January 28, 1947

Professor Erwin Chargaff  
College of Physicians and Surgeons  
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Chargaff:

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to take part in the Symposium on Quantitative Biology at Cold Spring Harbor this summer. The subject is to be "Nucleic Acids and Nucleoproteins." According to present plans, the discussions will deal with the following problems:

(1) Structure of nucleic acids  
(2) Metabolism  
(3) As active biological agents  
(4) Viruses as nucleoproteins  
(5) Bacterial nucleoproteins  
(6) Cytological aspects.

I would like very much to have you present a paper at one of the sessions dealing with problems listed under (5). Authors are entirely free to select their own titles and subjects, so long as they fall within the general scope of the Symposium.

According to the present plan, the Symposium will begin on June 11 and continue through June 20. All papers and prepared discussions will be published as Volume XII of the Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology. To facilitate discussions and to insure prompt publication, all manuscripts should be submitted by June 1.

One of the main purposes of the Symposium is to stimulate the exchange of ideas between workers in borderline sciences. The Symposium is planned as one unit, with the expectation that all participants will be present throughout the sessions. The Biological Laboratory is also offering its facilities for summer research to all taking part in the Symposium, and would like to have many members use it as their research headquarters during the whole summer or a part thereof. All participants on the program will be guests of the Laboratory during the Symposium. However, the Laboratory is not in a position to pay traveling expenses except for participants who otherwise could not attend. In that case arrangements are to be made in advance of the meeting.

I hope that you will find it possible to take part in this year's Symposium. If so, I would appreciate very much your filling out the enclosed sheet and returning it to me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

M. Demerec  
Director