February 23, 1951

Dr. A. B. Sabin
Children's Hospital
Research Foundation
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Sabin:

At the suggestion of Dr. Olitsky and Dr. K. F. Meyer, I am referring the enclosed manuscript to you, in the hope that you can act as a consultant upon it. The extensive correspondence attached to the manuscript begins with my letter of October 3, in which I returned Dr. Robert's original paper (now Paper II). A revised manuscript, split into Methods (Paper I) and New Results (Paper II) came back some two months later. Dr. Hammon (whose prior relation to Dr. Roberts I was not then aware of) saw it and replied as of December 12, Dr. Olitsky followed some two weeks later.

Following Dr. Olitsky's letter, I wrote to Dr. Meyer to express my perplexity as to the handling of the paper, and asked him to go over the comments of Dr. Olitsky and Dr. Hammon and let me know what he thought was the best thing to do next. As shown by Dr. Meyer's reply of January 13, he was in something of a quandary as to the best referee to ask to consider the paper further, since practically everyone of competence had heard the presentation of Dr. Roberts' work last summer. However, he was happy to have the manuscript submitted to Dr. Enders, Dr. Francis and yourself, and it has been in the hands of the first two (whose comments are enclosed) and is now, therefore, on its way to you.

During this odyssey, another piece of information arose from my contact with Bill Hammon ten days ago, in which he told me that there had been some misunderstanding about the significance of the blind test which Dr. Roberts ran, and which was first called to my attention, as you will note, by Dr. Olitsky. The summary of this new information is contained in my letter to Dr. Olitsky of February 13.

I am sorry that I did not get this material to you by Washington's birthday, because I cannot think of another good full free day in which you would be likely to find it possible to wade through this governmentally monumental mass of paper, unless perhaps in Ohio you also observe April 19 as a holiday (I hesitate to betray my Boston provincially by mentioning St. Patrick's Day as well). However, I do hope
that you will find it possible to look this material over and give me your considered opinion with regard to the best handling of the Roberts work. Unfortunately, I neglected to ask Dr. Enders and Dr. Francis to send me their comments with a carbon, (or two, preferably) and I would be most grateful if you could do this, since the load of copying or digesting all the comments already received will be considerable both for me and my secretary.

With apologies for placing such a burden in your hands, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Geoffrey Edsall, M.D.

GE:gh