

September 14, 1952

Dear Ed:

We got back to Madison yesterday, to find the revised ms. and your message of September 10. If I may say so, it looks good, and an authoritative presentation at this level has been especially needed for some time. I am glad to hear of the availability of reprints.

Wenrich's congratulations on having been the first to submit a paper leaves me just a little embarrassed. I had the impression from earlier correspondence that Sept. 1 was to be regarded as a rather firm deadline. I hope the pressure which I needlessly injected was not troublesome to you. If so, I am just as pleased to have been able to get the thing out of the way, and still have ample time now for final revisions.

The stated corrections, in response to Wenrich are, generally, valid, and are marked in the accompanying ms. However, the use of the terms copulation and conjugation on p.6 L. 23 was quite intentional, within the definitions pointed out by Wenrich and should be ~~retained~~ retained. "Close" and "distant" are of course contrary descriptions for the relationship of E. coli and Salmonella, but I suppose it's a matter of how one looks at it. I don't know how one can very well evaluate such relationships.

I was not too clear what you meant in your letter on how to handle corrections, i.e., whether to incorporate yours and mine and send them both on to Wenrich, or whether you had already sent yours to him. To avoid confusion, I think one of us (viz. you) should handle all of them, and take final responsibility.

It seems simplest to send back an ms. copy with my suggested corrections marked in red. The only thing I want to make a point of is p. 7. Hayes' own suggestions (1952a and b. and another paper in press in JGM) have been much less temperate than the compromise version now written on p.7. I am very doubtful personally what the F story suggests as to the physical mechanism of mating, and would prefer to ascribe Hayes' suggestion more directly to him. If time permits, will you make a final decision on the suggested corrections, and return the checked ms?

We've had a very satisfactory, if strenuous vacation trip which took us through most of Eastern Canada, around the Gaspé peninsula, to Nova Scotia and a week's sea-swimming and hill-climbing at Bar Harbor, Me. Among others we visited the Lewins at Halifax, where Ralph seems to have a very happy situation at the NRC regional lab. Like many other people, we had thought that "Maritime Regional" meant a marine lab., but it doesn't, only the maritime provinces. Ralph was just getting ready to send his ms. to Wenrich, mostly a detailed critique of Moewus and relative sexuality (!).

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg