

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, NEW YORK  
LABORATORY OF BACTERIOLOGY

October 9, 1948

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Genetics Department  
The University of Wisconsin  
Madison, 6, Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

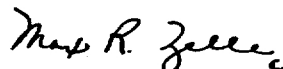
This is in reply to your letter of September 14 which was waiting for me when I arrived here on October 1. It is unfortunate that you did not write me at NIH so that I would have got your letter sooner.

The possibilities you outline seem very inviting, but I should like more information before committing myself. If it were just an evening's work or two, I would be perfectly willing to do it. If, however, it extended over a considerable period of time, as it appears it might, I would not care to undertake the work, especially at the beginning of a new position, unless it were possible to be coauthor on the published results. If this were possible, I think the work is of sufficient importance to merit spending considerable effort on it. I shall await your reaction on this.

If we decide to go ahead, it will not be possible for me to do much for at least another month, since, as you may know, the laboratories here were burned out about a year ago and have not yet been completely rebuilt.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,



Max R. Zelle

MRZ/c