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We, the inhabitants of the Nordic countries, are perhaps somewhat inclined to take a certain inner pride in our — as it seems to us — high civilization and to attach still more importance to ourselves in this respect during the later years, when the "Ragnarök" of the great war had devastated most of the other civilized countries and handicapped them in their competition with us. Let us hope that there are some good grounds for our selfsatisfied opinion! It is not difficult to find some facts indicating that we are right in this self-respect, even if we go to the very summits of civilization — let us think of the "Acta mathematica", for instance. But if we are right, it may be very necessary for us to be on our guard against the danger of stagnation, of the standstill, where we begin to lull ourselves into the pleasant dream that our position is unshakeable, and that we may now repose on our laurels. Therefore, we must honour the persons who do not allow us to go to rest, the persons who spur us on to do our very best

Thor Andersson is one of those whom we must honour for such an influence. In the field of statistics he seeks to be our scientific conscience. He swings his whip over our heads mercilessly and drives to activity everybody who is able to produce something, however small or great, within the field of statistics. But he is not content with that! He is not content with the achievement of having filled a long and imposing row of volumes of the "Nordisk Statistisk Tidskrift" with valuable essays and treatises written by Scandinavian as well as by leading foreign authors — all the non-scandinavian countries are now to see and feel the warmth of the light from the North. His journal is now to become an inter-