

April 9, 1937

Dear Bradford Hill,

You are mistaken about the erudite character of the buyers who have made Statistical Methods a successful book. They are practical men, who want handy methods simply explained. I regard the legend that it is an advanced book as an injurious one, put about carelessly by some, and deliberately by others.

These are not reasons for refusing permission to permission to use the χ^2 table. From the first my publishers and I have given this permission freely, and the tables - or some of them - must have been reproduced now in at least 20 books in different languages. The normal conditions are:

1) that reference to the book, author and publisher be made on the page on which the table is printed, and in the preface, and

2) that copies of the book should be sent, on publication, to myself and to Oliver and Boyd, and that this should be repeated at any subsequent edition.

If you care to write to Oliver & Boyd, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh, stating that I have specified these conditions to you, I have no doubt they will give their consent.

I am very glad to hear about your book. It, and probably others like it, are certainly much needed. I do not know if you know Donald Mainland, who has, I understand, a work on tests of significance in medicine now in the hands of the publishers. I do not believe there is a word of truth in the ^{belief} ~~statement~~ that such books compete with one another; in fact, if about 12 people conspired together, all to write books with sufficiently similar titles, they would probably all become best sellers, just through impressing the general public with the belief that ^{this subject} ~~this was~~ something interesting that they ought to know about.

Yours sincerely,