

St John's College
Cambridge

Jan 8 (1942)

Dear Fisher,

The list of R.S. candidates has just come, and I see that I am not down as a supporter of Mahalanobis. Did I forget to sign his form or has somebody else slipped? I know I meant to. It would be possible to get my name added to the actual form at this stage by writing to the Society. It does occasionally make a slight difference whether a particular person signs or not.

I have just been looking at the Bionetlike review of my book. I am sure you & Neyman will both be pleased at the unqualified statement that you are in complete agreement. It is odd that not a single reviewer has

commented on what I say again &
again, that the use of numbers to
express probabilities is the choice of
a language. The critics say that
they disagree with me, but my object has
been to state rules for a language that
will be simpler than the usual ones
but agree in outline with the results.
To attack me they should produce
cases where they disagree, not with the
assessments of prior probabilities, but
with the results that they lead to.
I am pretty sure that if any statistician
differs seriously from any of my
results I could produce an equally
influential one that agrees.

Best New Year's wishes

Yours
Herold Jefferys.