

12. EDBERTON PLACE

S. 1. 3.

14th October, 1920.

My dear Fisher,

I saw Dr. Greenwood yesterday, and had a talk with him about your paper. He says that he fears that the Statistical Society could not take it, because they have to cater for an audience many of whom could not understand it, and they therefore have to limit the number of highly technical articles.

He would, however, be glad to send it on to Professor Gini for insertion in 'Metron', if you would care to modify it in certain respects.

In the first place, there must be some introduction, which I know you have had in view. In the second place, he would like certain phrases modified. He says that a great deal of friction arises between statisticians in consequence of the way they state things rather than because of the substance of what they state. He thinks you might put several sentences in a less provocative way. For instance, you speak of someone's interpretation of your remarks being "so erroneous etc. etc.". Could not you say that "this was certainly not the meaning I intended to convey", or something like that? Again, you imply that your opponents have criticised you without reading your paper, and Dr. Greenwood thinks that such implications merely irritate without doing good. In fact, he will recommend publication if all that is provocative is taken out, whilst everything that is mathematical remains in.

If I have expressed this rather clumsily please put it down to me and not to Dr. Greenwood, who spoke very nicely. He would like the article soon, and you had better send it to his address, which is :- Hill Crest, Loughton, Essex.

Yours sincerely,

Lemuel Dawkins