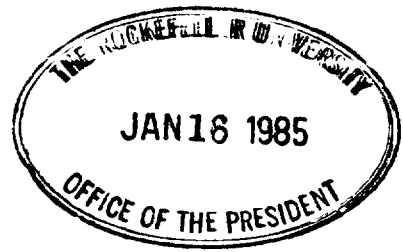


3. I. 85



Dear Joshua,

Alas, I have not followed the illustrious route tread by so many writers, scientists, generals, politicians etc. I do not keep, I have never kept a diary. Sometimes I regret it. Of course I remember the 1946 Cold Spring Harbor Symposium (it was my first visit to the States). In fact the only ^{important} scientific event, the most spectacular, was the announcement of the sexuality of Escherichia coli. The transmission of characters from betrie to betrie was of course well known: the "transforming principle". But that betrie were able to copulate had, to my mind, never been foreseen.

~~The fact is~~ Somebody - maybe J. - raised the objection that symbiosis between two deficient betrie could explain your data. But you masterly eliminated this hypothesis.

Any how, the fact, betrie sexuality, was, in itself interesting for those in love with betrie, but I wonder if any one, except you perhaps, had realized that the discovery

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of medical cooperation would allow the birth
and ~~explosion~~ ^{explosion} of molecular biology and genetics
during the next ten years. An explosive, unpredictable
blossoming.

This is all I can say.

With kind regards

Andri Lwoff

P.S. You may use this letter as you wish.
but, please correct the mistakes
concerning ~~to~~ my English.

P.S. your letter dated June 84 was received
January 2d. 1985. hence the late answer.