



## COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

## DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

TELEGRAMS: CORESEARCH, CANBERRA.

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OHF/AMB

P.O. BOX 109, CITY,  
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

23rd November, 1960.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,  
Professor of Genetics,  
University of Wisconsin,  
MADISON 6, Wisconsin,  
U.S.A.

Dear Joshua,

You have heard already from Dick Brock of the shocking event of Bob Wright's sudden death. We have now recovered sufficiently to take steps to find a successor and the letter which follows is written in an attempt to again enlist your help.

We here should be most grateful for any leads you can give us and to assist you in this, here is, in brief, the present state of Bob Wright's research programme. Techniques have been developed for screening mutants of Rhizobium which will bridge host resistance, in a case which is determined by a single recessive gene in the host. Dr. Wright was at the time of his death about to commence screening for these mutants in Rhizobium. Secondly, attempts were being made to demonstrate sexual recombination, and to follow this by a search for recombinants with changed symbiotic characters. In this regard streptomycin resistance has been obtained as one marker and a number of auxotrophic mutants have been induced. These auxotrophs were in process of being characterized, one of these is from preliminary tests, almost certainly histidine requiring.

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I enclose a draft of the advertisement which we shall issue shortly, but, in the mean time may I say that the terms of appointment are quite flexible. We would be prepared to make an appointment for a period of years - from three to five - with return fares guaranteed. Alternatively, we would be prepared to negotiate a permanent appointment.

We have, of course, in view somebody with experience in microbial genetics. If need be, however, we might consider the possibility of making

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provision for further research training for a period abroad, should this be required.

I should be most grateful for any help you can give us in this, as I know, very difficult quest.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*O.H.*

(O.H. Frankel)

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