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Prof. Lederberg,
Department of Genetics,
College of Agriculture,
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October 16th.

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

After writing to you yesterday I reallised that Jennifer Hoyle and I had described the "autolytic" protoplast release and its possible relation to cell growth in the enclosed article. You may perhaps find other points of interest in it, including the reason for our interest in removing bacterial cell walls without injuring the enclosed protoplasts.

I think perhaps I should apologise for showering you with reprints, and manuscripts. My excuse is the hope that you may derive some pleasure from reading them.

I am sorry the "L" forms do not look like being genetically interesting — Do you expect them to throw any light on the F+, F- factors in coli? One might expect these to belong to the cell-wall as do the phage type factors. No doubt this must have been one of your first considerations on obtaining the isolated protoplasts. The aspect of this problem which interests me particularly is the mechanism whereby large (DNA) molecules pass from one cell to the other through the cell membranes, while small molecular weight solutes are retained.

With kind regards, yours sincerely,

Peter Mitchell.