

3/9/59
Dear Luca:

We are, first of all, extremely pleased to hear that there will be a competition. All the world's best wishes to you, and the hopes that it really will be a foregone conclusion!

Of course I will be very happy to defer any further discussion of our respective visiting plans until we do see you in May.

It really is kind of you to arrange for the conferences, ^{to} which, needless to say I hasten to accept the invitation! Our immediate plans are to fly directly (via Sfo-London) to Naples for the Ciba conference, to return with you to Milan and spend until May 28 there, flying then to Stockholm, then to Royaumont and then directly home from Paris. There might be the possibility of arriving some few days earlier at Pavla to participate in the Spallanzani affair, but having had no invitation, and being a little pressed for the travel expenses, we have not yet planned this.

(Strictly entre-nous, I have just foregone a task of a hasty trip to Amsterdam (today) to sit on the CETEX meeting (Committee on Contamination of ExtraTerrestrial Objects) partly in the expectation that this will be followed up by a more constructively functional working group on planetary biology which may well meet ~~ing~~ in Europe in May or June. If possible I would try to coordinate this with our currently planned trip. You can also judge another reason I would be anxious to meet Oparin.)

Thank you very much for the gloves. There is rather less need for them here than in Madison, but they may be especially useful for travelling.

Please let us know your own plans, e.g., from Naples back to Milan, so we can the better coordinate our reservations.

I hope it is not the finances that may be deterring you from thinking about visiting us. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I well appreciated the cost of the travel and had this in mind in calculating the exorbitant salary that you should be paid. Of course this would be some incentive for you to stay longer, but this is no longer a realistic expectation on my part. You hardly need ever worry about having to beg for a job!

Yes we certainly ~~has~~ have stenorette equipment (in fact three machines: mine, secretary's and one for work at home)-- don't hesitate to use it. (I am also finding the telephone pickup attachment very useful.)

Yours as ever,

Joshua K