660 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIFORNIA · TELEPHONE: YUKON 6-5115

February 6, 1957

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

Dear Josh:

I hear that, since the night we saw you, you have decided to take the plunge and come west. I hope it is so. It will be good to have you near me so that I may, a couple of times a year, undergo your stimulus.

But I write now to say, in black and white, that we will be happy to publish the small book—if such your paper should become—on transmigration. And I assure you we could get a book of the size you describe into bound form in a very short while. To that end, let me make herewith two points on which we would have to have your cooperation.

First, keep me informed of developments as there are any. In short, should the paper turn out shorter than you expected and be accepted for the Review, so that no book is to result, do let me know. On the other hand, if it is going to develop into a small book that we can publish, do give me warning of its impending appearance so that a route through manufacturing may be kept clear for it.

The other point revolves about the form in which you deliver the manuscript to us. You may write so that both the typographical designer and the copy-editor have a lot of work to do, and should you give us a manuscript that would require a good bit of work, this would take time and delay publication (believe me, such a manuscript could be ground out without much attention to its form, and this is a frequent publishing procedure, but not for books over our imprint, so that I would tell you that if the manuscript needs work we would give it to it, and that would delay publication somewhat). On the other hand, you have published enough to know what would be a well prepared manuscript that both copy-editor and typographer could handle easily. I won't ask perfection of you in your hurry to move for the summer. But do, in your preparation of the final draft, give us as good copy as you can. Should our copy-editor be intruding upon you in Australia to ask what you mean by such-and-such a passage, you and we would both be bothered and publication would be delayed!

My wife enjoyed your wife very much. My best to her.

Dr. Lederberg

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Probably the two of them can get together more often in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Jeneu

WHF:mc