11-18-95

Dear Dan —

I very much enjoyed your remarks.

Many things were going with lab strains, but selection for cross-ability was not one of them. It was pure luck!

The canonical crosses were conducted with the very first auxotrophic mutants available (from Tatum), and then with further derivatives in which I introduced additional markers.

679-680 (thr leu) as we later learned had already lost the F factor.

The parental K-12 from which all the mutants were derived already carried an effective F.

But think about the years of continue culture passage of K-12 from its first isolation in 1922.

Yours,

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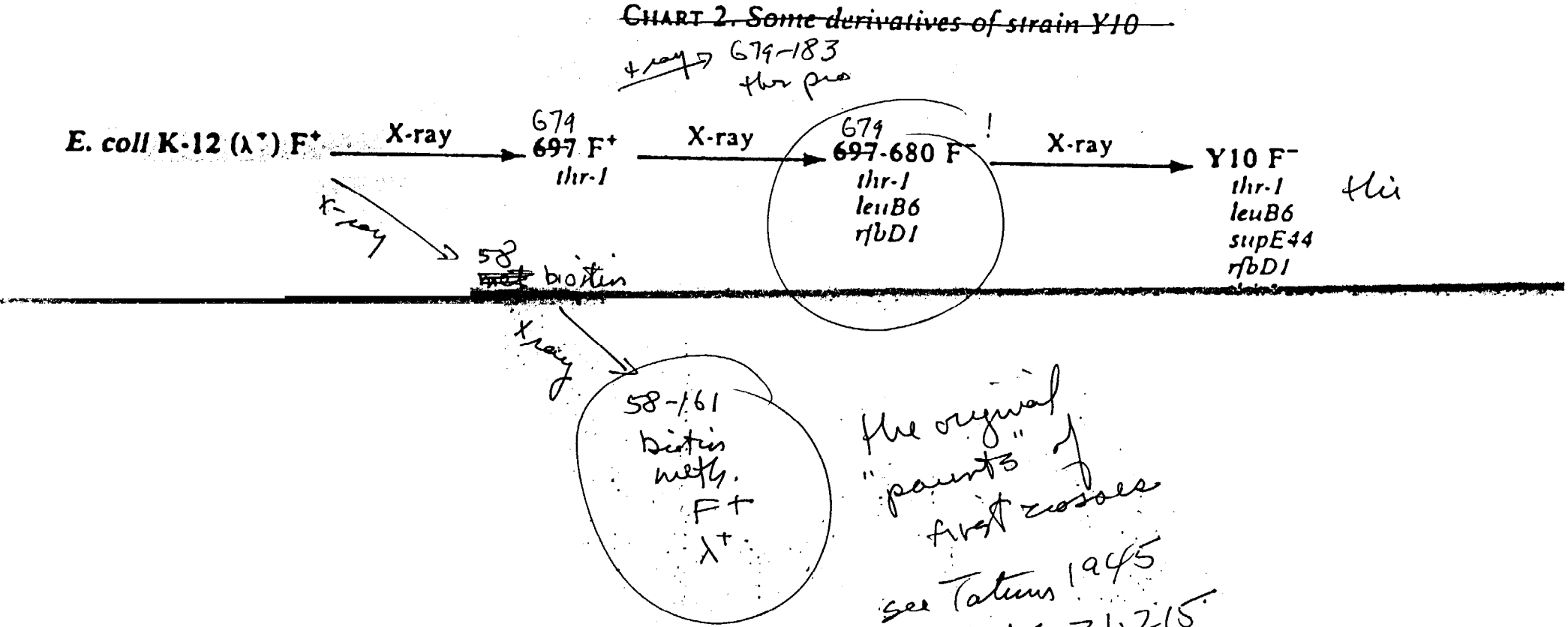
v11/20/95

⊗.. $\bar{x}$ →

~~CHART 2. Some derivatives of strain Y10~~



the original "parents" of first crosses

see Tatum 1945 PNAS 31:215

Nutritionists were hard to come by in these days. We did not have many to choose from.