linear equations in $n$ unknowns by successive approximations? The discussion given in WHITTAKER and ROBINSON, *The Calculus of Observations* (London, 1924, and third ed., 1940, p. 255–256), is not satisfactory. The part purporting to show that the process always improves a trial solution suffers the following simple exception:

$$2x + y = 1, \quad x + 3y = -1.$$ 

Here the initial solution $x = 1/2, y = -1/3$ is not improved by replacing $x$ by $2/3$ as required by the process.

D. H. L.

QUERIES—REPLIES

8. Tables of $N^{3/2}(Q5$, p. 131).—Another table for three-halves powers of numbers to more than three places is T. 70, p. 290 of J. T. FANNING, *A Practical Treatise on Hydraulic and Water-Supply Emergency*, tenth ed., New York, 1892, where $N = [0.04(0.01)0.20(0.02)1.0(0.1)4; 4D].$

H. B.