

June 22, 1954

Dr. Walter Carter  
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Dear Dr. Carter:

Thank you for your letter of the 18th. In fact, Steinhaus and I have been in touch with one publisher, W. H. Freeman, 549 Market Street, San Francisco, 5, Calif., with whom I have been on friendly terms, about the possibility of a translation of Buchner. For one thing, Freeman did not get too encouraging a response in a preliminary market survey, but I don't know how broad a field he covered, if you feel at all strongly about this, I am sure that Mr. Freeman would welcome your opinion on it. The main reason the project has been held in abeyance has been the problem of finding a suitable translator. It's a dog's work, and would have to be paid rather unhandsomely. If you can suggest anyone who would find it a labor of love, that would help solve the problem. The ideal candidate from many points of view would have been Richard Goldschmidt (Buchner's professor!) but he has lately been rather ill and we do not dare propose it to him under current conditions.

I am sorry to learn you did not receive that reprint, for I cannot imagine what could ever have happened to it. Another is in the mail. Is there any chance of begging from you possibly remaining copies of your preceding papers— I know the chance of their being any residuals is quite remote. I was particularly impressed by Ito's (1938) findings. Have you any reservations on the role of the symbionts in this story? One would, of course, like to see a microbiological tack in this kind of work, crossinfections, and so forth.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics