

J.C. memo

1/22/74

Memo of conversation with Dobzhansky 1/21/74 @ Pittendrigh dinner.

Mirsky introduced him to Avery in 1940-41, soon after Dobz' arrival in NY from Pasadena. (D knew Mirsky at Pasadena ~ '36, when the latter took a fellowship w/ Pauling). Avery would not admit bacteria had "genes" — those were peculiar to garden peas.

Later Mirsky became very critical of Avery. In D's mind Harriet settled the question of DNA purity with proteinase excepts. (secondary attributes?)

D: Did not remember White reference in 2 editions. I did not ask him about M. Heidelberger.

D: Did not know how Harriet became interested. She was officially LC Dunn's student. [SL - Mirsky visited Ehrenreich often - seminars, etc., collaborated with P. Lester. Perhaps ask Hans Ris if he has any recollections.]

Suggested that AmPh Soc may have Deinacea papers - e.g. CSH files. [SL: eds. Phil Hartman]. D did not really answer my questions about his own papers.

D pointed from at Carlson's attributions to H.S. Kunkel of having discovered everything. [SL + D: like HSM did heavily.]

He will send me D. Willistoni paper verifying coadapted gene exchanges.  
(re KOF question)