

October 31, 1952

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Dear Tracy:

Judging from your letter of the 28th, I would guess we have very much the same prospects for GOM. I can fully appreciate your sense of harassment by your own immediate writing obligations. Like your students, I will also welcome the publication of your accumulated research findings.

I am making only one commitment to GOM, by which you can judge the pace which I hope to keep. That is that I am not going to undertake any other review or writing jobs, except for research findings of course, that would constitute distractions from GOM. From past experience, I would guess that we are about equally tempted to write in general terms when there seems to be a free moment. If these temptations can be disciplined or focussed on this particular objective, I think it will be accomplished in its own good time. Mr. Freeman was here yesterday and assured me that his interest, at least, was not deflected by the prospects that this would be a long term job.

Of course I had fully expected that as joint authors we would have to be jointly responsible for each chapter. My selfish interest in this collaboration has been the education that I expected to get out of it. If we have each set 10 years as our personal limits, together we can perhaps cut that in half. But as a practical matter we ought each to take responsibility for the early drafts of each chapter.

Don't take my outline too seriously— it was not intended to be complete. But the more I think of it, the more obvious it becomes that the "general section" will have to follow the special sections, although the latter will have to be written so as to support the former. I have a feeling now that we have a sufficient mutual understanding that we should go ahead and put together the special sections as occasion permits, and that the enterprise will develop a momentum and structure of its own. The one way that I am going to get to think about the genetics of the protozoa will be to see your drafts on it. You have the advantage of the demands of the lecture-room for a penetration of bacteriology, but perhaps I can still do something of the same service. Anyhow, as I wrote in my last letter, I am not going to go ahead without you, but will proceed conservatively on the assumption that we are still together on it.

