



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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January 5, 1987

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Bryce Crawford
Office of the Home Secretary
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20418

Dear Bryce:

Here, at last, is the manuscript of the memoir on Ed Tatum that I had promised you and your predecessors some while ago. I had gotten a good start at this before I moved to The Rockefeller University eight years ago. I hope you will sympathize that I have had to scramble to find the time to finish it up properly. Perhaps it is just as well, as a number of challenging historical questions have come up in the interval. The emphasis given in various parts of this memoir is directed at rectifying a record that has been at risk of distortion, mainly from faulty memory and careless attributions. A fair amount of historical research has gone into this, as I am sure you will recognize.

I have tried to keep additional references to a minimum, in keeping with the traditional format of the memoirs. I do however have a number of "footnotes" that are marked in the text in braces. It would be fine with me if they just stayed in the text as such, although they could very appropriately be brought out as separate footnotes in small type at the end of the article.

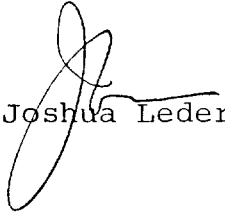
For the technical handling of the manuscripts it would probably be some convenience to your staff to have the text in your own word processors. I can very conveniently electronic-mail the material. In fact there are two NAS mailboxes on the Rockefeller computer at the present time, in the hands of Victor Rabinowitch and Mitchel Wallerstein respectively. There should be no problem in their translocating the material further into the word processors in your own office. If you have even more direct access to the Arpanet I can wire the ms. just that way.

Dr. Bryce Crawford
January 5, 1987

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Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to expedite this manuscript through the press. Besides a fitting memorial to Ed Tatum, it is a bit of definitive history that will be welcomed by a number of my colleagues, with whom I have been in correspondence for some time. Barton Childs and Aleck Bearn and I have reached some consensus about the comment on Garrod, which has been somewhat fuzzy in the prior written histories of molecular biology.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg

