

November 18, 1947.

Dr. Ward Pigman,  
The Institute of Paper Chemistry,  
Appleton, Wisconsin.

Dear Dr. Pigman,

In the course of my research program here, I have been comparing the activities of wild type and of lactose-negative *E. coli* on lactose and on b-phenyl galactoside. Using limited quantities of a sample belonging to one of my colleagues here, it appears that while the wild type can adapt so as to utilize the b- $\emptyset$ -galactoside, the lactose-negative cells cannot. My further pursuit of this problem is limited by supply of these substrates, which I am not in a position to attempt to make until my lab. is completed some months hence. Should you have available some 1-5 gms. of these substances, I should very greatly appreciate the gift thereof. I have in mind the following: a- and b-  $\emptyset$  galactoside, a- and b-  $\emptyset$  glucoside, and the methyl (or other alkyl) galactosides. I hope this request does not seem exorbitant: do not hesitate to say so if it is. With my many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,  
Ass't Professor of Genetics.