

'Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]' (pub. 30.01.13-20:25). Quote in M. Bergman & S. Paavola (Eds.), *The Commens Dictionary: Peirce's Terms in His Own Words. New Edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-deduction-induction-and-hypothesis-6>.

Term: Hypothesis [as a form of reasoning]

Quote: Suppose I enter a room and there find a number of bags, containing different kinds of beans. On the table there is a handful of white beans; and, after some searching, I find one of the bags contains white beans only. I at once infer as a probability, or as a fair guess, that this handful was taken out of that bag. This sort of inference is called *making an hypothesis*. It is the inference of a case from a *rule* and a *result*. We have, then-

DEDUCTION.

Rule.-All the beans from this bag are white.

Case.-These beans are from this bag.

∴Result.-These beans are white.

INDUCTION.

Case.-These beans are from this bag.

Result.-These beans are white.

∴Rule.-All the beans from this bag are white

HYPOTHESIS.

Rule.-All the beans from this bag are white.

Result.-These beans are white.

∴Case.-These beans are from this bag.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1878). Deduction, Induction, and Hypothesis. *Popular Science Monthly*, 13, 470-482.

References: CP 2.623

Date of 1878

Quote:

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