

Marine Biological Laboratory,
Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

August 26, 1947.

Dean A.E. Sevringhaus,
College of Physicians and Surgeons,
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Dean Sevringhaus,

The University of Wisconsin has offered me a very attractive position, with the rank of assistant professor, in the Department of Genetics. The post is intended to initiate an extensive program on the biochemical genetics of microorganisms. I have just returned from a visit to Madison, where I had an opportunity to see not only the excellent research facilities which will be available as soon as delivery permits, but the sympathetic and enthusiastic interest of several departments of that university in the research program in which I am interested. The situation seems so pregnant with possibilities on the broadest of bases that I could not refuse their offer.

Regrettably, I will then be unable to resume and complete my medical studies. I would have liked very much to have had at least a limited clinical experience to enable me to be in better rapport with practicing members of the profession, and as a sort of compass for my laboratory research. I hope at Madison to do something in the direction of keeping in touch with Medicine, although my research seems more and more to be biological. I feel that my first two years in medical school were very valuable in introducing me to a broad variety of disciplines- neurology, anatomy, pharmacology, pathology, and so on.

I could not complete this letter without expressing my thankful appreciation to yourself and the Medical Faculty for their help and cooperation in furthering my scientific education. I hope that you will find that your prematurely terminated investment was not wasted.

This letter anticipates a personal visit which I hope to make to your office about the second week of September.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg.