Contents

1	Some Questions to begin with	1
	1.1 Numbers and/or Neurons	1
	1.2 Natural Statisticsor Probability Without Numbers	7
	1.3 The Emergence of Natural Statistics in Humans	10
	1.4 SoMust Statistics Be Considered as a Property	
	of the World or the Result of Our Ignorance?	12
	1.5 ThenWhat the h_ll Is Statistics?	14
	References	15
2	Ancient Statistics History in a Nutshell	19
	2.1 Dice in a Deterministic World	19
	2.2 From Dice to Moral Wagers and God in Mathematics	23
	2.3 Fortuna, Destiny, Luck, Chance, or Probability	27
	2.4 Pay Me Again, SamFrom New Gods and Taxes to Statistics	28
	2.5 From Dice to Vaccines and Assurance Companies:	
	The Birth of Probability	30
	2.5.1 First of All, Vaccines	30
	2.5.2 Secondly, Insurance Companies	31
	2.5.3 Third, Legal Issues and the Notion of "Evidence"	32
	References	35
3	The Bayesian Approach and Its Evolution Until the Beginning	
	of the Twentieth Century	37
	References	46
4	A Conceptual Reply to Reverend Bayes: The Frequentist	
	Approach	49
	References	58
5	,,,,,,	61
	5.1 Demarcation Problems	62
	5.2 An Acid and Blurred Debate	66

xii Contents

	5.3 Why Bother to Become Frequentist/Bayesian?	68 69 73
6	The Birth of Multicausality as the Death of Causality and Their Statistical Corollaries 6.1 Epidemology as a Data-Scanner Discipline 6.2 The Epidemiological Monocausality 6.3 The Multiple Causes Paradigm in Epidemiological Studies 6.4 New Trends in Epidemiology and Causality References	77 80 80 84 86 89
7	Natural Versus Artificial Minds and the Supercomputing Era	93 94 96 98
8	And the Winner Is References	101 107
In	dex	109