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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS  
Professor Joshua Lederberg

Sept. 7, 1969

Dear Professor Biswell

Thank you for your reprints and references.

The article on fire control slipped somewhere in the pipeline, and escaped getting into today's Chronicle per schedule. However, I am not particularly proud of it as a rounded discussion; among other things, I did not have the benefit of your own writings before composing it. Perhaps I will take up the subject again sometime, after I have read more deeply on it.

I hope I don't come out as a "social Darwinist" from this discussion; analogies between natural selection and social ethics are usually treacherous. What intrigues me the most about the present subject is how easy it is to destroy an important value, with the best of ~~intent~~ intentions, by sub-optimizing policies, executed with incomplete knowledge.

Sincerely  
Joshua Lederberg