"The Replication of DNA"

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The Replication of DNA

The following ideas were suggested by two facts suggested established by Dr. A. Kornberg and communicated to me privately.

They have In the polymerane system studied by Kornberg and his colleagues it is found that:

- The DNA of the vinn of 174, supposed to be sigle-stranded, acts as a good primer. The product appears to be normal mo-strand DNA
- 2) Some specimen of DNA coher used with some specimen of the polymerase give hardly any synthesis waters the DNA is lightly attacked by DRA DNASO.

on the bains of them back I was lead to consider the in detail when might be happening in the synthesis of ont in the rest-take.

5th All-University Virology Conference

Berkelsy, Friday and Saturday, October 51 - November 1, 1958

Friday, October 31

Registration-coutside the Board Room, State of California Department of Public Health Building, 2151 Berkeley Way, from 8:30 - 12:00 A.M.

Chairman, First Session - T. T. Crocker, Department of Medicine (SF)

9:15 - 9:35

M. B. McClain, A. J. Hackett and T. D. Dixon

Haval Biological Laboratory (B)

"Mixed infections with policyiruses, types 2 and 3: phenotypic mixing analyzed by single cell virus yields"

9:45 - 10:05

E. Hewton and R. E. Bevis

Haval Biological Leboratory (B)

"Preliminary biophysical data on certain animal viruses following purification by a simplified technique"

10:15 - 10:30 W. L. Bostick
Department of Pathology (SF)
"Current avenues of virus study on Hodgkin's disease"

10:40 - 11:00 Intermission

11:00 - 11:10 L. G. Raggi
Department of Veterinary Medicine (D)
"A macroscopic plate-test for Newcastle disease"

11:15 - 11:25 R. L. Russell, G. J. Jann and S. Froman
Department of Bactariology (IA)
"Phage-host relationships in lysogenic mycobacteria"

11:30 - 11:40 S. Shadomy, S. Froman and M. J. Pickett
Departments of Bacteriology and Infectious Diseases (IA)
"Cytological studies on phage-host interactions in mycobacteria.
II. Phase contrast studies of bacteriophage lysism mycobacteria"

11:45 - 11:55

H. J. Shadomy and O. A. Plunkett

Departments of Botany and Recteriology (IA)

"Preliminary studies on the identification of atypical Mocardia

species through application of bacteriophage"

12:05 - 12:15 L. V. Crawford
Virus Laboratory (B)
"IMA breakdown after phage T5 infection in E. coli"

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Symposium - "The Use of Tissus Culture in Virology" Chmirmon, S. H. Madin, Haval Biological Laboratory (B)

1:50 - 1:45

D. T. Imageusa
Department of Infectious Diseases (IA)
"The use of infected cell cultures as a method of shipping
and preserving virus"

1:55 - 2:10

M. B. McClain

Mayal Biological Laboratory (B)

"Tissue culture as related to problems of assay and isolation of marmalian viruses"

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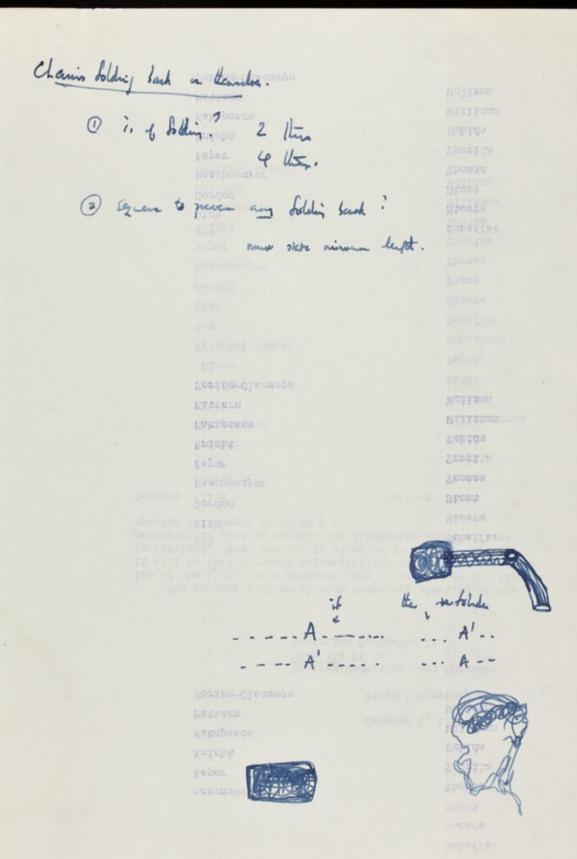
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October 1, 1958

Virus Laboratory Staff

Revised Wednesday Noon Speakers Room 411 BV Lab Beginning September 24

Two persons will speak each Wednesday starting at the top of the list. As a person's name is reached on the list, it will be that person's responsibility to see that a speaker is provided. Each speaker is allotted 15 minutes for the presentation plus 10 minutes for discussion and the first speaker will begin at 12:20 p.m.

Doctors Alava

Bonhoeffer

Bove Bradish

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Clark Crawford

Dixon

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Froenkel-Conrat

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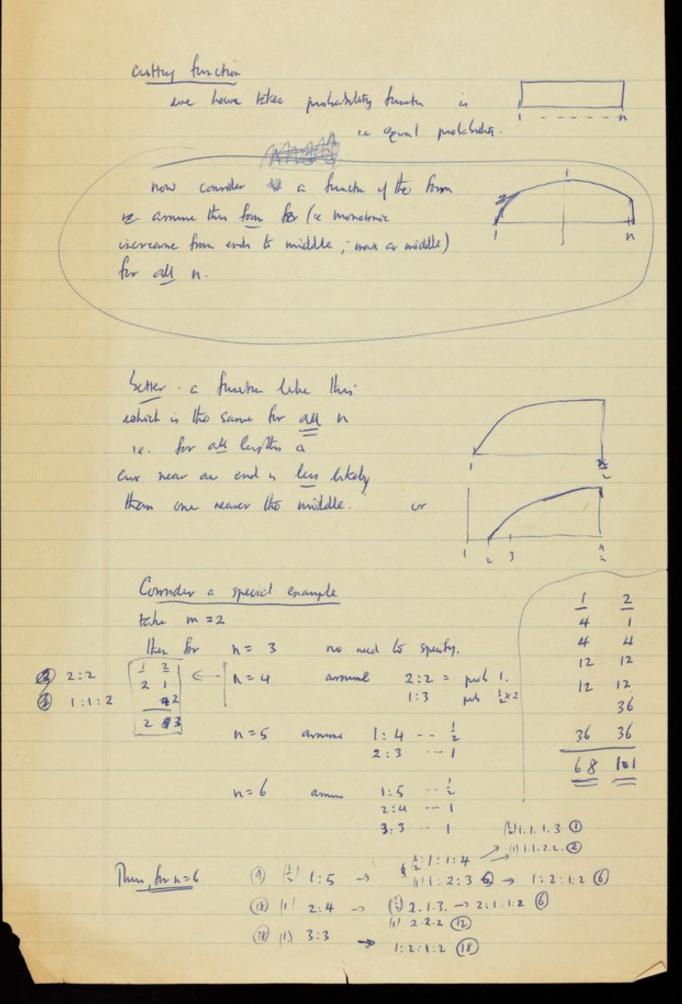
Tsugita

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General term polymer of the units (n7m) cur anywhere, expectedly, but a leight of m with come be our! Aus: equal number of units, 1,2. -- m. Poot. Consider a light of m+1. m:1 Ther excelly tops bother that it is an (m-11:2 le agual mudere, 1,2 ... m 6-2 : 3 2 : A(m-1) 1 : h Now counter any light mir. m+1:1 12. (n+11+ (n+1) + god notes 2.. Sur (mH) -> gad unter 1 : m+1 : gove exact number. Sul for m+3, etc, by induction. QED.

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- Alexander, H., and G. Leidy: Determination of inherited traits of H.

 influences by descriptionucleic acid fractions isolated from typespecific cells. J. Exp. Med., 93:345, 1951.
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 American Chemical Society Abstracts, 131st Natl. Meeting, April, 1957.

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- Loring, H. S., and W. M. Stanley: Isolation of crystalline tobacco mosaic virus protein from tomato plants. J. Biol. Chem., 117:733, 1937.
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highly specific polypeptide. It provides a much more sound experimental as well as theoretical base for contemplating the existence of the myriads of living things on earth. It is a discovery that is affecting the thinking and the course of events in virus research and all that virus research is concerned with, such as genetics, infectious disease, cancer and life itself. Eventually chemists should be able to synthesize a small polymucleotide specifically arranged, hence one may now dare to think of synthesizing in the biochemical laboratory a structure possessing genetic continuity and of all the tremendous implications of such an accomplishment. Studies of this nature and related studies could easily lead directly to the heart of the cancer problem and provide a solution to a situation which today appears so very perplaxing.

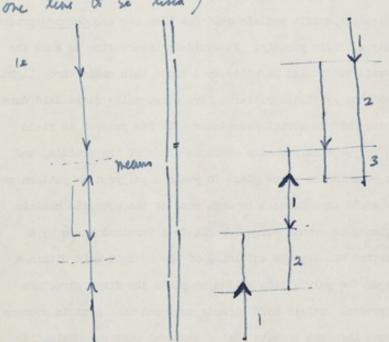
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questions of "self" or of "not self" and of "essentiality" are of the utmost importance. Fortunately we now have many powerful devices for characterizing biological entities, hence the demonstration of the existence of a "foreign" or of a "non-essential" component of a cell is far easier than it was a few years ago. Even so Knight (1946) and Beard and associates (Eckert, Sharp, Beard, Green and Beard, 1955) have found purified preparations of influenza and of myeloblastic leukosis viruses, respectively, to retain antigenic components characteristic of the host in which the virus was grown. In time it may prove possible to separate active nucleic acids from these preparations. I would hope that in order to avoid utter confusion the experimental results will continue to be compatible with the idea that viruses are exogenous in nature even though as has already been indicated we occasionally done very close to the bordarline between an exogenous and an endogenous origin. Thus while the reproduction of genetic material from a member of one species in a member of another species might be accepted, the aberration of a normal component of a given host to yield something which would then reproduce in that host would be incompatible. So far, however, it has not been necessary to trespass for in every case emained carefully the evidence for the virus or self-duplicating mechanism having entered the cell from without at some time in the immediate or far past is good.

In closing may I indicate that I believe that the finding of Fracehol-Courat and of Gierer and Schramm that virus activity may reside in a nucleic acid represents a discovery of the first magnitude, for it means that a polynucleotide of comprehendible structural complexity can carry the code or informational pattern not only for the production of more of the same polynucleotide but also for the de novo production of a Rules for wining down products for multiple souho.

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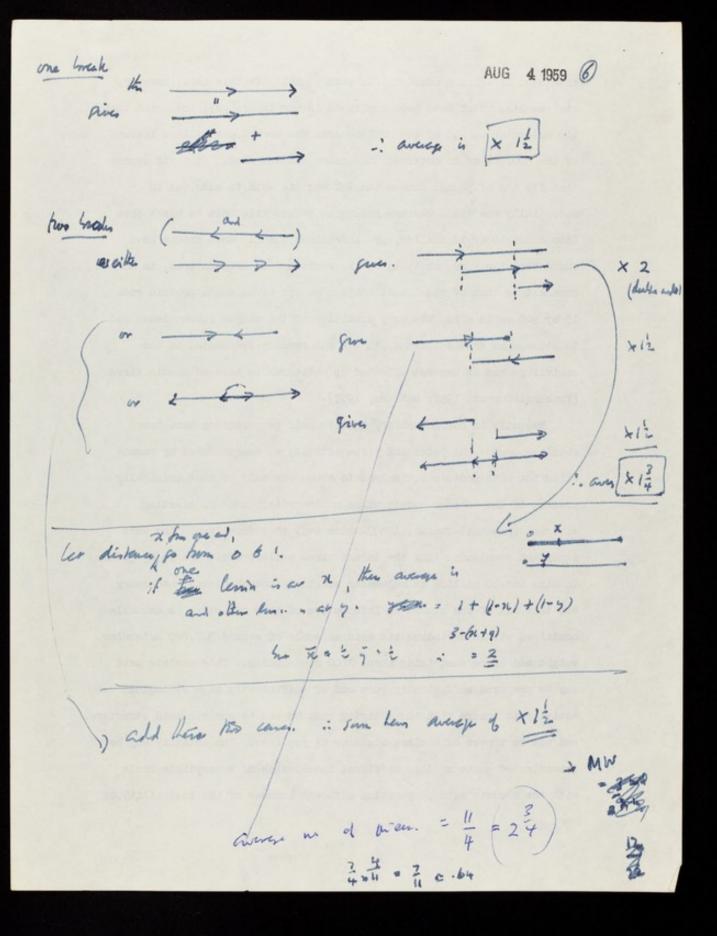
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tobacco mosaic virus nucleic acid results in the production of the normal TMV nucleoprotein containing no histidine or methionine whereas inoculation of the nucleic acid from the ribgrass strain results in the production of a serologically distinct nucleoprotein containing these two amino acids. The nucleic acid obviously provides the pattern not only for the production of more highly specific nucleic acid but also for the de novo production of a highly specific protein. It would be interesting to know the sequence of events within the infected cell since this could throw light on the nature of the synthetic pattern. Are amino acids first laid down along the nucleic acid in strict accordance with its pattern to yield eventually the polypeptide sequence characteristic of the protein, and, if so, is this done in the first place to yield a polypeptide pattern or template which could then be used to form more of the specific nucleic acid-this sequence of events being brought to a terminal phase by a metabolic situation causing the enfolding of the nucleic acid within a super assembly of the polypeptide chains to yield the final structure consisting of several nucleic acid strands enclosed in a protein overcoat? It may be of some interest to note that a thousand unit polynucleotide linear chain having the same base composition as TMV nucleic acid could exist in about 10⁵⁹⁰ different arrangements. This number is so large that it is practically incomprehensible. Even a one hundred unit chain of this composition could exist in about 1057 different arrangements, and this number is about the same as the total number of electrons on and within the earth and vastly larger than the total of all of the living things on earth. It is obvious that insofar as the possibility of coding information relative to nucleic acid and protein synthesis is concerned, nature has provided a tremendous safety factor if a nucleic acid of



the results, which have been confirmed in our laboratory, indicated that the molecular weight of the nucleic acid was around one million instead of the 300,000 or so obtained when detergent was used. It would appear that the use of phenol causes the BW nucleic acid to come out in essentially one piece whereas detergent causes this unit to break down into about 10 or 12 smaller, yet infectious units. Both groups have found that the virus activity of the nucleic acid preparations, in marked contrast to that of the intect tobacco mosaic virus nucleoprotein rods 15 by 300 mm in size, was very sensitive to the enzyme ribonuclease and to storage in salt solutions; it was not readily sedimented in the centrifuge and it was not affected by antiserum to tobacco mosaic virus (Fraenkel-Conrat, 1957; Schramm, 1957).

Recently in our laboratory nucleic acid preparations have been obtained possessing potential virus activity as demonstrated by reconstitution with protein equivalent to about one half of that originally present in the tobacco mosaic virus nucleoprotein used as starting material (Fraenkel-Courat, 1957). One may, therefore, reach the very important conclusion that the intect virus nucleoprotein rod 15 by 300 mu in size and 50 million in molecular weight is not absolutely necessary but that all of the stored up information of this structure is actually contained within a ribonucleic acid molecule of around 300,000 molecular weight and hence containing about 1000 nucleotides. This nucleic acid may be prepared sufficiently pure and of sufficiently high biological activity to insure that the activity must be due to nucleic acid structure and not to traces of nucleoprotein or of peptides. The activity may be demonstrated quite readily on direct inoculation of susceptible hosts with the nucleic acid preparation although because of the instability of

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ghosts whereas the phosphorus was found within the infected bacterial cells. From this it was inferred that the material in the head of the phage, presumably decayribonucleic acid, and only this material had been introduced into the bacteria and hence that this material represented the actual infecting element. However, it must be realized that the introduction of some protein was not and still has not been excluded so that this experiment is still not on the same level as that of the transforming principle. This is especially so since all attempts to separate the decayribonucleic acid chemically with retention of activity have failed as yet. Therefore, the discovery of Fraenkel-Conrat and of Gierer and Schram that preparations of the nucleic acid of tobacco mesaic virus can carry virus activity is a most important one, since this is the first time that this has been achieved with a regularly accepted virus.

In view of the task which I have accepted to consider the potential significance of nucleic acids in malignancy, I think that it may prove useful to examine this experiment with tobacco sosaic virus and the nature and properties of the biologically active nucleic acid. The first isolation of ribonucleic acid of high molecular weight of about 300,000 from tobacco mosaic virus was made by Cohen and the writer in 1942 by very short heat treatment of a solution of tobacco mosaic virus (Cohen and Stanley, 1942). Unfortunately no tests for biological activity were made on this material. The nucleic acid was found to be highly asymmetric and to decompose spontaneously to form asymmetric particles having a molecular weight of about 60,000. This material could be converted with cold 5 percent alkali to particles having a molecular weight of about

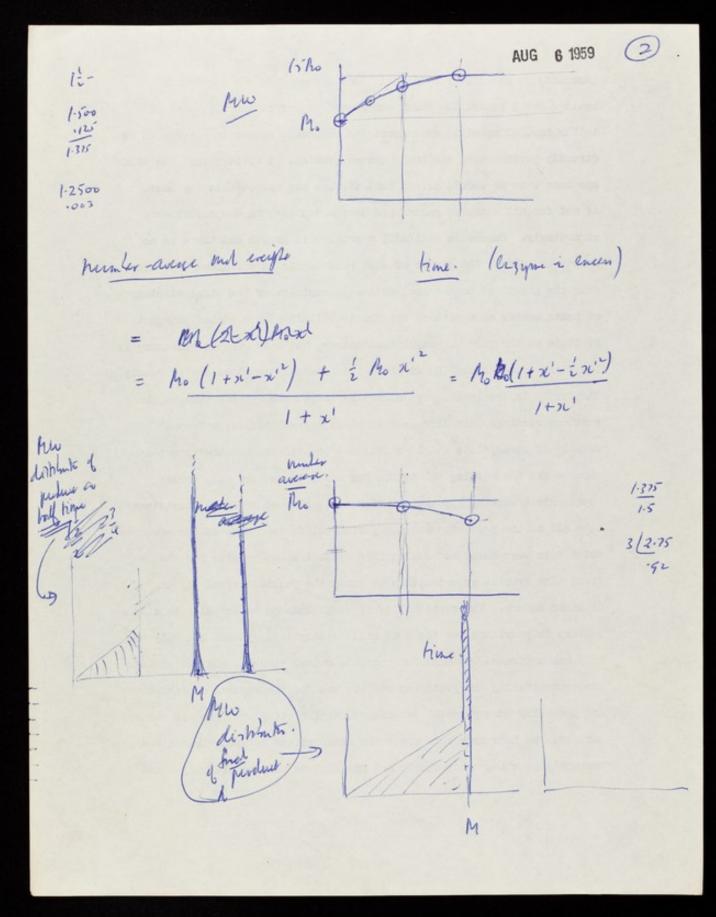
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organisms that is normally absent from R type cells, but that when added to such cells induces their conversion into the sems type of S organisms from which the factor was derived, with the very important result that more of the factor is produced in the induced S cells. This phenomenon is virus-like, and it is because of this and the fact that it may become important from the standpoint of the chemistry of viruses that a discussion is included here. The various type-specific pneumococci may be regarded as cells infected with different 'virus' strains and only the R organisms as healthy. The R organisms may be converted into any one of what we refer to as type-specific organisms by 'infection' with any one of the different 'viruses'. By appropriate treatment it is again possible to free the pneutoccool of 'virus' and secure the healthy R type. It is of interest, therefore, to examine the nature of this factor or 'virus'. The type-specificity of the pneumococcus is determined by its capsular polysaccharide, hance it might be assumed that the type of soluble specific substance or polysaccharide isolated by Heidelberger and Avery or the acetyl derivative isolated by Avery and Gosbel from preumococcus type 1 might be responsible for this conversion. However, Dawson and Sia found that the specific capsular polysaccharide in chemically pure form would not induce the transformation in type. It seems probable, therefore, that, if the polysaccharide plays a role in the transformation, it does so only when in combination with some other substance. Alloway, in attempting to purify the active agent, found that considerable inactive material could be removed by dissolving heat-killed S organisms with sodium desexycholate, precipitating with cold alcohol, and extracting the precipitate with salt solution. The extract was then heated to 60°C., centrifuged, the supernatent liquid filtered through charcoal, and again

The trine course of Mrw. (assume that single claim outs instructioned as a primer) one break (amme teto limber & brech, a cucen erzyme? this will evalually five Mw = Mo and More (50 <1) ler v = appropriete velocity combar. V= ml. ut (for one break per indende) erfr(+ xx vt) up to vt = More = M + V+ this is armaly the MW a wel in the care. in pro poe for m m time pear Mw = Now for a propulation, where ne taken all value quality Setion 6 and 1, was fer: Convoter a true t' = Mon!: then all nulearly with ne L'n' until have Smisled IL >x' and have up themed M = Vt' Thun had betw. = Mo + Shondx + ME (1-n') vt' = Mo + i Mo x12 + & MAYOR a Mofrete + (1-x1) Mo x1 Ma (1+x'- 2n')

years ago. There has never been a time in the past which is the equal of the present with respect to rich opportunities to emplore experimentally the possibility that human cancer is wholly or in part due to the activities of viruses.

Following the isolation of tobacco mosaic virus in the form of a crystallizable nucleoprotein (Stanley, 1935; Bawden, Pirie, Bernal and Fankuchen, 1936), many viruses were characterize 6a195gcleoproteins or as more complex structures having added carbohydrate and lipid and in some cases a complex sorphology involving among other things limiting membranes (Stanley, 1947; Bawden, 1950; Luria, 1953) 6961790 long time viruses were regarded as structures at least as complex as a nucleoprotein. Recently, however, my colleague, Fraenkel Conrat (1956), at the Berkeley Virus Laboratory and almost simultaneously in Germany, Gierer and Schrama (1956) of Tubingen, obtained evidence that nucleic acid obtained by special treatment of tobacco mosaic virus possessed virus activity. This result, astounding at first glance, served to bring into sharp focus the role of nucleic sea in virus activity and, because of my earlier remarks, also the possible role of nucleic acid in malignancy. Actually, the idea that nucleic acid aight possess virus activity is not new since genes have sometimes been regarded as nucleic acid and the actions of genes and viruses have long been regarded as being similar in quality. Then the traceorning principles of the pneumococcus (Avery, MacLeod and McCarty, 1944) and of Hemophilus influenzae (Alexander and Leidy, 1951) have been found to decayribonucleic acids. It may be of some interest that twenty years ago, before the discovery of the chesical nature of the transforming principle, I was inclined to regard this activity as virus-like (Stanley, 1938) for in 1937 I wrote: "It is obvious that there is a factor which may be obtained from any one of the S type of



generally do not differ strikingly as one goes from one species to another and I regard the fact, now proved beyond contention, that viruses in the form of specific nucleoproteins can cause cancer in animals to be directly pertinent to the human cancer problem. I believe that the time has come when we should assume that viruses are responsible for most, if not for all kinds of cancer and design and execute our experiments accordingly. Cancer is basically a problem in growth and there is no reason to believe the growth of most human cells is different basically from the growth of most animal cells. Acceptance of the viral etiology of human cancer as a working hypothesis will involve a marked change in attitude on the part of many investigators, but this will be necessary if the right approach and the right design of experimentation are to result. What we do in the laboratory depends in large measure upon what we think. Previous speakers have discussed viral-cancer relationships from a variety of standpoints and I am inclined to believe that the idea that viruses are the etiological agents for most, if not for all, cancer represents a working hypothesis which comes closest to being consistent with all of the presently known experimental facts. Many of the advances which have been described during this symposium now provide for the first time special opportunities to study the possible viral etiology of human cancer. The availability of many kinds of human cells in tissue culture is providing new test, as well as adaptive, systems not only for well known viruses but also for possible cancer viruses, and new methods for concentrating and purifying viruses and for the removal of inhibitors are providing more powerful techniques for ferreting out possible cancer viruses. We know much more about the interactions between viruses and hormonal, genetic, carcinogenic and age factors than we did only a few

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to yield new strains and that growth in different hosts or under different conditions may result in a newly formed autant strain growing out preferentially and despite the general planticity of viruses, it must be concluded that a given virus preparation may consist of a nucleoprotein of definite and specific composition. At the same time it must be realized that all virus preparations are somewhat impure in that by the very nature of their production they probably contain greater or lesser amounts of mutants. The actual mass of such mutants in a properly prepared virus sample is probably infinitesimally small, say 0.01 percent or less, and hence of no real concern from an analytical standpoint.

Previous apeabers have shown quite conclusively that some malignencies may be caused by viruses, hence it follows directly that nucleoproteins of specific composition have great significance in malignancy and that insofar as nucleoproteins are concerned the word "potential" in the title should be removed. However, it may be well to point out that the significance of this relationship with respect to malignancies of man is badly in need of experimental support. Only two little studied and benign virus induced tueors of man are known and viruses have not as yet been seriously implicated in human cancer as generally experienced. This may be due to the fact that few really serious attempts to demonstrate experimentally the presence of a virus in human cancer have been made and to a general reluctance to accept viruses as being of ctiological importance in cancers of man. I must say that I continue to be assated at the willingness of so many investigators to accept viruses as sticlogical agents for animal cancers and their unwillingness to consider them of potential etiological importance in cancers of man. It should be recognized that cancer is a biological and not a uniquely human problem. Besic biological phenomena

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October 1, 1958

Virus Laboratory Staff

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Revised Wednesday Noon Speakers Room 411 BV Lab Beginning September 24

Two persons will speak each Wednesday starting at the top of the list. As a person's name is reached on the list, it will be that person's responsibility to see that a speaker is provided. Each speaker is allotted 15 minutes for the presentation plus 10 minutes for discussion and the first speaker will begin at 12:20 p.m.

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Bonhoeffer		Pardee
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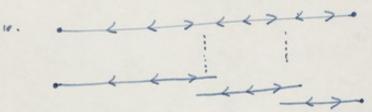
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highly specific polypeptide. It provides a such more sound experimental as well as theoretical base for contemplating the existence of the myriads of living things on earth. It is a discovery that is affecting the thinking and the course of events in virus research and all that virus research is concerned with, such as genetics, infectious disease, cancer and life itself. Eventually chemists should be able to synthesize a small polynucleotide specifically arranged, hence one may now dare to think of synthesizing in the biochemical laboratory a structure possessing genetic continuity and of all the tremendous implications of such an accomplishment. Studies of this nature and related studies could easily lead directly to the heart of the center problem and provide a solution to a situation which today appears so very perplaning.

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questions of "self" or of "not self" and of "essentiality" are of the utmost importance. Fortunately we now have many powerful devices for characterizing biological entities, hence the desconstrution of the existence of a "foreign" or of a "non-essential" component of a cell is far easier than it was a few years ago. Even so Knight (1946) and Beard and associates (Eckert, Sharp, Beard, Green and Beard, 1955) have found purified preparations of influenza and of myeloblastic leukosis viruses. respectively, to retain antigenic components characteristic of the host in which the virus was grown. In time it may prove possible to separate active nucleic acids from these preparations. I would hope that in order to avoid utter confusion the experimental results will continue to be compatible with the idea that viruses are exogenous in nature even though as has already been indicated we occasionally come very close to the borderline between an exogenous and an endogenous origin. Thus while the reproduction of genetic material from a member of one species in a member of another species sight be accepted, the aberration of a normal component of a given host to yield something which would then reproduce in that host would be incompatible. So far, however, it has not been necessary to trespass for in every case examined carefully the evidence for the virus or self-duplicating machanism having entered the cell from without at some time in the immediate or far past is good.

In closing may I indicate that I believe that the finding of Fracekel-Courat and of Gierer and Schraum that virus activity may reside in a nucleic acid represents a discovery of the first magnitude, for it means that a polymucleotide of comprehendible structural complexity can carry the code or informational pattern not only for the production of more of the same polymucleotide but also for the <u>de novo</u> production of a

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years ago and we do not know what many of these are doing there (Bushner, 1956). We know that viruses can persist in their host for generations, in either an infectious or a non-infectious form. We know that viruses can mutate to form new strains that cause different disease symptoms. We know that viruses may have different effects depending on the age, genetics and state of nutrition and hormonal balance of the host. We know that different carcinogenic agents can activate sub-infectious or latent viruses or prophages with consequent cellular destruction. Could it be that the recent discovery of dozens of hitherto unknown viruses of man which seem to be coursing through our bodies from time to time is but the forerunner of the discovery that specific nucleic acids within our cells, perhaps even of exogenous genetic origin, have a relationship to our cancers?

Certainly it would now appear wise to revise the generally accepted definition of a virus to include nucleic acids and perhaps also to include replicating structures which do not evidence infectivity in the usual sense because normally they are duplicated only once or a minimal number of times during each cell division and may never leave the cell during many generations. Such a viral nucleic acid might temporarily appear to be a part of, or associated with, the genetic apparatus of the cell, but be subject to chemical or physical stimulation or shock which could cause it to mature, increase greatly its rate of replication, perhaps mutate, but in any case to separate and act as an independent functional unit. Because of the long history of viruses which indicates they are exogenous in nature and in order to differentiate such a replicating structure from the normal components of the cell, it is imperative that initially the structure or virus must have entered the cell from without. Here the



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the potentiality to produce a bacterial virus is perpetuated in lysogenic bacteria. Prophage is non-pathogenic and non-infectious in the normal sense, but since it is multiplied at least once with each cell division, it may be regarded as infectious in the sense that genes or chromosomes are infectious. In other words, the prophage might be considered as a temporary part of the genetic apparatus of the cell and, at the same time, as the non-infectious form of a bacterial virus. When prophage develops into the bacterial virus the bacterium is destroyed, hence a lysogenic bacterium survives only if it does not produce the bacterial viruses. Non-lysogenic bacteria are, of course, well known, and there is at least one well established case in which a strain of lysogenic bacteria, b. megatherium, has been convexted into a non-lysogenic strain (Gratia, 1936). This fact can be regarded as evidence for the prophage and the resulting bacterial virus being something other than a normal component of the cell.

Of the greatest importance is the fact that treatment of certain lysogenic strains of bacteria with physical and chemical agents, such as x-rays, ultraviolet light, nitrogen mustard, certain reducing agents or iron chelating agents, results, after a maturation period, in the lysis of the bacterial cells and the release of large amounts of bacterial virus particles (lwoff, 1952; lwoff, Siminovitch and Kjeldgaard, 1950). These agents are called "inducers" and some are recognized as carcinogenic agents for man and animals. Mon-lysogenic bacteria are unaffected by these "inducers." Is it possible that this activation of a prophage by certain chemical or physical agents with development into a fully infectious bacterial virus and the consequent destruction of the bacterial cells provides a biological example of a process which occurs in man: We know that man has coursing through his body many viruses which were unknown a few

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overcoat must insure that these different nucleic acid molecules enter the same cell and that they should have equal opportunity to initiate the replicative processes. Here again nature has provided wonderful tools with which to explore these very interesting possibilities.

The viral nucleoproteins and nucleic acids I have discussed so far are characterized by their possession of regular virus activity which is readily descentrable and is not complicated by extraneous factors. We know that many enimal and plant tumors are caused by such viruses. However, there are other animal and plant tumors as well as most of the malignancies of man for which no such etiological agent has been found. As I have already indicated I believe that the many new kinds of animal and human cells which are now being grown in tissue culture, as well as the new methods for purifying and concentrating viruses are providing unusual new opportunities, which, when fully exploited experimentally, may result in the demonstration that many of these malignancies of animals, man and plants actually have viruses as their causative agents. Failure to find a virus in a given malignancy need not necessarily mean the absence of a virus for we now have sufficient information to warrant our being ever alert to the possibility of a somewhat different kind of virus activity existing in such cases.

For the purposes of the present discussion I should like to direct your attention to the persistence of a bacterial virus in the form of a prophage in lysogenic strains of bacteria and suggest that this might provide a most significant experimental model for the process that I have in mind (Lwoff, 1952). Lysogenic bacteria perpetuate, in what may be considered a hereditary manner, the property of being able to produce a bacterial virus. The term prophage is used to describe the form in which

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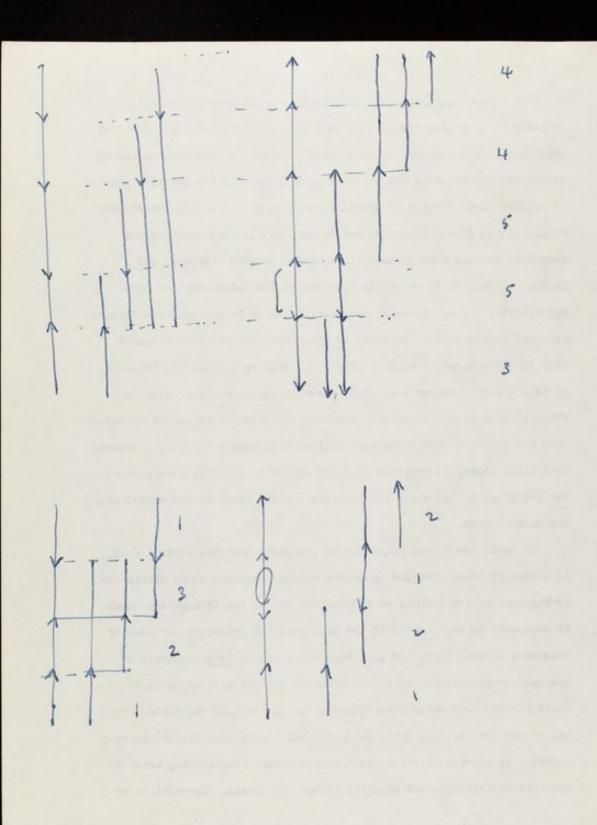
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discussion of a given topic under the leadership of a chairman, after a rise-au-point of the subject had been delivered by a rapporteur, according to this program:

Topic	Chairman	Rapporteur
Anatomy of the Phage Particle	Kellenberger (Switzerland)	Brenner (Gt. Pritain)
Ketabolism of Infected Bacteria	Perriott (U.S.A.)	Volkin (U.S.A.)
Finthesis of Phage Constituents	Fasise (Denmark)	Streisinger (U.S.A.)
Kinetics of Recombination	Doermann (U.S.A.)	Bresch (Germany)
The Elementary Recombination Act	Levinthal (U.S.A.)	Edgar (U.S.A.)
Genetic Fine Structure	Stent (U.S.A.)	Benzer (U.S.A.)
Replication	Crick (Gt. Britain)	Stahl (U.S.A.)
Prophase and Chromosome, Transduction	R.S. Anderson (Gt. Britain)	J. Lederberg (U.S.A.)
Phage Conversion	Stocker (Gt. Britain)	Groman (U.S.A.)
Bacteriocines	Ivanovics (Hungary)	Fredericq (Belgium)

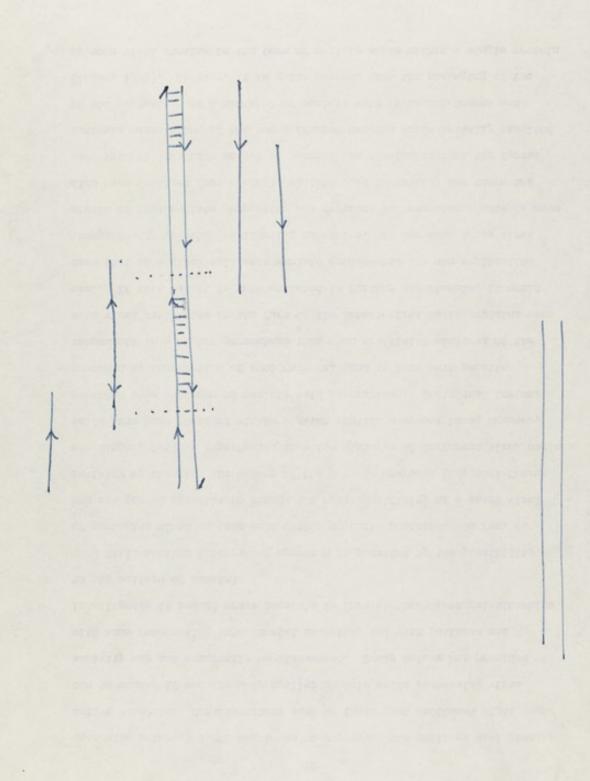
 15,000 and having properties similar to those described earlier by Loring (1939) and others.

Fraenkel-Conrat and Williams (1955) noted that apparently inactive ribonucleic acid of 300,000 molecular weight which had been separated from detergent degraded tobacco mosaic virus could be caused to recombine with inactive native protein obtained by alkali treatment of tobacco mosaic virus and containing no rods 15 by 300 mm in size, to yield, under suitable conditions, an active virus preparation containing the characteristic rods 15 by 300 mm in size. For a time it was thought that active virus was being obtained from low molecular weight protein and nucleic acid utterly devoid of virus activity. Fraenkel-Conrat (1956) then conducted experiments in which nucleic acid and protein derived from different virus strains were used and it was found that following infection of susceptible hosts with such mixed viruses the nature of the disease and the chemical composition of preparations of the viral progeny were generally like those of the strain supplying the nucleic acid. This finding indicated that it was the nucleic acid component and not the protein component which was carrying the virus activity. This could be further substantiated by direct inoculation of the nucleic acid with suitable precautions. All attempts to demonstrate that contaminating rods of tobacco mosaic virus nucleoprotein 15 by 300 mu in size were responsible for the activity of the nucleic said failed. One was, therefore, forced to the conclusion that nucleic acid could, in fact, carry virus activity by itself although it seemed that incorporation of this nucleic acid in a protein overcoat was quite desirable for purposes of stabilization and in order to increase its infectivity by about 20 to 100 fold. Gierer and Schramm (1956) obtained similar results with nucleic acid obtained by



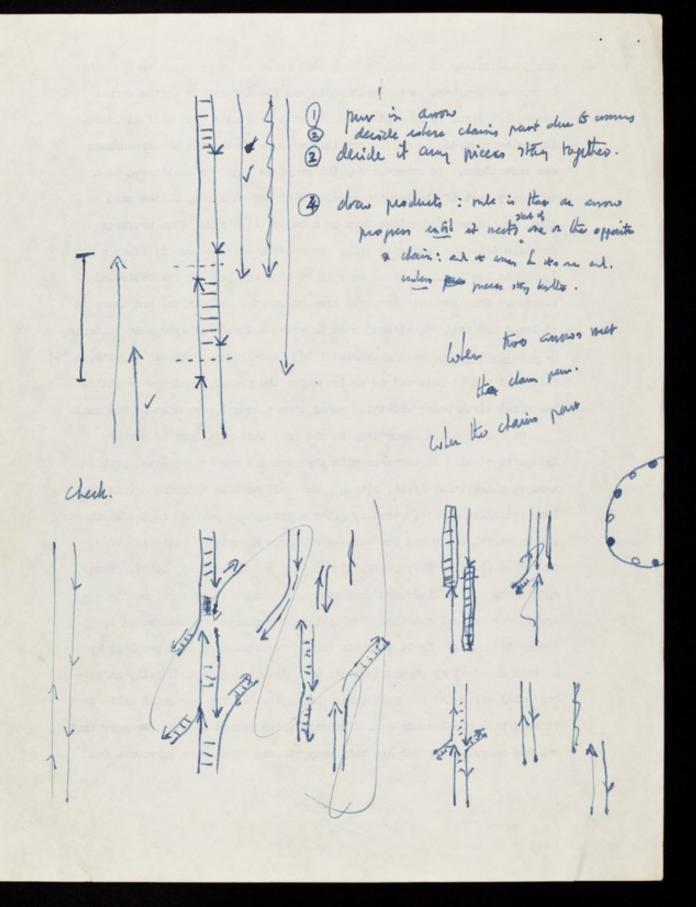
the nucleic acid it is usually advantageous to enhance and stabilize the activity by combining the nucleic acid with specific protein. The fact that the nucleic acid may be inoculated directly or following packaging within its own specific but inactive protein or with the inactive protein of related viral strains is providing some very interesting experimental opportunities (Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer, 1957). Now that one can inoculate nucleic acid without its specific protein overcoat, and because the latter is generally regarded as the determinant of host specificity, one can envisage the possibility of infecting hosts formerly regarded as resistant. However, to date infection has been obtained only in hosts known to be susceptible to ordinary tobacco mosaic virus. It is not known whether this means susceptibility or the ability to bring about duplication of the infecting structure is or is not dependent upon the presence within the host cell of a certain pattern of enzymatic activities which, in addition to their synthetic ability, also possess the potential to hydrolyze the specific protein formerly associated with the nucleic acid.

It would now appear necessary to recognize that the nucleic acid structure of around 300,000 molecular weight possesses coded within the arrangement of its 1000 or so nucleotides all of the information which is necessary to bring about in the host cell the production of more of this same nucleic acid, but also apparently the de novo synthesis of its own characteristic and highly specific protein with which it eventually costs itself, presumably preparatory to going out into the world. This is, to say the least, a quite wonderful and highly significant course of events. It provides for the first time a direct relationship between specific nucleic acid and specific protein synthesis. Inoculation of



active molecule. Considerations such as those just mentioned might cause one to wonder if considerably smaller nucleic acids possessing virus activity may not eventually be discovered. Truly nature has provided us with some fascinating experimental material, and with patience and intelligence it should prove possible to unravel these interrelationships to the welfare of mankind.

Still another interesting approach is provided by the possibility of packaging viral nucleic acid within specific proteins. So far, it has not proved possible to change the host specificity of a given viral activity by changing the nature of the protein overcoat (Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer, 1957). Experiments in which mixtures of different viral nucleic acids have been packaged within a given protein overcoat have, however, provided some evidence of nucleic acid interaction. Individual lesions produced by inoculation of such material sees to have both genetic components in a higher percentage than when artificial mixtures of the same viral activities in the form of the intact viral nucleoproteins were used. If this result is substantiated in further experiments, it could mean that in a given cell each nucleic acid evokes its own replication independently of other replicating molecules. In one case a new viral strain of intermediate properties was obtained but occasional mutants have also been obtained from a single nucleic acid infection, and there has been insufficient work as yet to warrant the conclusion that the forced intimate association of the two different nucleic acids actually resulted in the production of a new kind of nucleic acid (Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer, 1957). However, it is quite obvious that the packaging of two or more viral strains in the form of nucleic acids within a single protein



bacteria. Prophage is non-pathogenic and non-infectious in the normal sense, but since it is multiplied at least once with each cell division, it may be regarded as infectious in the sense that genes or chromosomes are infectious. In other words, the prophage might be considered as a temporary part of the genetic apparatus of the cell and, at the same time, as the non-infectious form of a bacterial virus. When prophage develops into the bacterial virus the bacterium is destroyed, hence a lysogenic bacterium survives only if it does not produce the bacterial viruses. Non-lysogenic bacteria are, of course, well known, and there is at least one well established case in which a strain of lysogenic bacterie, B. megatherium, has been converted into a non-lysogenic strain (Gratia, 1936). This feet can be regarded as evidence for the prophage and the resulting bacterial virus being something other than a normal component of the cell.

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October 1, 1958

Virus Laboratory Staff

Revised Wednesday Noon Speakers Room 411 BV Lab Beginning September 24

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	Bonhoeffer		Pardee
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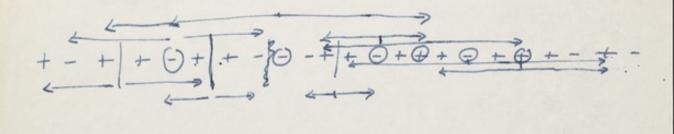
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THE FOUNDIAL STORIFTCAN: 60° RUGLATO ACIDS AND RUGLACEPOTERS
OF SPECIFIC COMPOSITION IN MALICHANCE

University of California, Berbeley, California

The subject which has been assigned to me in the potential mignificance of mucleic acids and nucleoproteins of specific composition in subjected. The work from our laboratory over the years as well as contributions from other laboratories has provided sound experimental evidence that viruses may be composed of nucleoproteins of definite and specific composition. It was shown quite early in our laboratory that tobacco mosaic virus isolated from infected turkish tobacco and from infected tomate plants was identical in all properties summined (Loring and Stanley, 1937). Later the same situation was found to hold in the case of virus included from turkish tobacco and phlox plants (Gev and Stanley, 1947), a finding of special importance because of the fact that the normal proteins of turkish tobacco and phlox show no serological relationship. It is interesting and significant that the same highly complex and specific viral nucleoprotein can be produced in two manufacturing plants, the normal contents of which are serologically unrelated. It has also been determined in our laboratory that different strains of tobacco morale views comment of mucleoproteins which may differ in a reproductive aspect amino acid composition (Knight and Stanley, 1941) Maight, 19 example, ordinary tobacco mosaic virus contains no historia me 1 wharens the ribgrass strain contains 0.6 percent histidine and mathionine. As a result it is easy to distinguish between the strains in the chemical laborat my merely by making a color to the histidine determination. However, despite the funt that par de catalog



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highly specific polypeptide. It provides a much more sound experimental as well as theoretical base for contemplating the existence of the myriads of living things on earth. It is a discovery that is affecting the thinking and the course of events in virus research and all that virus research is concerned with, such as genetics, infectious disease, cancer and life itself. Sventually chemists should be able to synthesize a small polynucleotide specifically arranged, hence one may now dare to think of synthesizing in the biochemical laboratory a structure possessing genetic continuity and of all the tremendous implications of such an accomplishment. Studies of this nature and related studies could easily lead directly to the heart of the cancer problem and provide a solution to a situation which today appears so very perplexing.

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characterizing biological entities, hence the descentration of the existence of a "foreign" or of a "non-essential" component of a cell is far easier than it was a few years ago. Even so Knight (1946) and Beard and associates (Eckert, Sharp, Beard, Green and Beard, 1955) have found purified preparations of influenza and of myeloblastic laukosis viruses, respectively, to retain antigenic components characteristic of the host in which the virus was grown. In time it may prove possible to separate active nucleic acids from those preparations. I would hope that in order to avoid utter confusion the experiental results will continue to be compatible with the idea that viruses are exogenous in nature even though as has already been indicated we occasionally come very close to the borderline between an emgenous and an endogenous origin. Thus while the reproduction of genetic material from a member of one species in a member of another species might be accepted, the aberration of a normal component of a given host to yield something which would then reproduce in that host would be incompatible. So far, however, it has not been necessary to trespess for in every case examined carefully the evidence for the virus or self-duplicating machanism having entered the cell from without at some time in the immediate or far past is good.

In closing may I indicate that I believe that the finding of Frachbel-Courat and of Gierer and Schraum that virus activity may reside in a nucleic acid represents a discovery of the first magnitude, for it means that a polynucleotide of comprehendible structural complexity can carry the code or informational pattern not only for the production of more of the same polynucleotide but also for the de novo production of a

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molecular weight 300,000 continues to represent the smallest biologically active molecule. Considerations such as those just mentioned might cause one to wonder if considerably smaller nucleic acids possessing virus activity may not eventually be discovered. Truly nature has provided us with some fescinating experimental material, and with patience and intelligence it should prove possible to unravel these interrelationships to the welfare of mention.

Still another interesting approach is provided by the possibility of packaging viral nucleic acid within specific proteins. So far, it has not proved possible to change the host specificity of a given viral activity by changing the nature of the protein overcost (Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer, 1957). Experiments in which mixtures of different viral nucleic acids have been packaged within a given protein overcoat have, however, provided some evidence of nucleic acid interaction. Individual lesions produced by inoculation of such material sees to have both genetic components in a higher percentage than when artificial mixtures of the same viral activities in the form of the intact viral nucleoproteins were used. If this result is substantiated in further experiments, it could mean that in a given cell each nucleic acid evokes its own replication independently of other replicating molecules. In one case a new viral strain of intermediate properties was obtained but occasional mutants have also been obtained from a single nucleic acid infection, and there has been insufficient work as yet to warrant the conclusion that the forced intimate association of the two different nucleic acids actually resulted in the production of a new kind of nucleic acid (Fraenkel-Conrat and Singer, 1957). However, it is quite obvious that the packaging of two or more viral strains in the form of nucleic acids within a single protein



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tobacco mosaic virus nucleic acid results in the production of the normal TMV mucleoprotein containing no histidine or methionine whereas inoculation of the nucleic acid from the ribgrass strain results in the production of a serologically distinct nucleoprotein containing these two amino acids. The nucleic acid obviously provides the pattern not only for the production of more highly specific nucleic acid but also for the de novo production of a highly specific protein. It would be interesting to know the sequence of events within the infected cell since this could throw light on the nature of the synthetic pattern. Are amino acids first laid down along the nucleic soid in strict accordance with its pattern to yield eventually the polypeptide sequence characteristic of the protein, and, if so, is this done in the first place to yield a polypeptide pattern or template which could then be used to form more of the specific nucleic acid-this sequence of events being brought to a terminal phase by a metabolic situation causing the enfolding of the nucleic acid within a super assembly of the polypeptide chains to yield the final structure consisting of several nucleic acid strands enclosed in a protein overcoat? It may be of some interest to note that a thousand unit polynucleotide linear chain having the same base composition as TMV nucleic acid could exist in about 10⁵⁹⁰ different arrangements. This number is so large that it is practically incomprehensible. Even a one hundred unit chain of this composition could exist in about 1057 different arrangements, and this number is about the same as the total number of electrons on and within the earth and vastly larger than the total of all of the living things on earth. It is obvious that insofar as the possibility of coding information relative to nucleic acid and protein synthesis is concerned, nature has provided a tremendous safety factor if a nucleic acid of

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October 1, 1958

Virus Laboratory Staff

Revised Wednesday Hoon Speakers Room 411 BV Lab Beginning September 24

Two persons will speak each Wednesday starting at the top of the list. As a person's name is resched on the list, it will be that person's responsibility to see that a speaker is provided. Each speaker is allotted 15 minutes for the presentation plus 10 minutes for discussion and the first speaker will begin at 12:20 p.m.

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