15th January, 1949

Dear Finney,

I expect you have found in England very considerable variation in the mathematical training and facility of students wanting to become acquainted with statistical mathematics. I expect you will find it to be the same, only more so, with a class in the United States. In my experience, most of them will be keen enough to go into quite elaborate detail especially if numerical material is given them to handle, but that they are generally rather weak on theoretical questions, though you will find a sprinkling highly trained on various very specialised lines of mathematical thought, such as Wald's sequential analysis. Their capacity to attend
lectures is enormous. They quite appreciate lucid exposition, but I do not think they easily reflect upon it with a view to seeing what can be done by the same means. I find it very helpful to discuss with them personal difficulties.

Yours sincerely,