

25th. October 1948.

My dear John,

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P. v. W.

Thank you for sending me your memorandum report on comparing individual means. As you hoped I find it exceedingly interesting, and am very glad you took up what to those who need it must always be an intricate and troublesome problem. You will, of course, have noticed that the example of the 6 x 6 Latin Square from the Design of Experiments has the important differential feature that the six yields reported are from different combinations of plant nutrients, and that these specify unequivocally five independent comparisons of special interest. Consequently the problem you and Newman have discussed does not really arise with these data, and I think that experimenters and the statisticians advising them ought to take note of such circumstances when they are available. However, the case of undifferentiated comparison is one that frequently arises, and certainly experimenters are often in doubt as to how much attention they can reasonably pay to observable gaps in the series.

Yours sincerely,