

January 29, 1955

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Dear Bernie:

Yours of the 27th just received. I am quite pleased at your action and letter to Plumb. If you do see him, I think it would be important to emphasize that these are not mere private irks, but that they are shared by everyone that either of us knows who is acquainted with Eagle and his talk. I assume you have also apprised Harry of this. Did he ever get a reply to his letter to Elumb's editor?

I am pleased at the "sale" of ACLU; a little surprised that it had not been consummated earlier. I don't go along with them on every issue, and this report of Malin's went way out of line, I think, in even taking up Lysenkism as a scientific issue, but they have certainly been the most effective single organized expression of jealous concern for civil liberties. I am sure their law is better than their science.

As to the Detroit symposium, I just wrote an acceptance to Gaebler. The program looks like great fun just to listen to. I would plan, in fact, to emphasize just the points you mentioned, i.e., to try to formulate the ground rules for trying to guess what gene-enzyme relationships might turn out to be, in rather elementary terms. I would have no wish to go into a polemic with Norm: probably neither of us would think that very fruitful. But don't count on "dispassionate, critical analysis"; I asked Gaebler to put me down as "commentary". Unfortunately, I had to put a string on my acceptance. November is, unfortunately, a season of unusual distractions, and, for example, that book by Luca and me may turn out to be so pressing that I might have to change my plans. I wrote Gaebler, however, that I would come if I possibly could.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg