

September 12, 1955

Dr. O. H. Gaebler
Chairman, Program Committee
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit 2, Michigan

Dear Dr. Gaebler:

After a very hectic summer, I have finally been able to get down to a serious consideration of the session on the Gene-Enzyme Relation for the November Symposium.

Perhaps, in addition to the lack of time, the past few months, one of the factors contributing to my procrastination has been the feeling that the scope given to the chairman was somewhat too limited, at least in my case. Both Hershey and Hotchkiss have very interesting results to discuss, are outstanding workers, and it is fine to have them on the program. However, the pertinence of their topics to the gene-enzyme relation is perhaps somewhat tenuous. On the other hand, the work of Yanofsky on the enzymatic function of the td gene (tryptophane synthetase) is one of the best analyzed and pertinent cases available and certainly should be discussed, perhaps in more detail than Horowitz will have time to give. It might also have been good to have someone like Watson on this session to discuss relationships of DNA, RNA and enzymes from the genetic standpoint.

In considering these and other aspects, and keeping the number of additional invited discussants to two as suggested in your earlier letters, at the moment I am handicapped by not knowing the extent of flexibility of the program at this time.

For example, would it be feasible to rearrange the schedule as given on the enclosed copy? This would permit focussing the first part of the session and discussion on the nature of the gene and its divisibility, and the second, the real meat, on the gene-enzyme relation. The two additional discussants would be Demerec and Yanofsky.

On the assumption that these modifications are possible, and that invitations to the added discussants may come from the chairman, I am writing Demerec and Yanofsky. Copies of the proposed program are being sent to them, as well as to the other participants. I assume that my letters to Demerec and Yanofsky should be followed by your formal invitations, including the complete program of the Symposium.

Hoping that these actions will meet with your approval as within the responsibilities of the chairman, I am

Sincerely yours,

E. L. Tatum

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