

first volume, a substantial treatise covering the main body of the theory will be available.

The treatment is occasionally lacking in exactitude and rigor, though it compares favorably in this respect with many books on mathematics and mathematical physics, and is enormously above the general level of books on statistics. The volume is printed in England, with a rather luxuriously pleasing use of display formulae and wide margins on large pages. However there is no table of contents in this first volume, and typographical errors seem unusually numerous. A particularly troublesome one is the omission of the subscript n from v in the second integral in line 7 of p. 112; this should be remedied by each owner of a copy, since the meaning of the Helly-Shohat-Fréchet theorem is involved. The continued fraction for the normal probability integral is derived on p. 129 by Laplace's method instead of by the more satisfactory argument of Jacobi, and one of the useful series for this integral is not included at all. The advice on p. 336 not to use the standard error of the correlation coefficient unless n exceeds 500 is excessively conservative when ρ is small.

The author follows the practice of defining the variance of a sample as the simple mean of the squares of the deviations from the mean. This saves trouble for the author and the reader, in their capacities as such, but makes no end of trouble for them or anyone else who undertakes to substitute observations in the formula thus simply laid down. Use of a denominator less by unity than the sample number has distinct advantages.

Previous relevant writings are occasionally ignored—as often happens in a science built up from contributions scattered through multitudinous journals devoted largely to applications. The statement on p. 250 that no previous systematic account had been given of methods for deriving sampling distributions neglects a paper by B. H. Camp in the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* for 1937.

With these qualifications, which can easily be taken care of by a competent teacher, or in later editions by the author and publishers, the book is an outstanding landmark and promises to be of the utmost value in advancing knowledge of the theory of statistics.

HAROLD HOTELLING

A handbook of perspective drawing. By James C. Morehead and James C. Morehead, Jr. Pittsburgh, J. C. Morehead, 1941. 3+166 pp. \$4.50.

Perspective being a central projection, the *Handbook* denotes by *picture plane*, *station point*, and *station-point distance* the plane of