Dear Professor Sabin,

First of all I would like to thank you for your discussion here in Oslo last summer. I enclose a picture from our little expedition, which is a pleasant memory to me.

Last year we had a type I polio epidemic in Norway, with 200 paralytic cases (20 dead). This occurred in the Northern parts of the country primarily, with a population of less than one million. The cases occurred in groups in a number of places to a large extent in the countryside.

We have completed our prevaccination survey on antibodies which was undertaken on 12 and 13 year old school groups in 1956 in a number of cities. This gave a relatively low incidence of triple negatives (3-5%). We have some indication that the incidence is higher in the countryside, where many of the cases occurred. This part of the country has scattered settlements due to mountains and fjords, and this may have left places without previous experience with polio infection to a relatively large extent.

A vaccination was started 1956, and Lilly vaccine has been given to most of the school children. The older age groups are not so well vaccinated. For the school children a fourth injection is likely to be given before the school term ends this summer. As far as we now know, some protection was obtained among those vaccinated to an extent comparable with results obtained elsewhere, but paralytic cases occurred among fully vaccinated.

In a discussion of the problem with Dr. Mellby of the Health Directory (in the absence of Dr. Evang), we are very much interested in trying living vaccine. We fear a reappearance of the epidemic this year, and in that case it should cause no difficulties to get volunteers. The vaccine would be offered together with sufficient information of its use in previous trials.

We would appreciate your opinion on the advisability of such a program. Would it thus be possible for us to receive vaccine and the necessary information? Thank your for your help.

J. C. Ulstrup