January 11, 1952

Dr. J. Casals
The Rockefeller Foundation for
Medical Research
66th Street and York Avenue
New York 21, New York

Dear Jordi:

I deeply regret that I was unable to come to New York on January 10 for my conference with you and Peter.

Enclosed you find a summary table of the tests for complement-fixing antibodies in Cynomolgus monkeys. The data provides interesting information on the rapidity and level of C-F antibody response in monkeys infected by the oral route with homotypic virus. It shows that the level of antibody response is of the same order as was observed in human beings following infection with heterotypic virus. Although the monkeys included in this investigation are only those which developed neutralizing antibody, there is actually a very small proportion of monkeys which fail to develop neutralizing antibodies following infection by the procedure that was used. Although I have paired sera on several such monkeys, I doubt very much whether the effort of testing those would add very much to these observations. In earlier correspondence I stated that I had serum from five Cynomolgus monkeys that were fed a Brunhilde type virus. I find, however, that none of these five monkeys developed any paralysis or lesions, and that I have no pre-infection sera on them. Accordingly, I think that they would not be satisfactory for elucidating the question of the heterotypic C-F antibody response in Cynomolgus monkeys infected by the oral route.

I don't know how you and Peter feel about the way this work ought to be written up — especially whether the tests on human beings and Cynomolgus monkeys should be treated in one paper or in separate papers. I don't feel very strongly about it one way or another and would be very glad to go along with your decision. I might say, however, that in my own opinion, it would be better to report the data in two separate communications, as I originally suggested in my letter to Peter on April 25, 1951. If this should be agreeable, I would be glad to write the first draft for the paper dealing with the Cynomolgus work under the title of "Homotypic
Complement-Fixing Antibody in Monkeys Infected with Y-SK Poliomyelitis Virus by the Oral Route." The work on patients could be written up under the title of "Type 2 Poliomyelitis Complement-Fixing Antibody in Patients Infected with Type 1 Strains of Virus." I would appreciate it very much if you could write the initial draft of that paper, leaving blank spaces for information which you may lack and which may be in my possession. Actually, the two tables which I sent along to you some months ago contain all the essential information that needs to be included on the patients.

For your orientation, it is my intention to write a separate brief note under the title of "Transitory Occurrence of Type 2 Neutralizing Antibody in Patients Infected with Type 1 Poliomyelitis Virus." This is to cover the quantitative studies which I carried out during recent months indicating that neutralizing antibody for Lansing virus can appear, persist for a few weeks, and then disappear in patients infected with Type 1 virus.

With kindest regards to Peter and yourself,

Sincerely yours,

Albert B. Sabin, M. D.

Enc.

P. S. I would appreciate it very much if you could send me reprints of your J.E.M. papers on the C-F work.