

April 30, 1940

Dear Aitken,

I have received the enclosed letter, which explains itself, from Mr Wallace, the Superintendent of Examinations. The position is that University College is in a state of evacuation and, though I have access to the premises, I understand that "no infringement of the state of evacuation" is permitted. My own calculation machines are at Rothamsted, and I could give the candidate his practical examination here without any difficulties that I can foresee. I am inclined to suggest, if you agree, that the candidate should sit for his written examination in London with other candidates, though presumably not in the Department of Statistics, and should take his practical examination under my supervision here. On hearing from you, I should write to Pearson for his concurrence.

Please let me know quite frankly what you think, as I may not adequately apprehend the difficulties which the superintendent feels as to departing from precedent during war time.

Yours sincerely,



Mathematical Institute
16 Chambers Street
Edinburgh, 1

May 2, 1940.

Professor R. G. Fisher, F.R.S.

Dear Fisher,

Thank you for the letter from the Superintendent
of Examinations, which I return enclosed.

Precedent cannot be adhered to without some deviations
under present conditions. Your suggestion, that this
External Student from Belfast should sit the written
examination in London under suitable supervision, and
the practical examination at Rothamsted under your own
supervision, seems to me a very good one. You can take
it that I am in full agreement.

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Aitken.