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Dr Clarke courageously sets out to explain elementary statistical methods. This is disarmingly described as an attempt by an "O" Level mathematician to explain statistical concepts to others of similar level. In general it is a very good attempt, but there are a few small points which may prove misleading. Thus, the example chosen to illustrate the ordinary test for four-fold tables includes an expectation of only 2.9 in one cell. The result is a  $\chi^2$  corresponding to a probability of 0.005. If Yates's adjustment is used, however, the probability is increased to 0.013, and the exact test gives 0.010. It is a pity that the example selected should be one in which such refinements do make a real difference. Again, the exact test for fourfold tables is described in terms of a two-tailed test, which must be very unusual compared with its much commoner application as a one-tailed test.

These minor criticisms are only made because it seems certain that a third edition will soon be called for. The book is a fine and stimulating introduction for those many medical men who would like to know what genetics has to offer in the clinical field.

J. A. Fraser Roberts.

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