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Pre-Don in Toronto

Prior to Don Fraser's arrival as a University of Toronto student in the 1940s, there were three general eras in the development of the field of statistics: the Victorian statistics movement, the development of mathematical statistics by Karl Pearson beginning in the late nineteenth century and the Fisherian revolution beginning in the 1920s. Within each of these eras I examine the impact of statistical developments on the faculty and curriculum at the University of Toronto, culminating with a description of statistics in the Department of Mathematics when Don entered the University of Toronto.