REVIEW

Statistics, Problems and Solutions. By E. E. BASSETT, J. M. BREMMER, I. T. JOLLIFFE, B. JONES, B. J. T. MORGAN & P. M. NORTH: (Edward Arnold).

The authors of this book have set out to assist students of probability and statistics in the solution of problems similar to those commonly set in examinations. It is written for those who have already read a standard first-level textbook but who would benefit from greater confidence when tackling problems for themselves. It contains little expository material and would complement, rather than replace, a basic textbook.

The book consists of a series of examples, each followed by one or more alternative solutions and accompanying notes. The solutions themselves are useful models. The notes go one stage further and explain why particular techniques were chosen to solve each problem. This approach may help to overcome the common difficulty of deciding which method to choose when answering examination questions. Where alternative solutions are presented, the notes explain the merits and difficulties of each method used.

It is intended to be perused when required, rather than read from cover to cover, and includes sections on the normal, binomial and Poisson distributions, simulation, goodness of fit, inference, regression, correlation, analysis of variance and time series. The section on simulation is particularly useful. The book is easy to read and suitable for individual study.

RICHARD J. FIELD