

Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

February 23, 1953

Dear Luca:

I hope that sending this note so soon after my letter of the 21st does not confuse you.

Hayes now writes "The strain I have seems to have reverted completely to Hfr/F+ and I am anxious to test the effect of SM on the fertility of Hfr...". I am quoting this to you to reinforce my suggestion that Hfr be reserved for the time being. If we are to accept the obligation to send our immediate working materials to anyone who asks we might as well abandon our own experimental work, and settle in the position of developers of stocks for others.

I will be willing to take the responsibility of answering Hayes' request in the negative, but first wished to consult you about it more fully.

Have I mentioned that Skaar has discovered that passing ~~the~~ 58-161 through motility selection agar results in F-! I have not yet checked on this myself, but am doing so. (Skaar is my colleague working on coli immunogenetics). He also ~~thinks~~ that the F+ derived from these F- by transduction are less motile. It is not unimaginable that F+ as a surface property affects the structure or functioning of the flagella. The procedure did not work in a few trials with W-1177F+, but has not yet been tried widely.

Sincerely,

Joshua
Joshua Lederberg

FOLD SIDES OVER AND THEN FOLD BOTTOM UP AND SEAL.
NO OTHER ENVELOPE SHOULD BE USED.

P. S. What was the evidence that Hayes
did have an Hfr?