

Encl.

3.



54 Braid Road,  
Edinburgh 10.  
June 16, 1937.

Dear Fisher,

I return to you without delay the typescript of my draft on Sheppard, as modified by you. Doubtless my original draft bore the impress of haste, and your insertions and modifications have improved it. I would prefer, however, to be less overt in the last sentence of the opening paragraph ; and I think my first version, which I cut down before sending to you but which I now re-enclose in full, is a fair statement, and meets the case. You will observe that I have put the names in non-committal alphabetical order.

The truth is that I am timid in controversy. You have been in the arena, have laid about you with Chestertonian zest, and by winning your contests have earned the right to pull down any unauthorized flags ; but I have been a mere spectator, and a late one at that, of these contests, and I have no claim to censure errors which I had no part in eradicating, and by which I myself was for a certain time deceived. I remembering reading with horrified delight your use of the son's data, on the experimental verification of Bayes' theorem, to prove the father's error in regard to reduced degrees of freedom in the fourfold table. Vicarious ammunition !

Please excuse me therefore if I prefer that the enclosed version of the first paragraph should stand.

I liked Sheppard very much ; modest, serious and sincere. I missed him when he left Edinburgh.

Yours sincerely,  
*A. C. Aitken*

A.C.A.

June 18, 1937

Dear Aitken,

Many thanks for returning your Sheppard typescript so quickly. I entirely agree with you on the first paragraph, and am very glad you have been able to reword it so successfully.

Yours sincerely,