Dear Doctor Sabine,

April 15, 1935.

I greatly appreciate your kindness in so promptly replying to my letter, and in offering to supply the materials for which I asked. My request was prompted however, by a very active curiosity as to the possible relationship between the toxoplasma and infectious mononucleosis, and in view of the fact that you contemplated going into this question, the request is withdrawn. My interest in it arises from the fact that Dr. Bailey and I studied the serologic reactions in 14 cases between 1933 and 1935. Our first results, of which reprints are now longer available, were published in the *J. Am. Med. Assoc.*, 1935, 105: 228. We reported the fact that the antibodies in this disease are not of the Toxoplasma type, but are elaborated against an antigen, hitherto unrecognized, in the sheep red cells. The sheep cell antigen has greater affinity for the antibody than that of the sheep cell. The antigen was also found by us in one strain of *E. coli*.
and in horse kidney, and has since been found in horse red cells. We were unable to find a similar antibody in any of a number of normal human sera, nor was it elaborated, apparently, in any of a large number of pathologic conditions studied by Paul and Bunnell, Bernstein and others. We concluded on this basis that the antibody is specific for influenza, and suggested a diagnostic test wherein the presence of this antibody is proven by incubating the serum to be tested with guinea pig tissues and mixing vs. sheep cells. Enzymatic and sitting vs. sheep cells. Erythrocytes and sitting vs. sheep cells.

If the anti-sheep immune bodies are removed, the test is positive for mono-nucleosis. If any doubt exists, the nuclei of guinea pig tissues and any other Mossman antigen containing or any other Mossman antigen containing material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material. This will not release glandular material.

In the basis of this specificity of this antibody, we attempted to find the etiologic agent of the disease by absorbing the serum with a large number of bacteria as well as certain spirochetes (those associated with Vincent’s angina). We found no organism capable of removing the antibody. We were
likewise unsuccessful in experimentally reproducing the antibody in animals (rabbit, pig, rat) or humans. All this latter work is as yet unpublished. I am writing it up and the present time I have been collecting the literature concerning the disease from all sources at my disposal, and I should be happy to send you a bibliography up to the present time if you think you need one. Meanwhile, I hope that you have hit the right track, and I should be very glad to know, in a general way, whether your results are positive or negative.

Thank you again for your kindness. Although Dr. Allfrey probably does not remember me, I should appreciate your giving him my regards. And please accept my best wishes for yourself.

Sincerely,

Sidney Raffel