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March 4, 1980

Dear Drs. Meselson and Robinson:

Your article has now gone to press, and we will shortly be sending you copies of the issue containing it. In the meantime there are some additional things I should like to convey to you.

First, our payment for an article these days is \$1,000, \$500 on the arrival of the article and \$500 on its publication. We have already sent each of you a check for \$250, in addition to our checks to cover your expenses. Therefore we owe each of you another check in the same amount, and those checks are enclosed.

Second, I should tell you, in case you are not already aware of it, that Scientific American is published not only in English but also in six foreign-language editions: Italian, Japanese, Spanish, French, German and Chinese. This worldwide circulation brings up questions presented by the new U.S. copyright law, which became effective on January 1, 1978.

The law specifies that the copyright is held not by the publisher but by the author. This change in the locus of the copyright gives legal effect to the common-law presumption, under the old law, that the author held the copyright if the publisher did not take measures to establish it and defend it. The new arrangement puts the burden of defending the copyright on the author unless the author takes the affirmative action of transferring the copyright to the publisher. For example, if someone were to reprint all or part of your article without your permission, you personally would have to take steps to seek a remedy.

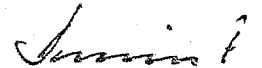
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Drs. Matthew Meselson
and Julian Perry Robinson - 2 -

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Sincerely,



DF:ap

Dennis Flanagan
Editor

Dr. Matthew Meselson
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cc: Dr. Julian Perry Robinson

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Matthew Meselson