Dr. Albert Sabin
The Children's Hospital Research Foundation
Elland Avenue and Bethesda
Cincinnati 29, Ohio

Dear Dr. Sabin:

We very much appreciated your comments on our article, "The Toxoplasma Mystery," and our next draft will take account of both your minor corrections and your major point -- that the Bethesda clinical trials lacked controls and therefore proved nothing. It was again most generous of you to comment fully and promptly.

One final small request. We have been unable to locate any reference to the English studies on Daraprim-plus-cortisone in experimental rabbit CR, which you mentioned in your letter. Dr. Bloomfield at Tuckahoe hadn't heard of them. We enclose a post-card. If you have a reference -- or clue -- handy, will you jot it down?

We fully share your view that popular writers should not raise false hopes.

There is a related point, however, which may be worth a moment's consideration. The Ryan paper reports that of his 39 CR patients, 31 had previously been treated unsuccessfully. Of these, 17 had received cycloplegics, 15 local cortisone, 10 chemotherapy plus 3 TB chemotherapy, 8 foreign protein, 8 tuberculin desensitization, 7 systemic corticosteroids, and 5 surgery. That makes 73 treatments, or an average of 2.3 per patient treated. Obviously an ophthalmologist under the conditions of private practice has to try something for these patients. Under the circumstances -- and assuming no excessive hopes are raised -- we doubt that present standards of therapy would be lowered by trials of Daraprim-
plus sulfa on a purely empirical basis.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

(Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brecher)

Reprint by Beverley T. Beattie
Brit. J. Ophthalm. 1954, 38, 489
sent to them.