

STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS  
*School of Medicine*

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DAvenport 1-1200  
Cables STANMED

Dr. L.L. Cavalli-Sforza  
18, Via Fatebenesorelle  
Milan, Italy

Dear Luca:

Thank you for yours of July 4, and for your schedule. At the moment, the likelihood of my going to Moscow this summer is more remote, but if something has to be done on short notice, this will be very helpful. But please assume I am not coming unless you hear otherwise. I note your departure time for Israel about August 27.

I will be very glad to see Giovanni this fall - but probably here, as I will not be going to the Macy meeting this year.

Concerning the Interist programs - I am of course glad to see (a) the Nice project going ahead. Please keep me informed as it comes along.

(b) Your argument seems pertinent to the limited utility of a synthetic program. But it should give even more support to an autoselective screening program. I don't understand the point of confusion of tests for acid resistance on impure products. Could you send me the literature you mentioned? Anyhow, is acid-resistance so vital? It is effectiveness on penicillinase - producing bacteria that is so urgently needed.

(f) I will try to get you the Alkhanian translation.

(4) Two silica products are available - some details enclosed.

(6) I think an elementary and fairly brief book is precisely what is needed. If you complete an Italian version, and can then translate it, I will be glad to help on it in any way possible. But it will probably make a more concrete realization if you do finish the Italian version first.

Thanks for the note on Bayes. The problem is not how to get the right answer, but the didactic one of explaining this to medical students, i.e., of clarifying the logic of the contingent probabilities.

As ever,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

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