

October 2, 1963

Dr. Peter Medawar
National Institute for Medical Research
The Ridgway
Mill Hill
London, N.W. 7, England

Dear Peter:

We have just received notice of the Symposium program in San Francisco on which your name is listed for 19 October.

Now that you will have found yourself so far west, can I possibly persuade you to take a few hours for a visit to Stanford? There are any number of people here who would be most anxious for an opportunity to hear from you and who may not find it possible to come up to the city on Saturday afternoon. I hope this suggestion is congenial to you, but if your schedule is overburdened and you would prefer making yourself available more informally to a half dozen or so people who are anxious to see you, this would also be an event of great pleasure. Or, finally, if your trip will have gotten you to the point where you just don't want to see anyone else, I hope this does not go so far as to preclude even a more private social confluence for an afternoon or for dinner at our home. In any case, I hope one of these does meet your pleasure, as it certainly would ours, and that I do not write you too late to enable you to fit this into your plan. If you will let me know by mail or by phone at your own convenience, we will accommodate however possible. I do look forward to seeing you and hope this will be for more than the limited possibility afforded by the meeting itself.

I suspect that you were going to say that genetics has very little to do with the future of man, at least in the sense of what I judge to be our consenses at the Ciba Symposium. However, it just occurred to me that vegetative reproduction may be in the offing much sooner than most people would have suspected -- along the lines of nuclear transplantation into eggs -- and if so, this might have a bearing on the genetic composition as well as the developmental outcome, within the time scale of the future that is worth discussing.

Cordially,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

MEP:AM