

o ↓ Ernst Abelson @ APS

⊗ ↓ Monod
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When was Monod famous?

I first met him in 1946 at or just before the CSH symposium, along with Lwoff. I assumed he was famous -- I didn't know that much, and I could have been wrong. He certainly was an active and articulate presence there -- as echoed in some of the enclosed correspondence. And just notice the index to CSH 1946. I am enclosing all of my early correspondence with either of them.

The earliest citation I can find to Monod in U.S. is Spiegelman's CSH 1946 paper. That may have been informed by Jacques' presence there, although earlier papers are cited. It is telling that Spiegelman did NOT refer to Monod in the 1945 Mo. Bot. Gardens symposium. Likewise, not by Dubos, 1945, The Bacterial Cell. See esp. pp 147 ff.

I suggest you check other early reviews of "enzymatic adaptation" Virtanen - 1948, perhaps earlier, and Annual Reviews of Biochemistry during early 1940s, to see what mention there is. Unfortunately, the citation index only begins 1945.

So, you may be right, that Monod was introduced to our world by Lwoff in 1946 -- we don't forget there had been World War 2 as some impediment to communication -- and I (very young) had just assumed he had already been well known. There are abundant citations after 1946.

The best lead for a counter-example would be any correspondence he may have had with Spiegelman before the 1946 CSH. You could quickly check the Pasteur archives for that.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

This was my first citation to Monod:
17 Lederberg J.
Bacterial variation.
Ann. Rev. Microbiol. 3: 1-22. (1949)

(Try ARM vols. 1-2 also).

*I do know Spiegelman very well at Columbia from ca. 1943 on. He gave many seminars - I can't specifically recall any mention of Monod before 1946.

