

- FISHER, R. A. (1971–74). *Collected Papers of R. A. Fisher* 1–5 (J. H. Bennett, ed.). Univ. Adelaide.
- FRY, T. C. (1928). *Probability and Its Engineering Applications*. van Nostrand, New York.
- GINGERICH, O. (1973). Copernicus and Tycho. *Scientific American* **229** 86–101.
- GOSSET, W. S. (1908). Probable error of a correlation coefficient. *Biometrika* **6** 302–310.
- HAILPERIN, T. (1976). *Boole's Logic and Probability*. North-Holland, Amsterdam.
- HARDY, G. F. (1889). Letter. *Insurance Record* 457. (Reprinted, *Trans. Faculty Actuaries* **8** 180–181, 1920.)
- JEFFREYS, H. (1939). *Theory of Probability*. Clarendon Press, Oxford. (2nd ed., 1948; 3rd ed., 1967.)
- JEVONS, W. S. (1877). *The Principles of Science*, 2nd ed. Macmillan, London.
- KEYNES, J. M. (1921). *A Treatise on Probability*. Macmillan, London.
- KOESTLER, A. (1959). *The Sleepwalkers*. Macmillan, New York.
- MILL, J. S. (1843). *A System of Logic, Ratiocinative and Inductive, Being a Connected View of the Principles of Evidence and the Methods of Scientific Investigation*. John W. Parker, London. (Many later editions.)
- MONTMORT, P. R. (1713). *Essai d'analyse sur les jeux de hazards*, 2nd ed. Jacques Quillan, Paris. (1st ed., 1708.)
- NEYMAN, J. (1929). Contribution to the theory of certain test criteria. *Bull. Internat. Statist. Inst.* **24** 3–48.
- NEYMAN, J. (1934). On the two different aspects of the representative method: The method of stratified sampling and the method of purposive selection. *J. Roy. Statist. Soc.* **97** 558–625.
- NEYMAN, J. and PEARSON, E. S. (1928). On the use of interpretation of certain test criteria for purposes of statistical inference. *Biometrika* **20** 175–240, 263–294.
- PASSMORE, J. (1968). *A Hundred Years of Philosophy*, 2nd ed. Penguin, New York.
- PEARSON, K. (1892). *The Grammar of Science*. Walter Scott, London. (2nd ed., 1900; 3rd ed., 1911.)
- PEARSON, K. (1907). On the influence of past experience on future expectation. *Philos. Mag.* (6) **13** 365–378.
- PEARSON, K. (1920). The fundamental problem of practical statistics. *Biometrika* **13** 1–16.
- PLACKETT, R. L. (1983). Karl Pearson and the chi-squared test. *Internat. Statist. Rev.* **51** 59–72.
- PORTER, T. M. (1986). *The Rise of Statistical Thinking: 1820–1900*. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N.J.
- PRATT, J. W. (1976). F. Y. Edgeworth and R. A. Fisher on the efficiency of maximum likelihood estimation. *Ann. Statist.* **4** 501–514.
- RAMSEY, F. P. (1926). Truth and Probability. In *The Foundations of Mathematics and Other Logical Essays* (R. B. Braithwaite, ed.) 156–198. Routledge and Kegan Paul, London (1931).
- REID, C. (1982). *Neyman—From Life*. Springer, New York.
- ROOT-BERNSTEIN, R. S. (1983). Mendel and methodology. *History of Science* **21** 275–295.
- ROTHMAN, T. (1982). Genius and biographers: the fictionalization of Évariste Galois. *Amer. Math. Monthly* **89** 84–106.
- SALMON, W. C. (1981). John Venn's *Logic of Chance*. In *Probabilistic Thinking, Thermodynamics and the Interaction of the History and Philosophy* (J. Hintikka, D. Gruender and E. Agazzi, eds.) **2** 125–138. Reidel, Dordrecht.
- SAVAGE, L. J. (1976). On re-reading R. A. Fisher (with discussion). *Ann. Statist.* **3** 441–500.
- SEAL, H. L. (1967). The historical development of the Gauss linear model. *Biometrika* **54** 1–24.
- SHAFER, G. (1976). *A Mathematical Theory of Evidence*. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N.J.
- STIGLER, S. M. (1978). Francis Ysidro Edgeworth, statistician (with discussion). *J. Roy. Statist. Soc. Ser. A* **141** 287–322.
- STIGLER, S. M. (1982). Thomas Bayes's Bayesian inference. *J. Roy. Statist. Soc. Ser. A* **145** 250–258.
- STIGLER, S. M. (1986). *The History of Statistics: The Measurement of Uncertainty Before 1900*. Harvard Univ. Press, Cambridge, Mass.
- TODHUNTER, I. (1865). *A History of the Mathematical Theory of Probability*. Macmillan, London. (Reprinted by Chelsea, New York, 1949.)
- VENN, J. (1866). *The Logic of Chance*. Macmillan, London. (2nd ed., 1876; 3rd ed., 1888; reprinted by Chelsea, New York, 1962.)
- VON KRIES, J. (1886). *Die Prinzipien der Wahrscheinlichkeitsrechnung. Eine Logische Untersuchung*. Freiburg. (2nd ed., Tübingen, 1927.)
- VON WRIGHT, G. H. (1941). *The Logical Problem of Induction*. Finnish Literary Soc., Helsinki. (2nd rev. ed. Macmillan, New York, 1957.)
- WHITTAKER, E. T. (1920). On some disputed questions of probability (with discussion). *Trans. Faculty Actuaries* **77** 163–206.
- WHITWORTH, W. A. (1897). *DCC Exercises in Choice and Chance*. (Reprinted by Hafner, New York, 1965.)
- WHITWORTH, W. A. (1901). *Choice and Chance*, 5th ed. George Bell and Sons, London.
- WINSOR, C. P. (1947). Probability and listerism. *Human Biology* **19** 161–169.

## Comment

Robin L. Plackett

Sandy Zabell deserves our thanks for discovering further details of what Boole, Venn and Chrystal wrote on the subject of inverse probability, for explain-

---

*Robin L. Plackett is Emeritus Professor of Statistics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne. His mailing address is: 57 Highbury, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3LN, United Kingdom.*

ing why Fisher could not have relied on them to provide consistent arguments against this form of statistical inference and for an analysis of how far Fisher's claims concerning the eclipse of inverse probability are justified. Like everything else connected with Fisher, matters are indeed complex, and Zabell's paper provides a good topic for discussion.

At the height of his career, Fisher was certainly familiar with what mattered in developments of