

October 11, 1954

Mr. Richard Herpers  
Secretary of Columbia University  
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Herpers:

Thank you for your letter of the 8th, inviting me to represent Columbia University at the inaugural ceremonies at Beloit College. I would have been honored to accept, but unfortunately will be tied up on government business at Washington on the 29th. I must therefore regretfully decline.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics