

13 December 1934.

Professor J.S.Huxley,  
King's College,  
Strand,  
W.C.1.

Dear Huxley,

We had a very small meeting this afternoon of the Measurements Committee, only Calman, Pearson and myself attending. We went through the leaflet, amending it as suggested, apart from a few further points. The question of adding to our references to methods in Section D was left to Pearson and myself to report on later. One section, the first half of page 2; received some discussion and we shall want your help to give it a satisfactory form.

It was thought that the penultimate paragraph, from "naturally" to "statistical", seemed to assert that what was physiological could not be also statistical and that, if this was deleted, a first paragraph, before that on genetics, might run as follows:-

"(a) The technique of experimentation . The use of adequate replication and control is fundamental to the technique of biological experimentation. The interpretation of the results is, for this reason, liable to raise statistical problems. To foresee these ,

and the tests of significance which will be needed, contributes greatly to the setting up of experiments sufficiently well designed to lead to conclusive results".

If you think this is an improvement you may think the three short sections, c, d, and e, deserve to be reconsidered, and as the part played by statistics in each line is much the same as in the others, might perhaps be treated in one comprehensive paragraph.

What do you think of a meeting in the second half of January? Galman and Pearson expect to be able to come. In regards the printing of the new edition, I have been asked to write to Howarth saying that the Committee propose to recommend the Council to print the new edition on a page and in a style equivalent to 'Biometrika' or to most biological journals, and to ask if he has any objection to our obtaining estimates for this. As the Association has doubtless made a profit on the first edition, I think we have a claim for more adequate production.

We invited Bliss to attend for a time and make a statement on the difficulties he has met with in gathering the original data on toxicological experiments. Later we invited him to propose an additional example from this field for our foreword.

I think that is all I have to report, but I should like your opinion on one suggestion. We badly want Editors to cooperate, both for the archives and for the leaflet. Galman asked me to write to some of them, and possibly some good can be done

in this way again. Now would it be possible to get a number of editors, e.g. the two Secretaries of the Linnean, I think you have an official editor for the Zoological proceedings, and a number of other living near London, to attend a meeting of the Committee? I feel convinced that if we could get any number to attend they would see the common sense of giving us material help, but I am doubtful as to how many we could get together. What do you think of this?

Yours sincerely,