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My dear Heden--

Thank you very much for the documents relating to the "Early Warning" discussion, and especially for your kind comments about my new column.

I do have to apologize about my contribution to Impact, particularly as I quite misunderstood the type of audience for whom it was intended. I fully accept your critical remarks. On the one hand, I hardly think that my efforts so far warrant any compensation from UNESCO, and I had not thought of this in any case, whether the article can be published or not. On the other, I am afraid I am really too deeply committed in other ways to undertake any further effort on the article. I am very sorry to have ended up with such an ineffectual response, and especially to have disappointed you after having accepted the assignment. The most constructive thing I can do is to assure you of my sympathetic understanding of your criticisms, and not to stand in the way of any alternative solution you may find to meet the problem. You might for example solicit an article from Jacob on a related subject. I must leave this entirely to your own judgment.

for the column

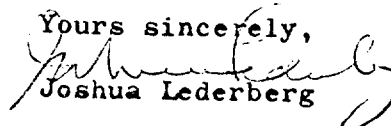
Actually, I do not write/about science as such, and find some difficulty in explaining the factual detail of scientific results in lay terms. My column is rather devoted to the points of impact of science on man. It would be a major effort for me to undertake a comprehensive discussion along these lines on the subject suggested for my Impact article. And I hardly know whether I could add significantly to the thoughts I have already put down in the enclosed article, which appeared recently in the Bull. Atom. Sci. The relationship of microbial genetics to the ideas on clonal biology expressed there is obvious.

HEDEN

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When possible, I would ~~wx~~ welcome the opportunity of further comment in my column on international agreements for limiting bw. For this purpose, I would be grateful for any public releases that may appear on the work of your committee. Naturally, I will respect the implicit confidence associated with the material so far received, in the absence of a definite release. I trust that the expression of my private opinions on related subjects is no embarrassment to your group.

I am sorry to have missed the chance of seeing you last month, and look forward to some future occasion when I might make a more constructive contribution.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg

LT. J. P. KENNEDY, JR., LABORATORIES FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE, DEDICATED TO RESEARCH IN MENTAL RETARDATION

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

HEREDITY

NEUROBIOLOGY

DEVELOPMENTAL MEDICINE