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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

January 8, 1958

Dear Curt:

I know that you would want me to make the comment if it occurred to me, and I would not bother.

A propos your paper in PNAS, August 1957, p. 745: so far as I know, no one has induced mutations in "test tube genes", nor observed its occurrence outside the intact cell. The nearest thing to it is the inactivation* of genetic activity by the usual reagents. Please instruct me if I have overlooked what you had in mind.

I doubt that anyone has yet made a powerful study of the point. We have too long had "good intentions" in the Oral tradition.

With all best ~~to~~ wishes,

Yours,

Joshua Lederberg

*e.g. Herriott; Zamenhof