

CORRESPONDENCE.

“FORMULA 39(a).”

To the Editors of the Journal of the Institute of Actuaries.

SIRS,—It has been brought to my notice that I have unwittingly done some injustice to Mr. George King, in my book “Calculus and Probability,” in ascribing Formula 39(a) to the late G. F. Hardy.

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The facts of the matter are that G. F. Hardy originally devised a shorter formula embracing 5 terms only, which is given as No. 13 in Chapter 20 of my book. It was not until subsequently (see *J.I.A.*, vol. xxvi, p. 276) that the repeated application of this formula was advocated by Mr. King, the result of the repeated application being, when suitably modified, to give the well-known 39(a).

G. F. Hardy at the time expressed his appreciation of the formula, and agreed that the repeated application of his original formula constituted an improvement.

I am, sirs,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED HENRY.

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.
31 January, 1924.
