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會員 北 川 敏 男 (九州帝大理學部)

本誌刊行の趣意に關しては第一卷第一號(1930年1月)に W. I. King がその説明の任に當つて居る。その内に次の如く述べてゐる。

“アメリカ統計協會は91年間に亘り、合衆國の統計方面の指導をなし來つた。協會の創立された當時に於いては統計的方法は、極めて簡単なサンエンスであつた。然るに、近時、その技術は益々複雑を加ふるにつ至て居るのである。アメリカ統計協會會誌(The Journal of the American Statistical Association)は協會會員全般に有用なものであり、且つその内容に於いて、統計的方法の凡ゆる様相を残りなくのせることを意圖し來つてゐるのである。然し近年に至つて、本會會員が二つのグループ——高等數學にフミリアーなものとならざるものと——に分れて來つゝあるのである。編輯者は讀者の二つの階級を共に満足することが困難な問題であることを覺ゆるに至つた。

さて茲に好都合な解決が現はれたのである。協會は今や、數學的興味をもつ會員に對して、ミシガン大學 Harry C. Carver 教授編輯の The Annals of Mathematical Statistics の創刊號を提供することを欣快とする。この雜誌は統計の數學的技術のみならず、その様な技術の、天文學、物理學、心理學、生物學、醫學、教育、商業及び經濟等の分野への應用をも取扱ふであらう。現在ではかゝる方向に沿ふ數學的な記事が、色々な出版物に散見するのであるが、將來に於いては、本誌に集録されんことが望ましいのである。……卑見に依れば、この Annals の出現は、吾が協會史の一つの重要な里程碑をなすものであつて、この新雜誌刊行は、獨り數學的訓練を経たる協會員のみならず、非數學的なグループからも心からの歓迎をうける事を確信するものである。蓋し非數學的なグループの諸氏も亦、數學の進歩した状態が、統計的技術の進歩を促進する上に極めて有効な役を果し従つて最も重要な諸問題の解決に協力しつゝある事を認識して居るからである。”(抄意譯)

爾來今日に至る迄十數年に過ぎないが、理論統計學、數理統計學の専門雜誌として、斯界進歩の一推進力となり來つた。今次歐洲大戰に伴ふ米國參戰準備に關聯しては、Vol. XI, No. 4 に Reports of the War Preparedness Committee of the Institute があり、又統計教育の改造案の提出など近年益々その活動が、學術的にも對社會的にも著しくなつて來て居る。これらに關しては別の機會に委細な紹介をなすことにし、今回は第十一卷までの全論文の表題の報告に止める。若し何等かの御用に立てば幸甚である。

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