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(CONVALESCENTS)

January 6, 1953

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The Salmonella strain 'Skinner' which I am sending under separate cover was isolated recently from an epidemic of food poisoning. It was typed in the Salmonella center in New York as 'Montevideo'. It produces L forms abundantly on soft serum agar containing penicillin, but the L forms grow quite slowly. The two pieces of agar in the small tubes should be taken apart and placed with the inner side down on the medium. With the low power of the microscope the L colonies are visible in some of the agar pieces. You should try the usual nutrient agar to which should be added 20% broth, 15% inactivated horse serum, 1% gelatine and a few hundred units of penicillin per ml. If the medium is too soft try preparing it with a little less broth. Make the plates anaerobic with *B. prodigiosus*. Growth will probably develop ^{in ~~the~~ *blocks*} the agar blocks in 2-3 days. More material can be obtained by smearing the blocks at this time over the surface of the ~~medium~~ medium. If you should have difficulty with the cultures, I will send another sample.

Thank you for the reprints. I know the complexity of biological phenomena. It is overwhelming in the field which you reviewed.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Louis Dienes

Louis Dienes, M.D.

The enclosed description of the method which we use for culturing pleuro-pneumonia like organisms may be helpful -