



1. My life with genetics began <sup>was</sup> in 1921, only 21 years since the rediscovery of Mendelian principles of heredity. Genetics was in its infancy. I had the privilege to contribute to the subject over many years, being invited to give lectures at universities and scientific meetings.
2. This lasted until about the mid-1940s when invitation suddenly ceased. I had started working with a subject that was totally at odds with the genetic dogma of the times. I had quite accidentally uncovered a genetic phenomenon that was unacceptable <sup>to</sup> strongly suggest that some mutants must have thought I had become senile at an unduly early age.
3. I had been asked many times <sup>how</sup> I felt about ~~being~~ the subject for lack of acceptance of my results, and later perhaps of them. There were some exceptions <sup>to the positive attitude</sup> in the 1950s, several geneticists, Brink at Wisconsin and Peterson <sup>then</sup> at Illinois, began working with the same materials <sup>with some of the same</sup> and goals. ~~There was no conflict~~ So I was not alone.
4. At first, in the late forties, I was naive enough <sup>and others</sup> to believe could be as excited as I was about this <sup>apparent</sup> ~~radical~~ <sup>genetic</sup> phenomenon that could ~~revolutionize our interpretation of~~ <sup>lead to a</sup> ~~non-revolutionary~~ <sup>radical</sup> revolutionary ~~change in our~~ <sup>genetic</sup> interpretation of genetic phenomena. My ~~friend~~ <sup>friend</sup> and that of Dr. Bruce D. Peterson was in contrast. Personally I had no doubts or fears.
5. I was soon disillusioned - and early - by 1947-48, when I commenced to talk about it with visitors to our laboratory they termed "glazy-eyed". -- not listening that was the end. I stopped talking and let the conversation on scientific topics flow from them. Everyone likes to talk about what his own work -- I had a <sup>many</sup> ~~most~~ enjoyable and informative conversation. I learned much about many topics.
6. Some visitors were so honest that they told me immediately what they thought of my views. By the time I heard their remarks I was adjusted to the negative attitude of others but totally unconcerned ~~about~~ them -



1. Your majesties, your highnesses, ladies and gentle men.
2. I must say I am delighted to be here and welcomed by the members of the Swedish people, and I wish to thank them for their many courtesies.
3. I understand I am here because the maize plant revealed to me in the mid-thirties a genetic phenomenon that was totally at odds with the genetic dogma of the time -- the mid-thirties-forties.
4. Recently, with the general acceptance of this phenomenon, many persons have asked me how I responded to the obvious negative attitudes of others. At first I was surprised that they realize how strong this attitude had become in the college, as when it took me only a short time to realize why this was so. I was amused at the and pleased because now I was not obliged to give lectures or become on panels, etc. I was not invited. What was phenomenon was, 20 years ago...

~~Several of my good friends told me directly that I was amused by~~  
~~of my ideas was~~ I remember  
 and enjoyed ~~learning~~ learning of what others thought, (over)  
 Some of my good friends and colleagues ~~now~~ know me well  
 enough to ~~tell~~ tell me directly what they thought of my work.  
~~Some examples when~~ I gave no pain, but ~~what~~ what  
 because ~~had~~ one person came to a ~~lane~~ lane "well come to  
 visit my lab. After the greeting formalities he said"  
 I understand you are working on something quite strong -- and  
 I don't want to hear about it" so - he talked, and I heard.

Post address: a lot from him. Over the years I come to listen to  
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 My opinion -- it was a splendid education

Also, not being invited to give lectures, attend etc, I was  
relieved from all outside pressures - This rather brief period  
of being considered a bit mad was, truly, one of the  
most ~~satisfactory and enjoyable~~, free, satisfactory  
in all my scientific life -- ~~freedom from the material~~  
~~turnover~~ - I could wait to return to the laboratory ~~with~~  
~~money~~ - both money - The work was such a delight

if they had had <sup>the same fantastic</sup> my experiences with the maize plant as I  
was in doing, they would ~~have recognized~~ <sup>have</sup> ~~tried~~ <sup>come to the</sup>  
<sup>the same</sup> conclusion. ~~as was that I had come to~~ <sup>draw</sup>  
The evidence and logic <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ incontrovertible.

1. your majesties, your Highnesses and ladies and gentlemen
2. I am delighted to be here and charmed by the warmth of the Swedish people. And I want them to know how much I appreciate their many courtesies
3. Fundamentally I am here because of a discovery of a genetic phenomenon, quite by accident, that was totally contrary to genetic dogma
4. Recently, with general acceptance of this phenomenon, I have been asked: How I responded to neglect of my studies over so many years.  
At first - surprise - evidence and logic so strong - genetic dogma made it impossible to respond.
6. My colleagues told me of their frustration with my work and conclusions - on many different  
some would not contain this information

They had to tell me -- not unkindly but  
not directly - For example -

① Marge Grotz - visit - entrance -  
statements.

IF Marcus Repossi had not  
told me ~~of~~ what your work was  
all right, I would not believe you  
you are.

② Andrew Frazer - an animal physiologist.  
Biology - beginning of discipline  
I understand you are doing something  
quite original. What? Do not want  
to hear a word about it.

7. Why those years of neglect were most  
enjoyable. Not being invited to give  
lectures, but not, abandon committee, etc  
was a true joy.

1. Your majesties, your highnesses, ladies & gentlemen
2. I am delighted to be here and cheered by the warmth of the Swedish people, and wish to thank them for their many courtesies.
3. I understand I am here because of a discovery of a genetic phenomenon, made quite by accident, ~~of which~~ that was totally contrary to the dogma of the times. ~~et cetera~~ ~~conformation~~ the mid-nineteen-fifties
4. Recently, with the general acceptance of the phenomenon, I have been asked how I responded to the negative reactions of my colleagues.
  - At first I was surprised as although the data and logic was self-evident.
  - I soon learned that a concept so foreign to the current dogma could not be understood and evaluated except by the non- indoctrinated young students - who soon were converted by their efforts.
5. I found the negative attitudes were intense and were communicated in many ways. Some of my good friends and colleagues

15. of that time, I had ceased to be surprised. And this, I was assured -- not possible

could not contain their frustration - For  
instance, a person I had not seen for some time -  
a major scientist visited my laboratory. He  
had just entered the room & his frustration  
broke through. He said "of course Rhoads  
has not told me your work was alright, I  
wonder how he heard a word you said". By  
that time, however, I was inclined to criticism.

In another incident another person - an  
animal physiologist visited my laboratory,  
after the expected and warm greeting he said  
"I understand you are doing a fascinating piece  
of research. Well I don't want to pass a word  
about it".

6. The years of my last year were the most  
enjoyable of my life. I was free of all the usual  
obligations. I was invited to participate in  
many things & had just Joe beside.  
It was wonderful.



that soon appeared when they visited  
my lab. and I started to talk about  
my research. A soon followed to  
begin by asking the visitor to tell me  
about his work.

Everyone likes to talk about what he  
is doing -- instead of glazing eyes  
the eyes sparkle.

I learned very much & was grateful  
for this

5. However, a one person was very quiet  
in letting me know what the first  
about my work. For instance -

~~Richard ...~~

Among really good friends, with no desire  
to answer told me most directly  
one, mid, 1951, maybe Jan - "

at another time, a truly warm friend, on a  
visit to my lab began over by  
stating -

6. It was not suggested. Rather, I  
found it amusing, truly.  
I suspected that sooner or later  
the phenomenon causing such  
works to be found in other  
experiments.

7. That it was is the reason from here.





Stockholm - Sweden

1. Your majesties, your highnesses, ladies & gentlemen.
2. I am delighted to be here and charmed by the warmth of the Swedish people; and I wish to thank them for their many courtesies.
3. I understand I am here because the maize plant revealed a genetic phenomenon that was totally at odds with the genetic dogma of the times - the mid-nineteen forties and for ~~many years~~ <sup>many years</sup> ~~the past~~ <sup>the past</sup> ~~more or less~~ <sup>more or less</sup>.
4. Recently with the general acceptance of this phenomenon, I have <sup>been</sup> asked on many occasions how I felt about having my work ignored. ~~for so many years.~~ <sup>for so many years.</sup>
  - ① at first I was surprised. The data and logic seemed so obvious
  - ② then I realized that had any one had the name of fantastic experiences as I had with the maize plant, that person would have drawn the very same conclusion. ~~The evidence and logic was irrefutable.~~ <sup>very different</sup>
  - But ~~that~~ <sup>the evidence and logic</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~irrefutable~~ <sup>very different</sup>
5. The negative attitude was communicated to me in various ways - mostly neglect -- no invitations to give lectures, act on panels, etc.
  - ① Some of my papers published in 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

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my life with genetics began in 1921 By the way, I know to

1. ~~Before 1940~~ the mid-1940's I was invited to give lectures at universities or science meetings
2. after that time <sup>however</sup> must have stopped, and did appear again for many years later. (quite)
3. then we became a had "accidentally discovered a phenomenon that was so radical it could not be accommodated into the genetic dogma of the time - even though several other persons started working with the same materials and subject. We were outcasts.
4. During the 1950s and 1960s - our institution at least numerous ~~just~~ visitors throughout the year. Out of contact or friendship they would visit me. And this is where the fun began.
5. at first I was naive enough to believe they might be interested in learning of my radical findings. And aware of the ~~more~~ plant materials - with pleasing to <sup>my</sup> spectacular patterns in their pattern - I had many spectacular flower patterns. A few visitors were truly interested and in a few minutes I would write what they wanted. I was surprised at what they were interested in.
- \* 6. I was soon disillusioned - almost immediately they became glassy-eyed. One person accurately felt a deep which I was ~~discovering~~ attempting to discuss the subject.
- \* 7. In 1951, a geneticist working with the same plant materials my lab. almost before greeting me he burst out saying - "of course Rasmus had not told me what you had done was all right I would not believe a word you said."

I was surprised at what they were interested in. I was surprised at what they were interested in. I was surprised at what they were interested in.

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f.

much later

8. Another person of whom I had <sup>heard</sup> ~~heard~~ for his stay at C.I.H.,  
<sup>visited</sup> (an animal physiologist) ~~came to~~ <sup>visit</sup> me at my lab  
before we ~~we~~ started a serious discussion he said:  
" Now, I understand you are working on something  
quite strange. And I don't want to hear anything  
about it." That made me laugh -- truly
9. Those years were a ~~free~~ <sup>pleasant</sup> ~~pleasure~~ <sup>time</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>for</sup>  
visitors talked about their own studies - I learned much  
without having to contribute anything  
also, I enjoyed the freedom of not ~~having~~ <sup>being</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>being</sup>  
distracted <sup>by the necessity</sup> to defend an unpopular, unattractive  
view of genetic phenomena.



Because of the isolations within tribes  
and the different types of selection  
within subspecies, maize

<sup>2000-05</sup>  
obs: sugars, starch types and there are many <sup>new</sup> changes in seed covering to make  
grain easier, etc. occurred. It is now the most diverse of all  
cereal plants <sup>and</sup> all <sup>of this</sup> <sup>modern</sup> <sup>selection</sup> <sup>and</sup> selection. The American  
Indians were expert plant breeders. We have not done better with our  
own presumed knowledge of how it should be done.

This diversity is now providing the material that I not only ~~study~~  
but feel <sup>quite certain</sup> will tell us what <sup>key</sup> changes <sup>are</sup> ~~responsible~~ <sup>is</sup> to the DTR  
~~that~~ <sup>Component</sup> ~~is~~ responsible for hybrid vigor -- the <sup>exceptional</sup> vigor that  
of a hybrid plant resulting from the cross of two lines of maize  
that are not ~~strictly~~ alike for ~~the~~ <sup>these</sup> particular DTR  
components. If this turns out to be true, we will have a  
entirely new view of what these components are doing.  
They have been called "junk DNA" but I don't believe this is correct  
true

I

1. Your Majesty, your highness, ladies & gentlemen.
2. I imagine the surprise of many persons at learning that a prize in physiology or medicine had been given to a person who has worked only with plants, and their genetic systems.
3. However - genetics and its principles are basically the same for all organisms. Much information from one source may be transferred to another.
4. Certainly, ~~Mendel~~ Mendel's principles of inheritance were derived from studies of the pea plant - published in 1865. The discovery of these principles also marked a new era in the study of plants.
5. However, after 1900, these <sup>genetic</sup> principles were shown to apply to both plants and animals alike.

1. I believe I was most fortunate in having the maize plant - ~~Indian~~ corn - as my research material.
2. It is a fantastic plant - and this is due to the extraordinary talents of the American Indian tribe for their uncanny success ~~with~~ with plant breeding. We do not know the details of this, but through their efforts, the plant is by far the most civilized of all economic plants.
3. Their breeding method so changed the seed from its projected original state that ~~if~~ the plant can no longer propagate itself. It must be propagated by man. It would die out, presumably, if man ceases to collect the seed and then plant each seed in the proper way for the next generation.

- III. 1. The extraordinary changes in the plant structure -- each kernel from a tuber in a special, dried way, has taken place, thanks to man, in an extraordinarily short time. Many changes in the last few thousand years.
- 2. I am one among many who have attempted to trace some of this history.
- 3. ~~So~~ Some of us have come to the same conclusion, utilizing a different method of gathering information.
- 4. Probably originated from a wild plant in So. U. Mexico.
- 5. Later, taken to other countries - particularly Guatemala.
- 6. " into So. America -
- 7. Since each tribe kept its own maize for the tribes' subs and requirements - maize changes occurred with time and place.

IV The diversity of maize, how it was accomplished, ~~from~~ and why it occurred so rapidly ~~is going to~~ should change our views of the evolutionary process -- These views are changing now but maize may tell how some of this occurs. ~~It already suggests the view of~~ what it may <sup>now already</sup> contribute to the view of <sup>that advocates the</sup> punctuated evolution process.