

June 17, 1948.

Mr. Norton D. Zinder,
2850 Claflin Avenue,
New York 63, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Zinder,

I know that you must think you had been forgotten, but you could not be more anxious than I am that a decision be made on the allocation of our fellowships. There is a very considerable amount of red tape that still has to be taken care of. Your transcript was first received in the Graduate Office a week ago, and is being processed now. There is a delay here, of course, owing to the degree records which have to be completed before graduation next week. It does not seem likely therefore that we can complete our file on you in time for you to register here for summer session. However, this was desirable only in order that you could pick up some bacteriological technique before starting your research in the Fall. If you have already had some ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ laboratory experience with bacteria, or could pick it up elsewhere in the summer it would do just as well. However, things are so chaotic, due to the lateness of your application, that I can give you no assurance that the fellowship will be available to you, or when a definite decision can be made. It would help considerably to have letters on your behalf particularly from Ryan, and perhaps from the physician for whom you say you worked for 6 months.

In view of this uncertain situation, it would be unfair of me to encourage you unduly. However, we are interested in your application, and will act on it as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,
Assistant Professor of Genetics.