DEAR SIRS,

The relationship between the distribution of sickness and the effect of duplicates on the distribution of deaths

In his letter to you on the above subject (J.I.A. LXXVII, 490), Mr H. L. Seal refers your readers to Chapter II of W. Feller's *Probability Theory and its Applications*. As your readers might suppose from this reference that Feller supports Seal's case, it is desirable to point out that the technique used in the relevant sections of the book is simply the partial fraction method developed earlier by me in the appendix to the paper by Perks and myself, to which Seal has replied.

It should also be observed that the problem of finding the moments about the mean from those about zero, which gave rise to the difficulties in Seal's original paper, does not arise in Feller's applications.

No comment on the rest of Seal's letter seems to be necessary; Perks and I are content to leave the interested readers to judge for themselves.

Yours faithfully, R. E. BEARD

252 High Holborn London, W.C. 1 22 October 1951

## CORRIGENDUM

J.I.A. LXXVII, p. 434, line 19 and p. 437, line 25

It is regretted that in these two places Jhr. G. M. M. Alting von Geusau was wrongly described as Chairman of the Association of Dutch Life Offices (Nederlandse Vereniging ter Bevordering van het Levensverzekeringwezen). The President of the Association of Dutch Life Offices was correctly given on p. 437 as Dr M. Niemeyer. Jhr. Alting von Geusau, who was joint President of the Thirteenth International Congress, and who is a past President of Het Actuarieel Genootschap, holds no office in relation to the Association of Dutch Life Offices.