method of Snedecor" with the "method of Fisher". They had doubtless been taught that the former was an improvement on the latter. The seventh entry, in my opinion, should read, "Fiducial distribution and confidence intervals" so as to avoid the notion that Neyman, as has been claimed for him by his colleague Pearson, had any part in originating the derivation of fiducial distribution; though he did introduce the terms 'confidence intervals', 'confidence zones', 'confidence limits' etc., for the limits at which certain tests of significance attained critical values.

On a later page, (2), under Genetics I should suggest, "Partitioning of χ^2 and analysis of Biometrical Variance", since it was in the biometrical case that the notion of the analysis of variance was first employed, and I should not like to give the