August 11, 1941

My dear Kendall,

Thanks for your letter and enclosure, and congratulations
on your new post which sounds an advantageous one. I have not
yet read your paper, but expect to do so with pleasure, and am
sure I shall want to publish it.

Combinatorial problems react rather funnily to mechanism.
I suppose the classical example should be MacMahon's algebraic
solution for the enumeration of Latin Squares, where the mechanism,
though doubtless perfect, is so inoperable that it has never been
applied ~~to~~ beyond the 5 x 5 squares, which are best counted directly, and
when MacMahon applied it to this problem he got 52 instead of 56.
In fact my combinatorial method for Moments of Moment or kappa of
k's is a demechanisation of the operative algebraic procedure. Obviously,
though the advantage is greater with moderate numbers, a point may
easily be reached when it is no longer easier to look and count.

By the way, I have in the interim systematically collected
corrections to my 1928 paper on Moments, and could let you have a
list. I am writing this because the other day Haldane called my

attention to the term in $k_4 \kappa k_2^4 T^4$ in the expression $\kappa(3^4)$ given as

$$972 \; \frac{29n^2 - 121n + 118}{(n-1)^3(n-2)^3}$$

where it looks as though a factor $\underline{n}$ had been omitted. Have you by any chance ever corrected this entry?

Yours sincerely,