

November 6, 1959

Dr. Francis J. Ryan
Department of Zoology
Columbia University
New York 27, New York

Dear Francis:

Thank you for your letter of October 30th. What a splendid idea it would be to award an honorary degree to B. O. Dodge! He has always been one of my heroes (and Esther's too). Certainly his work on neurospora was the decisive beginning of serious genetic research on microorganisms and the immediate inspiration to the work that Beadle and Tatum and you and I have done since then. I would welcome the chance to pay tribute to him at least vicariously through the recognition by my Alma Mater.

Yours truly,

Joshua Lederberg
professor of Genetics