March 24, 1967.

Dear Frances:

I read your little book on vitalism last night and want to tell you that I really enjoyed it.

I admire your courage and tenacity in defending the life force among the physicists. The supply from that source is astonishing. I gave a talk on religion in a campus series here last year and got the most lunatic and heated response from a young chemical physicist. Evolution of coming patterns in birth was too much for him and he felt more secure with creatin.

What can we do about this terrible ignorance of modern biology? A major scandal of the humanities: Science curricula at our best colleges is that at least...
Third of the students never take a course in modern biology. They usually
disregard their science requirements with
a course in geology, anthropology or psych-
ology. I'd guess the percentage not taking
biology is highest among phys. sci. majors.
The Biol. Sci. Curriculum, which has been
targeted in our high schools for five or
more years has been an improvement but
for how revolutionary. How can we teach
biology to school children without qualified
teachers?

There has been a rash of discovery
of enzymes that join DNA strands. One in
uninfected E. coli discovered by Gallant at NIH
and by lehman here requires a cofactor which
is not a nucleotide phosphate. Another in
T4-infected cells (discovered by Richardson,
by Lehn and locally too) requires only ATP.

We're investing our venture capital
in genes and membranes.

Sincerely, John