Dr. Albert H. Sabin
Children's Hospital Research Foundation
Department of Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio.

May 17, 1943.

Dear Dr. Sabin:

Last week I sent you some duplicated material which will indicate to you the progress that we are making on the preparation of the manuscript for the new edition of the Bergey Manual. I understand that Parker Hitchens has asked you to help him in developing some sort of a manuscript covering the pleuropneumonia-like organisms.

As you will see from the material sent, we are thinking of including this in a supplement as some seems to have a positive conviction regarding the relationship of these organisms to other bacteria. Some, of course, feel as you have suggested in your review that they should be regarded as a separate order. Other more recent work seems to me to indicate a pretty close relationship between these organisms and some that we have included in the family Parvobacteriaceae. As a sort of a compromise, I have used the family name Borrelomycetaceae, but this is subject to change on your and Dr. Hitchens' recommendation.

Anyone who draws up an Outline Classification usually gives the impression to the uninitiated that he has more positive convictions about relationships of groups than he intends. Hence, some of us hesitate to express our ideas in the form of Outline Classification. However, such Outline Classifications normally prove stimulative and provocative of discussion that clarifies the situation as you probably have found from the experience that you have had in connection with your own review published in Bacteriological Reviews.

Because you have had just this experience, I was very much pleased to have Dr. Hitchens ask you to develop this outline, and I hope you are making progress with it. Because the material is to be included in a supplement at the end of the volume you still have some time in which to prepare the manuscript, but as soon as you can conveniently do it, I wish you would submit an outline of the classification that you propose to have so that I can fit it into the key which will be printed in the early part of the volume, approximately page 70. Please feel free, for example, to suggest any improvements in the key that I have sent to you, particularly as applied to the groups in the supplement.
Dr. Sabin,

Various persons have already questioned the use of the term Virales which indicates that Viruses should be regarded as an order. Personally I suspect a family name would be more suitable. Others have Dr. Stanley's work so firmly fixed in mind that they regard it definitely established that viruses are inanimate. I understand that Dr. Stanley does not feel that his work definitely establishes such to be the case.

What is your feeling in regard to the matter?

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

RSB-E.

Copy to

Dr. A. Hitchens
University of Pennsylvania
Medical School

Dr. E. G. D. Murray
McGill University
Montreal, P. Q., Canada.

P. S. I learned by 'phone that Parker Hitchens has had a bouts with the grippe that kept him away from his work for nearly three weeks so that he has not been able to catch up with his correspondence, very well. - R. S. Breed.