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§ June 1933.

Dr. Whately Carrington,  
Calandstraat 64,  
ROTTERDAM,  
Holland.

Dear Dr. Whately Carrington:

Tell me first if you are connected with one Whately Smith, who was speaking of somewhat similar work a few years ago.

On your problem my ordinary answer is "Go ahead, and post the difficulty". So far though I am not sure you are not overstressing the test of significance, i.e. the calculation of P. Such a test is essential; all reasonable probability that the apparent result is due to chance must be excluded, before these results are further discussed; but this further discussion is equally vital. Now P as you have defined it shows that the word association, or the psycho-galvanic reflex, or the reaction time is different in the different states, (supposing P was very small of course), and it would be surprising if some ~~of these~~ or all of them<sup>sc</sup>, the difference was not so pronounced as to make P very small.

Having overcome all statistical difficulties, however, that is having very small values for P and no doubt as to their

validity, what sort of comparisons do the data provide for the next step? I have to ask this as suggestions I make on the preliminary point may be worse than useless, *when the main aim is properly grasped.*

Yours sincerely,