Dear Professor Fisher,

I am sorry to have taken so long to answer your letter of November 23rd - as an opportunity offered I have been looking up Bliss's publication, and some of them have proved rather inaccessible.

Bliss certainly inverted the Working-Hotelling argument in his 1935 paper, but I doubt whether he then realised the general argument, since he went on using Gaddum's Pearsonian formula in comparative assays until 1944. Paulson gave the fiducial distribution of the ratio of two correlated normal estimates in 1942, but so did I in 1940; what led me to it then was needing to find fiducial limits in an insulin assay after doing a covariance correction; but I tried to write the result in a general form. I would of course take it as a compliment if in subsequent editions of Statistical Methods you referred to my note - I agree that the basic idea of equating the significance level of t to the expression (once one has found it) involving the unknown \( \alpha \) is a standard one; I think I first learnt it from S62 of Design of Experiments.

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44, Storey's Way,
Cambridge.
I have been going through some papers that I had to store when I left Nottingham in 1942, and have come across some copies of some tables that I had just finished calculating for the Pharmacology Department at Boots. Their object was to provide a rapid means of calculating a first approximation to a dosage-mortality line, using ordinates and weights calculated a la Gaddum from the observed mortalities. I have not rechecked the calculations (although as far as I remember they were fairly carefully checked at the time), but I am enclosing a marked copy now because there are some minor disagreements between them and Table I in the 2nd edition of Statistical Tables.

Yours sincerely,

J. C. Fielder

P.S. I had hoped to come to your Habilita??

where tonight, but my wife and small boy are both laid up, so I have to nurse them instead.