

July 15, 1946.

Dear Kim:

How's interning- have they sapped you dry yet? What have you heard from the Navy about a period of service when you're through? They jsut sent me an HP Ensignship a couple of weeks ago. However I'm staying up here another year with a leave of absence.

The Cold Spring Harbour Symposium this summer on Heredity and Variation in Microorganisms has just closed. Included was a paper by Lederberg and Tatum on 'Novel Genotypes in Mixed Cultures of Biochemical Mutants of Bacteria+'. The evidence is quite conclusive, although perhaps meagre in quantity, for a recombination process in E. coli: we get out wild types from mixtures of double or even triple biochemical mutants, and we can show segregation for phage resistance in these wilds (prototrophs). Also we have isolated one (1) new recombinant of a recessive type: from biotin-~~alanine~~-cystine-less and threonine-proline-less a biotin-prolineless. We're looking for more obviously. There was quite a fuss after the paper was presented- I got into an unfortunate argument with Lwoff, but everything was smoothed out eventually. Delbrück summarized the general feeling with the statement that there was no obvious loophole, but that more data were obviously necessary. It was a fascinating symposium. I tried to get in touch with you but every time I called you were out? Aren't you living at 46 St. during the summer. Regards to Barbara and to The Fourth.

Sincerely,