

DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY

From Mr. L. G. Wickham Legg

New College, Oxford

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Dear Professor,

I have read your article on Karl Pearson with much attention, & I would like you to consider carefully some criticisms that occur to me about it.

1. Does it not unduly omit any estimate of Pearson's positive contributions to science? There is, on this side, practically nothing in the article except twelve contributions to Philosophical Transactions and the fact that for many years he edited Biometrika with great energy. Yet The Times obituary notice made no bones of calling him one of the last of the giants of the Victorian age, and I find it difficult to believe that it would have said that about him if there had not been more in his work than what you state.

2. I cannot help feeling that you have in certain places

allowed too much anemius to appear for what is required  
by the traditions of the Dictionary, & I have therefore made a  
new draft in which I have cut out some expressions which  
seem to me to be unnecessary & might well be taken as of-  
fensive. I enclose it so that you may compare it with your  
original draft, & very much hope you will be able to make  
amendments in the <sup>two</sup> directions which I have here suggested.

Yours very truly

L. G. Wickham Legg

Professor R. A. Fisher