

1155 East 57th Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
January 22, 1951

Mr. Herbert Anker
c/o Mrs. Helena Anker
1814 Roxbury Avenue
Los Angeles 35, California

Dear Anker:

I am planning to make a trip to the West Coast in the second half of February. Pauling asked me to talk about the Chemostat at Cal. Tech., which I intend to do, and it occurred to me that I might on this occasion also talk at U.C.L.A., provided that there is a group there that would be interested to hear such a talk. Perhaps you will have occasion to ask them about this. If they are at all interested, I would let them know my schedule later when it is more definite, and they could see if they could fit in a date convenient to them. I am enclosing two reprints (one for your personal use) which are taken from the Institute's private publication, but which are identical with the papers in the Proceedings of the National Academy and Science.

I hope that you will have a very pleasant vacation, and I'm sorry that I shall miss you there.

With kind regards--

Sincerely,

Leo Szilard

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO 37 • ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

12-10-59

Dear Dr. Szilard:

Attached you will find some pages of calculations, which I mentioned to you previously on the phone, and also some comments and remarks. I am not sure, whether to come to N. Y. during the vacation, but I should be much tempted to do so, if I can be of help in any way with your antibody paper. Martin will be in Los Angeles. I have heard all the stories about your operation and

wish that I could say something,
that you do not know already.
With my best regards to Trudi
and yourself, I am

yours

Herbert Anker

Camp Leubsdol

Geneva, 6 July 1963

Professor Herbert Anker
Department of Biochemistry
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois
USA

Dear Herb,

Attached is a copy of a letter which I wrote to Ed Levi. I wonder whether I could trouble you to send me a list of the exceptionally capable young biologists who are at present at the University of Chicago, indicating shortly in what they excel and also their field of work. I may or may not be able to use this information in the near future.

Since I am travelling about in Europe at the present time you had best write to me c/o Dr Martin Kaplan, World Health Organization, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Leo Szilard

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

7-16-63

Dear Dr. S. Silard:

I made a survey of the young biologists at this institution and found that there are few who are both young and capable. The capable ones tend towards middle age and the young ones are few in number. The number of instructors in the division is very small and postdoctoral fellows are rare. I have arranged people in the following list by groups according to age and within each group according to quality. I do not know all of them personally well and while I have inquired of others the quality judgements are strictly and subjectively my own:

- 1.) Samuel B. Weiss (37): perhaps the best of the people here; works on RNA synthetase which he discovered (has great competition from Ochoa, Horowitz etc.); found DNA-RNA hybrids; has manipulated this system with great success and imagination; collaborates with Beiduschek on phys-chem. aspects; is sufficiently satisfied to resist standard offers; has lots of space postdocs, and students.
- 2.) Peter Beiduschek (35): phys. chem. of nucleic acids and proteins; denaturation and renaturation of DNA; excellent man; has good space and students.

3) Lawrence Bogorad (42): Has worked on the biosynthesis of heme and is presently interested in plant pigments and light absorption in plants. One of the best botanists with biochemical orientation. Has good space and students.

4) Aaron A. Moscona (about 40): Has wide reputation for work on cell interaction in tissue formation; has shown reaggregation of cells to form tissues; has good space and students

5) Robert Haselkorn (32): You met this young man; he works on the biosynthesis of TMV RNA and protein synthesis and now has taken upon plant cell culture to use for source of enzymes. Has space and a student.

The above 5 people are at least of the caliber of Maury Fox or better. The following ~~3~~ 3 individuals are highly thought of students or postdocs with insufficient publications.

6) Bill Robinson: Postdoctoral fellow with S. Weiss

7) Randy Seed; M.D. and student of I. Goldberg

8) Fred Fox: Student of S. Weiss who regards him as the best student he ever saw.

The following individuals are competent but of lesser caliber than Maury. I believe they are worth talking to:

9) G. Goldwasser (41): works on erythropoietin some nucleic acid metabolism and on leukemia virus. Has recently made progress on erythropoietin action on marrow cell culture.

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- 10.) Bernhard Strauss (36): mutagenic action of alkylating agents on protein synthesis in absence of DNA synthesis; work on gene interaction in methionine biosynthesis
- 11.) Irving Goldberg (37): } collaborate on
 12.) Murray Rabinowitz (36): } actinomycin D effect on protein synthesis and on pseudo ~~paralytic~~ uridylic acid.
- 13.) Lloyd Kosloff (40): you know him; now in La Jolla; unlikely that he will return, since his wife can not stand climate.
- 14.) Donald Steiner: (about 34): former student of mine; works on effect of insulin and glycogen synthetase.

The above individuals are all intelligent but less imaginative than the first group. Then I have been told that the following are competent and even good people in their fields. I don't know them personally.

- 15.) I. Rappaport (40): competition between TMV strains for host; immunology of TMV.
- 16.) S. Yachin (about 30): antigenicity of RNA and synth. nucleotides
- 17.) G. A. Grosso: postdoctoral with H. Swift; electron microscopy of development of hemopoietic cells in liver.
- 18.) F. W. Eitck: immunology of hemolysis

Somewhat further removed from biology is N. C. Yang (35) in chemistry who on occasion dabbles in biological problems. Unfortunately he fell into the hands of Huggins some time ago and got badly burned. He might get better with time. The department also tried to hire the following people at one time or another.

Frank Robman at Brown Univ. (works on genetics of phosphatases)

David Schlessinger at Wash. Univ. (works on protein synthesis in ribosomes)

Don Brown at N. I. H.

Richard Rodolsky at N. I. H.

I had the impression that all of them would have come, if the timing had been right. Robman, Schlessinger and Brown might still do so.

I hope that this information is the one desired by you. I can amplify as required. I do hope that you will help, since the morale here leaves things to be desired.

The longer the division goes at its present pace, the more, in my opinion, will radical improvement depend on splitting the division into basic sciences and medical school. They might be more sympathetic to this idea than the other administrators.

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My work proceeds satisfactorily though slow. I am nearing the end of the animal experiments and I have now enough money to buy a large quantity of the analogue. I am at present negotiating with the company which makes the precursors, but I had no answer from them as yet. I shall inform you as soon as something more definite happens. Would you be willing to sponsor the paper on the animals, provided you approve of it? With my best regards to Touche and yourself and wishes for a pleasant trip, I am yours very sincerely

Herbert Anka