

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
November 1, 1950

Sir Cyril Hinshelwood
Dr. Lee's Professor of Chemistry
University of Oxford
Oxford, England

Dear Sir Cyril:

The enclosed manuscript might perhaps interest you. We are thinking of using the method described to distinguish between mutation and adaptation of the "Dauer Modifikation" type. In many cases we should be able to distinguish between adaptation and mutation simply by growing the bacteria in the Chemostat at some low bacterial concentration, say 10^3 bacteria per cc., as well as at some higher concentration of say 10^8 per cc. If we then find that the change in the bacteria does not take place at the low bacterial concentration but takes place at the high bacterial concentration, we shall know that we have to deal with a mutation rather than an adaptation.

We thought that among the various cases of "Dauer Modifikation" which you appear to have definitely established as non-mutational in character there might be some which would be suitable for investigation with the Chemostat, and we would appreciate your advice which of your cases you think we ought to select for our investigation. I would also appreciate your sending us those of your reprints which you think we ought to read before undertaking any such experiments.

Yours very truly,

Leo Szilard

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
December 13, 1950

Sir Cyril Hinshelwood
Dr. Lee's Professor of Chemistry
Physical Chemistry Laboratory
South Parks Road
Oxford, England

Dear Sir Cyril:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of November 28.
We shall study your papers and will then probably come
back with some questions.

Yours very truly,

Leo Szilard

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