Personal [illegible]
JOSHUA LEDERBERG

Rodman Rockefeller
IBEC

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Dear Rodman

I was very much pleased with the confidence implicit in your asking me to stand for nomination to your board.

I have also been interested to peruse the annual reports. IBEC is connected with many pressing problems throughout the world. Many of them are fascinating — perhaps almost too much so, for they would take me far afield from even the more peripheral areas where I could be most helpful to you.

My initial reaction is therefore a counter proposal: I will be glad to meet with you at NTF/Sonoma on July 23, and to stay in touch with you from time to time on opportunities for genetic improvement developments.

For the time being, I feel that board membership would entail deeper responsibilities and commitment to time on a fixed schedule than I can digest. This is not to preclude further discussion of the possibility in the future.

As to compensation, I do not wish a fee for my present level of responsibility (beyond travel expenses or the like as necessary). If, at some later time, IBEC wishes to make a contribution to the Rockefeller University, that would, needless to say be warmly received. I could still understand the view that would prefer to wait for the materialization of some benefit to IBEC; but I hardly wish to be the seat of any impediment to a philanthropic impulse!

I am very keen to see some constructive action in poultry improvement and related fields. If the week of July 23 is convenient would you not wish me to broker a visit to Cetus at Berkeley, Calif.?

You mentioned a meeting the evening of May 27. My schedule for that time is still murky. I will be out of town intermittently until about May 12 but will try to have a firmer answer about then.

If my suggestions are reasonably agreeable to you, I will definitely save the July 23 date, and look forward to a continued association at this measure.

I hope Mr. Hoskins did come through his procedure as well as was hoped + forecast.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg