

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
NASHVILLE 4, TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Box 5

January 31, 1952

Dear Joshua,

Aha! The ever-tripping biologist. But Wisconsin is a fine place to be in the summer - sailing on Michigan and Lake Geneva, the Dells, fishing in the northern gashness. But then I don't blame you since I am certainly not staying here this summer; may take the phage course at Cold Spring for the laughs.

My application to Merck read to begin September 1, which is when I get through here. If worst comes to worst the date could probably be postponed (assuming acceptance of the application which is a big step) until January 1, 1953. The interim might be filled in at Oak Ridge or beachcombing and skibummin' southern Cal as a bell-hop. After the teaching I've been doing, or rather, after trying to drum some knowledge into the heads of fraternity and sorority playboys and playgirls, football players, and smart-alek pre-meds who have already been accepted to such pillars of learning as Alabama and Baylor I need a rest.

Concerning Oak Ridge there was an informal and principally social gathering there last week-end of Kim Atwood, his asst. Frank Mukai, Lil, Schneider, Stan Wainwright (Englishman, from Paris), and Sam Gross (very sharp grad stud of Ryan's), but no Ryan. Kim didn't say anything about what he was doing and there were too many wives around who are not scientists to let the discussion enter the esoteric channels of Research.

There is supposed to be a symposium at OR in April on bacterial, or microorganismal, metabolism. I'm trying to get an invite from Hollaender via Wolf, not to give a paper but just to attend.

Peg Lieb writes that she has crossed W1177 X a histidineless lambda sens. Since most of the protos were sugar non-fermenters she is not getting merely reversions. She has a map but I have cautioned her on this.

The F factor sounds good. Light seems to increase rate of recomb but then there may be some Texas effect from fluorescents, whose UV content I do not know, even thru the top of the Petri. The F factor will turn out to be a complex mucoglycohyalolipoproteopolysaccharide beyond doubt.

Lastly I see that I have attained my true importance in this life - amongst the mating habits of the bower birds.

See you in Cincinnati -