

January 19, 1953

Dr. Harry Eagle
National Microbiological Institute
N.I.H., Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Harry:

I've just received a letter from E. B. Chain concerning the Symposium on Growth Inhibition and Chemotherapy. As he mentioned that you had suggested my name as a participant, and that you were in charge of this symposium, I thought it both expeditious and proper that I should consult you before making a formal reply.

What I should want to consult you about is whether it would be appropriate for me to ask L. L. Cavalli, of the Istituto Sieroterapico Milanese, to collaborate on the authorship of this paper. There are several reasons in support of this plan. Cavalli has certainly done about the best work in the field of genetic recombination analysis of drug resistance. He will certainly be at the Congress, whereas my own plans are still fluid (to the extent that financial arrangements are not). And, as it happens, we have been collaborating closely (though by mail only) on other problems, and have published two papers together already. If you approve, I would take this up with him at once. It may turn out that the contribution will be in fact by Cavalli and Lederberg, or Cavalli alone, and I wanted to be sure that these contingencies would be acceptable, if they should arise. I would appreciate this opportunity of working it out with Cavalli, as against the formality of your withdrawing your invitation to me, and transferring it. Perhaps Cavalli is already on the program. If so, I will have to discuss the matter with him before deciding whether to make a separate contribution.

May I assume that as soon as you have the definite information yourself, you will let me know who else will be on the program on related subjects (e.g., perhaps Hinshelwood, or others, as well as yourself?)

As these rather complex and transoceanic arrangements will have to be made within a restricted time, the favor of an early reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg