



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY  
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

Tbc. Research Laboratory,  
411 East 69th St., New York 21, N. Y.

June 6, 1949.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,  
Department of Genetics,  
The University of Wisconsin,  
College of Agriculture,  
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Josh:

Werner and I are leaving Sunday, June 12th, to drive to Pacific Grove where we are taking van Niel's course. We are planning to bring a passenger to Madison, probably arriving on either the 15th or 16th, and hope we will be able to spend a couple of hours with you then.

I have done some recombinations with the strains which you kindly supplied and am pleased to find that it is just as easy as you said it would be. Almost all of the recombinants from 58-161 and W-677 were mucoid, while those from 58-161 and Y-10 were not mucoid. At first we got <sup>"Waksman"</sup> excited at what looked like recombination of our multiple mutants too, but since we were working with a double mutant requiring PABA plus proline it turned out that we simply had proline independent reversions which were being fed PABA by their neighbors. Further experiments have shown no recombination within our strain or between ours and yours.

If you are going to be in Madison when we pass through I look forward to the chance to chat about some aspects of this problem.

With best regards to Esther,

Sincerely yours,

*Bernie*

Bernard D. Davis,  
Senior Surgeon.

BDD/hl