

ISTITUTO SIEROTERAPICO MILANESE

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Direzione Scientifica

Milano, March 1st, 1953

My dear Professor,

I understand that you will soon leave for Australia, a nice journey which I hope you will enjoy. My present reason for writing to you is to enquire whether you have made your mind up as to the subject/s on which you will be speaking at the Biometric Conference. I am trying to have the programme assembled next month and it would help me considerably if you could let me know a title of your talk before you leave for Australia. Sessions which seem to have materialised are as follows: Genetics; Teaching in Biometry; Methodological Problems in Biometry; Experimental Design in Industry; Experimental Design in Agriculture; Functional Relations in Experimentation. An effort is being done to have a session on Immunoassays, and one on Biometric Problems in Ecology; it has been impossible to have programme planners for a session on Social Hygiene, Bailey and Bradford Hill having refused to act as such.

There is nothing really new to write about on the outcome of my experiments. I am struggling to get some information on the nature of the F virus, causing sexuality in E. coli. There are some strains of coli, not carrying the virus, the progeny of which segregates into virus carriers (F+) and non-carriers (F-). I am not yet sure that this is due to the action of a definite locus controlling the inheritance of the virus, as would seem natural to assume. Both this question, and the nature of the virus itself, are adsorbing the little time which is left to me by the organization duties which Bliss has passed on to me.

Flu has caused a great deal of mishaps in the family, which are not yet entirely over.

With my best greetings,

Yours

Luca.