

① The field of molecular genetics has advanced with incredible rapidity during the last 10 to 15 years. You may wonder whether the new knowledge will have any effect upon the eternal questions of who we are and where we are going. I think it will have a marked effect, but ~~not immediately~~. Much

② more basic information must first be obtained.

The initial objective is to understand the chemistry of the normal cell. This leads naturally to an understanding of the aberrant cell, & is obviously of great importance to medicine.

~~During the next 25 years~~

One can predict that a new area of research will emerge

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during the next 25 years -
that of molecular evolution, in
which the effect of synthetic genes
upon the economy of the cell will
be explored.

We know that the modernizing
of the cell will accept & follow
any instructions written in
the appropriate molecular language.
The language has been deciphered.

④

and it seems probable that most, if
not all forms of life on this planet
use the same language with minor
variations.

Specific surgery is a
reality, both with microorganisms
and with mammalian cells.