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December 28, 1955

Dr. Niels K. Jerne
State Serum Institute
Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Dr. Jerne:

I would appreciate the favor of a reprint of your note on antibody formation which appears in the No. v. 1955, Proc. Nat. Acad. U.S., and which has just come to my attention.

Unfortunately, I was not acquainted with your views in time to credit them at a symposium on gene-enzyme relationships which was held at Detroit early in November. Monod had gone so far as to imply that even in induced enzyme formation, the inducing substrate acts as a template for "molding" the enzyme -- in a rebuttal to this proposal, I was moved like yourself to question the same concept even for antibody formation, where there is at least some basis for it. I am told that this "natural selection" hypo-



Prof AM Silverstein

3-25-90

A history of immunology
Dear Prof. Silverstein
I enjoyed your book and your generous treatment of my role in clonal selection.)

Some day I mean to write in more detail on the dynamics of receptor of the theory. I understand a lot of resistance, very little of which seemed to have any rational foundation -- except for the meager depth: "reputation" by Attardi et al. I've dealt briefly with that in my memoir (enclosed). Fairing probably still hasn't accepted it.

I suggest the accumulation of chemical knowledge of antibody structure finally won the day.
of course genuine redundancy and specific variation are both subsets of clonal selection.

Sincerely,
John F. Lewis
DEC 28 1955

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