Dr Roll-Hansen

MAR 20 1981

Mendel.

Thank you for your interesting & generous respon[illegible] including the reprints. [X] ... →

I also appreciat[illegible] Morgan's adhere[illegible] states "interpr[illegible] segregation.

Remarkably a rather similar ideology impeded the development of bacterial genetics — cf. Hinshelwood's "Chemical Kinetics of the Bacterial Cell"; and I believe even Max Delbrück never quite escaped entrancement by such alluring physico-chemical abstract models.

Meanwhile, Alexander Weinstein has located the passage I was seeking (see excl.) I do not know what would substantiate Ilts' assertion: Nägeli's papers would be a reasonable place to look; but I do not know what is extant.

Pasteur

May I ask your attention to another matter. For some time I have been fascinated by the degree to which Darwin and Pasteur ignored each other. I enclose the only mutual references I have been able to find.

As I note you have specialized in Pasteur, I wonder if you can add to this?

An even more fundamental issue: can you comment on Pasteur's position in re monomorphism as enunciated by Cohn + Koch? How did personal and national rivalry influence the development of scientific doctrine in this field?

I am sure you will understand my preoccupation with these questions.

Sincerely,

Jim Lawley

P.S. — Reductionism

To answer Vogt 1968: much of the development of molecular and microbial genetics after 1944 surely must be called reductionist:

e.g. the successful search for genetic recombination in bacteria

the selection theory of adaptation (drug-resistance)

the elective theory of antibody formation

the mechanisms of DNA replication (Kornberg).

Not so are the discovery of the role of DNA in genetic transformation (Griffith - Avery)

Transduction in bacteria

nor the vast majority of (recent) practical developments in pharmacology and medicine. (sic!)

With respect to the future, I believe we are on the point of a new cycle of rational reductive applications, symbolized by the rising "DNA engineering" technologies.

PRISM.