

SEP 29 1972

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Laboratory of Genetics
Genetics Building
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706

Department of Genetics
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

26 September 1972

Department of Medical Genetics
School of Medicine

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford Medical Center
Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Josh:

I'll see where the documents about your appointment here are. Alex Brink told me a few days ago that he is going to write a history of that period, so I am sure that he has the records at hand. He mentioned having difficulty finding one letter, which is one that he personally wrote to Sinnott asking about you. In any case, I'll see him and either he or I will write in more detail.

My only pertinent recollection regarding the history of transformation is some discussion at Texas when I was a graduate student around 1940, based mainly on Dobzhansky's book, which was very influential at the time. Most of the discussion, as I recall, had to do with inventing ways in which the results might be explained by selection. There was considerable reluctance to accept transformation at that time. I don't have a copy of Dobzhansky's early editions at hand, but I believe that he suggested selection.

More later. This is mainly an acknowledgement of your letter.

Sincerely,



James F. Crow

JFC:tm