



# LADY LUCK

## The Theory of Probability

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### Warren Weaver

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*W. W. Sawyer*

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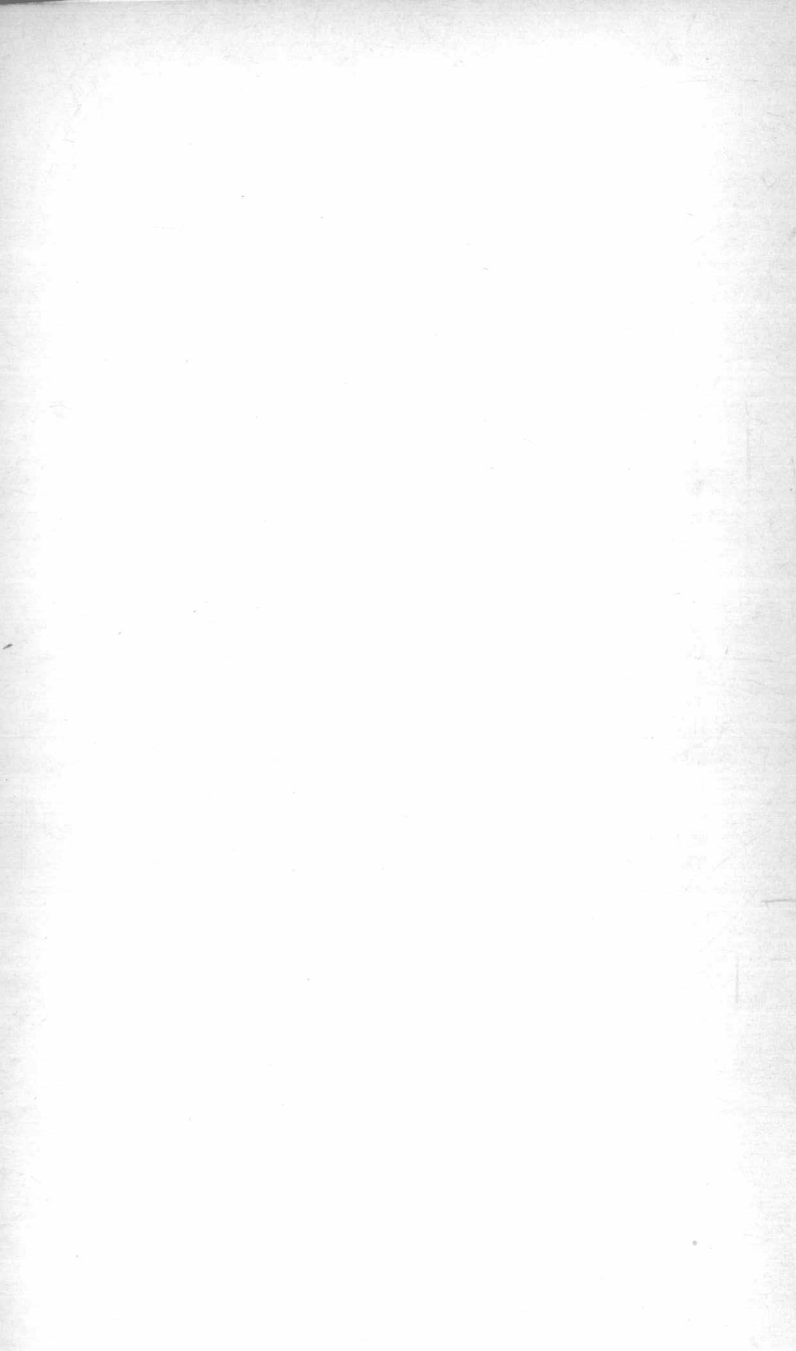
LADY LUCK



Warren Weaver was born in 1894. An internationally famous mathematician, author and administrator, he was Vice-President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation until 1964, when he resigned, although he is still a consultant on scientific affairs. He went to the University of Wisconsin and first taught mathematics at Throop College (now the California Institute of Technology). In 1920 he joined the mathematics department at the University of Wisconsin, where he was made chairman of the department in 1928. He became director for the natural sciences at the Rockefeller Foundation until 1932 and remained with this organization until 1959, holding many posts.

During the Second World War, Warren Weaver worked on a scientific mission to investigate Britain's weapon development, and for this work received many decorations. He served for a time as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Salk Institute, and is a founding member of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering. As an administrator of some of the leading research institutes in the United States, Warren Weaver has been actively and centrally involved with almost every major area of scientific endeavour. Among his many publications are *Mathematical Theory of Communication* (1949; with Claude E. Shannon), *Alice in Many Tongues* (1964) and *Change of Scene* (autobiography; 1970). He was also editor of *The Scientists Speak* (1947). Warren Weaver now lives with his wife in New Milford, Connecticut.







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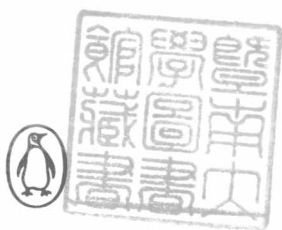
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The Theory of Probability



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She doesn't like mathematics, but  
she is awfully good at probabilities.  
So this is for Mary



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The real trouble with this world of ours is not that it is an unreasonable world, nor even that it is a reasonable one. The commonest kind of trouble is that it is nearly reasonable, but not quite.

G. K. CHESTERTON, 'Orthodoxy'