DEC 2 1974

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29 November 1974

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics, School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Professor Lederberg:

It is a little frightening to have placed before me a xeroxed copy of a letter written by me two decades ago. When I first read it, I could hardly believe the evidence of my senses, but I must admit that in fact I am the author of the letter, and the xerox copy is exact.

I cannot presently remember where or how I came upon Oliver Lodge as the source, and if I were to hazard a guess today (but a pure guess, without any real information), I would probably choose Crookes, perhaps only because he was not one who believed in new subjects opening up in the sciences or their applications. I am enclosing a reprint of mine that deals with this subject, that may amuse you.

The question itself is an intriguing one, which arises periodically. I well remember a correspondence I had with K.K. Darrow on this topic, the result of which was his letter in Isis, to which Brush refers in the published correspondence.

Sorry that I cannot be of more help, but possibly I may come upon something one of these days. If so, I shall let you know.

Yehuda and Yudith Elkana spoke warmly of you, when they passed through Cambridge on their way home. It would be very pleasant were I to have the chance to meet you. Possibly, I will be at the Stanford Center in academic 76-77, when this would be possible.

Sincerely,

IBCohen

I. Bernard Cohen
Professor of the History of Science

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