SUBJECT: Progress Notes on the Development of a Registry and Distribution Center for Viral and Rickettsial Agents.

1. Reference is made to the three inclosures concerned with the conference on distribution of viral and rickettsial material which was held in Cincinnati on 19 May 1949. These are as follows:

   a. A summary of the Cincinnati meeting, prepared by Dr. Thompson.

   b. "Suggested Viruses and Rickettsiae for a Type Culture Collection - Primary List," prepared by Dr. F. B. Gordon and his group.

   c. A letter of transmittal to the Chairman of the Committee on American Type Culture Collection of the National Research Council.
2. According to information recently received from Dr. Welch, the affairs of the American Type Culture Collection appear to be progressing in a fairly satisfactory manner. Therefore, it is anticipated that the American Type Culture Collection will serve as the distribution center for the viral and rickettsial material.

3. The list of viruses and rickettsiae which was recommended for distribution has been reviewed by the members of Dr. Gordon's group and by a number of other interested persons. Comments have been limited essentially to the statement by Drs. Lennette and Philip that the rickettsial work of the National Institutes of Health is being transferred to the Rocky Mountain Laboratory and that Dr. Topping might not have available the rickettsial strains for which he is responsible. Dr. Topping has informed me that he did not plan to prepare the materials with his own hands and that he still assumed responsibility for delivering these strains to the distribution center. It appears worthwhile to mention this since it emphasizes the point that those individuals who agreed to supply material are the responsible agents.

4. It was agreed at the Cincinnati meeting that contributing laboratories would provide material for one year. Since it is impossible to estimate the actual needs for the distribution center, it was the consensus that approximately 40 samples of the less common agents would probably be sufficient for a year. Certain of the viruses which may be widely used for diagnostic work and for teaching, viz., influenza, might require larger supplies.
5. Most of the agents can be distributed as lyophilized material and in this form are relatively stable. Therefore, in most instances it should be possible to prepare one lot of material for use during the entire year. Certain of the agents, particularly the rickettsiae, will probably require more frequent preparation; the individuals responsible for these are aware of the difficulties and will arrange to provide several lots during the year.

6. It is anticipated that in the fall a brief note will appear in scientific journals announcing the availability for distribution by the American Type Culture Collection of selected viral and rickettsial agents. It is planned to publish a virus catalog which will be provided by the American Type Culture Collection to those persons who request one. Such a catalog will not be distributed to the persons on the mailing list of the American Type Culture Collection. The idea here is to provide the necessary materials but to discourage the useless stocking of strains by laboratories which do not have active need for them. Also, in line with this policy, will be the charge of $10.00 per specimen.

7. Detailed information on the history on each microbial strain should be available for inclusion in the catalog or for distribution with the specimen. The "strain identity card" used at Army Medical Department Research and Graduate School is inclosed for your consideration. It is suggested that information of the type indicated on the card should be provided.

8. The group which met in Cincinnati was of the opinion that distribution should be begun as soon as possible. It would appear reasonable to expect that the viral and rickettsial materials could be in stock at the American Type Culture Collection for distribution in November 1949.
9. According to the primary list (inclosure 2), it has been suggested that your laboratory contribute the following materials:

Dr. Sabin:

**VIRUSES**

Dengue (Hawaiian strain)

**Herpes group**

"B" virus

10. It is requested that you reply at your earliest convenience to the following questions:

   a. Do you agree to participate actively in the attempts to form a distribution center for viral and rickettsial agents?

   b. Will you agree to supply the center with the strains listed in paragraph 9, above?

   c. Do you agree to deliver your supply of materials to the American Type Culture Collection by 1 November 1949? If not by 1 November 1949, when can you deliver these?

11. For your convenience in replying to these questions, this sheet can be detached and returned in the inclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

   Incls. (5)

   JOSEPH E. SMADEL
   Scientific Director
   Department of Virus and Rickettsial Diseases
Conference on the distribution of viral and rickettsial materials.

Committee on Teaching, Society of American Bacteriologists.

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 19, 1949.


Discussion: The discussion of the problem followed the same lines as that at Philadelphia in 1947. A depository for viral and rickettsial materials was favored. Specific action was taken as indicated below.

Recommendations:

1. That a depository for viral and rickettsial materials be established.
2. That the depository be made a part of the American Type Culture Collection or its successor or successors.
3. That materials be supplied by various laboratories and that each be requested to provide a certain item for a period of one year.
4. That certain limitations be imposed on the distribution of materials. That requests for materials be made by the head of a division or department and that materials be sent directly to that individual. That materials for distribution be divided into the following categories:
   a) No limitation except as indicated above: e.g. influenza virus.
   b) Distributed with a warning: e.g. psittacosis virus.
   c) Be distributed only to approved laboratories: e.g. scrub typhus, Russian spring-summer virus, small pox virus.

That a control committee, including one member of the U.S. Public Health Service, be established to advise the distribution agency. That the Chief of the Bureau of Biologic Control be made an advisor of the distribution agency.

Action taken: 1. Appointment of a subcommittee to determine items suitable for inclusion in the depository. The following persons were to be invited to serve on the subcommittee: Drs. Koprowski, Lennette, Philip, Rake, Shope and Gordon (Chairman). This subcommittee was instructed to recommend a suitable source for each item. It was instructed to report by June 15, 1949.
2. A conference was scheduled during the next meeting of the Society in order to review developments and specifically to consider the inclusion of reference serums in the depository.

R. L. Thompson
Chairman, Committee on Teaching.

(inclosure 1)
SUGGESTED VIRUSES AND RICKETTSIAE FOR A TYPE CULTURE COLLECTION

Primary List

* Indicates that this agent will be made available with a warning to the investigator regarding its potential danger.

** Indicates that this agent will be made available only after approval for release by Director, Biologics Control Division, National Institutes of Health, or Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIRUSES</th>
<th>SUGGESTED SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Colorado tick fever</td>
<td>Cox</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Dengue (Hawaiian strain)</td>
<td>Sabin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Herpes group

  Herpes simplex

  Pseudorabies

  * "E" virus

Influenza group

  Influenza "A" (PR6 strain)

  Influenza "A" prince (FM1 strain)

  Influenza "B" (Lee strain)

  Swine influenza (? Iowa strain)

Mumps

Mumps

Neurotropic viruses

Arthropod Born Epidemic Encephalitides

  Encephalitis

    ** Japanese B (Nakayama)

(inclosure 2)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIRUSES (cont'd)</th>
<th>SUGGESTED SOURCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>** Encephalitis (cont'd) **</td>
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<tr>
<td>-- ** Russian spring-summer **</td>
<td>Smadel</td>
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<tr>
<td>* St. Louis (Hubbard strain)</td>
<td>Hammon</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Equine encephalomyelitis **</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Eastern</td>
<td>Smadel</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Western</td>
<td>Hammon</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Venezuelan</td>
<td>Yager (AMDROS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Others **</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>* Encephalomyocarditis (EMC strain)</td>
<td>Warren</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Lymphocytic choriomeningitis</td>
<td>Topping</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Mouse encephalomyelitis **</td>
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<tr>
<td>TO strain</td>
<td>Melnick</td>
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<tr>
<td>FA strain</td>
<td>Melnick</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Poliomyelitis **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lansing strain</td>
<td>Francis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brunhilde strain</td>
<td>Howe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leon strain</td>
<td>Howe</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Rabies</td>
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<td>Street</td>
<td>Koprowski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed</td>
<td>Koprowski</td>
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<tr>
<td>** West Nile</td>
<td>Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Psittacosis-Lymphogranuloma Venereum Group **</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Psittacosis (6-BC strain)</td>
<td>Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Lymphogranuloma venereum</td>
<td>Rake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Ornithosis</td>
<td>Rake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VIRUSES (cont'd)

Psittacosis-Lymphogranuloma venereum group (cont'd)
  Meningopneumonitis (Cal 10 strain)    Gordon
  Mouse pneumonitis (Greub strain)     Gordon
  Feline pneumonitis                    Francis (Morgan)

Vaccine virus
  Mouse neurotropic strain            Cox
  Chorioallantoic strain              Cox

Miscellaneous animal viruses
  Fibromatosis of rabbits             Shope
  Myxomatosis of rabbits              Shope
  Fowlpox virus                       Raie
  Laryngotracheitis virus             Schroeder (Lederle)
  # New castle virus                  Schaeffer (CDC)
  Pneumonia virus of mice             Horsfall
  Virus III of rabbits                Rivers

RICKETTSIAE

* Epidemic typhus (Breinl strain)     Topping
* Murine typhus (Wilmington strain)  Topping
* Rocky Mountain spotted fever (? strain)  Topping
* Rickettsialpox (? strain)           Philip
* Q fever (Henssinger strain)         Lennette

Baker vole rickettsia

SUGGESTED SOURCE
ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

Army Medical Department Research and Graduate School
Washington 12, D. C.

17 June 1949

Dr. Henry Welch, Chairman
Committee on American Type Culture Collection
of the National Research Council
Division of Penicillin Control and Immunology
Food and Drug Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Welch:

In accordance with instructions from the Chairman of the Committee on American Type Culture Collection of the National Research Council, the undersigned arranged a conference to discuss the development of a registry and distribution center for viral and rickettsial materials. The meeting, which was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 19 May 1949, was attended by the two members of your Committee, representatives of the Committee on Teaching of the Society of American Bacteriologists and of the Communicable Disease Center, United States Public Health Service, and by a number of eminent workers in the field of viral and rickettsial diseases.

A summary of the conference is given in the enclosed report prepared by Dr. R. L. Thompson.

Dr. Gordon's subcommittee has prepared a tentative list of viruses and rickettsiae for distribution. A copy of this list with slight rearrangements is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH E. SMADEL, M. D.

NORMAN H. TOPPING, M. D.

Incls (2)

(inclosure 3)