

5650 Ellis Avenue

March 7, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

I wonder whether you remember my having dinner at your house at Lake Geneva several years ago. There was a meeting of atomic scientists at Lake Geneva which George Nebolsine attended, and your brother Spelman and his wife came along with Nebolsine to Chicago. At that time you were interested in artificial insemination of cows, and I wonder whether you are still interested in this subject.

I recently got somewhat interested in fertility, both human and animal, and I am playing with the idea of starting some work with bull sperm. This is all very tentative at the moment, but I thought it might help me to make up my mind if I had a chat with you on the subject. Perhaps sometime when you are free for lunch we could have lunch together, provided that this is convenient for you. I might call your secretary sometime next week to find out whether you are able to set a date.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds

5650 Ellis Avenue

May 5, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

Enclosed is the text of the latest information  
that seems to be available on the British work. I am  
sending a copy also to Mr. Willett at Madison.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosure

5650 Ellis Avenue

May 8, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

Enclosed I am returning the reports you so kindly lent me (with the exception of the Keilholz Report which you said I may keep for a little longer).

The problem with which you are faced is obviously a difficult one, but, perhaps for that very reason, I find it rather challenging. I am quite eager to discuss with you-- some time at your convenience--several things which came to my mind while reading these memoranda.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosures

5650 Ellis Avenue

May 23, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

Enclosed you will find the Keilholz Report.

Many thanks for letting me see it.

Looking forward to seeing you in the near  
future,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosure

5650 Ellis Avenue

June 23, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

I just returned from the East today and I am going back East again on Wednesday.

Enclosed are two copies of a rough estimate of cost for your convenience. Beadle has one and I am mailing one to Sonneborn with a letter, of which I enclose a copy.

I hope you are spending an enjoyable time at Lake Geneva, and I expect to contact you when I get back early in July.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosures

5650 Ellis Avenue

June 23, 1952

Dr. Tracy Sonneborn  
Department of Zoology  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sonneborn:

Enclosed is a copy of an estimate of cost which forms part of the memo forwarded to you by Mr. Prentice.

I just got back from New York yesterday and am leaving Wednesday for Williamstown, but I should be back sometime early in July and may contact you then one way or another.

Once there will be a meeting of the minds in your committee, you might proceed to pick a director whom you consider suitable. However, it seems to me it might be better to pick six instead of one and have Mr. Whittier meet them in the hope that he will like at least one of them well enough to accept him together with your plans for the Institute. Since whoever the director is will have to work very closely with Whittier, it seems to me very important that the two men should like each other; otherwise things will not work. However, this is merely ~~just~~ a suggestion put forward for what it is worth.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosure

5650 Ellis Avenue

July 31, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 North Wells  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

After I talked to you over the telephone yesterday, I sent the enclosed memo to Harrison Davies, the Acting Director of the Institute. He will make the necessary steps during August to put through Dr. Earl Wilson's appointment so that he can start October 1st.

As I told you, I expect to be throughout September in New York. Even though I shall be in Chicago for a short time the end of August, we probably will not have time for a really good talk until sometime in October. In case of need, I can come to Chicago, of course, at any time.

I hope you will succeed in making progress with the Miner Foundation. Please let me know if I can help in any way with that job.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS/sds  
Enclosure

Denver, Colorado  
December 30, 1952

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
American Breeder Service  
325 North Wells Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

We have talked about the possibility that I might work out improved methods for the preservation of semen and that the American Foundation for the Study of Genetics might arrange for the necessary breeding tests. In this connection you raised the question of patents. While we have not entered into any agreement in this regard, we talked enough about the subject to be confident that there will be a meeting of the minds if the time comes when an agreement has to be set up. In order to make certain that the University of Chicago will not object to the type of agreement we have in mind and also as an aid memoir for ourselves, I propose to recapitulate what you and I thought might be considered to be a fair arrangement.

As you know, with respect to patents, I am limited by the Statutes of the University. As far as I can see on that basis as well as on the basis of established precedents, I should be free to enter with the Foundation into the type of agreement which we discussed. However, in order to make sure of this, I propose to sketch in rough outline what we had in mind and give a copy of this letter to the University with the request if they know of any reason why such an agreement should not be concluded to speak up now or else hold their peace forever hereafter. At the same time, this letter might serve as an

Page Two

aid memoir to you and me that will help us later on to remember what we had thought.

It is assumed that I shall devote some time and attention to sperm work during the period stretching from the beginning of November of this year to the end of July of next year and perhaps longer, and that you and I shall be in close touch with each other during that period. If during that period I should work out some method for semen preservation to the point where it seems desirable to have breeding tests made and if subsequently the American Foundation for Genetics will arrange for such breeding tests, then the Foundation ought to have certain rights in any patent application which I might file in order to protect the method. We thought that in this case, the Foundation should have the exclusive right to license others concerning applications to cattle, sheep, hogs, and fowl, whereas the Foundation shall have no rights concerning applications to man, dogs and horses. The Foundation should be permitted to retain one-half of the royalties and where the other half shall go will have to be specified in the agreement. If, however, after a few years one-half of the royalties does not reach \$10,000 a year, then the Foundation should relinquish all rights in these patent applications to a third party that will have to be specified in the agreement.

When the agreement is written it will have to conform to the Statutes of the University according to which I myself cannot gain financially either directly or indirectly from patents based on work performed during my employment by the University.

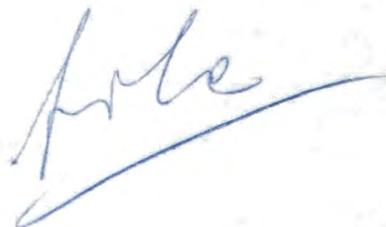
Page Three

It would seem a waste of time for you and me to set down the details of such an agreement at this time. Surely this can wait until there is a patent application on file or some other suitable disclosure of an invention that appears patentable.

In the meantime, I shall submit a copy of this letter to the University at once and shall let you know as soon as I receive an answer.

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard



February 11, 1953

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
American Breeders Service  
325 N. Wells St.  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice,

In accordance with an earlier conversation that I had with you relating to the work of Dr. Wilson, may I suggest that you send to Dr. Lowell T. Coggeshall, Dean of the Division of Biological Sciences a check for \$1,750 made out to the order of the University of Chicago, to cover Dr. Wilson's salary for the period from April 15 to July 31. For your convenience I am sending you an extra copy of this letter which you might attach to your check in addition to such a covering note as you might wish to send along with the check.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Sillari

LS/lit

copy to Dr. Lowell T. Coggeshall, Dean Div. Biological Sciences

May 21, 1953

Mr. J. Rockefeller Prentice  
American Breeder Service  
325 North Wells Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

Enclosed are two invoices for goods which we have already received, with the exception of the case. I would appreciate your sending a check directly, made out to W. H. Kessel and Co. in payment of these invoices. I asked Dr. Wilson to have the instrument ready for you by the end of June.

I would also appreciate, as I mentioned to you when I last saw you, your sending a check in the amount of about 5% of Dr. Wilson's yearly salary; i.e., in the amount of \$300.00, made out to the Research Institutes, University of Chicago, to be used for reimbursing the University for expenses incurred in connection with the sperm work by the Research Institutes. The check should be mailed to the attention of Mr. Clement S. Mokstad, Research Institutes, 5650 Ellis Avenue, Chicago.

I have been reading with great interest the material which you <sup>sent</sup> me and plan before long to go down to Duke and probably also to St. Louis.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

cc: Mr. Mokstad

LS:HW

July 16, 1953

Mr. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 N. Wells Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

Enclosed is a bill for the viewer which Dr. Wilson bought for you and which was delivered with the rest of the equipment by him today. The money was advanced by me and I would appreciate your sending me a check, made out in my name, in the amount of \$69.36.

As far as I know, this is the last reimbursement that is chargeable to you in connection with Dr. Wilson's work.

The brass frame which holds the film in the viewer, was made in the shop of the University and unless something can be worked out about it, it must remain the property of the University. However, I assume that there would be no objection to your using it until such time as you can replace it and return it to the University or else made some other arrangements about it with the University.

The rest of the equipment delivered is your property since you have paid for the microscope and attachments directly to the firm which supplied it. Their bill was sent on to you by me about two months ago and I therefore assume that you have settled it.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

LS:jda

Enc. 1

July 22, 1953

Mr. Rockefeller Prentice  
325 N. Wells Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Prentice:

I refer to my letter of July 16th, and wish to say the following:  
Concerning the brass frame which holds the film in the viewer which was made in our shop, I had a discussion with E. C. Short, Administrative Director of the Research Institutes. Having looked into this matter, he finds that the funds left over from your grant are sufficient to cover the expenses incurred by the University in producing this frame. Therefore, this frame is now considered as your property and it will not be necessary for you to make any further arrangements with the University concerning this frame.

Very sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

IS:jda

Copy to E. A. Short