

Columbia University
College of Physicians and Surgeons

630 WEST 168TH STREET

NEW YORK 32, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

CELL CHEMISTRY LABORATORY

July 23, 1956

OFFICE: ROOM 12-201
TEL. WADSWORTH 3-2500
EXT. 7479

AUG 4 1956

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisc.

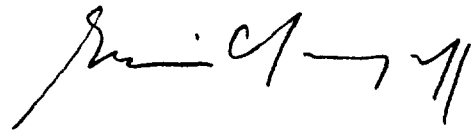
Dear Josh:

Recently in Ann Arbor I heard wonders about the various ways of getting protoplasts from *E. coli* of which you seem to be the prime perpetrator. We are very interested in trying out such methods in connection with our attempts to get bacterial nucleoproteins.

I understand some procedures made use of lysozyme (with or without versene), others of penicillin. If your method is not classified, could you give me the recipe, if possible so foolproof that even I could do it? For certain purposes we should like to isolate the protoplasts, for others this is not so important: what has been so nicely called a shockate would do. There are two difficulties to consider: (a) our work being preparatory we have to be able to handle large quantities of cells; (b) we are lousy bacteriologists, not even deserving of this proud name.

With kindest regards,

sincerely yours,



Erwin Chargaff:eb