

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
A UNIT OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF POULTRY HUSBANDRY
RICE HALL

June 10th, 1958.

Professor J. Lederberg,
Genetics Department,
University of Wisconsin,
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Professor Lederberg:

From your letter I think that you are probably the best man that the society could have on that committee. Accordingly I wonder if you will not consent to let your name stand without any declaration of policy. I think that the viewpoint of the members, as given to me by the present Secretary, is that unless the committee has some specific contribution to make it might better be discontinued. It is the feeling of the executive that unless someone wants to bring up some critical issue the committee should automatically be dispensed with after one more year.

Hear, hear!
I don't think that you need to consider this as a "meaningless sinecure" but rather that you can serve a very useful niche in the society's affairs by preventing anyone from running away with that committee.

I hope therefore that you will reconsider and allow me to put your name on the slate. As you probably remember, the practice has been to send to the voting members only a postcard which carries two names nominated for each office and there will be literally no space for any declarations of policy by those nominated.

Yours sincerely,

F. B. Hutt

F. B. Hutt
Professor of Animal Genetics.

FBH/kns

What a procedure for electing a policy committee! Perhaps I'm taking the matter too seriously.

I don't want to peddle a tempest in a teapot, but in the circumstances I would prefer to decline the nomination.