

PREFACE TO THE TED HARRIS ISSUE

Theodore Edward Harris, or “Ted” as he was known, was one of the great innovators of 20th century probability theory. His philosophy was always to develop a deep understanding of a model or a topic, before starting to write a paper about it. As a result, he wrote relatively few papers, but in a strikingly high proportion of those papers, his results built the foundation for enormous advances, in widely disparate areas of probability theory.

This memorial volume contains three articles describing Ted’s work and its influence. The first, by Tom Liggett, focuses on interacting particle systems and percolation theory. The second, by Peter Baxendale, examines Markov processes (particularly issues of recurrence) and stochastic flows. The third, by Krishna Athreya and Peter Ney, focuses on branching processes.

Thanks to Kenneth Alexander for his help in assembling this issue.

—The Editors—