Dear Doctor Sabin:

Plans have been initiated to hold an International Conference on Poliomyelitis under the sponsorship of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, the week of July 12, 1948. Announcement of these plans has not yet been made, but it is hoped to do so within the next few weeks. Therefore, may I ask that this matter be held in confidence until the time of such announcement.

The audience will be composed of both American and Foreign professional persons, actively engaged in the fields of poliomyelitis research, treatment and education. It is anticipated that the attendance will be large and should represent the majority of those engaged in these fields. An important phase of the meeting will be a scientific exhibit section which will be arranged for and conducted by a special Committee on Exhibits.

This preliminary inquiry being sent to all grantees of the National Foundation is to determine the amount and scope of basic material available for exhibits. If it is your desire to participate and present an exhibit, I suggest you send me a brief description of the nature of material. Your reply will be turned over to the Committee on Exhibits, who will issue invitations to participate. Following the Committee's invitation to participate, it is planned to have a member of the Committee confer with you and arrange for the design and construction of your exhibit which will, of course, have to meet with your full approval. A special budget will be set up to defray the cost of design and construction and all exhibits will be built in New York under the supervision of the Committee on Exhibits. Looking to the future, it is our feeling that such exhibits, after being shown at the International Conference, would be of permanent value and could be used by the National Foundation or yourself at various medical and scientific society meetings in the future.

Inasmuch as a great deal of time will be required to initiate and complete this program, I hope that I may have a reply from you by December 18th to permit the Committee on Exhibits to make an adequate selection.

Sincerely yours,

Hart E. Van Riper, M. D.
Chairman

December 4, 1947

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