

a too-fixed appointment for someone so distant, whose qualifications would be hard to judge. If she (or others like her) could arrange for a post-doctoral fellowship of some sort, they would not have any trouble later in finding a position commensurate with their abilities.

With best wishes for the new year,

January 6, 1957

Yours sincerely,

J. R. Lederberg

P.S. We hope you can manage a schedule that won't be too strenuous. We hope to be able to see a bit more of India than the insides of laboratories, but we know we would be soon lost and confused without some minimum shepherding. We thank you for your very cordial letter of the 29th.

How effective a grapevine it is if it spreads so readily around the world!

We are planning to spend next summer in Melbourne, and if world conditions were not too unsettled, we hoped to return via India and Europe. Hilary Koprowski visited us recently, and learning of these plans has already written to Dr. Khoshdel about this, in much the same vein and intent as your letter. (Perhaps this was a leaf of the grapevine!) It would therefore greatly simplify any further discussions if they could be coordinated with him.

Also we do not have a great deal of time! We have barely one month free for our world-traveling, and want at least a week or ten days of this to spend with Cavalli at Milan, on account of some urgent joint business. At best, then, we have an equal time that we might spend in India. We are of course eager to have an opportunity to travel in your fabulous country, and to meet more of your fellow scientists, and will be very pleased to consider any arrangements you might suggest. Since we are travelling together, and must therefore make up two fares, we have a financial problem too. Our trip to Melbourne and return is subsidized under a Fulbright grant; a straight round-the-world trip comes to an additional \$300 each, exclusive of local excursions and expenses--we can hardly expect to manage all of this from your contacts, but mention this to indicate the overall scope of our own problem.

It is too early to give a very specific itinerary; however, we will leave Sydney between about Sept. 1 - 6, 1957. Aside from perhaps a day at Bangkok, and brief stopovers elsewhere en route, we planned to concentrate our visits at Milan, and in one other country, hopefully India. We might therefore expect to reach Bombay September 8 - 11, and should leave between the 15th and 20th. Is this too brief an interval to be of any use to you? I realize the time is rather tight, but as we are taking this pleasure on to other duties, and have our regular duties here in Madison to consider, there is not much better that we can do.

We are moving rather slowly in cytogenetics, largely because I have been distracted by the biology of protoplasts, but these steps being tied into the picture. I haven't as yet, but it does go very little along these lines, and might do more, but it does go very slowly, and I would prefer to find a well-qualified graduate student to put more emphasis on these studies. Do you, by the way, know a Dr. Shrida Desai, who now lives in Bombay, but took her Ph.D. at London with Godward. I do not know if we could offer a suitable appointment for a post-doctoral, but if you know her, a word from you would be helpful to anyone here who might consider her. I am rather hesitant to seek funds here for