Memo from JOSHUA LEDERBERG

To: HTB

DEC 27 1974

One piece of Temps retrouvé of the past few weeks is the novel Dr Addams (1939) that I must have read c 1940 and was indeed bemused to rediscover. (I most vividly recall its closing line.) The work is well forgotten today — but I have copied out a few telling phrases, (most of which I can also recall.)

In a way I am impressed how fresh it is. 1939 seems much closer to 1974 than it

PROFESSOR JOSHUA LEDERBERG
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305

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was to 1904 — particularly in the frame of the scientific career. [In fact many of the problems "Addams" was studying were well stated and are still not quite understood (e.g. role of prostaglandin in labor, and its utility for contraception!)].

I would affirm that much more could be done with the use of literary material.

Josh.

PROFESSOR JOSHUA LEDERBERG
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305