JUL 19, 1985

Dear Dr. Maglade,

I was delighted to see your note in Science and would appreciate copies of your publications.

Some 20 years ago, I had a similar interest in these environmental factors on perinatal events—see my book—but did not succeed in getting much useful information on mortality.

Without being able to get conclusive evidence, I am inclined to think that there is a psychosomatic component (maternal anticipation of the rhythm of birth), there may be problems of hospital staffing—

influencing the likelihood of induction of labor not playing a major role. I should expect a good day on Fridays, rather than a spread through the week, as is generally observed.

There is also a diurnal cycle and hence induction may be expected to play some role.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

A few observations have come my way on day-23 mode effects on patient outcome. If you could arrange my bibliography, I would be grateful.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

New England Jour. Medicine
28 July 1977

-end ( reproduced)