Dear Fester,

A question has just arisen about the excess motion of the node of Venus. It is 3.5 times the standard error, the probability of a random deviation exceeding which is 0.0004. Edlén says that as it is one of 15 it can be accepted as random. The p. that one of 15 would exceed 3.5 is 0.006. What I should like to know from you is whether there is another case in record where a statistician has accepted a deviation beyond your 1½ limit as
random? (The other 14 give a $\chi^2$
of $n$.)

By my test the thing is probably random, in account of the large
number of observations entailed, but there's not much to spare, & the
situation could be altered if one specific systematic error was before
the house.

I should be grateful if you could send me some of your papers. I'm not
much interested in agriculture but I should particularly like the one
where you get the distribution of $X$

(2) the one where you introduced $

(3) one that looked mentioned to me the
other day about $X$ being distributed

nearly normally.

Yours sincerely,

H. Lewis Jefferys