December 11, 1950

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Genetics University of Visconsin Madison 6, Visconsin

Dear Joshua:

I was very glad to get your letter of December 1 with your expression of opinions about the fate of the volume. In my opinion, you would have no difficulty whatever selling an edition of 500 copies over the next five years if the subject matter is restricted to bacteria. As you know, the number of workers in bacterial genetics is rapidly increasing, and more and more of the classical bacteriologists are becoming interested in this work. Further, all those who are interested in the genetics of Fungi and viruses will want to have available the material on genetics of bacteria. It would seem to me that your chances of selling out the edition in the time you indicate are excellent, but of course this is merely a guess. Do try to convince the press that this is the thing to do. If, however, you should change your mind and want my papers, let me know.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

T. M. Sonneborn

TMS:gg