June 5, 1950

Dr. Albert B. Sabin
Department of Pediatrics
The Children's Hospital Research Foundation
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Sabin:

In answer to your letter of May twenty-ninth, I have sounded out the administrative staff of the Directory for Mothers' Milk and find them quite willing to supply milk for research purposes in the general amounts indicated. I might say that they are anxious to have human milk studied but that they are also anxious that credit be given for supplying it for these purposes. I am sure they would like to see an acknowledgment of the source of this milk and would like also to have a few reprints of publications.

Milk is collected at the mother's home in amounts which represent the accumulation of twenty-four hours. It is cumulated in the mother's ice box, then brought into the Directory and frozen for storage after sterilization at 210°F for twenty minutes. This process could be interrupted at any point for your purposes, and it would be very nice to know what the effects of these various procedures are on the principle you have discovered. I also happen to have some lyophilized human milk but cannot give you a control in fresh form. It would be of some interest to know whether the lyophilization interferes with your principle. It would be very easy to supply some of that powder, and if the presence of anti-poliomyelitic substance was demonstrated in it, that would be meaningful.

Finally, while I am quite positive that these materials could be supplied without charge, would you be willing to pay transportation expenses?

Yours very sincerely,

Clement A. Smith, M. D.