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STANFORD MEDICAL CENTER  
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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS  
Professor Joshua Lederberg

MAR 27 1969

-15-69  
(SYM  
3-15-69)

Dear Dr. Benirschke

Your article in the New Scientist for  
16 Jan. has only just come to my attention.

Have you written further on this  
aspect of conservation? We have evidently  
been thinking along related lines. Are  
you pursuing them?

Sincerely,  
Joshua Lederberg

Dr. Kurt Benirschke  
Dartmouth Medical School  
Hanover, New Hampshire

LT. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. LABORATORIES FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE  
dedicated to the study of mental retardation  
Molecular Biology Heredity Neurobiology Developmental Medicine

from one to another with  
every shrill outcry about the  
Hawaiian Nukupu or the  
Mongolian wild ass. We  
ought to frame a policy that  
we know how to pursue and  
enforce for the effective  
preservation of the species  
that can be saved.

Is that

E. Przewalski?

Perhaps not a felicitous example!

## r to Be Doomed d by Pollution

t for When we see clearly  
The which ones we might abandon,  
hesus we can also reckon the  
owing balance of merits and costs  
in adopting them too. If we  
exam- muddle along as we have  
been been doing, they will all go.

During this process, our  
t last museums of natural history  
rare must be transformed into  
now more effective depositories  
of what can be saved from  
er re- the dying remains. Here,  
have modern biology may offer  
ago. unexpected contributions to  
disap- a museum's responsibility:  
s of the preservation in cold  
nong storage of tissue samples of  
tives representative animals, a  
ider- technique already widely  
brain used in laboratory studies.  
ig of At the very least, our des-  
or, cendants will be able to re-  
wer- construct some import  
yet- detail from the study of DNA  
iso- molecules retrieved from  
zoos such a library. Furthermore,  
it on a whooping crane might be  
and hatched in future from an-  
few other bird's egg that has  
ntial been renucleated from  
es is frozen, dormant tissue. This  
will backstop ought not be ac-  
cepted as a substitute for  
nurturing the wild birds,  
however, any more than

st of freezing some human cells  
re- would take the place of sav-  
ting ing mankind.

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very  
not  
tion

BENIRSCHKE

May I please this to you.