June 27, 1935

Dr. A. B. Sabin
Rockefeller Institute
York Avenue and 66th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Doctor Sabin:

My long delay in answering your letter of May 16th is due to the fact that I was very busy preparing an exhibit for the Convention of the A. M. A. at Atlantic City and since I returned there have been many things to take up my time.

You are of course correct in stating that I did obtain the material at Doctor Park's direction from the patient who was under the care of the departments of Bacteriology and Surgery, but the footnote was somewhat ambiguous and aroused more or less comment. Since Doctor Park directed me to obtain the material and knew that I was turning it over to Doctor Holden, I assumed that I had a perfect right to it.

In regard to your statement that "if one were to read Doctors Gay and Holden's reports and my reports, one would gather that not only were two different clinical and pathological entities being described", I am inclined to disagree. The clinical description in all of Doctor Gay's and Doctor Holden's reports was very brief and was given to them by me. As you know, I saw Doctor Brebner on two occasions. It seems to me that the clinical report was essentially correct. In regard to the pathological report, this was given us by Doctor Lewis Stevenson, with whose opinion on neuropathology I think very few would be inclined to differ. It is of course a fact that "acute disseminated encephalomyelitis" is not a pathological entity and it is distinctly stated in the report that no perivascular demyelinization was present.

In regard to the statement that this virus belongs to the herpes group due consideration must be given to the fact that comparatively little work has been done in classifying any of the viruses. Since this virus shows cross neutralization with the herpes virus, it would seem that it must bear some relationship to it. You indeed, in your recent work have demonstrated this immunological relationship yourself.
In conclusion, let's not quarrel any more, and please send me copies of all your recent reprints, especially those relating to the Brebner virus, as we wish to keep them in our files. If it is possible, please send us two copies so that we may keep a cross index.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph B. Bedd

JBN:s