

December 9, 1954

AIR MAIL

Professor Victor C. Twitty  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Stanford University  
California

Dear Dr. Twitty:

I was delighted to receive your invitation of December 6 to participate in the next growth symposium at Amherst. However, there is some possibility of a conflict, especially for the required manuscript, as I am scheduled to complete a rather extensive review for Bacteriological Reviews at just the same time. May I reserve decision for a few days?

Meanwhile, it would be very helpful if you could let me know more of the general character of the program. I realize you may not yet have gotten answers, or only equivocal answers like this, from your other respondents, but I would like to know whether you are contemplating a program primarily devoted to bacterial genetics, or whether this will be one facet of a broader theme.

Tentatively, if we can accept, we would like to propose for our part a discussion of Infection and Heredity, unless your program is too specialized. This would focus on the work on which my wife, Esther, and I have collaborated, together with others; infection refers here to lysogenic virus, and heredity to that of *E. coli*. In view of our close collaboration, may I propose that we be formally listed as joint authors? Esther will doubtless join me on the trip. I realize that the financial burden may be too much to ask of the society and if necessary, we can surely find other means of financing the additional cost. But it goes without saying we would be pleased to manage it directly. In view of Family Plans for travel, the cost will be somewhat ameliorated in any case.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

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