

FOREWORD

The two papers in this issue are the most recent chapter in a story which began unfolding almost a half century ago, beginning with William Stephenson's letter to *Nature* (1935) and culminating with Cyril Burt's *The Factors of the Mind* (1940) and Stephenson's *The Study of Behavior* (1953).

The paper by Burt appears here for the first time and was written more than 25 years ago, but since Burt's 1972 contribution to the Stephenson *Festschrift* did not deviate significantly from the original path, we can assume that any updating of the enclosed would have been cosmetic rather than profound. It assumes without saying so emphatically that there is only one matrix of data containing scores obtained from subjects in response to tests measuring objective traits, and that to correlate traits across persons is R methodology (here relabel- R_1 technique) whereas to correlate persons across traits is Q methodology (here called P_1 technique). Burt's distinction between Q and R is therefore logical only, being two logically distinct ways to examine the same data matrix.

Stephenson, as his paper shows, was quite willing to accept the existence of a matrix of scores for objective traits, which provides the basis for R methodology and all other sciences which are *without* self reference (including physics, information science, etc.); however, he also recognized the possibility of a parallel but entirely different matrix of scores *with* self reference, and this was an empirical as opposed to logical distinction. For just as it is possible to determine whether a person has a fever by taking his temperature (objective), so is it possible to obtain his feelings about having a fever (subjective). And just as there is form and structure in objective science (as in the leaf shapes of botany), so is there structure in subjective science (as in the operant factors of Q methodology).